

THE  
JOURNAL  
ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL  
INSTITUTE OF CANADA



Vol. X, No. 1

JANUARY, 1933

TORONTO

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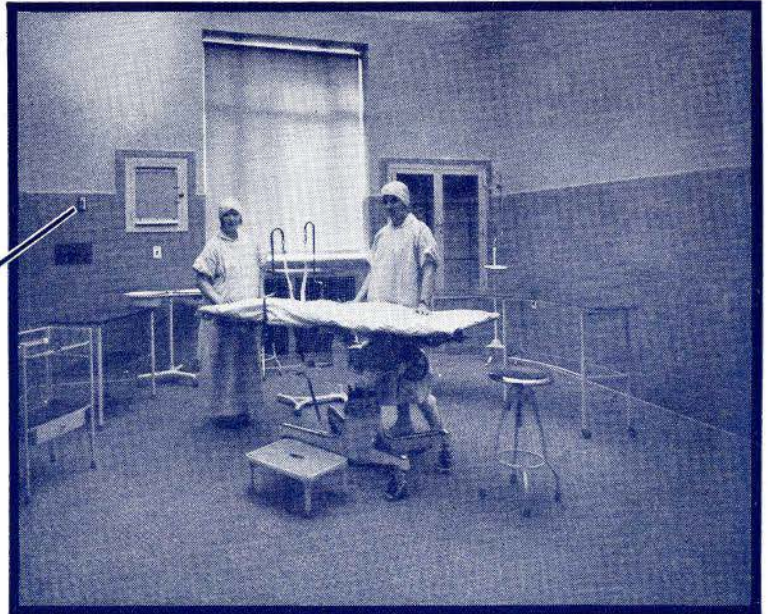
