

membership level are most encouraging. All regions are now activated.

3. Our position in international affairs has been strengthened, particularly through the participation of a record number of our members in the VIII Pan-American Congress of Architects, held in Mexico City last October, and through the efforts of our Committee devoted to a better international understanding with our fellows and confreres.

4. Our inter-professional committees have been active, and better cooperation between The Institute and the engineering fraternities has been realized.

5. We have achieved a position of respect and have bettered our relations with various agencies of the Federal Government and the heads of Government departments.

6. The group insurance plan, now in effect, has been extremely successful. It offers many benefits to our members who take advantage of the favorable rates in the interests of their employees and staffs. In five months more than \$13,000,000 worth of insurance has been written, covering over 2500 policies; more than \$45,000 in claims have been made and met.

7. The decisions of the Board

regarding consultants have been progressive and helpful.

8. A major achievement has been the revision of our canon of ethics and our mandatory rules.

9. The reorganization of our committee structure was long overdue, and the Board's action in reducing the number from 47 to 27 committees, with well defined objectives, should clarify the relationship of the various committees to others, to the Board, and to the staff.

10. Our properties are in splendid shape, the offices have been re-lighted and air-conditioned; the garden is beautifully matured, and the Octagon itself now meets the sanitary and social codes of the District. For the first time since the days of Dolly Madison, food is now prepared *below* stairs.

11. During the year we have chartered 7 chapters, now totalling 111, and I am glad to report that the last state has joined the Union; we welcome the great state of North Dakota.



And while we list our attainments and assets we must be ever conscious that vigilance should always be one of the first, lest the others slip through our fingers.

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We are proud of the progress of our public relations program, yet we cannot be too complacent. We cannot buy a formula for success. Public relations begin in our own front offices and drafting-rooms; in delivering a superior service to our clients; through better design, better documents, better administration, better supervision and continued interest. Public relations should begin in our schools. Forty-one student chapters are helping to build proper professional understanding of these relations.

Our membership is approaching the 10,000 mark, double the number enrolled only ten years ago. The Board has experienced a year of attainment, and with it a year of great fellowship and harmony. The American Institute of Architects has made great strides, our

profession has still greater strides before us.

And I agree with our thoughtful fellow, Arthur Holden, unfortunately not with us here in Seattle: "For *these* we must continually prepare ourselves, both as architects and as leaders of men, not through devising original tricks to draw attention to ourselves but rather wisely to serve, with such understanding of the functions of arrangement and construction that we meet the needs of society in such a way that society *grows* through the use of better facilities furnished *them* through us."

Ours *is* a great mission of service to perform. Of our ninety-six years I say, with all modesty, I think that the best time is now, but I know that the best is yet to come.

A Message from President Ditchy

THE BEGINNING of a new administration always prompts an examination of past accomplishments, of projects and activities currently in progress and a survey of the fields which have not yet been invaded, but which offer opportunities for the expansion of Institute services.

Over the years, The Institute has integrated the profession and has made available to each of its members the experience and inspiration of all. It has supplied him with documents and advice which by their use have marked him with professional distinction and have advanced his ability to practise

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successfully. It has made of him a crusader in an army pledged to the cause of improving man's environment and has armed him for the venture. It has developed and maintained contacts with related professions, and has promoted understanding with groups whose objectives impinge upon ours or vice versa. It has gathered strength for accomplishment wherever and whenever its resources and opportunities afforded it. All of these services relieve the practitioner of many hazards and reduce the routine portion of his work to a minimum, thus releasing his time for more valuable creative phases of his art. In this latter category, through the work of the Department of Education and Research and the many committees which work with it, the architect is attuned to the spirit, the needs and the techniques of the day and is thus aided in giving expression to his projects.

It is indisputably recognized that the family is the basic unit of society. Organizations of men imbued with common ideals take on many of the qualities and characteristics of family life, and in this respect The American Institute of Architects is a bright ex-

ample. The recent convention, like its predecessors, illustrated this fact convincingly, and, added to the purely professional appeal, there was the prospect of renewing old friendships and making new ones. We trust that all of those who were regaled with stimulating experiences at the 85th Convention will spread their contagious enthusiasm at home to the end that the influence of the Convention may be greatly increased.

