

THE
OCTAGON

A Journal of The American Institute of Architects



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TENTATIVE PROGRAM—THE SEVENTY-SECOND CONVENTION
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THE OCTAGON

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The President's Message

THE Seventy-second Annual Convention of The American Institute of Architects will open in Louisville within two weeks. The interval since the Seventy-first Convention in Washington probably seems as short to members as it does to those who are immediately concerned with preparing for the convention, but it is hoped the shortness of this intervening period will not deter anyone from attending the Louisville Convention, particularly as the uneasiness of the times indicates that at the convention the profession should seriously consider its status and whither it is going.

The tentative program of the convention is published elsewhere in this OCTAGON. I would like to indicate some of the ideas behind the program.

The impression an Institute convention makes upon the locale of the convention is important. The profession is on exhibition, as it were. In Louisville, this phase and obligation is definitely recognized in the first day's program, when the opening session will be one of welcome and counter-welcome, and putting our best foot forward. One of our engaging and philosophic former members of The Board, Hubert G. Ripley, will rededicate the profession to its objectives. Another wise and philosophic member, our beloved Past President, Charles D. Maginnis, will describe the profession and indicate the services it can perform for and to society. We think the session will be interesting to the many guests that will be at the convention that Tuesday morning, and the events scheduled for the next three days also should be interesting and instructive to the laymen of the community, as well as to ourselves.

The program indicates that an attempt has been made to focus the interest of the convention on the larger and vital problems of the profession.

The programmed events have been turned away from matters of internal affairs to matters of external contacts, the matters which it seemed to us are necessary to examine if the future of the profession is to be guarded and best guided to its objectives.

In line with that policy, matters of administration are not stressed, for they are functions of The Board, whose responsibility it is to see that the affairs of The Institute are properly and promptly cared for and administered, and its objectives forwarded.

A convention's responsibility for administrative affairs is to maintain its basic laws and procedures current and elect officers and directors who will perform their duties properly. Its responsibility to the profession is to discuss and fix general policies that relate to its material progress and relationships, and that will make it of ever-increasing benefit to society.

Amendments of the By-laws, the Standards of Practice, or procedures affecting the administration and conduct of The Institute's affairs on which conventions must act are presented by The Board to the conventions. They are not presented until they have been studied in complete detail by The Board, and it gives the convention its seasoned and well-considered opinions on all of the amendments and procedures in order that the convention shall be well informed and able to act with knowledge within the short time available to it. When The

Board urges their adoption, it believes that they will forward the objectives of The Institute.

In further line with this policy, it does not seem necessary that matters which have been discussed threadbare by previous conventions should be re-discussed at Louisville, nor that resolutions should be reiterated year after year, nor that policies and decisions which have been previously taken should be restated, particularly if new conditions have not arisen that indicate a change of policy is needed.

Again, in further line with stressing the larger phases of our problems, emphasis is given to considering the impression the profession is making on the public, the fields of its endeavors, the quality of services it renders, and its unity and solidarity. The convention will be given opportunity to examine all of these phases and to set in motion policies to correct tendencies that may tend to hamper and handicap the true progress of the profession.

For several years the profession has been dependent to a great degree on government-aided projects for its work and remuneration. A vital question posed by the Louisville program will be: "Is such governmental aid liable to continue and if so to what extent, or can the profession in the immediate future look to private enterprise for its work?" Other questions arise: If the governmental aid is to continue, is the profession going to function as governmental employees or as private practitioners? What practical methods does the profession intend to take to hold on to the semi-public and the corporation work that is tending to be done more and more by government bureaus and private and semi-public planning departments? What new ways can be found to render competent architectural service in the field now usurped by speculative builders?

What new fields of endeavor can be opened wherein the training and ability of architects can be applied? Are the processes of rendering services being changed?

All of these are questions of vital importance to the profession and some of them will be touched on in the coming convention. All of them cannot be reached there, and none of them can be adequately considered in the four days allotted to an Institute convention.

Then there are the questions concerning the next generation of architects. The convention program will give the profession opportunity to refamiliarize itself with the trends and processes of the training of that generation, and it will be reminded of the qualifications that are being set up throughout the states as prerequisites for practicing architecture. The training, qualifications, and the philosophies of those who are to follow us are of very grave concern to all of us.

Some of the materials of construction which the profession deals with will be discussed by those who have been interested and conspicuous in their development. Some of the materials are new to the science of construction, others are developments and new applications of old materials. Four such materials will be discussed.

Five subjects of prime importance have been selected for informal round-table discussions on Wednesday afternoon. Clinical subjects have been avoided, not because they are uninteresting or unsuitable subjects for such discussions, but only because it seemed this particular year as if the larger relations of the profession to society should be given priority, and the program is very full.

The five subjects are:

- (a) The Fields of Architectural Practice;
- (b) Housing, in its three phases, Urban, Rural, and Small Houses;
- (c) Partial Services, or more correctly stated, Incomplete Services. This discussion should be of primary importance if the architect's works are to be adequately executed;
- (d) Regional Enhancement, which is going to bring to notice some important and long-range programs initiated for neighborhood planning by others than architects;
- (e) Rural Practice, which will be a discussion of the problems of architects living in communities of less than 20,000 population;
- (f) Relation of the Profession to Society, which will indicate its relationship with other professions, with other factors of the building industry, with realtors, with investment bankers on whom building depends, and finally, with society.

Leaders of the discussions have been selected. They will indicate the trends, out of which should grow notable resolutions for presentation to the convention the next morning.

In matters of detail, convention procedure will be expedited by curtailment of all factors that can be abridged, and more opportunity will be given of discussing resolutions with the Resolutions Committee, and for the convention to discuss the resolutions reported by that committee.

The convention has been planned consciously to give effect to suggestions that have come from previous conventions, from meetings of various groups, from former delegates, from chapters, committees, and from individual members. All of the suggestions have been interesting and very worthy. All of them have had full consideration, but it was not possible to use at this convention more than a few. It is hoped that many of those who made the suggestions will see in the program and proceedings of the Louisville convention that their suggestions have been heeded, even if it was not possible in this convention to develop their ideas to the extent they, and we, would have liked. Their success at Louisville should ensure their more complete adoption in a future convention.

Lastly, the very great asset of every convention—good fellowship—has not been forgotten. Interesting reunions have been arranged that will bring old acquaintances together and afford opportunity of making new ones. The Kentucky Chapter and the Association of Kentucky Architects are offering much hospitality and many inducements that are going to make the Louisville convention pleasant and happy, and a memorable one.

