

THE  
JOURNAL  
ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL  
INSTITUTE OF CANADA



Vol. XIII, No. 3

MARCH, 1936

TORONTO



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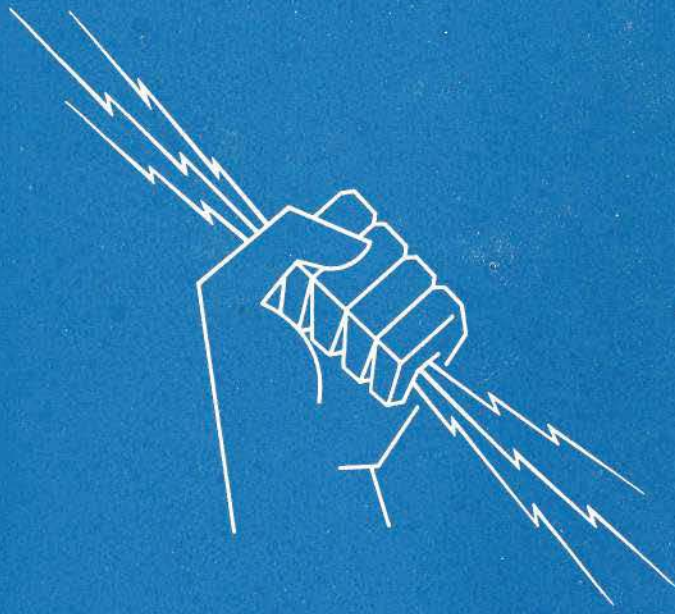
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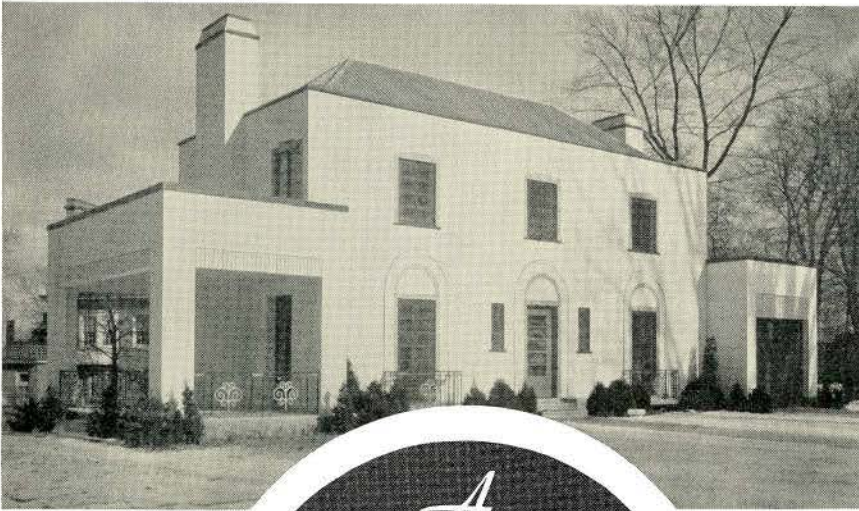
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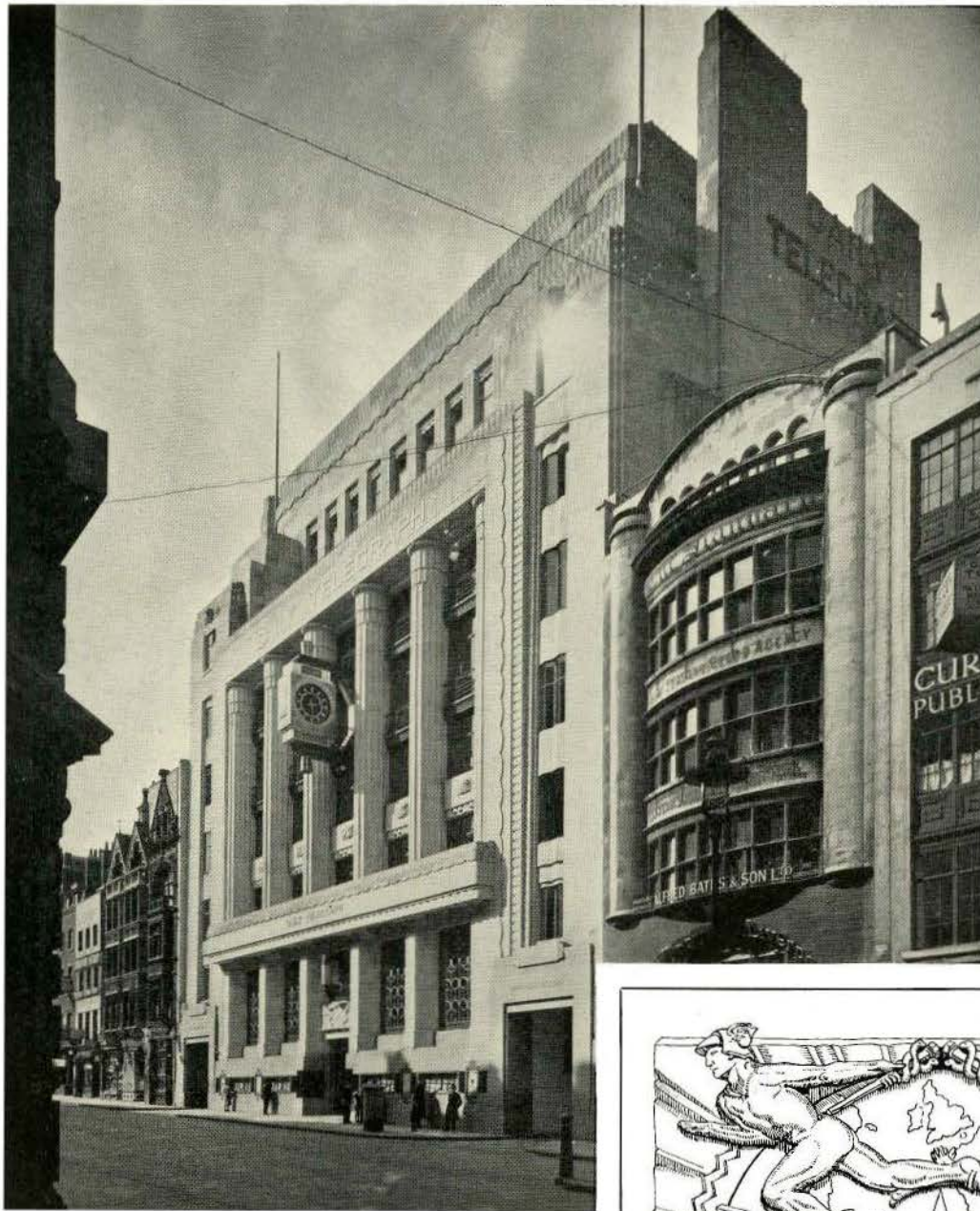
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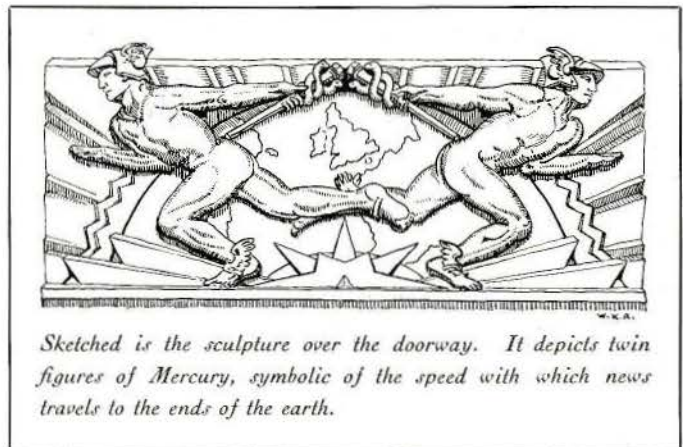




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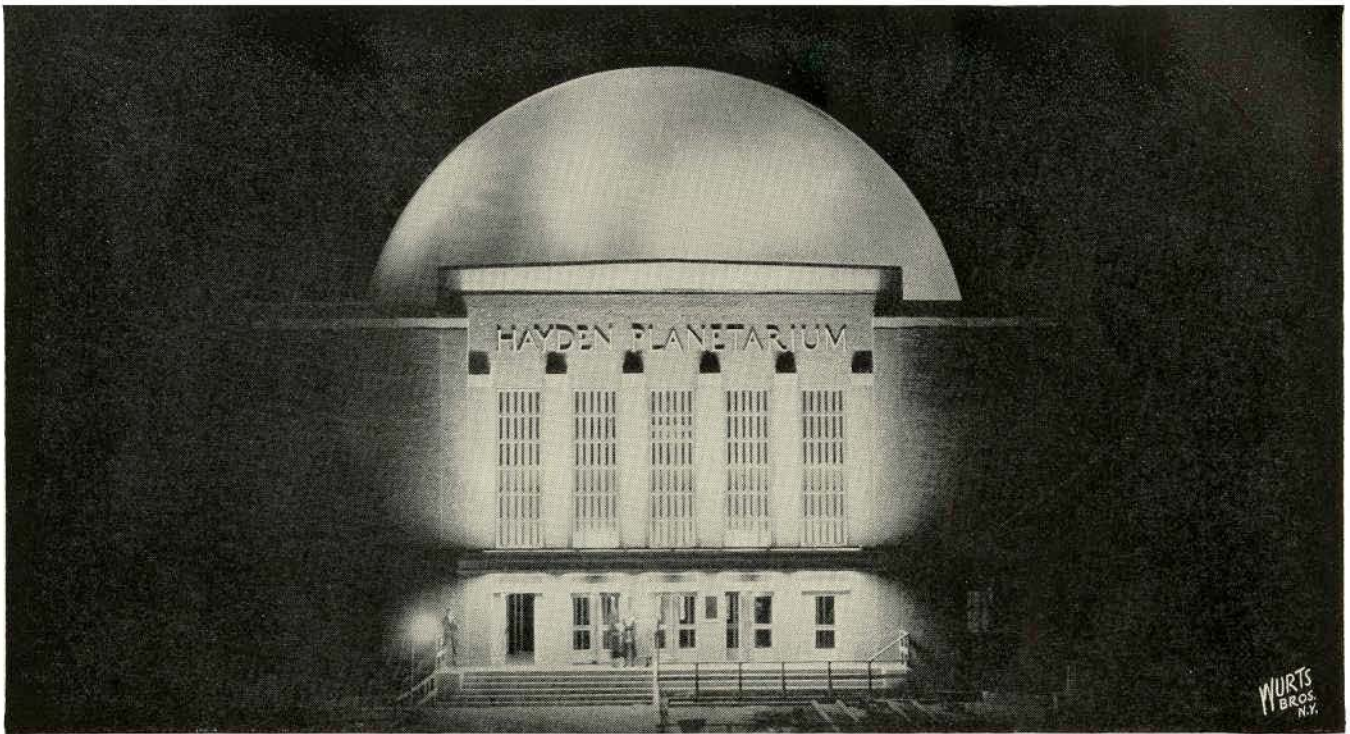
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# THE JOURNAL

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

Serial No. 127

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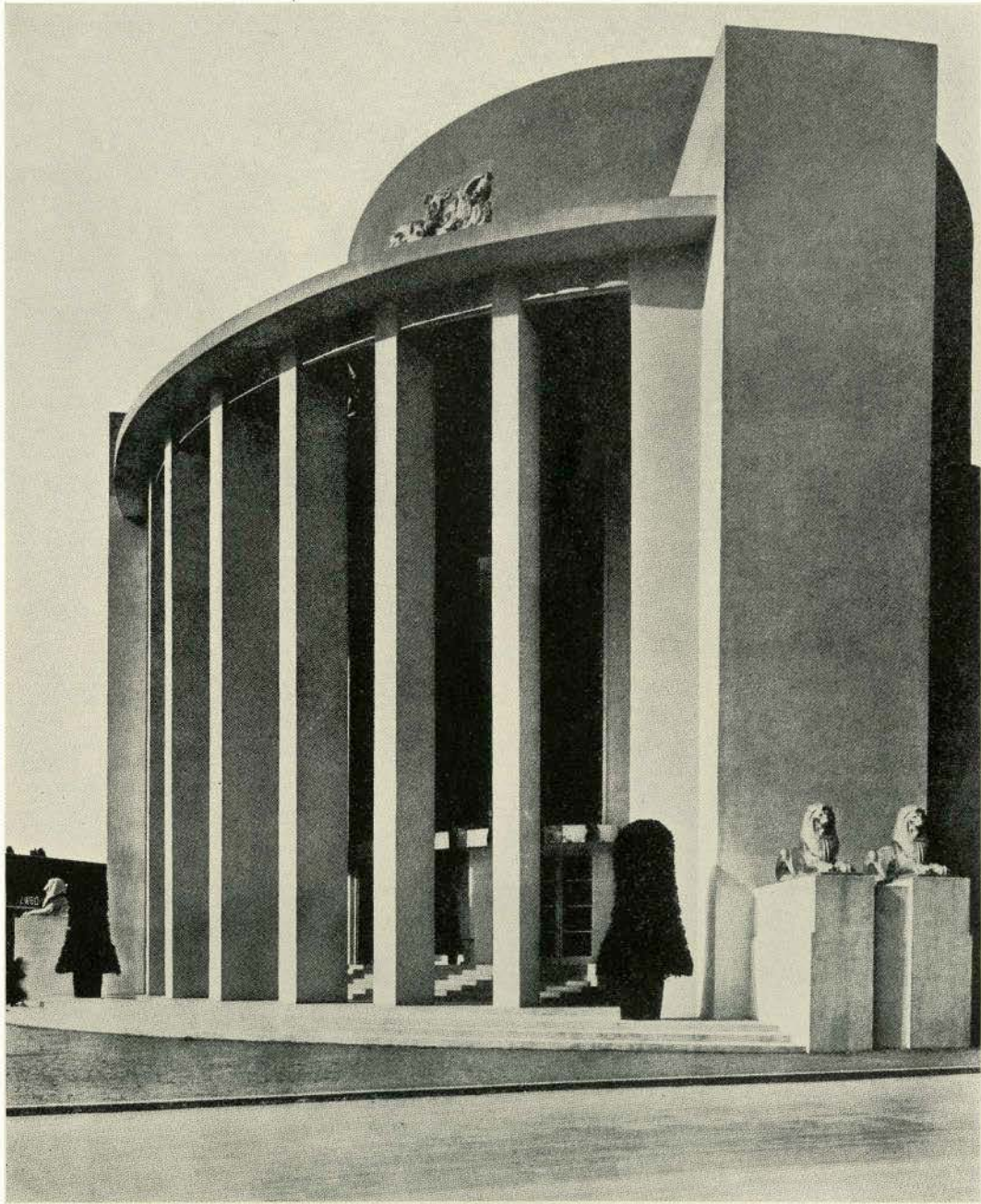
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THE BRITISH PAVILION AT THE BRUSSELS EXHIBITION, 1935

*Howard Robertson, F.R.I.B.A., Architect*





W. L. SOMERVILLE, F.R.A.I.C.  
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## AWARDS IN R.A.I.C. STUDENT COMPETITIONS

**T**HIS YEAR'S R.A.I.C. student competitions were conducted along similar lines to those of last year. The titles of the problems were announced to the schools one month prior to the actual time when the students were to go "en loge" to make their preliminary esquisses.

