

THE  
OCTAGON

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*A Journal of The American Institute of Architects*

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Volume 14

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Number 3

SEE SPOT NEWS INSIDE THIS COVER

## SPOT NEWS

### Conservation of Critical Materials.

In these stirring and trying days when the Nation is embarked upon an arduous and exacting course, the responsibility of the profession to help achieve Victory is by no means inconsiderable. Every Architect entrusted with design should intensify his efforts to contribute toward the winning of this war. The Architect is in a position to make a significant contribution.

Ahead of this Country lies an extensive construction program in which the Architect has been, and will be, called upon to serve. Necessary war construction including Military, Naval, Housing or Industrial building will tax the available supply of critical materials. Always it must be borne in mind that the construction program cannot and should not take for itself those materials which are essential to the production of implements of war. Thus, the Architect must weight carefully even the slightest use of critical materials. A pound of metal used unnecessarily may have a serious effect on the production line.

It is up to all of us therefore to plan and conduct this construction in a way which will avoid the use of critical materials except when absolutely necessary and where the purpose cannot be accomplished otherwise.

This obligation applies the more directly to those who have responsibility for vital war construction. Priority protection does not give a free hand or mortgage on critical materials; priority protection imposes a moral obligation to conserve critical materials.

Everyone concerned with design, and this category includes the Architect, can make great contribution to this effort. Throughout his thinking the Architect must seek the answer to these three questions:

1. Are the critical materials he is about to include absolutely necessary, or may they be eliminated? If they cannot be eliminated, then
2. Can their installation be deferred until the critical materials are available at some future date? If the answer is "no" then
3. Are there alternates or substitute materials which may be used in place of the critical materials?

Bear in mind that throughout your task elimination, deferment, and substitution of essential materials must be applied to every aspect of design.

The program of war brings drastic changes to peacetime practice and thought, to the supply of materials and to methods of construction.

The material producer is charged with the responsibility of making available to the designer products which will conserve critical materials.

The owner is charged with the responsibility of accepting only such designs as are consistent with the conservation policy.

The profession is appealed to to accept and work in accordance with the tenets laid down herein. They can be made a most important part of the profession's contribution to winning this war.

R. H. SHREVE  
*President*

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# THE OCTAGON

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## The Washington Situation

### Federal Legislation.

In the November 1941 number of *THE OCTAGON* on page 4, second column, there is a suggestion that before chapters, state association members or others take action on pending Federal legislation, The Institute be consulted.

We cannot too strongly emphasize the value of this suggestion. This office keeps its eye continually on legislation and is aware of current trends and situations. We will be only too pleased to cooperate with any chapters, state associations or individuals interested in Federal legislation and we believe we are in a position to inform the profession on legislative matters with considerable perspicacity. This office is in a position to help others avoid those embarrassing situations which may result from action based upon inaccurate information.

### Defense Housing Program.

To a profession which for the past ten years or more has concentrated its efforts and intelligence in large measure on housing, with particular emphasis on slum-clearance and economics, the sudden concentration on a new philosophy is somewhat disconcerting. We have thought in terms of sociology, policy and civic improvement and now by reason of exigency of the moment those factors are subordinated in the housing of war workers. War workers must be housed quickly and cheaply. The psychological effort of change is not easy, particularly for those of the profession who by reason of circumstance or location still find the war a remote disturbance. Inevitably, this all-out war will penetrate and affect every aspect of the lives of all of us.

There are certain fundamental governing factors

to be recognized if we are to win this war. The first of these, summed up in the phrase "first things come first," is paradoxical in so far as housing is concerned, as housing of itself is not a first thing, at least not first before guns, men and ships. It is not even first in the war-time construction field.

In the field of shelter for civilians it is unquestionably the first. By reason of war, population shifts will occur. These shifts may be temporary in character and will without doubt create an immediate demand for shelter of a hurried and temporary nature. The shelter, however, will have to conform to certain requirements of comfort, convenience and stability—something better than a tent or an abandoned freight car. Hence the War Housing Program. The factors behind the program will certainly irritate those architects who are too deeply steeped in the philosophies of slum-clearance. It has been charged that war housing will create new slums. Possibly this is so, but we cannot consider this contingency. At all events, a program of 60-year stability is not justified in light of the immediate past and coming events.

