JOURNAL

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

VOL. 20 TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1943 NO. 2

"STANDARDS" a day's work

"SPECIALS" a day's work

IN SHEET METAL

"Standardization" is another word for *Economy!*

Proof?—Shortly after the "outbreak", we started making Military Truck Bodies. A fairly big order, but 11 per day was our best production estimate. "Repeats" came along fast and, inside of 6 months, we were turning out *four times that quantity*.

The secret . . . there really isn't any . . . was simply *standardization*.

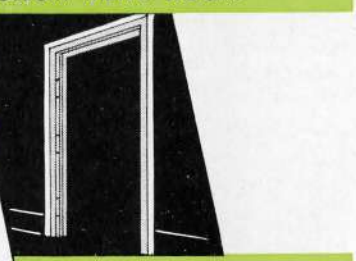
Standardization reduces labor costs almost unbelievably. Naturally, it speeds up production.

This lesson can be applied to all post-war construction WHERE ECONOMY IS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE. By concentrating on "Standards" . . . by aiming to get as many "identicals" as possible, a designer is saving time and money for the owner, and perhaps some worry for himself.

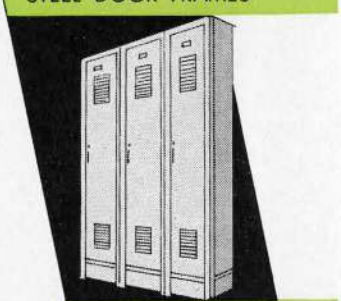
Most Manufacturers' "Standards" provide quite a wide range of choice.

In Sheet Metal Products for construction work our catalogues show a wide range of "Standards"—sufficient to cover most requirements.

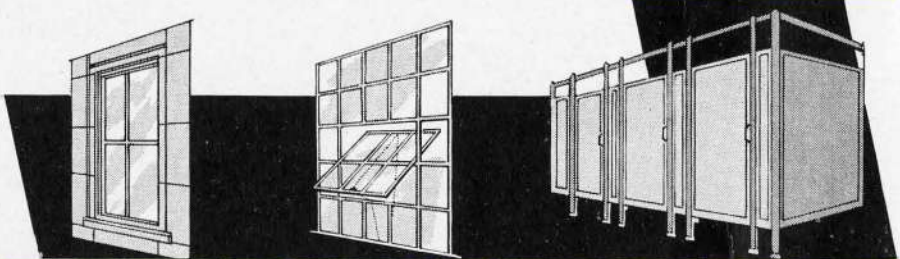
HOLLOW METAL DOORS



STEEL DOOR FRAMES



SHEET METAL LOCKERS



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JOURNAL

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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WE ADVISE all architects interested in Reconstruction to study the Reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics—especially Preliminary Housing releases Nos. 28, 30 and 31. As a warning appeared recently that the supply was "greatly reduced", we quote some samples below.

The Farm — In June 1941, Canada's farm houses were almost all single dwellings. Over 90 p.c. of them were constructed of wood, except in Ontario where the proportion was 59 p.c. The average number of rooms in farm homes was greatest in the Maritimes, centering around 7, and least in the Prairie Provinces, where it averaged between 4 and 5. From 29 p.c. of homes in Prince Edward Island to 47 p.c. in New Brunswick were in need of external repairs. Estimated value of homes averaged highest in Ontario, at about $1,400: it exceeded $1,000 in Prince Edward Island, Quebec and British Columbia also; and ranged down to $938 in Saskatchewan and $860 in New Brunswick.

From 79 to 91 p.c. of homes in various provinces were heated by stoves, but a proportion ranging up to 17 p.c. in Ontario was equipped with hot air furnaces. Ontario and British Columbia reported the largest proportions with bath or shower, 11 p.c. and 24 p.c., and with flush toilets, 17 and 21 p.c., respectively. Electric lighting, powered from either central or private plants, was installed in more than a third of Ontario and British Columbia farm houses, but in less than 10 p.c. in Prince Edward Island and the Prairie Provinces. From three-quarters to four-fifths of farm homes had no means of refrigeration.

Extent of Crowding (Urban) — In June 1941, crowded households, so defined, comprised 7 to 28 p.c. of all households in 27 cities of over 30,000 population. The total was approximately 150,000 households, including about a million people; this total comprised 18 p.c. of households and 29 p.c. of population in these 27 cities. The crowded households included about 40,000 lodging families, and another 70,000 lodging families were included in households which still averaged more than one room per person: it would require, therefore, about 110,000 new dwelling units to give a separate home to each family in cities over 30,000 population. This would be roughly equivalent to the present combined housing accommodation of Ottawa, Hamilton, London, and Calgary.

Earnings of Crowded Families—Most crowded families were headed by wage-earners, and the proportion of such families with more than one wage-earner was above the average for all families. Average earnings of wage-earner heads of crowded families were lower than the general average by as much as $600 per year in some cities, and by substantial amounts in all cities. However, in Hamilton, London and Victoria the discrepancy was less than $300, which indicates that in these cities at least crowding and doubling-up of families are due in considerable part to physical shortage of housing, not merely to inability of families to pay rent for a separate or more suitable establishment. Although the difference between earnings averages for crowded and for general wage-earner family heads was greater in other cities, there were still many crowded families whose earnings would permit them to rent more adequate housing if they could find it.

Proportion of Low Rentals among Crowded Dwellings—At the same time, a relatively high proportion of low rentals among crowded households indicates that a considerable percentage of the crowded people are unable to pay for accommodation adequate as to space or in other respects. In the 27 cities, from 4 to 60 p.c. of crowded households, or more than 29,000 in all, paid less than $15 rent, as did about 50,000 households which averaged one room or more per person.

Comparison of Crowded and Average Dwellings—Further evidence of correlation between lack of space and other housing deficiencies appears from comparisons of the dwellings occupied by crowded families with the general run of dwellings. The former were characterized by high proportions in need of external repairs, over 30 p.c. in 15 of 27 cities; and by the high proportions heated by stove rather than furnace, almost twice as great among crowded as among all homes. Higher proportions of crowded families also reported toilet facilities outside or shared with other families, no bathing facilities or shared ones, shared cooking facilities and no refrigeration.

Average Earnings per Person and Rooms per Person Among Wage-Earner Private Families — Private families with wage-earner heads and no lodgers have been singled out from 1941 census records of cities with 30,000 population and over for the examination of relationships between earnings per person and rooms per person. Earnings per person, i.e., total family earnings divided by the number of persons in the family, have been used for this purpose because they provide a better index of economic position than would family earnings without reference to the number of persons which these earnings must support. Private wage-earner families were selected because for this group only, can clear-cut comparisons be made of rooms per person and earnings per person. Such families form approximately 65 p.c. of all households in Canadian cities with population of 30,000 and over.

Percentages of Persons in Private Wage-Earner Families—Records for the four largest cities indicate that less than one room per person was available for approximately 61 p.c. of persons at the $100-199 earnings level, 13 p.c. at the $400-499 level, and 3 p.c. at the $800+ level. For the 27 cities of 30,000 and over, these percentages would be equivalent to a minimum of 329,000 persons with less than one room per person below the $200 earnings level, 136,000 between $200 and $499, and 20,000 at $800 and over, 485,000 in all, or 21 p.c. of members of wage-earner private families. These estimates suggest very strongly that adequacy of living accommodation is closely related to income.

Home Conveniences—Records of the equipment of Canadian homes, compiled for the first time in 1941, indicated that almost all urban homes had running water and electric lighting. Over 97 p.c. of homes in 24 of 27 cities had running water; electric lighting was installed in 98 p.c. or more of homes in 26 cities, and 96 p.c. in the twenty-seventh. The picture with regard to other facilities was less uniform. Unshared use of a flush toilet was reported for 100 p.c. of households in Verdun and Outremont, for 80 p.c. or more in another 21 cities, and for 64 to 71 p.c. in Sudbury, Regina, Saskatoon and Edmonton. Unshared bathing facilities were reported by substantially lower proportions of households; only in Outremont and Verdun were more than 90 p.c. so equipped, and the proportion in other cities ranged as low as 43 p.c. Heating systems varied widely: in the Maritimes and Quebec, stoves were commonly used, while furnace heating was more general elsewhere. The proportion of homes heated by furnace ranged from 16 to 94 p.c. in Quebec, and from 70 to 95 p.c. in Ontario, excepting Brantford and Sudbury; among the Prairie cities it ranged from 72 to 84 p.c.

There are many outside the profession and some inside who are afraid that Reconstruction means the end of private enterprise. It is perhaps necessary to say that it means no such thing in Canada or any other country. The proof, in houses to build and repair, and in a vast internal market of everyday things, is apparent in the lists above. They are a challenge to private and public enterprise.

IF I HAD TO TEACH YOU ARCHITECTURE

By **LE CORBUSIER**

The architecture of the new age has triumphed the world over. But it is still subject to violent and insidious opposition. It upsets too many prejudices, too many vested interests. The whole country is controlled by commercial obstructiveness, and by architects who employ old-fashioned technique, and so find it impossible to meet the demands of a new clientele. They invoke sacred traditions, good taste, beauty—Pericles or Louis XIV, whichever you like.

The teachers in the schools are extremely worried by the curiosity of their pupils, by their indiscreet questions, and their almost irrepressible enthusiasm. Life is no longer a joke for the majority of the teaching staff in most schools.

The immense future of modern architecture, which is, after all, the equipment of a new civilisation, should not have to be mixed up with vested interests. Life is just beginning for a new architecture, and it has a long life ahead of it. Why deny it the possibility of achieving beauty and greatness? That sort of objection is futile and groundless.

All the same, it is important to recognise that a great many mistakes have been made in the field of modern architecture, especially by young people who imagine that the modern man's house is like a soap box. But the greatest harm of all has been done by plagiarists, who take the superficialities of modern architecture and merely apply them to the same old carcases. If the task is not yet finished (and it most certainly isn't), it is the duty of authorities to realise that the world is constantly evolving and that consequently architecture as the expression of an age must go ahead. Architecture must be afforded the necessary opportunity for practical experiment.

