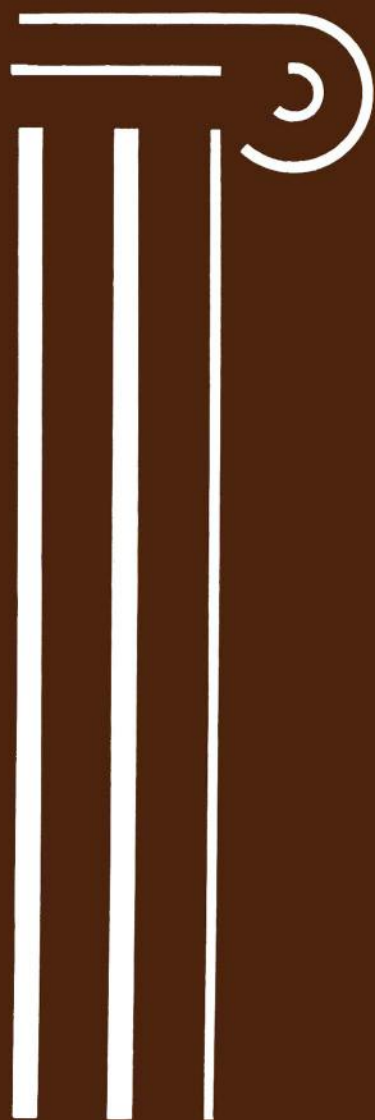


JOURNAL

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL
INSTITUTE OF CANADA



VOL. 17

JANUARY, 1940

NO. 1

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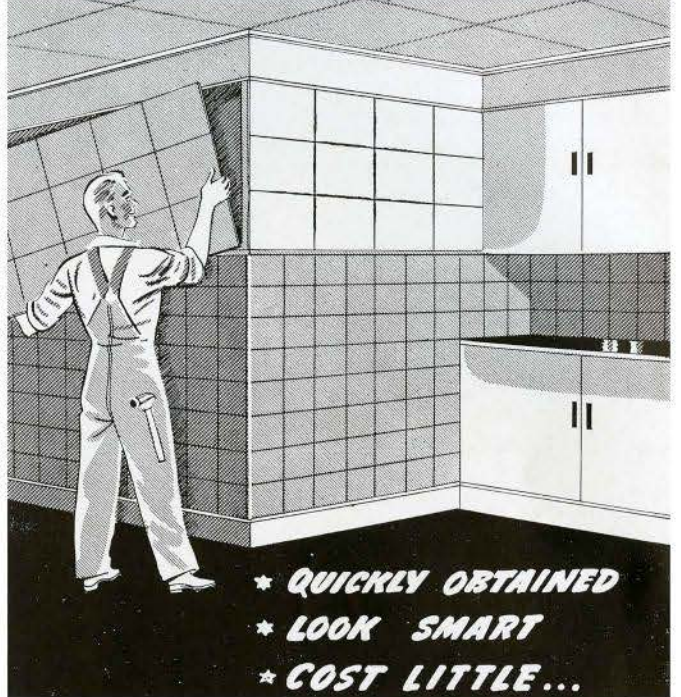
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JOURNAL

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

Serial No. 173

TORONTO, JANUARY, 1940

Vol. 17, No. 1

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WE have been asked to give the fullest possible publicity to the Annual Meeting of the R.A.I.C. on February 16th and 17th in Toronto, and gladly do so, even to the extent of our opening gun for the session 1940. We have a vague memory a year ago of painting a glowing picture of what might be expected in Ottawa, and we have no reason to believe that anyone was led astray by our enthusiasm. On the contrary, we shall long remember that meeting which in many ways was an historic one. Perhaps we shall remember longest, sitting at a table with Lt.-Col. Eric Haldenby under the watchful, but friendly eye of Major General McNaughton. It is true, of course, that Toronto is not Ottawa. We are not lacking in dignity—in fact we suffer from an excess of it; and we have some Parliament Buildings. If any member would like to see through them, it might be arranged, though it would be hard to find an architect sufficiently familiar with them to act as a guide. On the lighter side, we may not be as successful as Ottawa. Whether we can match a Coon with a Hazelgrove and a Marani with an Abra is still in the lap of the gods. In any case, every member outside the capital of Ontario can be sure of a sincere and hearty welcome.

We know we are writing for all members in wishing architects on active service the best possible luck for 1940. We would draw to the attention of the profession that Lt.-Col. Eric Haldenby commanding the 48th Highlanders and Lt.-Col. C. C. Thompson commanding the Toronto Scottish, both in the First Division, are both alumni of the School of Architecture, University of Toronto (adv.), and one is a partner and the other a former partner of Mr. A. S. Mathers. It is rarely that one comes across a graduate of the School of Architecture with a lesser rank than major—indeed the graduate list reads like the Honour Roll of Sandhurst.

We have always liked the classic definition of a gentleman—"one who is never unintentionally rude". Consequently, we were delighted to see *The New Statesman* quote someone as saying of Sir T. Inskip's appointment as Minister of Co-ordination, "I cannot remember so outstanding an appointment since the Emperor Caligula made his horse a Consul". In this Journal, except for Mr. Mathers' blast some years ago, on the Housing Act, we are not apt to call a spade anything but a spade. It is not, we assure you, that we are influenced by the Council, which at all times has insisted on absolute freedom for the Editorial Board—indeed a request to have a notice in the Journal about an Annual Meeting is always couched in the most respectful terms. It is not that we are influenced on this page by the Chairman of the Board, who would probably not call a spade a spade, but something infinitely more shocking. It is just that no great issue has confronted the profession in the last three years that has moved us to invective in any form. It may be that such an issue—the employment (or rather non-employment) of private architects and engineers in the government's building programme has at last provided us with an opportunity. A good editor, we feel, must constantly be aware of the temper of his readers and we would welcome letters from members far and wide to assist us. A real spate of letters might be of considerable value to our representatives on the National Construction Council—especially if they arrived before our Annual Meeting, which we would remind you again is in the fair City of Toronto on the 16th and 17th of February, 1940. There never was an occasion when it was more necessary that representatives from all over Canada should be present, as on their deliberations may well depend our present livelihood and our future professional existence.

MODERN FURNITURE

By DYCE SAUNDERS



SAUNDERS AND RYRIE, ARCHITECTS

THE design of furniture has generally been dictated by the needs of the times. If we look back at the different furniture styles in history, they seem to complement admirably the life and dress of the times. Charles the second on a carolean love seat looked quite at home, but a puritan father sitting on a brocaded bergère would be just as ridiculous as Madame de Pompadour in a murphy bed. England, until the middle of the eighteenth century, generally took her inspiration in most things relating to art, from France. Chippendale, however, and some of his followers, started the break up of tradition in our furniture, by choosing different styles in which to work, such as the Chinese and gothic. Good taste generally, became infected shortly after this period, became quite ill towards the end of the century and died about thirty years later.

Furniture and architecture are inseparable, each needs the other, and when the one sinks the other does too. Tradition had been lost in both furniture and architecture and the fashionable thing to do was to choose a style, Italian or Moorish or anything which tickled the owner's fancy and to build in accordance, regardless of thoughts of comfort and convenience or the suitability for one's family. It was fatal, as we all know; the results were travesties of the style chosen, carried out in a heavy handed manner, and in spite of some

wholesale pilferings from old examples, the spirit was lacking and the result only eminently Victorian. Toward the end of the century a revulsion set in against the general ugliness in art and decoration, and the cult of simplicity became very popular with some and much derided by others. William Morris was one of the pioneers of this movement, and the furniture which received his name was a welcome relief from Victorian fretwork and embellishment, but in spite of being simple it was often very clumsy. Little attractive furniture was made in Edwardian times; golden oak was the popular cry and people of taste, in desperation, turned to antiques to furnish their houses. This was lucky for the antique dealers but hard on the furniture makers, many of whom resorted to making clever reproductions which sold as old pieces.

Owing to the war, the rising rents, the lack of space and the many exhibitions subsequently held, a new interest in modern furniture became evident. Most of this was designed with the thought of ridding ourselves of the past and old ideas. A great deal of it was of freakish design with weird shapes in the furniture and more weird patterns on the rugs and coverings. Today modern furniture has simmered down to something sensible and attractive; its chief points are suitability, comfort, beauty of line and ease of upkeep. Modern designers are not so keen as they were a few years ago to be

different at all costs; they are content to learn from the past and translate that knowledge into the needs of the present.