The programme for the senior problem, limited to fourth and fifth year students, was prepared by W. S. Maxwell, F.R.A.I.C. The esquisses were made under surveillance without criticism from anyone, and the students were allowed sixty actual working hours to prepare their finished drawings. The subject of this competition was "An Exhibition Building" the requirements of which were as follows:

In an international art exhibition to be held in a Canadian city, from May until November inclusive, separate exhibition buildings are to be erected to accommodate architecture, sculpture, painting (retrospective and modern). The graphic arts, arts and crafts, books, etc., and the special pavilion, which is the subject for this competition. These buildings are for temporary use, but it is desired that they represent the best in modern design, ample funds being available for the purpose.

An internationally known corporation, whose business is the making of cameras, television apparatus and radios, intends to erect a building which will suitably house its exhibits and express in conception and decoration the modern nature of its products.

Facing a lateral street is the 350 feet wide lot which has opposite its central axis a main avenue leading to it. The depth of the lot is 210 feet.

There are no limitations imposed as to cubic contents or cost. The special requirements are:

*A hall or small theatre:* Equipped with a moderate sized stage and a screen for moving pictures, about 20 feet wide, seating capacity about 400 persons. The floor to be sloped. The projection apparatus will go in a small booth, beyond the wall opposite the stage. Convenient to the theatre, provide an entrance hall, and administration office, one room for the director which may also be used as a reception room.

*An exhibition gallery for photographs:* Top lighted; floor area about 1800 square feet. For exhibiting cameras and other apparatus a connected series of about six side lighted rooms of moderate size is required near the exhibition gallery. It is not necessary to have all these rooms in one group.

*An exhibition gallery for radios and phonographs:* Top lighted; floor area about 1800 square feet. For exhibiting radios and phonographs.

For an exhibition showing the historic development of radios and phonographs, a series of about six connected side lighted exhibition rooms of moderate size is required. It is not necessary to have all these rooms in one group, but they should be near the exhibition gallery.

It is assumed that sound demonstrations and talks on radio will take place in the theatre.

*Storage:* Storage space, wash room etc., may be placed in a basement or in a mezzanine floor.

*Tower:* Provide a tower or two towers (or masts) of moderate height. They will function as receivers of radio waves and may be incorporated into the building, or be independent of it.

*Loggia:* A loggia or loggias are to be incorporated in the design. Back of the columns or piers the wall is to receive a decoration of photo-murals. This process of photographic enlargement in monochrome or full colour, is now possible on stucco and the company wishes to demonstrate its decorative possibilities on the exterior of the building.

*Stucco:* The exterior of the building will be finished in cream coloured stucco.

*Landscape:* Include the planning of the grounds. Water being available, its use for reflecting basins, etc., is suggested. In the grounds of the exhibition are to be lighting standards which will also function as loud speakers for radio programmes.

The programme for the junior problem, limited to second and third year students was prepared by Marcel Parizeau, M.R.A.I.C., and the students were allowed forty-five actual working hours to prepare their finished drawings. The subject of this competition was "A Community Hall," the requirements of which were as follows:

The present economic conditions bring problems of importance before governments and municipalities. For instance, business and industrial depression and also regulation of working hours put a large proportion of the working class in a state of nearly permanent unemployment.

It is natural to fear that the population will not know how to spend, for the best, these idle hours and the fact that so many people are unoccupied will become more and more a public nuisance.

In this case we are entitled to believe that the different governments will take steps not only to procure work, but also to contribute to the organization of amusement centres in every town or city.

In these centres the population will have occasion to meet, and will find opportunity of indulging in sports of all kinds and of improving intellectually by public lectures, concerts, theatre plays and so forth.

We suppose that the municipality of an industrial town has received authorization and financial support by the government to open a public competition on the following programme.

*A community hall* with small stage located in the park of a modern industrial village.

On one side of the public square the town owns an important vacant lot; the site is large enough to install the amusement centre, for which the following is required:

*First:* A campus with stadium, being utilized in winter time as a skating rink; tennis courts, space for children's playground, etc. *No plan of this is required.* The object of the competition is the design of:

*Second:* A community hall, with all its requirements not to exceed 160 feet in length:

(a) A vestibule or access-portico, that could surround, if wanted, the whole construction.

(b) A janitor's room, a small reception and office room for the administration committee.

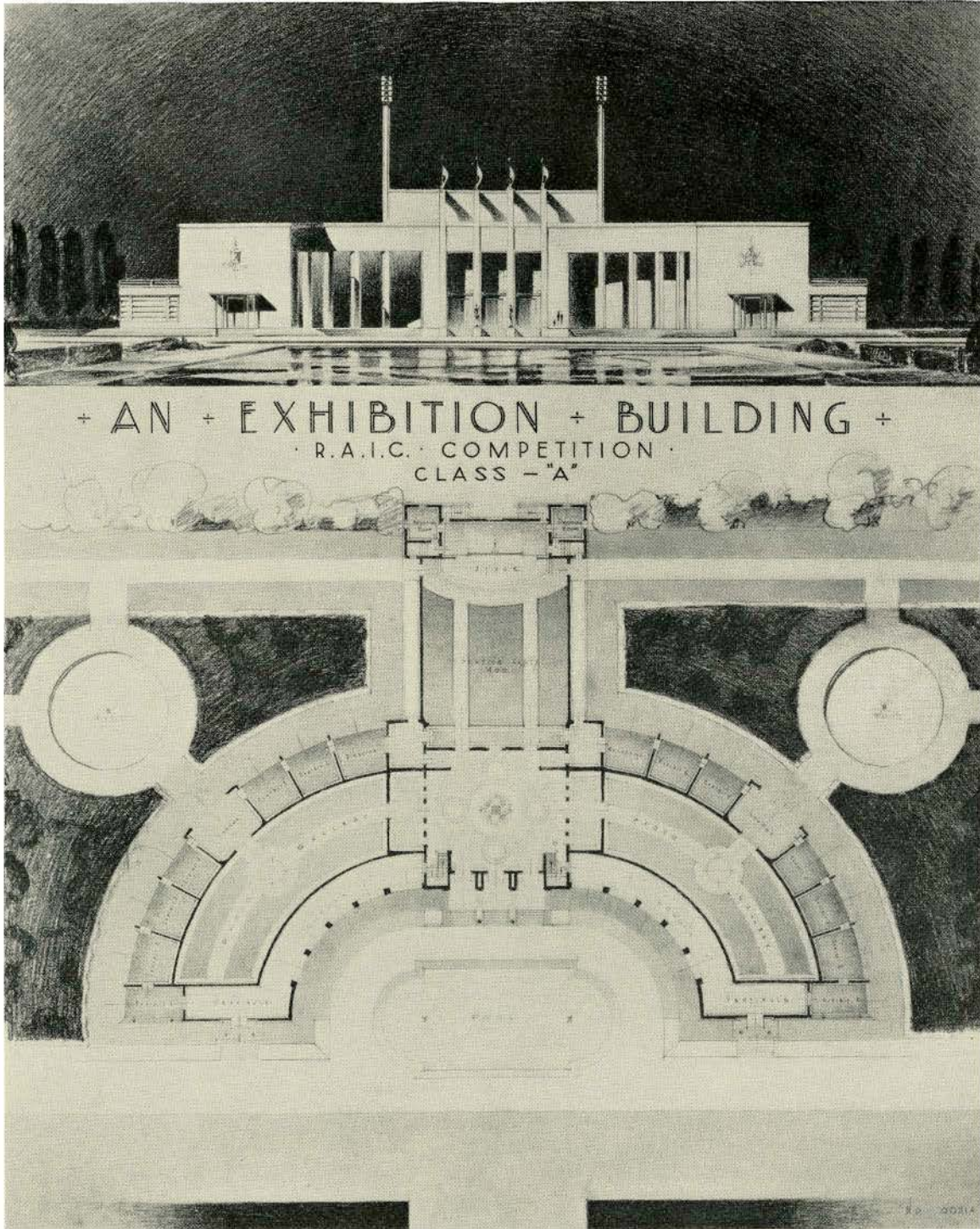
(c) The hall has a seating capacity of 500 persons. This hall is to be used as a dancing hall or for meetings, lectures, concerts, theatre plays, moving picture shows, etc.

(d) A small stage with two small rooms adjoining.

Competitors have to provide for a projection cabin and screen.

(c) A bar with tables where refreshments could be served, of easy access from the hall.

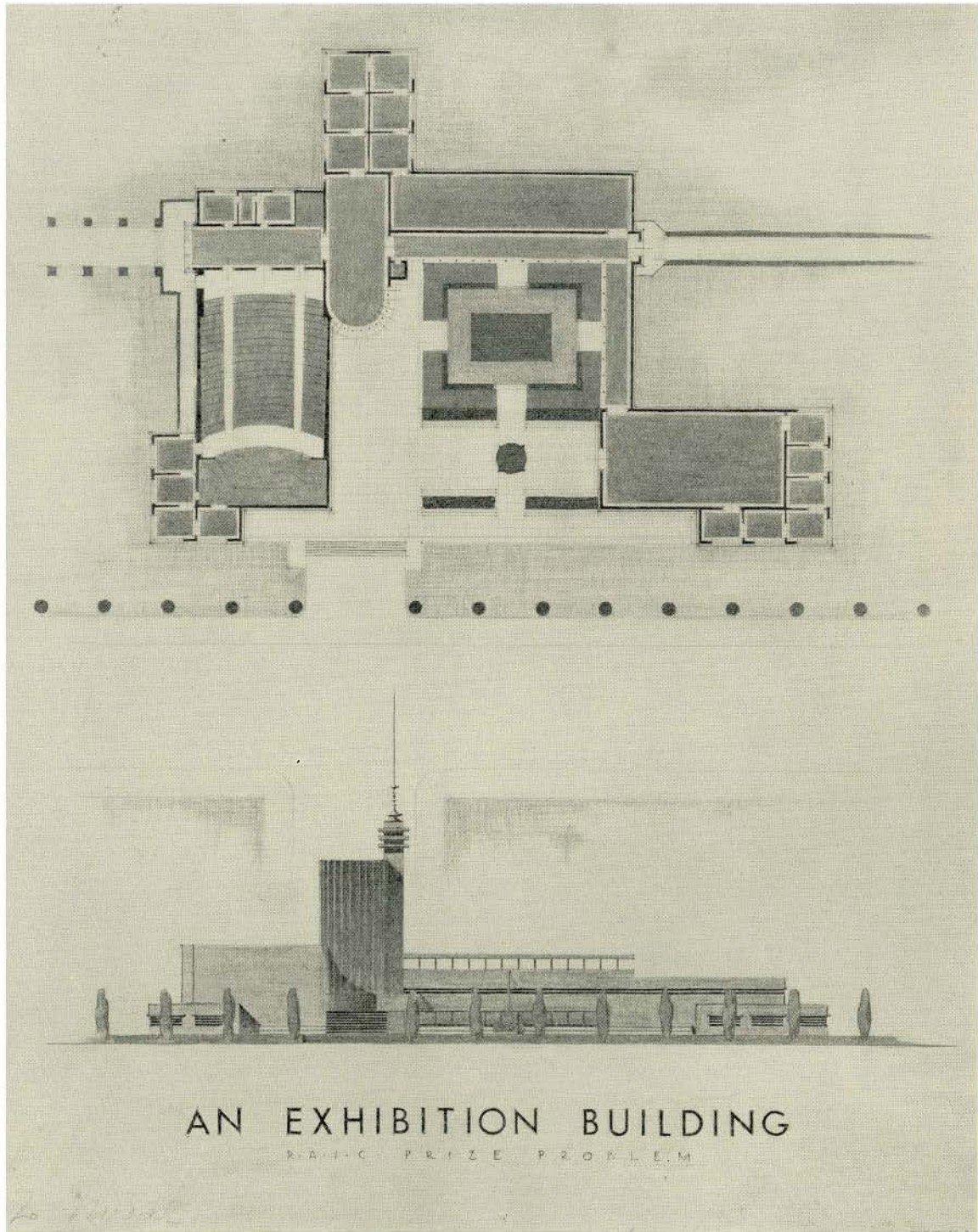




FIRST MEDAL—CLASS "A" PROJÉT  
"AN EXHIBITION BUILDING"

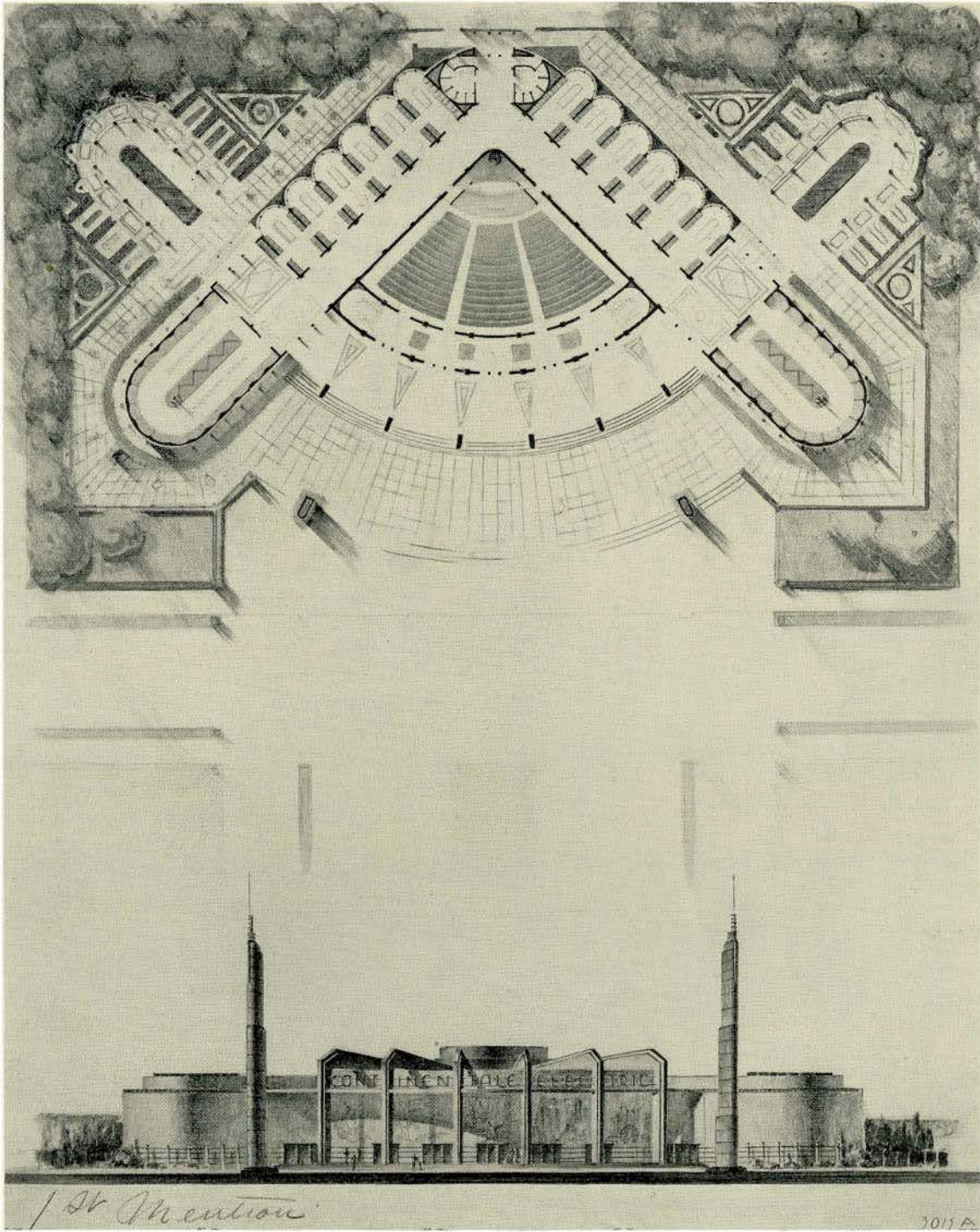
*W. A. Salter, University of Toronto*





SECOND MEDAL—CLASS "A" PROJET  
"AN EXHIBITION BUILDING"  
*J. F. C. Smith, University of Toronto*





