

NATIONAL OFFICERS

WOODROW WILSON
PRESIDENT

ROBERT W. DE FOREST
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN SKELTON WILLIAMS
TREASURER

JOHN W. DAVIS
COUNSELOR

CHARLES L. MAGEE
SECRETARY

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT
CHAIRMAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE

ELIOT WADSWORTH
VICE-CHAIRMAN

HARVEY D. GIBSON
GENERAL MANAGER



RED CROSS WAR COUNCIL

BY APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

HENRY P. DAVISON, CHAIRMAN

CHARLES D. NORTON

GRAYSON M. P. MURPHY

JOHN D. RYAN

CORNELIUS N. BLISS, JR.

EX OFFICIO

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT

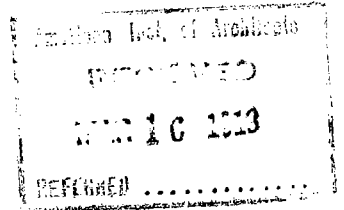
ELIOT WADSWORTH

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 13, 1918.



Mr. William Stanley Parker, Secretary,
American Institute of Architects,
The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a letter from Mr. Frederick Bigger, secretary of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Institute, vouching as to my standing in that chapter. May I ask that you be good enough to take the necessary steps to have my name transferred to the New York Chapter, inasmuch as my office is now at 389 Fifth Avenue, New York.

I shall be very greatly obliged to you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

FA/B

Enclosure.

*Parker received
March 13 1918*

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS ARCHIVES For information or study purposes only. Not to be recycled, quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006

2-3
Abbott.

Confidential

The American Institute of Architects

The Octagon, Washington, D. C.



Findings of the Judiciary Committee Decisions of the Board of Directors

Transmitted herewith to Members as required by the Judiciary Rules of the Institute.

NOTICE.

July 5, 1926.

To the Members of The American Institute of Architects:

The "Rules for the Guidance of the Committee on Practice and the Judiciary Committee of the Board of Directors" require that "the action taken by the Board of Directors whether for or against the accused shall be reported to each member of the Institute in full or in brief as shall be determined by the Board of Directors who, in their discretion, may also direct the sending of the findings of the Judiciary Committee to each Member."

At the December, 1925, and May, 1926, meetings of the Board of Directors, the Judiciary Committee reported that it had examined charges of unprofessional conduct against the Institute members herein named, and that its findings were as stated below. These findings (in small type) and the action of the Board of Directors thereon are hereby transmitted in accordance with the Rules above mentioned.

In cases involving suspension the period of suspension is indicated in parentheses. In one case a rehearing was granted subsequent to the December meeting of the Board of Directors, with a resulting delay in the issuance of this notice.

FRANK C. BALDWIN, *Secretary.*

Engaging in the Building Trades and Supplanting a Fellow Architect.

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS from the Judiciary Committee on Charges Preferred by Mr. Fitz-Henry Faye Tucker of the NEW YORK CHAPTER, American Institute of Architects, Against Mr. Franklin Abbott of the NEW YORK CHAPTER, American Institute of Architects.

The Judiciary Committee has completed its investigation in the case of charges preferred by Mr. Fitz-Henry Faye Tucker of the NEW YORK CHAPTER, American Institute of Architects, against Mr. Franklin Abbott of the NEW YORK CHAPTER, American Institute of Architects.

The case was presented to the Judiciary Committee by the Committee on Practice under date of June 10, 1925, and the report of the Committee on Practice is herewith attached.

Statement of the Case

In 1921, Mr. Abbott severed his connection with Peabody, Wilson and Brown, Architects, and became vice-president of the Matthews Brothers Manufactur-

ing Company, a concern in Milwaukee manufacturing woodwork. Mr. Abbott held this position between two and three years.

In April, 1924, Mr. Abbott resumed the practice of architecture and resigned as vice-president of the Matthews Brothers Manufacturing Company.

Toward the end of 1924, Mr. Abbott was engaged as architect for a house in Bermuda subsequent to the previous employment of Mr. F.-H. Faye Tucker for the same work.

Charges

It is charged that Mr. Franklin Abbott has been guilty of unprofessional conduct contrary to Canons No. 1 and 10 of the Canons of Ethics.

The Committee on Practice has found a *prima facie* case of unprofessional conduct against Mr. Abbott on both counts. The Committee which investigated this case was made up of Mr. John Lawrence Mauran, *Chairman*; C. Grant LaFarge, NEW YORK CHAPTER; E. C. Klipstein, ST. LOUIS CHAPTER; and E. J. Russell, ST. LOUIS CHAPTER.