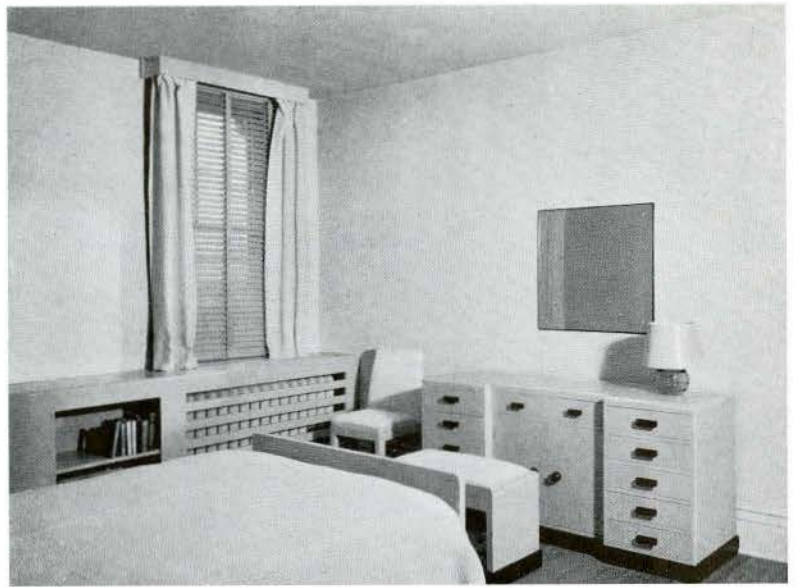
Furniture today can be as fine as that of any past period, but it gets little or no help from carving as in former times, has few turnings, if any, and slight projections. It depends for its effect on a clean outline, lays emphasis on the finish and grain of the wood and the colour and texture of the upholstery. There is a strong feeling today for natural and bleached woods, and a duller finish than was formerly used. All that is necessary is a very light coat of shellac (well sanded down) to prevent subsequent waxings from sinking into the wood and leaving too dull a finish. Fortunately, the reddening of mahogany is dying out and its beautiful natural colour is now often seen. Liming is a popular finish for most woods, particularly oak, and gives a blonde look to the wood with little white flecks in the pores which is most attractive.

Metal furniture, particularly tubular furniture, has been used a great deal in recent years, principally for terraces and loggias, but it has a rather rigid, unsympathetic look and is cold to touch, which excludes it from a living room where we want to look comfortable as well as being so.

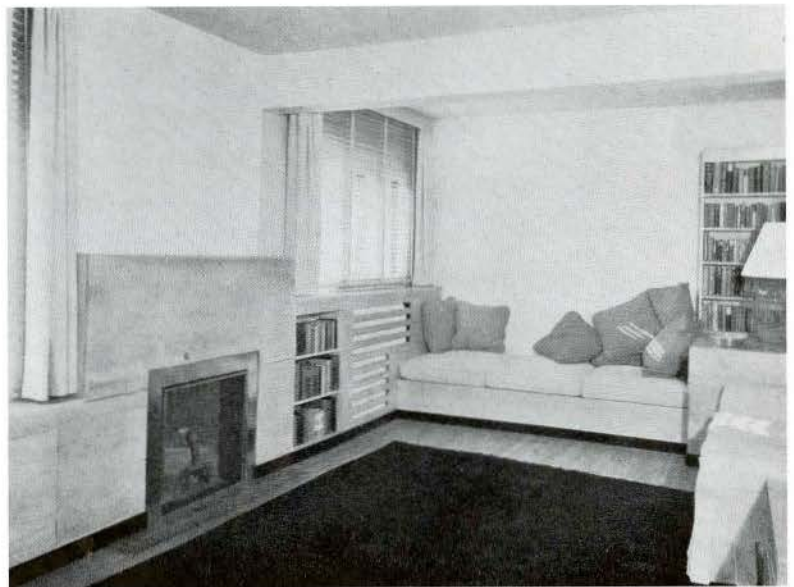
Glass topped tables are sophisticated but not very serviceable. Wood has been used for centuries and has not been found wanting and is still the most suitable and attractive material for furniture.

Even furniture coverings are more conservative than they were a few years ago. Dots, dashes, zig-zag lines and abstract patterns seem luckily to be disappearing from the scene to make way for more rational and pleasant materials. The choice is limitless both in design and texture, and owing to modern science a great many of the wools are now sold moth-proofed. Leathers, when used, are generally in lighter tones than formerly, all shades of off-white being specially popular. Many rain-proof materials are used for terrace furniture.

The high cost of building and the smallness of modern rooms has created a demand for built-in furniture, which is specially suitable for modern furnished apartments as it takes up less room and increases the sense of space. Most of the best modern furniture comes from the Continent. It is odd that the older countries are the most modern in their furniture and architecture. Canada, a very youthful country, still lags behind and is most conservative in this respect, though yearly becoming more interested and appreciative.



SAUNDERS AND RYRIE, ARCHITECTS



SAUNDERS AND RYRIE, ARCHITECTS



MACKENZIE WATERS, ARCHITECT

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor, JOURNAL, R.A.I.C.

SIR,—Whether by chance or design, the President's message and the letter of Mr. John Layng in the December issue provide a provocative conjunction, and it is to be hoped that ample opportunity will be afforded at the coming Annual Meeting for a free discussion of the issues involved.

The President's message reminded us of the difficulties which he has encountered in his discussions with the Government. Far be it for me to minimize those difficulties, but at the risk of participating in the "carping criticism" to which the President refers, may it not be suggested that some of the difficulties have arisen because the Government has been "carrying on" on a greatly amplified peace time basis, instead of availing itself of the help of the best talent in the country. The latter course has been followed in other war activities, but the pre-war trend toward architectural bureaucracy has now achieved an impetus which can only be checked by the concerted protest of the profession at large.

In a recent broadcast a member of the Dominion Cabinet stated that departmental officials were working day and night to cope with the volume of work which had suddenly descended upon them. This statement was, of course, of a general nature, but it is no secret that among the burners of midnight oil were the architectural divisions of several departments. Under such conditions it is fair to ask why the Government has not recognised that there is an organised and competent body of professional architects available and willing to undertake the design and supervision of both major and minor works throughout the country. The question is worthy of an answer, as, despite offers by the Institute and Provincial Societies, offers which have been acknowledged, the profession at large seems to have been relegated to departmental pigeon holes. This might be comprehensible if emergency construction were neither in progress nor contemplated, but we know that such is not the case.

The Architects of Canada should not be unaware of the growth of architectural divisions in practically every department of Government service. Some of these divisions are small, some are concerned only with maintenance, but the point is that a comparatively small division may in case of emergency, multiply itself, amoeba like, overnight. Obviously mere precedence should not necessarily be the determining factor in the selection of men to cope with unusual conditions.

The Government has drawn heavily on commerce and industry in the setting up of war boards. We have yet to hear of the appointment of qualified architects to give some guidance in the vast programme of construction which must necessarily accompany the war effort of this country.

The President of one of our chartered banks said in effect recently that while we have to put up with various forms of government control in wartime, it would be a great mis-

take for any Government to imagine that the people of this country will tolerate any bureaucratic hangover after the war.

Architecture, one of the professions most vulnerable to the bureaucratic barrage can only avert the menace to its existence as a free profession by becoming audibly restive under the curb of present developments.

The creative professions are curiously timid on the subject of governmental inroads into their practice and privileges, but similar forays into the world of trade and commerce result in a howl from coast to coast.

