

THE CONVENTION.

Official Report of the Second Annual Convention of Western Association of Architects, held at St. Louis, November 18, 19 and 20, 1885.

FIRST DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Convention called to order by the president, C. E. Illsley.

The President: I am informed that Mr. A. J. Bloor, of New York, has appointed a delegate by the American Institute of Architects. If he here he will please consider himself as one of us without further notice. Prof. N. Clifford Ricker, of Champaign, Illinois, is here by our invitation, and is therefore one of us. If there is no objection, we will consider that Mr. R. C. McLean, managing editor of THE INLAND ARCHITECT, and Mr. L. Muller, president and associate, are entitled to the privileges of the floor.

Mr. E. H. Ketcham: I would like to add to that, also, Mr. H. C. Meyer, who is here on behalf of his paper, the Sanitary Engineer of New York.

The President: We will include Mr. Meyer, unless that is objected to. The roll is in use at this moment. If there is no objection I will ask that the address of welcome, and response by Mr. J. W. Root, take precedence of the roll call. We will listen to Mr. McNamara.

Mr. W. F. Hackney: I understand Mr. A. H. Baldwin, of the Northwestern Architect and Building Record is with us. If so, I move he be entitled to the privileges of the floor.

The President: We will consider that he is entitled to the privileges of the floor. I should be pleased to meet these gentlemen personally. We will now listen to Mr. McNamara.

J. H. McNAMARA'S ADDRESS.

Mr. President and Brother Architects of the Western Association.

It is an old maxim in dramatic literature, that "good plays prove the better by the help of good epilogues." I hope a poor prologue will not mar the production of the good play before us—the work of this convention.

Gentlemen, I feel much honored in being assigned the duty of welcoming you to St. Louis. An older and more worthy member of our profession ought to feel honored in being selected to deliver you so agreeable a message, and this great metropolis of the great valley of the Mississippi should feel proud in being asked to receive you. You see, gentlemen, don't hesitate to pronounce St. Louis a great city, notwithstanding the presence of representatives from that great heterogeneous city by the lake.

We are, here in St. Louis, charged by rival cities with being provincial. We might be pardoned if we were, from our exclusive origin in nationality. But I am proud to welcome you to a city that is unmistakably cosmopolitan in her public life, and in her city attractions; and with your indulgence I'll introduce you to a few of those features, which your hurried stay in our city would otherwise prevent you becoming fully acquainted with.

The great and successful exposition just closed presented the finest products of the looms of Europe and the Indies. The four quarters of a globe were represented in manufactured goods of all uses, and the inventive genius of America excelled in machinery and electricity. The immense pervading now can give you no idea of the miles of swift running, the ceaseless whirl of the driving wheel, the metallic hark of the ston, and the keen, brushing and sparkling of the electric metals that sounded throughout this vast building a few days ago. The north pole in its relics of perished explorers; Paris contributed one of her finest works in perspective and oil, and Ireland contributed a Gilmore. After tending to the marvelous sounds of harmony from his band of masters, as brilliant as a violin, and as deep and majestic as an organ, I thought if we were to have but one polite art, that one should be music. We can point many fine architectural structures devoted to commerce, learning and fine arts. The mighty river in our front flows under one of the noblest and bridges in the world. The sight of a long and heavily laden train of railway cars carried between the upper and lower cords of an arch, points to the skill and daring of the great engineer St. Louis claims, and the whole country honors.

The oldest of our public buildings, the court house, designed by the late Robert S. Mitchell, is a correct example of the Grecian Doric. The beautiful dome, though a Roman feature, is as graceful in outline as any you'll find in the books. The interior view of this dome is fine and appropriately frescoed.

The Merchants' Exchange is a chaste design, not excelled by any building erected for similar purposes in this country.

The mercantile library, a plain, massive pile, has within its walls a rich store of rare and valuable works in illustrated art and literature, numbering some sixty-six thousand volumes, valued at some \$200,000; volumes dating back to the fourteenth century, among them nine volumes of illustrations in that inexhaustible store-house of art, the Vatican. Keeping company with these are eleven volumes of Holbein's collections of the Versailles galleries. That incomparable work, the "Musée Royal," is on the same shelf with "De Bousquet's Evangelists," and six volumes of descriptions of the Architecture of Egypt." This great work was published by order of the Emperor Napoleon, who sent out engineers and architects to make the measurements and drawings on the sight of each structure. The work is a masterpiece of the engravers' art, when we consider the absence at that period of the many appliances at the command of the modern engraver. Audun's wonderful and gorgeously colored collections are here to be found, and the creations of the "immortal bard" are faithfully executed by the graver Boydell, who was also the publisher. These characters are

after the paintings of Fuseli, the great enthusiast in classic art, and the first president of the Royal Academy in London.