One of the crucial aspects of the whole question lies in the teaching of architecture in schools. In this respect, certain countries are asleep and cling to tradition: the students are all right, but the instructors . . . They still don't hesitate, two thousand years afterwards, to become more Roman than the Romans, more German than the Germans, etc. Nationalism only serves to encumber architecture with all sorts of trappings which have nothing to do with the actual problem. All over the world I have noticed that the teaching of architecture, however envisaged, is always scrappy and superficial—sometimes apparently on the old Beaux-Arts model, sometimes lacking in any aesthetic significance (as in some Oriental countries), sometimes gently ticking over (as in the most technically progressive countries, like America).

What is even more ludicrous to see is the fierce opposition of our fathers and grandfathers (magistrates, town councillors, etc.) to any manifestation of the modern spirit. Who are the towns of the future designed for? For those who will soon be dead, with their habits anchored to the pit of their stomach, or for those who are yet unborn? Their defensive attitude is comic.

Architecture provides the framework for a civilisation (housing, work, leisure, circulation); so architecture is also town planning. It is no longer possible to separate architecture and town planning—they are one and the same thing.

But what signs are there of modern town planning? It has only just been born—it's a new science with few professors. And they're all young. Surely they deserve universal recognition.

If I had to teach you architecture? Rather an awkward question. . . .

I would begin by forbidding the "orders", by putting a stop to this dry rot of the orders, this incredible defiance of the intelligence. I would insist on a real respect for architecture.

On the other hand, I would tell my pupils how moving are the things on the Acropolis at Athens, whose pre-eminent greatness they would understand later. I would promise an explanation of the magnificence of the Farnese Palace and of the wide spiritual gulf between the apses of St. Peter's and its facade, both constructed rigorously in the same "order", but one by Michael Angelo and the other by Alberti. And many others of the simplest and truest facts about architecture, whose comprehension demands a certain mastery. I would emphasise the fact that nobility, purity, intellectual perception, plastic beauty, and the eternal quality of proportion are the fundamental joys of architecture, which can be understood by everyone.

I would strive to inculcate in my pupils a keen sense of control, of unbiased judgment, and of the "how" and "why". . . . I would encourage them to cultivate this sense till their dying day. But I would want them to base it on an objective series of facts. Facts are fluid and changeable, especially nowadays, and I would teach them to distrust formulae and would impress on them that everything is relative.

I ask a young student: How do you make a door? How big? Where do you put it? How do you make a window? But, incidentally, what is a window for? Do you really know why they make windows? If so, you will be able to explain to me why a window is arched, square or rectangular, I want reasons for that, and would add: Think hard, do we need any windows at all today?

In what part of a room do you make a door? . . . Perhaps you have several solutions. You are right, there are several solutions, and each one gives a separate architectural sensation. You see—these differences of solution are the very basis of architecture. According to the way you enter a room and according to the position of the door in the wall, you get a particular impression, and the wall which you pierce takes on particular characteristics. You feel you have discovered architecture. By the way, I forbid you to draw an axis on your plans—axes are merely formulae to dazzle the unwary.

Another point, just as important: Where do you make the window-openings? You realise that according to where the light comes from you get a particular feeling, so draw all the possible ways of arranging window-openings and then tell me which are the best.

As a matter of fact, why have you made your room that shape? Think out other workable shapes, and put in openings for doors and windows. You had better buy a big notebook for this job—you'll need pages and pages.

Now draw out all the possible shapes of dining rooms, kitchens, bedrooms, each with its special requirements. Having done this, try to cut down the dimensions to a minimum. A kitchen. This is a question of town planning—circulation and working space. Don't forget that the kitchen is a holy of holies.

The next thing is to draw a business man's office and that of his secretary, his typists, and his workmen. Remember that a house is a machine for living in and that an office or factory is a machine for working in.

You don't know anything about "orders", nor the "1925 style"; and if I catch you designing in the 1925 style, I'll box your ears. You must not be a stylist. You articulate, you plan—nothing more.

Now try solving one of the most intricate of all contemporary problems: the minimum house.

First of all for a single man or woman, then for a married couple—don't bother about children. Next you move house —two children have arrived.

Then you have to accommodate four children.

As all this is very difficult, you will begin by drawing a straight line, round which you will build up the necessary units in their proper order, each with the minimum area.

Then on a sort of genealogical tree you work out their circulation, putting the appropriate units next to each other.

To finish up, you will try to assemble the component units to make a house—don't worry about the construction: that is another matter. If by any chance you like playing chess, it'll come in useful here, and you won't have to go to a cafe to find an opponent!

You will go on to buildings in course of construction and see how they make reinforced concrete, flat roofs, or floors, and how windows are put in. Make sketches, and if you see anything idiotic, make a note of it, and when you get back, ask questions. Don't imagine that you learn construction by doing mathematics. That's a deceit practised by the Academies to get the better of you.

Nevertheless, you will have to study a certain amount of statics. This is easy. Don't think you need to know exactly how the formulae of resistance are arrived at by mathematicians. With a little practice, you will understand the mechanics of calculation, but above all, remember how the various parts of a building work. Make sure that you understand moments of inertia. Once you understand them, you will be free to do anything. All this is quite straightforward: leave higher mathematics to the mathematicians.

Your studies are not yet finished. You will have to research into questions of sound, temperature, and expansion. Of heating and refrigeration. The more direct experience you can pick up at this stage, the more thankful you will be later on.

Try drawing a harbour with buoys marking the channel, and show how a liner comes alongside the dock and gets under way again. It will do to cut the rough shape of the ship out of coloured paper and show its successive positions on the drawing. This may give some ideas about designing docks.

Now draw a block of two hundred offices with a square in front for parking cars: Find out how many cars to allow for, and, as with the steamer, show clearly all their manoeuvres. Perhaps you will get some idea of what size and shape to make islands and parking spaces, and of their relation to the street.

Here is a golden rule: use coloured pencils. With colour, you accentuate, you classify, you clarify, you disentangle. With black pencil you get stuck in the mud and you're lost. Always say to yourself: Drawings must be easy to real. Colour will come to the rescue.

Here is a square in a town, where several roads meet. Work out how traffic crosses it. Try to think of every kind of square, and figure out which are the best for circulation.

Set yourself the problem of a drawing room with its doors and windows. Arrange the necessary furniture conveniently. This is another problem of circulation, and is common sense and lots of other things as well! Ask yourself if your room serves any particular purpose like that.

Now I set a written problem: Get out a comparative and analytical report on the reasons for the existence of towns like London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Hull, Glasgow. Rather a hard task for a student, but you will realise that before putting anything down, you must always know exactly what you are considering and why it exists. Splendid exercise for developing your power of discrimination.

One day, go down to the station, ruler in hand, and make an exact measured drawing of a restaurant car with its kitchen and service. Do the same for a sleeping car. Then go down to the docks and go over a liner. Draw coloured plans and sections, showing how it works. As a matter of fact, have you any clear idea of what goes on inside a liner? Are you aware that it is a palace accommodating 2,000 people, of whom a third live in luxury? Do you realise that here is an hotel system with three separate and entirely independent classes, a gigantic system of mechanical propulsion, with its staff of engineers and mechanics, and besides this a system of officers and sailors to operate the ship? When you can express clearly by means of coloured sections and plans the organisation of a liner, you will be able to go in for the next competition for a League of Nations Palace.

And now, my friend, I beg you to keep your eyes open.

Do you keep your eyes open? Have you been trained to keep your eyes open? Do you know how to keep your eyes open? Do you keep them open continually and usefully? What do you look at when you go for a walk?

Look at the back of buildings if you want to learn anything. Shut your eyes to the street front. Then go and measure some of those buildings which are decent behind their facades. Study this vernacular with a view to later execution on a larger scale, perhaps in steel (a prefabricated house), or in reinforced concrete (assembled from standard units).

Now that I have appealed to your sense of honesty, I should like to inculcate in you, and in all students of architecture, a hatred of "drawing-board stylism", which is merely covering a sheet of paper with alluring pictures, "styles", or "orders" —these are fashions. But architecture is space, breadth, depth, and height, volume and circulation. Architecture is a conception of the mind. It must be conceived in your head, with your eyes shut. Only in this way can you really visualise your design. Paper is only the means for setting down the idea, and transmitting it to the client or contractor. Everything is in the plan and section. When you have achieved through plans and sections a working entity, the elevations will follow, and if you have any power of design, your elevations will be beautiful. Say, by all means, that houses are for living in, but you will be a good architect only when your elevations succeed. Proportion is enough, but you need plenty of imagination as well, and the more modest the problem, the more imagination you need.

Architecture is organisation. YOU ARE AN ORGANISER, NOT A DRAWING-BOARD STYLIST.