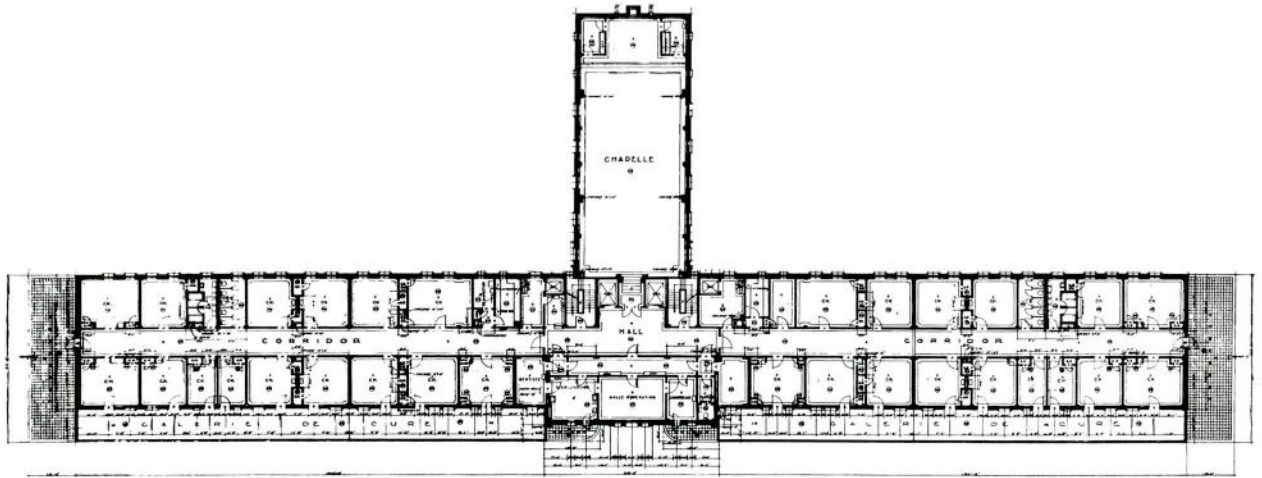
Any architect who has had to deal with the administration of the National Housing Act will appreciate what I am driving at. At the inception of the Act or its predecessor the D.H.A., the responsible officials were only too glad to accept the voluntary services of competent private architects in an advisory capacity. When the administration of the Act reached formidable proportions, competent architects found that original thinking counted far less than a schoolboy adherence to prescribed formulæ. In fact, the "unimaginative mechanical result" which Mr. Layng includes among the weakling offspring of bureaucracy could receive no finer illustration than much of the work done under the N.H.A. It is high time that Governments learn that disagreement with the official mind is not necessarily subversive or non-co-operative.

The formation and expansion of architectural divisions in all departments of government service may well give practising architects something to ponder over for it is in the nature of such branches to expand.

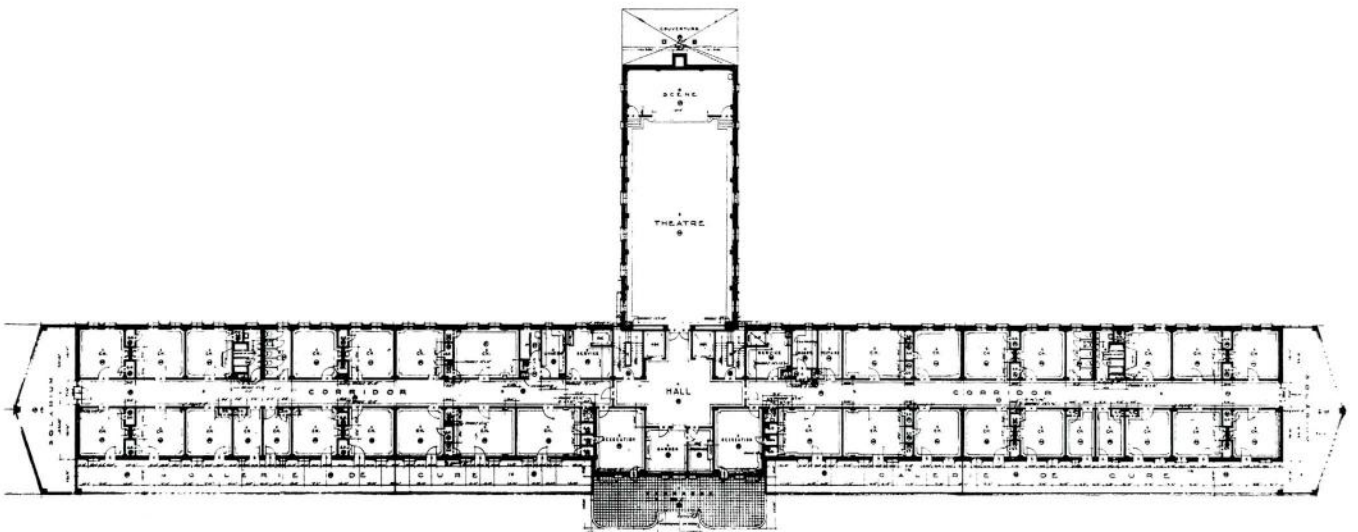
Doubtless there will be reminders that in recent years the Dominion and other Governments have placed large commissions in the hands of private architects. Perfectly true, and the Governments concerned received full value in the stimulus which the performance of these commissions gave to the architectural worth of our public buildings. It is to be hoped that such commissions will continue to be awarded to the architects best qualified to handle them, irrespective of party patronage, so that the standards of our national architecture will continue to be augmented; but even more important is the problem which immediately confronts us, the preservation of what we as architects consider to be our legitimate prerogatives as the practitioners of an established profession.

A past President of the O.A.A. often referred to architecture as the Cinderella of the Professions. If we are content to accept that appellation, nothing remains but to sit back and await the inevitable. If we are not content, then let us work in concert and harmony to restore and maintain our position as free practitioners of a learned profession. The coming Annual Meeting offers a great opportunity to demonstrate our solidarity in this vital matter.

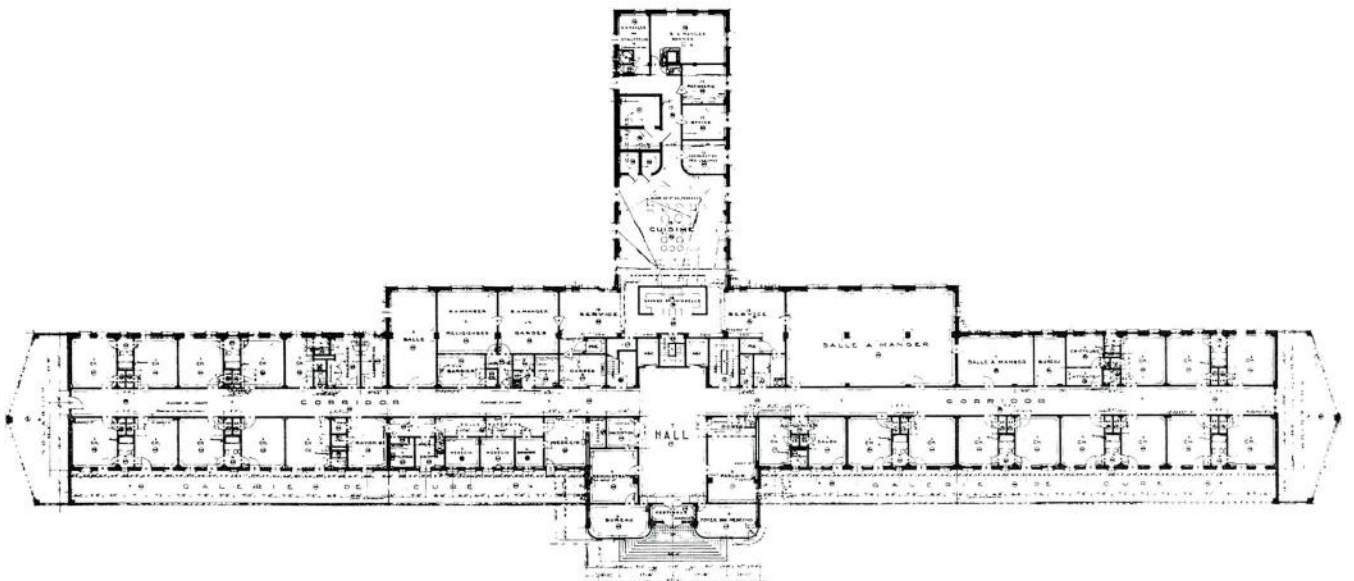
—A. J. Hazelgrove.