NOVEMBER, 1885]

THE INLAND ARCHITECT AND BUILDER

That one application has come from a lady architect; and you are hereby respectfully requested to instruct the board on the broad question of admitting women, before the board proceeds to ballot on her name.

That it is evident that the proper conduct of business in this association will require an expenditure of more money than can be now raised by the dues as they stand, and an increase is therefore recommended.

That the association is to be congratulated on its increasing membership and earnestness, the knowledge of which has already favorably affected our standing before the public and has helped us in our private practice.

Finally, your Board of Directors returns its thanks to the members of this association who so cheerfully and readily have assisted them during the year; and it lays down its office with the hope that a forbearing spirit will prevail, and that individual interest will be merged in the general welfare in your deliberations about to follow, each member, first of all, endeavoring to act kindly and speak wisely.

The following are the names of gentlemen found worthy of admittance to your honorable body:

[NOTE.—These names will be found marked with a * in the full roll of membership, published elsewhere in these proceedings.]

Respectfully submitted,

D. H. BURNHAM, Chairman,
W. L. PLACK,
SIDNEY SMITH,
S. A. TREAT,
L. II. SULLIVAN,
Board of Directors.

The Secretary: It seems to us that in future years all the expenses of each convention should be met entirely by the association, and no burden placed upon the town in which we meet. The Board of Directors construes the By-Laws to mean that the dues of all members of this association, both charter and those that have come in are due now, that everything up to the end of this convention shall be considered as in this fiscal year. So that if their views are met by you, the board will respectfully request that every member shall pay his dues for this year, and do it before leaving the convention. One hundred and ten applications have been acted upon here.

A Member: I move we proceed with the election.

Mr. Adler: I move the adoption of the report of our Executive Committee, and the election of all the gentlemen recommended for membership by the Executive Board.

The motion was seconded.

Mr. Cochrane: Wouldn't it be legal if the secretary cast the ballot?

A member: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cochrane: I move the secretary cast the ballot.

The motion was seconded.

The amended motion was carried. The report was adopted unanimously, and the secretary cast the ballot.

Mr. Ramsey: I move the Board of Directors continue their examination into the qualifications of applicants, and report at the last session of this convention.

The motion was seconded.

Mr. Ramsey: My only object in offering the resolution was to have it thoroughly understood that the Board of Directors are still in session. Now, I suppose it has been asked me half a dozen times, where or how is a man to become a member of this association? Where will I make my application? All that sort of thing. I simply wanted to bring it before the convention, so it would be thoroughly understood that the Board of Directors will consider anybody that will apply.

The President: Well, we will consider that is the arrangement.

The meeting adjourned to 2 P.M.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The president called the meeting to order and said: There is a bit of unfinished business before we can proceed. All the members recommended by the directors for admission were voted in except one, and nothing was done on that subject.

Mr. Burnham: That was with reference to a lady.

The President: Now, I will ask if the committee are prepared to recommend that party in all respects except the fact that she is a lady?

Mr. Sullivan: Yes, sir.

The President: What shall be done with this question?

Mr. Burnham, of the Board of Directors: May I say that what the board desires is to be instructed upon the principle of admitting women as members of this association. That is the thing. If this decision is given us to admit women, we will make the recommendation. We would like the decision, now, of the convention, as to whether it desires to admit women as members of the association. We want the By-Laws interpreted.

A member: I would like to know what the opinion of the Board of Directors is.

Mr. Burnham: We are all agreed; we are very much in favor of it.

Mr. Cochrane: Then I would recommend that the secretary cast the ballot for the lady.

A member: Is the lady practicing?

The President: Yes, sir.

Mr. Cochrane: Let the secretary cast the ballot as he did for the others.

The motion was seconded.

Mr. Sullivan: What we desired was a vote of instructions as to the admission of women as a general thing.

A member: It seems to me that if you carry the motion as made by Mr. Cochrane, that it will suggest a precedent for future consideration. If the lady is practicing architecture, and is in good standing, there is no reason why she should not be one of us.

The President: The motion is made and seconded that this lady applicant be admitted to membership. All in favor of this will say aye.

Motion was adopted.

The President: Mrs. Louisa Bethune is the applicant. Her husband was an applicant, but withdrew. She has done work by herself, and been very successful. She is unanimously elected a member.

A member of the Board of Directors (Thursday evening pause.) The President Report c

To the West November

Your Commission prosecution of published on the consultations you to make this report.

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Third Annual Convention of the Western Association of Architects.

HELD AT CHICAGO, NOVEMBER 17, 18 AND 19, 1886.