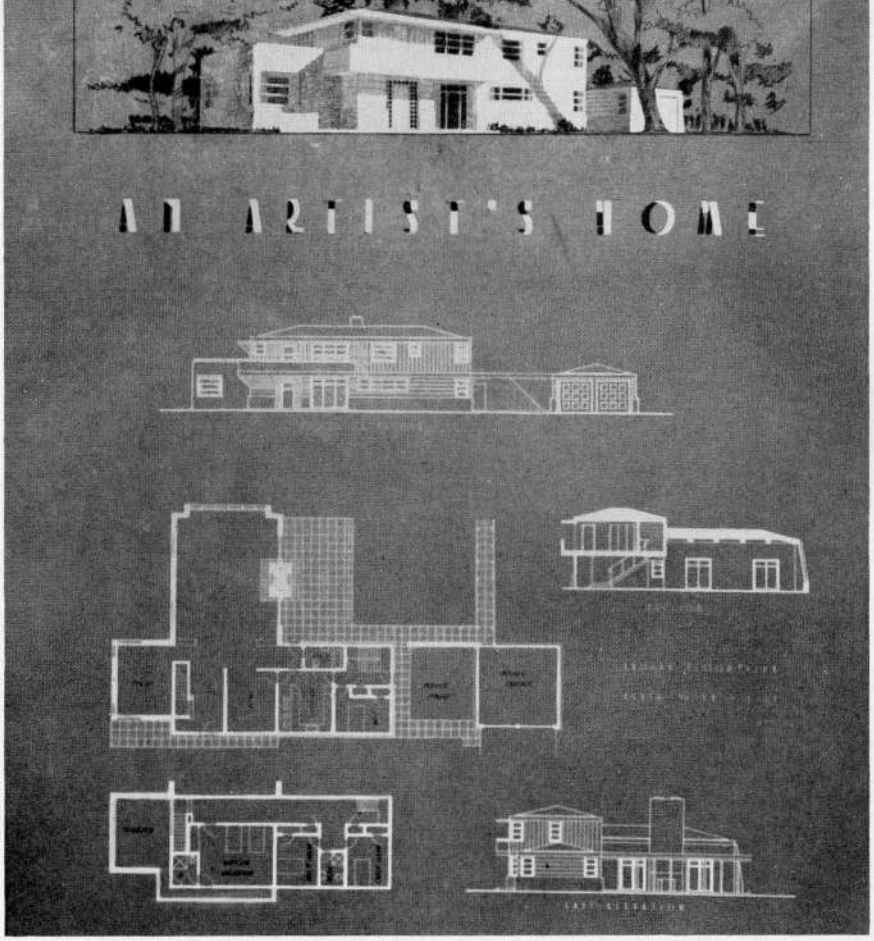
—Reprinted from Focus (London) with grateful acknowledgments.

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

FIRST YEAR

AN ARTIST'S HOME

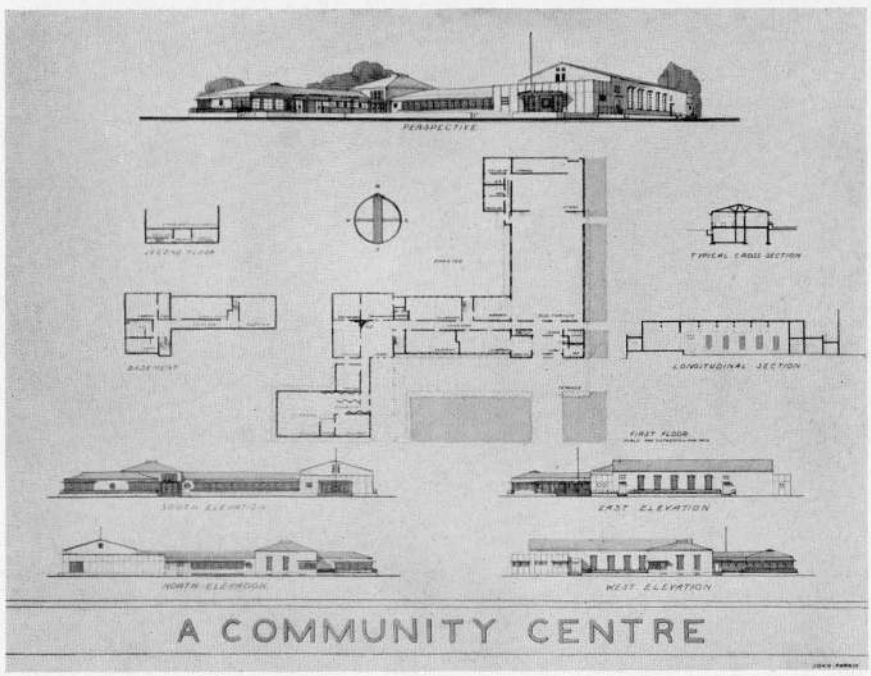
Kelvin C. Stanley



THIRD YEAR

A COMMUNITY CENTRE

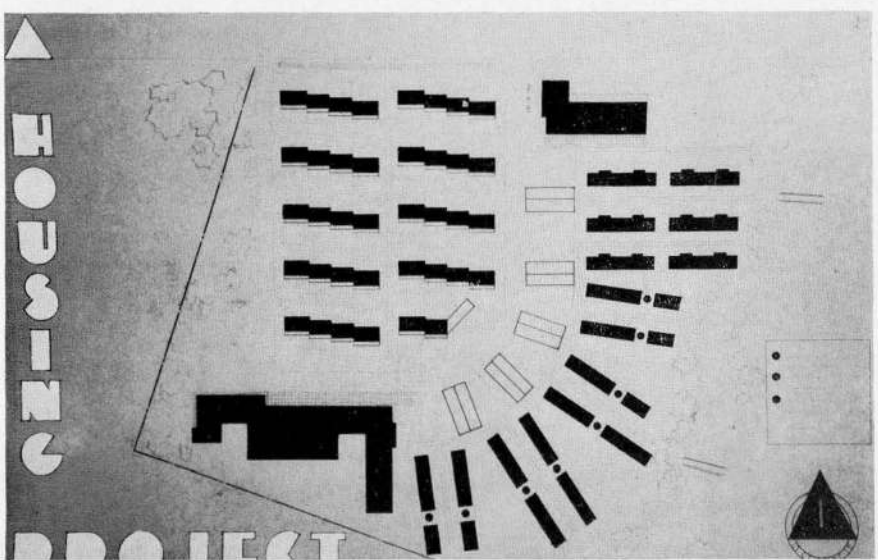
John C. Parkin

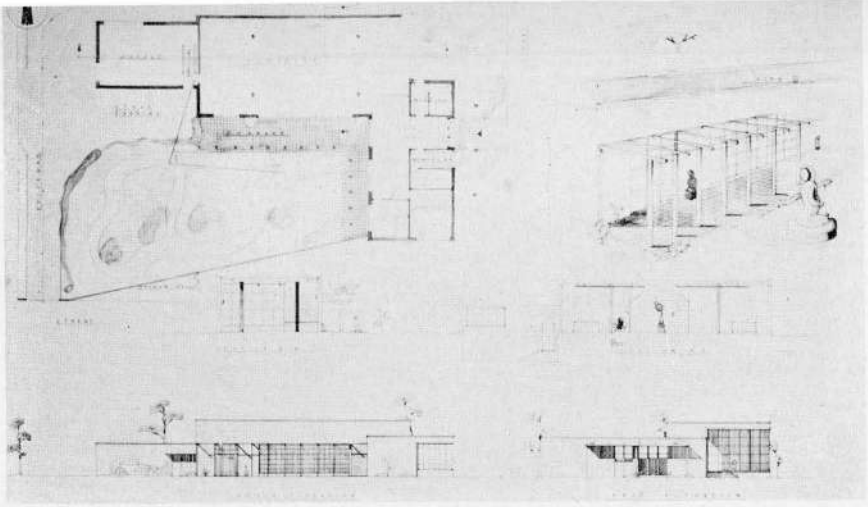


FOURTH YEAR

A HOUSING PROJECT

Ronald Whiteley





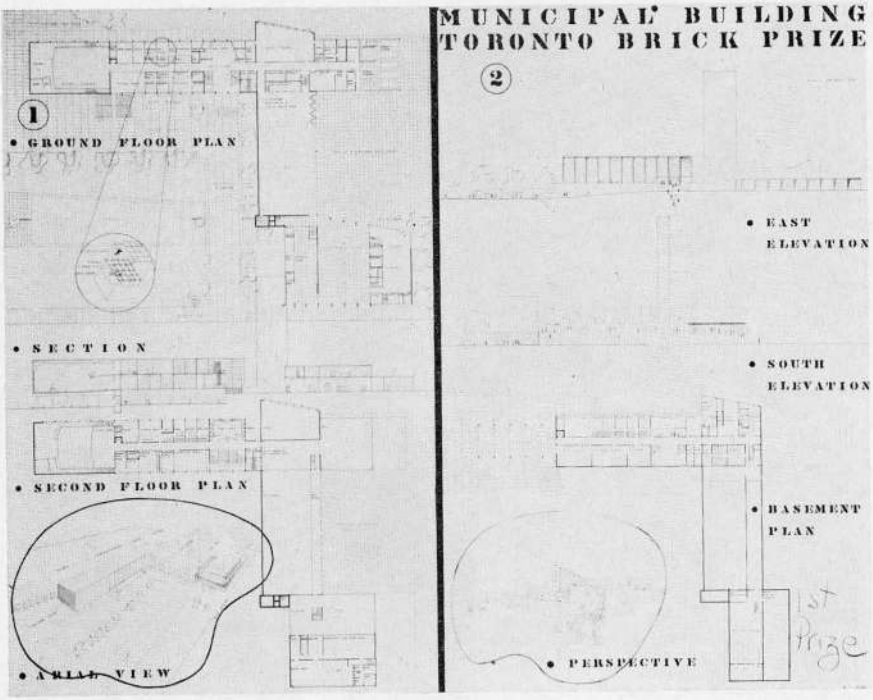
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

SECOND YEAR

A MUSEUM

Pegeen Synge

This three-day problem required a large exhibition space for travelling exhibits combined with the necessary offices for administration and operation. Outdoor garden space was also used for exhibits.



