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THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

The Jury worked rapidly and faithfully. Its Chairman and Vice-Chairman, whose sketches had successfully come through the criticisms and judgment of members, were diametrically opposite in temperament—one conservative, the other aggressive. The other members of the Jury were enthusiastic and painstaking

in their work, so in this, as in other service of the Association, the marked ability and special talents of its seventy members have found an opportunity for usefulness. In designing, engineering, construction, technique, and in educational work, each member has a chance to do his part to advance the art of architecture.

Current Activities

PRODUCERS' RESEARCH COUNCIL

The semi-annual meeting of the Producers' Research Council will be held Monday, 24 November, at the Hotel Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio. Among the reports to be given will be the final report of the Executive Committee in connection with the exhibits by individual members in The Architectural and Allied Arts Exposition to be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Institute in New York City, April, 1925.

The meetings of the Producers' Research Council are open to all members of the Institute and it is hoped that a number of architects in the CLEVELAND CHAPTER will attend the meeting that some good ideas may be worked out to make the Council of more benefit to the Institute.

Obituary

Willis Polk

Died at San Francisco, Calif., 11 September, 1924

Willis Polk was truly a part of the life of San Francisco, reflecting in his character and work that subtle flavor which differentiates San Francisco from the rest of the world, and the city, in turn, owes not a little of its character to his artistic vision. The problems of its citizens gave to Willis Polk the opportunities on which his talent grew. The spirit of the city was congenial to him, for he had those same adventurous leanings which inspired the pioneers. That the conditions for the full flowering of architectural talent have been rather arid in San Francisco is perhaps true, but the vigorous quality of his art overcame many exasperating obstacles.

His character was clearly marked with the qualities which go with artistic accomplishment. He was fearless, mentally and physically, and possessed of a fighting spirit which delighted in defending his artistic convictions and what he deemed the truth with all the sharp weapons of his quick wit and withering satire. Timidity was not in his make-up and difficulties did not daunt him when he was trying to express an architectural idea. His was an intuitive mentality and his judgments were swift and positive. His mind, always alert, assimilated artistic knowledge with surprising ease and rapidity. In the drafting room, he grasped situations quickly and was always ready with ingenious and practical solutions.

His love of action and his craving to be in the midst of the life of the city led him to an intense interest in the development of the city, which revealed his breadth of vision, and his temperamental tendencies to aim at monumental and classic ideals.

Love of life in all its phases, intense love of art in its various shapes, power to reflect these emotions in tangible form, these were the characteristics of Willis Polk.

His presence was distinguished and magnetic, his appearance finely drawn and aristocratic. Generous to a fault and quixotic in temperament, he often acted to his own disadvantage. But to the ideals of the beautiful, the sincere, and *la Grande Architecture*, he was ever faithful and never spared his untiring energy and æsthetic gifts to advance those ideals.

His numberless friends are bowed in grief. San Francisco has lost one of her most distinguished and brilliant sons. Art has lost a rarely-gifted devotee.

ARTHUR BROWN, JR.

George A. Frederick, F. A. I. A.

Elected to Associate Membership in 1871

Elected to Fellowship in 1877

Died at Baltimore, 17 August, 1924

George A. Frederick, for two generations one of the leaders of his profession in Maryland, and designer of the present Baltimore City Hall at the age of twenty-one, was one of the founders of the Baltimore Chapter in 1868. He served many times as director until his retirement from active professional employment in 1903. He had been in ill health for years. A year ago he broke a hip in a fall and since then had been confined to bed.

Mr. Frederick designed many other buildings, which became landmarks of the older Baltimore. Much of his handiwork was destroyed by the fire of 1904. He was intrusted by the State with the restoration of the old State House at Annapolis.

Born in Baltimore, 16 December, 1842, the son of John M. and Margaret Frederick, Mr. Frederick, at sixteen, entered the office of Lind & Murdoch, leading architects of the day. Before he was twenty-one, he set up his own practice and won the competition for the design for the City Hall. He supervised construction until the building was completed. It was one of the first "fireproof" structures in America.

Among other structures designed by Mr. Frederick were the Maryland House of Correction, St. James' Catholic Church, St. Pius' Catholic Church, virtually all of the structures in Druid Hill, Patterson, Federal Hill and Riverside Parks; the Poe monument, the Wells and McComas monument, the old Abell building at Eutaw and Baltimore streets, the old Rennert Hotel on the site of the present Postoffice; the mansion now the Baltimore Club, St. Joseph's Hospital, the Marine Hospital, the old Baltimore City College and the Quaker Meeting House at Eutaw and Monument streets.