FIRST MENTION — CLASS "A" PROJET  
"AN EXHIBITION BUILDING"  
*Raymond S. Knowland, University of Manitoba*



The access to the basement has to be very easily found. In the basement are located:

- A shooting gallery
- A bowling alley
- The heating system
- Public toilet rooms
- The janitor kitchen and commodities

An observation tower or a small belfry with a clock shall complete the composition.

The general character of this small building is of a public one. But the competitors shall not depart from simplicity and charm, as it is situated in a small town and is to be considered merely as a recreation hall.

The competitions closed on February 18th, and the drawings were judged during the annual meeting of the Institute by a jury consisting of Messrs. A. H. Chapman, chairman, Charles David, R. Schofield Morris, Murray Brown and W. B. Riddell.

The Jury's report, containing the awards, follows:

#### REPORT OF THE JURY OF AWARD

In class "A" competition for fourth and fifth year students, there were a total of forty-five competitors, divided as follows:

University of Manitoba.....	9
University of Alberta.....	4
University of Toronto.....	17
Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal.....	9
Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Quebec.....	6

In class "B" competition for second and third year students, there were a total of forty-nine competitors, divided as follows:

University of Manitoba.....	13
University of Alberta.....	2
University of Toronto.....	14
Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal.....	15
Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Quebec.....	5

The awards were as follows:

Class "A" competition:

#### *An Exhibition Building*

*First Medal*—W. A. Salter, University of Toronto.

*Second Medal*—J. F. C. Smith, University of Toronto.

*First Mention*—Harry W. Levin, University of Manitoba; Raymond S. Knowland, University of Manitoba; Roy Sellors, University of Manitoba; R. D. Powrie, University of Toronto; Paul Lambert, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal; Paul A. Lapointe, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal; Andre Roger, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal.

*Mention*—W. E. Fleury, University of Toronto; Paul H. Faivre, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal; Paul Fleury, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal; Pierre Morency, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal; Paul Paquette, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal; Etienne Begin, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Quebec; Walter Warren, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Quebec.

Class "B" competition:

#### *A Community Hall*

*First Medal*—Paul Deschamps, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Quebec.

*Second Medal*—Douglas C. Simpson, University of Manitoba.

*First Mention*—Joan Harland, University of Manitoba; Donald P. Logan, University of Manitoba; Keith B. Davison, University of Manitoba; Joyce Varley, University of Manitoba; W. E. Barnett, University of Toronto.

*Mention*—W. H. Birmingham, University of Toronto; A. C. Rieder, University of Toronto; Elio Vincelli, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal.

The jury wishes to commend particularly the work of the second and third year students.

The jury would not like the results of these competitions to be taken as an encouragement among students towards extreme forms in design, and rather regretted the lack of better representation along traditional lines in class "B" competition, where the programme did not stipulate the character.

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## COMMENTARY ON R.A.I.C. STUDENT COMPETITIONS

BY MACKENZIE WATERS, M.R.A.I.C.

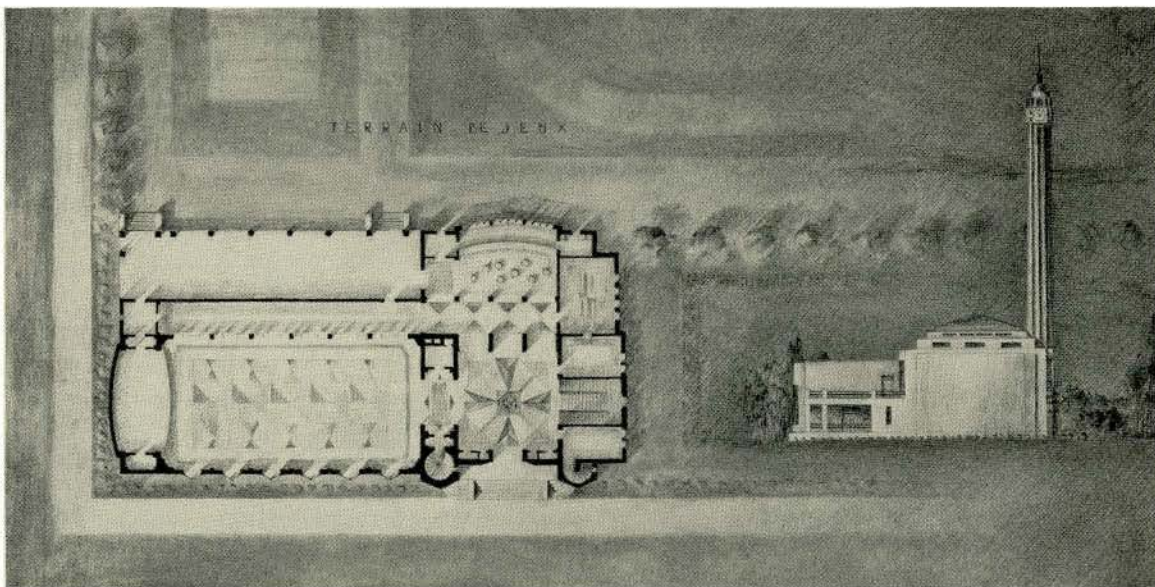
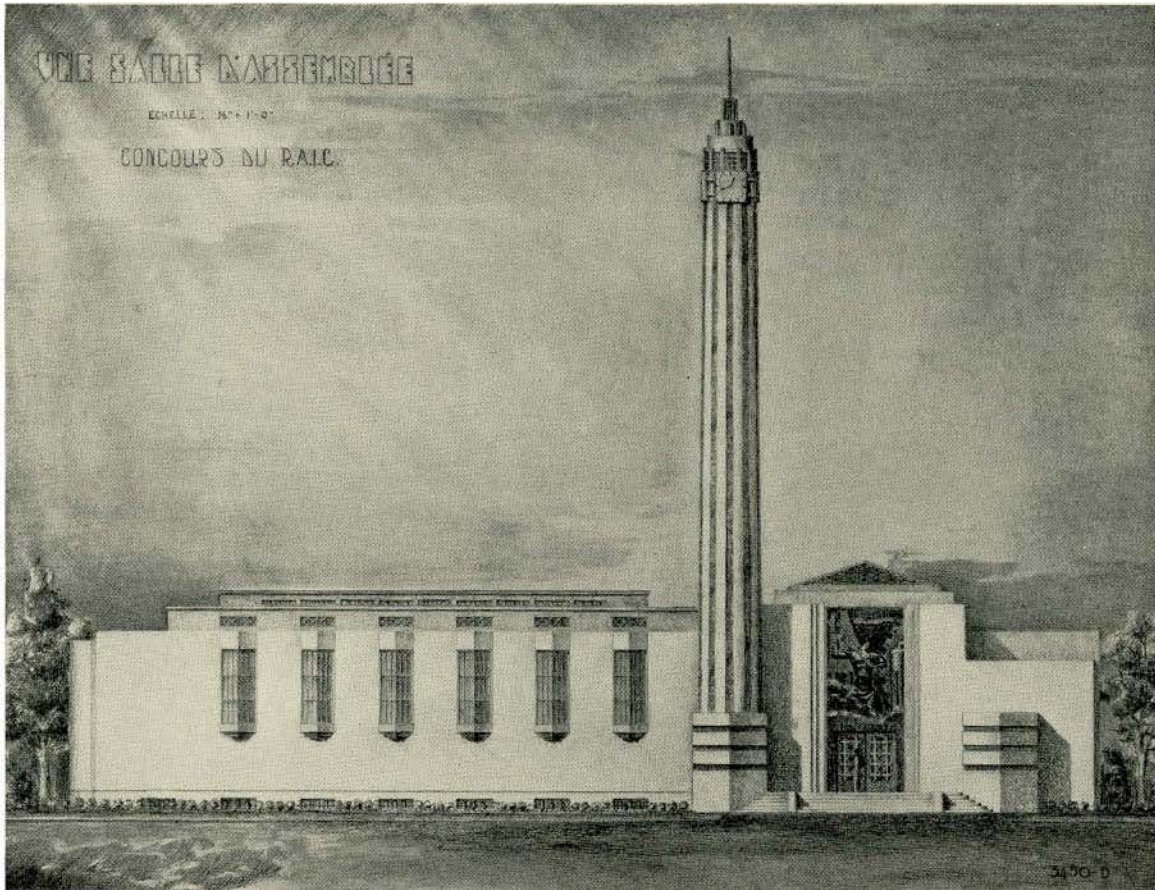
Since the inauguration some years ago, of the student competitions by the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, there has been a steady improvement not only in the interest displayed by the competitors but in the nature of the competitions themselves. This year, I thought, the choice of subjects was particularly happy and the programs were exceptionally well drawn. The authors, Messrs. Maxwell and Parizeau deserve the thanks of the competing schools and the profession at large for their work in producing such well thought out problems. Unfortunately, in the past, this has not always been the case, but this year a state so nearly approaching a professional competi-

tion has been attained that I hope there will be no back sliding in the future.

It is a matter of great regret to me that McGill does not see fit to join the other architectural schools in this project and like the United States and the League of Nations, it cannot be a complete success until they decide to do so. I had thought that the reasons which prevented them, had been removed and the healthy atmosphere, created by this competition among the students with whom I have been in contact, would in itself counteract any scholastic policy which frowned on the frivolous.

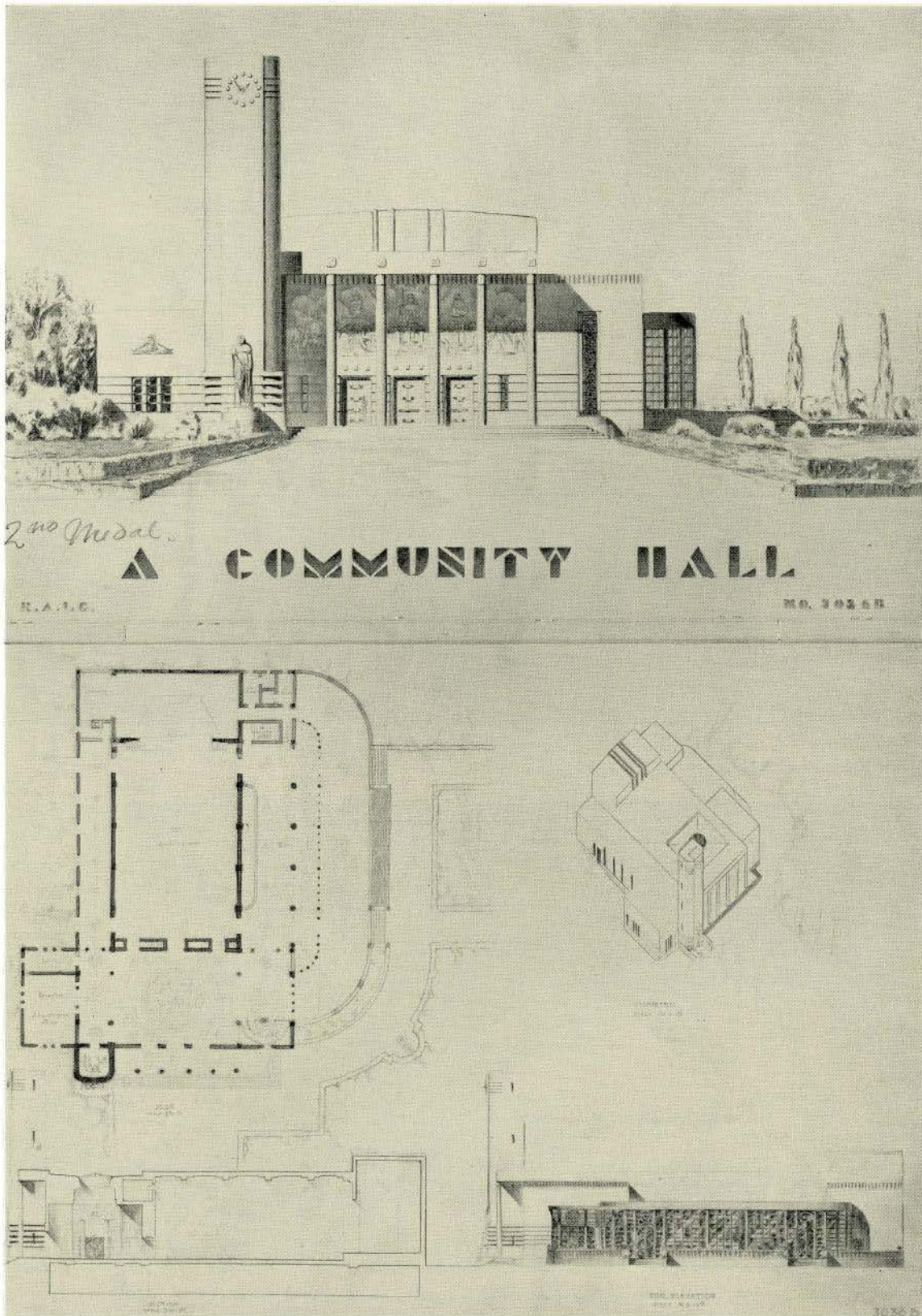
The class "A" program "An Exhibition Building" combined the imaginative with the practical