The Federal Works Agency recognized the value of the architect as the coordinator of construction—a master mind on the project. It is to be hoped that in the new housing set-up those entrusted with the actual program will continue the policy inaugurated by the F.W.A. The policy of having an architect on every project is the realization of the role which the architect has long insisted and rightly insisted was his. Or to put it another way, the architect has in the housing field so ably demonstrated his ability to coordinate a project, that he is now receiving recognition in this gratifying role of co-

ordinator. The methods of work and the services which the architect will supply will have certain unusual aspects, but there is no reason why the architect cannot readily fulfill this new assignment.

So much has been said recently of the method of selection of architects through panels submitted to the F.W.A. by the A.I.A., that we need add little in this article. The system has been invoked and is in active operation.

#### Survey of Profession.

At first the panels were made up in this office from the survey of the profession, which is nothing but the compilation and classification of the questionnaires submitted in June 1940, nearly two years ago. You are familiar with how we returned panels to presidents of local chapters for revision.

We are now going directly to the chapters to ask for panels without preliminary listing, as the old system proved to be inexpedient for a variety of reasons, one of which lay in the questionnaires themselves.

This office occasionally receives brochures and other documentary evidence of the formation of new firms and associations—very often gotten up in handsome form. We wish again to suggest that such documents adhere strictly to facts and that the architects restrict their submission to those executed buildings for which they were the architects in fact. We do not set ourselves up in any way to judge the profession. We merely state that all submissions are passed by this office on to those agencies requiring them. The agencies, however, do investigate all submissions before awarding a contract to an architect.

Without question, a number of architects have made signal advances and have executed a considerable amount of work since the date the questionnaires were first submitted. As the survey of the profession is in continual demand by Government agencies who seek information contained on the questionnaires, this office in fairness to the profession suggests that there may be some architects who would like to bring their questionnaires up to date. Those architects who wish to do so may list their present status as to personnel, working space, work accomplished and bank references, and other items of interest, on one typewritten sheet in tripli-

cate. These additional sheets will be clipped to the questionnaires already in the file. We again repeat that we do not solicit the submission of voluminous documents.

#### Legislation.

The Post-War Planning Bill, H.R. 5638, companion bill to S. 1617, was defeated in the House in February. The defeat of this bill was a considerable surprise to all, including the National Resources Planning Board, Public Works Reserve and the sponsors of the bill in Congress. Our amendment was included in the Senate Bill and was about to be incorporated in the House Bill. The debate on the bill was surprising and the defeat surprising. Probable reason for the defeat was the realization by Congress that we do not yet know the immediate course the war may take and have no true conception as to its duration, and until the progress of the war is a little clearer it will be premature to discuss post-war planning. Furthermore, the bill as drawn was permissive of abuse. Post-war planning is not forgotten—it will be a thing of the future, but before it can be properly considered better draft of legislation than that proposed will have to be produced.

S. 1833—for the setting up of a Public Works Projects Administration—is now enjoying a quiet sleep and all but forgotten. It may reappear. This bill we will watch with interest as in its present state it contains several features which are not acceptable to the profession, notably, the implication that design bureaus may be set up.

H. R. 5781—the Vinson Bill—for the recapture of excess profits, is in the same status. We are collaborating our efforts on this bill with the A.S.C.E., whose interests are closely akin to ours. Again, in its present form if passed it would work great hardship on the profession. General hearings on excess profits are being held by the House Committee on Ways and Means. It is possible that the bill may be a specific part of these hearings.

#### Selective Service.

Men who are physically fit and within the active draft ages will doubtless be called upon to serve. The authorities will determine the branch of the service to which the man is best fitted.

