



DAVID KNICKERBACKER BOYD

FOR twenty-five years David Knickerbacker Boyd has been one of the most active and useful workers in the profession. No one in Philadelphia has given as much time and study, no one has served on more committees, and no one has put more enthusiasm into the rank and file of both architects and draftsmen than he.

Mr. Boyd was born in Philadelphia in 1872, the son of David Boyd, Jr., and Alida Visscher Knickerbacker. His early education was obtained at the Friends Central School and the Rugby Academy of Philadelphia. He later attended the Spring Garden Institute, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and the University of Pennsylvania, after which he traveled abroad. He commenced the practice of architecture in Philadelphia about the year 1892 when with his brother he formed the firm of Boyd & Boyd. The firm was dissolved in 1897 and since that time Mr. Boyd has practised independently.

He has been continuously in the service and in the councils of the profession since about 1891, when he first became treasurer of the T-Square Club of Philadelphia. Although there is no gray in his hair, he has, nevertheless, been affectionately known to his fellow-workers as the "Grand Old Man" for at least half that time, and whether among draftsmen or among members of the local chapter or as secretary and afterward as 2d vice-president of the Institute itself, he has always managed to endear himself to those he has come in contact with by assuming burdens and doing work that few others, in active practice, would undertake. Furthermore, not content with that, he has invented many activities which are now moving along under the guidance of competent committees as being necessary to the advancement of the profession.

These activities were started in the Philadelphia chapter with which Mr. Boyd has so long been connected, and were later adopted by the Institute as part of its regular work in expanding the scope and usefulness of the profession. The most important of them are the committee on the Regulation of Competitions, the committee on the Preservation of Historic Monuments, and the committee on Public Information. His most important work, however, came when he took the office of secretary of the Institute itself. This came at a most vital period in the history of the Institute,—a period of reorganization. What sacrifices he made to bring about order and to install modern methods in that office, few will ever know.

Mr. Boyd's practice has been varied. Schools, churches, a library, warehouses, and office buildings have formed part of his work; he is, however, best known for the many suburban houses which he has designed so successfully.

Mr. Boyd is esteemed and honored not alone among his confrères in the profession, but he is also extremely popular among contractors, engineers, and other specialists, and has been able to do much to bring about a better understanding between architects and the workers in allied fields. —A. K.



WILLIAM G. NOLTING

MR. NOLTING is a noteworthy example, among the present-day successful architects in America, of one who has acquired this position not through any outside advantages afforded him in his more youthful days, such as architectural school or academic training, or even the knowledge acquired from a long period of work in an office. He is rather among those men who have the mental capacity of readily selecting and absorbing what are really the essential and important elements in the study of the profession, making himself master of these and eliminating the non-essential and superficial, and this a man of his temperament is able to do from a varied environment by clearness of insight, good judgment, and an innate good taste.

Mr. Nolting was born in Baltimore in 1866, but obtained his earlier education in the public schools of Richmond, Va., which city was the home of his family. Not having the opportunity of a collegiate education, he entered the office of Mr. Albert Lybrock, at that time the best known local architect. He was soon able to see that he would be unable to obtain a broader understanding of his ideals unless he should have an opportunity of being placed in a broader field than Richmond then presented. He accepted an opening offered him in the office of Mr. William M. Poin-dexter, in Washington, also a native of Richmond and a friend. He later had an opportunity to enter the office of Mr. Henry Brauns of Baltimore, where he remained only a short while, being offered a position with Hornblower & Marshall of Washington, an office at that time containing a group of men holding the higher ideals in the profession. Later, he accepted a position with J. B. Noel Wyatt, whose firm of Wyatt & Sperry had just been dissolved by Mr. Sperry's moving west, and within the year was offered a partnership which formed the firm of Wyatt & Nolting.

Mr. Nolting finds the greater interest in the broader work of the profession which calls for the solution of the general problem, even more than in the later development of the details. His trend of mind makes him clear sighted to grasp the essentials; it tends also to make him clear sighted and accurate in strictly business matters, so that he has become a man whose opinions are valued in the business schemes which often develop from and are associated with important architectural work.

Among the more important buildings that have been designed by Wyatt & Nolting, the one that bears most distinctly the impress of Mr. Nolting's ability is doubtless the Baltimore City Court House, completed some fifteen years ago. The work of the firm has also been conspicuous in the development, during the last fifteen or twenty years, of the beautiful suburb of Roland Park. Designs have also been made for many of the more important public institutions, club buildings, and residences, in and near Baltimore, and for several office and bank structures and government buildings in other cities. —J. B. N. W.