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Emergency Relief and Construction Act of 1932

Editor's Note: Paragraphs of the Act which are believed to be of particular interest to architects are here printed in italics

To the Members of
The American Institute of Architects:

It is presumed that the membership of the Institute has general knowledge of the efforts made by Congress during the past two months to enact Public Works legislation which would serve to lessen unemployment and to improve economic conditions.

Therefore, a review of the many measures proposed and of the action on them is unnecessary here.

In the closing days of the session, and after the President's veto of the Wagner-Garner Bill, Congress enacted and the President has signed a bill which may be cited as the "Emergency Relief and Construction Act of 1932."* The purpose of this new legislation is stated in its title, which reads as follows:

"An Act to relieve destitution, to broaden the lending powers of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and to create employment by providing for and expediting a public works program."

In order that the members of the Institute may have accurate information concerning this legislation, and in order that they may, in their individual capacities, take such immediate and vigorous steps to cooperate in its application to their communities, certain relevant sections of the Emergency Relief and Construction Act are quoted as follows:

TITLE I—RELIEF OF DESTITUTION

SECTION 1. (a) The Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized and empowered to make available out of the

*Copies of this Act may be obtained by addressing a request to the "Clerk of the Document Room, United States Capitol, Washington, D. C."

funds of the corporation the sum of \$300,000,000, under the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, to the several States and Territories, to be used in furnishing relief and work relief to needy and distressed people and in relieving the hardship resulting from unemployment, but not more than 15 per centum of such sum shall be available to any one State or Territory. . . .

TITLE II—LOANS BY RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE CORPORATION

SEC. 201. (a) The Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized and empowered—

(1) to make loans to, or contracts with, States, municipalities, and political subdivisions of States, public agencies of States, of municipalities, and of political subdivisions of States, public corporations, boards and commissions, and public municipal instrumentalities of one or more States, to aid in financing projects authorized under Federal, State, or municipal law which are self-liquidating in character, such loans or contracts to be made through the purchase of their securities, or otherwise, and for such purpose the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized to bid for such securities: Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, in carrying out the provisions of this paragraph, from purchasing securities having a maturity of more than ten years;

(2) to make loans to corporations formed wholly for the purpose of providing housing for families of low income, or for reconstruction of slum areas, which are regulated by State or municipal law as to rents, charges, capital structure, rate of return, and areas and methods of operation, to aid in financing projects undertaken by such corporations which are self-liquidating in character;

(3) to make loans to private corporations to aid in carrying out the construction, replacement, or improvement of bridges, tunnels, docks, viaducts, waterworks, canals, and markets, devoted to public use and which are self-liquidating in character;

• • •

(5) to make loans to aid in financing the construction of any publicly owned bridge to be used for railroad, railway, and highway uses, the construction cost of which will be returned in part by means of tolls, fees, rents, or other charges, and the remainder by means of taxes imposed pursuant to State law enacted before the date of enactment of the emergency relief and construction act of 1932; and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is further authorized and empowered to purchase bonds of any State, municipality, or other public body or agency issued for the purpose of financing the construction of any such bridge irrespective of the dates of maturity of such bonds.

For the purposes of this subsection a project shall be deemed to be self-liquidating if such project will be made self-supporting and financially solvent and if the construction cost thereof will be returned within a reasonable period by means of tolls, fees, rents, or other charges, or by such other means (other than by taxation) as may be prescribed by the statutes which provide for the project.

SEC. 211. The first paragraph of section 5 of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 5. To aid in financing agriculture, commerce, and industry, including facilitating the exportation of agricultural and other products the corporation is authorized and empowered to make loans, upon such terms and conditions not inconsistent with this act as it may determine, to any bank, savings bank, trust company, building and loan association, insurance company, mortgage loan company, credit union, Federal land bank, joint-stock land bank, Federal intermediate credit bank, agricultural credit corporation, livestock credit corporation, organized under the laws of any State or of the United States, including loans secured by the assets of any bank or savings bank that is closed, or in process of liquidation to aid in the reorganization or liquidation of such banks, upon application of the receiver or liquidating agent of such bank and any receiver of any national bank is hereby authorized to contract for such loans and to pledge any assets of the bank for securing the same: Provided, That not more than \$200,000,000 shall be used for the relief of banks (including savings banks) that are closed or in the process of liquidation."

TITLE III—PUBLIC WORKS

SEC. 301. (a) For the purpose of providing for emergency construction of certain authorized public works with a view to increasing employment and carrying out the policy declared in the employment stabilization act of 1931, there is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$322,224,000, which shall be allocated as follows:

(1) For expenditure in emergency construction on the Federal-aid highway system, \$120,000,000.

(10) For emergency construction of public building projects outside the District of Columbia (including the acquisition, where necessary, by purchase, condemnation or otherwise, of sites and additional land for such buildings, the demolition of old buildings where necessary, and the construction, remodeling, or extension of buildings), such projects to be selected by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster General from the public building projects specified in House Document Numbered 788, Seventy-first Congress, third session, \$100,000,000. Such projects shall be carried out within the limits of cost specified in such documents (except as modified by law), and in selecting such projects preference shall be given to places where Government facilities are housed in rented buildings under leases which will expire on or before July 1, 1934, or which may be terminated on or prior to that date by the Government.

(11)

(For convenience in reference the lists of projects specified in the Act, covered by the \$15,164,000 item in paragraph (11) of Section 301 (a) and the \$7,436,000 item in Section 302, have been combined and rearranged in alphabetical order according to states.)

Alabama.

Fort McClellan, Alabama: Headquarters, \$50,000; recreation hall, \$35,000; gymnasium, \$45,000.

Maxwell Field, Alabama: Officers' quarters, \$940,000; officers' mess, \$55,000.

Maxwell Field, Alabama: Squadron officers' school and/or additions to school building, \$150,000; gasoline-storage system, \$10,200; improvement of landing field, \$100,000; camera obscura, \$4,000; bomb storage, \$13,000; machine gun and bombing range, \$6,000.

Arizona.

Fort Huachuca, Arizona: Post exchange, gymnasium, and service club, \$100,000.

California.

Benton Field, Alameda, California: Completion of shops, including assembly and test hangars, dope storage, heating and engine test block, \$605,500; depot warehouse, \$500; administration building, \$80,000; railroad spur, \$8,000; quartermaster warehouse, maintenance and salvage building, \$35,000; garage, \$48,000; fire and guard house, \$30,000; pier, \$125,000; paint, oil and dope storage and oil reclamation, \$35,000; gasoline-storage system, \$20,000; paved aprons, \$80,000.

Fort Mason, California: Officers' quarters, \$110,000. Fort Winfield Scott, California: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$140,000.

Hamilton Field, California: Headquarters and operations building, to complete, \$35,000; improvement of landing field and building area, \$120,000.

Hamilton Field, California: Officers' quarters, \$215,000; noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$120,000.

Letterman General Hospital, California: Two wards, \$150,000.

March Field, California: Barracks for medical detachment, \$25,000; contagious ward for hospital, \$12,000; bakery, \$15,000; laundry, \$60,000; enlisted men's service club, \$50,000; officers' mess, \$50,000; theater, \$40,000.

March Field, California: Gasoline-storage system, completion of, \$10,000; aircraft-bomb storage, \$5,000.

Presidio of San Francisco, California: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$60,000; addition to headquarters, \$50,000.

Rockwell Field, California: Hangars, \$576,000; Air Corps warehouse, \$80,000; operations building, \$20,000; remodeling a permanent building for radio, parachute, and armament building, \$20,000; administration building, \$80,000; photographic building, \$36,000; paint, oil and dope storage, \$15,000; gasoline-storage system, \$30,000; paved aprons, \$95,000; central heating plants, \$100,000; improvement of landing field and technical building area, \$100,000; camera obscura, \$5,000; bomb storage, \$15,000.

Rockwell Field, California: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$234,000; officers' quarters, \$266,000.

Canal Zone.

Albrook Field, Canal Zone: Quartermaster maintenance building, \$20,000; post exchange, theater, and gymnasium, completion of, \$42,000.

Albrook Field, Canal Zone: Technical buildings and installations, completion of, \$293,000; gasoline-storage system, completion of, \$25,000.

Panama Canal Zone: Improvement of emergency landing fields at Bamboa Reach and Camp Gaillard, \$20,000.

Colorado.

Fitzsimons General Hospital, Colorado: Gymnasium, recreation, and social hall, \$150,000.

Fort Logan, Colorado: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$53,000.

Delaware.

Fort DuPont, Delaware: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$60,000.

District of Columbia.

Bolling Field, District of Columbia: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$54,000; dispensary, completion of, \$30,000; post exchange, theater, and gymnasium, completion of, \$45,000; officers' mess, \$50,000; enlargement of central heating plant to provide for quarters area, \$95,000.

Bolling Field, District of Columbia: Paved aprons, completion of, \$22,800; heating plant for technical area, completion of, \$78,000; field shops, completion of, \$6,000; improvement of landing field and building area, \$615,000.

Walter Reed General Hospital, District of Columbia: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$120,000; addition to nurses' quarters, \$300,000.

Georgia.

Fort Benning, Georgia: Barracks, \$650,000.

Fort Benning, Georgia: Hangar, combination, \$88,000; gasoline-storage system, \$10,000; improvement of landing field and building area, \$25,000; heating plant, \$20,000; paved aprons, \$20,000.

Fort McPherson, Georgia: Nurses' quarters, \$70,000; contagious ward for hospital, \$70,000.

Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$120,000.

Hawaii.

Luke Field, Hawaiian Department: Air depot, plane overhaul and assembly, \$200,000.

Wheeler Field, Hawaiian Department: Gasoline-storage system, completion of, \$31,000; paved aprons, \$38,000.

Illinois.

Chanute Field, Illinois: Hangars, \$170,000; paved aprons, \$30,000; improvement of landing field and technical area, \$15,000; enlargement of central heating plant and steam lines, \$185,000.

Chanute Field, Illinois: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$137,000; central heating plant for technical and quarters area, \$200,000.

Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$15,000.

Scott Field, Illinois: Hangar, \$90,000; headquarters and operations buildings, \$80,000; barracks, \$271,000; radio building, \$10,000; photo building, \$36,000; gas plant and chemical storage, \$50,000; central heating plants, \$145,000; gasoline-storage system, \$10,000; paved aprons, \$40,000; improvement of landing field and building area, \$50,000; machine-gun butts, \$3,000.