This is an era of specialization. We enjoy daily the fruits of the inventiveness of many men and the concentrated and exclusive efforts of many others. We too are specialists and in our own specialty many of its characteristics are misunderstood. Many people have never had the occasion to use the services of an architect and many more have a vague idea of his role when, on rare occasion, they require his services. Even public officials, on whom we must lean for support in protecting the public in its building ventures, are often abysmally ignorant of the basically important function of the architect. Our long-range program of public relations so successfully launched under President Stanton will, as it develops, increase in effectiveness. We urge all chapters

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and indeed all members to acquaint themselves with the program and to do their part in prosecuting it.

It is our intention to preserve and enhance those policies which our predecessors have instituted and the worth of which has been time-tested and proven. Those projects and studies which are currently under way will be pursued vigorously and conclusively so that the membership may have the benefit of the results. The charges of the last convention will be our prime concern, and we aim to be sensitive to the will and wishes of those we represent.

The Institute today possesses a mechanism which we believe, with

modifications which experience and further study may dictate, will be responsive and tractable. Everyone of our 9500 members has his duly elected representative on the Board through whom every good idea, every worthy project, every weakness may be reported for attention.

Your Board is at our command. Our strength lies in the 9500 loyal members who, scattered across this great country of ours, are dedicated to the task of improving our communities and imbuing them with an ennobling spiritual and cultural quality, a worthy contribution to our civilization, a cause to which we may enthusiastically rally.

Accepting The Gold Medal

By William Adams Delano, F.A.I.A.

Read by Edgar I. Williams, F.A.I.A. to members and guests attending The Institute's Annual Dinner, Seattle, Wash., June 18, 1953

MR. PRESIDENT, DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, LADIES AND FELLOW MEMBERS:

I deeply regret that I cannot be with you today. I have asked my good friend, Edgar Williams, to accept the medal on my behalf and to read these few words:

First, my most sincere thanks for the honor you have seen fit to award me. It comes at a time when whatever I have been able to accomplish over the past fifty years fades into insignificance compared to this token of friendly esteem.

I shall not enlarge on the many aspects of our art today—to a

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zon, our engineering "know-how" to India and Indonesia, and so keep the frontier rolling?

And there is merit in the argument for, as our captains of industry and our politicians are never tired of telling us, we cannot much longer continue to be an island of prosperity in a sea of poverty and low per-capita output.

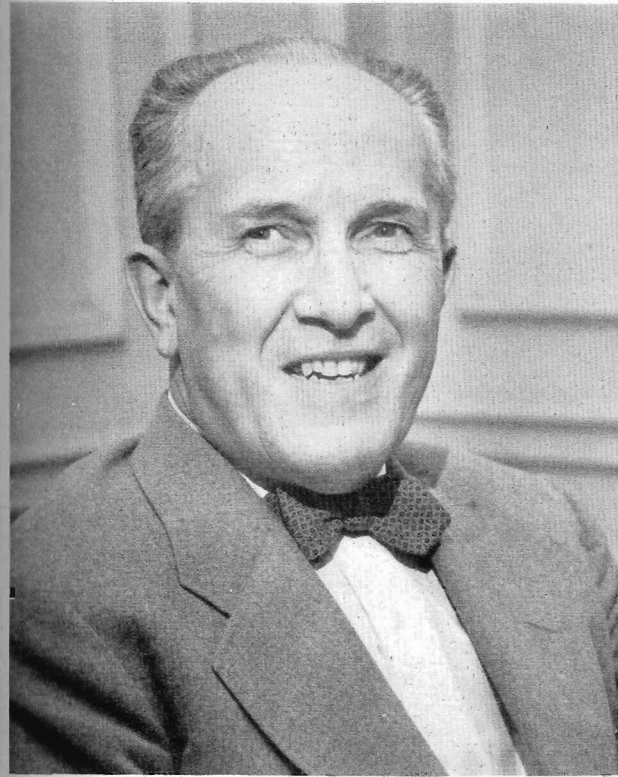
There is heresy in the argument, too. For one thing, have you ever seen a tropical landscape a couple of years after a bulldozer has been over it once lightly? It is not a pretty sight. Have you ever studied the floral diversity of an equatorial rain forest? With luck, you may get two trees in an acre that suit your particular purpose; the other 98 will be so much rubbish. Have you ever thought how much steel and concrete it would take to dam all the attractive power sites in all the under-developed parts of the earth? If the steel output of Asia were to be on a par with that of America, the world's proven iron ore resources would be exhausted in a generation. Of course, we shall go on finding other sources of iron (in time we may even ship it in from the moon!). But by so doing shall we not be jeopardizing the survival of our children and children's children? And even if