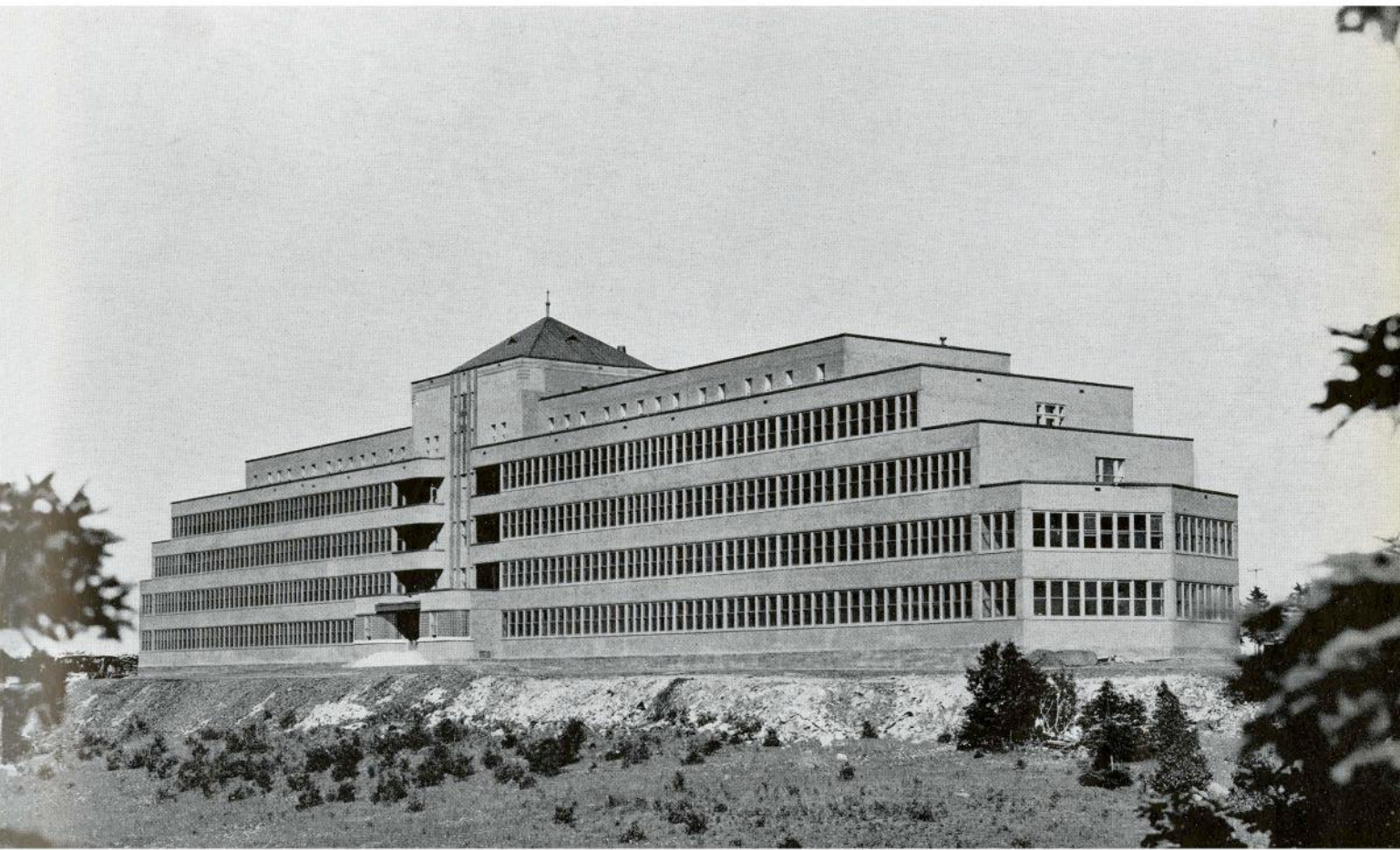
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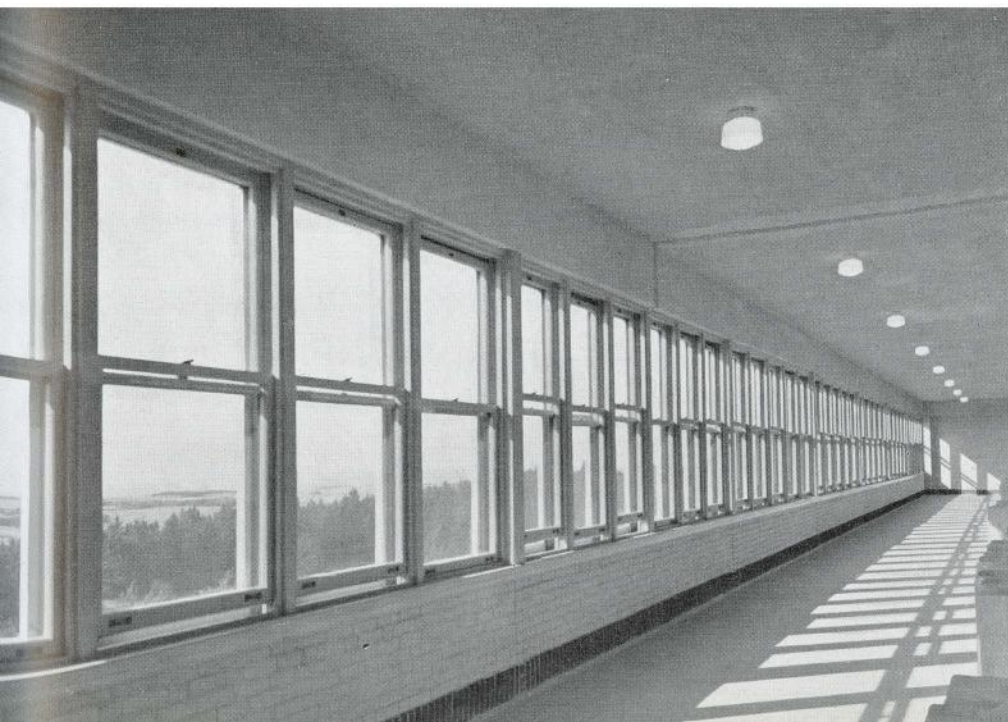
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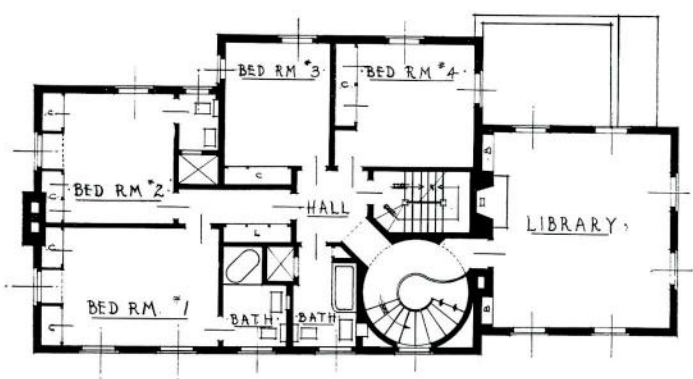
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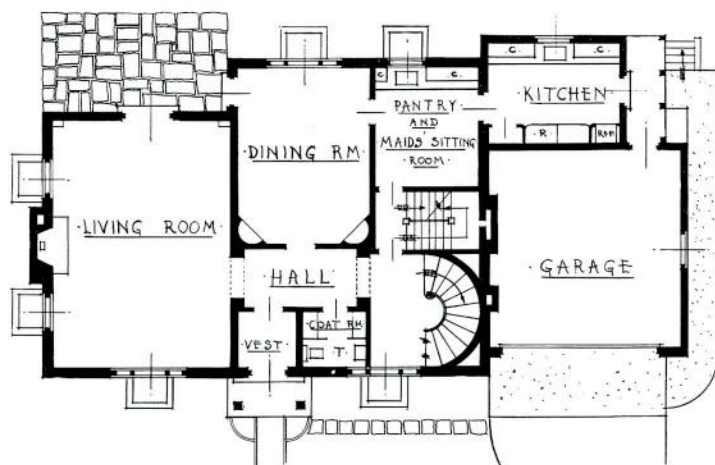