Indiana.

Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$120,000.

Schoen Field, Indiana: Grading landing field, \$5,000.

Kansas.

Fort Leavenworth, Kansas: Nurses' quarters, \$60,000.

Kentucky.

Camp Knox, Kentucky: Hospital, \$200,000.

Louisiana.

Barksdale Field, Louisiana: Hangars, \$350,000; headquarters and operations buildings, completion of, \$89,200; gasoline-storage system, completion of, \$20,000; paved aprons, \$100,000.

Barksdale Field, Louisiana: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$252,000; officers' quarters, \$609,000; barracks, \$474,000; hospital, completion of, \$225,000; garage, completion of, \$30,000; quartermaster warehouse, completion of, \$15,000.

Maryland.

Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$70,000.

Fort Howard, Maryland: Hospital, \$150,000.

Fort Hoyle, Maryland: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$70,000.

Fort George G. Meade, Maryland: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$150,000; officers' quarters, \$50,000.

Holabird Quartermaster Depot, Maryland: Hospital, \$120,000.

Massachusetts.

Camp Devens, Massachusetts: Roads and sidewalks, \$75,000; service club, \$30,000; post exchange and gymnasium, \$50,000.

Michigan.

Selfridge Field, Michigan: Gasoline-storage system, completion of, \$10,000.

Selfridge Field, Michigan: Gymnasium and theater, \$80,000; garage, \$40,000; quartermaster maintenance building, \$20,000; post exchange, \$45,000; officers' mess, \$60,000; enlisted men's service club, \$50,000; bakery, \$15,000; roads and utilities, \$75,000.

Minnesota.

Fort Snelling, Minnesota: Quartermaster warehouse \$65,000; barracks, medical detachment, \$40,000.

Missouri.

Jefferson Barracks, Missouri: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$65,000; additions to kitchens and mess halls, \$55,000.

New Jersey.

Fort Monmouth, New Jersey: Addition to hospital, \$75,000; noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$170,000; band barracks, \$35,000.

Raritan Arsenal, New Jersey: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$75,000.

New York.

Fort Hamilton, New York: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$100,000.

Fort Jay, New York: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$130,000; barracks, completion of, \$70,000; officers' quarters, \$125,000; nurses' quarters, completion of, \$35,000.

Fort Ontario, New York: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$50,000.

Fort Totten, New York: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$30,000.

Fort Wadsworth, New York: Officers' quarters, \$75,000.

Mitchel Field, New York: Improvement of landing field, \$80,000; gasoline-storage system, completion of, \$5,000; bomb storage, \$13,000; machine-gun range, \$2,000.

Mitchel Field, New York: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$118,000; bakery, \$15,000; incinerator, \$10,000; enlisted men's service club, \$50,000; theater, \$40,000; sewage-disposal plant, \$40,000; fence, \$31,000; quartermaster gasoline storage, \$3,000; magazine, \$15,000; officers' mess, \$50,000; coal storage and handling system, \$70,000; roads, walks, and surface-drainage system, \$86,000.

Plattsburg Barracks, New York: Additions to barracks, \$25,000; barracks, \$255,000.

West Point, New York: For addition to hospital, \$250,000; barracks for service detachment, \$250,000.

North Carolina.

Fort Bragg, North Carolina: Barracks, completion of, \$40,000; noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$160,000.

Pope Field, North Carolina, for the Air Corps troops: Barracks, \$140,000; noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$84,000; officers' quarters, \$140,000.

Pope Field, North Carolina: Hangar—balloon-dismantle, transfer, and reerection of, \$110,000; paved aprons, \$15,000; paint, oil, and dope storage, \$5,000.

Ohio.

Patterson Field, Ohio: Hangars, headquarters and operations, and heating plant, completion of, \$251,300; improvement of landing field and building area, \$5,000; gasoline-storage system, completion of, \$10,000.

Oklahoma.

Fort Sill, Oklahoma: Barracks, \$875,000; noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$72,000; officers' quarters, \$75,000; gun sheds, \$48,000; stables, \$30,000; vehicle sheds, \$10,000.

Hatbox Field, Muskogee, Oklahoma: Roofing and side-walls for hangar, and paved aprons, \$15,000.

Post Field, Oklahoma, for Air Corps troops: Barracks, \$140,000; noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$84,000; officers' quarters, \$140,000.

Post Field, Oklahoma: Hangar—balloon-dismantle, transfer, and reerection of, \$110,000; paved aprons, \$15,000.

Pennsylvania.

Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania: Heating plant, \$200,000.

South Dakota.

Fort Meade, South Dakota: Riding hall, \$25,000.

Texas.

Duncan Field, Texas: Depot administration building \$60,000; gasoline-storage system, completion of, \$15,000.

Duncan Field, Texas: Quartermaster warehouse, \$40,000; quartermaster maintenance building, \$20,000; garage, \$40,000; fire and guard house, \$25,000.

Dryden, Texas: Barracks, \$20,000.

Dryden, Texas: Paved aprons and hangar floor, \$15,000.

Fort Bliss, Texas: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$50,000; officers' quarters, \$150,000.

Fort Bliss, Texas: Operations building, \$10,000.

Fort Sam Houston, Texas: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$150,000; officers' quarters, \$350,000.

Hensley Field, Texas: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$8,000; officers' quarters, \$30,000; roads, utilities, and improvement of flying field, \$25,000; replacement of pumping plant, \$3,000; sewage-disposal plant, \$3,000.

Randolph Field, Texas: Barracks, completion of \$56,000; gymnasium, completion of, \$70,000; roads and utilities, \$243,000; completion of chapel and school, \$50,000.

Randolph Field, Texas: Engine-test stands and building, \$40,000; oil storage, \$15,000; gasoline-storage system, completion of, \$10,000; aerial target range, \$20,000.

William Beaumont General Hospital, Texas: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$7,000; warehouse, \$15,000.

Utah.

Fort Douglas, Utah: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$15,000.

Virginia.

Fort Humphreys, Virginia: Officers' quarters, \$150,000.

Fort Myer, Virginia: Barracks, \$100,000.

Langley Field, Virginia: Central heating plant for quarters area, \$60,000; quartermaster maintenance building, \$20,000; fire house, \$20,000; barracks, medical detachment, \$30,000; garage, completion of, \$15,000; magazine, completion of, \$10,000.

Langley Field, Virginia: Remodeling two hangars into shops, and for ceilings in and additions to hangars, \$91,000; gasoline-storage system, completion of, \$21,000; bomb storage, \$19,000; improvement of landing field and building area, \$25,000; machine-gun range, \$6,000.

Washington.

Fort Lawton, Washington: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$30,000.

Fort Lewis, Washington: Barracks, completion of \$30,000; water main, \$30,000; noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$75,000; officers' quarters, \$65,000.

Fort George Wright, Washington: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$60,000.

Wyoming.

Fort Francis E. Warren, Wyoming: Noncommissioned officers' quarters, \$120,000.

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SEC. 306. *In the construction of post offices and of buildings for post offices and other offices provided for in section 301 (a) (10), the Secretary of the Treasury with the cooperation of the Postmaster General may use such standard plans (heretofore or hereafter prepared) as may be most adaptable to the particular building to be constructed.*

SEC. 307. All contracts let for construction projects pursuant to this title shall be subject to the conditions that no convict labor shall be directly employed on any such project, and that (except in executive, administrative, and supervisory positions), so far as practicable, no individual directly employed on any such project shall be permitted to work more than thirty hours in any one week, and that in the employment of labor in connection with any such project, preference shall be given, where they are qualified, to ex-service men with dependents.

• • •

In transmitting this information to Members it is not the intention to raise false hopes of prospective commissions, or to assume the position that the legislation will bring about immediate revival in the construction industry. The sole purpose is to give first-hand and definite information with respect to new public works legislation which is of great importance to every individual connected with the construction industry.

The effect of this Act, and its application to the architect's problem of maintaining himself in practice, cannot be measured at this time.

However, I believe it is true that the resulting benefits to the public at large and incidentally to the practicing architect will be in direct proportion to the amount of energy and determination with which the architectural and engineering professions insist upon their rightful participation in the execution of this contemplated new Public Works Program.

Very truly yours,

ERNEST JOHN RUSSELL,
President.

Community Housing and Re-Planning Studies

A MESSAGE TO THE CHAPTERS

BEFORE adjourning Congress enacted certain "relief" legislation (extracts therefrom are printed elsewhere in this number of *THE OCTAGON*) which provides for loans through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for slum clearance, low cost housing and similar projects self-liquidating in character, controlled as to rents, capital, structure, etc., by State or Municipal Housing Commissions. In view of the opportunity thus to be afforded to the states and cities it is important to Chapters of The American Institute of Architects to know that in certain ways the Institute will be able to help some of them to start housing and re-planning studies in their communities.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Institute held last year, President Kohn called attention to the renewed interest in low-cost housing operations then being shown in various part of the country. Groups of architects were studying the problems of blighted city areas, the possibilities of re-planning of those areas, and the construction of new housing for low-income groups—all for the first time made possible by reason of the present cost of building. He urged that the Institute help those Chapters ready to take the leadership in this research and planning work in their States by sending to them speakers familiar with the experience gained in certain experimental housing work done in some of the eastern and middle western cities. The Board of Directors approved of the project to send out such speakers provided the President of the Institute could secure the necessary funds for that purpose.

Past-President Robert D. Kohn now announces that he has received the promise of a grant of a few thousand dollars for this work of the Institute. For the present the name of the donor cannot be given. By authority of President Russell, and acting as a sub-committee of the Institute Committee on Economics of Site Planning and Housing (of which Frederick Bigger, of Pittsburgh, is Chairman), Mr. Kohn is arranging for visits by one of three or four men experienced in this field to such of the Chapters as can most benefit at this time from their advice

and recommendations. Necessarily the entire country cannot be covered. Henry Wright, A.I.A., of New York, and Eugene H. Klaber, A.I.A., of Chicago, will be available in certain territory. Clarence S. Stein, A.I.A., will be able to meet with one or two other members will be found to help within a few weeks in this propaganda work. Wherever meetings are arranged by Chapters they will be expected to bring together groups of all of those elements in their communities which can be expected to take an active part in the forwarding of this timely movement. The special fund will pay all expenses of the traveling speaker except that of local entertainment. Above all things the Board hopes that this proffered aid will be the spur which will cause the architects in many communities to take the leadership in the housing and re-planning movement.

