

THE
OCTAGON

A Journal of The American Institute of Architects



The Sixty-ninth Convention

An Invitation from the Boston Chapter

The Edward Langley Scholarships of The Institute

The Semi-Annual Meeting of The Board of Directors

13th Semi-Annual Meeting of The Producers' Council

Structural Service Department—With the Chapters

Volume 9

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Number 1

The Edward Langley Scholarships of The Institute

IT WAS announced to the last Convention that several new scholarships had been made available to The Institute through the gift of Edward Langley, Architect, of Scranton, Pennsylvania, recently deceased.

In his bequest to The Institute, the only conditions Mr. Langley imposed were that his fund should be administered by a committee of The Board of Directors and the income should be used "for scholarship purposes, particularly in the aid of students, residents of the United States and Canada, in the study of architecture."

In compliance with the first condition imposed by Mr. Langley, The Board of Directors placed the administration of the Edward Langley Scholarship Fund in its permanent Investment Committee, giving that Committee the responsibility of determining what "the scholarship purposes" should be and how the income should be expended to carry out the purposes of the fund.

The administrators of the fund recognized that the Committee on Education was the one body within The Institute that had a comprehensive view of The Institute's educational program and that its counsel would be of the highest value to them in setting up the Edward Langley Scholarships. A meeting between the two Committees was arranged in Washington, D. C., December last.

At that meeting the two Committees had before them the six specific recommendations of the Committee on Education for the use of the fund and forty or more letters containing suggestions for its use submitted by members from every part of The Institute domain. From their consideration of these recommendations and suggestions, in which there was a striking unanimity of opinion, the Committees agreed unanimously on the principles that should govern the awards and grants of this fund to make it of the greatest usefulness to the profession. The Committees were convinced of the sincerity, feasibility, and broad outlook of the suggestions of the members, many of whom will recognize that the way has been opened by the conclusions of the Committees for their suggestions to be carried out.

The principles recommended by the Committees

were unanimously adopted by The Board of Directors and are set out below.

1. The Edward Langley Scholarship Fund shall be devoted to advanced or graduate work.

This precludes grants to undergraduates, it being felt that existing undergraduate scholarships were sufficient, generally speaking, and that the fund would be of the greatest benefit if used to develop better, and not more, architects. It does not preclude a grant to an architectural draftsman, who may elect to take an undergraduate year or a special course in an architectural school.

2. The Edward Langley scholarships shall be open to any architect, architectural draftsman, teacher in architecture or graduate student who is a citizen of the United States or of Canada and who gives evidence satisfactory to The Institute of his character, ability, purpose, and need.

This opens the scholarships to all engaged in the profession of architecture, comprising two broad groups: (a) those engaged in teaching architecture or those engaged in or about to engage in post-graduate work in colleges and universities or in travel; (b) those who maintain or are employed in architectural offices, whether or not they have had college training. Hence the architects themselves; their draftsmen, whether they are engaged in drafting, writing specifications, supervising the work of construction, or acting as architectural executives; the teachers in architecture; and the post-graduate students are equally eligible to be candidates for the scholarships. And the qualifications required of candidates ensure that their character and purpose and their need for the scholarship will be taken into consideration equally with their technical ability, and selections will not be made by competitive examinations.

3. The Edward Langley Scholarships shall be for Study, Research, or Travel.

This definitely recognizes that the broad field

of architectural research has an importance commensurate to that of the usual study and travel. The scholar selects the major use to which he will put his award to enable him to be a better architect.

4. The Edward Langley Scholarships shall be awarded annually to qualified candidates selected by The Investment Committee, and the grant for each scholarship shall be in the amount deemed by that Committee to be commensurate with the need and purpose of the recipient; provided only that no grant to any one recipient, in any one year, shall exceed Fifteen Hundred Dollars (\$1500.00).

The present annual income of the fund will be about \$5,000, and the limitation on the amount of an annual award ensures a number of awards each year. However, a further award in another year is not precluded if it is concluded that a second award to the same scholar will best serve the profession. The amount of each grant will be determined according to the need, in each instance.

