years the employer of the applicant.

FRANK J. HELMLE HARVEY WILEY CORBETT WM. H. MAC MURRAY ALBERT E. FLANAGAN CHARLES F. GARLICHS HELMLE AND CORBETT

ARCHITECTS >
ONE-HYNDRED-AND-THIRTY
WEST-FORTY-SECOND-STREETBYSH BYILDING-NEW-YORK-CITY-

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

JAN 18 1926

RECEIVED

RFO

Jan. 15, 1926.

Mr. Edward C. Kemper,
The Octagon,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kemper:

Can you give me accurate information, as soon as possible, as to the statement made on the floor of Congress by Joe Canon sometime back in 1910 when he said "What is an Architect".

I want to use this and be sure of its accuracy. Both Mr. Waid and Mr. Wittaker suggested that I write to you.

Hoping I am not bothering you unduly,

I am,

Sincerely yours,

arvey Wiley Corbett



January 20th, 1926.

Dear Mr. Corbett:-

Tour letter of January 15th was received on the 18th and I have been trying to find, in the eld files here at the Octagon House, a copy or a reference to Joe Canon's speech in 1910 on the subject of "The Architect". No doubt it was clipped and filed by our predecessors and so carefully that we cannot now locate it.

This afternoon I will go to the Congressional Library and I am sure that an authentic copy can be obtained which will be sent to you at the earliest possible moment.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett, 130 West 42d Street, New York City, N.Y.

K:8

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WESTERN UNION WESTERNUND TELEGRAM

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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

January 21, 1926.

MR HARVEY WILEY CORBETT 130 WEST 42ND STREET NEW YORK CITY

SO FAR CANNOT LOCATE CANNON SPEECH HAVE BEEN THROUGH FOUR VOLUMES CONGRESSIONAL RECORD 1910 IS THIS CORRECT YEAR STOP CAN YOU GIVE ME GENERAL CONGRESSIONAL SUBJECT WITH WHICH HIS SPEECH MIGHT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED STOP ANY CLUES WILL BE HELPFUL

E C KEMPER

Charge to the American Institute of Architects.



WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

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E C KEMPER

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE OCTAGON HOUSE WASHINGTON DC

CANNON MADE THIS REMARK WHEN PROJECT OF THE LENFANT PLAN WAS BEING CONSIDERED IN CONGRESS FILES OF INSTITUTE SHOULD GIVE YOU THIS INFORMATION

H W CORBETT 130 W 42ND ST.

٠.		Form 1206A
ſ	NO.	CASH OR CHG
		CHECK
		TIME FILED

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

January 22, 1926

Hon. Joseph G. Cannon,

Denville, Illinois.

WHERE IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OR OTHER DOCUMENT CAN WE FIND YOUR ADDRESS OR REMARKS ON WHAT IS AN ARCHITECT MADE ON FLOOR OF HOUSE ABOUT NINETEEN TEN IN CONNECTION L'ENFANT PLAN DISCUSSION. PLEASE ANSWER TELEGRAM COLLECT.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
WAS HINGTON D. C.

CHARGE.

quoted, or published without written permission from the AIA Archives.

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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

119

WASHINGTON DC

REGRET UNABLE TO GIVE DEFINITE INFORMATION SUGGEST ASKING J W
MURPHY REPORTER FOR SENATE WHO WAS MY SECRETARY ABOUT THAT
TIME

J G CANNON

358PM

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

JAN 22 1928

RECEIVED

RFD.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Me Mullim Man been been frank frank de state de service de la service de

January 25, 1926.

Dear Mr. Corbett: -

I have not yet located Mr. Cannon's speech.

No one in this office was here prior to 1914. The records of the Institute, including the letter and general files were maintained under the direction of Mr. Glenn Brown.

Have made a personal and unsuccessful search through these records and also called Mr. Brown on the long distance telephone at his Virginia residence. He could not help, but suggested a review of the Proceedings. In them I find nothing relevant, although there is a speech by Mr. Cannon at an Institute dinner in 1907. Am sure it is not what you have in mind.