By a vote of the March meeting of the Construction League of the United States, the Institute was asked if it could have a committee prepare a basic "State Housing Commission" law and send it to all members of the League. A draft of the principles which such a law should incorporate has been prepared by a committee of five, each of whom is thoroughly familiar with the workings of the New York State Housing law. A copy has been sent to each Chapter of the Institute, and to each organization in the League. It is believed that this will be of help to those communities which are studying how to avail themselves of the Federal loans for housing made available by recent legislation of Congress.

Wherever a Chapter is ready to take action on this matter, its Officers are invited to get in touch with the Octagon Office, and thereafter the special Committee will attempt to supply information and a personal visitor-speaker to the extent of its limited personnel and funds.

FRANK C. BALDWIN,
Secretary.

Federal Home Loan Banks

Congress at its closing session on July 16 passed the Federal Home Loan Bank Bill, which was signed by the President on July 22.

Certain provisions of this act are as follows:

Federal Home Loan Banks.

Sec. 3. As soon as practicable the board shall divide the continental United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin

Islands, and the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii into not less than eight nor more than twelve districts. . . . As soon as practicable the board shall establish, in each district, a Federal Home Loan Bank at such city as may be designated by the board.

Sec. 4. (a) Any building and loan association, savings and loan association, cooperative bank, homestead association, insurance company, or savings bank shall be

eligible to become a member of, or a nonmember borrower of, a Federal Home Loan Bank. . . .

(d) Any home owner who comes within the limits of this Act and who is unable to obtain mortgage money from any other source may obtain same from any bank organized under this Act: Provided, That this subsection shall not be effective when the Federal Government has had its stock retired.

Sec. 10. (a) Each Federal Home Loan Bank is authorized to make advances to members and nonmember borrowers, upon the security of home mortgages, such advances to be made subject to such regulations, restrictions, and limitations as the board may prescribe. Any such advance shall be subject to the following limitations as to amount:

(1) If secured by a home mortgage given in respect of an amortized home mortgage loan which was for an original term of eight years or more, or in cases where shares of stock, which are pledged as security for such loan, mature in a period of eight years or more, the advance may be for an amount not in excess of 60 per centum of the unpaid principal of the home mortgage loan; in no case shall the amount of the advance exceed 40 per centum of the value of the real estate securing the home mortgage loan.

(2) If secured by a home mortgage given in respect of any other home mortgage loan, the advance shall not

be for an amount in excess of 50 per centum of the unpaid principal of the home mortgage loan; in no case shall the amount of such advance exceed 30 per centum of the value of the real estate securing the home mortgage loan.

Sec. 24. (a) Any organization organized under the laws of any State and subject to inspection and regulation under the banking or similar laws of such State shall be eligible to become a member under this Act if—

(1) it is organized solely for the purpose of supplying credit to its members;

(2) its membership (A) is confined exclusively to building and loan associations, savings and loan associations, cooperative banks, and homestead associations; or (B) is confined exclusively to savings banks; and

(3) of the institutions to which its membership is confined which are organized within the State, its membership includes a majority of such institutions.

(b) In all respects, but subject to such additional rules and regulations as the board may provide, any such organization shall be a member for the purposes of this Act.

Members who are interested in this legislation should obtain copies of the act in full. Requests therefor should be addressed to the "Clerk of the Document Room, United States Capitol, Washington, D. C."

A Past-President Looks at the Convention

PART II

WHILE the Convention was discussing the economics of housing and land development Congress was giving consideration to Federal "relief" legislation to provide funds in part for local public works, "limited dividend" housing and slum clearance. For the first time in the history of our country and because of the need for making jobs for the unemployed, the housing of the low-wage worker became the subject of discussion in a Senate Committee.

These two simultaneous debates may have marked the beginning of a new era.

Certainly the last six months have seen a new stir in the study of the housing problem. In a dozen communities architects are working on problems of re-planning blighted areas. They are asking the why of such conditions; the unfitness, the ugliness, the dreary monotony. Who knows? Out of the misery of the present era something worth-while may yet be evolved.

A dozen banks, deeply involved in mortgages on the lower east side of New York, have declared that they will lend on no more "improvements"

in that district, no matter how large the project may be unless it comprises an area large enough in itself to fix the character of a neighborhood and be secure against outside influences. Such a decision is epoch making. We have been saying that we must build communities of houses, not just build a house. We thought it a remote ideal, and here we have it handed to us; laid in our laps as a result of economic conditions. A few bankers have seen it as a practical pre-requisite to rehabilitation in one worn-out city district. Perhaps the spirit of it will be catching! A progressive idea might spread even in financial circles among lending institutions!

As I look back at the crowded programme of the Convention I wonder most if it would have been possible to stage a discussion on a subject in quite a different category. A few years ago we had a fine time listening to papers on "Modernism in Architecture." Since then many more words have been written and spoken about the logical bases of modern architecture. What I

would have liked to have heard was a discussion on the relation between this logic and modern architecture in the solid. Would the members really get stirred up about it? Our papers are full of magnificent verbal demonstrations on what modern architecture is going to do in the way of giving expression to the social ideals of the times. I quite agree with most of them. But the architecture, in the solid, which is produced and exhibited as an evidence of this logic seems to me to bear no relation at all to any of these generally admirable words. Fred Ackerman says that modern architecture does not seem to be supported on columns or walls but depends for support on dialectics. And even so, most of it seems to me to be following something someone else has done as irrationally as did the architects of 1845 in copying the Maison Carré at Nîmes for a bank building in a Pennsylvania town. Would it have been any use to hold an exhibition at the Convention of "modernism" and make the designers defend their work both as to logic and art? Perhaps it would have helped avoid further drifting with the easy stream of literary-ness for architecture, too, is in danger of being drowned in a stream of words. Literature itself seems completely submerged in words. There are those who write words because they have something to say. There are the critics of those who so write. There are the writers who write about these critics. There are the other writers who write more words about these writers of criticism, and there are the many Gertrude Steins who write words mainly for the emotional effect of their sound.

Of course, there is real progress evident in one direction. We seem to be in a fair way to work out of the pleasant old-time conceit of architecture as the ART which unfortunately also has to be useful. Architects used to acknowledge that there were such things as economic conditions, but these were to be passed by if possible with just a nod of recognition, no more. We were discussing architecture "as such," its relation with historical precedent and with the other arts. Learned papers were read on the subject. That, too, was lots of fun. Did it get us anywhere? Have we gone too far in the opposite direction? Perhaps so, for hardly a word of it was heard at this Convention. I will certainly not include in this category Fiske Kimball's admirable talk at the evening session of the Education Committee. And of course there were the big words at the Banquet!

So what I kept thinking of all the time was this: Is there no way in which we can advance the aesthetic content of our work without pretense and wordmongering and exhibitionism? Architecture is to be an art, thank goodness! with a reason for being. So much to the good. But

while we must realize in it the fulfilment of certain social needs it is our job to give them an environment in a form chosen deliberately for aesthetic reasons. These are the potentialities which we must never lose sight of. Talking big will not do it. The practical and economic factors are not outside of and somewhat interfering with the art, but neither are they the beginnings and the end. The beauty that will come into modern architecture will be as much of the essence of its practical and material usefulness as is the beauty in a textile or a basket. It needs to be studied and worked out as the chosen expression of an artist, none the less. The architecture of human habitation will not derive from the aesthetic sensations of Greece or Rome or fifteenth century England, but neither will it derive from the steamship, the factory or the airplane. The photograph of a bug's-eye view of a flock of steel boiler-stacks taken from down below is not modern architecture; it may be the art of the photographer. So the articles on modernism in our popular weeklies and monthlies may be literature; they do not make architecture. Perhaps I am reacting from my enforced silence as a presiding officer against the injection into the practice of architecture of the literary curse which has ruined the other arts. The impulse towards a search for a freer form of expression in architecture is so precious that I agonize over the fakirs, the strutters, the posers, and worst of all, the wordmongers.

This business of being a neutral in any discussion comes hard on me. Most of what I wanted to say during the debates has been forgotten by now, but one thing more remains with me to be gotten "off my chest." During the discussion on "Unification" I would have liked to have asked "what do the proponents of the two points of view really mean to accomplish by their proposed schemes?" Do both really mean to bring about a sense of solidarity in the entire profession, a democratic joining of effort evidenced by a democratic state of mind—one to which each would contribute according to his abilities? Or was it to be merely a physical, a legal means for unity of action that we were to create? Probably the answer would have been that the desired psychological change could only result from the material experience of working together in some tentative plan of cooperation. But the debate seemed to me to fluctuate most amusingly between sponsors for the dictatorship of the proletariat, the supporters of an intellectual artistic aristocracy, the conservative puritans, the "six percent or bust" professional ethics coalition, the "no more stuffed-shirt government" party and the "agin' the government" faction. I never before heard a Convention discussion which

so clearly demonstrated the infinite variety in the political point of view of the members of the profession.

But I could go on indefinitely thus about the Convention to no good purpose except to relieve my own pent-up feelings. One thing more I must say and that is that as I listened to the men from every part of the country I found myself at the same time in sympathy with speakers expressing quite divergent points of view! My two years as President had given me the inestimable privilege

of getting to know many of the infinite variety of economic and social conditions which architects have to meet throughout the country. I knew the background of the problems which many of them had to meet and could therefore for the moment be on their side whatever that might be. It may not have done the Institute so much good, my Presidency. But, great scott! I surely got a liberal education. It left me more than ever a democrat—I mean philosophically, of course. Heaven only knows what I am politically.

ROBERT D. KOHN, F. A. I. A.

Man versus Mass

By WILLIAM ADAMS DELANO, F. A. I. A.

WHILE still in Paris, the February issue of the *T-Square Journal* was forwarded to me. Its receipt reminded me that for over a year you have been asking me and I have been promising to write an article for its pages. Writing is a form of expression which does not come easily to me and I have procrastinated. Now on my way home I have found time, not only to read the *Journal* from cover to cover, but to reflect, and the memory of what I have seen in European cities and what I have just read have created such conflicting emotions that, in spite of myself, I feel compelled to write the long-promised article.