The number of Edward Langley Scholarships given in any one year, the monetary grant to each recipient, and the use to which each recipient will put his grant, will be determined from year to year, as conditions warrant. No fixed method for selecting candidates for the scholarships will be adopted until the advantages of a method have become apparent over a series of years. Hence members must expect changes in the methods as experience dictates, and your patience and indulgence is requested, especially in this initial year.

It seems to the Committees that the principles outlined will greatly enlarge the domain of architectural scholarships, will make the influence of Edward Langley's bequest most far-reaching, and will emphasize the great value inherent in this bequest for the future of the profession.

The First Langley Scholarship Awards.

The first two awards and grants from the Edward Langley Fund were made by the Investment Committee on recommendation of the Committee on Education to two Canadian post-graduate students: one to Mr. Kent Barker, of Toronto, Canada, for graduate study during the

college year 1936-37 at the Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; and one to Mr. Pierre Morency, of Montreal, Canada, for graduate study during the college year 1936-37 at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Edward Langley was born in Canada, and the two awards were made to Canadian students as the first acknowledgments of his request that Canadians were to be eligible for the award.

Method of Making Awards for 1937.

The candidates for the Edward Langley Scholarships will be taken from the two groups: teachers of architecture and graduates of architectural schools; and architects and architectural draftsmen from architectural offices.

Candidates will be selected from the architectural schools by the Committee on Education and from the architectural offices by the Regional Directors of The Institute.

Each Regional Director has accepted the responsibility of selecting the candidates from the offices in his district and will determine and publish to the offices his method of making the selections. The number of candidates he may select will be fixed by The Investment Committee in its instructions to him.

The nominations of candidates will be submitted to the Investment Committee by the Committee on Education or the Regional Directors, as the case may be, but before the Investment Committee awards the scholarships and makes the grants, it will refer all such nominations to the Committee on Education, asking it to weigh the evidence submitted and recommend the candidates whom it finds qualified to receive the award.

In making an award, the decision of the Investment Committee will be based on its judgment of the candidate, according to the evidence presented to it, so that the individual recommendations of the proposers, the Regional Director, and the Committee on Education in each case will be very important.

All awards of Edward Langley Scholarships for 1937, other than two scholarships already awarded to two Canadian students for the college year ending in June, 1937, will be made on or about September 1 of this year, and all nominations of candidates for such awards must be in the hands

of the Investment Committee not later than April 1, 1937; otherwise the nominations cannot be considered for this year.

Each Regional Director will give each office in his district written instructions how to make and file with him a nomination for the scholarship; meanwhile, every member who would like to present a candidate for a 1937 scholarship should write to his Regional Director immediately to that effect. This will give the Director a gauge of the number of candidates he may have from which to make his selections. In nominating a candidate, each member is urged to bear in mind the purpose and universality of the fund and that the award will be based in each case on the character, ability, purpose, and need of the candidate, and the conviction

of the Committee that the profession of architecture will be bettered by his receiving it.

The nominators must also bear in mind that very few grants are possible in any one year because of the limited funds, perhaps ten at the most. There are more than sixty architectural schools and hundreds of architects' offices that may present candidates, and it is obvious that each candidate will be in an intense competition for the award. So, to avoid unnecessary disappointments, a nomination should not be made unless the qualifications of the candidate are very distinctive and it is quite evident that the profession will be benefited by an award to him.

EDWIN BERGSTROM, *Chairman,*
The Investment Committee.

NOTE: Attention of members is called to the next to the last paragraph of the above statement, wherein they are requested to write immediately to their Regional Director if they have any person whom they would like to have nominated for a 1937 Edward Langley Scholarship. The Director will notify them and each architect's office in his district of the manner in which the members should propose such nominations to him. All inquiries in each Regional District concerning nominations should be made direct to the Regional Director of the District.