**O.C.D.**

We call your attention to the splendid job being done by the Chairman of The Institute's Committee on Civilian Protection, Horace W. Peaslee. He has organized the profession with regard to this activity in a way that will certainly be a help to the country and a credit to the profession. The address he delivered at the National Training Conference on Aerial Bombardment Protection on "Air Raid Shelter Requirements" was an excellent paper. Copies may be had on application to The Octagon.

**A.I.A.**

The American Institute of Architects is an association of professional men banded together to achieve the objectives outlined in the By-laws and in the Articles of Incorporation. The accomplishments of The American Institute of Architects have been attained through the unselfish devotion of its members to a common cause. The benefits that have been realized for the profession apply equally to non-members as well as to members.

The Institute derives its tangible income from contributions, membership dues and interest on investments. Its intangible income, which is of superlative value, is derived from the actions of the members of the profession. It is the architects who have produced and who have raised the profession to the enviable status which it now enjoys.

The profession today is recognized in the war program—its services are demanded—and increasingly so. To those members of the profession who may not be aware of the accomplishments of the A.I.A., may we cite but a few, as follows:

Architects have been entrusted with tremendous

defense construction projects and have been recognized by the Army and Navy and other governmental agencies as being capable of rendering great service to the country.

The Government solicits the cooperation of the profession.

The Congress has spoken well in our behalf and has in many instances worked for the welfare of the architects.

All of these have been brought about by the profession acting through The Institute as a professional body of men. We will continue to pursue our way guided by the methods of achievement which have proved successful in the past.

**National Housing Agency.**

By Executive Order of President Roosevelt, the merging of housing units into one new unit, the National Housing Agency, is taking place. N.H.A. will be headed by John B. Blandford, Jr. As we go to press the transfer has not yet become effective. It is hoped that before this number of **THE OCTAGON** is circulated the chapters and state associations will have received from this office the announcement and resume of the definite set-up.

The A.I.A. is keeping in close touch with the housing situation and The President and the Washington Representative have already conferred with Administrator Blandford relative to the profession's continued participation in the program. We are continuing to submit panels to the Federal Works Agency as previously requested. These panels will be made available to the new Agency.

EDMUND R. PURVES,  
*Washington Representative, A.I.A.*

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## New Directors Elected

The President of The Institute announces the interim election by the Executive Committee of G. Corner Fenhagen of Baltimore, Maryland, as Director of the Middle Atlantic District of The Institute, to serve for the remainder of the term for which Frederic A. Fletcher was elected; and

Kenneth E. Wischmeyer of St. Louis, Missouri, as Director of the Central States District of The Institute, to serve for the remainder of the term for which Benedict Farrar of St. Louis was elected.

Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Farrar resigned due to their engagements on war work in Washington.

## Playing the Game—As It Is

BY ABRAM GARFIELD

This is directed towards the resolution passed by the 1941 Convention of The Institute at Yosemite, which reads as follows:

**"Encroachments on Professional Field of the Architect and Engineer.**

*"Whereas, A trend has developed in the Construction Industry wherein various agencies have assumed the professional functions of architect and engineer, and*

*"Whereas, This condition is detrimental to the best interests of the entire construction industry, and to the public which it serves, therefore be it*

*"Resolved, That The American Institute of Architects in a convention assembled in Yosemite Valley in the year 1941 recommends that the architects, engineers, contractors, and producers of building materials cooperate to the fullest extent for the purpose of correcting the aforementioned unsatisfactory condition in the construction industry, and be it further*

*"Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to each of the national organizations representing the agencies above referred to and that the Committee on Industrial Relations be instructed to contact the national offices and local sections of these agencies in order to achieve the desired results stated in this resolution."*

I am sorry that the Architects consider it is necessary and useful to themselves to publish such a resolution under the heading, as it appears in the August number of Pencil Points, of Unfair Competition.

I quite agree that the public makes a mistake when it employs a building organization to give it two services which are, in certain important respects, contradictory. The reasons back of this statement have been discussed so often that it need not be developed again. My objection is that I am sorry to have architects complain. And I am sure that they are not benefited by complaint.