there is enough iron ore, and concrete, and aluminum and so on, who is going to foot the bill? Certainly not the Indian or Indonesian. Uncle Sam? Not if we may judge from the present tenor of talk on Capitol Hill.



Ladies and gentlemen, we Americans have been on a wonderful spending spree for the past 250 years, and I don't just mean money. We have dipped deeply into our soils, our forests, our mines and our wells and we built ourselves the most advanced culture, technically speaking, the world has ever seen; but in so doing, we have come perilously close to bankruptcy. If you don't believe me, consult the findings of President Truman's Materials Policy Commission.

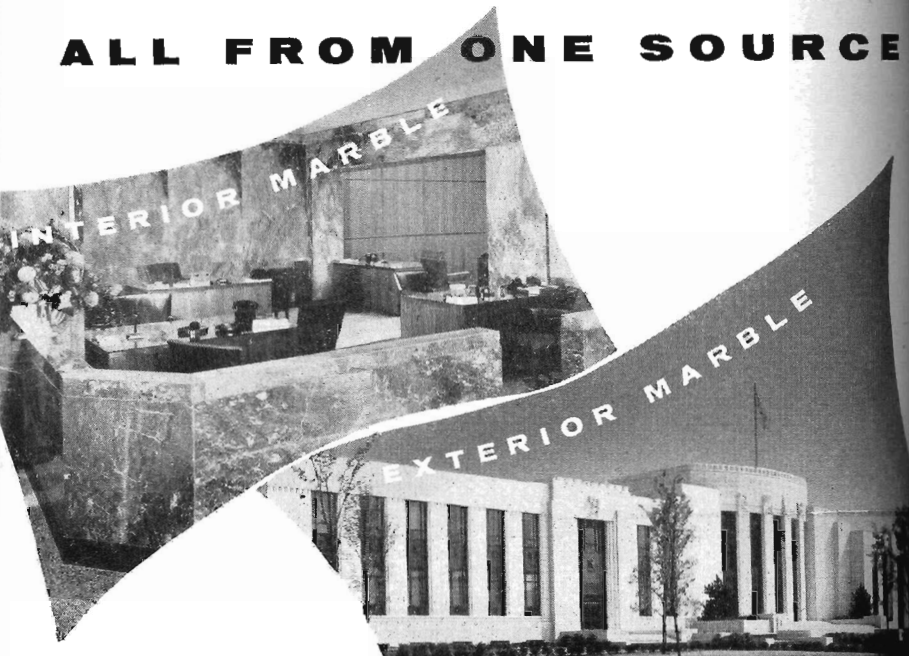
From now on, if we are to do our duty by our children, to say nothing of our less well-to-do neighbors in Europe, Asia and south of the Rio Grande, we have got to amend our thinking and our ways. We have got to accustom ourselves to the thought of living in a strictly limited earth. There are only 197-million square miles of it and more than two thirds of this is water and two thirds of



CLAIR WILLIAM DITCHY
ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTE
JUNE 18, 1953