HOUSE OF MR. CHARLES S. ROBERTSON, TORONTO, ONTARIO

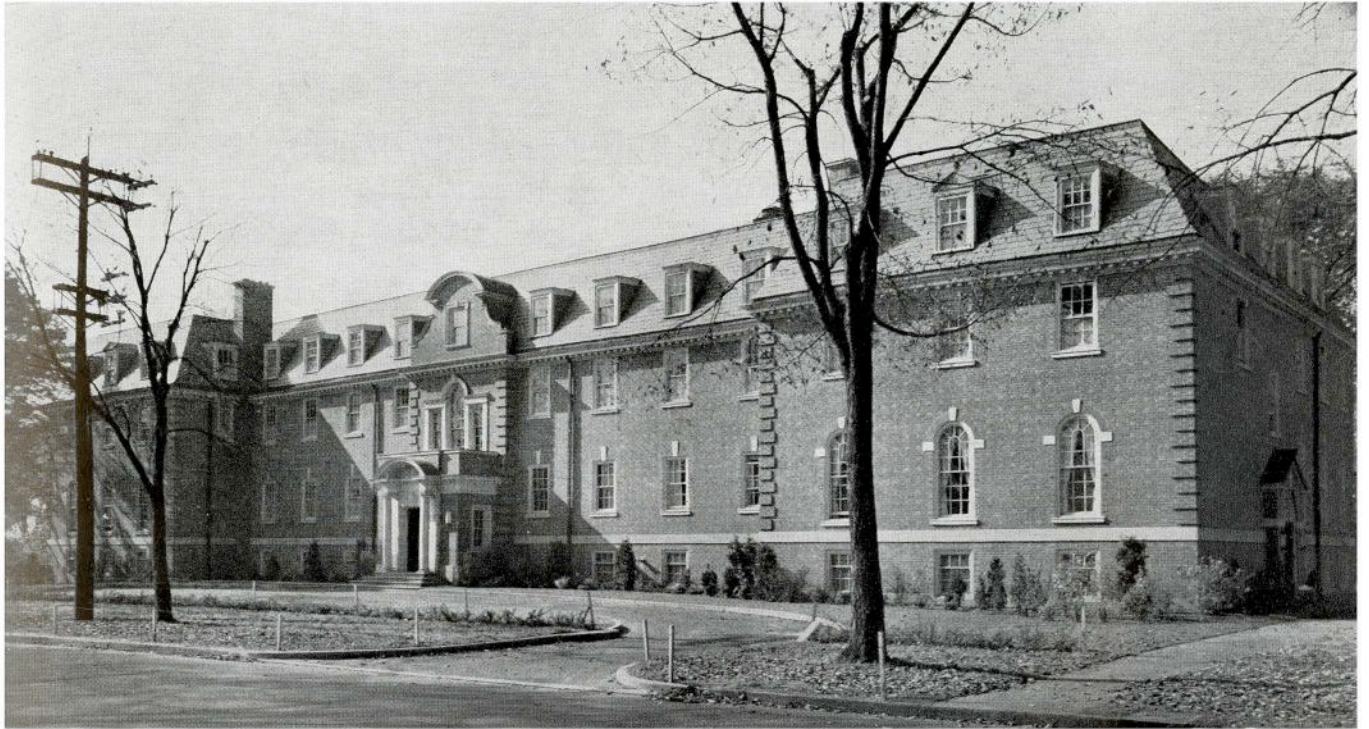
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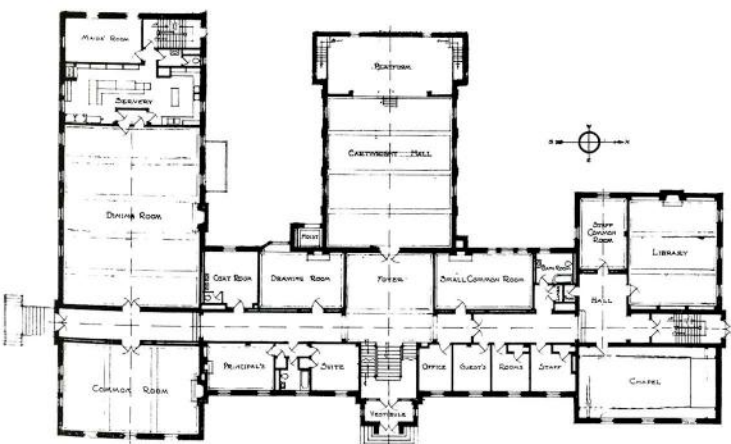


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THE THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA
AND
THE FIFTIETH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS

in Toronto, Friday and Saturday, the 16th and 17th February, 1940

R.A.I.C. Programme

Friday, the 16th February, 1940, at the Art Gallery

- 9.00-10.00 A.M.—Registration of Members and Delegates in the Print Room.
- 10.00 A.M.—The O.A.A. extends a cordial invitation to all members of the R.A.I.C. to attend the General Session of the Fiftieth Annual Meeting of the Association in the Print Room.
- 2.00 P.M.—The O.A.A. Luncheon at the University Club. The O.A.A. extends a cordial invitation to all delegates of the R.A.I.C. from other provinces to be present as guests of the Association. All members of the R.A.I.C. are invited to attend.
- 3.30 P.M.—Meeting of the retiring Executive Committee of the Council of the R.A.I.C. in the Library of the Art Gallery.
- 3.45 P.M.—Meeting of the retiring Council of the R.A.I.C. in the Library.
- 6.30 P.M.—Meeting of the Fellows at the Arts and Letters Club.
- 7.30 P.M.—The O.A.A. Dinner at the Arts and Letters Club. All members of the R.A.I.C. are invited to attend. A programme of entertainment by the O.A.A. will follow the dinner. Informal
- N.B.—The drawings submitted in the R.A.I.C. Student Competitions, will be on view all day in the Art Gallery.

O.A.A. Programme

Friday, the 16th February, 1940, at the Art Gallery

- The Sessions of the Annual Meeting of the O.A.A. will be held in the Print Room, Art Gallery of Toronto.
- 9.00-10.00 A.M.—Registration of Members in Attendance.
- 10.00 A.M.—Opening of the General Session of the Fiftieth Annual Meeting.
- 2.00 P.M.—Buffet Luncheon at the University Club.
- 3.30 P.M.—Meeting of the Council of the O.A.A. for the election of Officers. Art Gallery of Toronto.
- 7.30 P.M.—Annual Dinner, Arts and Letters Club, Elm Street. Informal.
- N.B.—A complete Agenda for the O.A.A. Annual Meeting will be mailed to each member in due course.

R.A.I.C. Programme (Continued)

Saturday, the 17th February, 1940, at Hart House, University of Toronto

- 10.00 A.M.—Inaugural session of the Thirty-third Annual Meeting of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada in the Music Room at Hart House.
- (a) Reading of the Minutes of the Thirty-second Annual Meeting held at Ottawa, Friday and Saturday, the 17th and 18th of February, 1939.
- (b) Report of the Council.
- (c) Discussion of the report of the Council.
- (d) Reports of Standing Committees:
- (1) Architectural Training, Ernest Cormier (F), Chairman;
 - (2) Scholarships and Prizes, Gordon McL. Pitts (F), Chairman;
 - (3) Art, Science and Research, W. J. Abra, Chairman;
 - (4) Professional Usages, H. L. Fetherstonhaugh (F), Chairman;
 - (5) Public Relations, A. J. Hazelgrove (F), Chairman;
 - (6) Editorial Board, "The Journal—R.A.I.C.", Mackenzie Waters (F), Chairman;
 - (7) Joint Committee of R.A.I.C. and C.C.A., R. H. Macdonald (F), Chairman;
 - (8) Exhibitions and Awards, E. W. Haldenby (F), Chairman
- (e) Reports of Special Committees:
- (1) Duty on Plans, Alcide Chausse (F), Chairman;
 - (2) Housing, W. J. Abra, Chairman.
- (f) Reports of Representatives on other Committees:
- (1) R.I.B.A., H. L. Fetherstonhaugh (F), Representative;
 - (2) C.E.S.A., C. J. Burritt, Representative.
- (g) National Construction Council of Canada, Burwell R. Coon, Representative.
- (h) Report of the Honorary Treasurer, including the Auditor's Report. Burwell R. Coon, Honorary Treasurer.
- (i) Report of the Election of Delegates from Component Societies to the 1940 Council of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. M. Alcide Chausse (F), Honorary Secretary.
- 1.00 P.M.—Luncheon for all members in the Great Hall.
- 2.00 P.M.—Business Sessions.
- (j) Unfinished Business from previous session.
 - (k) New Business.
- 4.00 P.M.—Meeting of the (1940) Council.
- (1) Election of Officers.
 - (2) Appointment of the Executive Committee.
 - (3) Budget for 1940.

R.A.I.C. Programme (Continued)

- | | |
|---|--|
| (4) Appointment of an Auditor. | (8) Place of next Annual Meeting. |
| (5) Appointment of Standing Committees. | (9) Other Business. |
| (6) Delegation of powers of the Executive Committee of the Council | 5.00 P.M.—Meeting of the (1940) Executive Committee of the Council. |
| (7) Authorization for the Honorary Treasurer to pay certain expenses. | 7.00 P.M.—Annual Dinner, University Club. Formal Dress. Speaker, Norman A. M. MacKenzie, B.A., LL.M., Professor of International Law.
Awards in the R.A.I.C. Students' Competition. |

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS

Messrs. Burwell R. Coon, Chairman; E. R. Arthur, Murray Brown (F), Allan George, J. P. Hynes (F), A. S. Mathers, Mackenzie Waters (F), B. H. Wright

This Programme may be subject to changes which will be announced in the February issue of the Journal.

H. L. FETHERSTONHAUGH (F), President, R.A.I.C.
ALCIDE CHAUSSE (F), Honorary Secretary, R.A.I.C.

A. J. HAZELGROVE (F), President, O.A.A.
J. P. HYNES (F), Secretary, O.A.A.

BOOK REVIEWS

"OXFORD"

By CHRISTOPHER HOBHOUSE

Published by B. T. Batsford, Ltd., London. Price, 8/6.