The advanced ideas presented in that issue are only typical of hundreds which appear in newspapers and architectural magazines. Anything I may write, therefore, is not directed at the *Journal* particularly but at a general trend.

On my trip I visited London, Paris and Rome and the two things which struck me most forcibly in all of these cities were: First, the way in which the great monuments, the spiritual expressions of the people, stood out—raised their heads above their surroundings—and second, how much light and air there was in these cities with their lower buildings and open squares and parks. Coming from New York, where I crawl in shadow from place to place feeling like a worm, I began to hold up my head, and once more felt like a human being. These qualities, if they have such an effect upon a stranger, surely must have an unconscious one upon the mentality of the natives. In Rome especially I was struck more than ever before by the importance in which man held himself, as expressed in brick and stone—a selfish expression, perhaps, but one so grandiose that man and his works almost reach the sublime. No “eleven foot six floor to floor” height for the Roman; he thought so well of himself that no building was too big, no

ceiling too high, no decoration too magnificent to suit his purposes.

Still seething with these impressions of man's dignity as expressed in his material surroundings, I took up the *Journal* and read how much happier in the new era now dawning man would be—living in skyscraping standardized apartment houses, each apartment reduced to the minimum, and spaced equally between standardized gardens, or how much more contented living in sanitary, machine-made homes which, when shabby, he could scrap, together with his Ford car, along the roadsides of Long Island. After centuries of struggle to evolve a culture worthy of his position in the animal kingdom, is this to be man's end? No better, no worse than the insects—ants and caterpillars he thought he had outdistanced in the race? I wonder?

Anyone with eyes in his head and a sense of justice in his heart cannot fail to be stirred when he sees the slums of the great cities. No matter what the cost to Capital, these *must* be wiped out or our civilization is not worthy of the name, but is the remedy only to be found in condemning mankind to live in standardized beehives and ant hills? Cannot more of the “advanced” architectural thought be spent, now that we have improved and improving methods of transportation, upon the idea of growing horizontally rather than vertically, or is that not spectacular enough? Five or six years ago the Regional Plan of New York and its Environs was responsible for the statement that if New York City were built at an even level—the high buildings reduced and buildings erected only on unimproved land reserved for building—Manhattan Island would be but four and one-half stories high. I do not know what the average height limit would be today but I feel confident not so high as the six and

one-half story average of Paris. We must face the fact that the skyscraper, America's contribution to architecture—wonderful as it is—has become an intolerable nuisance for which the greed of the landowner, our absurd system of taxing real estate and our lack of consideration for the rights of the other fellow are responsible. Whatever the inconveniences and drawbacks of an extended city as opposed to a concentrated one, man would not be so utterly out of scale with his surroundings; he would not become a caterpillar with a caterpillar's mentality.

It is probably too late to save New York City. Even today we are plunging ahead with our eyes shut, and building such colossal pieces of imaginative (or had I better say unimaginative) folly as Radio City. If this group of buildings were the most efficient and beautiful in the world it would still be folly to erect it on its present site, for its very size tends to shrink the capacity of the city and add to its inconvenience.

I fear that what I am writing will fall on deaf ears; it is but a parting shot at this mechanical civilization which seems to be advancing as surely and relentlessly as the ocean tide. What the so-called "Modern" architects say—and they are very articulate—and the pictures they paint—and they are very alluring—is news and is given a publicity out of all proportion to the value of the thought contained. Almost never has what they propose been thought out with any more reference to the nature and dignity of man than was the 18th Amendment by our legislators. With our magazines and newspapers what they are today this is inevitable—there is no news value in the old, only in the new and spectacular—but it seems to me that those of us who are not carried off our feet by this "ballyhoo," who are sincerely convinced that we are drifting toward a condition where humanity is threatened by the machine and its liberty jeopardized, owe it to our fellow-citizens and our profession to speak out.

It would require much space to go into a discussion of the kind of thing this modern architectural thought is producing; besides, while the fever is on it would be futile. For all its much-vaunted "functional" originality, it is but a poor copy of what is being done better abroad. Monotonous stripes are substituted for monotonous columns. I see no greater artistic value in copying something that was done yesterday than something that was done two centuries ago. Are we not deceiving ourselves? By jettisoning all the old forms we do not necessarily produce something original or worth while. There is as much that is new to be said in architecture today by a man of imagination who employs traditional motives as there is in literature by the author, who, to express his thought, still employs the English language. Where we have most often gone astray in this country is in slavishly copying what our European ancestors have done instead of telling our own story in our own way. We are "sick to death" of the conventional styles and in our anger want to throw everything overboard. It is not imagination, but lack of imagination which brings us to this pass.

It is fun to dream dreams, and I am sure that those who indulge the habit are having a wonderful time today, with all the publicity that is being showered upon them. Without dreams the world would not progress, but could not some of this "advanced" dreaming be directed towards a civilization which conceived of men as individuals? This has always been America's boast. Must we follow blindly Russia's leveling experiment before it has been more fully tested? The skyscraper has gone to our heads. Instead let us take to our hearts the lesson of the great American "bubble" of mass production, and mass everything, which has so recently been pricked, and as architects give less thought to material bigness and more to the dignity of human life and thought and its power to shape man's destiny.

(From the May issue of *SHELTER* under the title "At a General Trend.")

Convention Resolutions

THE May number of *THE OCTAGON* contained nearly all of the resolutions adopted by the Sixty-fifth Convention.

Those resolutions appearing in the May number of *THE OCTAGON* recorded Convention action on the various subjects covered in the Report of the Board of Directors to the Convention, including such matters as Unification, Architects' Small House Service Bureau, and Public Works.

All other resolutions adopted by the Conven-

tion, not heretofore printed in *THE OCTAGON*, are as follows:

Octagon Building Fund.

Whereas, Various members of the Institute have signed agreements to contribute certain sums annually to the Octagon Building Fund; and

Whereas, There is no immediate prospect of using the sums so paid in to the Treasury of the Institute for the purpose for which this fund is being accumulated, and the sums so contributed are serving no useful purpose; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Treasurer be instructed that no request for annual payments be presented to the subscribers to this fund during the current year, but that the subscribers be informed that this failure to request payment at this time does not constitute a waiver of the obligations assumed by the subscribers.

Carnegie Corporation—Gift.

Whereas, The Carnegie Corporation has by its generous gifts so ably assisted in the work of the Institute in the advancement of art appreciation; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Sixty-fifth Convention of The American Institute of Architects assembled express its thanks to the Carnegie Corporation for its generous contribution of \$15,000.00 to carry on the work of the Committee on Education.

Washington, D. C., Chapter—Expression of Appreciation.

Whereas, The Washington, D. C. Chapter, as a whole, constituted the Convention Committee and their work during the Convention added so greatly to its success; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Sixty-fifth Convention of The American Institute of Architects assembled expresses its appreciation and thanks to the Washington, D. C., Chapter for its excellent assistance.

Taxation as Related to the Practice of Architecture.

Whereas, Great interest has been aroused in the Report of the Special Committee headed by W. R. B. Willcox—regarding taxation as related to the practice of architecture; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Sixty-fifth Convention of The American Institute of Architects assembled recommends that the Board of Directors of the Institute consider the recommendation of the Special Committee and continue the investigations regarding taxation, as indicated by the Special Committee's report.

Better Homes in America Movement.

Whereas, President Hoover has issued a call to the country to support the Better Homes' movement for the improvement of home conditions, home living, and home surroundings; and

Whereas, The Sixty-fifth Convention of The American Institute of Architects is being held in Washington, D. C., during the week designated by President Hoover as Better Homes' Week; be it

Resolved, That The American Institute of Architects hereby takes advantage of this most appropriate occasion to endorse the purposes of the Better Homes in America movement; and be it further

Resolved, That the members of the Institute be requested to encourage this movement locally and to participate in all local committee work wherever possible.

Architectural Cooperation in Rural Sections.

Resolved, That The American Institute of Architects authorize each chapter to arrange for one or more representatives to cooperate with similar representatives from the Land Grant Colleges in their district to advance the cause of better architecture in rural and the smaller and urban sections by such association and contact.

Public Information.

Resolved, That the question of a special or auxiliary committee recommended by the Committee on Public Information be referred by the Convention to the incoming Board for such action as it deems wise.

Glenn Brown.

At this the very beginning of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary meeting of The American Institute of Architects, it is fitting that we record the death of Glenn Brown, Secretary and Executive Secretary of the Institute from 1899 to 1913, and pay a tribute to his work.

His death marks the close of an era—a notable era in which the profession of Architecture took the responsibility for leadership in the movement for a better civic art. He was the last of that devoted group of architects who started the movement for a harmonious development of Washington based on the plan of its founder, yet modified so as to accommodate the needs of our modern activities.

Associate of McKim, Burnham, and St. Gaudens and their confidential advisor and agent, enlisting the help of Elihu Root and his distinguished contemporaries, Glenn Brown used his abilities as a crusader to bring the cause of a better planned Washington before the Government and the people. He lived to see his disinterested work come to the rich fruition which it deserved. We honor his memory as that of a courageous frontiersman, for he too cleared a path, one that ran through a tangle of misunderstanding and ignorance, toward the goal of a capital city for the nation planned in harmony, order and dignity worthy of our people.

The Bicentennial Conference on the National Capital.

The following resolutions were adopted at the Conference, held in Washington, D. C., on April 29, 1932, by delegates from The American Institute of Architects; The American Society of Landscape Architects; The American Civic Association; The American Federation of Arts; The American City Planning Institute; The City Planning Division, American Society of Civil Engineers; The National Sculpture Society; The Garden Club of America; The Association of the Alumni of the American Academy in Rome; The Mural Painters; and The National Conference on City Planning.

In this year of the Bicentennial Celebration of the Birth of George Washington, this Conference of national organizations proclaims the united desire and intention of the representatives here assembled to make the city of Washington a worthy and living memorial to the ideals, vision and glory of its founder; to this end,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1.—We pledge our organizations to the principle that our National Capital should express in its physical planning and development the highest ideals and accomplishments of American art.

