

Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 18, 1892.

75

Mr. Dankmar Adler,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:-

Several days ago I wrote you saying I would be present at the meeting of the Institute next Thursday, but owing to pressing business engagements it will be impossible for me to come. I regret this exceedingly as I had looked forward with much pleasure to the opportunity of becoming acquainted with many architects whose names I know well.

This morning I received an admittance ticket to the Dedicatory Ceremonies and I wish to say if this has been any expense to any one or to the Institute I would be glad to have you let me know so I could reimburse them.

Dictated.

Very truly yours,

Thos. H. Morgan

Atlanta, Ga.

July 12th

1894

Alfred Stone Esq

Sec. Am. Institute of Architects
Providence R. I.

Dear Sir:

It is announced by postal card that a meeting of Atlanta Architects will be held today to take steps toward organizing an association to be known as the Atlanta Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

The elements in this movement are in no sense of the word representative architects. They are made up principally of recent emigrants, cabinet makers and young draughtsmen. While I certainly have no objection to this organization, I do enter my protest against having them recognized as a Chapter of the Institute. I have always understood that membership in the Institute came as a reward for hard study and after careful preparation. While it is true a member of a Chapter may not be a member of the Institute, still by association and his membership in the Chapter he practically does become a member of the Institute in all but name.

The Southern Chapter was organized covering the large territory it does simply because no few men of standing could be found in any single State or city, and it was expected that the Southern Chapter would gradually curtail its territory as local Chapters were formed.

The forming of these local Chapters it seems to me should be done with the approval of the Southern Chapter, 1st because we show the men desiring the local Chapter their possessing the standing and dignity of the Institute, and 2nd because

be distinctly understood that the membership of the Institute or its Chapters is not made up of secret contractors, carpenters, draughtsmen and cannot be lightly secured and carelessly held. And then again the Southern Chapters would hardly care to cooperate with a recognized Chapter, the members of which would not be admitted to the Southern Chapters.

I am heartily in favor of increasing the membership of the Institute and the number of its Chapters, but I think quality should be taken into consideration as well as quantity.

It may be possible the people entering this local association may not apply to you for a charter. Should they do so however, I respectfully request you do not grant same until you have laid the matter before the Southern Chapters.

Very Respectfully

Thos. H. Morgan F. A. S. A.

Vice-Pres. Southern Chapters A. S. A.

I concur with Mr. Morgan in the above and think it very undesirable for the Trustees to recognize such an association as a Chapter of the Institute. The By Laws of the Institute require that the President of a Chapter must be a Fellow of the Institute.

Respectfully

W. J. Dimmock

Presdt. Southern Chapters
A. S. A.

Richmond Va.

Atlanta, Ga. Sept 20th 1894.

Alfred Stone Esq
Secretary A. I. A.
Providence R. I.

Dear Sir-

Will you please inform me
whether or not Mr Bradford L. Gilbert architect
New York City, is a member of the American
Institute of Architects.

By replying you will greatly oblige

Yours Very Truly

Thos. H. Morgan F. A. I. A.

Atlanta, Ga. October 1st 1894.

Alfred Stone Esq

Lucy A. S. A.

Providence R. I.

Dear Sir-

I owe you an explanation for my inquiry of recent date concerning Mr Bradford L. Gilbert of New York City. The competition for Exposition Buildings in this city was exceedingly unprofessional and among the many statements it was told me by two members of the committee on Buildings that Mr Gilbert stated he was a member of the A. S. A. I knew this was not so and protested against his using the A. S. A. to bolster up any claim. When the committee found I was pressing the matter closely (or rather certain members of the committee) they denied he had said that he was a member of the A. S. A. but said the usual practice of the A. S. A. was thus and so and he would conform to it. One member of the committee however says positively Mr Gilbert did claim to be a member. When I saw the matter would produce trouble among the members of the committee and nothing to be gained except puncturing a falsehood I allowed the thing to drop.

Mr G. L. Norman architect of this city tells me that he was elected a member of the A. S. A. at a meeting they held in Nashville Tenn some years ago, previous to the consolidation - and that he has now been called upon for dues or has been entered among the list of members - I would

It be proper for the Board of directors to look into this
and place him on the list without further election?

We can all recommend him very highly -

Very truly yours

Thos. H. Morgan

Handwritten notes in the left margin, including the number "16" and some illegible scribbles.

BRUCE & MORGAN,
ARCHITECTS.

Received,

JAN 27 1899

Ass'd " "

JAN 28 1899

Received,

ATLANTA, GA.,

January 21st 1899

Mr. Glenn Brown

Secretary, A. I. A.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

Replying to your letter of the 18th

I have seen the Fellows living in this city and all are desirous of forming a Chapter.

There are only four Fellows here and it will be necessary, I believe, to secure one or more Associates.

We have here three or four suitable men for Associates and if you will send me five or six application blanks we will try to get them filled out and send to you.

Very Truly Yours

Thos. H. Morgan

Received,

JAN 30 1899

Ans'd-----

ATLANTA, GA., th January 28 1899

Mr. Glenn Brown

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of Jan'y 21st enclosing beautiful applications at hand. I will do the best I can to interest some of our best men to apply for membership.