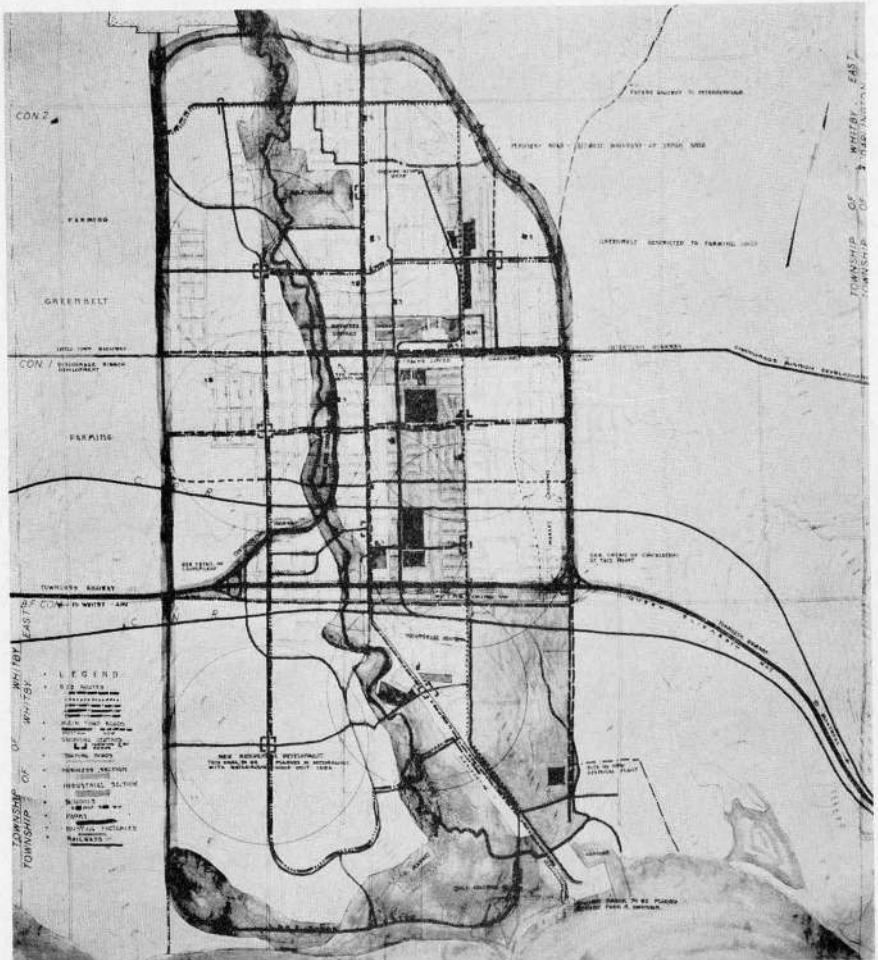
FOURTH YEAR

A MUNICIPAL BUILDING

R. C. Fairfield

The site for this building was selected from an actual area of a Town Planning Project developed co-operatively by the second, third, fourth and fifth years.

The problem required the solution of a civic and administrative group for a residential area having about 30,000 persons. Elements included a public gymnasium and social hall; council chamber and officials' suites; city assessment and tax collection offices; city engineers' department; police department and court; offices for Welfare and Public Health; offices for Housing Authority; fire hall with hose-drying tower, garage, living quarters and work spaces; and utility offices.



FIFTH YEAR

TOWN PLANNING SCHEME FOR OSHAWA, ONTARIO

This was a first-term collaborative problem for the Students of Fifth Year who visited the site to see existing conditions and requirements. Conditions included the relationship of the City to the new Queen Elizabeth Highway to the south; the problem of parks and recreation sites; railways on city streets; faulty east to west city circulation; an undeveloped commercial pattern; improper school-site distribution; the problem of communications to the airport and harbour from the City; etc.; etc.

The sheet illustrated is one of many studies and drawings made for the proposed development. This solution suggested cloverleafs at the east and west approaches to the City. The industrial areas were grouped and separated from the residential areas by a railway siding on one side and a trucking road on the other side. Park and recreation areas were increased by the development of a green parkway along the Oshawa Creek, centred on the residential areas. The ultimate boundary of the City was set by a wide perphery road beyond which would be greenbelt of controlled farm development. Commercial areas were suggested according to the Neighbourhood Unit Principle. A new civic centre near two existing churches, new school sites, and the airport and harbour facilities were also considered.

ÉCOLE DES BEAUX-ARTS DE MONTRÉAL

SECOND YEAR

A HOUSE ON A RIVERSIDE

P. Boulva

Site: A lot 40 by 60 feet between a road and a river at 20 feet below.

Purpose: One-family dwelling.

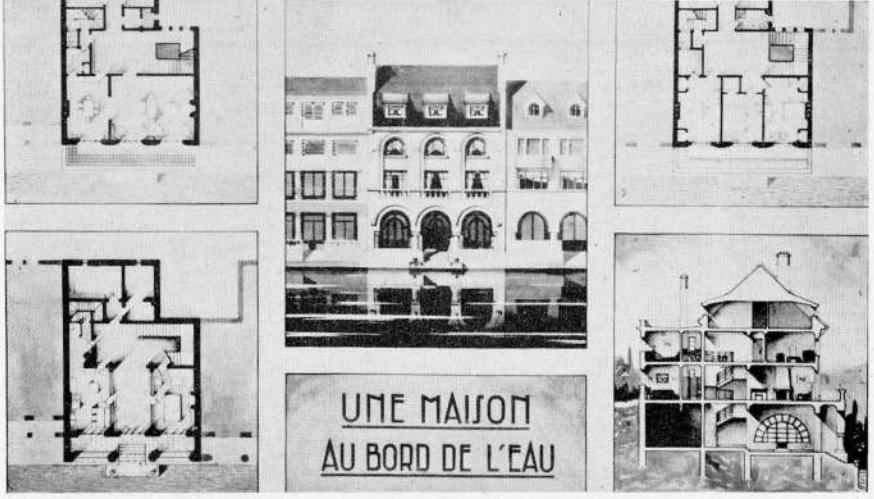
Access to be from the road and from the river.

Basement (on the riverside): kitchen, cellars, heating room, vestibule, etc.;

Ground floor (at the road level): vestibule, living-room, dining-room, reception-room, boudoir, cloak-room and toilet, office, hall and stairs;

First story: 5 rooms, 2 bathrooms, independent w.-c., services;

Second story: secondary room, bathrooms and services.



THIRD YEAR

A MOVING PICTURE THEATRE AND OFFICE BUILDING

R. Robitaille

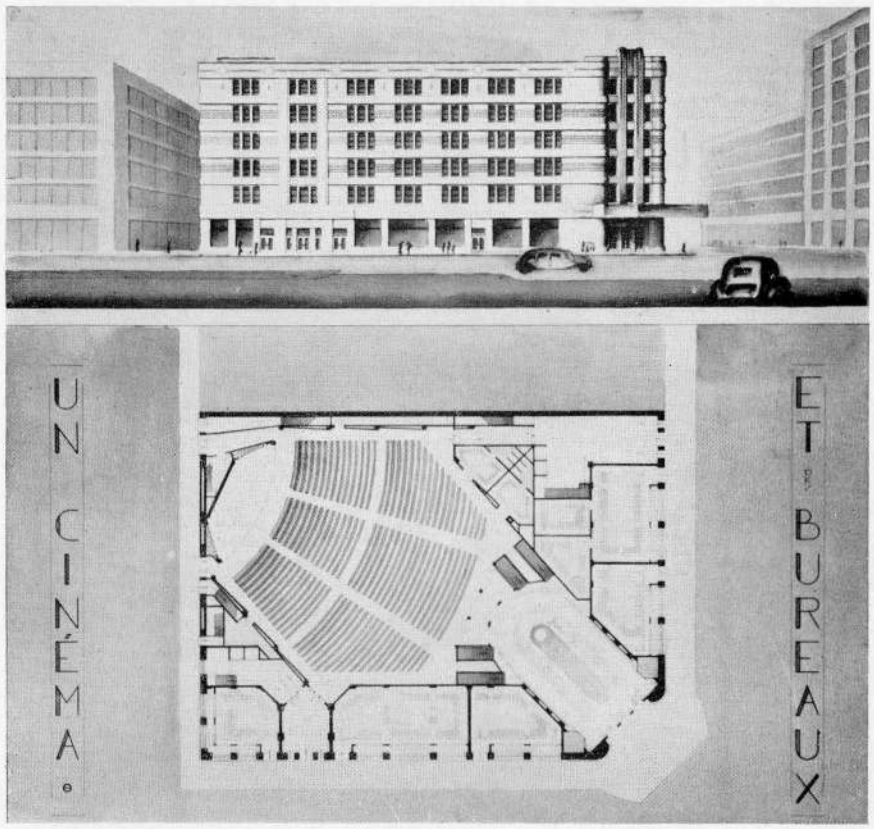
Site: A lot 150 by 250 feet at the corner of two commercial streets in a location well frequented by travellers. A lane borders one of the small sides; one large side is "mitoyen".

I—*Offices:* to be let for periods varying from a few days to months and years. They would be completely furnished. At every story 2 waiting rooms with telephones to the offices. Two large staircases—two emergency staircases—elevators—toilet rooms.

II—*Moving-picture theatre:* Vestibule—a little stage and a foyer for artists—a balcony by two staircases.

Shops on the ground floor.

The main idea is to propose a total utilization of the lot.



FIFTH YEAR

A SENIOR SCHOOL OF MILITARY AVIATION

Ernest Smith

Purpose: Superior specialized training of flying officers already well qualified in a view to constitute classes of very highly experienced technicians and aviators. The teaching would aim at the exhaustive study of all known aeronautical data extent, research and extension of researches, discoveries, inventions, new methods, theoretical and practical.