FIRST MEDAL—CLASS "B" PROJET  
 "A COMMUNITY HALL"  
*Paul Deschamps, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Quebec*

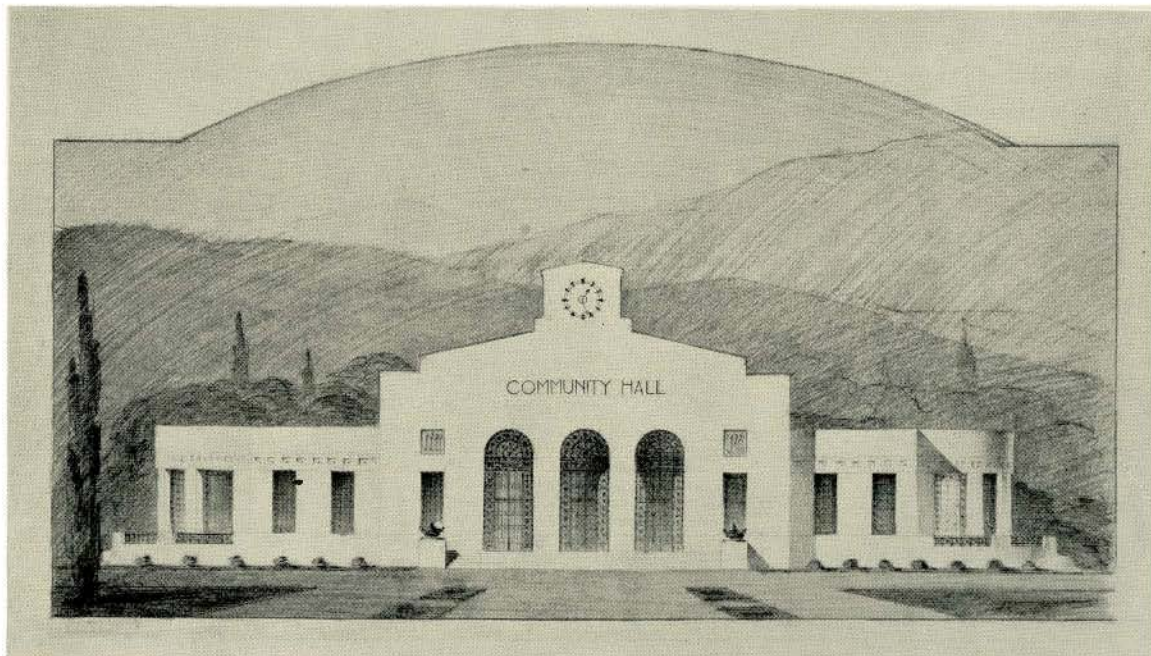
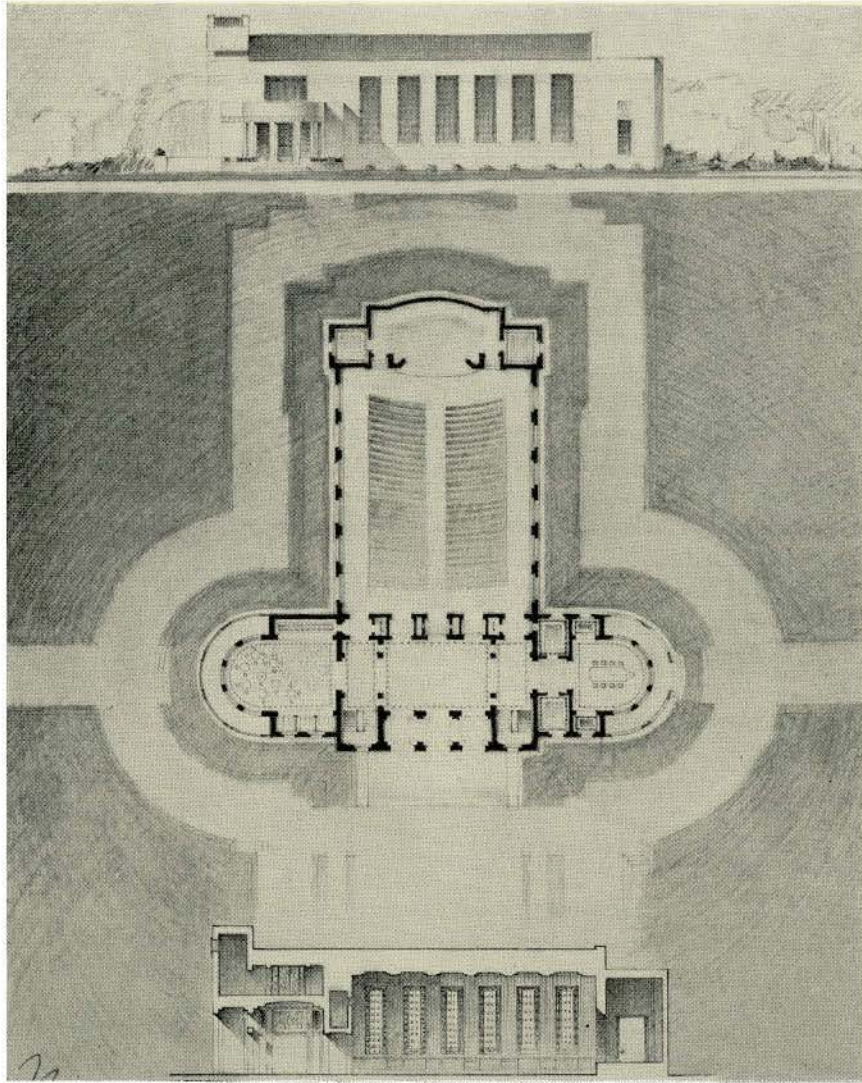




SECOND MEDAL—CLASS "B" PROJECT  
 "A COMMUNITY HALL"

*Douglas C. Simpson, University of Manitoba*





MENTION — CLASS "B" PROJET  
"A COMMUNITY HALL"  
*Elio Vincelli, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal*



in that no restrictions were placed on design, the size was only limited by the site, and the objects to be displayed were concisely and clearly stated. The only ambiguity I could find was whether the main avenue was in the exhibition grounds or outside them.

This problem produced solutions ranging from the best Beaux-Arts manner of 1906 to the Century of Progress of 1934. Being faithful to their name the schools of the province of Quebec worked principally in the older style and I don't think it is unkind to say that with modern methods of construction it is no longer necessary to have interior walls four feet thick because it makes a pretty presentation. I admire the technique of their delineation but I also admire judges who can see between flags and furbelows. I was particularly impressed by the general excellence of the Manitoba entries. The arrangement of their sheets drew my eye and the methods by which they indicated the entourage were most effective. Ontario was fortunate in receiving the first and second medals in this class and I hope that it was not entirely because these two entries exercised the privilege of using two colours in their delineation or that the tired judges, in their tremendous work were continually re-drawn like moths to the bright yellow light.

Although landscape was a major requirement in the program few competitors showed any signs of having given thought to this most important adjunct other than to make a pleasing picture and by the same token many forgot or didn't consider that the rear elevation would be discernible to all those frequenting the exhibition grounds. Although reflection pools were called for awards were made to solutions having no water whatever and at the same time one most interesting design was marked H.C. because a loggia was omitted.

I must pass now from the highly imaginative "A" problem to the intensely practical "B" program, "A Community Hall." The requirements as set out were well conceived with the exception of the last paragraph which mentions charm. One of the meanings of charm is something with which to avert evil and after looking at the drawings I came to the conclusion that seventy-five percent of the

competitors were not familiar with this interpretation of the word. We, naturally, can't expect in "B" what we get in "A" but I was shocked at the general lack of knowledge displayed in scale. I am sorry that I am unable to exempt the judges in this criticism as the first award was not only out of scale in the academic sense but actually measured fourteen feet more than the maximum allowed in the conditions. It also consisted of three unrelated bits of design not to mention the chimney-like tower, with a wrist watch on its upper end, sitting on a plinth whose unoccupied twin brother was waiting a few feet away to receive the tower if at any time it should choose to hop across the intervening space. There were also several community halls, which, had they been titled otherwise, might have crept into the "A" problem and I remember one excellent meat packing plant.

One might think that there were no good solutions of this problem but such was not the case. There were many excellent ones and the presentations were generally good. Perhaps in the second and third years it is too much to expect that a student can design a building which as stated in the program must have the character of a public one and at the same time have charm. Of all the competitors only one chose the Georgian tradition which seems to me the obvious one to combine these difficult requirements.

The task set the judges, was, I consider, most unfair. They were forced to wade through dozens of drawings in a limited time and in so doing miss the annual meeting. I hope that a different arrangement will be made in future whereby this condition will be rectified. Having had some experience in this work I realize the tremendous task set them and I can assure them that the schools are most grateful for the conscientious manner in which they performed this most onerous duty. In their report the judges rather deplored the absence of those architectural ties which bind us to the past but let me say to them, that as a member of a school staff, I know that the workings of the minds of the students producing the projects that were judged, indicate a far healthier condition than could ever be, had they produced laboured copies in the traditional manner.



# ARCHITECTURE TO THE FORE

BY B. EVAN PARRY, F.R.A.I.C.

*Director of Publicity for the Ontario Association of Architects*

## SYNOPSIS OF RADIO BROADCASTS

*Given weekly under the auspices of the Ontario Association of Architects*

### COLOUR — WHY FEAR IT?

By W. L. SOMERVILLE, F.R.A.I.C.

Timidity in the use of colour grows out of a fear born of uncertainty.

We are all more or less familiar with colours and have our likes and dislikes. We like bright neckties and go in for pink shirts, or we don't. When it comes to decorating our homes we treat the subject of colour in much the same manner, not realizing that colour is just as important a part of the architecture as proportion and ornament.

Colour has become divorced from architecture, even in the minds of many architects. It is considered as something entirely apart. Something in which the client's whims and fancies may be indulged without great detriment to the architecture. A study of the work of the great Masters of Architecture will show that they did not consider it a thing apart from architecture but rather a very essential attribute.

If the use of colour in the interior architecture and furnishings of our homes were as simple and as familiar a process as selecting materials and trimmings for a new gown, we would find our homes more colourful and interesting. Because it is not and most of us have had little experience with colour in this respect, we are afraid to use it.

In choosing colours for decorating a room, one must consider established factors just as one does in dress. The architectural background determines the scale or strength of colour to be used and to some extent the range and combination of colours one may use. For example: The French period of Louis XVI with its delicate carving and ornament requires a super-fine softness in colouring whereas the later style of the Classic Revival calls for sharper hard colours like lemon yellow or the cold steel-blue so characteristic of this period. The same is true of the corresponding periods of the English Renaissance.

The use of a room should also influence the colour scheme, for colour can determine the character of a room. The relation of one room to another must also be considered.

It is difficult, if not impossible, to give any hard and fast rules to follow in arriving at a colour scheme, particularly for a room. However, one can avoid some of the difficulties likely to be encountered if one makes the right start.

There is usually one or more fixed features that must be considered, such as the architectural background, particularly if it is designed in one of the historic styles, or it may be a picture that is to be used as the centre of interest. Further, the use of the room demands attention. It is obvious that a library would call for an entirely different colour scheme from that of a debutante's bedroom.

These factors limit the number of suitable colour schemes. The next step is usually to select the floor covering and draperies. We have all experienced the difficulty of finding the right carpet or curtains to harmonize with a room already decorated. This can be avoided by making a proper start and selecting them first. Beyond these few rules, it is not safe to go.

Do not be afraid of colour. It is something we cannot do without. It is part of good architecture and is just as much within the province of the architect as the design of the many other intricate details that make up the whole.

### THE NEW ARCHITECTURE

By MACKENZIE WATERS, M.R.A.I.C.

Although we are apt to think of the new architecture as emanating from Europe, Frank Lloyd Wright, an American born of Welsh stock in Wisconsin, applied functional principles to his buildings as early as 1893 and, unrecognized in Europe until twenty years later has exerted a great influence on present day design on that continent. Another who has left his stamp in Europe is the Scotsman, Charles Rennie Mackintosh, the first British architect since Robert Adam to be a name abroad and the only one who has ever become the rallying point of a continental school of design. Undoubtedly the presence of the tartan motif in so many modern European fabrics is the result of the impression made by this man on Germany through the medium of the Glasgow exhibition in 1900. My references to Europe are necessary because the new architecture is practically non-existent in Canada and with the exception of the work of a very few men almost equally so in the United States.

If I was asked what the new architecture is, I would be inclined to say that it is "the result of a sensible approach to any building problem," and by that I mean that we should not tie ourselves down to traditional forms which have long since been superseded by new methods and materials.

