

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Volume XIV

OCTOBER, 1926

Number 10

CONTENTS

HAMMURABI	<i>After the Sculptured Figure by Lee Lawrie. Cover Illustration</i>	
GRANADA	<i>After the Water Color by Arnold W. Brunner. Frontispiece</i>	
AUTHORITY AND LIBERTY IN ARCHITECTURE	<i>Arthur J. Penty</i>	421
CITIES OLD AND NEW	<i>Nils Hammarstrand</i>	424
FROM FOREIGN SHORES	<i>I. K. Pond</i>	427
THE ARCHITECTURAL SCULPTURE OF THE NEBRASKA STATE CAPITOL		431
LITTLE CHURCHES IN GREECE	<i>Georgiana Goddard King</i>	434
SOME EARLY COLONIAL FIREBACKS		442
THE PALACE OF THE BLACK KING CHRISTOPHE	<i>Blair Niles</i>	449
A ROMAN SUBSTITUTE FOR WINDOW GLASS	<i>Ernestine F. Leon</i>	455
THE TEST OF SKYSCRAPER UTILITY	<i>Earle Shu'tz</i>	457
LONDON LETTER		"X" 459
PUBLIC WORKS	<i>Abram Garfield</i>	461
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR		462
INSTITUTE BUSINESS		462
OBITUARY		462

Published Monthly by

THE PRESS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, INC.

LANSING C. HOLDEN, *New York City*, President;
 J. MONROE HEWLETT, *New York City*, Vice-President;
 FREDERICK L. ACKERMAN, *New York City*, Secretary;
 WILLIAM P. BANNISTER, *New York City*, Treasurer;



FRANK C. BALDWIN, *Washington, D. C.*, Director;
 EDWIN BERGSTROM, *Los Angeles, Cal.*, Director
 HENRY K. HOLSMAN, *Chicago, Ill.*, Director;
 EGERTON SWARTWOUT, *New York City*, Director.

CHARLES HARRIS WHITAKER, *Editor*

Publication and Editorial Office, 250 West 57th Street, New York, N. Y.

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS THE COPY. \$5 PER YEAR. (Foreign \$6)

Checks or P. O. orders should be made payable to The Press of The American Institute of Architects, Inc., and all communications should be sent to the Editorial Office.

Copyright, 1926, by the Press of The American Institute of Architects, Inc. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of 24 August, 1912.

Letters to the Editor

Stresses in Structural Steel

TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL:

In the annual address of the retiring President of the Institute, delivered at its annual convention, May 5, 1926, he said, in part:

"A competition has developed between structural steel on the one hand and reinforced concrete on the other. This competition, which is being promoted by large producing concerns, interested in one system or the other, has reached a stage that each side is having its engineers increase its allowable fibre stresses, and decrease the calculated live loads, until in many buildings the factor of safety is brought alarmingly low. The condition may be regarded as menacing . . . stresses on concrete run up to the maximum limit, and, on steel to a higher limit than ever before allowable, it behooves our offices to be sure that wind pressure is not neglected and that every eccentric load is provided for."

It is with amazement that one reads these words. It is true that there is a well defined demand for increased stresses in structural steel and this came about in a legitimate and proper manner. Furthermore, some seventy-odd cities and states have revised their Building Codes to permit the use of 18,000 pounds per square inch as the basic stress in structural steel, instead of the old stress of 16,000 pounds which was adopted nearly forty years ago for Bessemer steel of uncertain quality, as well as by an engineering profession which has made advances in every way comparable with those made by the architectural profession.

The Committee on Stresses of the American Society of Civil Engineers made a report, December 9, 1924, in which the majority (eight members) recommended a basic stress of 20,000 pounds per square inch for structural steel in buildings and similar structures and the minority (four members) recommended a basic stress of 18,000 pounds. Thoughtful and well informed Americans know full well that the American Society of Civil Engineers is favorably comparable in every way even with the Institute itself.

The Building Code Committee of the U. S. Department of Commerce has recommended the basic stress of 18,000 pounds. Two of the seven members of that committee are very prominent members of the Institute. A joint committee of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Institute of Steel Construction has also recommended the 18,000 pound basic stress.

It will probably cause the worthy President some uneasiness when he learns that the American Railway Engineering Association recommends that existing railroad bridges, in good condition, shall be stressed to 26,000 pounds (basic) before they are condemned. And so it goes.

The statement that this increase in allowable steel stresses results from competition between steel and concrete is incorrect and the rather disparaging references to structural engineers are unworthy of the Institute. As to structural steel, the increased stresses are but an advanced and justifiable step made by a progressive engineering profession. It is but fair that the members of the Institute should know the facts in the matter.

A. T. NORTH.

The Proceedings of the Fifty-ninth Annual Convention

We are asked to announce that as long as the supply lasts the Institute will be glad to supply copies of the Proceedings of the last Convention to libraries upon receipt of a request addressed to The Executive Secretary, The Octagon House, Washington, D. C.