We are especially inviting all architects to attend the convention sessions and its luncheons and banquet and other gatherings. Whether or not an architect is a member of The Institute we urge him to come; we think he will find the sessions and social events interesting, particularly those on Tuesday morning and Friday morning and afternoon. It is but a short drive to Louisville for all of you in the neighboring states, and we hope that you will bring some layman friend with you. Come for the entire session and all events if you will. You will be cordially welcomed.

EDWIN BERGSTROM.

Review of Convention Notices

THIS May number of *THE OCTAGON* is the last to appear prior to the Convention.

It contains the tentative program, and information concerning the meetings of other groups in Louisville during convention week. It should be borne in mind that all of these schedules are subject to slight changes as circumstances may require.

Since the first of the year notices and general information concerning the work of the Convention and the privileges and obligations of chapters and corporate members with respect to procedure, or matters coming before the Convention have been printed in *THE OCTAGON*.

For convenience in review and to complete the record the following items are listed:

In the January number—

- Place and Dates
- Notice of Number of Delegates (Revised by Notice of April 20, 1940)
- Electing Member Delegates

In the February number—

- Reports on Unification of the Profession
- Good Standing of Delegates
- Offices and Directorships Becoming Vacant

In the March number—

- Convention Reminder
- Convention in California in 1941?

In the April number—

- Registration at the Convention
- Meetings in Conjunction with the Convention
- Hotel Headquarters and Reservations
- Nominations by Petition—Procedure
- Equalization of Expenses of Member Delegates
- Amendments of By-laws
- Amendments of the Standards of Practice

In the May number (this number)—

- The President's Message
- Tentative Program of the Convention
- Tentative Schedules of Other Meetings

Tentative Program—The Seventy-second Convention

REGISTRATION BEGINS 2 P.M. MONDAY, MAY 20, AND CLOSES 6 P.M. TUESDAY, MAY 21

TUESDAY, MAY TWENTY-ONE

Morning

Convention Convenes
 Dedication, by Hubert G. Ripley
 Addresses of Welcome
 President of the Kentucky Chapter, Elliott Lea.
 President of the Association of Kentucky Architects, Hugh Meriweather.
 Response to Welcome
 Introduction of Guests
 Honors Conferred
 Address—"The Architectural Profession and Society" By Charles D. Maginnis, Past President.

Noon

College Reunion Luncheon
 Tables arranged for groups of alumni and friends of the various schools of architecture

Afternoon

Trip About Louisville
 Committee Meetings

Evening

President's Reception
 Dinner Dance

WEDNESDAY, MAY TWENTY-TWO

Morning

The President's Message
 Report of Credentials Committee
 The Report of The Treasurer
 The Report of The Board of Directors
 Nominations of Officers and Directors
 Actions on amendments of by-laws, standards of practice and matters in The Board's Report

Noon

Group Luncheon
 Separate tables for groups:
 Officers, directors, former officers and directors
 Honorary Members, Medalists
 Chapter officers, state delegates, Committee on Public Information, Publicist
 Committee chairmen
 Representatives of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture
 And of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards

Producers' Council
 Students—Guests

Afternoon

Informal Round Table Discussions
 Table A. The Field of Architectural Practice
 Table B. Housing
 Table C. Partial Services
 Table D. Regional Development
 Table E. Rural Practice
 Table F. Relations of the Profession to Society
 Meeting of Resolutions Committee
 To receive resolutions and to hear those offering the resolutions

Evening

Private Dinners

THURSDAY, MAY TWENTY-THREE

Morning

Actions on Round Table Recommendations and other matters
 Address: "Trends of Our Times"
 By Dr. Constantine E. McGuire
 Discussion: What of the Architect?

Noon

Luncheon
 To the Ladies of the Convention
 Afternoon
 Horse Show at Rock Creek Riding Club

Evening

Barbecue Dinner at Rock Creek Riding Club

FRIDAY, MAY TWENTY-FOUR

Morning

Old Business Completed
 New Business—Committee on Resolutions Report
 Educational and Registration Programs
 John Bakewell, Jr.—Chairman of Committee on Education,
 Richard Koch—Chairman of Committee on Allied Arts,
 Discussion of the inter-relationships and trends of the architectural educational and registration programs.
 C. Julian Oberwarth—Chairman of Committee on Registration,

Symposia: "The Philosophies of the Educational Programs of Architectural Schools."
By representatives of architectural schools.

Noon

Luncheon

With The Producers' Council

Afternoon

Symposia: "New Materials"

Glass Blocks—by A. W. Varasse
Exterior Decorative Metals—by Dr. Bruce W. Gonser

Plywood—by L. H. Meyer
Plastics—by J. Roger White

Evening

Banquet

Close of Convention

Tentative Schedules of Other Meetings

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INSTITUTE

At Washington

May 14-18, inclusive—Annual Meeting

At Louisville

May 25-26, inclusive—Post-convention Meeting

ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGIATE SCHOOLS OF ARCHITECTURE

At Louisville

May 18—Afternoon—Executive Committee

19—Morning and afternoon—General Session

20—Morning and afternoon—General Session

Evening—Banquet

21—Afternoon—Joint Session with National Council Architectural Registration Boards

NATIONAL COUNCIL ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION BOARDS

At Louisville

May 19—Morning and afternoon—General Session

Evening—Banquet: The Society of Architectural Examiners

20—Morning and afternoon—General Session

21—Afternoon—Jointly with Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture

NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL ACCREDITING BOARD

At Louisville

May 19—Morning and afternoon—General Session

20—Morning and afternoon—General Session

THE PRODUCERS' COUNCIL

At Louisville

May 21—All day—Registration

22—Morning—Meeting of Club Delegates

Afternoon—Meeting of Board of Directors

Evening—Annual Dinner—Annual Business Meeting

23—Morning—Business Session

Noon—Joint Meeting with Producers' Council Club of Kentucky

24—Morning—Meeting of Board of Directors

Noon—Joint luncheon with The American Institute of Architects

Afternoon—Symposia: New Materials

COMMITTEES OF THE INSTITUTE

At Washington

May 12-13—Investment Committee

At Louisville

May 20—Jury of Fellows

Committee on Education

Committee on Objectives of Component Organizations

Committee on Building Costs

Committee on State Organization

May 21—Chapter Officers

CONFERENCE OF STATE ASSOCIATIONS

At Louisville

May 20—General Session

Notice of Conference of State Associations of Architects

THE Institute Committee on State Organization, at this time, lists twenty-four (24) states as having statewide associations. Only twelve (12) of these have been elected to State Association Membership as of this date, but, because of the fact that the definite movement toward affiliation only dates from the first of this year and the additional fact that the majority of those not now state members have made application for admission to state membership, the State Association Director, Board of Directors of The Institute, with the approval of The Institute, hereby calls a conference of representatives of all twenty-four of the state associations and invites each of them to send representatives to a Conference of State Associations.