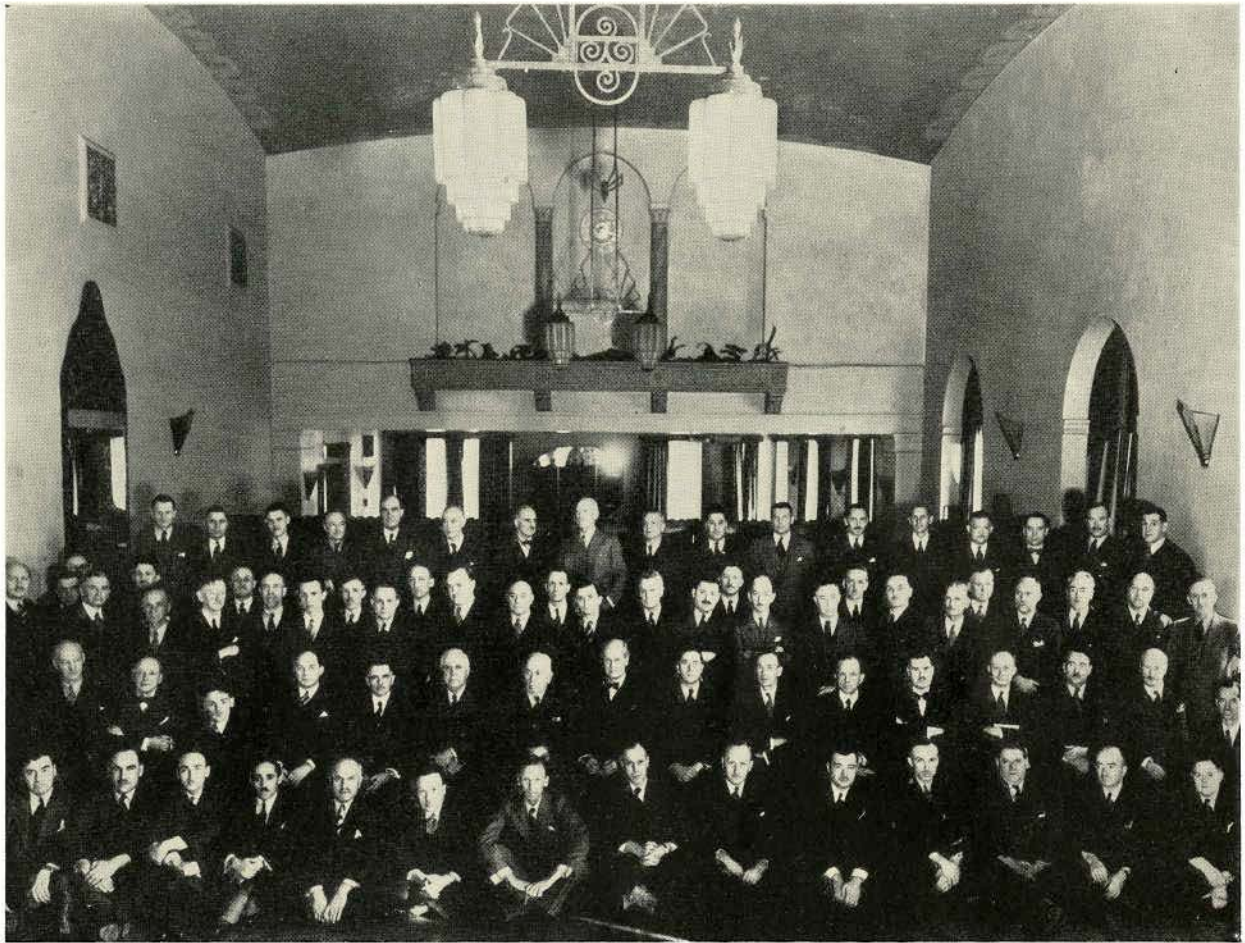
We are perhaps fortunate in Canada in having avoided some of the monstrosities perpetrated in other countries in the search during the last decade for a solution of the modern building problem and, we can now hope to go ahead profiting by the mistakes which are inevitable in any period of transition.

I will quote from Raymond McGrath who concludes his book on the new architecture as follows: "Love of the great things of the past is not enough. Forward is the only way for a man to go. In building, as in thought, writing, music, science, there is only one road which will take us anywhere, and that is the road between today and tomorrow and the great discoveries of the future. Though we may do things which seem strange to those whose eyes are turned back on fictions of the past, we are at least making possible the coming of a form of building which will be more in harmony with the hopes of great architects of other days than a nation-wide museum would ever be. The future is in the hollow of our hands."



MACKENZIE WATERS, M.R.A.I.C.





SOME OF THE DELEGATES WHO ATTENDED THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE R.A.I.C.

FRONT ROW (*Left to right*): E. W. Haldenby, Arthur H. Eadie, R. R. Moffat, Harold S. Kaplan, Charles David, W. B. Riddell, A. H. Chapman, Murray Brown, Burwell R. Coon, Harland Steele, Jack Ryrie, H. E. Moore, Earle L. Sheppard, Abe Wilson.

SECOND ROW: C. J. Burritt, B. Evan Parry, W. A. Watson, I. Markus, R. H. Macdonald, John A. Pearson, Alcide Chaussé, W. S. Maxwell, M. S. Osborne, W. L. Somerville, Philip J. Turner, Henri S. Labelle, Gordon McL. Pitts, Gordon M. West, John M. Lyle, W. E. Carswell.

THIRD ROW: G. Roper Gouinlock, Cecil C. King, Allen M. Taylor, C. W. Smith, Samuel Kohn, F. F. Saunders, A. H. Gregg, H. H. Madill, E. Telfer Arnoldi, Geo. R. Whale, J. J. Beck, A. Edward Roberts, L. G. Bridgman, Raymond Card, John Hole, W. F. Godfrey, A. J. Hazelgrove, W. Stuart Pavey, A. S. Mathers, J. A. Robertson, L. B. Husband, Forsey P. Page, H. L. Fetherstonhaugh, James H. Craig, J. P. Hynes, Walter Scott, W. Ford Howland, Kenneth L. Cameron, H. E. Murton, E. R. Arthur.

FOURTH ROW: Woodruff K. Aykroyd, W. F. Holden, Edward J. Crone, A. E. Watson, Raymond H. Collinge, T. C. Pomphrey, Vaux Chadwick, A. Frank Wickson, Edgar D. McGuire, S. W. Kertland, H. C. Greensides, E. C. Morgan, H. G. Fulford, W. Ralph Kinsman, Thos. D. Rankin, F. Hilton Wilkes, J. G. Hedges.

## THE TWENTY-NINTH GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

**T**HE Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada was held at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, on Friday and Saturday, February 21st and 22nd, 1936, under the Chairmanship of Mr. W. S. Maxwell, President of the Institute. Over one hundred members were present.

After the president had extended a welcome to the members, he called on Dr. John A. Pearson who addressed the meeting as follows:

Before proceeding with the business of the Institute, I think it fitting that reference should be made to the death of King George, which has so profoundly impressed the civilized world. We, with other countries of the Empire, have been mourning the loss of a Sovereign in whom no fault

could be discerned and have realized him in death as we never had in life.

"The shadow of his loss drew like eclipse,  
Darkening the world. We have lost him; he is  
gone,

We know him now: all narrow jealousies  
Are silent; and we see him as he moved,  
How modest, kindly, all-accomplished, wise,  
With what sublime repression of himself,  
And in what limits, and how tenderly;  
Not swaying to this faction or to that;  
Not making his high place the lawless perch  
Of winged ambitions, nor a vantage-ground  
For pleasure; but through all this tract of years  
Wearing the white flower of a blameless life,  
Before a thousand peering littlenesses,  
In that fierce light which beats upon a throne,  
And blackens every blot."



I would ask members of the Institute to rise, for one minute's silence. (*Members stood in silence for one minute*).

Gentlemen, now our emotions will be veiled again and our traditional reserve will be resumed, but none of us is the worse for having felt intensely and allowed something of our feelings to be revealed.

I would suggest the following address be forwarded through the proper channel.

The loyal and respectful address of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada—to His Most Gracious Majesty the King.

May it please your Majesty, we your dutiful subjects, the president and council, on behalf of the members of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, beg leave to respectfully approach your Majesty and offer our deep and heartfelt sympathy in the loss which your Majesty, the members of the Royal Family and all the peoples of the Empire have sustained in the death of your beloved Father, our last Most Gracious Sovereign, King George V.

We most respectfully tender to your Majesty our sincere devotion and loyalty on your Accession to the Throne, and earnestly pray that the Almighty will grant your Majesty a long, happy and glorious reign, during which all your subjects may prosper, the arts flourish and your Empire enjoy all the blessings of peace.

The action proposed by Dr. Pearson was seconded by Alcide Chausse and carried unanimously by standing vote.

The president then read the following report of the council for the year 1935:

The construction industry has not kept pace with progress achieved in other industries, but it is generally believed its future will be brighter due to the general uptrend in business, the need of plant replacements and modernization, buildings to meet new conditions, and the necessity of putting vacant and other property on a revenue basis.

Shortage in housing will have to be made up and it is inevitable that a resumption of our normal business life will be accompanied by the building industry functioning in its average proportion to the others.

The chairman of Barclay's Bank in England, said at its recent annual meeting "If we are spared major developments of a disturbing character abroad or complications at home, I see no reason why the recent improvement should not be continued." This well considered and moderate statement may be admitted as applying equally well to our country.

During the year 1935, the total contracts awarded in Canada amounted to \$160,305,000 of which about 16 per cent was due to public works

in accordance with the government programme. This represents a gain of \$34,493,500 over the total for 1934. January 1936 started off slowly, but gaining in impetus, showed new construction contracts awarded to be more than double those of the preceding month.

Due largely to Canada's wealth of natural resources it has, in the opinion of competent observers abroad, fared better than others with the one exception of Great Britain. During my recent visit to Europe several men, whose opinions are worthy of consideration, said they considered Canada to be the country of the future.

Our government is faced with serious problems among which are finance, unemployment and the plight of the farmers in the west. These are not merely political in their nature, but essentially of a kind requiring the assistance of the best brains in private industry and finance for their solution.

The National Construction Council represents a special group which has taken a lead in contacting with the government on matters about which it can speak with authority. Its presentations and briefs have been well received and had an appreciable influence on legislation now in force. The future of our country and the speed with which we will grow out of the present conditions, will bear a relation to the extent to which the government will make use of the collective wisdom and experience of organizations of this character.

During this year there has been a focus on housing, rehabilitation of buildings and slum clearance. Progress made has been to a great extent due to research work and other activities by our profession, acting frequently in co-operation with other groups. Our main effort has been in association with the National Construction Council and to our representatives on it has fallen the important work of drawing up briefs and of presenting them to the parliamentary committee on housing.

On June 25th 1935, the House of Commons passed an act to assist in the construction of houses, better known as the Dominion Housing Act. The provisions include loans of eighty per cent on the cost of a house and lot, of which the government lends twenty (20) per cent and lending companies sixty (60) per cent.

The act takes care of medium priced housing and to acquire a loan application forms have to be filled out in detail and plans and specifications submitted for consideration and approval. Although the services of an architect are not compulsory, the forms have a space wherein the name of an architect may be inserted.

It is agreeable to report that Dr. W. C. Clark, Deputy Minister of Finance under whose jurisdiction the act is administered, advised the Institute that his department had received a



number of inquiries as to plans for houses proposed to be built under the Dominion Housing Act and that in each case he had recommended that the services of an architect be retained. It is also encouraging to note that one or two lending companies when making loans are showing a preference for projects on which architects are employed.

The duration of loans is ten years with certain provisions for a ten year extension. The response to this favourable means of obtaining money at five per cent has not been encouraging. It is reported that the low interest does not satisfy some of the lending companies; from other sources comes the opinion that publicity, in a large way, is essential for the success of the scheme.

In order that government loans under the Dominion Housing Act might be properly protected, the Department of Finance decided to set up certain minimum standards of construction. To this end, Dr. Clark called a conference in Ottawa on December 20th, 1935, to which the Institute was invited to send a representative. Mr. R. H. Macdonald was appointed by the executive committee, and as a result of this conference, minimum standards of construction, and memorandum specifications have been prepared and are now available in pamphlet form. Copies of these pamphlets may be obtained by our members from the Department of Finance upon request.

The Housing Act contains no provisions for the rehabilitation of existing dwellings and in view of the experience of the United States where the larger portion of government loans were used for this purpose, pressure should be brought on our government to care for this urgent matter by suitable legislation. Our country is also faced with the necessity of slum clearance as has been clearly demonstrated by investigations carried out in the cities of Toronto, Montreal and others.

Town planning, the foundation stone for orderly civic development and the best financial investment any community can make, is one of the important subjects advocated by this Institute. Much intelligent and constructive work has been carried on by groups and individuals under discouraging conditions. With the valuable example of its successful operation in Great Britain under government direction, the time is opportune for the Dominion of Canada to go deeply into the subject and without delay enact legislation suited to our special conditions.

As a result of the provisions of the Dominion Housing Act failing to provide the expected impetus in building, a meeting was held on January 9th of this year at which twenty Montreal representatives of the building industry, including your president, were the guests of the Hon. Charles Stewart. Mr. Mervyn Brown read a paper setting

forth a tentative set up of the Prosperity Housing Association. Its main reason for existence is to institute a dominion-wide campaign to inform and induce citizens to avail themselves of the provisions of the Dominion Housing Act and build houses. It is proposed to raise a large fund and by means of adequate organization and an intensive publicity campaign get under way without delay. Subsequently a meeting was held in Toronto and from January 22nd-30th there appeared in the *Ottawa Citizen* seven large advertisements, well worded and of considerable drawing power. The Association emphasized the shortage of housing, stated 35,000 should be built in 1936, that this will take 145,000 workmen off the relief rolls and explained the provisions of the Housing Act and related matters. The association admits the need of rehabilitation and slum clearance but focusses on the one point of getting people to build during 1936.

In connection with housing the urgent and vital need of the low wage earners, who can only pay from nine to fifteen dollars per month, is being neglected. In any adequate housing programme this should be the first problem to be solved.

The wasteful and entirely unproductive dole system should be replaced to whatever extent is possible, by getting the construction industry into operation and achieving its normal rate of activity in the forward march of other industries. Neglect of property represents the greatest extravagance one may indulge in.

During our term or office the viewpoint of the Institute has been presented to the government on several occasions. The following extract from a letter sent in November to the Honourable Lyon Mackenzie King, Prime Minister, is related to the government's architectural office and our conception of what its functions should be.

"The Institute acknowledges the necessity for and the usefulness of a government architects' office, functioning under the Minister of Public Works. We believe that the function of such an office should primarily be devoted to the upkeep of government buildings and alterations and additions which are not of a major kind, and certain administration duties as to contracts, etc.

"We claim that as taxpayers and citizens, we should be entitled to the same consideration as is given to other professions and industries. For example: The government does not build buildings, it employs builders and contractors for that purpose. It does not grow farm produce for sale to the general public, it maintains a department of agriculture, has experimental farms and places the valuable data gained therefrom at the disposal of its citizens. It does not manufacture goods for sale, it maintains research departments devoted to testing mate-



rials, etc., and places the results at the disposal of manufacturers, engineers and others for their benefit. In legal matters the government places important cases in the hands of lawyers in private practice.

"Our Institute recognizes and appreciates the usefulness, integrity and ability of the government's architectural office. Its operation along the lines outlined would keep it fully occupied with much responsible and necessary work."

In February we wrote the Premier advocating for the contemplated Bank of Canada Head Office, a competition open to Canadian architects.

The extent to which views advanced by the Institute will bear fruit rests largely on our continued interest and follow up work.

During the past year the Government of Ontario consolidated the Ontario Architects Registration Board with the Ontario Association of Architects and delegated to the Association the sole rights for the regulation and administration of the profession in the province. This change is a very constructive one for the profession and we extend a genuine welcome to the two hundred and fifty-nine new members thus added to our membership roll. All Canadian architects are now represented in the Institute and its potential power and usefulness is greatly enhanced.

Due to the large membership in the Ontario Association of Architects and in the Province of Quebec Association of Architects, a revision in the system of proportionate representation on the council was proposed by the O.A.A. and approved by your executive committee. The proposal was then submitted to the component societies, all of whom agreed to the change. After consulting our legal adviser, it was decided to put the change into effect at once.

Architects are rigidly limited as to the extent they may advertise; however, in the present period of a plenitude of publicity, they have in a dignified, interesting and efficient way informed the public on a variety of subjects about which the profession may speak with authority. Among the media employed were radio talks, lectures, many of which were illustrated, and articles in the daily press and magazines having a general circulation. This constructive work has been carried on by the component societies and individuals. The success of the Ontario Association of Architects with their radio work and other activities may well be emulated.