In accordance with the specified procedure the parties in interest were notified of the findings of the Committee on Practice, and Mr. Abbott declined to waive his right to a formal hearing. Accordingly a formal hearing of the Judiciary Committee was ordered and the date fixed for 2:00 o'clock p. m., October 28, 1925, the Octagon House, Washington, D. C. The various parties in interest were notified. Mr. F.-H. Faye Tucker advised the Committee that he was sailing for Europe on October 3, and would be unable to appear. Mr. Abbott attended the hearing, all members of the Committee being present, and his statement to the Committee is herewith attached.

Argument

Considering first the charges against Mr. Abbott as they relate to Canon No. 1:

Canon No. 1 is as follows:

"It is unprofessional for an architect to engage directly or indirectly in any of the building or decorative trades."

This Canon is amplified on page 85, Section 8, which goes on to state further: "If he has any financial interest in any building material or device he should not specify or use it without the knowledge or approval of his client."

There is no testimony whatever to show that Mr. Abbott made any improper use of his connection with the Matthews Brothers Manufacturing Company at any time. On the other hand we have Mr. Abbott's direct testimony that during the time when he held the office of vice-president of the Matthews Brothers Manufacturing Company he did not practice architecture at all. We also have his testimony that he took this position at the solicitation of his father; that the Matthews Brothers Manufacturing Company was owned by the Abbott family; and that family interests demanded that he give up his personal practice and devote all his time for a period to the interests of the company.

Mr. Abbott did not resign his membership in the Institute but has testified that the question of giving up his Institute membership never occurred to him. It might be observed in passing that a great many members of the Institute during the War were occupying positions under the Government or were engaged in private pursuits other than the practice of architecture. Very few, if any, felt it necessary to resign their membership in the Institute, and no one has criticised them in consequence.

It is not disputed that when Mr. Abbott resumed the practice of architecture he did so at the same place of business as the Matthews Brothers Manufacturing Company. Mr. Abbott's testimony is that this was to enable him to be close to his father who continued to direct the Matthews Brothers Manufacturing Company, and the arrangement was not made with any thought of a business relationship between the two firms.

Your Committee believes the location of both firms in the same offices to be unfortunate as giving grounds for conclusions reflecting upon the professional standing of Mr. Abbott. Your Committee, however, believes that no testimony has been offered which shows that any improper relationship ever existed between the two firms.

Your Committee believes that the Canon No. 1 was intended to apply not to mere matters of appearance but to actual improper relationships between the practice of architecture and some other business.

It appears, therefore, that Mr. Abbott may have committed a technical violation of Canon No. 1, but that no harm was done thereby because the objection-

able features against which Canon No. 1 is directed do not appear in this case.

With reference to alleged infraction of Canon No. 10, reference is made to the attached file of letters as well as to Mr. Abbott's statement to the Judiciary Committee previously referred to.

Mr. Abbott's testimony is supported by the sworn deposition of Mr. Frederick S. Ruth, an attorney, who was the active factor in the dismissal of Mr. Tucker and the engagement of Mr. Abbott.

Mr. Abbott's testimony is further supported by a letter from D. W. Hardy, the owner in the case, to LeRoy E. Kern, Executive Secretary, NEW YORK CHAPTER, American Institute of Architects, dated March 6, 1925, in which he states that he wished to dismiss Mr. Tucker because Mr. Tucker was unable to go to Bermuda and confer at the site with the owner and would not be able "to be here and talk with the builder, especially on account of many differences in Bermuda construction." In this connection reference is made to letter from Mr. Tucker to Mr. Charles H. Higgins, American Institute of Architects, dated January 30, 1925:

"With regard to charge No. 2, I beg to state that about November 15 last I received a call from Mr. D. W. Hardy, a member of the Mid-Ocean Club in Bermuda, of which I am also a member. Mr. Hardy stated that he proposed building a house on property which he had purchased in the Club Grounds and that he would like to discuss with me the matter of engaging my firm as architects for the same. Mr. Hardy was most particular in asking whether I proposed being in Bermuda this winter and I informed him that my plans were very uncertain and that I could not count on being there to supervise the construction of his house, but that I would be very glad to prepare the plans for the same without supervision, that I was very familiar with the contours of all parts of the property and would design the house with reference to its surroundings. We came to an agreement on this basis and had several interviews with Mr. Hardy preparing sketches for his house.

"Upon Mr. Hardy's departure for Bermuda on December 3 he turned over the matter of discussion of the plans to his father, with whom we also had several interviews. Mr. Hardy, Sr., forwarded with our developed plan a long detailed letter of criticism and suggestions to his son in Bermuda, on or about December 8.