This Conference will be held at The Brown Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky, at 11.00 A.M. on May 20, just prior to The Institute Convention, which commences on May 21 at the same place.

To the Conference the twelve associations that are State Association Members may send the state delegates who have been elected to represent the Association Members at The Institute Convention, and the other associations may also send properly accredited representatives. The representatives of associations not yet elected to state association membership in The Institute will not, of course, be delegates to the Convention; but The Institute extends them

a cordial invitation to remain during the convention and listen in to the proceedings of the same.

Because of the nation-wide movement for unification of the profession that is daily gaining momentum and the consequent drawing together of the state associations for the discussion of their common problems, the Conference this year assumes real and vital importance, as evidenced by the tentative program of subjects to be discussed, which is given below:

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

- Roll call.
- Present condition of state associations with regard to organization and affiliation.
- Membership dues.
- Effective state registration laws.
- State building codes.
- Organized advertising for the profession.
- State association publications.
- The Bureaucratic threat to private practice.

It is hoped that every state association receiving this Notice will send well-informed representatives to the Conference, to the end that they may all contribute something of value to the discussions that will develop and take something of real value back to their respective organizations.

LEIGH HUNT,

State Association Director, A.I.A.

USHA-Aided Projects—Notice to Architects

THE following letter, dated April 3, 1940, from the United States Housing Authority to William Stanley Parker, Chairman of The Institute's Committee on Contract Documents, relating to the payment of Social Security and Workmen's Compensation taxes on payrolls of those engaged as inspectors and clerks-of-the-works on housing projects, should be noted by every architect engaged in USHA-aided projects.

The form of the architect's contract providing for supervision of construction by the architect, issued by the United States Housing Authority under date of January 9, 1940 is affected as to Section 3, paragraph (h). There is no change in

the first paragraph under (h), but the other paragraph under (h) is revised to read as indicated by the letter of the Authority quoted below:

Dear Mr. Parker:

Referring to our recent interchange of correspondence regarding the reimbursement to the Architects for expenditures for supervisory personnel, we are enclosing for your information a proposed revision of Section 3, Paragraph (h) of the Form of Architect's Contract which includes supervision.

We believe that this amendment will eliminate the possibility of misinterpretation as to the intent. It might be stated that the present language contained

in the form of contract has been given different constructions both by members of our own staff as well as the local housing authorities.

As stated in my previous letter to you, I do not believe it proper to attempt an interpretation of a particular contract as each such contract must stand or fall on the intention of the individual parties to it and upon the language employed in the contract.

However, it might be stated that in arriving at the schedule of fees to be paid the Architect, it was not contemplated that the fees adopted would cover the incidental costs of workmen's compensation or social security taxes which an Architect might be required to pay because of employment by him of the supervisory personnel. For this reason, the United States Housing Authority would not object to a local housing authority so reimbursing an Architect if under the particular contract involved, it was the determination of the local housing authority that such reimbursement could properly and legally be made under the terms of that contract.

Copies of the proposed revision of the section referred to are being distributed to our staff with the recommendation that it be inserted in all future contracts in lieu of the present language. We trust that this will eliminate any future misunderstanding.

(s) A. C. SHIRE,

Technical Director, USHA.

Revision proposed by U.S.H.A.

"Revision of Section 3, Paragraph (h) of the Architects Contract (Providing for Supervision of Construction by the Architect)"

"(h) *Supervision.* The Architect shall supervise the construction of the improvement. The services incident to such supervision shall be limited to (1) so much of the Architect's own personal services as are necessary in reporting and making recommendations relative to the progress of the work and endeavoring to guard the Local Authority against defects and deficiencies in the work of the Contractors (without in any way guaranteeing such work); and (2) checking schedules, recommending approvals of materials and equipment, checking and reporting on Contractor's proposals in connection with changes in the contract, submitting progress construction reports and approving certificates of payment. Any and all clerical and technical assistance required by the Architect in his office in the

performance of the above services, including the services of any one delegated by the Architect to act in his stead either in his office or in the field, shall be provided and paid for by the Architect.

"In order to provide full field superintendence under the direction of the Architect, the Architect shall together with the Local Authority make a mutual determination of the number and character of supervisory personnel required for such superintendence, including necessary inspection and accounting. Such requisite personnel shall be selected by the Architect. If the selection is approved by the Local Authority, the person or persons so selected and approved shall be employed, as determined by the Local Authority, either by the Architect or by the Local Authority direct, the salary of such personnel to be mutually agreed upon. In the event the personnel is employed by the Architect, the Local Authority will reimburse the Architect for all salaries paid to such personnel together with the amounts of any Workmen's Compensation Premiums or Social Security or other payroll tax which the Architect may be required to pay pursuant to any state or federal law, upon presentation of the Architect's evidencing payment thereof."

WPA-Aided Projects—Notice to Architects

Mr. William Stanley Parker, Chairman of the Committee on Contract Documents, gives the following notice to architects.

Two cases have been brought to my attention in which the owner raises the question as to whether the architect's percentage fee shall be applied to the value of labor and materials furnished by WPA. The matter is covered by Article 9 of the Standard Form of Agreement between Owner and Architect, which defines the cost of the work as meaning the "cost to the owner".

The second paragraph of the Article is as follows:

"When labor or material is furnished by the owner below its market cost, the cost of the work shall be computed on such market cost."

It seems any reasonable interpretation of this clause would indicate that the percentage fee is to be applied to the total cost of the work under general market conditions. If the owner, from his own property, is able to furnish certain materials at a saving to him, the architect's fee is to be assessed against the reasonable market cost of such materials.

If the owner by special agreement with the federal government is able to get them to provide labor or materials in connection with the project, as in the case of the grants to local public buildings, the architect's percentage fee should be applied to the reasonable market cost of such labor or materials as if provided by the contractor.