2.—We are convinced that such ideals can be realized only with the collaboration of the ablest professional advisers in the various arts; and we urge that their services may be made available by definite legislative authorization.

3.—We strongly maintain that the amenities and utilities should be given proper emphasis in full harmony with aesthetics since the truly beautiful must manifest a design adequate to its appropriate utilitarian purpose.

4.—We believe that the pride of the American people in their Federal City warrants ample appropriations for its adequate development and maintenance; and, when retrenchments may be expedient, we urge that cost limits be established without limitations affecting the procedure or the high quality of whatever project is undertaken.

5.—We recognize and appreciate the contribution of the legislative and executive branches of the Government toward the accomplishment of these ideals in the National Capital through the constructive legislation and administration of recent years; and we pledge the full force of our nation-wide organizations in support of further effort in the continued development of this policy.

6.—We recommend the adoption of a definite program of progressive steps for the gradual carrying through to completion of such major projects as the Mall and the Monument grounds, the George Washington Memorial Parkway, the Arboretum, and the Fort Drive, before property development and consequent appreciation in value makes costs prohibitive. While it is the duty of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission to indicate what should be done, and the relative importance of various projects, Congress alone must decide what appropriations shall be made to carry out the project.

7.—We recommend for the favorable consideration of the Congress legislative measures now pending to authorize the employment of capable and experienced advisers in the arts on Federal projects under existing Federal agencies; with similar provisions in connection with any departmental reorganization measures.

8.—We propose that in the public buildings of the Capital the collaboration of the ablest architects, sculptors and mural painters be definitely provided for under proper authorization and with adequate appropriation; that the employment of landscape architects of outstanding reputation be authorized in connection with the proper setting of public buildings, for the design of parks and the development of street plantings; and that in problems involving engineering, public utilities and construction, the collaboration of outstanding engineering authorities be

obtained; in order that in design, execution and maintenance, such work in the National Capital may not only equal the highest type of similar work in other cities and in private practice, but may set standards for the country at large. To this end it is our recommendation that all administrative officials charged with the execution of important projects shall be authorized and directed to employ such professional experts.

9.—We recommend that, in view of the responsibility placed by Congress upon the National Capital Park and Planning Commission "to prepare, develop and maintain a comprehensive, consistent, and coordinated plan for the National Capital and its environs," the supervisory and coordinating authority of this commission should be clearly defined and established, substantially as provided in the Standard City Planning Act of the U. S. Department of Commerce which has been the basis of legislative acts in numerous States.

10.—We advocate maintaining, in each of our respective organizations, a Committee on the National Capital, each committee to assume as its special opportunity and obligation for public service the particular branch of art with which it is chiefly concerned; and we further agree to have representatives of these committees constitute a central civic and professional committee to make effective, as occasion requires, the full force of organized professional opinion.

(The action of the delegates of the A. I. A. on the Conference was confirmed by the Convention.)

NOTE.—Prior to the Conference the substance of these resolutions had been submitted to the organizations participating. All but two of these organizations had given advance authorization to their delegates, or have subsequently confirmed the Conference action.

Review of "A Study of Architectural Schools"

By C. C. ZANTZINGER, F. A. I. A.

This study was made in connection with a Preliminary Survey of Architectural Education by F. H. Bosworth, Jr., and Roy Childs Jones for the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture

THE development of the American Schools of Architecture over the last twenty-five years has been one of the most extraordinary developments in the whole field of education in America. If we look back to the standards of instruction, the space occupied and the equipment of the schools in 1900, and compare them with what they are today, the difference is indeed amazing. Any such rapid growth is probably accompanied by some mistakes. It is unlikely that every step that is taken will be a step forward.

In order to insure a better development, the leading schools during this time organized the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, which formulated a curriculum or series of standards, that, in the judgment of their several faculties, constituted the basic requirements of education for the practice of architecture. In recent

years the number of schools that, according to their catalogues, had adopted curricula that conformed with these standards has grown considerably. Membership in the Association expanded from six or eight schools originally to nearly thirty last year.

The Committee on Education of the Institute has, during this period, been in close touch with the Association, has watched their growth and endorsed their standards. By this means the Profession of Architecture has been associated with the development of the institutions teaching our profession. Architects have seen with satisfaction the lengthening of the curriculum from four to five years. They have welcomed the higher standards that have been set up and have, we think generally, been amazed at the "quality of the product," to use a commercial term. In

rare instances, of course, the man with the real genius for the practice of architecture has not been a surprise, but the very high average performance of the school graduate, with his pencil and in the presentation and making of drawings, has been remarkable.

There has existed, alongside of this feeling of admiration, a certain doubt in the minds of some observers as to the soundness of the "product." Was it possible that young America could in so short a time acquire all this dexterity of technique and at the same time learn the fundamentals requisite for the proper practice of our profession? It was this feeling perhaps, reflected in the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, that led it to apply to the Carnegie Corporation for a fund sufficient to make possible a Preliminary Survey of the Schools of Architecture. It will be recalled that a similar survey has been made of the schools of medicine, out of which grew many valuable reforms in that profession.

This Preliminary Survey has now been completed by Professor F. Hunt Bosworth, Jr., of Cornell University, and Professor Roy Childs Jones, of the University of Minnesota, and the resulting "Study of Architectural Schools" will presently be available for general circulation. In assigning the direction of this task to Professor Bosworth, the Association was particularly well advised, for there is probably no man in our profession who, by his training, experience and interests, is as well fitted for the study of this pre-eminently important matter. He has been ably seconded by Professor Jones, whose long experience on the faculties of several schools has familiarized him with varying organizations and curricula.

The Study has been considered by the Committee on Education of the Institute, which has been represented at certain meetings of the Association and the Corporation where this preliminary survey was discussed. There was a unanimity of opinion that, given the nature of the subject (that is, the kind of school that was under consideration) it would not be necessary to carry the Study further than this preliminary stage, which speaks volumes for the quality of the work done by the authors.

Perhaps it is because of the peculiarity of the genus architect but, whatever be the cause, the fact remains that the Study is entertaining reading. The Committee visited all the schools in the country, some fifty-two in number, and the nature of their investigation into the conditions at these schools was apparently without exception a pleasant visit amongst friends, a delightful week-end spent with charming hosts in the discussion of a subject of mutual and absorbing interest.

The Study establishes beyond peradventure the seriousness of the intent on the part of the faculties of the several schools. It seems to show that these teachers of our profession have that strange quality of the architect, namely, they must do their job to the best of their ability, no matter what administrative or other obstacles are placed in their way, with a self-sacrificing devotion to their work that has no relation to their remuneration or any less substantial recognition of their service.

The Study for the most part omits bouquets. It reports its findings. Its condemnation is mostly in the form of a question. In commenting on the work of Dr. George Walter Dawson at the University of Pennsylvania, it departs from its policy of omitting eulogy, and pays well merited tribute to his contribution in the training of the students at that school since its foundation. Though not a teacher of design, Dr. Dawson has understood the essential quality of the school of Architecture, which is best expressed in Mr. Randolph Coolidge's well-known phrase, "Our Schools should be nurseries of the imagination."

The Study will be most helpful to the faculties of all the schools. Introspection will become a virtue in the light of Professor Bosworth's kindly comments. The value of the Study will only appear in the near future. It is to be hoped that it may be read by the boards of trustees of the several universities, for many of the difficulties, as we see it, arise from a lack of understanding on the part of the governing bodies of the importance and real value to their institutions of their schools of Architecture. The faculties, for the most part, know what should be done and many are competent to do it ably. It is for the boards of trustees to see that a school of Architecture is not just like any other school in their university, that it must be accorded special treatment and consideration. They must understand that the potential contribution to our civilization of the faculties of Fine Arts, and in particular of the schools of Architecture, is of prime value. There is a growing demand from young America for information concerning the Fine Arts. It is the province of the faculties of the Fine Arts to answer this demand, and especially is the architectural faculty competent in this direction.

There may well grow out of this Study some recommendations of principle concerning the proper scope, the suitable location and the desirable number of schools of Architecture, taking the country by and long, geographically as a whole.

Concerning scope, one way well inquire: Is it desirable that all schools of Architecture should have graduate departments? Is it not sufficient that, in the less densely populated States, the

school should confine itself to the first class instruction of basic requirements and not endeavor to carry on a school purporting to give the special and advanced instruction of the great graduate school? Under the general heading of "Administrative Relationships," the Study considers the relations of the Fine Arts to engineering. There is a discussion of the age-long problem of the relation of engineering to Architecture. There is a distinct recognition of the importance to the architect of an adequate knowledge of construction. Insistence upon this point is wise at this time in the development of our national Art, when new inventions, new materials, tempt the designer to depart from the basic principles of our Art. Administrative difficulties appear to stand in the way of a frank solution of this problem. The terms "architectural engineering" and "architectural engineer," which we deplore, have been invented to perhaps simplify these difficulties. The fact remains that all architects must have fundamental knowledge of construction if our Art is to advance and become a truthful expression of our time and civilization.

That this difficulty is real is clearly brought out in the Study. It is to be regretted, as the Study seems to show, that in the organization of some schools there is a distinction between "the Design Staff" and "the Construction Staff," even to the extent of almost a caste feeling. The effect upon a student of such an atmosphere is certain to be bad, for it can but influence him to take a superficial view of his design and lead him directly away from the underlying principles of construction on which all good design in architecture must be based.

On the other hand the Study brings out the danger of a too great insistence on the part of the Design Staff on the presentation of the students' drawings for judgment. It would seem that cases are not wanting in which the senior critic overlooks his first responsibility, which is to form thoughtful students; that is, to develop in the students with whom he comes in contact the ability to intelligently and independently analyze their problems. It is to our mind axiomatic that immediately upon entrance in the school all the students should be brought more or less in contact with the critic under whom they will eventually do their advanced work. They should, as nearly as practicable, be his apprentices, profiting by the relation of master and apprentice that is, and he, in turn, can by a more thorough and continued knowledge of his students more completely direct their study on lines advantageous and sympathetic to them.

If we consider this whole question of the scope of an architect's training while at school from the standpoint of its practical application by him in after-life, we can but realize the great

difficulty of properly organizing the curriculum of a school of Architecture. It will be conceded that the object of the curriculum is to prepare men for practice. Every practitioner who has had the benefit of a thorough schooling knows how difficult it has been for him to relate his daily activities to the theory that was expounded to him while in school. We must conclude that schools of Architecture have this in common with all other schools: that they must teach their students to think; we have said above to think independently, and we insist that they must think structurally. To be successful they must combine these two capacities with imagination.