Photograph by Roger Dudley

ALL FROM ONE SOURCE



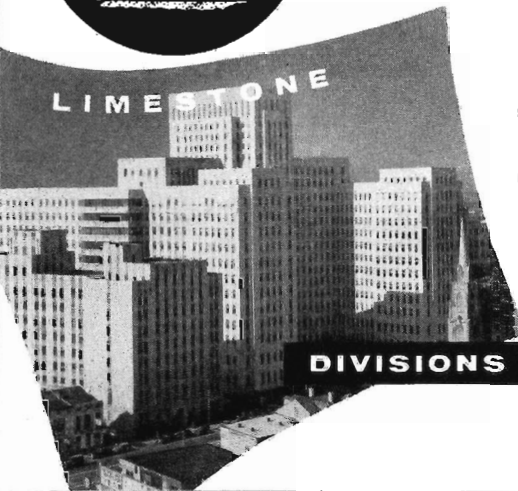
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President Ditchy's Remarks to the 86th Convention

Tuesday, June 15: Opening Session

A VISIT TO BOSTON under any circumstance is a delightful experience. And to a Midwesterner, such as I am, or, I imagine, to anyone who lives at an appreciable distance from the New England scene, it recalls to mind very vividly and tangibly the early facts of American history which he learned at school. Beyond that, I believe we all feel, as Mr. Creer does apparently, that Boston is still the Athenaeum of America, the symbol of our love of liberty, the testimonial of our will to fight for it, and the epitome of those ideals which have made this country great. But to come here on an occasion such as this, to a meeting of architects multiplies endlessly this appeal.

We have come here at a rather troublesome time in the world, and I think it is very fitting that we come to the shrine of our origin to consider those aspects of our particular profession which will strengthen our way of life and to

gain here in this atmosphere a spirit for progress, for research, and for all of those elements which make for better architecture. Here we are surrounded, if you please, by examples of our early American architectural heritage. Here we may contemplate the integrity, the dignity and the durability with which good architecture is blessed, and here, I trust, we all may gain inspiration for what comes to our desks and to our hands in the future.

In the succeeding hours and in the succeeding days it will be our great privilege, as Mr. Creer has told you, to listen and to learn, to be treated to instruction such as it would be difficult to find under any other circumstance. For there has been assembled for your edification and information a group of experts in modern architecture who will give all of us a wonderful inspiration for our days ahead. I trust that all of you will appreciate the balanced program which very thoughtfully has been prepared and that, in enjoying the

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various facilities that Boston offers, you will not neglect these sessions, which are truly a very wonderful treat, a very wonderful opportunity for all of us.

[Mr. Ditchy then introduced individually the members of The Board and the Octagon staff.]

Thursday, June 17, Morning Session

IT IS SELDOM one gets the opportunity to make the same speech twice, but I don't intend to take advantage of the speech I was supposed to have made the other day, and leave it at that.

I must say, the other morning when I saw my name on the program as a speaker on such an extensive subject as attainments of the entire year of all the Chapters, and The Board, and the staff of The Institute, I was filled with some fear, and I watched with some gratitude the lapse of time until I finally thought I would be saved by the bell—but I wasn't quite.

This morning I have no particular report to make to you. That report is covered in the proceedings of this Convention.

The year's attainments may be gleaned from the very complete report of The Board of Directors

which will be considered later in this Convention.

I do think, however, it is a good opportunity to review just what our status is, what our accomplishments are, and how these accomplishments and our present condition fit into the present national picture. Just to stimulate my own mind a little, I would like to take the Bylaws and read from them the objects of The American Institute of Architects. They read as follows:

"The objects of The American Institute of Architects shall be to organize and unite in fellowship the architects of the United States of America; to combine their efforts so as to promote the esthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession . . ."

I want to stop at that point because at one time that was the complete certification or description of the objects of The American Institute of Architects. In a broad sense they covered everything to which we aspired, and with that assignment The Institute progressed for some 85 years.