Our contacts with the Royal Institute of British Architects continue to be of mutual interest and benefit. During the year Mr. Philip Turner of our executive committee visited England and presented Sir Raymond Unwin, past president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, with the Honorary Fellowship diploma which has been awarded him

at our last annual meeting. Mr. Turner, who is our representative on their council had been authorized to go into matters which required elucidation. His visit resulted in a mutually satisfactory understanding being arrived at.

The Institute has co-operated to the fullest extent with the Canadian Engineering Standards Association in establishing certain standards for brick and timber. Mr. Herbert E. Moore has rendered invaluable service in this connection.

After years of effort on the part of the R.A.I.C. and other interested bodies, the National Research Council has undertaken to carry out research work on building materials and also investigate some of the problems of the building industry. General A. G. L. MacNaughton, president of the National Research Council has advised us that a conference is to be called shortly for this purpose, at which the Institute will be invited to send representatives.

During the year the advisability of having a standard code of building by-laws for use in Canada was adequately considered and found to be impracticable.

Our contacts with the Canadian Construction Association continue to be of value, and the contract documents produced and approved by both bodies are being increasingly used. Their excellence is attested by the adoption of some of them by the Engineering Institute of Canada, after minor adjustments were made to suit their professional needs.

In November, 1935, in the galleries of the Montreal Art Association, we held the fifth of our exhibitions in conjunction with the Royal Canadian Academy. The quality and quantity of the work shown was very satisfactory and the attendance and interest of the general public was encouraging. In the future a greater effort should be made to have exhibits from all our component societies. By taking a part in the Royal Canadian Academy exhibitions, architecture, as one of the family of fine arts, greets a public that has a tendency to forget such a relationship exists.

At our request the Department of Customs and Excise has investigated cases where foreign made plans were being used for the erection of buildings in Canada and as a result duties have been collected. Our interest in this matter continues to be an active one.

Early in the year it was decided to offer an annual medal to each of the schools of architecture who are on our accredited list. The medal to be given to the outstanding graduating student whose scholarship, record, character and other qualifications indicated he would achieve success as an architect. The awarding of the medal to be made by the school. Medals suitably engraved were awarded as follows:



Donald A. Freeze  
Eric W. Thrift  
Samuel A. Gitterman  
Roland Dumais

University of Alberta  
University of Manitoba  
McGill University  
Ecole des Beaux Arts,  
Montreal

The University of Toronto reported the announcement had been made too late for the year's award and the Ecole des Beaux Arts de Quebec informed us there had been no graduating class this year.

Last year's R.A.I.C. student competitions resulted in thirty-seven designs being sent in for the Class A competition and fifty-one for Class B. All schools on our accredited list participated and the quality of the work was of a high order. Medals and awards were given and the chairman of the committee on architectural training will cover this important activity of the Institute in his report. This year all schools with the exception of McGill University have taken part in our competition and you are reminded that the designs are now on exhibition.

The Journal of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada has appeared regularly and is weathering the storm that has affected the professional press in many countries. It is the sole remaining architectural magazine in Canada and due to the faithful hard work and optimism of its editor, Mr. Markus, and the excellent services of the editorial board, the last reports are the most encouraging ones received in years. Our special thanks are due to the editorial board for their services, gratuitously rendered, and for the variety, interest and value of articles which appeared during the year.

The art science and research committee has functioned actively and its monthly contributions to THE JOURNAL have proven timely and of value to us all.

The series of articles on architectural economics published in THE JOURNAL have aroused such favourable comment that your executive has decided to have reprints made of them for distribution to the libraries of architectural schools, and to students taking their final year in architecture. Copies of these bound reprints are now available to the members of the Institute at a nominal charge.

The business of the Institute has been carried on conscientiously. Since our last convention two meetings of the council and seven meetings of the executive committee have been held, the latter averaging about eight hours each.

It is very gratifying to report that through the commendable efforts of our honorary treasurer, Mr. W. L. Somerville, the expenditures of the Institute, as will be shown in his report, have been kept well within the budget, with the very satisfactory result that we have finished the year with a small surplus.

Art in Canada received recognition on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of our late Monarch, King George the Fifth. His Majesty was pleased to bestow a knighthood on the president of the Royal Canadian Academy and our Institute congratulates Sir Wyly Grier on the well merited honour he received.

The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada was also honoured when your president received a Jubilee medal from the mayor of Montreal on behalf of His Majesty the King.

The council reports with pleasure the election of four new Fellows of the Institute, namely, Messrs. Charles David, Henri S. Labelle, Harold Lawson and Geo. W. Northwood, who will receive their Fellowship Diplomas at the annual dinner. The present status of the Fellowship Class is as follows: 4 Honorary Fellows, 54 Fellows and 4 retired Fellows.

It is a satisfaction to record the ample facilities afforded and the many courtesies extended by the Province of Quebec Association of Architects to our Institute and its members on the occasion of last year's convention held in their rooms.

In conclusion, I wish to pay a personal tribute to the able services rendered by members of the executive committee, the committee on arrangements for this convention, the judges of the inter-school competition, the editorial board and our capable, hard working secretary.

This year has shown an improvement in most industries and if construction has not caught up with the others, it has evidenced greater signs of life. We are justified in looking to the future with more cheerfulness than was possible last year.

*W. S. Maxwell*, President

#### ARCHITECTURAL TRAINING

Following the reading of the report of the council, the president called on Gordon McL. Pitts to present the report of the committee on architectural training, in the absence of its chairman, Ernest Cormier.

The report pointed out that the activities of this committee had been concentrated on the organization of the inter-school competitions conducted yearly by the Institute, and that following the holding of last year's competitions consideration had been given to a suggestion made by the jury that the number of designs submitted by each school should be limited so that each school would have an equal number of chances of receiving awards or mentions. After considering the matter from every angle, the committee had decided that as the R.A.I.C. student competitions were not competitions between schools, but between pupils of the different schools, the restriction suggested would be unfair to pupils of a school with a large registration.



The report further stated that this year's competitions had been organized along similar lines to those of last year and that all accredited schools of architecture had agreed to participate with the exception of McGill University. The programmes for the senior and junior competitions had been prepared by W. S. Maxwell and Marcel Parizeau respectively, and a jury had been appointed consisting of A. H. Chapman, chairman, W. B. Riddell, Murray Brown, R. Schofield Morris, and Charles David, who would submit their report before the close of the annual meeting.

In the discussion that followed the presentation of the report, it was generally agreed that the present method of conducting the student competitions was very satisfactory but that the incoming council might consider the possibility of having the drawings judged immediately prior to the annual meeting in order that the members of the jury might be free to attend the sessions of the Annual Meeting.

At the conclusion of the discussion, a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the members of the jury for their arduous work in connection with the judging of this year's R.A.I.C. student competitions.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES

In presenting the report of the committee on scholarships and prizes, the chairman, H. L. Fetherstonhaugh stated that following the last annual meeting, the Institute had decided to award a medal annually to the student who had completed the entire course at a recognized school of architecture and who had obtained high marks throughout his course and who gave promise of being an architect of distinction after graduation. He further reported that the medals had been awarded for the first time at the close of the scholastic year of 1935 to the students mentioned in the report of the council.

Mr. Fetherstonhaugh also pointed out the scholarships and prize funds had not received any bequests recently and it was hoped that as good use had already been made of the funds available that the members would add to the fund whenever possible.

Following the presentation of the report, a lengthy discussion took place during which it was recommended that the incoming council should give some consideration to the possibility of establishing travelling studentships or scholarships. In this connection it was suggested by R. H. Macdonald that some of the large industrial corporations interested in construction might be willing to assist in this work and make possible the award of such scholarships to outstanding students for travel and study in Europe.

#### ART, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

The report of the committee of art, science and research, submitted by B. Evan Parry, was read

by A. H. Gregg. The report stated that there had been published in THE JOURNAL from time to time various reports of research work carried out in Canada, the United States, and other countries which it was hoped had proved of interest to the members. The committee had also, at the request of the executive committee, endeavoured to keep the members informed of new developments in building materials and equipment by publishing in THE JOURNAL information covering some of the new materials now available in the construction field.

In closing his report, Mr. Parry requested the fullest co-operation from every practising architect in bringing to the attention of the committee any data that might be of interest to the profession.

In the discussion that followed the presentation of the report, reference was made by Mackenzie Waters to the willingness of General A. G. L. MacNaughton, president of the National Research Council to co-operate with the Institute in every way possible. It was pointed out by some of the members that much information was already available with the National Research Council at Ottawa and the bureau of standards at Washington, and if the Research Council could collate this material and make it available to architects, it would be performing a very valuable service.

Some further suggestions were made relative to investigations and research work carried out by industrial concerns that might be made available to architects. This, together with the suggestion that some of the technical questions and answers published in the R.I.B.A. Journal might be of value to Canadian architects if published in the R.A.I.C. Journal, were referred to the incoming committee for consideration.

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS

In presenting the report of the committee on public relations, the chairman, Philip J. Turner complimented the Ontario Association of Architects on their weekly radio broadcasts and the illustrated lectures given by some of their members to social service and church organizations. He pointed out that similar lectures had been in demand in Montreal and that copies of the lectures had been requested in other provinces. Mr. Turner recommended that consideration be given to the formation of a panel of writers to supply the press with articles on architectural subjects.

He also drew attention to the fact that speculative builders, in applying for loans under the Dominion Housing Act were submitting plans made for them by members of the profession and preparing the specifications themselves. He pointed out the danger of this practice to architects, who should not be satisfied to act in the capacity only of an "accommodating instrument or draughts-



man." The architect should have complete control over the specifications and supervision, otherwise his reputation and standing will suffer, especially if the houses are sold as designed by him.

Following the presentation of the report, Professor M. S. Osborne, president of the Manitoba Association of Architects informed the meeting that the University of Manitoba had started a series of night lectures on "House Designing and Finishing" which were open to the people of Winnipeg. The object of these lectures, he pointed out, was not to make the people house designers, but rather to introduce to them some of the problems that the architect must face in designing a proper house.

Under the heading of public relations, Gordon McL. Pitts, past president of the Province of Quebec Association of Architects, then addressed the meeting on the organization of the profession and its relation to the public. He pointed out that the architectural profession in Canada was now well organized and would compare very favourably with the majority of the professions in Canada. In order to maintain this organization and make it effective not only to the architects, but to the public, he recommended that every effort should be made to stimulate the provincial organizations and thereby stimulate the national body. One of the important matters connected with the organization of the profession was the statutory rights of the architects, and in this direction he felt that the Province of Quebec Association of Architects had made considerable progress. In support of this statement, Mr. Pitts first quoted the law that governs the practice of architecture in Quebec as follows:

"Any person who, although not being registered as a member of the said association, takes or makes use of any such name, title or designation, or acts as an architect, or furnishes, for remuneration, plans or specifications to construct or remodel buildings, either directly or indirectly, shall be liable to a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than two hundred dollars for the first offence, and, of not less than three hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars for any subsequent offence, and, in default of immediate payment of the fine and costs, to imprisonment for not more than ninety days, unless such fine and costs be sooner paid."

Now, continued Mr. Pitts, that is the law and it should be the fundamental policy of the R.A.I.C. to in every way assist and support every province in obtaining a law at least as good as that, for it would not only be in the interest of the profession, but also in the interest of the public.

Mr. Pitts then drew the attention of the members to some of the new regulations introduced into the by-laws of their association, the object of which was to assure the public of honest and efficient service and also to provide a code of ethics that would result in members of the profession working together in harmony and mutual confidence.

A number of members took part in the discussion that followed, during which it was pointed out that in many respects the regulations of the Ontario Association of Architects were very similar to those of the P.Q.A.A. and that it would be well for the other provincial bodies to study the regulations of these two associations with the object of improving their own by-laws.

#### THE JOURNAL R.A.I.C.

Before presenting the report of the editorial board of THE JOURNAL, the chairman, W. L. Somerville gave, for the benefit of the many new members attending an Institute meeting for the first time, a brief outline of THE JOURNAL and its purpose since it was first established as a quarterly in 1924 until the present time as the only monthly architectural magazine published in Canada. Mr. Somerville reported that the financial outlook for THE JOURNAL during the coming year was much more promising than it has been for several years and that with increased support from the advertisers, the editorial board was confident it could make THE JOURNAL of even greater value to the members.

Mr. Somerville expressed regret that the editorial board had been unable to obtain more material for publication outside the provinces of Ontario and Quebec and hoped that during the coming year this condition would be rectified. He also expressed the appreciation of the board to those members of the Institute and other distinguished members of the profession abroad who had contributed articles to THE JOURNAL.

#### JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE R.A.I.C. AND C.C.A.

In the absence of Ludger Venne, chairman of the joint committee of the R.A.I.C. and C.C.A., R. H. Macdonald submitted his report which stated that the work of this committee had been confined to matters related to the standard forms of contract. The report further stated that a number of suggested changes in the forms had been received which had been ably reviewed by Herbert E. Moore, but it was the feeling of the committee that no changes should be considered until such time has elapsed as will allow a larger number of architects and contractors to test the efficiency of the forms. The joint committee, however, recommended that paragraph (b) of article 1 of the general conditions of the contract forms which now reads "The owner, the contractor, and the architect are those named as such in the agreement. The term 'architect' shall include 'engineer' when the work is to be performed under the supervision of an engineer," be changed to read "The owner, the contractor, and the architect are those named as such in the agreement."

The report further recommended that the forms be printed in French as soon as possible.



## EXHIBITIONS AND AWARDS

In presenting the report of the committee on exhibitions and awards, the chairman, Henri S. Labelle, pointed out that the 1935 exhibition which had been held in Montreal in conjunction with the fifty-sixth annual exhibition of the Royal Canadian Academy was similar in general arrangement to those of previous years. Disappointment, however, had been expressed because the Institute gold medal had not been awarded at this exhibition although the conditions laid down required that the "Medal be awarded for the building of most outstanding merit completed by a member of the Institute within the last four years." The jury, in giving the reason for it not being awarded stated "That the Institute gold medal should represent the highest architectural award in Canada and one that should not be won through lack of adequate competition such as would have been the case if the award had been made this year."

Mr. Labelle recommended that the matter of awarding the gold medal at future exhibitions be clarified by the incoming council.

### HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. W. L. Somerville, honorary treasurer, presented the auditor's report for the year 1935 which showed a total revenue of \$4,879.78, and total expenses of \$4,688.72, leaving a surplus for the year of \$191.06. The report indicated that the deficit at the beginning of the year was \$115.05, and after deducting this amount from the surplus for the year 1935, the net surplus at the end of the year was \$76.01.

### NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION COUNCIL OF CANADA

Gordon M. West, R.A.I.C. representative on the National Construction Council, also its president, submitted a report of the council's activities. After pointing out that the N.C.C. was formed three years ago on the initiative of the Institute, he stated that the council had been successful in its efforts to stimulate construction and through representations made to the government, a public works programme amounting to \$58,000,000 had been undertaken of which approximately \$40,000,000 had been contracted for up to the present time. Of this amount, about \$16,500,000 of the work had been allocated to architects in private practice, thus alleviating in no small degree the conditions existing in the profession.

Paralleling these achievements, the council, Mr. West stated, had pressed for housing to be undertaken by the government and in the preparation and presentation of the briefs connected therewith, members of the Institute had taken a very prominent part.

Following these efforts, stated Mr. West, the present Dominion Housing Act had been passed and although criticized in many quarters, would, if

given active support by the lending institutions and the construction industry, result in house construction to the value of \$50,000,000 being undertaken. The council, he continued, was of the opinion that the Act should be broadened in its scope to include, among other things, the rehabilitation of existing buildings, and to this end representatives of the council had held a conference at Ottawa recently with the Ministers of Finance, Labour and Public Works. A report of the discussions at this conference was read by Mr. West for the information of the meeting.

### HOUSING

Following the report of the National Construction Council, Robert H. Macdonald, on behalf of Ludger Venne, chairman of the housing committee of the Institute, reported that the following matters had been dealt with during the year:

1. Assisted the housing division of the department of finance in preparing minimum standards of construction and memorandum specifications.
2. Considered the suggestion of establishing special professional fees for housing projects in connection with which it had recommended that no action be taken as the preparation of such a scale of charges might imply a reduction of the legal or customary minimum fees.

The report concluded by stating that it was gratifying to mention that the advisor to the Minister of Finance in the application of the housing act was a member of the Institute.

Mr. Macdonald supplemented the report by pointing out that although it was not compulsory to employ an architect to prepare the plans and specifications for any projects under the Dominion Housing Act, the application forms for loans did provide for the name of the architect to be mentioned, also for the applicant to state whether or not an architect was to be engaged to supervise the work. He appealed to the members not to debase the position of the architect by preparing plans for speculative builders without proper specifications or supervision.

At this stage of the discussion, the secretary announced that the government contemplated taking over from the lending companies the supervision of construction and that in connection therewith the Institute had been asked if some arrangement could be made with architects in private practice to check up on the work as it progressed for which service a fee would be paid by the government.

The alternative to this proposed arrangement, it was pointed out, would be the appointment of special representatives of the government to do this work.

Much discussion followed this announcement, the tenor of which was in opposition to architects



being engaged to supervise the construction of houses for which proper plans and specifications had not been prepared.

The following resolution was then moved by J. H. Craig, seconded by Henri S. Labelle, and unanimously adopted:

*WHEREAS the architect has been trained to design, detail and supervise the construction of houses and other buildings;*

*AND WHEREAS the architect is a taxpayer and must contribute to the cost of government;*

*AND WHEREAS the architect has been among those who have suffered most from the depression;*

*AND WHEREAS proper supervision is impossible unless drawings and specifications are complete—*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the council of this Institute be recommended to take steps to ensure the planning by architects as well as supervision of all houses to be constructed under the terms of the Dominion Housing Act where same are located in urban centres, and that regional committees be appointed by provincial associations to supervise plans and advise the government as to advances on account of loans in rural districts.*

#### SMALL HOUSE COMPETITION

The secretary informed the meeting that he had just been advised by telephone from Ottawa that the Government intended to hold a Small House Competition and that certain funds would be voted to provide the necessary cash prizes. He further reported that the Department of Finance had requested the co-operation of the Institute in conducting the competition and also desired to have its recommendations relating thereto.

As a guide to the discussions, the secretary reported that he had elicited from his conversation with the Department the following information:

1. That the size of the house required would be about 18,000 cubic feet.
2. That provision would likely be made for more than one type of house to meet different climatic conditions.
3. That assistance from the Institute in preparing the conditions of the competitions would be appreciated.
4. That the Institute would be fully represented on the jury.
5. That consideration would be given to our suggestion that the competition be confined to registered architects.

In the discussion that followed the announcement of the proposed competition, the question was raised as to its purpose and the use to which the designs would be put by the government at the close of the competition. It was pointed out that many of the sketches for small houses which accompanied the applications for loans under the Act were very inadequate, being prepared in most instances by the applicant himself or by a small contractor. This was very unsatisfactory to the government as no proper appraisal could be made for loaning

purposes. It was the opinion of the government, therefore, that the sketch plans submitted in the competition might be made available to the small house builder.

A number of the members expressed the opinion that this would deprive many architects of their means of livelihood, but the chairman pointed out that architects were very seldom called in to design the type of small house desired by the government and that the profession could not remain indifferent to the wants of the people during times like these. Every effort should be made, he continued, to co-operate with the government in the holding of this competition, dependent, of course, on the conditions being acceptable to the Institute.

Following some further discussion, the following resolution was moved by Gordon McL. Pitts, seconded by H. L. Fetherstonhaugh, and unanimously adopted:

*That the request of the government with reference to the proposed Small House Competition be referred to the incoming council with a recommendation that the Institute co-operate with the government in drawing up the conditions for the competition, having in mind the value of the house required, so that it does not exceed an amount which would bring it within the scope of being a possible architectural commission.*

#### PROPOSED NEW BUILDING FOR THE BANK OF CANADA

The president informed the meeting that upon learning that the government contemplated erecting a new building at Ottawa for the Bank of Canada, he had written to the Prime Minister advocating the holding of a competition as an appropriate method of obtaining a suitable design for such an important building.

The president read the Prime Minister's reply which stated that he had referred the communication to the Minister of Finance and that we could be assured that our representations would receive consideration when the matter came up for discussion.

#### VOTE OF THANKS

At the conclusion of the business sessions, the members expressed their appreciation to the president and members of the executive committee for their work during the past year. Votes of thanks were also tendered to Eric W. Haldenby and the members of his committee for the very satisfactory arrangements made for the annual meeting and dinner; to the officials of the Dunlap Observatory, the Fort York Armoury and the Gilbey Distillery for their hospitality during the visit of the members to their buildings; to the Ontario Association of Architects and the Toronto Chapter for the luncheon tendered to those attending the annual meeting, and to the Royal York Hotel for the many services rendered the Institute and its members during the convention.



## NOTES ON THE CONVENTION

The twenty-ninth annual meeting of the Institute was one of the most successful and best attended meetings in the history of the Institute. The business sessions proved to be extremely interesting and the members thoroughly enjoyed the programme of entertainment provided by the Committee of Arrangements.

\* \* \* \*

One of the interesting features of the convention was a visit to the Fort York Armoury, *Marani, Lawson and Morris, architects*; the David Dunlap Observatory, *Mathers and Haldenby, architects*; and the plant of Messrs. W. & A. Gilbey, Limited, *Mackenzie Waters, architect*.

\* \* \* \*

The two luncheons held at the Royal York Hotel during the annual meeting were of a novel character, the first one being an "Ethiopian" luncheon, and the second, which was tendered by the Ontario Association of Architects and the Toronto Chapter, an "Italian" luncheon.

\* \* \* \*

The appropriate environment for the Italian and Ethiopian luncheons was created by a series of decorations prepared specially for the occasion which were afterwards auctioned off realizing a sum of \$32.21. This amount was afterwards turned over to the Ontario Association of Architects' relief fund for unemployed draftsmen.

\* \* \* \*

The concluding event of the first day of the convention was an informal dinner held at the Arts and Letters Club, followed by a programme of very enjoyable entertainment.

\* \* \* \*

The annual dinner of the Institute was held at the University Club on Saturday, February 22nd, with the Hon.

Herbert A. Bruce, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario as the guest of honour. About seventy-five members and guests were present. Mr. W. L. Somerville presided at the dinner, and following the toast to The King, the secretary announced the results of the election of officers. The retiring president, Mr. W. S. Maxwell, then proposed a toast to the guests which was responded to by the Hon. Herbert A. Bruce; Sir Wyly Grier, president of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts; Gordon M. West, president of the National Construction Council of Canada; and F. G. Rutley, president of the Canadian Construction Association. Mr. E. H. Blake, barrister, proposed a toast to the profession, to which Mr. John M. Lyle responded. Mr. A. H. Chapman, chairman of the jury of award in the R.A.I.C. student competitions, was then called upon by the president to announce the results of the competitions, and in doing so complimented the schools on the general high quality of the work submitted by the students. An interesting feature of the dinner was the presentation of Fellowship diplomas to Messrs. Charles David and Henri S. Labelle of Montreal; also to Messrs. George W. Northwood of Winnipeg, and Harold Lawson of Montreal, *in absentia*.

\* \* \* \*

The one hundred and eighty-eight drawings submitted in the R.A.I.C. student competitions were on exhibition in the Tudor Room of the Royal York Hotel during the latter part of the convention. They aroused much favourable comment, and at the conclusion of the general sessions, the jury of award consisting of Messrs. A. H. Chapman, chairman, Murray Brown, Charles David, W. B. Riddell and R. Schofield Morris, received a hearty vote of thanks for devoting the better part of two days to the arduous task of judging the competitions.

## NOTES

The name of Charles Holden, F.R.I.B.A., of London, England, member of the well known architectural firm of Adams, Holden and Pearson, has been submitted to His Majesty, The King, by the Royal Institute of British Architects as a fit recipient of the Royal Gold Medal for 1936.

\* \* \* \*

M. J. Mendelssohn, M.R.A.I.C., announces the opening of an office for the practice of architecture at 1434 St. Catherine Street West, Montreal.

\* \* \* \*

Professor C. H. C. Wright, former head of the School of Architecture, University of Toronto, was elected an honorary member of the Ontario Association of Architects at the recent annual meeting of that body.

\* \* \* \*

W. S. Maxwell, F.R.A.I.C., of Montreal, past president of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, addressed the members of the Interior Decorators' Association of Quebec on February 26th, on "How the Decorator can Help the Architect."

\* \* \* \*

H. G. W. Brinsley, F.R.I.B.A., 27 Chacon St., Port of Spain, Trinidad, B.W.I., would like to receive catalogues and other literature on building materials and equipment from Canadian manufacturers.

J. Morrow Oxley, M.R.A.I.C., of Toronto, delivered a paper on "Modern Materials in Construction" at the recent annual meeting of the Canadian Ceramics Society held in Toronto.

\* \* \* \*

The annual meeting of the Canadian Construction Association was held in Hamilton on January 21st, 22nd and 23rd. Mr. F. G. Rutley of the Foundation Company of Canada, Montreal, was re-elected president to succeed Mr. W. H. Yates of Hamilton.

\* \* \* \*

Professor E. R. Arthur, M.R.A.I.C., of the School of Architecture, University of Toronto, delivered a lecture on March 4th in the Arts Building, University of Western Ontario, London, on the subject of "Modern Domestic Architecture." D. G. W. McRae, M.R.A.I.C., of Toronto, also lectured at the University of Western Ontario on "Architectural Development from Egypt to the England of Wren."

\* \* \* \*

The forty-sixth annual meeting of the Ontario Association of Architects was held at Hart House, University of Toronto, on Thursday, February 20th, 1936. The meeting was very well attended by both local and out-of-town members. At the first meeting of the council following the annual meeting,

(Continued on next page)



the following officers were re-elected for the ensuing year: president, Murray Brown, Toronto; vice-president, John M. Watt, London; honorary treasurer, A. S. Mathers, Toronto.

\* \* \* \*

At the fiftieth general annual meeting of the Engineering Institute of Canada held in Hamilton on February 6th and 7th, Mr. E. A. Cleveland of Vancouver, was elected president to succeed Dr. F. A. Gaby of Montreal.

\* \* \* \*

According to an announcement recently made by Messrs. Dun and Bradstreet, the value of building permits issued in the United States in January and February almost doubled the total for the same period of 1935. The total construction contracts awarded in Canada during January and February amounted to \$21,838,100 as compared with \$20,892,300 for 1935, \$12,338,000 for 1934, and \$6,511,700 for 1933.

## OBITUARY

VICTOR L. MORGAN, M.R.A.I.C.

The death of Victor L. Morgan, architect of Toronto, occurred very suddenly on February 26th, 1936. He was born in Niagara Falls, Ontario, in 1888, and studied architecture in Toronto where he practised for a number of years.

J. H. LEONARD

Joseph H. Leonard, manager of the Winnipeg office of the C. A. Dunham Company, Limited, passed away on February 24th, 1936, at the age of sixty-seven. Mr. Leonard was born in Dublin, Ireland, and for the past thirty-five years has lived in Winnipeg where he was well known to many of the architects.

## COMPETITIONS

### COMPETITION FOR SMALL HOUSE DESIGNS UNDER DOMINION HOUSING ACT, 1935

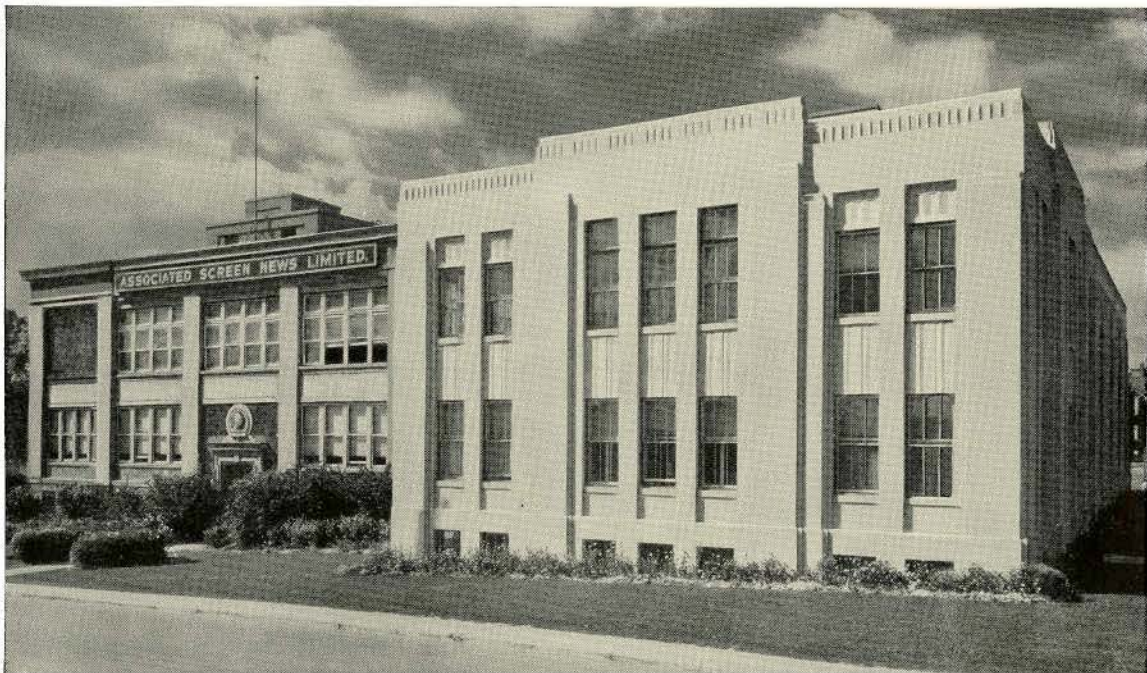
The Minister of Finance has recently announced an architectural competition for the purpose of securing minimum cost house designs. The competition is open to all registered architects in Canada and no restriction has been placed on the designer as to style, type, etc., except that the house is to meet the requirements of the average Canadian family, must contain at least three bedrooms, and that the total actual cubic contents of the house, including covered porches, etc., must not exceed 17,000 cubic feet.