The Semi-Annual Board Meeting

THE semi-annual meeting of The Board of Directors of The Institute was held at The Octagon on December 10, 11, and 12, 1936.

All of The Officers and Regional Directors were present, except Vice-President Louis LaBeaume, who was unable to attend on account of business matters.

On the invitation of President Voorhees, the following Committee Chairmen conferred with The Board:

William Emerson—Education;
Francis P. Sullivan—Public Works;
N. Max Dunning—Structural Service;
William Stanley Parker—Construction Industry Relations;
Walter R. McCornack (also a Director)—Housing.

The Board received and acted upon preliminary reports from the administrative and board committees. These reports outlined the work of the committees since the preceding Convention and gave a general indication of the nature of the final reports to be submitted to The Board at the annual meeting preceding the 1937 Convention. (These reports serve the purpose of coordinating the gen-

eral program of The Institute, and of maintaining contact between The Board and its committees.)

The finances of The Institute were reported upon by The Treasurer, to the effect that the year 1936 showed a substantial improvement in finances over the year 1935. The Treasurer's report to the 1937 Convention will, as heretofore, give complete information with respect to the financial condition of The Institute.

As will be noted elsewhere, The Board selected Boston as the Convention city for 1937. For a while this decision was in the balance as the Louisiana Chapter made representations which could not be passed over lightly.

After naming Boston, The Board adopted a resolution recommending to the next Board that New Orleans receive preferential consideration for the 1938 Convention.

The Institute does not publish the minutes of The Board meetings. The record of this meeting is a long one, arising from an agenda of more than seventy items which required for its disposal three

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*Proposed Government Reorganization
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A Chapter Program of Honor Awards
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This assumption that the plans for a public building are a commodity and that obtaining them involves essentially the same problem as the purchase of automobile tires is the basic error which, in the past, has more than anything else made it impossible for the question of the design of Government structures to be satisfactorily solved or even given intelligent consideration.

It is our problem to convince both the Legislative and Executive branches of the Government that this point of view is a barbarous one and that no form of reorganization of the Government's building activities should be tolerated except one which insures, so far as it is possible, that every Government building will be in its own sphere a major work of art.

Since the question of the reorganization of the Government's functions will no doubt be brought up again at the next session of Congress, it is urged that the members and Chapters of The Institute consider seriously what safeguards will be necessary in order to make sure that the Department of Public Works, if such a Department is established, will benefit rather than hinder the development of a proper Governmental architecture, and be prepared to cooperate with the Officers and Directors of The Institute, and its Committee on Public Works, in making clear to Congress, the President and the Cabinet the principles which should govern in the creation of such a Department.

FRANCIS P. SULLIVAN,
Chairman, Committee on Public Works.

Edward Langley Scholarship Awards for 1937

THE Edward Langley Scholarships of The Institute are annual awards made by The Board to qualified architectural draftsmen, architects, graduate students of architectural schools and teachers of architecture, in the United States or Canada, for study, research, or travel. Each award is accompanied by a grant commensurate with the need and purpose of the recipient, insofar as the funds in hand permit.

This year seventy-one applications for the scholarships were received. Fifty of the applicants were architectural draftsmen and architects. Their applications were received by the Regional Directors, who nominated fifteen of the draftsmen and five of the architects for the consideration of the Board Committee in charge of the awards. Twenty-one of the applicants were graduate students and teachers of architecture. Their applications were received by the Committee on Education, who nominated twelve of the graduate students and one of the teachers for the consideration of the Board Committee.

From these thirty-three nominations, the Board Committee awarded eight scholarships and made grants totaling \$4,900.00 for the year. The purpose for which the grants were made were fixed in each case by the recipient of the award.

The awards were distributed among eight of the ten regional districts of The Institute. Of the eight recipients five are architectural draftsmen,

one is an architect, and two are graduate students.

The awards are as follows:

Scholarships numbers 1 and 2 were awarded in 1936. (Announced in January, 1937, number of THE OCTAGON.)

