

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Volume X

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THOMAS R. KIMBALL, *Omaha*, President; N. MAX DUNNING, *Chicago*, Vice-President; WILLIAM STANLEY PARKER, *Boston*, Secretary; BEN J. LUBSCHEZ, *New York City*, Treasurer; HERBERT B. BRIGGS, (Briggs & Nelson), *Cleveland*; D. EVERETT WAID, *New York City*; M. B. MEDARY, JR., (Zantzinger, Borie & Medary), *Philadelphia*; GEORGE C. NIMMONS, (George C. Nimmons & Co.), *Chicago*; S. F. VOORHEES, (McKenzie, Voorhees & Gmelin), *New York City*, Directors.

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THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

News Notes

WILLIAM D. FOSTER and Harold W. Vassar have opened an office at 132 Madison Avenue, New York City.

CHARLES A. DIEMAN is now associated with the new firm of Gardner-Parry-Dieman, 313 Engineers Bldg., Denver, Colo.

PROF. A. F. D. HAMLIN, F.A.I.A., School of Architecture, Columbia University, will deliver next year in Paris a course of sixteen lectures on American Art in the Ecole du Louvre, and a shorter but similar course in the School of Higher Social Studies. These lectures are a gift from Prof. Hamlin, and Columbia is granting him six months' leave for the purpose of delivering them.

THE PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER is figuring very prominently in the construction program for the proposed Sesqui-Centennial Exposition. Through the influence of the Chapter, Mr. Paul Cret has been named architect-in-chief, with the assistance of Mr. M. B. Medary, Jr., and Mr. George Howe; a separate committee, composed of Messrs. Klauder, Lovatt, Sinkler and Rankin, was also named by the Exposition Directors as the Advisory Committee on architecture.

RESTORATION of the Fine Arts Building in Jackson Park, Chicago, where was held the memorable dinner of the last convention, has proceeded to a point where some \$7,000 is now available for undertaking such work on the east wing as will serve to show the feasibility of the whole project and convince the public of the wisdom of carrying through the whole restoration. Some accounts of the proposal have appeared in various issues of the JOURNAL. It is interesting to know that the initial sum has been made available by the activity of the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs, which has placed the money at the disposal of the Municipal Art Committee of the Illinois Chapter.

THE MONEY required for the memorial to Joan of Arc, to be erected at Winchester Cathedral, has now been subscribed, and the work has accordingly been put in hand. The memorial is to take the form of a canopied statue, clad in armor, and the total cost will not exceed £500.

Many of the contributions have come from well-wishers in New York, where, it may be recalled, an equestrian statue of the "Maid of France" has already been erected. One of the side chapels in Westminster Cathedral has been consecrated to her memory. It is hoped that the unveiling ceremony may take place in the early weeks of next year.

TO OBTAIN for the small community a hospital building both "efficient in arrangement and creditable in architecture," *The Modern Hospital* has announced a prize competition, open to all architects. The Illinois Chapter of the Institute, to which the program of the competition was submitted, has approved it. Richard E. Schmidt of the firm of Richard E. Schmidt, Garden & Martin of Chi-

cago, is the architectural adviser. Prizes amounting to \$1,000 are to be given to successful contestants. Registration for the contest must be made by November 15, 1922. The program may be had from the Chicago office of *The Modern Hospital*.

WRITING from France, Mr. W. Marbury Somervell, a member of the Institute who has long been associated with post-war work in France, has the following to say, in the Monthly Bulletin of the Washington State Society:

"No matter how good the French School may be, it is certain that the architecture of France has reached the lowest stage in its history. I never in my life imagined anything so atrocious as the work now being done, both in public and in private. The useless ornament, the meaningless mouldings accomplished at great cost, the texture of walls, the brickwork and all the rest of the bag of tricks are disheartening. Why, Seattle has in the last ten years produced more good design than all of France in a like period. They do excel in workmanship, and when you have said that, you have said all that there is to be said of modern French architecture. The devastated district is the most disheartening of all the areas of France, in the design of new work, and if Rheims is a fright, Verdun is no better."

"PLENTY of liberty, but bad architecture," seems to sum up the impressions of London's latest critic from the United States, says the *Westminster Gazette*. "Mr. Mencken, the critic in question, hates Prohibition, and that is no doubt the reason why he praises our freedom. He doubtless despises our many chimneys and 'Gothic garages,' as he calls them, because he has been accustomed to skyscrapers with more stories than chimneys in New York. He would hang all London architects as an artistic international amenity—and the architects have now to retort what they would do with all the hit-and-miss critics who come from America. Whatever may be the fault of London's buildings, past or present, they make an architectural assemblage more romantic than is to be found even in Paris—where Richard Jefferies objected to the straight lines on the boulevards—and more varied than is to be found in big-block New York. Mr. Mencken may not know that the new London is being built upon the solid front principle of New York, especially in the region of the Kingsway. This may be the very reason why he finds fault with our architects. He thinks the new L. C. C. H. all 'big and American,' and does not like the color of the roof. It will be soon enough to get a settled view of the new County Hall when it is seen in its finished aspect, and when the weather has mellowed its rawness. Rawness is just as exasperating in a building as in a critic."