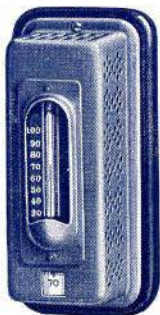
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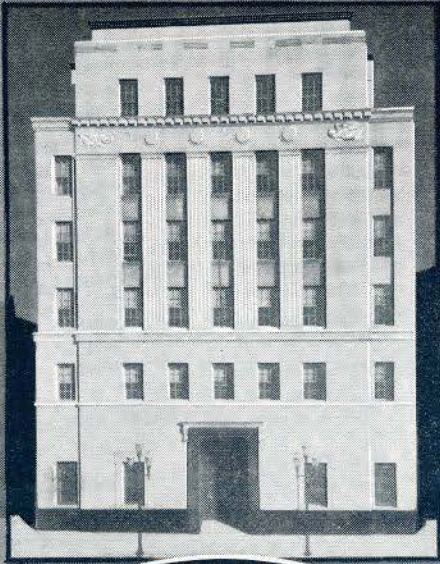
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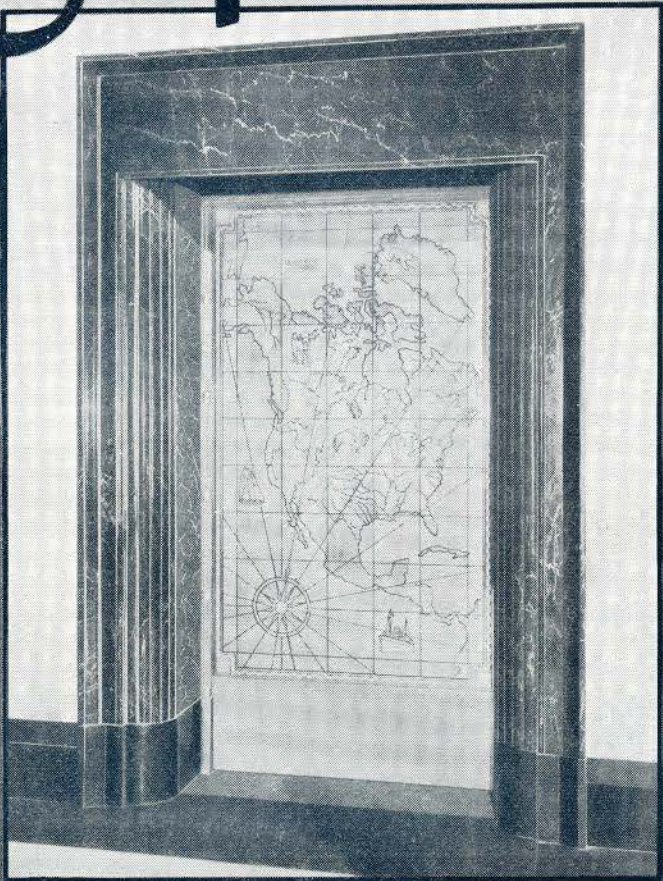