The convention was called to order by President Dankmar Adler, who read the following address:

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Gentlemen and Brother Architects:

Before opening this convention, I wish to address you as president of the Illinois State Association of Architects and in its name to thank

environments different from our own, necessarily involves more or less disregard of our own mental and material wants and resources. And yet, though this work was un-American, the influence of its authors on American architecture proper was of the best. By them our own young architects were directed to the study of the best examples of the architecture of the past, and were thus given a store of knowledge of the utmost value in their task of solving the great problems set before them in this age of development and progress.

And thus the masters of the new American school show, even in their most American work, the fruits of their studies of the styles of bygone civilizations. But how free and original is the application of their European studies to the exigencies of America! How American is Post's Italian of the Produce Exchange! How American is Richardson's reproduction of the somberness and dignity of the Palazzo Strozzi in the Mar-

their articles. Is it your pleasure that such letters be read and acted upon, or that they be laid aside by the secretary?

Mr. Rapp: I move that these letters be posted in the adjoining room for the inspection of the members.

No objection being raised, this was ordered done.

F. G. Corser: To go back in this matter of nominations, I would suggest that each member of these nominating committees be required to get up a ticket in print for distribution among the members, so that we may compare, split the tickets, if need be, etc., as we wish.

The President: This can be done if the committees can come to an agreement early enough.

A motion by Mr. Randolph to adjourn until 2 P.M., and amended by Mr. Treat to 3 o'clock, was carried, the time to be 2:30.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, November 17, 1886.

President Adler called the convention to order at 3:15 and said:

I will now announce the names of the members of the two committees to make nominations of officers for the ensuing year, and to put in nomination places for the holding of the next convention. The first committee is: J. F. Alexander, Lafayette, Ind.; L. S. Buffington, Minneapolis, Minn.; Wm. Holabird, Chicago, Ills.; Mr. L. D. Cleveland, Chicago, Ills.; Mr. C. C. Helmers, Jr., St. Louis, Mo.; G. W. Rapp, Cincinnati, O.; and Mrs. Louise Bethune, of Buffalo, N. Y. The second committee is: D. W. Millard, St. Paul, Minn.; S. M. Randolph, Chicago, Ills.; E. H. Taylor, Des Moines, Ia.; Sidney Smith, Omaha, Neb.; Sam'l A. Treat, Chicago, Ills.; C. A. Curtin, Louisville, Ky.; and P. P. Furber, St. Louis, Mo.

The president announced that the treasurer would now read his report, and if the members would kindly give their attention they would doubtless find it a very satisfactory document.

Treasurer S. A. Treat: The treasurer's report is as follows:

Received from Mr. Adler, the former treasurer.....	\$ 27 68
Dues to date.....	828 00
Interest on United States bonds and profits on the sale of the same.....	26 25
Total receipts.....	\$881 93
Disbursements.....	\$490 91
Balance on hand up to this morning.....	\$391 02

Since that time I have collected over \$100, and as soon as possible will make my report.

The President: I have here a motion,

Resolved, That the president appoint a committee of three members from each state association to collect information in regard to legal decisions relating to building interests, and that they report at the next annual convention.

The motion is made by Mr. Hellmers.

The motion was seconded.

Mr. Hellmers: I would say in regard to this, that there are cases in our practice almost daily where an architect is obliged to select a course to pursue in a matter that is afterwards apt to be drawn into court, and a simple annual of such information to refer to would assist us very materially in coming to these decisions; and I think that if a committee could be appointed from each state to gather information regarding decisions in that state, and it could then be put in the form of a pamphlet, that it would be invaluable to every member of the profession.

The President: I will say in explanation, that having been for two years a member of the committee that has among its duties the collection of this information, that during those two years there was but one member of the committee who favored any effort at all to collect this information, and of course the reach of his investigations was comparatively small as compared with the efforts of a committee from each state. This committee, if appointed, would take, within the extent of the work outlined here, the place of the present committee on statutory revision.

Mr. Ketcham: In that way it seems to me we will not be able to reach the end sought for. Were the matter placed in the hands of attorneys by the respective state associations, and they have these attorneys collect this information, which they could do much better than the architects, we would get a far more reaching search than in any other way. It would seem preferable to delegate the search to each state association.

Mr. Hellmers: While it might be a very good thing to employ attorneys, yet I cannot agree with Mr. Ketcham in referring it to the state associations. I think, my experience has always been, that the matter so referred, has died; in other words, the state associations have accepted the draft and done nothing with it. I think that if the proper men are selected to cull out this information, we can get at it far better; and I think the only way to do that is to have committees appointed to report at the next annual convention, and if any of the state associations seem sufficiently interested, they can employ a lawyer and defray the expenses of so doing.

The President: Anything further to be said on Mr. Hellmers' motion? No response being received, the president again read the motion, which was put and carried.