Concerning the location of the schools of Architecture, it is quite probable that, except in special cases, the really great graduate institutions can only be in great centers of population, with the resulting possibility of contacts with considerable numbers of architects in active and large practice.

The study seems to point to a too great number of schools of Architecture. It is perhaps impossible to control this number entirely. Every university will wish to have such a school, but it is probably ill-advised that at the State university and at the school of agriculture of the same State there should be a school of Architecture. This, we are told, is a condition which does exist, and exists because distances are so great that it is often inconvenient for the citizen of a given State to go so far away from home. Consequently there are two schools of Architecture supported by the same State with funds scarcely adequate for one well organized school. The condition seems to defeat the object to be obtained. It must be the ambition of the State to train their students well. It is difficult to do this when the possible appropriation is divided, and again, there is advantage in a school of Art in bringing together a considerable number of students.

And this brings out a point that may properly be further investigated, and that is, the proper number of architects, the proper number of students that should be trained and for whom, therefore, opportunities of study should be provided. There can be no doubt that the small school with a large and distinguished faculty is the ideal. How many of these there should be and where they should be located perhaps will be determined by the laws of evolution, that is, by the survival of the fittest.

Throughout the Study, by a consideration of the development of the "problem method," there is a recognition of the debt which education in architecture in this country owes to France, through the inspiration that has been brought from overseas by the men who, in the later years of the last century and the beginning of this, studied at the *École des Beaux Arts* in Paris.

For the contribution that has been made by these men in the advancement of education in our profession, through first, the Society of Beaux-Arts Architects and finally, the Beaux Arts Institute of Design, we must be deeply grateful. Through them the Profession has inherited traditions of love of the work for the work's sake, of pride in achievement of work well done, of unselfish willingness to help others to advancement and better understanding of our profession.

The publication of this Study perhaps terminates a period in the development of the teaching

of architecture in this country. Our schools have grown. They have grown fast and well. They have been influenced by the Art of our great ally. The period of real construction is at hand. The architects of the country, under the leadership of the Institute, should lend every help within their power to guide the schools so that in the next twenty-five years they may make a further contribution to the development of Art in America commensurate with that which they have accomplished during the first period which this Study brings to an end.

The Washington Bicentennial Exhibition

THE great amount of work laid before the recent sessions of the Institute, and the limited time in which to grapple the problems, prevented many members from an inspection of the exhibition of the development of the Federal City held as part of the Bicentennial Celebration at the New National Museum, Tenth Street and Constitution Avenue.

This exhibit was assembled by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and is by far the best and most comprehensive exposition of the past and future development of the Capital City that has been so far brought together.

Here for once can be found a clear and explicit explanation—admirably illustrated—of the individual work and the correlation of the many commissions having in hand the development and beautification of the City of Washington. The scope, duties and composition of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission is set forth here by means of models, descriptions and illustrations. The work of the McMillan Commission of 1901—in the creation of which the Institute played so important a part—is similarly shown, by perspective drawings, plans, and models.

The past work of the National Commission of Fine Arts is profusely illustrated and its roll of former members constitutes a veritable "Hall of Fame" of The American Institute of Architects.

Both the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol and the excellent work of the Municipal Architect are clearly set forth, and the part played in the Federal City by the Office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury and the all-important Building Commission are amply considered.

Historical studies of the Mall show what this central feature of the Washington Plan has es-

aped, and some pains has here been taken to explain the forced abandonment of the McKim design for the surroundings of the Washington Monument and both the proposed substitutions of Mr. F. L. Olmsted and Mr. William A. Delano are shown.

The historical phase is well illustrated and an historical development series forms a complete exhibition in itself. There is also shown a series of interesting studies made from the original plan and by means of careful studies of L'Enfant's letters and reports show his claim to originality was well founded, and that neither Versailles nor Evelyn's third plan for rebuilding London played any part as a precedent in L'Enfant's conception.

The exhibition was arranged by William Partridge, A. I. A., Consulting Architect of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and it is of interest to compare Mr. Partridge's part in the design and presentation of the plans and models of today with those of the McMillan Commission of 1901, on which he worked under the inspiring direction of Charles Follen McKim.

The carefully prepared placards setting forth the duties, authority, and composition of the various Commissions are the work of Mr. Charles W. Elliot, II, Director of Planning of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

This exhibit, as well as the Bicentennial Exhibition of Mural Paintings and Sculpture in the same Museum, will be open until November first, and members of the Institute and their friends, visiting Washington, should not miss this opportunity to see how seriously and earnestly these various bodies are striving to build a Capital City worthy of this nation.

The older members of the Institute played no small part in the establishment of the plan of 1901, and the new generation should, in their turn, use every effort to "carry on" and complete the work.

The Structural Service Department

F. LEO SMITH, TECHNICAL SECRETARY

Devoted to the advancement of knowledge of materials, methods of construction, and equipment for buildings, and to a better understanding of the art and science of architecture.

Specification Standards.

Every architect is faced with the problem of keeping his overhead at a minimum. Any step which he may be able to take to eliminate unnecessary items of expense is a clear gain and will add materially to his profits and assist him greatly in the production of meritorious architecture without fear of financial loss.

Drawings and specifications are costly. They represent only a small part of the architectural service actually rendered to the client in spite of the generally accepted tradition that the architect is merely "the man who drew the plans." At the same time drafting, blue printing, specification writing and printing are major items of expense.

Voluminous specifications are not necessarily complete. Pages may make a favorable impression on the client and pretty pictures appeal to his imagination but we must bear in mind that these are not in themselves the service which the architect has to sell. Every superfluous word or sentence, every meaningless line or detail is a wasted effort, hindering the proper execution of the project for which they are intended to be a guide.

The inadequacy of many specifications is clearly evidenced by the disputes and misunderstandings which frequently occur, delaying the work and sometimes resulting in court action for settlement. Even where serious differences are avoided, the architect may be annoyed by requests from the contractor for additional instructions or for an interpretation of ambiguous clauses.

The use of nationally recognized specification standards and established methods of tests serve to greatly simplify the task of specification writing. They are conducive to a better understanding and closer cooperation between the producer of materials, the architect and engineer and the contractor who assembles these materials into a completed structure. Such standards can be included in the architects specifications by reference thereby saving needless pages of detailed explanation.

The Standard Specifications and Test Methods of the American Society for Testing Materials are an excellent example of the type of standards available to the architect. In the formulation of these standards, technically trained men are brought together for the purpose of carefully studying a specific device or material. Producers,

consumers and general interests are represented in committees to each of which is assigned a particular field of investigation. The producer contributes his knowledge of the problems of manufacture and the practical limitations of production; the consumer presents his experience in the application of the material in actual practice; and the scientist supplies basic data as developed by research and laboratory investigation.

Such specifications are based upon a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the properties of materials and the uses for which they are most suitable. They represent a substantial agreement between the producer and consumer and provide a mutually acceptable basis for obtaining and analyzing competitive bids—bids based upon definite and reliable information as to the type and quality of material desired.

A. S. T. M. Standards are now available in separate form as well as in the bound volumes of Standards and Tentative Standards which contain all those promulgated by the Society. Specification writers will find these very convenient as they have carefully prepared indexes which indicate at a glance those materials for which standards have been established by the Society.

A list of A. S. T. M. Standards and Tentative Standards of special interest to the architectural profession has been prepared and is available to Institute members on request to the Structural Service Department. This list will be used as a guide in the selection of specifications and test methods to be published in a size conforming with the Institute's recommendations and bearing appropriate A. I. A. file numbers. These selected Standards and Tentative Standards will be made available to Institute members substantially at cost by the American Society for Testing Materials.

A. S. T. M. Committee on Mortars for Unit Masonry.

The organization of A. S. T. M. Committee C-12 on Mortars for Unit Masonry has been completed, permanent officers elected and subcommittees designated. Professor Charles M. Gay, A. I. A., of the University of Pennsylvania, represents The American Institute of Architects as a member of this committee and the Technical Secretary of the Structural Service Department is alternate.

A meeting was held in Atlantic City on June 23rd during the Annual Convention of the American Society for Testing Materials at which outline-programs for the work of the various sub-committees were presented. Seventeen sub-committees have been organized and are now ready to proceed with a study of the particular problems assigned.

Permanent officers are as follows:

Chairman. R. E. Davis, Professor of Civil Engineering, University of California, Berkeley, California.

Vice-Chairman. H. D. Baylor, Vice-President, Louisville Cement Co., Speed, Indiana.

Vice-Chairman. T. R. Lawson, Department of Civil Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N. Y.

Secretary. F. Leo. Smith, Technical Secretary, Structural Service Department, American Institute of Architects, Washington, D. C.

At the present time the membership of the Committee includes twenty-seven producers, fourteen consumers and fifteen general interests, represented by fifty-six individual members and five alternates. This provides the balance between producing and non-producing interests as required by A. S. T. M. procedure.

Present practice in connection with masonry mortars is based very largely on opinions not entirely supported by proven, authoritative data. This lack of definite knowledge on the subject is no doubt responsible for much of the unsatisfactory masonry work with which every architect is familiar. Leaky walls are a comparatively common occurrence and in attempting to fix the responsibility for this condition the architect is frequently unable to determine where the fault lies. Masonry units, cementing materials, aggregates, water, workmanship and design are all important factors. The work of this Committee should be of inestimable value to the profession and to the entire building industry if it succeeds in eliminating even a part of the present difficulties.

The members of the Institute can be of great assistance in this important activity by reporting instances of failures and unsatisfactory experience with mortars as well as in offering suggestions as to the composition and use of mortars which will produce good results. Such recommendations should be based on specific examples with detailed information on materials, design and workmanship wherever possible. Such data should be sent to F. Leo. Smith, Secretary, A. S. T. M. Committee C-12, 1741 New York Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Concrete Floors in Dairies.

The Structural Service Department has recently received several inquiries for information

with reference to concrete floors in dairies and creameries. The following information on this subject may be of interest to other Institute members to whom this service is available.

