

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Volume XIV

FEBRUARY, 1926

Number 2

CONTENTS

THE CHURCH OF SANTA ROSA, QUERÉTARO, MEXICO	<i>Cover Illustration</i>
THE CONVENT DEL SAGRARIO, QUERÉTARO, MEXICO	<i>Frontispiece</i>
DISSERTATIONS IN ÆSTHETICS—IV	<i>Frederick L. Ackerman</i> 49
THE ARCHITECT AND HIS CITY	<i>Raymond Unwin</i> 53
ILLUSTRATIONS OF OLD MEXICAN ARCHITECTURE	57
MODELS, CAMERAS, AND PERSPECTIVES	<i>Timothy L. Pflueger</i> 69
MARGINALIA ARCHITECTURA	<i>F. P. S.</i> 76
LONDON LETTER	"X." 77
WHERE THE MONEY GOES!	79
EDUCATION	79
THE SECRETARY'S PAGE	<i>C. C. Zantzinger</i> 80
INSTITUTE BUSINESS	81
REGISTRATION	<i>W. P. B.</i> 84
FROM OUR BOOK SHELF	85
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	86
THE GENERAL CONDITIONS OF THE WASHINGTON, D. C., CHAPTER	87
STRUCTURAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT	89

Published Monthly by

THE PRESS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, INC.

LANSING C. HOLDEN, *New York City*, President; MILTON B. MEDARY, JR., *Philadelphia, Pa.*, Vice-President; FREDERICK L. ACKERMAN, *New York City*, Secretary; WILLIAM P. BANNISTER, *New York City*, Treasurer; FRANK C. BALDWIN, *Fredricksburg, Va.*; J. MONROE HEWLETT, *New York City*; HENRY K. HOLSMAN, *Chicago, Ill.*; WILLIAM B. ITTNER, *St. Louis, Mo.*; EGERTON SWARTWOUT, *New York City*, 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.

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 Brooklyn, N. Y., under Act of Congress of 24 August, 1912. Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of 3 October, 1917, authorized by the Third Assistant Postmaster General.

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

attribution. Accompanying these are eighty-nine well-chosen plates of illustrations, largely photographs of buildings, but containing many reproductions of plans, drawings and sketches. One of the most interesting of these is Peruzzi's sketch for the main doorway of the Massimi palace.

Mr. Kent has seen Peruzzi as a man of deeds and it is these deeds that are put before us, as if to say, "Look, is not the creator of these worthy of still greater fame?"

The author has strengthened this viewpoint by his conciseness, by the elimination of all things irrelevant to the single idea, and by condensing the text almost to the point of abruptness. It is in this very strength that lies the greatest weakness. The things which make the book invaluable to the student and historian tend to limit its appeal only to them. But in spite of a chronological tendency, the author succeeds in transferring his enthusiasm for Peruzzi to us, and by the force of his statements makes us disciples. In fact, we are quite ready to accept many of his surmises as established truths. We cannot help wishing that the text might have been extended and that some phases of Peruzzi's work might have been treated more fully, but what higher praise for any book than to regret its ending.

JAMES CHILLMAN, JR.

London Forever!

Out of the inexhaustible store of London comes another little book,¹ which I suppose will be regarded as romantic or architectural according as the illustrations satisfy the one or the other reason which leads to an interest in such books. The authors have made a good selection, so far as I am concerned, but I am one of London's most fervent adorers and not to be trusted in appraising the architectural value of seventy photographs. I love the place and many of these pictures revive memories that are precious. Other lovers may feel differently, for who can evaluate another's affections?

The manner of printing leaves a certain hardness and coldness. I like illustrations to be warmer and with more hints of color. But an architect might well say that the detail was perfect and the outlines exceedingly sharp and clear. No doubt that is what was sought.

C. H. W.

Letters to the Editor

The Small House

TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL.

THE NEW JERSEY CHAPTER asks and will appreciate the publication of this letter, which it adopted unanimously at its meeting 16 January, in the February JOURNAL. We so will most fully and conveniently acknowledge the many responses received with reference to our Resolution about the Institute's connection with the Small House Bureau which was published in the November JOURNAL and express our appreciation of them.

We regard the increasing tendency, shown by the cor-

¹ Some Lesser Known Architecture of London. By James Burford and J. D. M. Harvey. William Helburn, New York. 1926.

respondence, to see that there is another and not so pretty side to the course of the Institute in the small house matter, with interest and satisfaction, for it points to coming correction.

We think it is becoming increasingly evident that there is no majority of the members in favor of that course; but only a small minority. We do not believe that a majority ever did favor it; but that the majority rested quiescent in a belief, which it should have been safe for them to hold, that those who initiated this subject would not initiate anything which would be hurtful to the Institute. And we agree that they would not intend to hurt or injure it.

Replying to some who have written, and to others who have thought the same without writing, we limited our endeavors to efforts toward cutting the connection between the Institute and the Bureau because, to us as Institute members, that connection and what seems to us its smirching of the Institute are the main things, and we ask the information we do ask in all the detail we do ask because only with such detailed information will it be possible to know the truth.

With the cutting of the connection between the Institute and the Bureau interest in the lesser questions would lessen if not vanish.

This is why we did not ask in our Resolution in the first place, and why we do not now ask:

In what way, if any, and to what extent, if at all, has the control of the Bureau by the Institute been exercised; and is it because of this control, or in spite of this control, or because this control though voted has been lacking or disregarded, that the Institute passes out copies of *The Functions of the Architect* with one hand while it passes out stock plans with the other; or that, just as one used to get a free chromo with a pound of tea, one now, in various parts of the country, gets a free set of stock plans and specifications with the lumber, while the dealer proclaims that these stock plans have been put out by the great American Institute of Architects, the same society to which Mr. Architect belongs and has praised.

We have not asked and do not ask these questions because they are not the main one, and because, even if they were answered satisfactorily, if they could be, the main question would remain untouched.

We have raised and we do raise the main question: the severance of the connection between the Institute and the Bureau, and the questions as to the personnels and the finances, in just the way we did raise them, because we deemed the time to have arrived to do so.

We direct the Secretary to forward this letter to the Editor of the JOURNAL for the purposes indicated.

For the New Jersey Chapter,

HUGH ROBERTS, Secretary.

Obituary

Burt L. Fenner

Elected to Membership in 1908

To Fellowship in 1913

Secretary of the Institute 1915-1916

Died at New York City, 25 January, 1926

Herbert Richard Mainzer

Elected to Membership in 1911

Died at New York City, 13 December, 1925