Obituary

Dudley McGrath

Elected to the Institute in 1908

Died at New York City, 1 October, 1922

(Further notice later.)

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OBITUARY

machinery and the subdivision of labor as the sole cause of all the fatal weaknesses that are showing themselves in modern civilization. Such an inference would be far from the truth. The unhappy vicissitudes that have overtaken religion and philosophy, and the low-grade substitutes that have been offered—and accepted—have an equal part in the calamity. This fact is recognized, and later on Mr. Penty says:

“Political and economic activity pursued apart from a new ideal of life as expressed in spiritual values, is for the most part a vain delusion; * * * the economic evils of our society are finally nothing more than the obtrusive symptoms of an inward spiritual disease that has followed the separation of man from religion, art and nature, and which has changed the substance of our lives and activities.”

Yes, this comes close to the root of the thing. It was the coincidence of the mechanical inventions and scientific discoveries with a condition of society and human character brought about by the loss of religion and the prevalence of a false philosophy that turned the “labor saving” machines into engines of destruction and panders of slavery. In the late twelfth or early thirteenth century these very inventions and discoveries might possibly have been curbed and used to beneficent ends, for society was dominated then by powerful spiritual forces that could bring good even out of evil. It is in this fact that we can find both the assurance of the uselessness of the materialistic and “practical” panaceas now offered us, and the pointing to the way that leads towards valid remedies.

You cannot cure a drunkard by taking away his whiskey, but only by taking away his *desire* for whiskey, and similarly you cannot cure the ills of an industrial civilization by mechanistic laws or the purblind conclusions of committees, commissions or conferences, but only by creating a new vision and new ideals in individual men. Today the world is one ridiculous welter of honest and sincere citizens getting together in hired halls and passing resolutions and publishing reports. Nothing comes of it except a worse confounding of the confusion. If they would forget it all, go back to their homes and sensibly pray “Renew a right spirit within me, O God!” the results might be different.

The only weak spot in this book is Mr. Penty’s apparent yielding now and then to the very mechanical methods he so justly condemns, when he tries to indicate some method whereby the limitation and control of machinery and the abolition of subdivision of labor may be accomplished. For example, in dealing with the necessary return to the Mediaeval guild system in industry he says, “the first thing to do it to create a popular belief in the ideals of craftsmanship by means of propaganda”: *Absit omen!*—“Following that, there must be organization of the market and the provision of credits for craftsmen. If this were undertaken on a large scale as part of a national movement that sought to establish Guilds, fix prices, regulate machinery and abolish the subdivision of labor, then it would be a practical proposition.”

You see how hard it is, even for Mr. Penty with his clear vision, to escape from the mechanical incubus, “propaganda,” “organization of the market,” “large scale,” “national movement,” “practical proposition.” What are

these but the very ear-marks of mechanized civilization expressed in the very jargon of the social enemy? Well, we cannot be too hard on Mr. Penty; we all do it by a kind of instinct bred of long familiarity; it is hard to emancipate ourselves, even in thought, from our own age. No, the salvation must come from the things condemned in the book, and a return made to the things here praised, but it will hardly be by mechanical means or “mass-action,” rather by the renewal of a right spirit in the individual, the achievement of a new vision, and the concurrent action of small and inconspicuous groups of men of like mind and good will. St. Benedict made over and saved Europe for a thousand years, but the revolution was effected by one man in a hidden cave in the Calabrian hills.

It seems to me that this book is the most revealing, stimulating and sane product in its own category that has as yet appeared. Those who read it might well do so in connection with “A Guildsman’s Interpretation of History,” Tawney’s “Acquisitive Society,” Belloc’s “Servile State,” Chesterton’s “What’s Wrong with the World,” and Dr. Figgis’ “Civilization at the Cross-Roads,”—and if they haven’t already read Samuel Butler’s “Erewhon” and William Morris’ “News from Nowhere” and “The Dream of John Ball” they should do so at once.

RALPH ADAMS CRAM.

Obituary

Howard Crosby Butler, H.A.I.A.

Elected to Honorary Membership in the Institute
in 1915

Died at Paris, 13 August, 1922

Howard Crosby Butler was born 7 March 1872, at Croton Falls, N. Y., the son of Edward Marchant and Helen Belden (Crosby) Butler. He prepared at Lynn’s Collegiate Institute and the Berkley School, New York City; entered the sophomore class at Princeton in March, 1890, and was graduated with the degree of A.B., in 1892, winning an appointment as fellow in Archaeology. He received the degree of Master of Arts the following year and spent the year 1894-95 at the School of Architecture, Columbia University. He was appointed Lecturer on Architecture at Princeton in 1895, held a fellowship at the American School of Classical Studies in Rome 1896-1897, and spent the next year at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. On his return he was appointed Lecturer on Architecture at Princeton, in 1905 became Professor of Art and Archæology, and later Professor of the History of Architecture. In 1920 he was made Director of the newly organized School of Architecture at Princeton.