Dairy floors are especially liable to damage from lactic acid which reacts unfavorably with concrete. The rate of attack is very largely dependent upon the quality of the concrete floor and the density of its finish. Very dense finishes appreciably retard deterioration due to this acid reaction.

Surface treatments are sometimes used to assist in preserving the finish. Where such treatments are applied it is necessary that the floor be thoroughly cured and dried before proceeding with the acid-proof protection. Floor surfaces can be effectively sealed by the application of warm linseed oil. Such oil should be very thin to facilitate penetration and excess oil may be removed as no surface film is necessary.

It is also possible to protect concrete floors in creameries by the application of hot paraffin. As the melting point of paraffin is approximately 150 degrees F. it can easily be made into a paste by melting four parts of paraffin by weight with one part of turpentine and sixteen parts of toluol.

This mixture should be spread on the floor and allowed to penetrate for a period of at least twenty-four hours, after which it should be driven into the concrete by the application of heat. Hot irons are best adapted to this purpose. Open flames should be avoided because of the fire hazard involved.

After either of the above treatments the concrete floor surface should be thoroughly covered with a floor wax suitable for this purpose. This wax film should be replaced from time to time by fresh coatings as the original wax is worn away through use.

Where dairy floors are subjected to wear from trucking, in locations such as receiving rooms and loading platforms, the surface may be protected by embedding in the finish a properly designed metal reinforcement. The top of this metal should be flush with the wearing surface, and should be securely fastened together to prevent displacement during finishing. It should be placed on the concrete base before it has hardened but after it has become sufficiently stiff to hold the reinforcement to the proper level. It is essential that the concrete between the spaces in the grating be of good quality and in contact with all parts of the metal. Tapping of the reinforcement will assist in securing proper bond and will make the concrete denser and more compact.

Further information on concrete floors for dairies may be obtained from the Portland Cement Association, 33 West Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

With the Chapters

EXTRACTS FROM CHAPTER MINUTES AND REPORTS

Alabama Chapter—June Meeting.

Dean Biggin, President of the Alabama Chapter, reported final triumph of the School of Architecture in its efforts for recognition as a school separate from the Engineering School. Correct designation is given it in the annual catalogue of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, just issued.

Dean Biggin described a recent visit of a committee from the Carnegie Foundation and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, and mentioned the comments of Dean Bosworth of Cornell regarding the general high average of the School of Architecture of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, and his extremely high valuation of the course in Construction Option in Architecture.

Baltimore Chapter—June Meeting.

T. Worth Jamison, Jr., reported for the Committee on Trade Conferences in regard to the Building Congress for Baltimore, and announced that the first meeting of representatives of the industry would be held at the Builder's Exchange on June 2nd, at which time it was hoped both to get the approval of the industry for the organization and to form a group of organizing committees.

Chicago Chapter—Annual Meeting.

President Farrier's annual report covered the work of the Chapter for past year including a consolidated report of the Committees of the Chapter.

He stated that the report of the Program Committee of which Wm. J. Smith has been chairman, pointed out that the aim of the Committee in preparing the programs has been a closer linking together of the Chicago Chapter and other groups which have kindred interests. The subjects included in the programs of the year were as follows:

September—"Some Books for the Architect to Read" and "Recent Acquisitions of the Art Institute of Chicago."

October—"Building Materials"—with special reference to investigations on heating and ventilation and heat-resisting qualities of materials.

November—The Gold Medal of the Chicago Chapter was presented to Ernest A. Grunsfeld, Jr., for the design of the Adler Planetarium. Welcome to Alfred Granger was extended by the Chapter.

December—A symposium on the subject "Reclamation of Blighted Areas in American Cities with special Reference to Chicago."

January—Albert Kahn of Detroit spoke on "Our Work in Russia."

February—Alfred Granger gave a stereopticon lecture on "The Housing Problem in Vienna."

March—"The Aims and Purposes of the Producers' Council" and the "Causes of the Present Depression" were discussed.

April—The meeting in April was in memory of Pierce Anderson, on the occasion of the presentation of his portrait to the Chicago Chapter.

May—The Chapter was entertained at the Administration Building of the Century of Progress and later at the Adler Planetarium.

June—The subject of this meeting was "The History and Historic Architectural Monuments of Illinois."

President Farrier stated that the Committee on Public Information of which Henry H. Klaber has been chairman, reported that the following articles, limited to six hundred words appeared in the Real Estate Section of the Chicago Daily News:

1. "A Review of President Hoover's Housing Conference", Pierre Blouke, A.I.A.

2. "Topsy-Town Housing vs. Community Planning", Jacob L. Crane, Jr., Town Planner.

3. "Cooperative Apartments—Why not Cooperative Houses?" Harry H. Bentley, A.I.A.

4. "The Influence of Zoning on Housing", Emery Stanford Hall, F.A.I.A.

5. "Don't Own Your Own—Unless," N. Max Dunning, F.A.I.A.

6. "Suburban House Grouping", R. Harold Zook, A.I.A.

7. "Working Men's Dwellings in Vienna", Alfred Granger, F.A.I.A.

8. "Recent Developments in German Housing", Arthur Woltersdorf, F.A.I.A.

9. "English Housing Since the War", Eugene H. Klaber, A.I.A.

Cincinnati Chapter—May Meeting.

The May meeting of the Cincinnati Chapter was held at the University of Cincinnati, in conjunction with the Architectural Society and the Upper Class students of the School of Architecture of that University.

Professor Pickering made the award of the Harry Hake prize to the winner of the annual competition for senior students of the School of Architecture. He also announced the award of the A. I. A. medal to A. C. Sanford, the senior student having the best record.

At this meeting of the Chapter, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the Cincinnati Chapter, A. I. A., that the best interests of the State of Ohio and the citizens thereof would be furthered by making the office of the State Architect of Ohio an administration office only and that the design and supervision of buildings for the State of Ohio and its political subdivisions should be executed by the best qualified architects in private practice in the State of Ohio in order to secure to the State the best possible buildings and service, and be it further,

Resolved, That the officers of this Chapter are hereby instructed to use their efforts toward the consummation of such a result.

Minnesota Chapter—June Meeting.

The Minnesota Chapter, at its June meeting, adopted the following resolution in regard to the suspension of taxes on new housing:

Whereas, building operations, other than governmental work, are almost at a standstill throughout the United States, due to general business conditions and that while there is a growing need for residential building, such building has been further handicapped by difficulties of financing and high taxes; and

Whereas, residential building would be greatly stimulated by a suspension of taxes on new construction; and

Whereas, in a number of European cities, there has been a suspension of taxes on new residential building operations with a resultant increase in building; and

Whereas, there is much vacant property on which the taxes are now in default, and any aid given prospective home builders would result in the payment of such back taxes; and

Whereas, the suspension of taxes on new construction at the present time would create no additional tax burden upon other taxpayers; and

Whereas, during the present depression, there should be a concerted effort to stimulate building construction and thereby lessen unemployment, which will relieve the tax burden, rather than increase it; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Minnesota Chapter of The American Institute of Architects recommends to the consideration of the Minneapolis City Council that a method be devised for the suspension of all general taxes for a period of five years on all single family dwellings constructed hereafter during the years 1932-1933; such suspension of taxes to be for buildings only, and not to include suspension of taxes on land or assessments for special improvements.

North Texas Chapter—May Meeting.

Arrangements were made at this meeting to have a representative present at the A. & M. College to judge the Junior Competition drawings and present the certificates of merit given by the Chapter.

The announcement from Scott Dunne and Clyde Griesenback jury appointed by the Chapter to judge the State Fair "Model Home" drawings, was read stating that the drawings submitted by Otto Lang and Frank O. Witchell were selected as first choice design.

Motion was made by E. Bruce LaRoche and seconded by Lester N. Flint that the local Chapter take the initiative in bringing about the cooperation of the three State Chapters in offering their services to the

General Committee appointed to serve for the 1936 Centennial Exposition. Motion carried.

Philadelphia Chapter—Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Chapter was held on June 13.

President Bencker, in his address, said that the major activities of the Chapter during the year had been the Survey of Old Philadelphia and the Unemployment Relief Work, in taking care of draftsmen and architects, and that the work of this Committee had been outstanding in its accomplishment.

Mr. Bencker stated that he was most anxious that the Chapter avoid the mistake made by many associations—that of attempting more than the times and their ability would permit them to accomplish. He said he felt that there would be an improvement in business conditions during the coming year and that it was time the Chapter undertook a major part in those activities in which it had been interested for a long period. This would include active support of city planning and zoning—the study of reconstruction—housing and rehabilitation.

Pittsburgh Chapter—May Meeting.

Charles M. Stotz, as Chairman of the Committee for Preservation of Historic Monuments, stated that a report had been presented to the Buhl Foundation requesting a subsidy for the preparation and publication of a book on the Historic Monuments of Western Pennsylvania. Action was expected to be taken by the Foundation before the end of June.

Following the adjournment of the business meeting, Lawrence Wolfe gave a well-presented and knowing discussion of the subject, "Do School, Church, and Government Bureaus Threaten to Put the Architects Out of Business?" He pointed out the general tendency of our present economic systems toward establishment of bureaus and abolishment of the individual practitioner bringing about the advantages and evils of specialization and standardization.

Washington, D. C., Chapter—Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Washington, D. C., Chapter was held on June 9, 1932, at Normandy Farms, Maryland. The meeting was preceded by a tour of inspection of the recently completed buildings, including the British Embassy, the Japanese Embassy, and the Washington Cathedral.

Aside from the election of officers at this meeting the business transacted included reports of the Standing Committees on their work during the year.

The Chapter voted to appoint a committee to make arrangements for Chapter participation in the sessions of the International Congress of Architects, to be held in Washington, D. C., in 1933.

Items of Interest

Medal Award—Robert D. Kohn.

Robert D. Kohn, Past President of the Institute, received the Class of 1889 Medal at the annual Commencement of Columbia University. The announcement in the Commencement program of Columbia University reads as follows:

"Class of 1889 Medal—A prize, known as the Class of 1889 Medal, established 1915, and awarded at three-year intervals to a graduate of the School of Mines, or of any of the Schools of Engineering or of the School of Architecture who shall have distinguished himself in any sphere of human effort.

"Awarded, for excellence in his chosen profession of architecture and for distinguished service for the betterment of conditions in the construction industry, to ROBERT DAVID KOHN, Class of 1890 Architecture, New York, N. Y."