There have been too many complaints that engineers, decorators and others are encroaching upon our preserves and a good deal has been said about the dignity of the profession and that the architect is not recognized as he should be; that the public should be told how much more can be done for it if it employs an architect for any building purpose. It does seem to me that there is almost nothing we can do which derogates from the dignity of the profession so much as giving this kind of publicity to our troubles.

We either have or we have not the ability to supply the public with what it needs in these trying times. Some have and some have not and the strength of the profession is the balance of ability to get ahead no matter under what conditions. The public is going to be served and upon its own terms. If it believes this year, or for the next five years, that it can do without architects it will do so. If, on the other hand, any of us can persuade the industrial corporation which needs a great factory, or even a small one, in a hurry, that we can do the work as well or better than it can be done by others, that will be the answer for better or for worse. If we are working upon some defense work for the government, the government will make its own rules and we must adjust ourselves to these rules. Do not waste time by trying to change the rules during the progress of the game. If we have new things to learn, we must learn them and government or the industrial corporation must know or believe that we can do this work before it can be expected to employ us.

If we get into this kind of work it will be because we have shown that our training in planning is worth while; that we do not accept some customary span of a beam or truss as the first step in the solution of a problem and finally, that we really can administer the work of a group of technical men so that the final result fits and falls into place.

That is a part of what we have to offer but as individuals we must go out and prove it. Resolutions by a technical society carry weight if its members have not only kept abreast but have kept well ahead of the times. But resolutions by any group which imply that its members are in a bad way and then object because someone else is offering their goods for sale do not impress a public, which will always buy in what it believes is the best market.

We are going through difficult times and have difficult years ahead but so have many others. Let us not depend upon resolutions and a publicity of our wrongs but each one look after himself and without waiting for an organized effort. If we cannot get the work we want, get something.

Architecture is not dead nor dying. It has al-

ways been and will again be important for an apparently heedless public to ask for better looking, better working and, therefore, better planned buildings just as soon as it has time or the means of

getting them. If it is a case of the survival of the fittest, architects are a tough crowd and if we are worth our salt let's dig in and scratch gravel and not ask someone else to speak for us.

## National Architectural Accrediting Board

President Shreve, after conference with The Executive Committee, has appointed the following members to the National Architectural Accrediting Board, which will undertake a program for accrediting the schools of architecture in the United States:

- Moise H. Goldstein of New Orleans, for the term ending December 31, 1944
- Ernest E. Weihe of San Francisco, for the term ending December 31, 1947

The Accrediting Board is composed of six members, two representing The American Institute of Architects (named above); two the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture; and two the

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards. The representatives of the latter two organizations are as follows:

### Representing the Association.

- F. H. Bosworth, Jr., for the term ending December 31, 1943
- Roy Childs Jones, for the term ending December 31, 1946

### Representing the Council.

- William L. Perkins, for the term ending December 31, 1945
- Clinton H. Cogwill, for the term ending December 31, 1942