The conditions for the competition were drawn up by a committee consisting of R. H. Macdonald, F.R.A.I.C., Montreal; A. J. Hazelgrove, M.R.A.I.C., Ottawa; and F. W. Nicolls, M.R.A.I.C., Housing Administration, Department of Finance.

The competition closes on April 15th, 1936, and will be judged by a jury composed of W. L. Somerville, F.R.A.I.C., Toronto, president of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada; Ludger Venne, M.R.A.I.C., Montreal, president of the Province of Quebec Association of Architects; R. H. Macdonald, F.R.A.I.C., Montreal; Professor E. R. Arthur, M.R.A.I.C., School of Architecture, University of Toronto; A. J. Hazelgrove, M.R.A.I.C., Ottawa; A. J. C. Paine, M.R.A.I.C., Montreal; and F. W. Nicolls, M.R.A.I.C., Ottawa.

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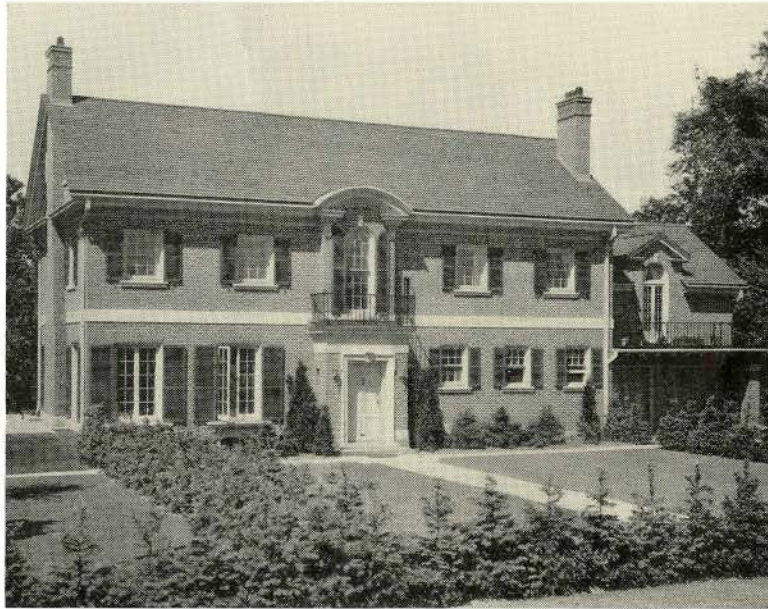
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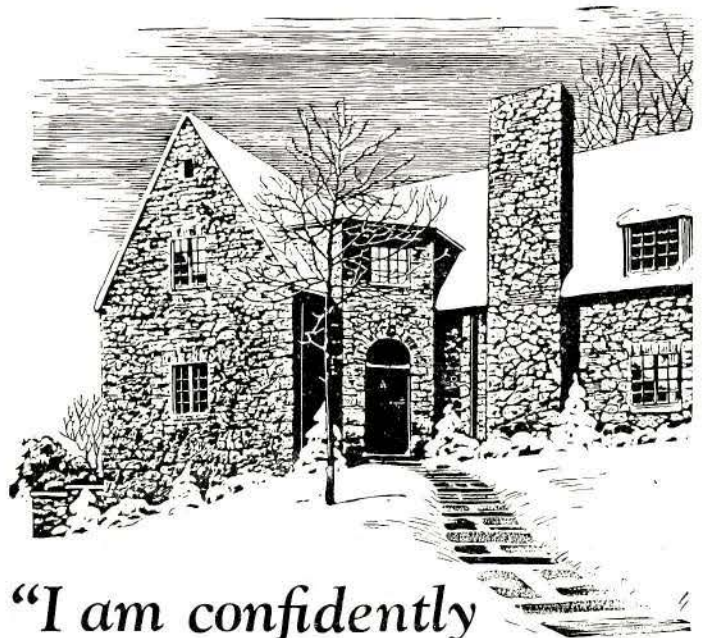
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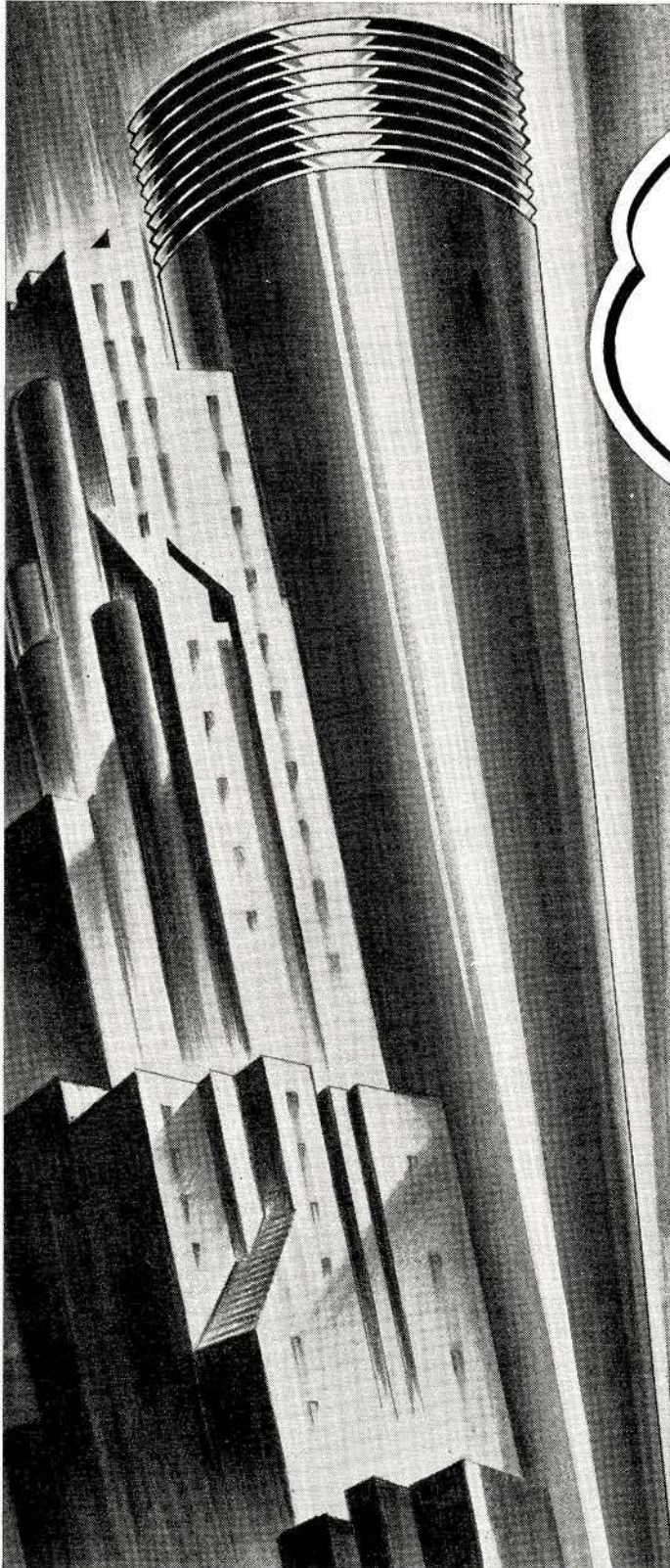
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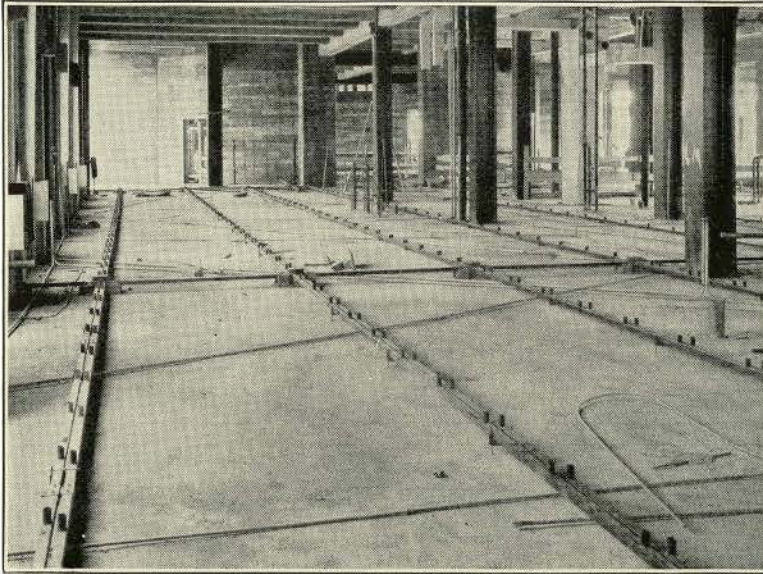
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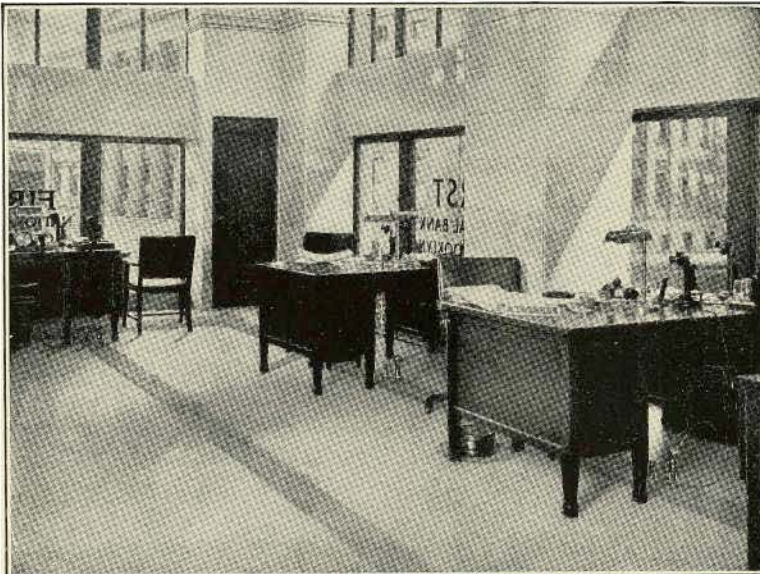




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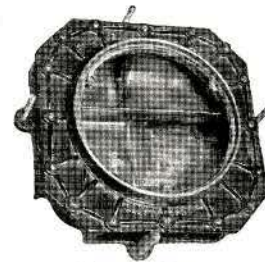
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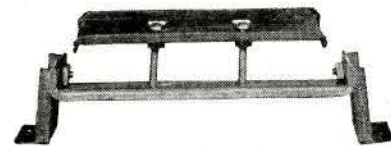
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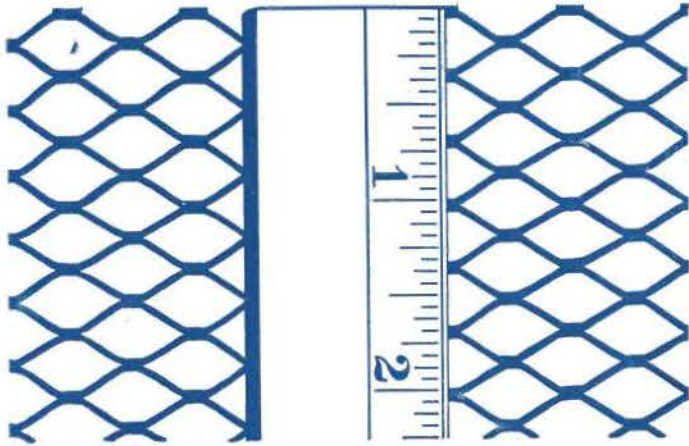
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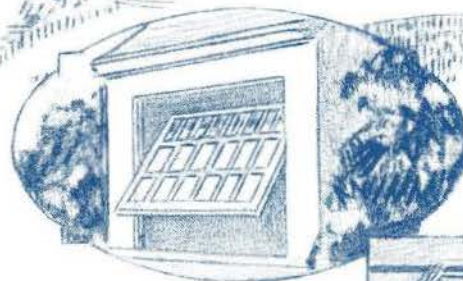
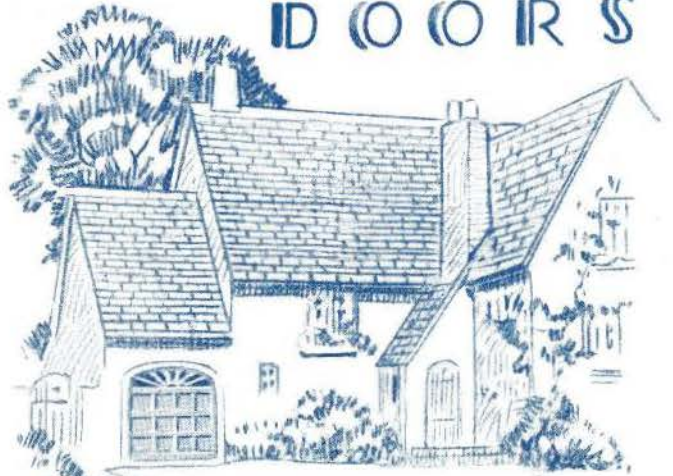
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ARCHITECTURAL CONCRETE was chosen for Alpena Courthouse because it lends itself naturally and gracefully to a distinguished design; because it is firesafe, weather-defying and maintenance-free—and because cost of construction was lower than with other materials under consideration.

Not only is this building designed to withstand the rigors of many, many winters in Northern Michigan, but the placing of its concrete was actually carried on throughout the winter months.

Alpena Courthouse is one of *many score of important buildings east of the Rockies designed in Architectural Concrete in 1935*. This acceptance, accelerating so

rapidly after years of service-testing in every climate, indicates that Architectural Concrete is one of the most important forward steps in modern building construction.

Let us send you latest information covering specifications, forms, copings, reveals and other details.

#### PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION

Dept. A3-36, 33 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Please send me literature checked.

- "Beauty in Walls of Architectural Concrete."  
 Concrete Information Sheets (AC series, 1 to 12).

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