Last Friday, I telegraphed Mr. Cannon at Danville, Illinois. replied "Regret unable to give definite information" and suggested that his former Secretary night help. Have located this man, but he is sick in bed and I cannot get at him until he is up again. Am hopeful that a lead can be secured from him which will produce.

Have made extensive searches in the Congressional Record and also have the Librarian of the Senate Library now at work on the case. The fact that Mr. Cannon was in the House makes no difference.

The difficulty is that the remark or speech may have been made in connection with some matter appearing in a general appropriation bill, or a District of Columbia bill, or other general legislative enactment.

Am determined to find this statement by Mr. Cannon even if too late for your purposes - which I hope it will not be, and will advise you further when there is something definite to report.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett, Bush Terminal Building, 130 West 42nd Street, Manhattan, New York. K:VB

Y and

February 9, 1926.

Dear Whitaker:-

On January 18, Mr. Corbett wrote as follows:

"Can you give me accurate information, as soon as possible, as to the statement made on the floor of Congress by Joe Cannon sometime back in 1910 when he said "What is an Architect". "I want to use this and be sure of its accuracy. Both Mr. Waid and Mr. Whitaker suggested that I write to you."

So far I have not been able to locate this address. Have talked with Mr. Glenn Brown, have been through the files, have telegraphed Uncle Joe (who referred me to his former Secretary), have seen the Secretary, and have searched through many volumes of the Congressional Record - without

Cannon's former Secretary told me today that it is quite probable that the remarks were made in connection with some general appropriations bill, or general discussion of District of Columbia developments and that a minute search will be required.

Can you give me any clue, and is the year 1910 correct?

Cannon became Speaker of the House on November 9, 1903 and continued in that capacity until March 3, 1911. It is unusual for the Speaker to make an address from the floor.

Have concentrated on the Congressional Record for 1910 and cannot locate a single relevant thing.

Any suggestion you might make would be appreciated.

Am sending a copy of this to Mr. Corbett as a report of no progress.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

POST-WAR COMMITTEE ON ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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W. R. B. WILLCOX, Seattle, Wash. A. C. ESCHWEILER, Milwaukee, Wis.

OF ANY CHAN INSTITUTE GE ARCHITEGTS 10 February 1926 [B 1 2 1926 RECEIVED

RFD.

Dear Kemper.

Yours of the 9th. at hand. Corbett telephoned me and I told him I thought that Cannon made the remarks he sought about the time of the repeal of the Tarsnemy Act. I remember to have seen them, but where, God knows !

I'll be in Washington about next Wednesday. Then we will consult and confabulate and cosspire and see what can be done. Its the best I can do, for I have nothing here to which to turn for reference.

Thine,

CHW

Forgive the letter paper. We are getting a new lot.

chw

Vive 1913

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



February 18, 1926.

Dear Mr. Corbett:-

Mr. Whitaker is here today and he is unable to give any clue which would help locate the speech, or remarks by Mr. Cannon on "What is an Architect".

I am satisfied that the reference does not appear in the Congressional Record for the year 1910, as indicated in your letter.

Unless you can indicate some lead that we might follow, I must give up further search, at least until after the Convention.

Sincerely yours.

Executive Secretary.

, attacion in allembro, entre il mentio il mandia, frateri per bijo il ricino milito arche interiore regio. A militari ere al consi

Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett, 130 West 42nd Street, New York City, N. Y.

K:VB

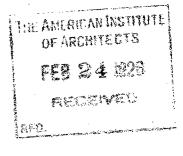
J. Miller

Copy to Mr. Whitaker.

FRANK J. HELMLE HARVEY WILEY CORBETT WM. H. MAC MURRAY ALBERT E. FLANAGAN CHARLES F. GARLICHS HELMLE AND CORBETT

ARCHITE CTS

ONE-HVNDRED-AND-THIRTY
WEST-FORTY-SECOND-STREETBVSH BVILDING-NEW-YORK-CITY-



February 23, 1926.

mr. E. C. Kemper,
The American Institute of Architects,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Kemper:

I deeply appreciate your efforts to locate Mr. Cannon's remark about "What is an Architect", but the matter I am writing has finally gone in so you need make no further effort.