## Corporate Members Elected

| <i>Chapter</i>   | <i>Effective March 7, 1942</i>              | <i>Name</i> |
|------------------|---|-------------|
| CENTRAL NEW YORK | Walter Paul Bowen                           |             |
| CHICAGO          | George Maceo Jones                          |             |
|                  | Edward Eugene Probst, John A. Scribbins     |             |
| CLEVELAND        | Donald M. Allison, Alonzo Wood Bailey       |             |
|                  | John Justin Carr, James Joseph Collins      |             |
|                  | William H. Conrad, Austin G. Damon          |             |
|                  | John Cornelius Devendorf, Raymond D. Devney |             |
|                  | Milo S. Holdstein, Wm. Norman Jeavons       |             |
|                  | Morton Leavitt, Richard Mackey              |             |
|                  | Ferdinand J. McFadden, Wilbur David Riddle  |             |
|                  | Ronald Arthur Spahn, Edwin McKee Stitt      |             |
|                  | James Orville Willard                       |             |
| CONNECTICUT      | Robert Siering                              |             |
| DETROIT          | *F. Gordon Pickell, Walter F. Garstecki     |             |
|                  | Frederick J. B. Sevald, Jr.                 |             |
| FLORIDA SOUTH    | Carl Matthews Apuzzo                        |             |
|                  | Carl Henry Blohm, Joseph J. De Brita        |             |
|                  | Wahl John Snyder, Jr.                       |             |
| GEORGIA          | James Richard Wilkinson                     |             |
| KANSAS CITY      | Albert B. Fuller                            |             |
| NEW JERSEY       | James Henry Bailey, Stanley Aveson Leeks    |             |
|                  | Carl Kemm Loven, Arthur Emil Rigolo         |             |
|                  | Fred Thompson                               |             |
| NEW YORK         | James Jennings Bevan, Serge Peter Petroff   |             |
| OKLAHOMA         | Harold Frank Flood                          |             |
|                  | William Gustavus Parr                       |             |
| PHILADELPHIA     | H. Stanley Atkinson                         |             |
|                  | Samuel Curtin Bond, Jr., Lester Adrian Doe  |             |
|                  | Hugh Jenkins Giffin, Leopold Hauf, Jr.,     |             |
|                  | Donald Addison Hedges, John Kleppinger Heyl |             |
|                  | John William Keyes, Solis Daniel Kopeland   |             |
|                  | Herbert Richard Leicht, Joseph Margolis     |             |
|                  | Briton Martin, William David Miller         |             |
|                  | Richard Ross Neely, Charles William Pollitt |             |
|                  | Arthur T. Smith, Jesse Luke Stetler         |             |
|                  | J. Wilmer Thompson, Rollin L. Wolf          |             |
| PITTSBURGH       | Hymen Rosenberg                             |             |
| RHODE ISLAND     | Lloyd Willington Kent                       |             |

\* Reinstatement.

## With the Chapters

NEWS NOTES FROM CHAPTER SECRETARIES

### Brooklyn.

The Brooklyn Chapter held its monthly meeting, exclusively devoted to "Defense," on January 26.

State Association Director Matthew W. Del Gaudio spoke on the organization of the architects in the City by the joint committee of architects in co-operation with the Department of Housing and Buildings.

Chester A. Campbell, Superintendent of the Department of Housing and Buildings, delivered a talk on the progress of the Committee on Defense and clarified all angles of the procedure adopted to mobilize the architects, engineers and the Department's personnel for each precinct in the City, giving each precinct an architect, an engineer and one of the Department's representatives responsible to the respective captains of the police districts.

The Board of Directors voted to invest \$2,000.00 of the Chapter's funds in U. S. Defense Bonds. The question was submitted to the full membership meeting and the favorable vote was unanimous.

ADOLPH MERTIN, *Secretary*

### Buffalo.

On January 13, 1942, our Annual Meeting was held and all present officers were re-elected for an additional year of service. Stanley Podd was elected to the Executive Committee for a term of three years succeeding Paul Harbach, while James Kidney was re-elected for a three-year term.

The Buffalo Chapter is about to engage a Public Relations Counselor to attempt to keep the Architect in the news now when we are going through the process of becoming wall flowers against our wishes. If and when our program becomes a reality, our results and methods, if favorable, will be made known on these pages.

Constant contact with the profession through The Institute is an essential for your future welfare even though temporarily engaged in other toils to hasten our victory.

GEORGE D. SMITH, JR., *Secretary*

### Central New York.

The annual meeting of the Central New York Chapter was held at Syracuse, N. Y., on January 24. There were twenty-five members and nine guests present.

The guest speaker, Major Frank C. Love of Syracuse, gave an interesting address on the importance of the architectural profession in the war situation. He emphasized the value of architects as men to be relied on for the use of their training and experience for offensive and defensive "planning with vision."

The present war situation was discussed, and the Chapter heard interesting reports from the contact officer, the regional director, and others concerning the work of architects in the present emergency. The unselfish public-spirited work of the architects in Rochester, Syracuse and other communities is becoming better known and highly valued by both the general public and the public officials.