And then to that were added the following phrases, particularizing, if you please, some of the areas in which we found we could and should be of great use:

". . . to advance the science and art of planning and building by advancing the standards of architectural education, training, and practice; to coordinate the building industry and the profession of architecture to insure the advancement of the living standards of our people through their improved environment; and to make the profession of ever-increasing service to society."

I find in this recital of our objects something on which I can base what few remarks I have to make.

The very first charge to your society is to "organize and unite in fellowship the architects of the United States of America." If we are not united in fellowship, these other matters cannot be accomplished. But it is through the exchange of ideas, the appreciation of the other man's position and the help we may afford him, that it has been possible for us to become the great institution we are today and that we are able to look forward to greater accomplishments tomorrow.

I remember reading years ago a little story about Johnson and Boswell. It seems they were seated in a coffee house, and Johnson said to Boswell, "You see yon man in

the corner?" Boswell said, "Yes, I see him;" Johnson replying, "I hate him." Boswell then said, "Why, how can you hate him? You don't even know him." To which Johnson replied, "That is how it is possible for me to hate him." I recite this story at this particular instance in the hope that we may in a still greater way form finer friendships and effect a greater exchange of ideas.

It seems to me that in the last few decades we have concentrated upon specialization and through it achieved the fine scientific accomplishments which we enjoy today, but in the doing we have lost something, we have lost that intimate contact for which I speak now. We can see it in architecture. We divorced the masterpieces of the past from the life that created them, we analyzed them and segregated the façades for our purposes, and went through a period when eclectic architecture was the order of the day. We had no concern for what created that façade, nor what it originally meant.

And some things of that sort have happened in some other departments of our lives. We, as architects, have gone along in the present culture and civilization, too

absorbed with the particular little segments of living which we have cracked off for our own activities, and have kept ourselves aloof from the broad march of daily events.

I think today, with our public relations and other programs about which we have heard this morning, we are on the rebound; the pendulum is starting to swing back. We are learning to identify ourselves intimately with the life about us. Through knowing each

other, and knowing the people whom we serve, we may again assume a status wherein the public will know what we are doing, that they may be familiar with our ideals and our potentialities, and we, in turn, through better correlation of aims and efforts, may be of more use to them and to society. Thus we may accomplish the first and last objects of The Institute and that vast area that goes between.

Governor Herter's Welcome to the Convention

THE HONORABLE CHRISTIAN A. HERTER, Governor of Massachusetts, addressed the Friday morning session of the Boston Convention. Introduced by President Ditchy, the Governor said: MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN:

It is a real privilege to be allowed to come and extend the greetings to you officially on behalf of the Commonwealth, even though they may be somewhat belated greetings, and you certainly warm my heart, Mr. President, in what you say about the enjoyability of your stay here in the Commonwealth.

We are very proud to have you here.

Probably I have a personal interest beyond that of some other governors in your having come here, because of the fact that I come of a family in which I am a renegade. My mother and father both were painters, my brother is a painter, my sister, my daughter, and I began as an architect. I studied architecture at the Harvard School of Design way back in 1915. World War I got me off on to a track where unhappily I have been in the public service almost ever since, and over and over again have regretted that I

did not have the courage to go back to the profession that I wanted to follow.

In addition to that, I have been chairman of the Board of Advisors of the School of Design at Harvard for a good many years, and so have had an opportunity of following the work done there—not only there but at the other architectural schools and centers that we have here of which we are very proud.

We are very proud of our architects in Massachusetts. We are proud of much of our architecture in Massachusetts. We are proud not only of those who are living but of the great tradition that has been passed on to us by the architects from a century and a half back on through and until the present time.

There is much in this State of great beauty. There is much of which we are proud.

We are proud also of the fact that we have had elasticity in viewing the changing picture, the changing conditions which architecture must mean. Even though we have had a great past, we have had this elasticity to meet the changing conditions.

I think we are tremendously interested in the new structural ma-

terials. I think we are tremendously interested in the impact that government itself in many ways is having on architecture, on the very radical shift that has taken place in the last 50 to 75 years, away from the magnificent private dwelling to the public building, to the small dwelling, to the functional buildings of one type or another to which all of you have contributed so magnificently.