3 sections:

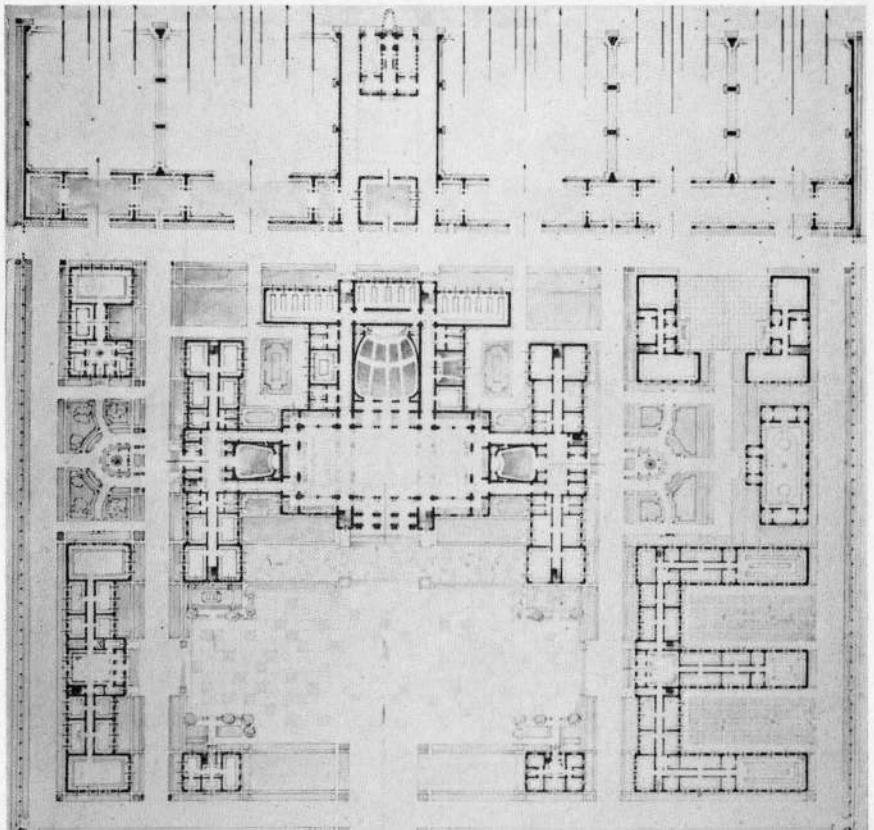
I—(200 students): for aviators already graduates of ordinary aviation schools or having already fought in battle—Superior training in the practices of aviation.

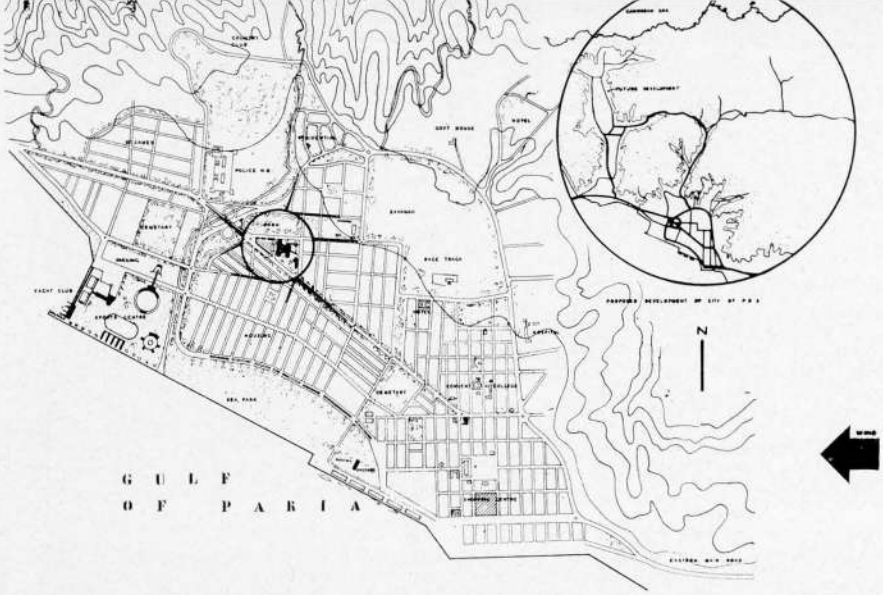
II—(200 students): would group the best students of No. 1 with especially competent aviators from the army. Perfectionment and definition of methods;

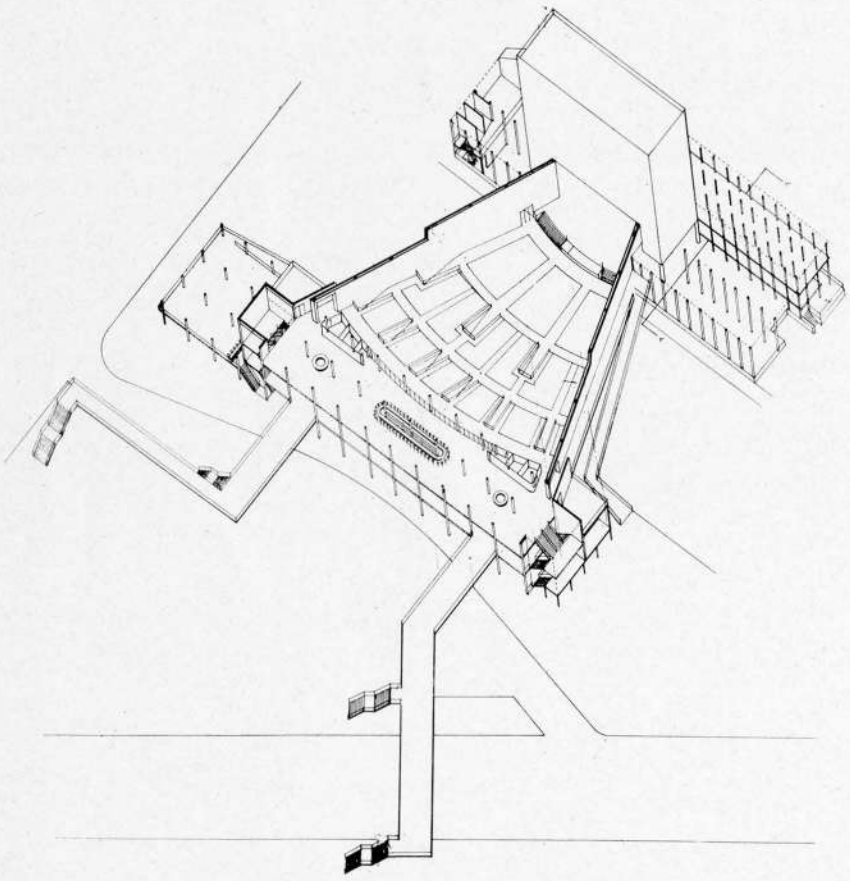
III—(100 specialists): would group men from Section II with architects and qualified engineers. Specially affected to research and invention.

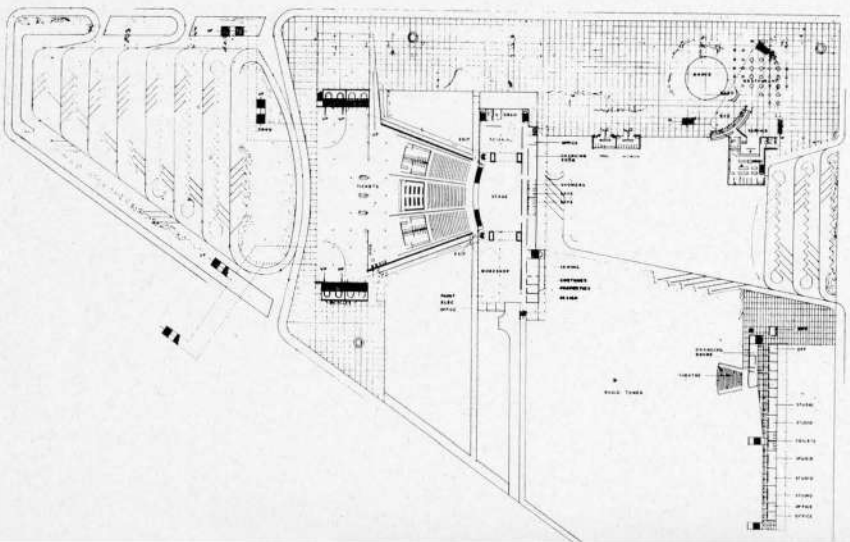
Habitation quarters—Buildings for teaching—A museum of the aeronautics—Researches—Hangars for airplanes—Services.

Site: 800 x 800 ft., bounded on right and left by the special building of an airdrome.









SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTUR
McGILL UNIVERSITY

THESIS PROBLEM

PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD, B.W.I.

Anthony C. Lewis

THESIS PROBLEM—STUDENT'S REPORT

By **ANTHONY C. LEWIS, McGill University, Montreal**

Port of Spain is the metropolis of the British West Indies. It is the cultural centre of the Islands. There is a need for the expression of this fact.

A sports centre is proposed. Playing fields for native games. A pier for water sports. A place where the Island people can meet each other and play games. A place where teams may live, eat and play together. A place to accommodate Olympic crowds.

With the sports centre there is a theatre. A total theatre for Port of Spain. A place where the community can gather to hear their local choruses and their symphonies, to see plays and movies. Such a theatre would be a Government project for the benefit of the Island. The requirements would be different in every way to those of a commercial theatre and therefore the building has been designed on the basis of the optimum rather than the minimum. The theatre serves the whole region and is related to the two main highways of the Island. The pedestrian moves through park ways from the sports centre to the theatre. Broad shady walks are projected for the whole town.

The theatre is the centre of a carnival area. There is a terrace and a garden, an open air restaurant, space for dancing and music. There is a radio station here to broadcast the fun. There is a school of drama and music and there is a school of art because it is a happy place and ideal for the exhibition of creative things.

For convenience there are three groups of seats in the theatre — Levels 1, 2, 3.

Level 1. The separate crowds have separate lounges and coat rooms but they are united into one auditorium to witness the performance on the stage. Much of the enjoyment of the theatre comes from contagion — mob infection — hence it is better to have the audience as closely related unit to unit as possible. There can be no doubt that the soffit of a balcony overhead mars the enjoyment of a performance and that those seated in a balcony feel separated from the others below. To the performer the identical holds. He wants his audience before him as a unit—a single area of faces. Also projecting balconies destroy much of the brilliancy of sound for those seated under them, most of the enrichment of reverberation which particularly enhances orchestral music is lost for them. 1,000 seats.