It is a little difficult to understand why there should be any real doubt about the application of this clause. The two cases apply to materials and labor furnished by WPA. A large number of contracts have been carried out with grants from PWA and so far as I know, this question has never been

raised with regard to such grants. There would seem to be no essential difference between a PWA grant and a WPA grant except in minor details of the administration of this particular form of federal assistance.

The matter is called to the attention of the profession with the suggestion that any possible misinterpretation of the intent of the Standard Form provision could be removed by inserting an additional clause in the contracts involving WPA assistance, to cover the point.

WILLIAM STANLEY PARKER,
Consultant.

Recognition of Architects

BY WILLIAMS ADAMS DELANO, F.A.I.A.

The following is an excerpt from the article: "THE ARCHITECT: FORGOTTEN MAN?," published in the New York Times Magazine, April 21, 1940. The entire article should be read by those to whom the magazine is available.

From the first thumbnail sketches until he puts the final touches upon his building, the architect is the nerve center, the moving inspiring force. He cannot work in remote seclusion like the painter and sculptor and turn over to the public, as they do, the finished product. The public sees the result of his work during the process of its erection, but none of the creative thought behind it. No wonder there is confusion in the public mind.

Today this confusion is worse confounded by the civil war now waged in all the arts, architecture included. In this war, the Advanced School, which has thrown aside precedents and what heretofore have been considered artistic canons, is pitted against the more conservative. The latter stamp these iconoclasts as revolutionists, which in fact they are if one takes a short view, but every revolution, if considered in the broad perspective of history, is but one more step in a forward or backward evolution, depending upon the point of view of the historian. As always, the revolutionist is much more vocal than the conservative. What he has to say is new and, therefore, news. Today he is using all the implements of modern warfare—propaganda and surprise attack—to win the fight.

Along the entire battlefield nowhere is the struggle hotter than among the architects. Reports from the front are printed almost daily in the art col-

umns of the press from painters and sculptors, from every sector save that held by the architects. There, there seems to be an almost complete "blackout." In most newspapers, in the real estate sections, to be sure, a building is occasionally mentioned and illustrated, though its artistic worth is never discussed. The names of the real estate operator, the promoter and the photographer are given but rarely the name of the architect whose creation it is.

Even the Federal Government which today lays so much stress on what it is doing to bring art before the public publishes a volume of over 600 views of buildings—postoffices, court houses, schools, etc.—erected from public funds (derived, be it said, from taxes to which even the architects are compelled to contribute) and yet there is no single mention in this volume of any architect whose skill designed these buildings. The majority of them are admirably designed, some conspicuously so; they represent both the Traditional and Advanced School; but once again the reader is led to believe that these monuments have sprung into being by spontaneous construction. This could not have happened in any country that lays claim to a native culture, for in all such countries architecture is recognized as an art and the recognition of the artist widely distributed.

Every now and then something is created by an

architect of such civic importance that it stands out from the general run of apartment houses and commercial buildings. As an artist's achievement, should it not be noted in the art columns of the press and appraised, as paintings are, in the measure of its merit?

Future generations will not appraise our present-day culture by the paintings and detached works of sculpture but by the buildings that contain them—the museums, schools, hospitals, skyscrapers, power plants, etc., that represent the trend of our day as the church architecture of the Middle Ages represents that period or the palaces and châteaux of royalty and the aristocracy represent the age of feudalism and concentrated political power.

If our papers were to emphasize this contribution to the public and if critical discussion of how well or how badly a new building serves the purpose for which it was erected became general practice, the chances are that the man in the street would

grow conscious of "The Mother of the Arts."

Architects, like other artists, are temperamental individualists to whom recognition of their accomplishments means as much as or more than financial reward and, with a few conspicuous exceptions, are modest men who hate to employ press agents and shun the advice of W. S. Gilbert:

*If you wish in the world to advance
And your credit you wish to enhance
You must stir it and stomp it
And blow your own trumpet
Or, believe me, you haven't a chance.*

If the achievements of the architects received in our widely read publications the same discussion and recognition that are given to painting or sculpture—a recognition they richly deserve—it would be an immense stimulus to the culture of the present day. A eulogistic obituary gives no encouragement or satisfaction to a dead architect.

The Boston Chapter Has A Dinner Party

THE following account by H. Daland Chandler is from the minutes of a meeting of the Boston Society of Architects (The Boston Chapter) held in the library of the Boston Architectural Club on Tuesday, March 5, 1940, President William Emerson presiding:

The purpose of the dinner was to provide an opportunity to do honour to our three members, who are also Past Presidents of The American Institute of Architects. For a chapter to have such an opportunity is a rare distinction and it was thought only proper that on such a significant occasion the wives of members and guests and other ladies interested in the Society be given the opportunity of sharing in the festivities. There were ninety members and guests present.

A brief intermission was spent in the lounge and around the cocktail table during which time opportunity was given to examine two delightful manuscripts of Francis H. Bacon which had been temporarily loaned by his son.

After the call to dinner had sounded and most of the members and guests had gone to the Great Hall, a procession was formed headed by the three Past Presidents and their sponsors: R. Clipston Sturgis

with William Stanley Parker, Henry H. Kendall with Robert D. Kohn, and Charles D. Maginnis with Hubert G. Ripley, and followed by a number of the past presidents of the Society and the present officers. They proceeded to the Great Hall and took their places at the head table to the applause of the members.

After dinner President Emerson called the meeting to order with a word of welcome. He drew attention to the number of beautiful drawings by the late Francis Bacon on exhibition and read a tribute to his memory by Mr. Dinsmore.

William D. Austin presented resolutions on the death of Mr. Bacon, which had previously been printed in the *Bulletin*.

They were unanimously passed by a rising vote and were ordered spread upon the records.

Two new members, Theodore Carl Müller, and John Lyons Reid, were inducted into the Society by the President in a fitting ceremony presided over by Mr. Chandler.

The President then called on the *poet laureate* who was doubling in brass as Master of Ceremonies and who, having wooed a Gilbertian Muse, de-

livered himself of the following paean of praise to the Past Presidents:

What if we are Victorian,
Pre-Ruskinorian,
Some,—just two by fourean;
(You might tell us by sight!)
What if some are glass brickery,
Full of organic slickery,
Cantileevrish plastickery;
We've the same specs tonight!
Here for an evening, draughtsman and architect,
Brethren together in a flourishing band,
Gather in pride to welcome in deep respect
Our own beloved three who have guided our hand!
Founded long years ago in our profession
A.I.A.'s proved to be counsellor wise,
Bringing coherence with steady progression,
Forming us, welding us, under new skies,
A.I.A. Institute!
Patient and resolute,
Leading us onward to new enterprize,—
Architectonical,
That is your chronicle,
Swelling canonical!
Stronghold and refuge you are in our eyes!
Out of these halls,—and we count ourself fortunate,
Men have been called its high cause to sustain,
Architects all, a happy triumvirate!