If it is so hard to find out if he did make such a remark it will be equally hard to prove that he didn't, and he really presented an attitude of mird which is occasionally encountered even at the present date.

Thanking you again for all your trouble, believe me,

Faithfully yours,

Harvey Wiley Corbett

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



Mr. Kemper

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

JAN 20 1926

RECEIVED

One Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. January 18, 1926

Mr. Harvey W. Corbett. 130 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y.

Dear Harvey:

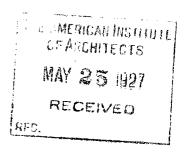
I enclose herewith a note from our Executive Secretary, dated January 11th, together with a letter dated November 23pd, signed by Preston S. Millar, Chairman of the Illuminating Engineering Society Committee on Street Lighting.

Would you be willing to take up this metter on behalf of the Institute or nominate someone who can do it almost as well?

Sincerely yours,

Enc . - 2

FRANK J.HELMLE HARVEY WILEY CORBETT W. K. HARRISON WM. H. MAC MURRAY ALBERT E. FLANAGAN CHARLES F. GARLICHS HELMLE · CORBETT AND HARRISON · ARCHITECTS ONE HVNDRED AND THIRTY WEST FORTY SECOND STREET BYSH BYILDING NEW YORK CITY



May 24, 1927.

Mr. E. C. Kemper,
The American Institute of Architects,
The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kemper:

I am enclosing a ticket to a dinner which I did not use. If there is any rebate I would be glad to have it, otherwise just let it drop.

Yours very truly,

Market

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



May 26, 1927

Dear Mr. Corbett:

Responding to yours of May 24th the Institute is glad to make a refund on your dinner ticket, and check is enclosed herewith.

Sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett, 130 West 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.

K/PHG

Enc.

JOHN B. GALLAGHER, INC.

743 SEYBOLD BUILDING TELEPHONE 2-2338

MIAMI, FLORIDA

February Nineteenth, 1 9 3 5.



American Institute of Architects, Octagon Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

We would like to secure the mailing address of Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett, Architect. We do not know the city in which Mr. Corbett is located. The fact is, we only just have the name of this gentleman.

Would appreciate you furnishing us this information, and we are enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope for the purpose.

We will indeed be grateful for any information you may supply us promptly.

Very truly yours,

TER: K

ENCL-Envelope

JOHN B. GALLAGHER, Inc.

By - Phos. E. Ready

Thos. E. Reedy

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



February 25, 1935

Pear Mr. Reedy:

Responding to your letter of February 19th:

The address of Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett is as follows:

C/o Corbett, Harrison and MacMurray, Bush Terminal Building, 130 West 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.

Yours very truly,

Executive Secretary.

Mr. Thomas E. Reed, C/o John B. Gallagher, Inc., 743 Seybold Building, Miami, Fla.

K/g

Corbett, Harvey Wiley

Vebtical Files materials: Articles from the New York Times (Mar. 31, 1954 and April 22, 1954) 3 pages.

Pamphlet (may be borrowed) "Proceedings at the dinner in honor of the late Harvey Wiley Corbett, at the Architectural League of New York, 17 Feb. 1955... as transcribed by Jeffrey Ellis Aronin."

Selected periodical articles:

"Mr. Corbett becomes a doctor of laws." Arch. Forum 53 sup. 35 Ag. 30.

"Obituary":

Arch. Forum 180:45-6. May'54

House & Home 5:49 June '54

Royal Institute of British Architects Journal 53 v.61:391. July '54.

Art News Scores Coliseum Plans And Charges Moses Is a Dictator

Circle except its purpose was big scale. criticized sharply yesterday by t Art News.

seum project, spoke at the affair. too, goes haywire it's all over."

d the magazine's April issue, to be was being submerged and that published today. Copies were dis-they had been clinging too inthe 350 persons who attended the he said, "you must face the facts to dinner at the Metropolitan Mu-of life and study and embrace seum of Art.