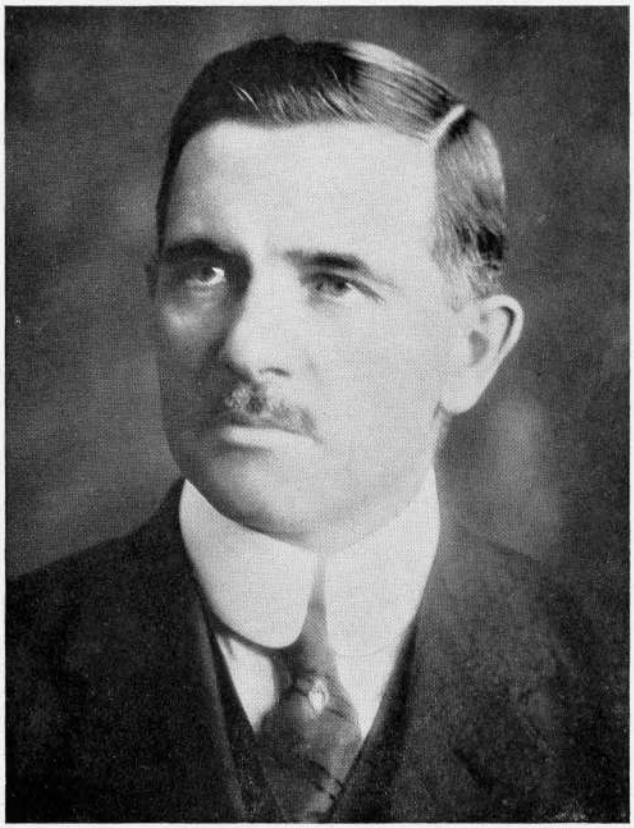
Level 2 is approached by broad stairs from Level 1 or by overhead ways from the adjoining bus stops and the car park. Free circulation for happy crowds. Those going to Level 1 go down and those for Level 3 go up. In the interval between the acts all spectators may go down into the garden. In the evening the terraces would be bright with coloured lights. In the afternoon when it might be too hot to go outside the deep lounges would be cool. It is proposed that the theatre should be entirely air-conditioned. 1,100 seats.

Level 3 may be approached from Level 2, or by two lateral ramps which rise up on either side of the auditorium from the garden. Here the queues may form, because Level 3 contains the unreserved seats.

In considering the view, the most obvious factor is obstruction and this has definitely been controlled by sight lines from the average eye level of each seat to the lowest point of the stage. But merely seeing the stage is not enough. Often when a performance is seen from above, at a steep vertical angle, the value is lost. Also the human figure is more noble seen naturally erect. This is particularly true of dancing. 900 seats.

The theatre may be put to so many uses that the maximum flexibility of the auditorium has been carefully studied. One kind of performance may be more popular than another and hence may attract a greater crowd and vice versa. But the one thing that kills the projection of a play is a half full house. Hence the seating has been planned so that a part or parts of the auditorium may be skillfully cut off by temporary partitions without damage to the acoustics or circulation.

There is an old tradition in theatre design—that no seat should be more than 125 feet from the curtain line, and no auditorium more than 1,000,000 cubic feet. But experts, both in the science and aesthetics of sound, agree that for music, brilliancy is essential for its full enjoyment. Good brilliancy is reverberation under control. In order to have reverberation the walls and ceiling reflect sound and the auditorium has been designed so that directed and conditioned sound compensates in the rear of the auditorium, for the distance from the stage. The theatre, therefore, deals with the human function of pleasure, and provides a stage and auditorium chamber where the conditions of seeing, hearing and feeling both of performance and audience approach the ideal. This is not a profit making theatre, it is rather, a permanent workshop, its core is an adequate stage, which is the central form about which the theatre has been designed. The stage is designed not only as a space where scenery is used but a space where large amounts of scenery not in use can be stored out of sight —hence the maximum storage space and stacking in addition to the stage proper. Ample hanging space above the stage is supplemented by ample stacking space on the stage level, not only for furniture, but for parts of stage settings, often the cumbersome parts containing exterior staircases, etc., which are not easily hung. Above the gridiron is situated the air-conditioning apparatus—90 feet above ground level—the opening to allow fresh air, faces the prevailing winds. The air is brought in at the top, de-humidified by the ice-plant and blown into the cool-air duct. This cool air is brought into the auditorium at the ceiling, while the return is sucked into the duct at floor level and forced up to the de-humidifier and mixed with the incoming fresh air.



ROBERT H. MACDONALD, (F), F.R.I.B.A.

On Friday, December 18th, the members of the architectural profession and citizens of Montreal from all walks of life, gathered in a great company to pay a last tribute to a friend and one of Canada's outstanding architects, Robert H. Macdonald.

Bob Macdonald had practised architecture in Canada for so long and had risen to such eminence in the profession that one thought of him as a native son, forgetting he was born in Melbourne, Australia, where three sisters and two brothers still live. It was in Melbourne, under the tutelage of Richard B. Whitaker, M.S.A., that he entered upon his career as an architect. He came to Canada in 1895, at the age of twenty years, to join the staff of Robert Findlay of Montreal.

After five years with Mr. Findlay, he embarked on the first and longest itinerary of the extensive travels which took him through many of the countries of Europe, and later to New York, and back across the Pacific to New Zealand. During 1900 he travelled almost continuously in the British Isles and in Europe, gaining a valuable background of experience, culture and first-hand knowledge of the best in architecture abroad.

From 1901 to 1912 he followed his profession successively in Montreal, New York, New Zealand, and finally returned to Montreal to settle permanently in 1907, and associated with the firm of Ross & Macfarlane. In January, 1913, the partnership of Ross & Macdonald was formed.

The work of Mr. Macdonald and his firm is too well known to the profession across Canada to require a detailed review, but such outstanding monuments to his art and skill as the Royal York Hotel, Toronto; the Dominion Square Building, Montreal; the Chateau Apartments, Montreal; the Neurological Institute, McGill University, are an indication of his professional ability and achievement.

Despite the demands of a very arduous professional career, Bob Macdonald always found or made the time to do his full share and more in the promotion of the best interests of his community and his profession. For many years he worked actively and most constructively on the Councils and Committees of the Province of Quebec Association of Architects and was elected its President in 1939. His wide experience and many contacts made his sound judgment and advice an invaluable asset to his co-workers.

On the occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Association he was awarded its Medal of Merit. In addition to these honours he was also a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada.

While he was entrusted with great responsibilities and the highest honours were heaped upon him, his personality was of that quality which met every situation with the modesty and quiet dignity which characterized his speech and life, and endeared him to all. His long illness was followed with the greatest solicitude by his many friends and his passing leaves a place difficult to fill in his profession and in Canada.

—Gordon McL. Pitts.

PROVINCIAL PAGE

ALBERTA

An account of the Edmonton Town Planning Commission which has been forwarded to the Journal, will give an idea of a modest set-up in actual practice in a city of about 100,000 population. Some years of experience of its operation suggests certain comments on its values and weaknesses:—

A valuable aspect of the system is that it is tied in with the general work of the civic services. It is not something extraneous to these, but is an extension of them. It co-operates and enlists the interest of the City Architect, the City Engineer, the Land Department, in fact all departments.

The Commission itself is appointed by the Council. The selection is apt to be somewhat hap-hazard. It would be well to adopt some regular principle of selection. There should be at least one member of the City Council to act there as its special representative. There should be at least one architect. Others should be chosen from organisations that are specially interested in the welfare of the city such as the Chamber of Commerce, the Society of Social Agencies, the medical profession, etc. A lawyer is generally a useful member, not so much for legal guidance—the City Solicitor can supply that—but when a body with varied interests meet together, a man trained in procedure is serviceable in keeping discussions to the point at issue.

The greatest need, however, is for a Planner, trained in town planning in the sense of the town planning procedure adopted. This training should be of a wide and special nature such as is not available at present. For some years it will have to be developed by actual experience in the post. The status of the Town Planner must be something different from that of the ordinary civic employee carrying on a routine process. He must have the standing of an advisor and an initiator of projects. He has full and free access to all civic statistics, for these form the basis of his work. He keeps a constant survey over the physical condition and well-being of his city and its citizens, informs himself of all advances being made in other cities, keeps progress charts of the state of the city in various aspects, keeps the public informed with regard to these at intervals as frequent as practicable.

The Town Planner may be an architect, no other profession so nearly approaches what is required; but his work is not, properly speaking, architecture, it is the preparation for the architecture of others. To a large extent his work should be that of educating his people in the appreciation of amenity of environment. Most of our cities are, in maior part, a disgraceful mess. His conception of them should be that of pleasant living and working places. He should be continuously indicating how this can be practically approached and should be able to point out the progress he is making.

There has been no one commissioned to do this kind of work in the past. It is necessary for the future.

—*Cecil S. Burgess.*

BRITISH COLUMBIA

On December 4th last the A.I.B.C. held its 23rd Annual Meeting again in the spacious Social Suite of the Hotel Vancouver, and was fairly well attended considering the number of members who at present are serving in either the Air, Naval or Army Forces.

The only matters of importance debated—outside of the usual business routine—was the Lawson report on a Central Planning and Construction Authority for Post War Construction, which was read at the Meeting. The Meeting decided to postpone approving of the report for a Special Meeting to be called later, so as to give the members an opportunity to further study Mr. Lawson's report in detail. In the meantime, a copy was forwarded to each member and a Special Meeting was held in the Council Room of the Institute on January 15th. After much discussion, the report was finally approved.

The other important debate at the Annual Meeting was whether we should send a delegate to attend the Annual Meeting of the R.A.I.C. to be held in Montreal on the 18th, 19th and 20th of February. The arguments "for" and "against" were so many that finally the Meeting moved to leave the matter in the hands of the new incoming Council.

This was done, and a questionnaire sent out to each member, but unfortunately the result of the vote was 9 for sending a delegate and 15 against. This is to be regretted, but, however, the old saying "Every cloud has a silver lining" was again true, for Mr. Van Norman volunteered to attend the Meeting at no expense to the Institute as he will be in Montreal on other business at the time of the Annual Meeting. This is very fortunate, and we wish him every success, and also extend to him our thanks.

Mr. George N. Evans was elected President for 1943 Council, succeeding Mr. H. Blackadder, and Mr. J. Graham Johnson, of Victoria, was elected Vice-President. Two new Members were added to the Council—Mr. John Porter of the firm of McCarter & Nairn, and Mr. Percy Underwood. Mr. Harry Barratt succeeded Mr. Percy Underwood as Honorary Secretary, and Mr. S. M. Eveleigh was unanimously elected Honorary Treasurer again. We are happy to report that Mr. Eveleigh, although still confined to his bed, is able to continue his keen and valuable interest in the affairs of the A.I.B.C.; R.A.I.C., and the R.I.B.A.