Keen Sturgis, wise Kendall, and Maginnis urbane.
So stands The Institute touched by the glory of
Three of our dear friends so able and true,
Whom it is well to mark the clear story of,
For so much of our strength to their ardour is due.

Unceasing the surge is
That was started by Sturgis;
Who into one family all of us drew.
One long dividend'll

Pay the wisdom of Kendall,
As beneath his broad shoulders The Institute
grew!

And who can write finis
To the charm of Maginnis?
Which will lighten the darkest day,—in
transitu!

Here's our heart and our hand,—and long life
to all you!

Haec olim meminisse juvabit!—how true!
Though some are Beaux Artery,
Perhaps Bonapartery,
With a touch of Montmartery,
Merry and bright;
And though some may functional,
Intraspace punctual,
Sternly pedunctual!
We're of one mind tonight!

Summer Program in City and Regional Planning

A SHORT summer course in City and Regional Planning is again being offered under the joint sponsorship of the School of Architecture of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the American Planning and Civic Association. It is designed to meet the needs of students and teachers of planning or related professions, technicians in practice, and members of city and state planning boards or housing authorities. The course will be held at M.I.T. and will be under the direction of Professors Frederick J. Adams and Flavel Shurtleff.

The Program will be divided into four sections as follows: *City and Regional Planning*, given each morning from July 8 to July 19; *Planning Legislation*, given each afternoon from July 8 to July 12; *Planning Administration*, given each afternoon from July 15 to July 19; and *Techniques of Planning*, given each morning from July 22 to July 26. Each

section will consist of a series of lectures and discussions, arranged in such a way that those wishing to participate may register in one or more without duplication of subject matter or loss of continuity. The seminars will cover such subjects as zoning, subdivision control, traffic problems, master plans for communities and regions, housing, recreation, roadside improvement, the powers and duties of planning and zoning agencies. Opportunities will be provided for the study of design or research problems under supervision.

The fee for the entire program is \$55; for the section on City and Regional Planning, if taken separately, \$25, and for the other three sections \$10 each, in addition to a registration fee of \$5.

Applications for participation in the Program should be sent to Professor Frederick J. Adams, M.I.T. School of Architecture, Cambridge, Mass.

Regional Conference, Middle Atlantic District

HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA, APRIL 25 AND 26, 1940

AFTER weeks of preparation a Regional Conference took place at Hershey that so far exceeded even the most optimistic anticipation, both in attendance and interest, that those who had a hand in the planning are still elated by success. The Regional Director, who makes this brief report, was dragged into service by the persuasive President of the Pennsylvania Association of Architects, Henry Shaub, and due entirely to the training he received on the International Congress under the able tutelage of Messrs. Shreve and Zantzinger, and due to the support of the chairmen of the various committees, the Conference went through without a hitch.

A galaxy of architectural talent was present. A quick glance disclosed what appeared to be the total membership of the Central Pennsylvania Chapter, eighteen members of the Philadelphia Chapter, at least half of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Chapter, and substantial delegations from all of the other chapters in the Region with one exception, and representatives of the three State Societies, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The Conference was welcomed by the Regional Director who restricted his introductory remarks to a minimum. The Presidents or other representatives of the various Chapters and State Societies reported for their organizations. Those reports fell into three categories:—serious, "spirituelle" and silent.

Arthur Holmes, of New Jersey, then opened the discussion with the theme "Our Professional Challenge". Following "Art's" able address the Regional Director notified the Conference that it was to be conducted in town meeting style, and that any remarks from the floor must bear indisputable relation to the topic under consideration.

The first sub-topic "New Horizons" was turned over to Walter H. Thomas of the Philadelphia Chapter, who, after changing the title to "Lost Horizons", pungently discussed the potentialities of the profession and its failure to take advantage of its opportunities.

The next topic, "The Relation of the Architect to Society", or our old friend "Public Relations",

was ably introduced by Clark Zantzinger, who was followed by Colonel William N. Taylor, a distinguished member of our profession. Colonel Taylor's background enabled him to present to us a picture that was worldwide in scope. He talked to us from the point of view of the client, emphasizing the sort of service that that client looks for, particularly when that client is a large corporation or a government; truly a speech of outstanding interest.

Our friend of years' standing, Davey Boyd, of Philadelphia, ended the afternoon's discussion with a presentation and explanation of the work that he has carried on faithfully through many years in endeavoring to establish a happier understanding of our profession by the public. He suggested to us many lines of endeavor and attack.

The Conference recessed in time to permit preparation for the banquet. This was a splendid party, attended by almost one hundred, and graced by our President, Edwin Bergstrom. In a sort of "blitzkrieg", after a succulent Pennsylvania Dutch dinner, Henry Shaub introduced the Regional Director in thirty seconds; who in turn introduced the toastmaster in one minute and thirty seconds. A happier selection for toastmaster than Charlie Stotz, of Pittsburgh, could not have been made. One can't say actually that he stole the show, as every speaker did that, but his quiet insistent humor kept us in a happy mood, and his apt poetry and quotations were a joy to the listeners. He introduced Charles Ingham, who appeared this time not as Secretary of The Institute but as President of the Pennsylvania Board of Examiners. Charles Ingham in turn introduced President Bergstrom, who made a graceful address, encouraging the Pennsylvania Association to become a part of The Institute family. Samuel Sacks, an extraordinary Philadelphian, who combines in one person a registered professional engineer and a member of the Bar, gave us an illuminating talk on the amended Registration Act.

We then slipped for a moment to the lighter side while Wellington Wolf, of Reading, sang and played to us and gave us his inimitable imitation of a "Night at the Opera".

He was followed by the principal speaker, Dr. H. M. J. Klein, past President of the Pennsylvania Association Planning Commission and head of the Department of History of Franklin and Marshall College. Dr. Klein changed the tenor of the occasion and gave us a clear picture of what is taking place in Europe at the moment. It was a most broadening interlude in two days devoted exclusively to our own field.