I have no right to speak as an architect, but I can speak as one who has a great love for a great creative art.

The one real regret that I have as I go through not only various cities in this country but through places in Europe and elsewhere is that many times a painter and a sculptor, many times a builder is honored by having his name prominently displayed in connection with a creative work of art. But the architects, generally speaking, have been badly abused in that fact, in that seldom, too seldom, is his contribution recognized in public.

I hope that this great Convention will see fit to reconvene here soon again. I hope when you next come I will be in the capacity of a private citizen and be privileged to sit in the back of the room and listen to your deliberations.



Honors

CLAIR W. DITCHY, F.A.I.A., has been made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada.

RALPH WALKER, F.A.I.A., has been made an honorary corresponding member of the Bund Deutscher Architekten.

WILLIAM GEHRON, F.A.I.A., has been awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Fine Arts by Denison University, in recognition of outstanding architectural achievements and in appreciation of distinguished standing in the profession.

ROBERT MOSES, HON. A.I.A., has received from Manhattan College the honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering.

ARTHUR C. NASH has been awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by the University of North Carolina, with the citation acknowledging his responsibility for the dignified unity and harmony of design characterizing the recent buildings on the University's campus.

ERNEST PICKERING, Dean of the College of Applied Arts at University of Cincinnati, has been

awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Fine Arts by the Moore Institute of Arts, Science and Industry, in recognition of his service in the field of art school accreditation. He led a movement to place art schools on an accredited basis similar to other professional schools.

WILLIAM DEWEY FOSTER, of Washington, D. C., has been presented with an award by the Progressive Citizens Association of Georgetown. The award cited his preservation of the spirit of Georgetown architecture in a remodeling job.

PIETRO BELLUSCHI, F.A.I.A., has been elected to the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts. He was one of three Americans so honored.

WELTON D. BECKET, F.A.I.A., was named Alumnus of the Year by the University of Washington.

HOWARD ROBERTSON, F.R.I.B.A., retiring R.I.B.A. President was awarded a knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honors.

ARTHUR GEORGE STEPHENSON, who received the R.I.B.A. Gold Medal this year, also received a

knighthood. S. A. W. JOHNSON-MARSHALL, chief architect to the Ministry of Education, was named Commander (order) of the British Empire.

WILLIAM EMERSON, F.A.I.A., at 80 years of age, was honored by the Boston Society of Architects at the 86th Convention with a citation, part of which reads as follows: "An able architect himself, he early found his way into the ranks of 'those who gladly teach' and it was in this field, as Dean

of the School of Architecture of M.I.T. and long-time Secretary of the Rotch Travelling Scholarship Committee, that he came to exert the wise and beneficent influence he did on successive generations of architects."

ERNEST BORN, of San Francisco, has been given the Achievement Award of the Northern California Chapter: "a man who has climbed to the pinnacles of success but given of himself unceasingly in the cause of civic improvement . . ."

The Changing Philosophy of Architecture

By Paul Rudolph

One of five papers read in the Convention seminar devoted to this subject. Ralph Walker's contribution appears on another page of this issue.

THE UNIQUE ELEMENT in architecture is, to quote Dudok, "this serious and beautiful game of space." This has nothing whatsoever to do with the allotment of so many square feet to this and that function, important as that may be, but the creation of living, breathing, dynamic spaces of infinite variety, capable of helping man forget something of his troubles. Modern architecture's range of expression is today from A to B. We build isolated buildings with no regard to the space

between them, monotonous and endless streets, too many gold-fish bowls, too few caves. We tend to build merely diagrams of buildings. The diagram consists of regularly spaced bays, with the long sides filled with glass and the end walls filled with some opaque material. If you raise it on pilotis you might even snare an important prize, as in the recent Ottawa Competition. We need creativity as well as unity.

Modern architecture is tragically lacking in eloquent space con-