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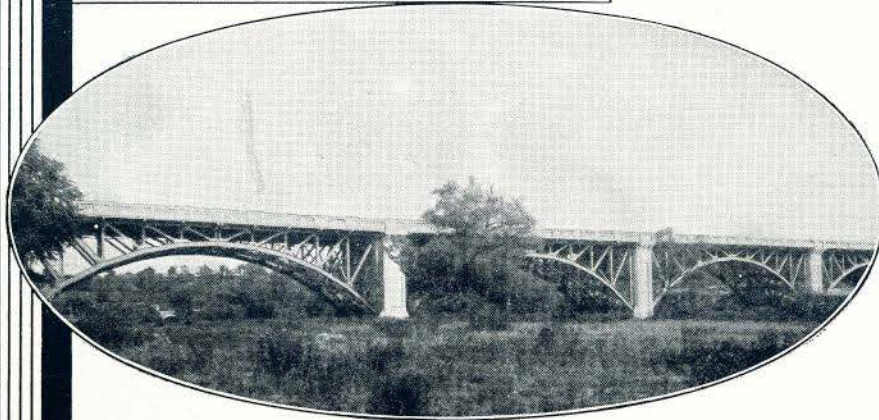
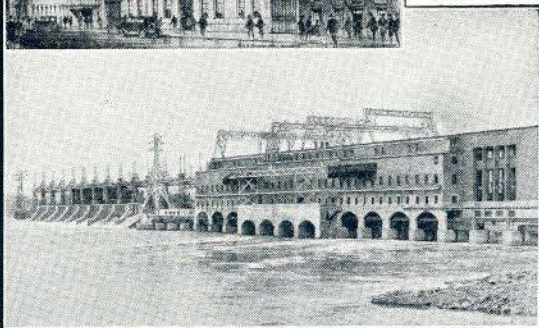
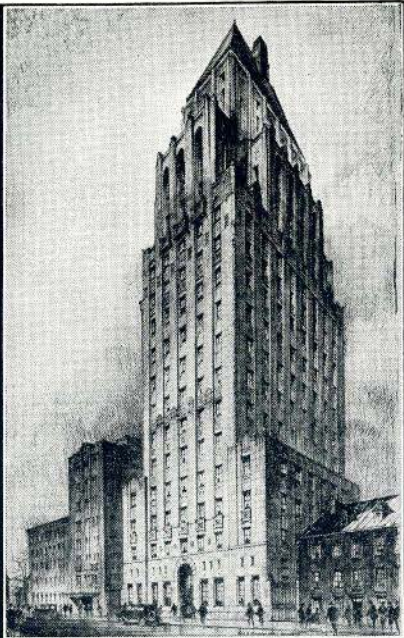
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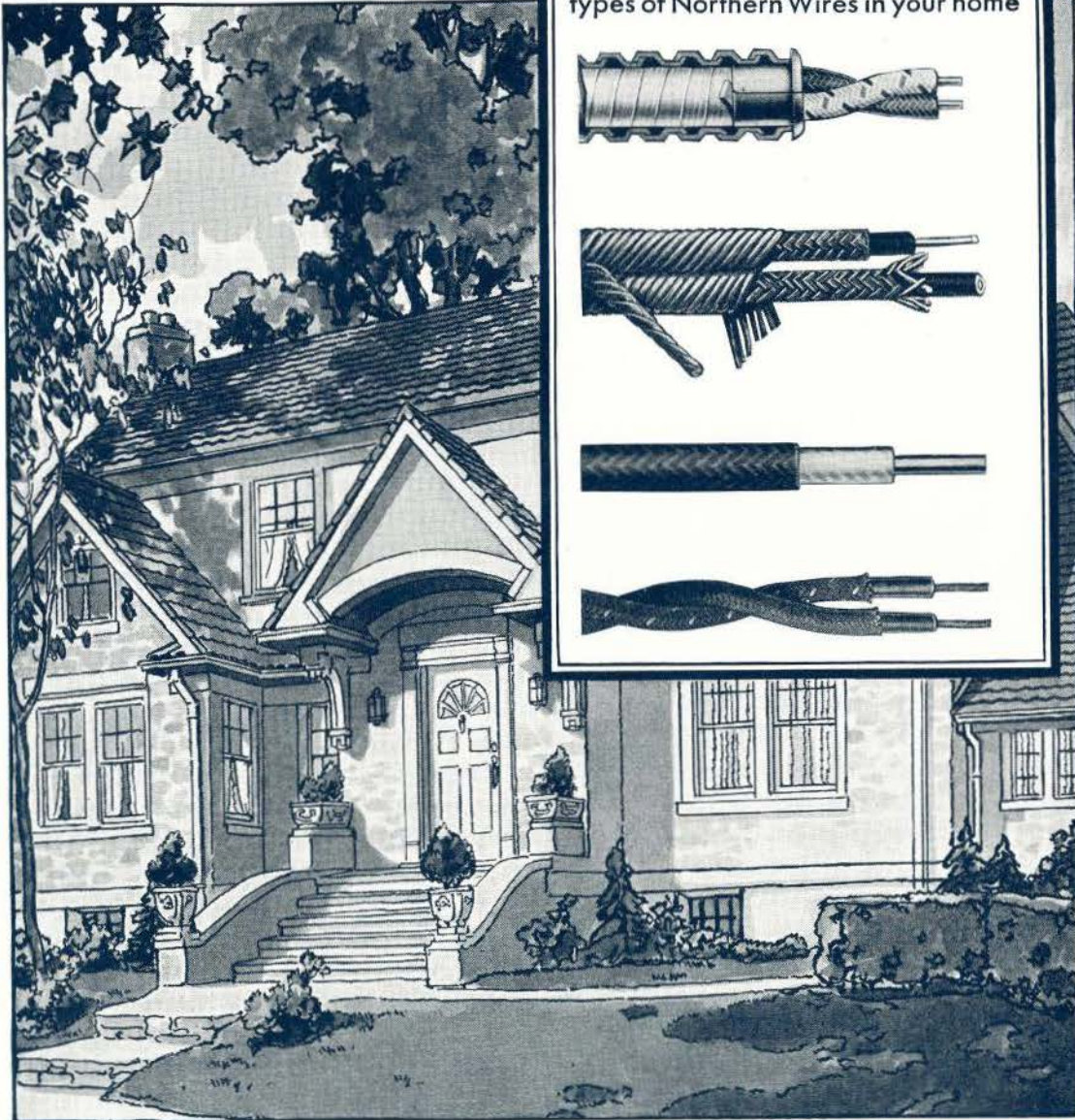
