## THE JOURNAL OF THE

# AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

STRUCTURAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

**OBITUARY** 

## THE PRESS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, INC.

THOMAS R. KIMBALL, Omaha, President; M. B. MEDARY, JR., Philadelphia, Vice-President; Frederick L. Ackerman, New York City, Secretary; Ben J. Lubschez, New York City, Treasurer; Walter D. Blair, New York City; Delos H. Smith, Washington; S. F. Voorhees; D. Everett Waid, New York City; F. R. Walker, Cleveland, Directors.

#### CHARLES HARRIS WHITAKER, Editor

Publication Office, 305 Washington Street, Brooklyn, New York Editorial Office, Fisk Building, 250 West 57th Street, New York, N. Y.

## FIFTY CENTS A 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.

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#### THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

gineering Standards Committee should be obtained in the development of standard specifications covering design, construction and installation.

Based upon a consideration of popular demand, it tentatively recommends that the recognized capacities of elevated steel towers be reduced to the following capacities in U. S. gallons: 5,000, 10,000, 15,000, 20,000, 25,000, 30,000, 40,000, 50,000, 60,000, 75,000, 100,000, 150,000, 200,000, 300,000, 500,000.

## Committee Appointments

The personnel of a number of the Institute committees has already been selected, and the men appointed to these bodies have already signified their acceptance of their appointments.

The members of the new Executive Committee are as follows: D. Everett Waid, Edwin H. Brown, Abram Garfield, William L. Steele, and Charles Herrick Hammond.

The new Judiciary Committee is composed of Messrs. William L. Steele, *Chairman*; W. E. Fisher, and William J. Sayward.

The Board of Examiners—Messrs. Edward W. Donn, Jr., Chairman; Delos H. Smith, and Louis A. Simon—is the same group which has served for the past two years.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors, which followed the Convention, President Waid, in conference with the Board, decided to withhold the appointment of new Standing and Special Committees for the time being. This will give opportunity for mature consideration, which was not possible on the day following the Convention.

In the meantime the President and the Board are asking the present committee chairmen and members to continue to perform their respective duties.

Announcement of new appointments, or reappointments, will be made in due course.

### Letters to the Editor

#### Modern German Architecture

To the Editor of the Journal:

Mr. Irving K. Pond is quite right in saying that some German architectural work has gone wild and is really cast-iron. No wonder! The war and post-war times in this country are well fit to create a thorough nervous breakdown of a great nation. Naturally the soul is irritated and will seek its way on twisted roads; however, I can assure Mr. Pond there is sanity still alive in the architectural world over here too. Therefore, it would seem "square" not only to reproduce the cast-iron trials but give the sane work a chance also—sane work which is struggling for economic and artistic solutions both.

HANS J. PHILIPP.

Itzehoe, Germany.

## Obituary

Louis Holmes Boynton
Elected to the Institute in 1913
Died at Chicago, Ill., 19 April, 1924

Professor Louis Holmes Boynton, of the faculty of the College of Architecture of the University of Michigan, was born in 1867 at Guilford, Connecticut, and as a special student studied architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Afterward he entered the office of Peabody and Stearns, in Boston, winning the Rotch Traveling Scholarship in Architecture in 1896, which gave him two years of study in Europe. Part of this time was spent in Italy where in 1897 he was married. After his return to the States he was for a time with Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge, Boston, and-later-McKim, Mead and White and Cass Gilbert, New York City. With Mr. Gilbert his principal work was on the Union Club and on the New York Customs House. From 1908 to 1912 he practiced in New York City, and then went to the University of Michigan, to teach in the field of architectural design, in which his training and experience on important undertakings was of great value. As a practitioner he was very active and has done some of Ann Arbor's most beautiful buildings including the new South University Avenue public school, residences and fraternity houses.

He is survived by Mrs. Boynton and three children, Louise, Lucia and George, and by three brothers.

Professor Boynton had been on the Board of Directors of the Ann Arbor Art Association since 1917, and was its president in 1920-21. His loss will be keenly felt by all who had the privilege of knowing him whether as a friend, associate or teacher.

#### William D. Hewitt, F. A. I. A.

Elected to Associate Membership in the Institute in 1901 Elected to Fellowship in 1909

Died at Philadelphia, Pa., 23 April, 1924

(Further notice later)

## Booth Traveling Fellowship

The first award of the George C. Booth Traveling Fellowship in Architecture has been made by the College of Architecture of the University of Michigan. Of the nine competitors who finished, the designs of two were of such equal merit that the jury decided to divide the \$1200 income of the Fellowship between Marion F. Blood, a member of the Class of 1924 and Ralph R. Calder who graduated in 1923. Both have had office experience in addition to academic training and both are students of high scholarship.

To the \$600 received by each winner, Mr. Booth has generously added \$500; by this gracious gift it thus becomes possible for the school to send two students abroad for a stay of approximately one year.