3. BRUST, JOHN J., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for travel in Europe.

4. COIT, ELISABETH, New York, N. Y., for research in economical design and construction of single family dwellings and apartment houses.

5. HAYNES, KENNETH LEROY, Des Moines, Iowa, for travel in Europe.

6. HAYNES, PAUL EUGENE, Los Angeles, California, for travel in eastern United States.

7. KEYES, JOSEPH VICTOR, Washington, D. C., for travel in Europe.

8. MAIER, DOUGLAS POPE, New Haven, Conn., for travel in Europe.

9. McVOY, ARTHUR DUBOSE, Gainesville, Fla., for study at Massachusetts Institute of Technology or Cranbrook Academy of Art.

10. WILSON, SAMUEL, JR., New Orleans, La., for travel in Europe, for research and study of origins of Louisiana architecture.

The blanks for making applications for 1938 scholarships will be distributed in November.

COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD

WILLIAM G. NOLTING

ALBERT J. EVERS

EDWIN BERGSTROM

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Standing Board Committees

Report of the Committee on Public Works

Report of the Committee on Housing

Report of the Committee on State Organization

Edward Langley Scholarship Awards for 1938

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SUPPLEMENTARY POST CONVENTION NUMBER

Edward Langley Scholarship Awards For 1938

THE Edward Langley Scholarships of The Institute are annual awards made by The Board to qualified architectural draftsmen, architects, graduate students of architectural schools and teachers of architecture, in the United States or Canada, for study, research, or travel. Each award is accompanied by a grant consistent with the need and purpose of the recipient, in so far as the funds in hand permit.

This year sixty-six applications for the scholarships were received. Thirty-eight of the applicants were architectural draftsmen and architects. Their applications were received by the Regional Directors, who nominated ten of the draftsmen and eight of the architects for the consideration of The Board Committee in charge of the awards. Twenty-eight of the applicants were graduate students and teachers of

architecture. Their applications were received by the Committee on Education, who nominated eight of the graduate students and four of the teachers for the consideration of The Board Committee.

From these thirty nominations, The Board Committee awarded seven scholarships. The purpose of the scholarship was fixed in each case by the recipient of the award.

The awards were distributed among six of the ten regional districts of The Institute. Of the seven recipients, two are architectural draftsmen, three are architects, and two are graduate students.

The Edward Langley Scholarships were established in 1936, and since that time seventeen awards have been made.

The 1938 awards are as follows:

<i>Scholarship No.</i>	<i>Name of Recipient</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Purpose</i>
11	Coit, Elisabeth	New York, N.Y.	for continuation of research in economical design and construction of single family dwellings and apartment houses undertaken under Langley Scholarship awarded her in 1937.
12	Ford, Clement Johnston	Atlanta, Ga.	for travel in Europe to study housing.
13	Gilcrest, Jack Donald	Santa Barbara, California	for study at Harvard, Columbia, or Pennsylvania University.
14	Jacobson, John T.	Seattle, Wash.	for travel in northern Europe and eastern U.S. to study low-cost housing.
15	Murphy, James D.	Urbana, Ill.	for study under Dr. Gropius at Harvard.
16	Murphy, J. Leonidas, Jr.	Andalusa, Ala.	for study for Master's degree at an American college of architecture.
17	Pearson, Charles A., Jr.	Pittsburgh, Pa.	for study at Harvard.

The blanks for making application for Edward Langley Scholarships for 1939 will be distributed in November of this year.

COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD,
William G. Nolting,
Albert J. Evers, and Edwin Bergstrom.

Wanted—An Architect

THE firm of Herrera Carrizosa Hermanos, Edificio Vasquez, Bogota, Colombia, S. A., prominent architects, desires the services of a good "all-around" American architect with experience in all types of buildings—a good renderer and designer, capable of making his own details. A two-year con-

tract is available to the architect selected, with no limitation on the salary to be paid.

Applicants should not be more than forty years of age, and may be either married or single. Traveling expenses to and from Colombia will be allowed. Airmail communication is suggested.