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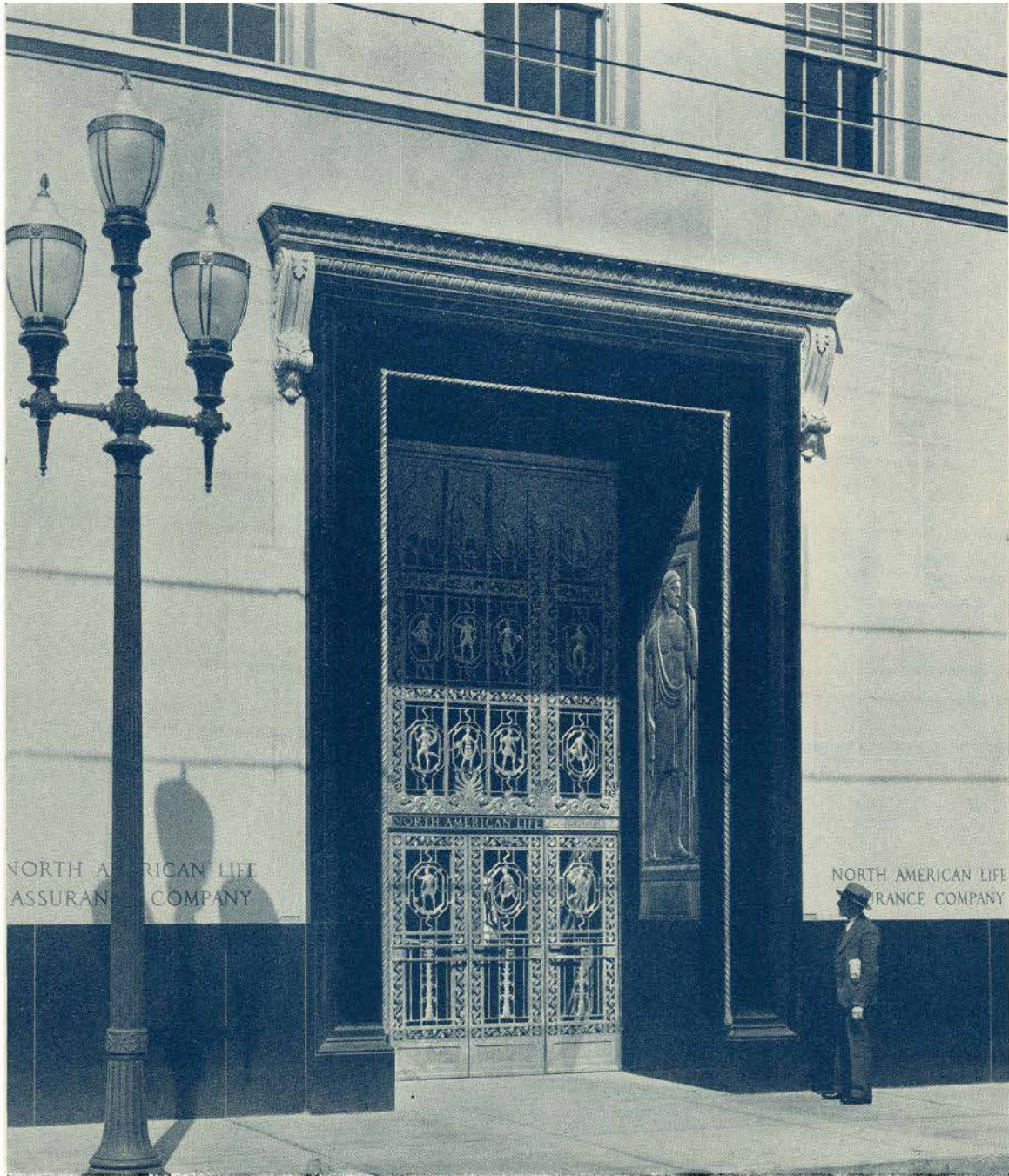
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MAIN ENTRANCE DOORS  
HEAD OFFICE BUILDING, NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, TORONTO