JOHN N. TILTON, JR., *Secretary*

### Cincinnati.

The Cincinnati Chapter has inaugurated a series of weekly instruction and discussion meetings on Air Raid Defense.

A committee, composed of Walter Lee, Chairman; Charles F. Cellarius, Hunter Hanly and Reed F. Stockdale, reviews the Protective Construction Bulletins emanating from Washington, condenses the subject matter, and then presents this information to the architects in the form of one-hour lectures. Mimeographed copies of the material are presented to the group at the close of the discussion.

The Chapter has invited all local architects, irrespective of Institute affiliation, to these classes, as well as contractors and building inspectors.

It is the consensus of opinion that such presentation of timely defense information is the quickest, most interesting method of acquainting the profession as a whole with the recent tests and developments in protective construction.

FREDERIC H. KOCK, *Secretary*



**Detroit.**

The January meeting of the Detroit Chapter was highlighted by C. Julian Oberwarth, Regional Director of the Great Lakes District, whose discussion of his report to The Board of Directors of The Institute provided the framework in which to build chapter responses to the many problems of the profession.

After each section of his report was reviewed by Mr. Oberwarth, president Lorch called upon the chairman of the corresponding chapter committee to discuss the problem from the viewpoint of the chapter; the following reactions being typical:

**National Emergency**—Marcus R. Burrowes—"Business must go as we sacrifice for the war effort". (This reaction was hotly challenged by many of the members who felt that cooperation still left room for survival of the individual practitioner.)

**Unification**—Kenneth C. Black—"The Institute as it stands today is not functioning for the profession in its full potential strength". (Mr. Ditchy arose to defend The Institute and eloquently reviewed the great contributions of The Institute to the profession.)

**Membership**—Malcolm R. Stirton—"In spite of a 37% increase in membership since May 1941, the chapter has not lowered the qualifications of prospective members but has, rather, awakened to the possibilities set forth in the foreword to the By-laws of The Institute, that "the stronger The Institute is nationally, and the stronger its chapters are locally, the greater will be the benefit to the individual member and the influence of the profession on society".

**Finances**—John C. Thornton—"There are two sides to every budget picture, and the dollar spent wisely is just as good a dollar as the one received on the income side".

**Preparation for Registration**—Henry F. Stanton—"Better education of architects would solve most of the problems of the profession. Make better architects out of all architects."

Mr. Oberwarth's sincere and able efforts to review the problems of the profession and to point to their solution has encouraged the Detroit Chapter to again study their situation and to remedy their ills.

On the occasion of the February dinner meeting, in the Chapter's new meeting place, the three million dollar Rackham Educational Memorial in Detroit, the roll call read like a page from an architect's *Who's Who*:

Albert Kahn of Willow Run, Eliel Saarinen of Cranbrook, Dean MacCornack of M.I.T. and vice president of The Institute, Clair Ditchy, the gavel wielder of Yosemite, Tal Hughes, editor of the M.S.A. Bulletin (everybody reads the Bulletin!), Dean Bennett of the U. of M., Walter Blucher of the City Planning Officials, Emil Lorch, president of the Detroit Chapter, and fifty others with five students from the A.I.A. Branch at the U. of M.

The speech of the evening was "City Planning," by hard hitting Dean MacCornack. Said he, "Architects must force the government to listen to them, must educate the public to appreciate the professional man, must show that they are planners not only in a technical sense but also in the basic problems of social needs."

MALCOLM R. STIRTON, *Secretary*

**Grand Rapids.**

The chapter called a special meeting on January 20, to meet with Regional Director C. Julian Oberwarth. President Langius presided at the gathering which was held in Grand Rapids.

Mr. Oberwarth departed from customary speech procedure and announced that he would prefer to answer questions instead. Among the many topics brought up in this informal fashion were the subjects of unification, membership, convention and defense work. Mr. Oberwarth explained the tremendous amount of work confronting the Directors at their meetings and amazed all of us when he produced a bulky volume which we learned was a copy of the minutes of a recent session.