THIS is a most compact little book on Oxford beautifully and thoroughly illustrated. It will appeal equally to architects, Oxonians and lovers of Oxford as well as those who are interested in the history of ancient buildings and colleges. The author has dug up a great deal of amusing information about long departed students and dons. The publishers, as well as the author, are to be congratulated on producing a truly "Batsford Book".

"LONDON FABRIC"

By JAMES POPE-HENNESSY

Published by B. T. Batsford, Ltd., London. Price, 10/6.

THIS is an unusual book on London in which the author visits crypts, Hampton Court, Kensington Palace, Westminster Abbey and a number of other buildings (each receiving a chapter) in company with his friend Perdita. Mr. Pope-Hennessy is an unashamed romantic as a first chapter on crypts will indicate, but is brought to earth whenever he feels it necessary by the modern and unromantic (except where he is concerned) Perdita. It is rather surprising that the author should find it necessary to regret that Harrison Ainsworth is not read today. We can assure him that he is still read in England and on this side of the water though the chief market must be, as it always was, among expectant mothers. London Fabric is full of quite, delightful drawings and photographs, and what pleased me most a vast amount of altogether useless information of the most entertaining kind. For instance, a loose cloth once covered the mummified remains of Catharine of Valois, wife of Henry V. Anyone who cared to touch it, could do so. At the Restoration further entertainment was provided—that of caressing the body for a small extra charge. Pepys records that for twopence "I this day kissed a queen." This entertainment was continued until the reign of George III when a humane dean decently forbade it.

"Chère Reine," Edward I's affectionate name for Eleanor of Castile eventually became Charing at one of the places at which he erected a cross to mark the spot where her body rested on its way to Westminster Abbey. "Implicit in each of our legacies from an earlier generation lies the vibrating

life of those now dead. Whether it is Mary, Queen of Scots or Garibaldi, it is equally within our reach; but some of us fail to stretch out our hands." As Gertrude Stein says of Mr. Pope-Hennessy on the jacket of the book, "every now and then he rises to pretty high heights."

—E. R. A.

"THE BOOK OF THE MODERN HOUSE"

By PROFESSOR PATRICK ABERCROMBIE

*Published by Hodder & Houghton Ltd., London. Price, \$6.00.
Musson Book Co., Ltd., Toronto.*

THE ardent reformer no doubt will find the title misleading. A number of very good houses of strictly contemporary design have been included but the book constitutes a panoramic survey of the best domestic work done in England in the past twenty-five years with some references to contemporary work in Sweden and the United States. This being the case one is not surprised to find among the examples portrayed many which have been illustrated in books previously published.

One feels that in discussing the house in all its aspects in one volume the author has attempted too much. Certainly that section dealing with interiors and furniture is disappointing and might better have been omitted.

The book contains a number of chapters, each dealing with some specific phase of house building. Each chapter was contributed by a well known architect, of whom the late Sir Guy Dawber was one, or by someone chosen because of his familiarity with the subject. The text is well handled throughout; the idea logically arranged and simply expressed. Unfortunately for the architect, however, the book contains little, if anything, with which he is not already familiar and, being comprised as it is of the expressions of the thoughts of a number of individuals who are not wholly in accord as to what constitutes the best in house design; the book lacks direction and inspirational value, and is apt to leave one in a state of confusion.

In the quality of the photography, in presentation and general appearance this work leaves much to be desired, and one wonders if some of the houses illustrated are worthy of a place in such a compendium. The book, nevertheless, is valuable as a record of domestic architecture and should be of interest to the layman.

—Gordon Adamson.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE A.I.B.C.

The President's Address, December 8, 1939.

“A YEAR ago we were grateful to realize that at least the immediate threat of war had been averted, though grave apprehensions for the future still existed. Today, war, unrelenting and ruthless, is devastating Europe; and its repercussions are vitally affecting, temporarily, the Building Industry of this Province, which in turn is affecting the Architects, with the exception of a few who are fortunate enough to be busy at this critical time. Immediately at the outbreak of the war a letter was sent to the Minister of National Defence, offering the services of the Architects in British Columbia in any capacity the Government thought fit; and I feel sure you will all be interested to know that every effort is being made to see if the greatest possible use of Architects cannot be made in their professional capacity during this time of emergency. While it is too early to say in what precise manner the Government wishes us to co-operate, the letters I have received, and the interviews to date of delegations from the R.A.I.C. with the Ministers at Ottawa, have been very satisfactory; and presentation of our case for co-operation will be immensely strengthened by the Registration forms which have been filled in by the Registered Architects and Draughtsmen throughout the whole of Canada.

During the year we have had no less than fifteen Council Meetings, most of which have been lengthy and trying, but at all times harmonious, and with the best interests of the profession always before us.

I am very happy to report that our esteemed friend and Honorary Secretary, Mr. S. M. Eveleigh, is continually improving from his long illness. It was with deep regret, however, that we learned only a few weeks ago of the passing of his devoted wife. Needless to say, our sincere sympathy is extended to Mr. Eveleigh, and I am sure that it is the desire of every member to wish him God-speed to a complete recovery so that he may continue his admirable work for the Institute which is so dear to his heart.

I also regret the passing of one of our respected members, Mr. Enoch Evans. Mr. Evans was loved and respected by all those who were fortunate enough to know him; and our sympathy and best wishes are extended to his son who is continuing his practise.

Only a few days ago we received word of the passing of Mr. Percy Fox. Mr. Fox was one of the first Architects to register from Victoria in this Institute which he became President of in the year 1928.

It was with profound regret that Mr. Featherstonhaugh found himself unable to attend our meeting tonight as we expected him to do; but owing to the war, and the many trips which he, as President, has had to make to Ottawa on behalf of the Institute, he was unable to afford the time. However, among our many distinguished guests tonight, we shall have the opportunity of meeting and welcoming Mr. Wm. Bain, vice-president of the Washington State Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. It was my pleasure and honour to be invited as "Guest Speaker" to their annual meeting held in Seattle on the 28th of January last, and I can assure you gentlemen I was afforded a very royal welcome.

What has been, in my opinion, the most important and successful accomplishment of your Council since our last meeting, is the action against the Dominion Construction

Company and Mr. Bentall. It is not necessary for me to enlarge upon the details of this litigation, as most of you know of its successful outcome; except to say that we have definitely established our honourable rights, and I know that the Architects of British Columbia are already receiving the benefit from this lawsuit. Those of you who did not take an active part in this case, perhaps little realize the time and thought devoted to it by those gentlemen who subjected themselves to severe examination by our own Counsel, and cross-examination by defendant's Counsel, during the four separate trials. I think I should be failing in my duty if I did not particularly mention Mr. Andrew Mercer in this connection, who, with me, devoted his whole time to this case during these trying and anxious days. To him I therefore express my sincere appreciation, as I do also to Mr. McCarter and Mr. W. G. Swan, whose evidence was of the greatest value in helping us to successfully complete our case.

In my previous annual report I strongly urged the re-establishment of the Vancouver Chapter, and I am delighted to report that at the beginning of this year, this was accomplished, and has been successfully continued under the leadership of Mr. John Porter, who was elected President. Through the kindness of Mr. Schofield, the Chapter was shown through the new Hotel Vancouver; and through the courtesy of the B.C. Plywoods, was given the opportunity of visiting that plant and seeing the manufacture of their products. Our Annual Golf Competition was held under arrangements made by the Chapter this year, also. It will not be necessary for me to enlarge further upon the activities of this branch of the Institute during the year, as you will later have a full report from their President.

Last year, you will remember, an advertising campaign was authorized, at some considerable expense, which was later not considered justified for the results obtained. This year, therefore, it was discontinued, although not entirely.

Many of you will remember the special Architectural Supplement which was published in February by the Vancouver *News-Herald*, containing sixteen pages. You will be interested to know that not only was the complete issue sold out, but, owing to so many requests from subscribers throughout the Province, the *News-Herald* actually printed additional copies. This supplement, Gentlemen, I think did more to advertise the value of the services of the Architect than we perhaps give credit for to those who were responsible for the success of the issue—and the total cost to the Institute did not exceed \$50.00. We also carried advertising in the "Royal Visit Supplements" of the *Daily Province* and the *Victoria Daily Times*, published at the time of the visit of their Majesties King George and Queen Elizabeth to Vancouver and Victoria in May of this year. I therefore feel convinced that the advertising which we have received this year has been of inestimable value, and has cost us very little; and we are very grateful to the three city papers, and the B.C. *Journal of Commerce*, for their splendid co-operation.