*Marani, Lawson & Morris, Architects*

*The base course, architrave and reveals are dark Swedish green granite. All the metal work is bronze.*



HEAD OFFICE BUILDING  
NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, TORONTO

*Marani, Lawson & Morris, Architects*

*The stone is Queenston Limestone with the flat surfaces bush-hammered. The spandrels between the third and fifth floors are grey-green soapstone. The ground floor windows are bronze, all the rest are hollow metal, painted stone colour.*



ROTUNDA  
HEAD OFFICE BUILDING, NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, TORONTO

*Marani, Lawson & Morris, Architects*

*The walls are Loreda Chiaro marble, pilasters are cobweb vein black and gold marble, the base Belgium black, the floor travertine with a marble mosaic pattern. The lamp standards are bronze with alabaster bowls.*



BOARD ROOM  
HEAD OFFICE BUILDING, NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, TORONTO

*Marani, Lawson & Morris, Architects*

*The panelling is made up of English walnut panels and American black walnut trim. The ceiling is Rockoustile.*



THE GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE  
HEAD OFFICE BUILDING, NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, TORONTO

*Marani, Lawson & Morris, Architects*

*The walls are pale yellow, painted on wood. The marble fascia of fireplace is St. Genevieve golden vein. The carpet and hangings are in tones of soft blue-green.*



COLOURED NUDE

*By Dorothy Stevens*

## THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN ACADEMY

BY L. A. C. PANTON, P.O.S.A.

**T**O those who regard Canadian Art as a reflection of Canada's ideals and circumstances, the Annual Exhibition in Toronto of the Royal Canadian Academy presents interesting material for reflection. Though the national mind is preoccupied by economic disturbances and the human significance of current history, its artistic expression is effected in the lyrical and poetical, in the landscape, the portrait and the decoration. In no exhibition of recent years has academic hospitality been so generous, the representation of Canadian artists from the extremities of the Dominion been so wide, or presented so many and marked contrasts of feeling

and technique. Few of the better known painters are absent from the walls, and the styles and manners of expression range from one extreme to the other, providing a cross-section of Canadian art such as is seldom seen.

The field of portraiture, unusually large this year, is headed by President E. Wyly Grier, among whose three works is a thoroughly characteristic "Lt.-Col. Wm. C. Michell" easily posed, vigourously brushed, well balanced, with marked atmospheric relief, particularly at the head. In the same tradition are Kenneth Forbes' "The Polo Player," a work of extreme technical competence and skilfully managed detail; the portrait of "J. E.

McAllister, Esq.," by a newcomer to Toronto, Evan Macdonald, whose work is broad and steady; Ernest Fosbery's striking silhouette of "P. B. Ross, LL.D.;" and Archibald Barnes' "Miss Meyers," of smooth texture and brilliant colour. Miss Marion Long makes a charming contribution in the portrait of "Miss Constance Burns," very broadly treated

well disposed, the portrait element does not obtrude unduly, and is well combined with the landscape of the St. Lawrence shores, hills and villages. His "Nude" is a powerfully and directly painted study of a girl, brilliant and vital in colour, original in pose, the simplicity and joyous feeling marred only by the insistent folds of the lower drapery.



BENEDICTA

*By Randolph S. Hewton, A.R.C.A.*

in the conventional manner, and rich in a subdued harmony of greens and browns.

The works of R. S. Hewton are remarkable, not only in themselves, but as an indication of the artist's tremendous versatility and courage. In his "Benedicta" is a fine fresh feeling for decoration, happily united to realism, a movement and vigour of design and handling that yet is carefully related to the subject. The lines of the composition are

In the same spirit is his landscape, in high key and solid colour, in which a number of differently hued dwellings typical of Quebec huddle under the shelter of the towering village church, as if for protection against the snowy desolation of withered trees and bare hills.