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## Committee Appointments

The complete personnel of the Committees of the Institute for 1924-5 is not yet available, but in addition to those already published we are able to announce the following Chairmen of Committees:

Jury of Fellows, H. H. Kendall, Boston; Education, George C. Nimmons, Chicago; Industrial Relations, Robert D. Kohn, New York City; Architectural Relations, Harry T. Stephens, Paterson, N. J.; Contracts, Thomas E. Snook, New York City; Allied Arts, J. Monroe Hewlett, New York City; Public Works, Milton B. Medary, Jr., Philadelphia; Public Information, John V. Van Pelt, New York City; Structural Service, N. Max Dunning, Chicago; Community Planning, Clarence S. Stein, New York City; School Building Measurements, C. B. J. Snyder, New York City; Foreign Relations, William Emerson, Boston.

It is also announced that the New York Office of the Institute is now at 19 West 44th Street, which is likewise the office of the Committee on Structural Service and the Producers' Research Council, and also the official head-quarters of the New York Chapter.

#### Delegates

The President appointed the following members, now in Europe, as delegates to the International Town Planning Conference in Amsterdam (July), and the International Conference on Education, in London, (July):

Leon Arnal, William A. Boring, F. H. Bosworth, Jr., Frank A. Bowne, William Emerson, Julian C. Levi, William H. Schuchardt, Clarence S. Stein, Hobart B. Upjohn, Henry Wright.

## Obituary

William D. Hewitt, F.A.I.A.

Elected to Associate Membership in the Institute in 1901 Elected to Fellowship in 1909 Died at Philadelphia, Pa., 23 April, 1924

With the death of Wm. D. Hewitt, Philadelphia has lost one of her oldest and best known architects. The firm of G. W. & W. D. Hewitt, so well known to an older generation, was founded 52 years ago and reached the culmination of its work in the late nineties and early part of this century. Two of the largest buildings done by this firm were the Philadelphia Bourse and the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel. They built over fifty churches, mostly in the Victorian Gothic style, in various parts of the country. The Devon Inn and the Wissahickon Inn show the strong leaning of this firm toward the English style and all through their work, especially those buildings largely due to the creative ability of William D. Hewitt, there was a saneness of design and simplicity of plan that ever marks his work, which was robust and free from mannerisms and bespoke a grasp of the problem which, ignoring unnecessary frills, reached for the solid essentials.

While Mr. Hewitt's work showed little influence of the Beaux-Arts School, which was to be expected of a man who got first inspirations from Frank Furness, still I know of no architect more concerned with the proper development of the plan as the necessary starting point in the design than he. Prout's saying, that if the plan be straightforward and logical and solve the problem at hand, then the elevations would take care of themselves, seemed to be ingrained in Mr. Hewitt's work.

Whether a large residence on the Main Line, a bank in Burlington, a church in Allentown, or a hospital in Philadelphia, in English Gothic, or Classic, or French or Renaissance, through them all runs the same sterling note, a straightforward, simple plan with the elevation rather massive and the details strong and at times almost coarse, but never frivolous or effeminate.

It is only necessary to consider the large amount of work done by Mr. Hewitt to realize how successful he was as an architect, but as a man he was even more successful if one is to judge by personal worth and sterling character; indeed to me he always seemed to have some of the qualities of Lincoln, big-hearted, generous, self-effacing, with a keen sense of humor and a fund of anecdote.

Just about a year ago the Philadelphia Chapter tendered a dinner and presented a loving cup to Mr. Hewitt, a former president of the Philadelphia Chapter, upon the completion of his fifty years of unbroken membership. On that occasion he was full of life and vitality and responded to one of the toasts with a song; now his song is hushed and we have only the memory, but in these days of strenuous competition that memory is inspiring, breathing of simplicity and sincerity of character.

Mr. Hewitt was born in Burlington, N. J., about 76 years ago, and was educated at Burlington College and the Polytechnic Institute of Philadelphia, receiving his degree a few months before his graduation to enable him to respond to the call for troops before the battle of Gettysburg.

Later he travelled and studied in Europe and for a number of years was head draftsman for Furness & Hewitt. The late Louis Sullivan in his Autobiography of an Idea refers to the favorable impression that Bill (only he miscalled him John) made upon him on his entering the office of Mr. Furness. He particularly referred to Mr. Hewitt's charming way of illustrating his ideas with very clever and crisp sketches.

From this position Mr. Hewitt later formed a partner-ship with his brother George, which lasted until about 1902 when his brother retired. The firm became Hewitt, Stevens & Paist, which was succeeded by Hewitt and Granger and, in 1917, by Hewitt & Ash. Mr. Hewitt was indefatigable in his attention to his work and was busy until the very end. His hobby was hunting and fishing and he had at one time a fine collection of rifles: his idea of a real vacation was a trip in the woods of Maine or Canada, not only for the game, but for the enjoyment of the out-of-door life.

In the passing of Mr. Hewitt, Philadelphia who knew him has lost much, and the architects a friend in whom there was no guile.

Percy Ash.