"On December 11 I was called on the telephone by Mr. Frederick S. Ruth, the Managing Director of the Club, who had just arrived in New York. Mr. Ruth stated to me that he had been asked by Mr. Hardy to inform me that after Mr. Hardy's arrival in Bermuda he had made a change in the location of the house on the property he had originally purchased, having decided to give up a portion of this lot in exchange for adjoining ground and that he was very much upset over the fact and thought that the plan should be changed due to this new location, and Mr. Abbott being a member of the party at the Club had consulted with him and had asked him to take up the commission, that Mr. Ruth further stated that Mr. Abbott had consulted him (Mr. Ruth) as to whether he ought to do this, or not, and that Mr. Ruth, a layman, had stated he saw no reason why Mr. Abbott should not take up the work and that he thought Mr. Tucker would be perfectly agreeable to this change, whereupon Mr. Abbott accepted the commission and as far as I know is now working on the same."

Your Committee is unable to find any evidence that Mr. Abbott made the slightest effort to supplant Mr. Tucker on this or any other commission. Mr. Abbott happened to be in Bermuda and Mr. Hardy apparent-

ly took a great fancy to him and decided that he wished to employ him. This was within his rights although Mr. Hardy might be criticised for the facility with which he changed his mind in the matter. We also have Mr. Abbott's statement that he told Mr. Hardy that he would do no work whatever until Mr. Tucker had been formally dismissed and compensated.

The testimony further reveals that the work in question was a small ten-thousand-dollar bungalow. Such a commission in an inconvenient location would hardly constitute a temptation to an architect and therefore any question of an ulterior motive of that kind may be set aside.

Your Committee, having carefully reviewed the evidence, is unable to sustain the findings of the Committee on Practice and recommends to the Board of Directors that Mr. Abbott be exonerated on both counts.

Respectfully submitted,
THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE,
(s) W. E. FISHER,
(s) W. J. SAYWARD,
(s) WM. L. STEELE,
Chairman.

On motion, it was—

Resolved, that the report of the Judiciary Committee be accepted and its recommendations approved.

Participation in an Unapproved Competition.

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS from the Judiciary Committee on Charges Preferred by the CINCINNATI CHAPTER of the American Institute of Architects Against Charles E. Hannaford and John F. Sheblessy, of the CINCINNATI CHAPTER, Howard W. Germann, of the DAYTON CHAPTER, and G. E. McDonald, Jr., of the COLUMBUS CHAPTER, American Institute of Architects.

The Judiciary Committee has completed its investigation in the case of the CINCINNATI CHAPTER of the American Institute of Architects vs. Charles E. Hannaford and John F. Sheblessy, of the CINCINNATI CHAPTER, Howard W. Germann, of the DAYTON CHAPTER, and G. E. McDonald, Jr., of the COLUMBUS CHAPTER.

The Report of the Committee on Practice, dated April 6, 1925, to the Judiciary Committee, is herewith attached.

Statement of the Case

A concise and substantially accurate statement of the case is contained in the report of the Committee on Practice, previously referred to, and reference is accordingly made thereto.

Charges

The Institute members previously named were charged with taking part in an irregular and unauthorized competition.

Charges were investigated by a Sub-Committee of the Committee on Practice, John Lawrence Mauran, *Chairman*, consisting of Abram Garfield, CLEVELAND CHAPTER; C. Grant LaFarge, NEW YORK CHAPTER; and Gustave Drach, CINCINNATI CHAPTER.

It is to be noted that the Committee on Practice has found the *prima facie* case of unprofessional conduct against Messrs. Hannaford, Sheblessy, Germann and McDonald on the ground of an infraction of Canon No. 4: "To take part in any competition which has not received the approval of the Institute, etc."

Facts of the Case

There is no dispute concerning the evidence that a competition was held for a Catholic High School, in Cincinnati, and that the members against whom charges of unprofessional conduct have been filed had taken part in the same. Messrs. Hannaford, Sheblessy and McDonald have made no defense but have asked to be allowed to resign from the Institute. Mr. Germann has presented first a telegram dated July 29, 1925: "I do not acknowledge facts to be in substantial accordance with the findings of the Committee on Practice. I am not willing to waive a formal hearing before Judiciary Committee. This telegram is sent within fifteen days time limit. Please acknowledge receipt of same as soon as possible." Signed "HOWARD W. GERMANN."

The Chairman of the Judiciary Committee wrote Mr. Germann on July 30, 1925, as follows:

"Your telegram is at hand. Under the circumstances a hearing will be necessary.