From Montreal also comes the work of Lillias Newton, a psychological study in which a pronounced triangular motif, strong contrasts of dark

and light, a sombreness of colour and the descriptive landscape behind, converge to present "André Illiashenko" in a small but impressive canvas. As a marked contrast in the manner of technical treatment—though not in the matter of analysis of the subject, is Charles Comfort's "John H. Creighton, Esq.," in which is evidenced a ruthless elimina-

Pioneer" depicting his subjects with his always fresh and sympathetic insight; and a characteristically bold "Thaw in March, Arthabaska," broad in brushwork, simply composed, but of a soft and atmospheric quality unusual in modern Canadian pictures of winter. Small, but easily recognizable as the work of the leader of painters of Canadian



PORTRAIT OF MISS CONSTANCE BURNS

*By Marion Long, A.R.C.A.*

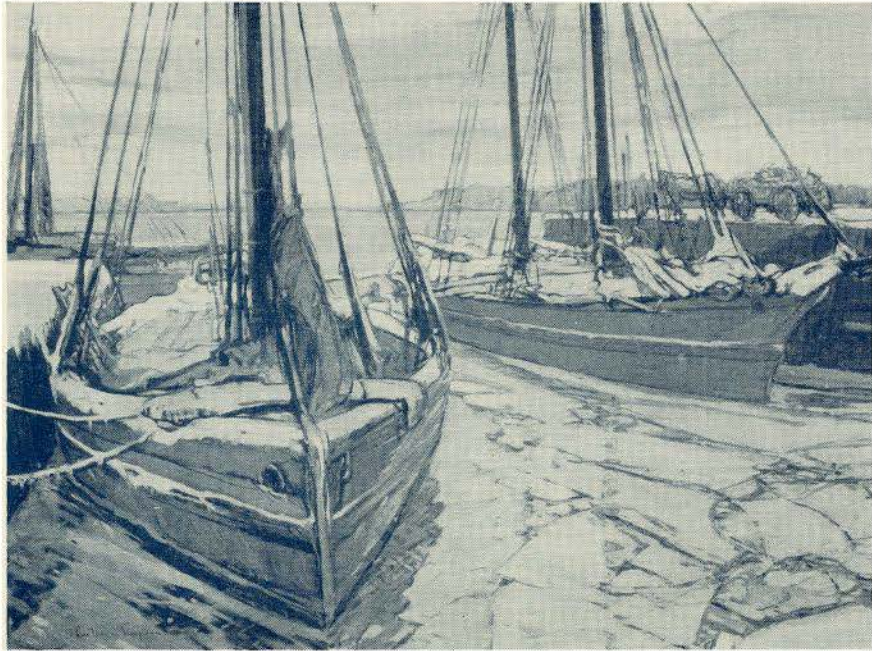
tion of unimportant detail, a moulding of all its elements into fine design. The hands and lips are sensitively drawn, and the daring introduction of a brilliant yellow book-jacket emphasizes skilfully the appropriate sombre colour and the gravity of the sitter.

Suzor Coté, in the forefront of Canadian painter-students of Habitant life, is represented again by "French Canadian Peasant" and "Son of the

history, is Chas. W. Jefferys' "Wolfe Viewing the Departure of Troops from Louisbourg for the Capture of Quebec," in which essential accuracy of detail in nowise interferes with the breadth of design, and the suggestive sparkle of its colour.