During the year, seven new members were admitted through exemption from examination under our Act. Our total registration today is sixty-six, compared with sixty this time last year, an increase in total membership of six.

Many of you have no doubt read with interest the proposed Contractors' Licensing Act, which was submitted to the House at this Session. The Act was one that required con-

siderable study by those affected by it; and I am pleased to report that your Council was not remiss in protecting your interests. The result was that certain clauses in the Act were opposed by our Solicitors, who were engaged by the Institute for the purpose of protecting the Architects. The Act was since rejected, as you probably know.

May I, therefore, once again thank you for your confidence, and wish the Institute and my successor every success during

the coming year, which, I have every reason to believe, in spite of the war, will be a prosperous one."

—William Fredk. Gardiner.

Mr. Gardiner's address arrived after the Journal material for January had been set up. It is consequently considerably condensed.

APRÈS LA GUERRE

Delivered at the last rollicking lunch of the Toronto Chapter, December 19th, 1939.

In times like these,
When troubles freeze
The soul into a solid
The architect,
(So we suspect),
Puts up a front that's stolid.
But let's confess —
This ugly mess
Is not to be improved on
Unless we make
A start, to shake
The faults that must be moved on.

Ours not to curse
The universe
And everything that's in it.
But ours to plan,
As best we can,
Utopia—and begin it.
The world that we
All hope to see
Will look a great deal brighter
When things are done,
By everyone,
To make its work much lighter;—

When Pearson, John,
Still sits upon
A Board—that has no cases;
And Bruce Riddell
Can't give 'em hell
Or put 'em through their paces;—
When J. P. Hynes
No longer pines
For fees of fifty dollars;
And James H. Craig,
In accents vague,
No more attention collars
For schemes profound—
Though quite unsound—
And Ottawa's own Burritt
Lets out a snore,
And says "Oh, sure!
Whatever 'tis, I'm for it!"
And Prof. Madill
Does not instil
Into the minds of students
Designing stark;
But sticks to archi-
tectural jurisprudence.

All this will be,
For you and me,
A very great improvement.
But Council, too,
Is overdue
For modernizing movement.

There's Hazelgrove—
(A wily cove)—
Who centres up the table.
Though how, with five,
He can contrive
To do it, I'm not able
To comprehend.
For at one end
Shy Mathers fits in oddly,
With Wright and Boyd
On flanks deployed,
To balance Watt and Bodley.

These worthy men—
(Alright, ye ken)—
Could do with some assistance.
So let's prepare,
Après la guerre,
To squelch all mean resistance.
Let's add a few
Good men and true,
Like fiery Harry Martin,
Who'll work like sin
Through thick and thin
To keep the rows from startin'.
And so there'll be
Clear harmony
On everything artistic
We'll add one more—
Dick Fisher—for
To can the "Modernistic".

And we'll provide
The lighter side
To keep these gents from nodding,
With Burwell Coon
To play buffoon,
At Eric Arthur's prodding;
And Ferd's tale
About the whale
"A-bellerin' and spoutin'"—
And many a joke
And clouds of smoke
And raucous songs and shoutin'.
'Tis thus, alone,
We'll raise the tone
Of Council meetings dreary;
And bring enthu-
siasm to
The men who's growing weary.

Then Forsey Page,
Th' apartment sage,
Whose rounded brick balconies
Delight the eye,
Can heave a sigh
And quit—to play the ponies.
And Murray Brown
Can go to town

With colours bright and hideous;
While purists howl
In language foul,
Designed to be invidious.
Then John M. Lyle
Will make his pile
And buy a new fedora
To crown a head
Filled up, 'tis said,
With fauna and with flora.

Then Haldenby,
From war set free,
Can doff his kilt and sporan,
And shoot a line
About the Rhin
And wine and women foreign.
The Bank of Mont-
real will want
To finish up its building;
And statues round
Queen's Park be found
To need a touch of gilding.
But, best all,
The City Hall
Will purge its rules of "sillies"—
For which the rank
And file with thank
Commissioner Ken. Gillies.

So, Cheerio!
This life, we know,
Is not all beer and skittles.
We must return
To duty stern,
And earn our rags and victuals
With awful toil
By midnight oil—
And you all know what that is!
So, when you swear
And tear your hair
And hurl erasers everywhere,
Thinks on these lines—
"Après la guerre"—
I leave them with you,—gratis!

Dec., 1939.

—G. E.

We shall always welcome literary efforts from our members even though they do not approach the peaks reached by that incomparable bard, G. E. To those who would say that such outpourings are too local we can only reply that they are no more local than a cottage in a B. C. village or a golf club on a Nova Scotia heath.
—Ed.

PROVINCIAL PAGE

ALBERTA

In Edmonton and Calgary, during the past year, the amount of building done will be gathered from the following,—the figures being approximate only:

In Edmonton, permits were issued for building and alterations of the total value of \$2,700,000. This is about \$100,000 less than the previous year. Some of the principal items are:—

General Hospital, 100 bed addition.....	\$250,000
Misericordia Hospital, 76 bed maternity wing.....	120,000
University Hospital, maternity wing.....	20,000
Corona Hotel, additional storeys.....	75,000
Tegler Building, reconstruction of stores and offices.....	100,000
Metropolitan Store, reconstruction after fire.....	50,000
Kelly-Ramsey Building, internal reconstruction.....	38,000
Separate School, West Edmonton.....	25,000

Temporary Huts for soldiers cost about \$100,000 and the great array of bleachers constructed for the visit of the King and Queen cost \$50,000. Some of these have been re-erected at the Clark Stadium. The housing permits during the year amounted to \$500,000

In Calgary the permits amounted to slightly over \$1,000,000, being \$150,000 more than in 1938. This is the largest amount since 1931 when they totalled nearly \$2,000,000. Some of the principal items are:—

Civic Utilities Building.....	\$86,000
Calgary Associate Clinic.....	44,000
Greyhound Bus accommodation.....	24,000
Auto Camp.....	10,000
Safeways Store.....	18,450
Open Air Swimming Pool.....	18,000
Barns at the Exhibition Grounds.....	17,200
Air Force accommodation.....	30,000
Huts at Mewata Park and adjacent.....	60,000
Recreation Building, Mewata Park.....	10,000

There were 35 permits for business premises, 177 for garages and sheds.

In a statement published in the *Calgary Herald* of December 13th, it is said, that "Although authorities claim that upwards of 500 new houses should have been built to fill normal development, this year saw permits taken out for only 54 new residences." It appears from the figures for housing in Edmonton that permits were there issued for 341 houses. Of these 154 were of a cost of less than \$1,000 and of the remainder of the number of 187 the cost is from \$2,000 up. Probably in spite of these figures the conditions in Edmonton are little if any better than in Calgary. Some light on the reasons for the regrettable shortage in housing may be found in the fact that up to date, under the National Housing Act, more than two million dollars have been loaned in each of the provinces of Nova Scotia and Manitoba, over six millions in British Columbia and in Alberta nothing at all,—for which Albertans have themselves to blame.

—*Cecil S. Burgess.*

MANITOBA

Every architect will read with interest the news that comes from England regarding A.R.P., war construction, the problems of evacuation, traffic control and many other interesting developments that the war has brought forcibly to the attention of the public. Many of these problems will directly or indirectly affect the architecture of Europe in the future. Many of the problems will have to be solved by the architect

as they are essentially problems of architectural design and construction.

Certain points have been brought to my attention in reading accounts of air-raid precautions, black-outs, and the hurried erection of shelters. Just as other wars have brought about changes not only in the design of individual buildings but in the actual layout of cities we may expect that the new technique of aerial warfare will have far-reaching effect on the design of future buildings. Just what form that change will take is interesting to contemplate. War from the air has introduced a new set of problems that may force drastic changes in our entire social system, for there is no doubt about the social disruption that has resulted in Europe during the past few weeks. After the war is over we may go back to the old ways of life, trusting that it will never happen again, but there will not be the feeling of security that we all consider necessary if we are to live normal lives.

The general decentralization of large cities over the past several years is raising one of the greatest problems in England today. Suburban living means getting in to one's work and back again. That means proper conveyance, smooth working transportation systems, no traffic problems, or at least, problems reduced to a minimum. No one knows when the entire system will be disrupted. The buses depend upon suitable conditions on the surface of the ground, the underground depends upon certain surface utilities to carry on their services. The water systems, the sewage systems, the light and power are all too vulnerable in the average modern city. And so far there seems to be no adequate answer to the problem. Perhaps we can begin burrowing under the ground, using our complicated ventilating systems to filter the gas-filled air before it is introduced into the subterranean galleries of our underground apartment houses.