The Dinner following the Annual Meeting was well attended when over 40 Members and Guests sat down to an excellent meal, followed by a good entertainment.

The Guest Speaker — Mr. G. G. McGeer, M.P. — gave a splendid Address on "Post War Development for the Province of British Columbia". The Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., M.P.L., replied to the toast to the Province, and His Worship, Mayor J. W. Cornett, replied to the toast to the City of Vancouver, ably proposed by Professor Frank Buck.

The lecture on "Engineering and Architecture" by H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, Esq., Past President of the R.I.B.A., and published in the November issue of the *Journal* is to be commended, and it is hoped that it will be read by every Registered Architect in Canada.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. C. Elwood Watkins, who passed away early in December. Mr. Watkins lived in Victoria, where he practised his profession successfully for many years. He will be greatly missed by his numerous friends, who held him in high esteem.

At this time we take this opportunity of extending to our President, Mr. Gordon McL. Pitts; his Council, and to our Eastern Colleagues, "A Happy New Year".

It is too much to expect that it will not bring much trial and tribulation, which I am sure each and every one of us will meet with courage.

—*William Fredk. Gardiner.*

MANITOBA

The Manitoba Association of Architects held their thirty-eighth Annual Meeting on January 18th at the Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg. It was a very cold evening with temperature about thirty degrees below zero; this no doubt kept some of our members away. Notwithstanding this, it was bright and cheery inside and the Annual dinner proved most enjoyable. Our guests were Mr. McPhillips, representing the Manitoba Land Surveyors; Mr. Adamson, the Association of Professional Engineers, and Mr. Dowse, the Winnipeg Builders' Exchange. Our president, Mr. Gilbert Parfitt, welcomed these and also read a letter from Mayor Coulter of Winnipeg, expressing regrets at not being able to be present.

Following the dinner, four technicolor sound films were shown illustrating town planning, past and present, and also phases of house building under the National Housing plan.

At the Annual Meeting, Mr. Robert E. Moore was elected the new president with Mr. Percy Over, vice-president. Three members were elected to the council, the personnel of which is now: C. W. U. Chivers, Wm. Fingland, Gilbert Parfitt, E. Parkinson, D. A. Ross, J. A. Russell and George Teeter.

A report was received from the retiring president on the work of the council during the past year. He also gave the membership of the Association as 29 resident, 12 non-resident, 4 new members, 6 honorary and 5 on active service.

Professor Russell gave a report in connection with the Architectural Department at the University. He gave several interesting examples of the effect the war had on the work and the swing to engineering subjects. He also mentioned a series of lectures on the art of camouflage. The Association scholarship which was won this year by Ronald Whiteley, was again renewed.

The auditors, Messrs. Moore and Parkinson, reported on the financial statement which was satisfactory for these times. The Association had purchased a Victory Bond at the last issue.

—*E. Fitz Munn.*

ONTARIO

In an address to the Canadian Construction Association, at its annual meeting, W. L. Somerville reviewed the housing situation in Canada and discussed post-war measures for meeting the needs of low-income groups. He pointed out that the general situation after the war will be bad enough, as the shortage in 1939 was greater than in 1914, and the war is likely to be longer; but for at least 60 per cent. of the population it will be close to desperate, as the cheapest housing that private enterprise can produce is beyond their means, so that their needs—if they are to be met at all—must be recognised as a national responsibility. He showed that on the basis of wages received many of these people should pay no more than ten dollars per month in rent, leaving a wide gap to be bridged by such financial devices as may be most appropriate to our circumstances in this country. As examples of what might be done in this regard he suggested the provision of money at a very low rate of interest by the Dominion Government and the remission of taxes by provincial and municipal authorities.

There seems to be little doubt that something of this order may be the only practicable way of solving this problem; but it leaves unanswered a few questions which ought to be of some concern to people who profess to believe in the democratic way of life. After all, it does seem a little strange that below a certain income-level folks should have their shelter prescribed for them, while those above it prescribe their own, generally to the detriment of the countryside and the perpetuation of ugliness in our towns. It might be well, before we plunge too enthusiastically into the details of Reconstruction, to agree upon a few basic principles for the type of society we have in mind.

—*Gladstone Evans.*

QUEBEC

Les restrictions rendent plus difficiles et plus rares les évènements et le récit s'en amaigrit d'autant. En urbanisme toutefois, nous avons à signaler le décès de M. H. A. Terreault, directeur du service d'urbanisme à la ville de Montréal. Ce service a été créé il y a deux ans, mais depuis toujours M. Terreault symbolisait dans sa personne l'intérêt que la ville de Montréal se permettait d'accorder au sujet. Malgré son dévouement à la cause et sa perséverance cet homme n'aura vu se réaliser aucun des souhaits qu'il formulait. Il aura toutefois accumulé suffisamment de renseignements et fait admettre une idée confuse de zoning, dans l'arène municipale. Il aura été le précurseur et gardera ce mérite d'avoir maintenu le principe de vie. Son successeur, M. Aimé Cousineau, Ingénieur Sanitaire à la ville avait été tout récemment nommé Assistant du Docteur Groulx, directeur du Service de l'Hygiène: il a plusieurs titres à notre confiance. Diplomé d'Harvard, il est professeur d'urbanisme à l'école Polytechnique depuis de nombreuses années. Il a été mêlé très activement au mouvement d'intérêt que suscite l'urbanisme à Montréal. Il a fait partie des groupements et différents comités qui depuis plusieurs années poussent à la diffusion des l'idées. Sauf erreur, c'est lui qui a contribué à la venue au Canada de M. Greber si connu par ses travaux de Philadelphie, lequel donna sous les auspices de l'école Polytechnique une série de leçons et qui est devenu par la suite urbaniste conseil du gouvernement fédéral à Ottawa. Il a eu également l'occasion de consulter une autre célébrité, Sir Robert Unwin, ce très grand urbaniste anglais de l'après-guerre 1914. De même, fut-il en relation avec l'architecte Beaudouin venu en 1937 à Ottawa pour la Légation de France, qui fut en 1940 urbaniste conseil de la ville de Capetown, aujourd'hui professeur d'urbanisme à la faculté de Genève (Suisse).

M. Cousineau est un technicien. Il a une grande expérience de l'administration municipale; c'est donc sous des auspices très favorables que nous le voyons arriver là. Il mérite en particulier la confiance des architectes. Il représente une nouvelle et considérable possibilité de collaboration entre les ingénieurs et nous, seule susceptible d'un résultat. M. Cousineau arrive à un moment grave, où l'action parait urgente; nous lui souhaitons le meilleur succès.

Montréal reste toujours sous le coup de cette insuffisance de logements dont nous parlions. Après avoir cru que le War Time Housing offrirait une solution au problème, on reste sans nouvelles précises. La discussion semble porter sur le caractère permanent ou temporaire de la construction. La solution ne semble pas si facile puisqu'en d'autres villes du Canada où l'on avait étudié le problème avant Montréal, l'accord n'est pas encore complet. Le point mort de la construction amène des perturbations graves et sérieuses dans les bureaux d'architectes. Afin de faire le point, l'association de la province fait une enquête auprès de ses membres et pose des questions précises concernant la pratique—à titre de patron ou d'employé—et sur la nature et la proportion des travaux au cours des toutes dernières années. On constatera sans doute que les architectes comparativement n'ont pas été généreusement requis en tant que tels, d'apporter le secours de leur expérience et connaissances professionnelles dans les travaux de guerre.

On vient d'adresser les planches imprimées du concours d'architecture pour la petite habitation paysanne, dans la province de Québec. Le sujet du concours a été proposé par l'office du tourisme, afin de maintenir dans nos campagnes un aspect et une tenue, en train de disparaitre complètement.

Excellentes présentations. L'étude—est fine. Le programme lui-même tend à fixer définitivement les formes anciennes adaptées à l'intérieur—pour un usage actuel—par les cuisines et les salles de bain, sans doute également de revêtement des cloisons et une certaine forme bourgeoise de vivre.

Le résultat met en vedette l'enseignement du professeur Traquair. L'élégance est un souci qu'il a passé à ses disciples et qui rayonne jusqu'à Québec même. Ce serait amusant de retraçer ce qui reste du goût français et ce que la correction anglaise vient ajouter. Au point de vue des résultats de cette généreuse initiative, on peut se demander s'il ne s'est pas glissé au point de départ une erreur d'interprétation. Notre architecture approximativement normande ou bretonne est abandonnée déjà depuis longtemps par les paysans. Il faut le regretter puisque rien n'est venu remplaçer avec avantage. Toutefois est-il réalisable, utile et indispensable de retourner à ces formes? Même si l'emploi de la pierre reste possible, il semble que l'approche du problême—qui est réel et grave—se pose différemment. On accepte avec plaisir qu'on puisse se créér un décor charmant de cette sorte; on voit difficilement le cultivateur utiliser—tel quel—aucun des plans primés soit pour des raisons de coût ou personnelles, et sinon de bon goût-de préférence.