The banquet and the speeches were a success, a success continued far into the night, not in a raucous manner, but in a way of discussions, serious and not so serious, carried on over the shining tables of the lounge.

The following morning, the third topic was introduced by John Hunter, Jr., of Altoona. In a well written paper, as a member of The Institute's Committee on State and Municipal Public Works, he continued the discussion on "The Architect in Community and Civic Life" so ably set out by Raymond Ashton's report to the 1939 Institute Convention.

He was followed by Marcel Villanueva, of New Jersey, who, as President of the Orange City Planning Commission and Secretary of the City Planning Commission of New Jersey was well conversant with the subject at hand. Both of these talks made notable contributions to the furthering of our knowledge of this very vital subject.

Fred Fletcher, of Baltimore, Chairman of The Institute's Committee on State Organization, took

up the fourth topic, "Unification and Regional Organization", and so ably did he present his subject that there was no doubt in anyone's mind but that those State Associations which have not already done so should take steps to affiliate themselves with The Institute. That his words bore fruit is evidenced by the fact that at the following session of the Pennsylvania Association of Architects' Convention it was definitely decided that the Association would affiliate.

The Secretary of that Institute Committee, Thomas Pym Cope, of Philadelphia, followed Mr. Fletcher and cleared up a few of the points that may still have been puzzling some of us. It is a tribute to the two speakers that they were able to hold the eager interest of the audience on a subject that has been discussed at Institute Conventions and Chapter meetings for the past few years.

The Conference ended with a talk on "Low-Cost Housing and its Economics" by Neil Convery, President of the New Jersey Chapter and New Jersey Society of Architects. Mr. Convery spoke forcibly, and it is fortunate that we will have for our benefit a transcription of all that he had to say.

The Regional Director adjourned the meeting by expressing his gratitude at the attendance and the interest shown. It was unanimously agreed that regional conferences so successfully commenced will be annual affairs of the Middle Atlantic District.

EDMUND R. PURVES.

Paul P. Cret Appointed to Commission of Fine Arts

PRESIDENT Roosevelt announced on April 22 that he had appointed Dr. Paul Philippe Cret, F.A.I.A., as a member of the Commission of Fine Arts.

A native of Lyons, France, Dr. Cret is Professor Emeritus of Design and a Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania. He has been a member of The Institute since 1908, was elected a Fellow in 1913 and was awarded the Gold Medal of The American Institute of Architects, the highest honor The Institute can bestow, at the New Orleans Convention in 1938.

The Commission of Fine Arts was created by the

act of Congress approved May 17, 1910, and is the official advisory body of the Government upon matters of art, and makes recommendations concerning the artistic aspects of design and location of public buildings, statues, fountains, monuments and similar projects of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia. The Commission is composed of seven "well-qualified judges of the fine arts", who are appointed by the President of the United States.

Gilmore D. Clarke, Dean of the College of Architecture of Cornell University, and Honorary Member of The Institute, is Chairman of the Commission.

Public Information

BY WILLIAM ORR LUDLOW, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

Control of Architectural Standards
by a Missouri City.

Dear Mr. Ludlow:

The ordinance (*quoted below*) should be of interest.

To give you a little background for the ordinance I will add that the City of Ladue is largely a residential community, directly west of the city of St. Louis, and distinctly the best residential section of St. Louis and St. Louis County. It has a population of about 8000.

The Courts are changing their attitude on esthetic matters very rapidly these days, and if ever a test of the ordinance is made, we hope they will see the light.

We have attempted to make it lenient enough so that no one will make a test case.

I am inclined to think that we are pioneering, and therefore thought that your committee might pass the information on to others who may wish to do likewise.

BENEDICT FARRAR,
Director, Central States District.

(An Ordinance, No. 131—City of Ladue, Mo., establishing an architectural board of three members, providing for their appointment, requiring the submission of all building plans and specifications to the board, requiring the approval of the board and providing for an appeal therefrom).

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LADUE, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:—

Whereas; It is necessary for the general welfare of the community that buildings and structures erected in the city shall conform to certain minimum architectural standards of appearance and conformity with surrounding structures, and that unsightly, grotesque and unsuitable structures, detrimental to the stability of values and the welfare of surrounding property, structures and residences and to the general welfare and happiness of the community, be avoided, and that appropriate standards of beauty and conformity be fostered and encouraged.

Now Therefore, it is enacted;— (Etc.)

As relevant the following is quoted from the article by Charles H. Cheney, published in the February, 1940 number of THE OCTAGON.

"Architectural control is workable if reasonably and properly administered. I am convinced of this after serving for sixteen years on a board of review or art jury for a scenic coast suburb of Los Angeles, five square miles in extent, in which we have had legal veto over the design, color, and placement on the terrain of every building ever erected. The results have been eminently satisfactory, both to the public and to architects who have come before the board with their plans. * * * As a city planner, it has been my privilege to help organize and draft the powers of several other similar architectural boards for the carrying out of architectural control."

Wielders of The T-Square

We're wielders of the T-square
And quite a crowd are we;
Though serious and jolly,
We're not a bit carefree.
We have 'em from Columbia,
Cornell and NYU;
From Prattsie's institution,
Brown, Princeton—(Pooh-pooh!)
Purdue;
From Georgia Tech and M.I.T.,
From Harvard, Yale and Penn,

And Polytech of Brooklyn,—
They're all such decent men!
Some hail from Boston—Syracuse,
Stanford and Hard Knocks;
The Rensselaers, of all the lads,
Still wear their colored socks.
Of Vassar grads—we haven't
one;
Perhaps they're not so "art-y!"
One day we'll muster-in a gal,
Then, Good-bye! B.A. Party.

Though few are just plain folk
Who couldn't go to college,
There are no snobs in our ranks,—
We heed each other's knowledge.
So hail! O hail! ye Architects
With brain and talents rare;
Oh! fellow-travelers, aren't we
all—
Just wielders of the Square?

[Reprinted by courtesy of *The Blue Print*, bulletin of the Westchester County Society of Architects.]

With The Chapters

NEWS NOTES FROM CHAPTER SECRETARIES

Brooklyn.

The Brooklyn Chapter, on April 30, celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Pan American Union. The purpose of the gathering, over which Ralph M. Rice presided, was to stimulate interest in the ideals of the Pan American movement, with the hope that it will foster closer relations between the architects of the Western Hemisphere.

Almost the entire membership and many guests were present to join in the celebration and to hear two distinguished guest speakers. A sound film furnished through the courtesy of Pan American Airways was shown.