"It is probable that same will be held in Washington during the early part of October and you will be definitely notified of the time and place later."

Date was set and notice given to all the parties concerned in accordance with the prescribed procedure, and a formal hearing was conducted at the Octagon House, Washington, D. C., on the morning of October 28, 1925. The full committee, Mr. Sayward, Mr. Fisher and Mr. Steele, *Chairman*, were present, and Mr. Germann appeared in person, and the stenographic record of his statements is herewith attached.

Argument

In view of the fact that there is no substantial disagreement in the testimony offered, no extended argument is necessary. It seems to your Committee that the officials of the CINCINNATI CHAPTER were negligent in that they failed to correspond further with Mr. Germann and the DAYTON CHAPTER after their advice that a meeting would be held of the Cincinnati competitors and that further effort was being made to induce the School Building Committee to reconsider its previous action. However, your Committee feels that such neglect does not relieve Mr. Germann, or any other member of the Institute, from the individual responsibility which he as a member carried. In the absence of any further bulletins from the Committee the original competition program was unchanged insofar as the matters objected to by the Committee on Competitions were concerned. Mr. Germann's drawings, estimate and description which he submitted were in accordance with the original program as he understood it, and the fact that this original program had been disapproved and notice of said disapproval had been sent out clearly indicates to your Committee that Mr. Germann's defense is of too technical a character materially to alter the essential facts.

The attempted resignations of Messrs. Hannaford, Sheblessy and McDonald, having never been consummated, your Committee is unable to consider these gentlemen as other than members.

In conclusion the Judiciary Committee, after weighing carefully all the evidence, sustains the findings of the Committee on Practice and recommends to the Board of Directors that Messrs. Hannaford, Sheblessy, McDonald and Germann be suspended from membership for one year.

Respectfully submitted,
THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE,
(s) W. E. FISHER,
(s) W. J. SAYWARD,
(s) WM. L. STEELE,
Chairman.

FRANKLIN ABBOTT
ARCHITECT
52 Vanderbilt Avenue
New York

File

February 16, 1926.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS
FEB 17 1926
RECEIVED
RFD.

Dear Mr. Zantzinger:-

I acknowledge and thank you for your letter of February 10th advising me that the Board has accepted the report of the Judiciary Committee in connection with the charges brought by Mr. F-H. F. Tucker, and that I have been exonerated on both counts.

In reply to your question, I would advise you that I do not desire publication of the exoneration in the Journal.

Yours very truly,

Franklin Abbott

Mr. C. C. Zantzinger, Acting Secretary,
The American Institute of Architects,
Octagon House,
Washington, D. C.

FA:HR

FRANKLIN ABBOTT
CHRYSLER BUILDING
NEW YORK CITY

1933 dues
paid
7/18/33

Fredrick Mathews - Treas
Am. Institute of Architects

Dear Sir:- I enclose herewith
Cheque in amount of bill
to date.

It is with regret that owing
to the fact that I am no
longer active in the profession
that I tender my resignation
as a member of the Chapter.
Will you please

advise me as to whether
you can present my
resignation to the Board
and as to whether this
will automatically be
accepted as a resignation
from the Institute? I
no longer wish to continue
as a member.

Yours very truly

Markus Abbott

Aug 21, 33 -



The Secretary
American Institute of Architects
Octagon House -
Washington
D.C.

Resigned 12-31-33.

According to present procedure, former
AIA members are supposed to return
their certificates after they
have discontinued
their memberships

WMS
July 3. 42

LM
The Secretary - A. I. A.
Octagon House -
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:- My certificate
of membership in the
American Institute of Architects
has been lost, and I
very much want to
have a copy to replace.

it. I can only give
approximate dates of my
membership - but I think
1910 to my resignation in
1930 about right - your
records would undoubtedly
give these. Will you please
advise me as above as
to how I should proceed in
this matter -

(FRANKLIN
ABBOTT)

Yours very truly -

Franklin Abbott -

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

2-3
COPY

July 9, 1942

Dear Mr. Abbott:

In reply to your letter of July 3d

Institute records disclose that you resigned your corporate membership in The Institute effective December 31, 1933.

In accordance with the by-laws of The Institute when one ceases to be a corporate member by resignation or other method of separation, he is required to return to The Secretary of The Institute his certificate of membership.

We regret therefore that according to established procedure it will be impossible to furnish you with a duplicate membership certificate.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary

Mr. Franklin Abbott
Hitherbrook
St. James, Long Island, N.Y.

PHW:ER