The President: I would request that to enable me to act intelligently

of each of the committees. In this way the committee will get to know the wishes of the association much better than they could otherwise do, and they would be put in possession of the information they desired much sooner than they could be by personal conversation or inquiry. Is there any other new business to be brought before the convention? The Board of Directors has reported some new names of applicants for membership, upon which their report is favorable. Are you ready to receive them? If so, I will request the secretary to read the names.

The secretary then read the following list of names:

J. F. Wing, Fort Wayne, Ind., recommended by Mr. Alexander; M. S. Mahurin, Fort Wayne, recommended by Mr. Alexander; Eugene S. Calkin, Los Angeles, Cal., recommended by Mr. Gay; G. W. Thompson, Nashville, recommended by Mr. Rapp; James King, Huntington, W. Va., on his own application.

Mr. Sidney Smith: I move that the name of Mr. Smith be referred for further consideration.

The President: If there is no objection, it will be so referred.

The name of Mr. King was ordered referred for further consideration.

The Secretary: The next name is M. F. Isbell, of Goshen, Ind., recommended by Mr. Holabird; J. F. Frees, Columbus, Ohio, recommended by Mr. W. Yost; Bernard Vonnegard, Indianapolis, Ind., recommended by Mr. P. P. Furber and J. F. Alexander.

Mr. Ketcham: I would like to add to that list the name of Mr. Merritt Reid, of Evansville, Ind.

The President: If there is no objection to the admission of the report of the Board of Directors, that those gentlemen be admitted to membership, they will be declared members of this association. They were so declared.

The President: Mr. Sullivan will now read before you a paper which he has prepared for us.*

Mr. Sullivan's paper was prefaced by the following remarks:

Mr. President and gentlemen of the convention: I would like to say, in a prefatory way, before reading my essay, that I have prepared, on "Inspiration," that to write an essay on inspiration is something like writing an essay on the eyesight: it is something that we all know about but it is very difficult to define. Therefore I will indulge in no definitions, but instead of dealing in plain language, I will treat my subject in the language of metaphor. My essay is divided into three parts, being a direct appeal to nature, whence all our emotions and inspirations come.

The President: The Committee on State Organizations has presented its report.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATE ORGANIZATION.

To the Western Association of Architects assembled in Convention at Chicago, November 17, 1886.

Your Committee on State Organization has the honor to report that in the prosecution of its labors, it has met with a hearty and cordial cooperation.

We have successfully organized the States of Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Ohio, Texas, and Indiana, all of which are working in a harmonious and satisfactory manner.

Mr. Harteau, your committee from Wisconsin, asks that one member from Milwaukee be added to his committee.

Mr. Osgood, your committee from Michigan, asks that one member from Detroit be added to his committee.

Mrs. Bethune, committee from New York, has organized the Buffalo Society of Architects, fourteen members, and they are working in a harmonious manner. She has also turned her attention to the various other cities in the state, with prospects of success.

We think it best that this committee be continued until an association in every state is organized.

Respectfully submitted,

- J. F. ALEXANDER, Indiana,
- CHAS. K. RAMSEY, Missouri,
- E. H. TAYLOR, Iowa,
- I. HODGSON, Minnesota,
- H. P. McDONALD, Kentucky,
- Geo. W. RAPP, Ohio,
- D. M. HARTEAU, Wisconsin,
- SIDNEY SMITH, Nebraska,
- W. H. CUSACK, Tennessee,
- T. SULLY, Louisiana,
- S. J. OSGOOD, Michigan,
- J. G. HASKELL, Kansas,
- S. A. J. PRUSTON, Texas,
- MRS. LOUISE BETHUNE, New York.

To Dankmar Adler, Esq., president of, and the members of the Western Association of Architects.

GENTLEMEN,—Having been appointed as a committee on State Organization of Architects for the State of Wisconsin, at the second annual meeting, held at the city of St. Louis, Mo., I beg leave to report as follows: I went to the city of Milwaukee, Wis., in the month of March, 1886, and interviewed the architects resident there. I was informed that a local organization of architects had been formed there some weeks previous to my visit. I used my best endeavors to have them assisted in forming a state organization and merge their local organization therewith, but without success. I therefore dropped the matter, and have done no more to that end. I would respectfully recommend that some member from the city of Milwaukee would be appointed in my stead for the following reasons: That the bulk of architects reside in the city of Milwaukee, and that I am comparatively alone in the city of Green Bay, there being but one other architect resident here. As I will be unable to attend your meeting, I would suggest the name of, and recommend, that Thomas N. Philpot, of the city of Milwaukee, be appointed in my stead, as I herewith respectfully resign my chairmanship on the Committee on State Organization for the State of Wisconsin. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Dated November 17, 1886.

D. M. HARTEAU,
Chairman of Committee on State Organization, Wisconsin.