John B. Glenn, President of the Pan American Trust Co. told the group "at no time has there been a greater spirit of peace, friendship and cooperation uniting the nations of the American continents than there is today. The Pan American countries have established machinery which they are constantly trying to perfect for the settlement of any differences between any two countries. The Pan American clubs formed in some of the Universities and gatherings such as these, help develop friendly ties along cultural lines. The confidence and friendliness now being displayed will, I am sure, improve our social, cultural and business relations and make the Western Hemisphere stand out as a land of peace and justice."

A well known New York architect, Julian Clarence Levi, F.A.I.A., Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, A.I.A., was the other guest speaker. He has just returned from Montevideo, Uruguay, where he attended the Fifth Pan American Congress of Architects as one of the two official delegates of the United States Government and The American Institute of Architects. Mrs. Glenn and Mrs. Levi were among the guests.

The speakers were introduced by E. James Gambaro, member of the Current Work Committee of the Brooklyn Chapter. During the course of the evening he said "perhaps the elements contributed by Latin America and the Anglo American elements contributed by our own United States, founded upon the civilization inherited from other parts of the

world, but different from it, will result in the development and maintenance of a new civilization."

It is felt that meetings such as this will help create a feeling of cordiality, friendliness and understanding among the peoples and governments of all the republics of the Western Hemisphere.

HENRY V. MURPHY, *Secretary*

Buffalo.

The Buffalo Chapter spent a very enjoyable evening on March 8, at a dinner held at the University Club at which Antonin Raymond was guest speaker. The Chapter invited the members of the Western New York Society of Architects to attend and had an unusually large turn-out.

Mr. Raymond had some excellent photographs of his work in Japan which he described and discussed. The evening was further enlivened by a good natured debate on the pros and cons of Modern vs. Colonial architecture by Mr. Kidd and Mr. Raymond, which ended in a draw with neither side being able to convince the other.

The regular March meeting was also held at the University Club on March 27. After the regular business at which the chairmen of the various committees made their bi-monthly reports, Stanley Podd, substituting for Paul Harbach, who was unfortunately ill, gave a very interesting talk on the restoration of "King Solomon's Temple". The talk was illustrated by slides very kindly lent to us by Harvey Wiley Corbett.

RUFUS W. MEADOWS, *Secretary*

Central New York.

The spring meeting of the Chapter was held at the University Club in Rochester on April 13. Twenty-nine members representing Utica, Syracuse, Elmira, Binghamton, Ithaca, and Rochester attended the luncheon and business session.

Leonard A. Waasdorp gave a most interesting presentation of the tentative program for the convention of the New York State Association of Architects which is to be held in Rochester next September 26, 27, and 28. The chapter has been invited to contribute to the program and a com-

mittee headed by Henry A. Martin is in charge of arrangements.

The expenditure of the Waid Fund under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Education to provide specialized clinics throughout the country was endorsed.

The Chapter went on record as being opposed to the formation of any membership group of The Institute by which each Architect, who is a member of a State Society, will become a member of The Institute at a reduced or special fee by reason of his membership in such a society. Also, it was the sense of the meeting that the Chapter is in favor of the affiliation of the New York State Association of Architects as a State Association Member of The Institute.

After a letter from the Pittsburgh Chapter was read concerning the recent book, "Public Buildings", of the Federal Works Agency and the Government Printing Office, a motion was made that the secretary of the Chapter write a similar letter to the administrator of the Federal Works Agency protesting the omission of the names of architects. It was suggested that a key book be printed as a supplement for all issued copies and that a copy of this letter be sent to Congressmen and Representatives from the central New York district.

L. C. DILLENBACK, *Secretary*

Georgia.

The Georgia Chapter met on April 22.

At the conclusion of the business at hand Geo. H. Bond gave an outline of his recent trip to South America as a delegate of The American Institute of Architects and as one of the official representatives of the United States Government, at the Fifth Pan American Congress of Architects held at Montevideo, Uruguay. Mr. Bond reported that he and Mr. Julian Clarence Levi, the other delegate, together with their wives, had a very enjoyable trip and that their official report to The Institute would be made soon. The third member of the delegation, appointed by the State Department, was the Honorable Edwin C. Johnson, American Minister to the Republic of Uruguay.

Indications were that several other members of the Georgia Chapter would be at the Convention. The Secretary will make arrangements.

GEO. H. BOND, *Secretary*.

New Jersey.

A plan to hold a joint early American pilgrimage to South Jersey with the Westchester County Society of Architects was discussed and authorized.

Discussion took place as to what we could do about furthering the mentor system for college graduates. Referred to Professor Morgan for advice.

One local Society which has never paid its dues to the State Society wanted to know where it stands. Referred to the State Unification Committee with power to use invective.

A letter from the Pittsburgh Chapter was read asking us to write the Federal Government concerning the publishing of a book depicting Federal buildings without mentioning the names of the architects. The secretary was directed to write to the proper official voicing our displeasure.

The Legislative Committee was asked to go down to Trenton and oppose that hardy perennial, the Lawyers Monopoly Bill.

A rising vote of thanks was given to George Harvey, Chairman, and Marcel Villanueva, for arranging a successful exhibition of architectural work in the Montclair Art Museum.

Art Holmes described the Regional Convention to be held at Hershey, Pa. It was arranged that he and Villanueva should attend at the Chapter's expense and it was hoped that others wouldn't mind walking.

Ken Dalzell discussed housing and the delegates were instructed to oppose any endorsement by The Institute of any stock plan service.

CLEMENT W. FAIRWEATHER, *Secretary*

New York.

Since news of this Chapter last appeared in these columns, events of interest have occurred within the Chapter. On Tuesday, February 27, the Chapter celebrated its 83rd birthday by holding its Anniversary Dinner at the Architectural League with nearly 150 Chapter members and guests present. The Chapter took this occasion to award its Medal of Honor posthumously to the late Raymond M. Hood, who was up to the time of his death in August, 1934, a member of the Chapter. Mr. Hood's widow was present and the medal was accepted by the famous architect's young son, Raymond Hood, Jr., now an architectural student at Princeton. Among the guests were the Presidents of the eight architectural societies in the New York

area. The occasion was further made notable by the presence of the President of The Institute, Edwin Bergstrom, and Past Presidents Maginnis, Voorhees and Kohn. After the ceremonies, a most entertaining and utterly delightful talk was given by Mr. Maginnis, which he called "A Provincial Muses on the Metropolis."