Early attracted to Syrian archæology by the writings of DeVogue, an interest which was fostered by personal acquaintance, Professor Butler organized an American Expedition to Syria in 1899 and 1900, traversing much of the ground covered by DeVogue, but adding extensively to the material brought back by the earlier explorer. He returned to Syria as Director of the Princeton Expedition in 1904, 1905 and 1909. The results of these expeditions appear in the “Publications of the American Archæologi-

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cal Expedition to Syria." In 1910 he was the organizer and director of the American Expedition to Sardis. The work was producing remarkable results when the outbreak of the European War in 1914 put an end to the excavations.

In the spring of 1922 work at the site was resumed, and it was on his return from Sardis in midsummer that he died of heart failure induced by the after-effects of fever.

In 1921 he was made chairman of the committee to reorganize the *Journal of Archaeology*, and also of the Research Commission established by the Archaeological Institute of America to prepare a general survey of the three fields of Oriental, Classical and American Archaeology and to present a report on projects in these fields to lay before the great financial foundations in the United States.

Howard Crosby Butler will be remembered for his personality, not to mention his remarkable ability as a lecturer and teacher, which was perhaps his greatest influence. He had the gift of inspiring his students with his enthusiasm and love of architecture not only as a technical science but as an art. From this influence sprang the Princeton School of Architecture in which not only is the technical side of architecture provided for but the allied arts of sculpture and painting are also taught in their relation to architecture.

V. LANSING COLLINS.

Dudley McGrath

Elected to the Institute in 1908

Died at New York City, 1 October, 1922

Dudley McGrath, a member of the New York Chapter since 1914, died recently after a brief illness. He was the son of the late Thomas H. and Maria A. Bergen McGrath, and received his early education in the public schools of Brooklyn, the Polytechnic Institute, and later at Columbia University. He entered the office of J. B. Snook & Son immediately after leaving college in 1893, serving with them as assistant engineer, and later as chief engineer of their construction department, until 1902. He then began the practice of architecture as a member of the firm of Davis, McGrath & Shepard, which later became the present firm of Davis, McGrath & Kiessling. For a number of years he delivered a course of lectures on the subject of "Building Contracts" to the architectural students of Pratt Institute.

For many years Mr. McGrath was an active member of the Brooklyn Chapter of the Institute, serving on the Board of Directors and as Secretary of the Chapter from 1911-1913, after which he transferred to the New York Chapter. For a long period he represented the Brooklyn and later the New York Chapter as a member of the Joint Committee on City Departments and rendered valuable service in the effort to secure a better Building Code for the City.

His natural optimism endeared him to his co-workers and his considerate attitude towards others in the practice of his profession made his loss keenly felt by his associates and his many friends within and outside the profession of architect.

Ernest Woodyatt

Elected to the Institute in 1916.

Died at Chicago, 29 June, 1922.

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God to remove from our midst, our friend and business associate, the late Ernest Woodyatt, and

Whereas, in his unexpected demise we have lost a highly trained architect and a friend, one whose character and sterling qualities endeared him to all who came in contact with him, and

Whereas, knowing and appreciating the high esteem in which he was held, we believe and feel that all his many friends mourn with us in the loss of one of the noblest of men, one whose life was devoted to his ideals. His life could be best summed up by a quotation from a recently published letter of Chas. McKim who said "A man can always give up everything in an argument but the essence. The 'essence' here is a question of principle with me, to which I feel that I must adhere."

Therefore, be it it resolved that the Illinois Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, in meeting assembled this day deeply and sincerely deplore the death of Ernest Woodyatt and express to the family of the deceased their heartfelt sympathy in their hour of great grief.

Enrique-Maria Repulles y Vargas, H.C.M.A.I.A.

Elected to Honorary Corresponding Membership in the Institute in 1905

Died at Madrid, Spain, in September, 1922

News Notes

H. GEORGE FINK has removed his office to Suite 301-4, Merrick Bldg., Miami, Fla., to which address he wishes sent samples and catalogues of architectural materials.

AS THE ARCHITECT of the United States Mortgage & Trust Company Building, New York City, adjudged by a committee of New York architects and laymen as the finest structure erected in the Fifth Avenue district during the past year, Henry C. Chapman was recently awarded a medal by the Fifth Avenue Association.

IN CONNECTION with the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, announced last month, the Philadelphia Chapter further states that it will not approve any plan not involving "the use and improvement of both banks of the Schuylkill River as far as Vine Street."

REGISTRATION of architects in Kansas may be in the offing, as committees of the Kansas City and Kansas Chapters are at present active in the matter of a bill for the legislature, entitled "Proposed Act for the Examination and Licensing of Architects and for the Regulation of the Practice of Architecture in the State of Kansas."

Structural Service Department appears on the second right hand page following