Institute Business

Sept. 30, 1926.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE:

The names of the following applicants may come before the Board of Directors or its Executive Committee for action on their admission to the Institute and, if elected, the applicants will be assigned to the Chapters indicated:

- BOSTON CHAPTER..... Frank Lyman Austin
- BROOKLYN CHAPTER..... Arthur L. Guptill
- BUFFALO CHAPTER..... Cyrus K. Porter
- CENTRAL ILLINOIS CHAPTER..... John E. Zimnee
- CHICAGO CHAPTER..... David Adler, Walter A. McDougall
- CINCINNATI CHAPTER..... Charles Wilkins Short, Jr.
- CLEVELAND CHAPTER..... Munroe Waiker Copper, Jr.
- COLUMBUS CHAPTER..... John Quincy Adams
- CONNECTICUT CHAPTER..... Charles E. Cutler, Lorenzo Hamilton
- DETROIT CHAPTER..... Richard Perrien Raseman
- FLORIDA CHAPTER..... Marion I. Manley, Earl Purdy, John Tracey, Clark N. Tingley
- IOWA CHAPTER..... Vernon F. Tinsley
- MINNESOTA CHAPTER..... Clyde W. Smith
- NEW YORK CHAPTER..... J. H. Phillips
- NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER..... Roy Keith Hamberlin, Arthur E. Thomas
- SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER..... Howard E. Burnett, Warren Porter Skillings, Lester W. Hurd, Charles F. Masten
- TENNESSEE CHAPTER..... Isaac Albert Baum, Joe T. Wallace
- WASHINGTON, D. C., CHAPTER..... Carlton Van Valkenburg, Sumner K. Wiley
- WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER..... Fred G. Rounds
- WISCONSIN CHAPTER..... Francis S. Gurda

You are invited, as directed in the By-Laws, to send privileged communications before October 30, on the eligibility of the candidates, for the information and guidance of the Members of the Board of Directors in their final ballot. No applicant will be finally passed upon should any Chapter request within the thirty day period an extension of time for purpose of investigation.

FRANK C. BALDWIN, Secretary.

Obituary

Francis Ward Chandler

Elected to the Institute in 1875; to Fellowship in 1889
Died at North Haven, Maine, 8 September, 1926

Thomas Nolan

Elected to the Institute in 1885; to Fellowship in 1889
Died at Moylan, Pa., 9 September, 1926

Thomas Nolan, Professor Emeritus of Architectural Construction at the University of Pennsylvania, died after a long illness at the age of 69. After teaching for several years at the University he was made an assistant professor in 1894 and was advanced to a full professorship in 1911. He was graduated from the University of Rochester in 1879 and later studied at Columbia and the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. He was the designer of the first steel skeleton structure in Western New York, which was the Rochester Chamber of Commerce Building. He is survived by his widow, Marie L. Nolan.

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Volume XIV

NOVEMBER, 1926

Number 11

CONTENTS

CHAPEL OF THE CONCEPTION, PLAZUELA, MEXICO	<i>Cover Illustration</i>
LA SANTISSIMA, MEXICO	<i>Frontispiece</i>
AUTHORITY AND LIBERTY IN ARCHITECTURE—III	<i>A. J. Penty</i> 465
CITIES OLD AND NEW—V	<i>William L. Steel</i> 468
PARIS LETTER	<i>G. F. Seville</i> 470
A GORGEOUS BACKGROUND—III	<i>Albert Kelsey</i> 472
DESIGNERS ON THE DEFENSIVE	<i>E. J. K.</i> 489
A NEW COURSE OF STUDY IN DESIGN	<i>N. C. Curtis</i> 490
PLAYED ON A PENNY WHISTLE	<i>Orpheus</i> 492
ZONING	493
ARC WELDING OF STRUCTURAL STEEL	493
FROM OUR BOOK SHELF	494
THOUGHTS ABOUT ART	497
NEWS NOTES	497
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	498
INSTITUTE BUSINESS	498
INSTITUTE AFFILIATIONS	502
OBITUARY	504
STRUCTURAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT	505

Published Monthly by
THE PRESS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, INC.

LANSING C. HOLDEN, *New York City*, President;
J. MONROE HEWLETT, *New York City*, Vice-President;
FREDERICK L. ACKERMAN, *New York City*, Secretary;
WILLIAM P. BANNISTER, *New York City*, Treasurer;



FRANK C. BALDWIN, *Washington, D. C.*, Director;
EDWIN BERGSTROM, *Los Angeles, Cal.*, Director
HENRY K. HOLSMAN, *Chicago, Ill.*, Director;
EGERTON SWARTWOUT, *New York City*, Director.