The black-outs have killed more persons than have been victims of guns on the western front. This is a problem never contemplated when the workers were moved to the suburbs. Buses and private cars are necessary for transportation but they were not intended to be used without lights. Perhaps we will find a way to treat clothing so that it will give off a faint glow perceptible to a motorist but the answer to the problem will probably be the provision of separate motor and pedestrian roads, a city planning problem of great magnitude.

The design of individual buildings has already been affected by the requirements of the black-out. In some cases large stair walls of glass brick have been completely re-designed and closed. The saw-tooth roofs of factory buildings have been torn off, for this type of window is the most difficult to treat for light leakage. The modern style of design with large glass areas has introduced many problems for property owners, for hanging curtains is not sufficient. Cracks around windows must be securely closed. Lights have been reduced in candlepower until they are scarcely a glow. perhaps this is the place for the new polarized glass, whose structure effectively bends light rays. Or the days of completely insulated, windowless house may be here.

The fear of air raids and of bombs dropped on us from above will have its psychological effect in the design of buildings stronger than is absolutely necessary for complete safety. We may demand visual proof of stability in huge columns and piers. There should be a great demand for reinforced concrete with a surface treatment that cannot be shaken off by bomb blasts. Overhanging cornice blocks will certainly be dispensed with and probably everything else

that hangs over the street. Monolithic wall construction, shatterproof glass, as few displaceable objects as possible above our heads, all of these things and many more may be demanded by our clients as a result of the war.

—*Milton S. Osborne.*

ONTARIO

In the last issue we devoted a paragraph to the publicity problem, in the course of which we stated that an agreement between the O.A.A. and a firm of publicity specialists had been terminated on account of the inadequacy of the results achieved. While this was strictly in accord with our recollection of a discussion by the Public Relations Committee, it was not, it seems, in accord with the facts. The President of the O.A.A. informs us that the agreement was "deferred, (not terminated), by mutual consent", because the Council "decided that it would be wise to conserve the resources of the Association." We are glad to make this correction, and to express to the firm concerned, and to the Council, our regrets for any embarrassment which the error may have caused them. It is only fair, however, to point out that the latter part of the paragraph wholly absolved the publicity specialists of responsibility for a state of affairs which we regarded—and still regard—as very unsatisfactory for the profession.

While things are still very quiet in this Province—to put it mildly—there is some activity here and there. A contract has been signed at a figure reported to be in the neighbourhood of one million dollars, for a milling plant at Humberstone, and work has been started on the first four units of still another apartment project at Toronto, with nine more units to come. Each unit contains nine suites. In addition, tenders have been taken on a bus terminal at Windsor, and the Department of Public Works, (Ottawa), is taking tenders on a post office building at Oshawa. The latter is expected to cost over three hundred thousand dollars, and the former somewhat less.

The Ontario Association wound up the year by filling all vacancies on the Registration Board and Council by acclamation. Messrs. C. J. Burritt and A. J. Hazelgrove, both of Ottawa, were re-elected to the Board and Council respectively, and Mr. F. C. Bodley, of Brantford, was elected to Council in place of Mr. W. R. Holcombe, of Hamilton, whose term had expired.

Christmas activities of the Chapters included festive efforts by Hamilton and Toronto. While we were not present at Hamilton, (unfortunately), we understand that turkeys were as plentiful as empty draughting-boards. There were no turkeys at the Toronto Chapter luncheon—perhaps in deference to the dignity of the University Club—but we do seem to remember an object remarkably like a barrel, surmounted by a chromium-plated pump. A roaring fire, an excellent buffet-lunch, impromptu speeches about nothing in particular and a very evident camaraderie contributed to one of our most enjoyable events to date.

—*Gladstone Evans.*

QUEBEC

The series of educational lectures arranged this winter by the Entertainment Committee have been well attended. Following the opening luncheon meeting on November 8th, when Mr. Conrad D. Harrington of the Canadian Construction Association was the speaker, an evening meeting was held on November 27th at the Engineering Institute when the subject for consideration was "Mitoyen Walls".

After the opening address given by Professor Philip J. Turner, the members present were invited to ask questions and to give their views on the subject, and a profitable discussion, to say nothing of the refreshments that were pro-

vided, followed the reading of the paper. Attention was drawn to the fact that an authoritative document on Mitoyen Walls had been prepared by Mr. Paul Beiqué a few years ago, and that this had recently been translated into English, at the request of the Association, by their lawyer, Mr. Walter Johnson. This valuable document is now available for consultation at the rooms of the Association in both languages. On Wednesday, December 6th, at a luncheon meeting held in the rooms of the M.A.A.A. and at which the Mayor was present, Mr. George S. Mooney, B.A., Co-Director of the Bureau of Industrial Research, spoke on "The Housing Problem of Montreal".

General regret has been expressed this last month and sympathy extended to Mr. R. H. Macdonald on his illness, which has necessitated his absence for some weeks from all office work, and from the many outside interests in the profession in which he always takes so active a part. It is earnestly to be hoped that the enforced rest will be the means of restoring the popular President in a short time to renewed good health.

The authorities of McGill University have announced recently that arrangements have now been completed for continuing the work of the School of Architecture after the end of the present session. This important decision has been rendered possible largely through the assistance rendered and interest shown by leading members of the profession outside the regular School staff. Messrs. Ernest Barott, H. L. Fetherstonhaugh and J. C. McDougall have agreed to continue to act as members of the Advisory Committee for 1940-41.

The annual exhibition of the Royal Canadian Academy is being held this month and the exhibits generally show a high standard and above the average. It is to be regretted, however, that there is such a small collection of architectural exhibits. Only eleven architects and twenty-five subjects are represented which in no way can be said to be representative of the work of the profession. At the annual meeting of the R.C.A. held at the time of the opening of the exhibition, Mr. Percy E. Nobbs was elected Vice-President, an honour he richly deserves for the good work he has done in connection with the Academy.

The students from the School of Architecture spent a profitable six hours at Ottawa on November 24th, and inspected the new Supreme Court Building now in process of construction. Arrangements were made through the courtesy of the contractors, Anglin-Norcross Limited and Mr. Ernest Cormier, the Architect. A visit was also made to the office of Mr. Sutherland, Chief Architect of Public Works, where a very fine model in wood of the building was on exhibition. Before leaving Ottawa, the party was entertained at the Badminton Club, by the graduate architects of the city, under the chairmanship of Mr. Hugh Richards. The local graduates turned out 100 per cent. strong, and this fine spirit of camaraderie was much appreciated by the visitors.

The new 1939 Year Book has just been issued. It is produced in an attractive manner and is well printed in English and French. It appears to grow larger every year, and comprises thirty-nine pages, (perhaps there will be 40 for 1940!). Included in it are the addresses and telephone numbers of all its 300 odd members, and photographs of the officers and members of Council, with a list of the holders of the Association medal. From this document, the following interesting data is to be noted, that the total membership of the P.Q.A.A. is 325 of whom 182 are French and 143 English speaking, the number of graduates from the Ecole des Beaux Arts and who are members, is 72, from the Ecole Polytechnique it is 11, and from the School of Architecture, McGill University, the number is 70.

—*Philip J. Turner.*

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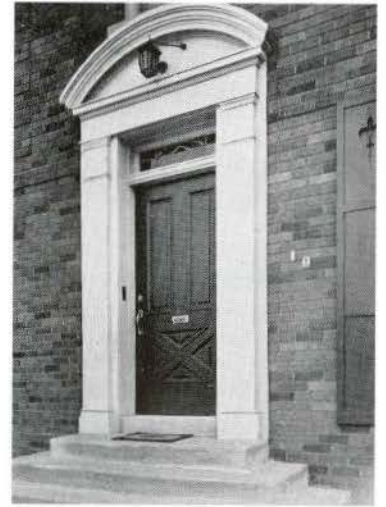
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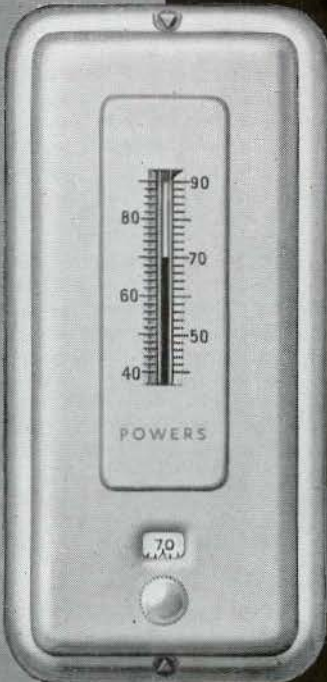
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