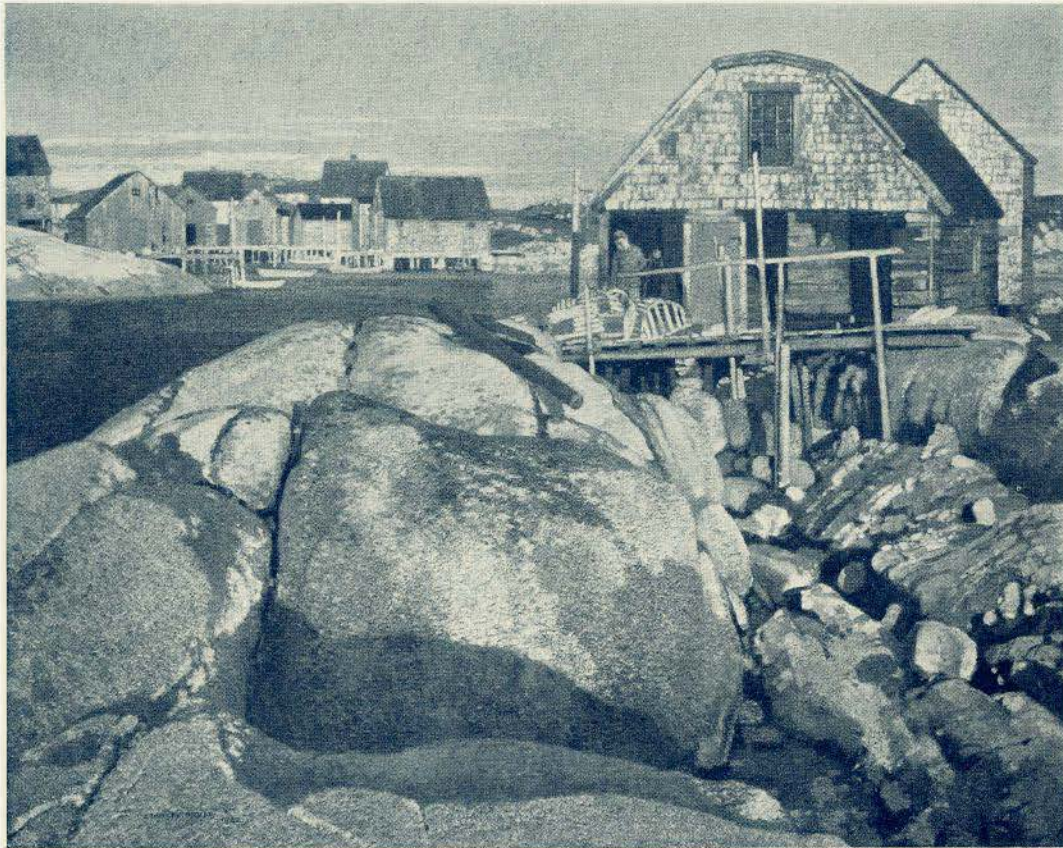
While portraiture and landscape predominate in exhibitions of Canadian art, there is reason to hope that the works of Canadian genre, now all too rare, will increase in number and importance. It is





BROKEN ICE

*By Charles W. Simpson, R.C.A.*



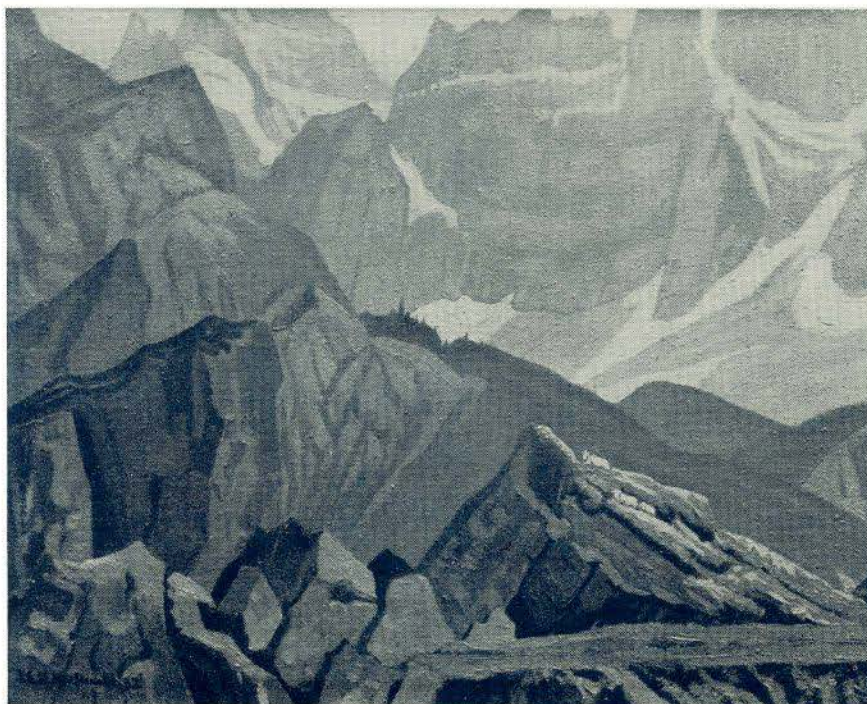
MORNING LIGHT, PEGGY'S COVE, N.S.