At the regular monthly meeting of the Chapter in March, a subject was discussed which has long been in the minds of our members, but which has for some time given place to more practical matters. This subject was "Architecture". The time was particularly pertinent in view of the Traditional-Modern Exhibition "Versus" hanging on the surrounding walls of the Architectural League where our meeting was held. The addresses made at the opening of this exhibit by William Adams Delano and George Howe will be found in the March number of THE OCTAGON. Our meeting was called "Re-Versus" and carried on the discussion in the form of a Town Hall meeting, at which President Frost acted as Moderator. Many divergent opinions were offered and like most Town Hall meetings neither side won, but in the words of one of our members "Both schools have a great deal to offer and only by assimilation of the two shall we achieve a new architecture".

CHARLES C. PLATT, *Secretary*

Pittsburgh.

The April meeting, held at the Pittsburgh Architectural Club, brought out 39 members, 29 of them for dinner. For such a fine turnout we had a very interesting and instructive meeting.

The Architectural Exhibition to be held by the Chapter at Carnegie Galleries in May was discussed and prospects are that it will be very worth while.

It was decided to invite The Institute to Pittsburgh for the 1941 Convention.

After several months work with the City Bureau of Building Inspection and the City Law Department, the committee reported that their work had been crowned with success in their efforts to have the Bureau refuse permits to plans which had not been prepared by a registered architect with his seal on same, as directed in the New Pennsylvania Architects Act. A hearing was held before the City Council, and the Law Department was directed to prepare an ordinance directing the Bureau to conform to the Act. This is a long step forward.

The balance of the evening was taken up with a "Forum on Architect and Contractor Relations." Two architects and two contractors took places on the rostrum and asked each other questions concerning these relations, and they were in turn discussed by the meeting. The points brought out proved to be most enjoyable.

ALLAN H. NEAL, *Secretary*.

Utah.

At the April meeting of the Chapter, Lowell Parrish, who is working with the sub-committee on Law Enforcement, read the following news item from the local paper which indicates the results his committee is obtaining through their efforts in this matter:

"City Cites Lumber Firms on Malpractice Count

Sugarhouse Lumber and Hardware Company, Ketchum Builders Supply Company and Burton Lumber and Hardware Company were charged in city court complaints with practicing architecture without a license.

The complaints, signed by June Kendall, assistant director of the state department of registration, before city judge B. P. Leverich, accused the defendants of furnishing house plans."

WILLIAM E. NELSON, *Secretary*

New Books

Old Kentucky Architecture.

By Rexford Newcomb, A.I.A.—*Wm. Helburn, Inc., New York, N. Y.—\$10.00*

Of timely interest in connection with the Seventy-second Convention of The Institute to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, May 21-24, 1940, is the recent release of "Old Kentucky Architecture" by

Rexford Newcomb, A.I.A., Professor of the History of Architecture and Dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, University of Illinois.

A handsome volume, 8½" x 12", the book contains 130 plates and photographs and measured drawings of Kentucky architecture, illustrating the Colonial, Federal, Greek Revival, Gothic and other

types erected prior to the War Between the States.

There is just enough text to give the reader a brief historical background of the many types of architecture presented.

Many of the important architectural monuments illustrated in Professor Newcomb's new book were mentioned in his article "Kentucky Architecture" which appeared in the March 1940 number of THE OCTAGON.

The Foreword states that "This volume is the result of some thirteen years of field-work and research. The idea of a survey record of Old Kentucky Architecture originated with the Kentucky Chapter of The American Institute of Architects. In 1925 the Chapter formed a committee of which Frederic L. Morgan, A.I.A., of Louisville, was chairman, to promote such a survey and sought the author's (Rexford Newcomb) advice as to procedure. A series of conversations on the subject resulted in an agreement whereby the author undertook to carry out the survey under the auspices of the Kentucky Chapter.

Stratton O. Hammon, Chairman of the Public Information and Publicity Committee of the Seventy-second Convention, A.I.A., has this to say concerning the book:

"A great many architects, coming to Louisville for the Seventy-second Convention, will want to seek out examples of some of the fine old architecture of Kentucky. From all directions, excepting the North, one must travel several hundreds of miles through the Commonwealth before arriving at the convention city. Along the way may be seen Colonial, Georgian, Federal, Greek Revival, and even Gothic structures by merely turning off the main highway for a few miles.

"It is necessary, however, to know where these buildings are and naturally far more interesting to know something about them. Fortunately, 'Old Kentucky Architecture' just off the press, is so composed as to fit perfectly the purpose of the traveling architect. Its inner cover contains a map of Kentucky showing the location of the principal remaining old buildings, and there is in addition, a list giving these buildings as to location and type.

"Considered from the standpoint of the architect, this work is by far the best thing that has been done on Kentucky and it will easily rank among the leaders of its kind. Its contents are comprised

principally of plates, block plans, photo details, and measured drawings. Its short, precise, and to-the-point text will be a joy to the reader."

Housing in Scandinavia, by John Graham, Jr.

University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N. C.—\$2.50.

The prospectus states that "*Housing in Scandinavia* is . . . factual material gathered on several extensive trips to the far-northern democracies, enlivened by the author's readable narrative and his many human touches with the people both urban and rural. Profusely illustrated, the volume is a commentary on the whole Scandinavian way of living.

"Of fundamental importance is Mr. Graham's discussion of the Scandinavian philosophy for a broad housing program for low income groups, the importance of such programs in any democracy, and the relation of them to the housing problem in the United States. The whole constitutes a challenge to renewed effort in this country to bring decent living standards within the reach of the low income groups.

"The timeliness of the Scandinavian record in the field of housing, together with the interest in Scandinavia, and especially Finland, at this time, make this book of live interest not only to housing groups but also to everyone who is aware of history in the making."

A Manual on the Origin and Development of Washington.

Government Printing Office, Washington—\$2.00.

This manual, recently released, was prepared under the direction of Mr. H. Paul Caemmerer, Secretary of the Commission of Fine Arts, and is of more than 350 pages, profusely illustrated, and traces the development of the City of Washington from the time the site of the District of Columbia was chosen—in 1790—to the present day.

Many early maps of the city are included, and many old photographs and drawings of early Washington lend particular interest to the book.

According to the preface, the Manual is primarily designed for the use of students desiring to make a study of the national capital, but architects interested in the development of Washington will find much of value in the 25 chapters, particularly those on public buildings, monuments and city planning.