On seeing the article as he arrived at the dinner after "a architect swimming in placid, chairman of the State Power for frankness."

direct notice of Mr. Frankfulter's editorial attack when he told the Continued on Page 28, Column 3

Nearly everything about the architects that public officials New York Coliseum at Columbus had no right to experiment on a

"They must stick to established Alfred M. Frankfurter, editor of standards until provably better ones are found," he said. "They must aim at what will wear well Mr. Frankfurter made public both physically and esthetically. his dissent as the curtain-raiser The architect who looks forward to the annual dinner of the New but is no revolutionary or drawe York Chapter, American Institute ing board radical must depend on y of Architects. Robert Moses, conservative public officials to t chairman of the Triborough save his profession from egotists, a Bridge and Tunnel Authority, publicity seekers, iconoclasts and which is underwriting the Coli-crackpots. If public building,

The critical comments were in Mr. Moses also warned the san editorial that will appear in architects that their profession t tributed in advance to some of tently to the past. To survive, engineering.'

busy day upstate," Mr. Moses historic waters and has run away said: "I am not going to get mad, with his clothes, Mr. Moses added. We are going right ahead and He ended by saying he had given build the Coliseum." Mr. Moses' this "dash of cold water to wake reference to upstate was in con- you up, to spare you a long lecnection with his new duties as ture and to sustain my reputation

Mr. Frankfurter scored the However, Mr. Moses took in- "pedestrian" design of the four-

ART NEWS SCORES COLISEUM DESIGN

Continued From Page 1

level Coliseum and its related skyscraper and asserted that the plan of the \$30,000,000 improvement was not properly related to its site. He aimed his heaviest fire at Mr. Moses personally and complained of "the completely dictatorial way in which Mr. Moses is imposing this design

The architectural advisory comupon the public without anyone gettig in a word of dissent."

miteee designated by Mr. Moses to pass on the final Coliseum plans because of the semi-public nature of the facility also was criticized by Mr. Frankfurter. In

this regard he said:
"It is hard to believe that, even if they wanted to, they could have changed anything over his hard." [Mr. Moses'] head. But even so, look at his advisory committee!: Aymar Embury 2d, Eggers & Higgins and John D. Peterkin an unanimous roster of conservative, eclectic architects: it is as if the President appointed an advisory committee on foreign policy composed exclusively of isola-

Mr. Frankfurter paid tribute to Mr. Moses for dynamic qualities awards to three winners in the that have produced superb parks, highways and bridges. But the editor asserted the same qualities had led the Commissioner into som "curious and ven outrageous stands on architecture—for his taste here is quaintly antiquarian in direct and amusing contrast to (or perhaps in psychological compensation for) his modern and often avant-guarde engin-eering concepts for communi-cations."

Mr. Frankfurter called for a widespread public protest and "recourse to the law" in an effort to force a change in design of the Coliseum, on which construction is slated to start May 1. The redevelopment of the 6.3 acre tract, West Fifty-eighth to Sixtieth Streets from the Circle to Ninth-Columbus Avenues, is to be completed in the spring of 1956. The Coliseum will have the largest public exhibit space of any single project in the country.

The chapter's medal of honor was presented to Harvey Wiley Corbett, one of the deans of the profession.

Mr. Corbett, 80 years old, was cited for his long and distinguished career in architecture and for his "buildings that have enhanced the skylines of many enhanced the skylines of many cities," His work has included design of the Bush Terminal Building and the new Criminal Courts Building here, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Va., and Bush House in London. He also was associate architect for Rockewas associate architect for Rockefeller Center.

Hugh Ferris, president of the chapter, presented the medal to Mr. Corbett and also made



HONORED AR arvey Wiley Corbett, 80, who received medal of honor from New York Chapter, American Institute of Architects.

1953 Architectural Journalism Competition in this area. Nationally there were six first-award winners. Those in the New York area were: Pietro Belluschi, for the best article in a professional magazine; Ezra Stoller, for the best photographic of an architectural subject, and Buce Barton Jr., for an article of "Contemporary School Desen" Special rary School Desen." Special commendations went to Eero Saarinen, Eric Larrabee, Harrison Gill and G. E. Kidder-Smith.

The national institute's award of merit for industrial architecture was presented to Harrison, Abramovitz & Abbe, architects of the Corning Glass Center, and to Arthur Houghton, representing

the glass company.