President Langius appointed Carl Rudine to head the Membership Committee. Warren Rindge, head of the unification group, gave a report on recent activity of his committee. Harry Mead gave a preliminary report on his committee to investigate the merging of firms to handle defense projects. Louis Kingscott, chapter member from Kalamazoo, has been actively connected with a group of this type and was able to offer many helpful suggestions.

PAUL FLANAGAN, *Secretary*

**New Jersey.**

The December meeting of the New Jersey Chapter was held at the Hotel Hildebrecht, Trenton, New Jersey instead of at Newark, as usual.

Nothing very exciting took place executively, but after dinner the meeting was turned over to Herbert N. Moffett, State Supervisor, Historic American Buildings Survey, who after making a report of the work of the Survey in New Jersey called on a galaxy of Stars to participate in the exercises connected with the presentation to the State of copies of more than eight thousand drawings—measured drawings of our Early American buildings, the same being in bound volumes. These will be housed in the State Library at Trenton so that those of us who wish to use them for reference will not have to go to the Congressional Library to do so. Outstanding among the galaxy were Doctor Leicester B. Holland, F.A.I.A., Chief of the Fine Arts Division, Library of Congress, who spoke with characteristic élan; Robert W. Allan, State Administrator, Works Progress Administration; Thomas C. Vint, Chief, and Albert H. Good, both of the Department of Plans and Designs, National Park Service. Other speakers were Edward J. Boyle, State Chief, Research and Records, Works Progress Administration, Doctor Charles H. Elliot, Commissioner of Education, State of New Jersey, Thomas Marple, Director, The Commission of Historic Sites, State of New Jersey, and our own Seymour Williams, District Officer, Historic American Buildings Survey. All of them spoke well and briefly.

As an expression of his personal opinion, and without having discussed the matter with the New Jersey Chapter, the Secretary sends greetings to Frederick Wallis Whittlesey and commends the Arizona Chapter on its patriotic stand relative to the plight of the architect as expressed in "With the Chapters" in the November issue of *THE OCTAGON*.

CLEMENT W. FAIRWEATHER, *Secretary*

**Pittsburgh.**

The Annual Meeting, held in the staid old Pittsburgh Club, one of Pittsburgh's classic landmarks, was one of the most successful affairs in the last decade. Hubert G. Ripley of Boston, charming gentleman and well known to all Institute Members, was our guest of honor and he reminisced

about the pleasant past and discussed the serious present.

After cocktails, a delicious dinner and the usual annual committee reports, the following new officers were elected for the coming year: Allan H. Neal—President, Lamont H. Button—Vice-President, P. Howard Sterling—Secretary, J. Phillips Davis—Treasurer and J. Vernon Wilson—Director. Neal, Button, Davis, Stotz, Schwab and Weber were elected delegates to the National Convention. After the meeting, Bob Schmertz regaled us with some of his delightful ditties accompanied by his indispensable banjo.

P. HOWARD STERLING, *Secretary*

**Toledo.**

The Toledo Chapter held its annual banquet and election of officers at the Commodore Perry Hotel, Toledo, on January 22.

C. Julian Oberwarth, Director, Great Lakes District, addressed the group in regard to the problems of the architect and laid stress on the value of membership in The Institute. His speech was enthusiastically received and brought out many points which were discussed in the open forum which followed.

Chapter president Harold H. Munger, reporting on highlights of 1941, stated that in line with the program of unification set up early in the year, membership efforts had resulted in a 40% gain. He also mentioned the practical cooperation between the local chapter and the local section of the Architects Society of Ohio and praised the work of the committee and its chairman, Willis A. Vogel, vice-president of the chapter, who had charge of the very successful Toledo Convention of the State Society.

The president praised highly, as did Mr. Oberwarth, the excellent work being done by Edmund R. Purves, Washington representative, A. I. A., and urged all to retain their membership and to secure more members, so as to make possible the continuance of Mr. Purves' work, which is doing so much for the profession and the individuals in the present emergency.