In regard to extending the Associate membership throughout the South. It is very difficult to work up an interest among the best men where they see that the administration of the Institute practically ignores the South. The directors selected to represent the South have not been men of high professional standing. In fact they have no acquaintance among the architects generally in the South - do very little work, and have no influence.

The important committees never include the name of a Southern architect. The Board of Directors met a few days ago and in the entire list of committees the Southern architect is conspicuous on account of ~~his~~ absence.

Again, the position on the Board held by W. C. Smith of Nashville, Tenn. was declared vacant and the

2

ATLANTA, GA.,

189

place given to Mr. Stone of Providence R.I. Now, Mr. Stone is an able and experienced man, we all like him and are glad to have him on the Board, but in justice to this great section of the country the vacancy should have been filled by a live man from the south.

Some five years ago a few of us interested the architects in the south in organizing the Southern Chapter and without any effort we secured a membership, as I now remember of fifty or more. All enthusiastic and anxious to advance the profession. The Institute regarded the Chapter about as I would a Chapter in Alaska. So after a while the infant died - and we came to the conclusion ~~the~~ Institute had no use for us except as "paying members".

I am glad you are interested in advancing the Institute in this section - and if the Institute will give us a friendly "hand" once in a while I am sure the work will progress and great good will be done.

If we get one or two associates here we will apply for a Chapter -

Please let me know if I can be of any service. I will be glad to do all I can -

Very truly yours

Thos. H. Morgan

BRUCE & MORGAN,
ARCHITECTS.

Received,

FEB 3 1899

Ans'd _____

ATLANTA, GA. Feb 1 1899

Mr Glenn Brown

See AIA

Washington

Dear Sir

As we are moving to larger
and better offices, we wish you
to locate us A. C. Bruce

Thos H Morgan

Prudential Building
Atlanta Ga

in the new report
of the A. I. Architects which no doubt
you are having published.

Resply

Bruce & Morgan

ATLANTA, GA.

July 5th 1895

Mr Alfred Stone

Anniston A. I. A.

Providence R. I.

Dear Sir.

In reply to your esteemed favor of July 29th Mr Simsdale Green moved from Anniston Ala. several years ago - soon after the death of his partner Mr Chisolm. After considerable inquiry I can get no reliable information of his present residence -

I will continue the inquiry and let you know the result -

Very Truly Yours

Thos. H. Morgan

BRUCE & MORGAN,
ARCHITECTS.

Received,

FEB 8 1899

Received,

FEB 8 1899

Post^{ly} cons -

ATLANTA, GA.

Feb 6th 1899

Mr Glenn Brown, Secy A.I.A.

Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir.

Replying to your favor of the 2nd.

I sincerely hope you will not think I am in any way lukewarm where the Institute is interested. I endeavor to explain matters as I understand them from members of the Institute and also from architects not members.

I am sure interest can be awakened, and as soon as we get the Atlanta Chapter organized we can do much to interest architects in other cities.

In regard to the Southern Chapter. The territory covered by the Chapter included the entire south. It was too much. The meetings could only be held annually and therefore could exercise very little, if any, influence in the profession. For the first two years an earnest effort was made to elevate the profession, but by the mistaken zeal of some it partook a great deal of "trades unionism". And then again owing to the feeling that the Institute held out no encouragement to the Chapter, a faction grew up anxious to organize an Institute separate and distinct from the American Institute. This was not encouraged by the Chapter members, and their friends, belonging to the American Institute. Thus, seeing discord growing

2

ATLANTA, GA., _____ 189

and unable to secure the object for which the Chapter was organized, meetings were discontinued, and no one now takes any further interest in it.

In lieu of the Southern Chapter I favor a number of small local chapters.

I will send you the name of an applicant for associate membership in a day or two, I hope. If he is elected there will be five members of the Institute in this city, enough, I understand to organize a Chapter. After organization it will be easy to increase our membership as fast as we desire.

Now, anticipating the election of this applicant I would
be glad to have you advise me fully in regard to organizing a Chapter in Atlanta covering the territory only of this country.

1st Please suggest a desirable form of Constitution.

2nd I see it is necessary to be incorporated therefore please suggest a desirable form of Charter.

I would like to get these things just right and we will all be glad if you will help us.

Again which would be better for a name. "The Atlanta Chapters of the A. I. A." or something like "The Atlanta Architectural League a Chapters of the A. I. A."

Please write me fully your ideas

Very Truly

Thos. H. Morgan

BRUCE & MORGAN,
ARCHITECTS.

ATLANTA, GA., July 7th 1899

Mr Green Brown

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir

Enclosed I send you the
appreciation of Mr W. F. Denny. He is
a splendid fellow and I hope he
will be accepted -

Very Truly Yours

Thos. H. Morgan

Received, Feb 9 1898
Answered 10 1898

Atlanta Ga March 7th 1898

Mr. Alfred Stone.

Providence R.I.

Dear Sir.