1/22/54

HARVEY CORBETT, ARCHITECT, DEAD

Champion of Skyscraper and a Designer of Rockefeller **Center Succumbs at 81**

WON MEDAL LAST MONTH

He Was a Chairman of New York and Chicago World **Ears**—Led Many Societies

Harvey Wiley Corbett, the architect, who changed skylines of cities on both sides of the Aflantic died yesterday in his hone at 160 West Eighty-fifth Street. He was 81 years old.

Ore of the architects associated in designing Rockefeller Center. Mr. Corbett also drew the plans for this city's massive Criminal Courts Building, the skyscrapertype Roerich Museum, Brooklyn College buildings, and the municipal building group in Springfield, h Mass; the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Va., and London's \$10,000,000 Bush House of the Bush Terminal Company, and many other public and private t buildings.

And ardent and sometimes almost lyric supporter of the skyseraper in big cities, Mr. H Corbett was a warm defender of D that type of architecture in the a Nineteen Twenties, when some anchicets insisted that the era of the skyscraper was nearing its end.

In those controversial days, Mr. Corbett insisted that the skyscraper was the mark of cities of the future and that zoning and setbacks would make for higger and better skyscrapers. He was right, even though he himself shared in the doubt about the future of skyscrapers, which gripped most architects when bombing raids leveled European cities in World War II.



Harvey Wiley Corbett

Saw A Modern Venice'

Although in 1942-43 Mr. Corbett envisioned postwar cities having lower buildings of lighter construction, expressing the view that skyscraphys were "not necessary and cause undue congestion in streets wherever they're grouped," he later expounded again the case for the skyscrapyork Times magazine in 1949, Mr. Corbett saw the city of the future as one with great blocks of skyscrapers, with tiered streets and roadways. He referred to this as "a sort of modern Venice, in which the pedestrians could move with safety and comfort, looking down on the canals below, filled, not with water, but with freely moving motors."

Active in his professional and varied interests at his death, Mr. Corbett was working on plans for additional skyscrapers. He maintained an office in Rockefeller Center and was chief consulting architect to the Avenue of the Americas Association. Mr. Corbett was perhaps the only man to be simultaneously a fellow of the American Institute of Architects and the British Royal Institute of Architects. He held honorary degrees from universities

in both hemispheres.

the

Honored by American Group

Mr. Corbett received last month the annual award of the New York Chapter of the American Institute for his long and distinguished career and for having created "buildings that have enhanced the skylines of many

A champion of modern concepts in art, Mr. Corbett gave heart by his utterances of modernists around the world. At the same time, he cautioned against letting modernism degenerate into "simply another creed or fashion."

He gave, in 1930, a definition of modernism in architecture as 'a feeling of the shackles of style that for years have forced architects to erect duplicates of Grecian temples for bank buildings, regardless of modern require-ments for light, air and utility."

When, the next year, the first plaster casts were shown of the roughed-out conception of the projected \$250,000,000 Rockefeller Center there was an outcry from some classicists that the great piles were unbeautiful. Mr. Corbett retorted that the criticism was illfounded because the pre-liminary casts did not show the intended external treatment of the mass. He added that the Center would have a utilitarian beauty and said such a project could not be built along cathedral lines and made to pay.

Space and Free Air'

He carried his faith in the utilitarian into the field of public housing. He was thief architect for Amsterdam Jouses, an early postwar low-rent development here. Mr. Corbett told the State Conference of Mayors in 1948 that slum clearance and rehousing projects had set a pattern for "space and free air" that private interests would have to follow.

Mr. Corbett was a native of San Francisco. Both his parents were practicing physicians. He was graduated from the University of California and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. He was a former president of the Architectural League of New York, M president of the National Arts Society, a director of the Metro-M politan Opera Association, and a active in many professional and cultural groups.

Mr. Corbett was chairman of the architectural committee for Si the 1933 World's Fair in Chicago. Qi He was chairman of the advisory w committee of architects, which di laid out the theme for the New York World's Fair of 1939.

His wife, Gail Sherman, the wasculptress died in 1952. Surviving are a son, Jan M., of Alex-andria, and daughter, Mrs. els Jean Peck of Churchill, England gr