Même dans les campagnes la vie change et il faut à la population des moyens plus simples et plus expéditifs et plus faciles à mettre en œuvre. Donc un compte régulier à tenir de la mode, des tendances du jour, d'un certain goût des matériaux nouveaux manufacturés. Le peuple s'intéresse comme qui que ce soit—humainement—à la nouveauté, au changement et si on vient lui offrir des matériaux légers, des surfaces polies faciles à entretenir, colorées, il est normal qu'il s'y arrête et qu'il s'y plaise; son ignorance profonde est un élément étranger à ses qualités intuitives et c'est notre fait à nous architectes de les soutenir par des connaissances acquises. Ici, je crains qu'un fois de plus nous ayons contribué à maintenir et renforçer cette croyance généreusement répandue par ceux qui ne nous aiment pas (il faut bien dire également que nous avons prêté le flanc): les architectes sont des rêveurs et s'entêtent à vouloir sous prétexte d'esthétique contrecarrer les nécessités d'ordre pratique. Sans abandonner la maison dans le goût ancien, je crois qu'il faudrait *compléter* par une étude exempte de toutes préoccupations de style, parfaitement libre de tout "à priori" et qui se préoccuperait uniquement de dresser des plans commodes, souples, faciles d'exécution et économiques. Les silhouettes et les formes qui en sortiront seront forcément simples; l'aspect général en sera élégant garanti à l'avance par la qualité technique de ceux qui les étudieront. On ne voit pas en quoi l'aspect de nos campagnes souffrira de ce rajeunissement, en quoi l'esprit de nos pères sera étouffé par notre souhait de créér comme ils l'ont fait nos propres formes d'abri, conformément à nos besoins d'hommes vivant au vingtième siècle. N'oublions pas que si le paysan a perdu tellement depuis qu'il a abandonné la vieille architecture de se pères, c'est qu'il a perdu parallèlement tout appui et tout point de comparaison et qu'il est obligé tout seul de s'en choisir puisque le fossé est devenu si profond entre ceux qui ont continué d'apprendre et lui-même. Ne le forçons pas à retourner en arrière. Il ne nous suivra pas et si nous n'utilisons que le passé en bloc, nous n'en retirerons que du discrédit. Ceci n'est pas un plaidoyer pour l'architecture soidisant moderne; mais un simple point de vue et le désir de voir user de nos forces avec le maximum de rendement et de logique ordinaire.

La maison du type ancien, force en plan à une proportion nettement rectangulaire; verticalement à une silhouette, à des dispositions d'ouverture, à des emplacements fixés à l'avance par la tradition. On sent que les concurrents ont été gênés par ces conditions; il faut donc en conclure qu'ils s'en sont tirés élégamment: Rien n'empêche un succès égal, en partant de l'autre pied. Deux renseignements d'actualité:

1o.—M. John Tracey architecte de Colorado—Californie réclamait à la succession de Mortimer D. Davies—de Montréal—décédé des suites d'un accident d'auto, en septembre 1940, les honoraires de ses plans et devis pour une villa de $15,000. à construire à Nassau-Bahamas.

L'exécuteur-testamentaire M. Gorden Hyde prétendit que deux conditions incluses au contrat signé le 4 mars 1940, n'avaient pas été remplies à savoir que M. Mortimer Davies ne construirait que s'il devenait citoyen de Nassau et s'il pouvait exporter des capitaux du Canada.

L'Honorable Juge Thysdale estimant la preuve de la défense insuffisante exigea de l'exécuteur-testamentaire le paiement de $1,000. américains à titre d'honoraires dus à l'architecte.

2o.—D'après un relevé il a été accordé par la ville de Montréal en 1942—des permis de construction pour la somme de $12,200,000. Un quart environ de ces permis—représentant un total de dépense de $3,860,000. a été accordé sur des plans d'architecte.

—Marcel Parizeau.

QUEBEC

The fifty-second annual meeting of the Province of Quebec Association of Architects was held at the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec City, on January 21st. The morning session opened at ten o'clock with Charles David in the chair and fifty members, including a good delegation from Montreal and a number from other cities, were in attendance. Reports of chairmen of committees were received and other official business promptly put through, leaving discussion to be taken care of under new business.

At noon the secretary, Maurice Payette, reported an exceptionally heavy vote for new members of Council and then read the report of the scrutineers. R. E. Bostrom was installed as President. Other officers for the forthcoming year are: First vice-president, Eugene Larose; second vice-president, Harold Lawson; honorary treasurer, Oscar Beaule; honorary secretary, Maurice Payette; councillors, Gordon McL. Pitts, H. Laberge, B. Tanguay, J. R. Smith, Emile Venne, Lucien Parent, R. H. Wiggs, John Bland, E. L. Denoncourt and A. J. C. Paine. Delegates to the Royal Architectural Institue of Canada: Gordon McL. Pitts, Charles David, J. R. Smith, Oscar Beaule, Maurice Payette, Harold Lawson and Eugene Larose.

After the results of the election were given the meeting opened for new business and discussion. The period that remained before the luncheon was so short it was decided to resume discussion at an evening session, but a few members had time to speak and one of them, C. Davis Goodman, furnished an innovation by reciting a poem of his own composition in the vein of Dr. Drummond wherein he covered woes and tribulations of the profession and the answers as well. It was a nice piece of work, very original, and was very much enjoyed in spite of its grimness.

Mr. Bostrom presided at the luncheon. Brief addresses were given by Hon. Oscar Drouin, Minister for Municipal Affairs; Mayor Lucien Borne, Gordon McL. Pitts, President of the Institute, and Oscar Beaule. The principal speaker was Maurice Hebert, Director of the Provincial Tourist Bureau, who gave an informative and eloquent account of arts and crafts activities in the province under the title "Reveil du Sentiment des choses-de chez-nous."

Towards the end of the luncheon, with simple ceremony, a certificate of membership was given to Miss Pauline Roy, first woman member of the Association, and to Mr. John Roxburgh Smith the Medal of Honour "as a token of esteem and in recognition of services to the profession." Both presentations were very popular.

At five in the afternoon a reception was held in one of the large galleries of the Museum where there was a display of designs for farmhouses awarded prizes and mentions in the recent competition sponsored by the Tourist Bureau. The designs were nicely mounted on screens in the middle of the well-lighted gallery and the arrangement was enhanced by an exhibition of pine furniture and prints of Old Quebec in the same room. These were from the collection of Mr. W. H. Coverdale, President of Canada Steamship Lines. Hon. Adelard Godbout, Premier of the province, was present and upon request addressed a few words to the architects to which Mr. David gave appropriate response. Mr. Godbout in the course of his remarks showed he had an appreciation of the value of "*urbanisme*" and threw a challenge to the architects to bring forth suggestions.

The evening meeting was for discussion only and those who came took full advantage of the opportunity to express themselves until a late hour. Some of the local fellows considered this the best part of the annual meeting.

—Harold Lawson.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

The ladies are cordially invited to attend the general functions of the Annual Meeting, particularly the informal dinner on Friday evening, February 19th, and the formal dinner on Saturday evening, February 20th. Further details regarding the Annual Meeting are to be found in the Programme published in the January issue. *(See also page 28)*

BOOK REVIEW

By ANTHONY ADAMSON

"Shelter for Living." Ernest Pickering, Professor of Architecture, University of Cincinnati. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Price $3.75

This book has a fine, restrained brown paper cover. Tough and shiny, very nicely lettered. The cloth cover harmonizes well. It is beautifully got out and even has an elegant book-plate with two men and a girl in Tudor costume walking in front of some 19th Century buildings, but it seemed to me to be one of those laborious books which people write in order to get their own ideas straight. Professor Pickering no doubt became a better Professor in writing it, whether a student or architect would be better for reading it is problematical.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

Neither sorrow nor anger moves me to answer the complaint in last month's issue re my humble efforts on the Provincial Page. A provincial correspondent has to be case-hardened against all such weaknesses as I discovered very shortly after accepting responsibility for the Ontario Notes. In the first flush of enthusiasm I sent a letter to the secretaries of all the Ontario Chapters, asking them to send me any items of news which might be of general interest, so that the column should cover the Province as thoroughly as space would permit. *Not one reply—or even acknowledgment—was received.* (This gratifying performance has since been repeated in connection with public relations).

Nevertheless, it is not to be tolerated that any part of the *Journal* should exhibit even the faintest symptoms of myopic circumspickyism, or justice be denied to those whose doings have gone unwept, unhonoured and unsung simply because I lack the gift of second sight. My purpose in writing is to suggest what appears to be the only practical solution, viz:—that one of the pioneers on the outposts of Empire be asked to take over the Ontario Notes. I shall be more than happy to relinquish—along with the work, of course—all honours and emoluments; and will undertake to reply to all letters received and, further, to supply my successor with as much information as the outposts have sent to me.

Very hopefully yours,

—Gladstone Evans.

NEW BRUNSWICK

The Annual Meeting of the Architects' Association of New Brunswick was held at 8 p.m. on the 29th of January, 1943, at the office of the Association, 13 Germain Street, Saint John, N.B., with the President, H. Claire Mott, presiding.

During the year the Association lost one of its members through the death of Mr. Kenneth Campbell of Fredericton, who, at the time of his passing was employed in connection with National Defense work in the Province of Nova Scotia.

One license to practice was issued to a non-resident.

During the meeting, members expressed considerable concern over the very broad interpretation of Government Wartime Regulations affecting technical personnel, and it was decided that the official delegates to the R.A.I.C. be asked to obtain all possible information on this matter. Reports submitted showed that although there has been a marked decrease in private construction generally, in New Brunswick in the past year the majority of the Association members have been reasonably active, some members engaged specifically in special wartime projects. The Reports of the Treasurer and Auditor show the Association in a satisfactory financial position.

At the Council meeting immediately following the Annual meeting, the officers were elected for the year 1943.

President: Garnet W. Wilson. Vice-President: H. S. Brenan. Secretary-Treasurer: H. Claire Mott. Registrar: H. Claire Mott. Examining Board: W. W. Alward, J. K. Gillies, J. L. Heans, H. S. Brenan, H. C. Mott. Auditor: H. S. Brenan. Exhibition Committee G. W. Wilson. Delegates to R.A.I.C: J. K. Gillies, H. C. Mott.

Mr. G. W. Wilson reported regarding work of Saint John, N.B., Post-War Committee being formed by the Common Council of the City of Saint John to work in conjunction with city and county officials in connection with post-war construction, etc.

The earlier tentative appointment of Mr. Wilson and Mr. Mott to serve on the Post-War Committee was confirmed and all members of Council expressed a willingness to contribute all possible assistance to the work of the Committee.

—H. Claire Mott.

NOTICE

The lunch originally arranged for the Ritz-Carlton on February 19th will now take the form of a buffet lunch at the McGill Union.