I noticed in the report of the meeting of the Board of Directors A. I. A. Feb'y 11th that Mr. W. J. Downing of this city had been elected a member of the Institute. We now have in this city four Fellows - viz: A. C. Bruce, G. L. Norman, Dr. J. Downing and myself. If this number is not too small I would like to make an effort to form a Chapter in this city. There are two or three other architects in this city who, I think, would make acceptable Fellows, but if the Chapter can be formed with the present four Fellows, the additional numbers craved for from time to time would have the weight of the Chapter approval and the standard kept to its high plane.

Please let me know what you think of organizing a Chapter with four Fellows, and if the Constitution will permit this -

Very Truly Yours

Thos. H. Morgan

Atlanta Ga Oct. 28th 1898.

Mr. Alfred Stone
Providence R. I.

Dear Sir.

Replying to your esteemed favor of the 24th inst. in regard to getting additional Fellows so as to form a Chapter of the Institute at Atlanta.

I have consulted the Fellows here and they think it will be better to organize a Chapter after the new Constitution and By-Laws are adopted. They think it will be wiser and will give a higher standing to the Chapter to allow the younger men to go in as Associates and be raised to Fellowship after showing their ability. Then the Fellowship will be of value.

I hope to meet you in Washington next week.

Very truly yours

Thos. H. Morgan

BRUCE & MORGAN,
ARCHITECTS,
PRUDENTIAL BUILDING,
ATLANTA, GA.

Received,

AUG 30 1899

Answered " 31 " -

Atlanta Ga Aug 28th 1899.

Mr. Glenn Brown,

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your esteemed favor of August 26th, in regard to discussing the subject of "Legitimate Architectural Design for Skeleton Steel Structures."

I appreciate the invitation of the Committee of Arrangements and will accept, promising to do my best -

Owing to the absence of first one then another, and the hot season, the organization of our Chapter has been delayed. I expect to go north next Wednesday on a short business trip and when I return I will make an effort to get the members together and perfect the organization -

Very Truly Yours

Thos. H. Morgan

Received,

OCT 12 1899

Answered 16

BRUCE & MORGAN,
ARCHITECTS,
PRUDENTIAL BUILDING,
ATLANTA, GA.

Atlanta Ga Oct. 10th 1899.

Mr. Glenn Brown, Secretary, A. I. A.
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your favor of Oct. 7th. I have tried several times to get together the Institute members in this city in order to organize a Chapter. All desire a Chapter here, but it seems almost impossible to get the meeting. There are but five of us, just enough to form the Chapter, and I have been anxious for all to be present the first meeting. Yesterday I made another effort, and found one out of the city and two unable to attend. I will try again the last of this week and hope to reach a favorable report.

In regard to new Associate members, we have thought it better to wait until the Chapter was organized then the names could be passed upon by the Chapter. I may not have pressed the matter along as fast as I should, but I will endeavor to get things going now.

Enclosed please find our check for \$20⁰⁰ with which please credit our dues A. C. Bruce with \$10⁰⁰ and my dues \$10⁰⁰

Very Truly Yours

Thos. H. Morgan

Received,

NOV 8 1899

Answered u r u

BRUCE & MORGAN,
ARCHITECTS,
PRUDENTIAL BUILDING,
ATLANTA, GA.

Atlanta Ga Nov. 6th 1899.

Mr. Glenn Brown

Secretary A. I. A.

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of Nov. 4th

The Atlanta members of the Institute held a meeting in our office for the purpose of organizing a Chapter. A temporary organization was effected by electing me chairman and authorizing me to secure a charter.

Under the laws of this state it will take about six weeks to accomplish this. The application for a charter will have to be advertised four weeks and then goes before our Superior Court.

I think everything will be all right now and you can safely report that a Chapter will soon be organized here.

I find it will be impossible for me to attend the meeting at Pittsburgh. I am working day and night on the plans for a 14 story office building for this city and cannot leave it.

I am greatly disappointed as I had looked forward to the pleasure of meeting you, and thanking you in person for the kindness you have shown me.

I had prepared the outline of a few remarks I desired to say upon the subject of the design for the exterior wall of the steel frame building. I enclose it herewith and after you have read it if you think it worth while have it read at the meeting. Trusting you will have a good meeting. ^{Dear,} Truly yours Theo. H. Morgan.

BRUCE & MORGAN,
ARCHITECTS,
PRUDENTIAL BUILDING,
ATLANTA, GA.

Received,

JAN 3 1900

Answered _____

Atlanta Ga Jan. 1st 1900

Mr Green Brown

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

I herewith return the proof as
you requested - It is all right except one or
two little points - as noted -

Very truly

Thos. H. Morgan

Received,

BRUCE & MORGAN,
ARCHITECTS,
PRUDENTIAL BUILDING,
ATLANTA, GA.

JUN 9 1900

Answered "11"-----

Atlanta Ga June 7th 1900.

Mr Glenn Brown, Secretary A. I. A.
Washington -

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 1st in regard
to new applications -

This committee has no new names to report.

There are three men here we desire to secure,
but have been unable to do so yet - We hope to
report them before the year ends -

Very truly yours

Thos. H. Morgan