CHARLES HARRIS WHITAKER, *Editor*

Publication and Editorial Office, 250 West 57th Street, New York, N. Y.

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS THE COPY. \$5 PER YEAR. (Foreign \$6)

Checks or P. O. orders should be made payable to The Press of The American Institute of Architects, Inc., and all communications should be sent to the Editorial Office.

Copyright, 1926, by the Press of The American Institute of Architects, Inc. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of 24 August, 1912.

Obituary

Francis Ward Chandler

In St. Paul's Cathedral in London there is a tablet inscribed to Sir Christopher Wren: "If you would see his monument, look about you." At gatherings of architects, some young and some old, in many section of the United States this tribute may be said to apply to Francis W. Chandler, for his whole life was an inspiration to all who came in contact with him. He was born September 30, 1844.

Some years ago, at a meeting in his honor when retiring from his professorship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, we were thrilled by the words of Robert S. Peabody and others telling of Mr. Chandler's valor and sacrifice in the service of his country during the Civil War. Stories of his student days in Paris with McKim, Peabody and others were related, all of these stories indicating the love and affection in which he was held by his associates.

As a practicing architect Mr. Chandler gave ideal service to his clients. His genius was for planning and he was indefatigable in working out his designs to result in the most effective administration and maintenance, at the same time preserving their artistic charm. While not daring in individualism, he never masked his planning by designing after fashionable models, though he knew well the history of art in its various periods as few knew it.

His practice was most active in the early '80's, when clients were beginning to demand more comfort and less austerity in their homes, and his response to these calls soon made him eminent as an authority on domestic architecture. During that period he had a large and varied practice and positions in his office were eagerly sought by many young draughtsmen. It was my good fortune to be a member of his office force at that time. Each and all were proud to be his proteges. His never failing affection for his "boys," his sunny disposition and helpful counsel made him loved and respected by all. He was equally respected and admired by members of the building industry, who considered it a privilege to work under his supervision.

In 1889 Mr. Chandler retired from active practice and became Professor of Architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This brought him into contact with hundreds of young men and established for him a broader field for his ripened years. He built up the Department of Architecture and made it one that other institutions have been proud to copy. Many of his students have become members of the teaching staff of other colleges, while the number of practicing architects who were trained under his guidance is legion. He was called upon for service to the public and to his profession many times during these busy years. He always responded to these calls and gave generously of his time and skill to municipalities, corporations and others who sought his advice. Throughout his long life he had constantly in mind the advancement of his profession, and the debt we owe Francis Ward Chandler will be grate-

fully acknowledged by all. "Ad mortem fidelis," the motto on his crest.

He died September 8, 1926. SAMUEL W. MEAD

Frank W. Ferguson

Elected to the Institute in 1901; to Fellowship in 1910.

Died at Boston, Massachusetts, 4 October, 1926

Frank W. Ferguson, member of the firm of Cram and Ferguson of Boston, died at his home there due to an attack of pneumonia which he had in the early part of the year. Mr. Ferguson was born in Portsmouth, N. H., in 1861, and he was graduated from Dartmouth in 1887.

As a member of the firm known as Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson, he assisted in the designing of the United States Military Academy at West Point, St. Thomas' Episcopal Church of New York, and the Rice Institute in Texas. As a member of the firm of Cram and Ferguson he was instrumental in the designing of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, and many other buildings of note. Mr. Ferguson is survived by one son, Donald Ferguson, of Boston.

Andrew C. McKenzie

Elected to the Institute in 1915. Died at Brooklyn,

9 October, 1926

Andrew C. McKenzie, senior member of McKenzie, Voorhees and Gmelin, of New York, died of heart disease. Mr. McKenzie was born in Dunkirk, N. Y., sixty-five years ago. He had a part in the designing of forty buildings for the telephone company in this state, including the new telephone building on West Street of New York. He was formerly a member of Eidlitz and McKenzie, the designers of the Times Building. He is survived by his wife.

George W. Maher

Elected to the Institute in 1901; to Fellowship in 1916.

Died at Chicago, Illinois, 12 September, 1926.

Frank W. Ferguson

Elected to the Institute in 1901; to Fellowship in 1910.

Died at Boston, Massachusetts, 4 October, 1926.

(Further notice in December).

Andrew C. McKenzie

Elected to the Institute in 1915. Died at Brooklyn,

9 October, 1926.

(Further notice in December).

Charles I. Berg

Elected to Fellowship in the Institute in 1898.

Died at New York, 14 October, 1926.

Mr. Berg died at the New York Hospital after more than a year's illness, at the age of seventy. He had the distinction of erecting New York's first skyscraper, the Gillender Building, a twenty-story structure at Wall and Nassau Streets, constructed in 1897, which was torn down a few years ago. His last important work was as consulting architect in the construction of the Presidential Palace in Havana, Cuba, in 1918. He is survived by his wife and a son, Hunter Van Beil Berg.