Division of Schoolhouse Planning—South Carolina.

A communication has been received at *The Octagon* from the South Carolina Chapter reading in part as follows:

"The minutes of the January meeting of the South Carolina Chapter were published in *THE OCTAGON* (page 16, March issue). A resolution passed at that meeting was one authorizing the President of the Chapter to appoint a committee to confer with the Division of Schoolhouse Planning and Construction of the State Department of Education. The purpose of this conference was to investigate a complaint which had been brought before the Chapter by an architect in the state, who claimed that he had been supplanted by the Division of Schoolhouse Planning and Construction of the State Department of Education when he had endeavored to obtain a school house job, which he considered would have been given to him.

"The South Carolina Chapter would very much appreciate it if you would publish this report in *THE OCTAGON*."

THE REPORT

In compliance with the resolution adopted at the meeting of the South Carolina Chapter, January 23, 1932, the President of the Chapter appointed a Committee to confer with Mr. Clemons, Director of the Division of Schoolhouse Planning and Construction of the State Department of Education in order to acquaint themselves with the alleged encroachment of this Division into the practice of architecture. Mr. Clemons having expressed his willingness to meet this Committee, discuss the practices of his

office and arrive at a mutual understanding, a Committee consisting of Mr. C. C. Wilson of Columbia, Mr. H. D. Harrall of Bennettsville, Messrs. Samuel Lapham and Albert Simons of Charleston were received at his office in Columbia, May 11, 1932. Mr. Clemons described in detail the work carried on by his Division. After listening to this account and asking a number of questions which were answered quite fully, the Committee arrived at the following conclusions:

1. That the Division of Schoolhouse Planning and Construction furnishes plans and specifications only in those cases where the community has not sufficient funds to employ an architect.
2. That the plans and specifications furnished by the Division have in almost every case been for schoolhouses costing less than \$10,000.00.
3. That the Division advises the employment of competent architects and that they be paid the full fee for their services.
4. That the services of the Division are available to all architects in the state commissioned to plan public school buildings.
5. That the specialized knowledge of the Division is intended to aid and supplement the technical knowledge of the architect in solving the many problems involved in successful school house design.

After hearing and accepting this information the Committee felt that as long as the present liberal and intelligent policies of Mr. Clemons prevail, the office of the Director of the Division of Schoolhouse Planning and Construction is a most valuable agency for the furtherance of better school buildings and of decent professional standards of practice. It was felt that the only danger that might arise to the profession would come from those communities who would, on the ground of lack of funds, take advantage of the generosity of the Division rather than employ the services of an architect.

It was felt that for this and other reasons a closer contact should be maintained between the South Carolina Chapter and the Division of Schoolhouse Planning and Construction.

The Committee is grateful to Mr. Clemons for the time he gave to the meeting and the candor with which he discussed the relationship of the work of his office with that of the architectural profession in this State.

Respectfully submitted,

- (s) H. D. HARRALL,
 (s) SAMUEL LAPHAM,
 (s) CHAS. C. WILSON, *Chairman*.
 (s) ALBERT SIMONS,
President, S. C. Chapter.

"One-Price System" of Bidding.

A resolution by the Executive Board of the Associated General Contractors on the question of "Price Padding and Bid Peddling," is believed to be of interest to architects and, therefore, it is quoted as follows:

Whereas, the confusion and dissensions within the construction industry resulting from so-called "Price Padding and Bid Peddling" practices caused financial loss to the industry and to the general public; and

Whereas, these detrimental policies exist in every element of the industry including the Owner, Architect, General Contractor, Sub-contractor, Distributor, and Producer and therefore no single element of the industry may alone eliminate these practices; and

Whereas, other great industries have recognized the advantages of the "One-price system" of trading; therefore be it

Resolved, by the Executive Board of the Associated General Contractors of America at its Spring Board Meeting held in Washington, D. C., May 2-3, 1932, that it favors and recommends to its members the adoption of the "One-Price System" in their buying and selling, when the entire industry, in a competitive area, evolves a plan, or method whereby those adhering to the "One-Price System" are not penalized in their competition with others who refuse to adhere to said "One-Price System."

It Further Recommends that the staff and chapters take a lead and cooperate in developing plans and methods to accomplish this objective.

Year Books Desired by The Institute of Architects of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

A year ago a notice was printed in THE OCTAGON (page 16, August issue), regarding a request from The Institute of Architects of Sao Paulo, Brazil, in which that Institute had expressed its desire to receive Year Books, etc., of the chapters of The American Institute of Architects. It is hoped that many chapters will give favorable consideration to the appeal of the Sao Paulo architects.

Carl A. Ziegler of the Philadelphia Chapter received the following acknowledgment from Ed-mundo Crug, Secretary of the Instituto Paulista de Architectos, Sao Paulo, Estado de Sao Paulo, Brazil:

"The Instituto Paulista de Architectos received on the 9th of this month eleven of the 'Year Books' from the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, which you had the kindness to send us in reply to our petition through the Pan American Union.

"In the name of the said Institute I have the pleasure to thank you for your valuable remittance of these excellent 'Year Books' which gave the members of the I.P.A. the opportunity of knowing the magnificent works of real value in your marvelous country, worthy of our greatest admiration.

"I hope by exchange of our small magazine and by others, that we could arrange here, and by valuable contributions, that could be sent from across water, we could instruct ourselves; for only by means

of contribution from the exterior could we judge the degree of progress by which we could take our instruction.

"Begging by these means to help us to exchange with other architectural societies."

Robert Mills' Memorial—Washington, D. C.

The Chairman of the Committee on the National Capital has submitted the following information, which supplements that appearing on page 17 of the June number of THE OCTAGON.

"The Mills Memorial project was adopted primarily as an unemployment measure, from which all stockholders or employees of the Allied Architects were debarred. There were twenty-five entrants in the competition, all residents of Washington, and eight prizes were distributed: the first, \$100; second, \$50; third, \$40; fourth, \$30; and four prizes of \$20 each. In addition to this, an expense item of \$5 was given to each of the unsuccessful competitors. The winner of the competition was Philip G. Golden."

W. G. Malcomson and Mrs. Malcomson—Appreciation.

W. G. Malcomson, F.A.I.A., and President of the Detroit Building Congress, celebrated with Mrs. Malcomson, on June 13, their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary.

So many congratulatory messages were received that Mr. and Mrs. Malcomson requested the privilege of expressing in THE OCTAGON, their appreciation of the many felicitations received by them from members of The American Institute of Architects.

Art Jury—Annual Report.

The library of the Institute has recently received a copy of the Twenty-first Annual Report of the Art Jury, of Philadelphia.

This report may be of interest to many members of the Institute and communications in regard thereto should be directed to Mrs. Grace G. Haupt, Secretary, Room 121 City Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Architect's License—Examination.

The Department of Architecture of the New York University has recently announced that in the fall of 1932 two new courses will be offered to enable candidates for architect's license to acquire the maximum professional experience in practical information enabling such candidates successfully to prepare for the Regents Examination for architect's license.

These courses are primarily intended for those who have recently graduated from architectural schools.

Architects in the United States—1930.

The report of the Bureau of Census, U. S. Department of Commerce, recently published, shows

that according to the preliminary count of the 1930 census returns there were 22,000 persons in the United States reported as architects, of whom 21,621 were males and 379 were females. These figures, however, the Bureau states are subject to slight corrections.

Unemployment Relief—Cleveland Chapter.

The Cleveland Chapter has arranged a number of competitions for the assistance of unemployed draftsmen.

The first was for a house of any material costing not more than \$6,000; the second for designs of fixtures for a medium sized living room; and the third for the front entrance door, for main first floor doors, for a pair of French doors and for typical second floor doors.

The prizes of \$150 in each of these competitions were offered by the Building Arts Exhibit, Inc., the Electrical League and the George Worthington Company, respectively.

Frank W. Bail, A.I.A., is chairman of the committee on unemployment relief and Bloodgood Tuttle, A.I.A., is chairman of the competition committee.

Mr. Tuttle and George Smith of Philip L. Small, Inc., are permanent judges. Sponsors in each case may select five other judges, three from the Chapter and two from their own organization.

A notice of this activity of the Cleveland Chapter appearing in *The Building Witness* stated that it

was understood that competitions of this character are to be extended into next winter.

Preservation—Inspiration.

"As individuals we attempt at a certain time of life, perchance, to preserve the outward appearance of our earlier years. We are content to eat preserved fruit so long as there is no fresh fruit to be obtained.

"It is well for any nation to have before it some evidence of former greatness and achievement, such is an inspiration, and tradition is the nucleus of evolution. When the preservers seek to produce architecture after the models of the past, then we find ourselves eating preserved fruit when we ought to be eating, or at least breaking the ground in which to grow fresh fruit—idolising our dead heroes when we might be producing new ones—injecting ourselves with monkey gland, and at the same time accepting birth control.

"We are not vandals who wish to destroy all that our fathers have produced, even although we do give away lightly that for which our forbears fought.

"The graveyard has been the scene of inspiration for much besides Gray's *Elegy*, but surely we have an abundant sufficiency now to serve as grounds for inspiration." (*Quarterly of The Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland.*)

Applications for Membership

July 27, 1932.

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:

<i>Central New York Chapter</i> -----	EUGENE D. MONTILLON
<i>Cincinnati Chapter</i> -----	DAVID BRIGGS MAXFIELD
<i>Grand Rapids Chapter</i> -----	MARION FRANCES BLOOD, WILLIAM ADDISON STONE
<i>Hawaii Chapter</i> -----	GUY N. ROTHWELL
<i>New Jersey Chapter</i> -----	HORACE S. LUCKMAN
<i>New York Chapter</i> -----	ROLLAND C. BUCKLEY
<i>North Texas Chapter</i> -----	GEORGE LEIGHTON DAHL
<i>Oklahoma Chapter</i> -----	JOSEPHUS OVERTON PARR
<i>St. Louis Chapter</i> -----	PATRICK M. O'MEARA
<i>Washington, D. C., Chapter</i> -----	DONALD S. JOHNSON, WILBERT R. ROSCHÉ

You are invited, as directed by the By-Laws, to send privileged communications before August 27, 1932, 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.*