Mr. Munger mentioned that during the past year, Toledo's Alfred A. Hahn was appointed by Governor Bricker to serve on the State Board of Ex-

aminers of Architects and that Otto Hohly was recently appointed on the Toledo Planning Commission.

Horace W. Wachter, treasurer, presented his annual report and Mark B. Stophlet read a short resume of meetings of the past year.

The talks, especially that of Mr. Oberwarth, pre-

cipitated a great amount of discussion in which all present took part. Mr. Oberwarth praised Toledo's efforts at unification and the attendance of so many of the younger men of the offices at the meetings of the Chapter. He made many suggestions to help the architect in the present emergency.

WILLIAM M. FERNALD, *Publicity Officer*

## New Books

THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS CONCERNING BOOKS OF ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST ARE NOT TO BE CONSTRUED AS AN ENDORSEMENT BY THE INSTITUTE

### They Built the Capitol.

By I. T. Frary. *Garrett and Massie, Richmond, Virginia, 1940, \$4.00.*

The men who played the more important roles in directing the early destinies of our Country have been appreciatively recorded in the pages of history and are known to all.

Those who had a part in the creation of that symbol of national unity, the Capitol at Washington, had no such wide-spread publicity and the record of their strivings and accomplishments is largely to be found in the by-ways of official reports, personal correspondence, and newspaper reporting.

Author Frary\* has tirelessly followed the trails of these sources of factual information and has recorded the results of his research in a book of architectural and historical interest, not only to the architect but to everyone who shares in the heritage of American citizenship.

As the record is unfolded we may well marvel that the final results so completely escaped the evidences of temperamental inadequacy, official shortcomings, and personal antagonisms which mark the relationships of some of those who participated in the development and progress toward completion of the National Capitol.

The reproduction of original drawings submitted in competition for the Capitol, many old engravings, and various detailed drawings, prepared as the work proceeded, are of special architectural interest, as are the many photographs, most of which are the work of the author.

\* Mr. Frary is Membership Secretary, Cleveland Museum of Art.

A detailed Chronology from 1779 summarizes the progress of construction and events relating to the Capitol and a Bibliography lists the more important works serving as a background of historical interest.

### The Early Ironwork of Charleston.

By Alston Deas. 110 pages 12"x10" *Bostik & Thornley, Inc., Columbia, S. C. \$6.00.*

A scholarly and sympathetic presentation of the early history of the interesting wrought iron of Charleston by one long identified with the cultural life of Charleston and active in the preservation of its historical dwellings.

Through his instrumentality a zoning ordinance was enacted requiring that in the oldest and most historical section of the city new structures must conform to the general style already existing.

The many examples of ironwork are well presented by the drawings and measured details of Richard J. Bryan.

### Acoustics of Buildings.

By F. R. Watson. *John Wiley & Sons, Inc. New York.—\$3.00.*

In the third edition of this well known work on a subject of vital interest to the architect Professor Watson, who has long been identified with acoustical research, has included the developments in architectural acoustics which have made rapid strides during the past ten years.

Numerous references to investigational work are included with many new illustrations, and detailed examples of acoustical treatment in existing buildings, for various uses, which are of particular practical and informative value.

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes the need for transparency and accountability in financial reporting.

Furthermore, it highlights the role of internal controls in preventing fraud and ensuring the integrity of the financial statements. The document also touches upon the significance of regular audits and reviews.

In addition, the text addresses the challenges faced by organizations in managing their financial resources effectively. It suggests various strategies and best practices to optimize financial performance.

The document concludes by reiterating the commitment to high standards of financial management and the continuous improvement of financial processes. It expresses confidence in the organization's ability to meet its financial obligations and achieve its long-term goals.

Overall, the document provides a comprehensive overview of the financial management framework and the measures in place to ensure its effectiveness and reliability.

The following sections provide detailed information regarding the specific financial policies and procedures implemented by the organization.

These policies are designed to ensure consistency and compliance with applicable laws and regulations, while also promoting efficiency and cost-effectiveness in financial operations.

The organization remains committed to staying abreast of the latest developments in financial management and to adopting innovative solutions to enhance its financial performance.