*By Stanley Royle*

curious also that of the few outstanding examples of figure painting other than portraits, two are based on tropical subjects. Dorothy Stevens exhibits an ability for the management of pattern and colour in an amazing synthesis "Coloured Nude." The figure is dexterously and broadly painted with a calculated and subdued realism aptly in accord with a well-planned pattern of palms, against the greens of which the rich dark reds and purples of the nude stand in graceful silhouette. "Xosa Women Washing" by Will Ogilvie is sumptuous in its pattern of Venetian reds and dark warm greens, its two figures kneeling at the stream, a rhythmic scheme of severe simplicity.

work has a sense of quiet movement and a subtle but surprising quality of light, its buildings one with the earth on which they stand, the low brooding sky unfortunately lost in the colour of the wall behind.

That the waking of the Spring may be told in marine painting as well as in the landscape is admirably proved by Charles Simpson's "Broken Ice," with its light pure jewel-like colour and the rippling reflections of the well-placed boats. Canada's extensive sea-coast is a motif which deserves to share more largely the attention given to landscape, and which is capably handled in Horne Russell's "Point Lepreaux, N.B.," realis-



GOAT RANGE, ROCKIES

*By J. E. H. Macdonald, R.C.A.*

In exhibiting three mountain studies by J. E. H. Macdonald, the academy does honour to itself, and unexpectedly erects a monument of sad and affectionate tribute to the dean of landscape painters in Canada. The very soul of the man, in all its exquisite and simple reverence for Canada's landscape, is stamped unfadingly on these last of his works; three small works whose poetry raises them far above their larger and more pretentious neighbours. These are the works of an artist, at the peak of his powers, whose skill kept pace with his convictions, who in life enriched Canada by the purest art, and whose untimely death leaves Canadian art immeasurably poorer.

A. Y. Jackson, co-worker with J. E. H. Macdonald, exhibits in "Grey day, Laurentians" his fascination for the typical Quebec landscape. The

tically depicting the violent boiling of surf. From the coast comes the work of Stanley Royle, already having an English reputation. "Evening Light" and "Morning Light," both at Peggy's Cove, are simple in design, and examples of a sincere technique and respect for surface qualities that are found also in Miss Elizabeth Nutt's "A Moorland Stream," a pattern of lights splashed onto a shadowed stream.

Of bolder and more definite design and treatment, and robust colour, is "Brook Falls, Magnetawan River," in which very difficult passages of dark colour, and the swirl of water, are handled with the accustomed certainty of J. W. Beatty. George Pepper, in "Blue Rocks, N.S.," presents an atmosphere redolent of the ordered confusion of fishermen's equipment.

In Fred S. Haines' interpretation of "Winter, Mary Lake," the artist combines a fine fluency in the design of gently flowing verticals and horizontals with a reserved realism of form and colour, that express in a typically personal way the characteristic winter mood.

Sydney Hallam's "October" is a strong, active outdoor study of fine colour and tonal contrasts. "The Brink of the Falls, Georgian Bay," the only canvas by Arthur Lismer, solves an extremely difficult problem of perspective, the diminishing interest of its receding planes appropriate to the slowing up of the water as it enters the lake; and George A. Reid's "Ottawa Valley, Road Builders" and Frederick Challenger's "Making the Trans-Canada Highway" ably perpetuate in paint that epic of road-making.

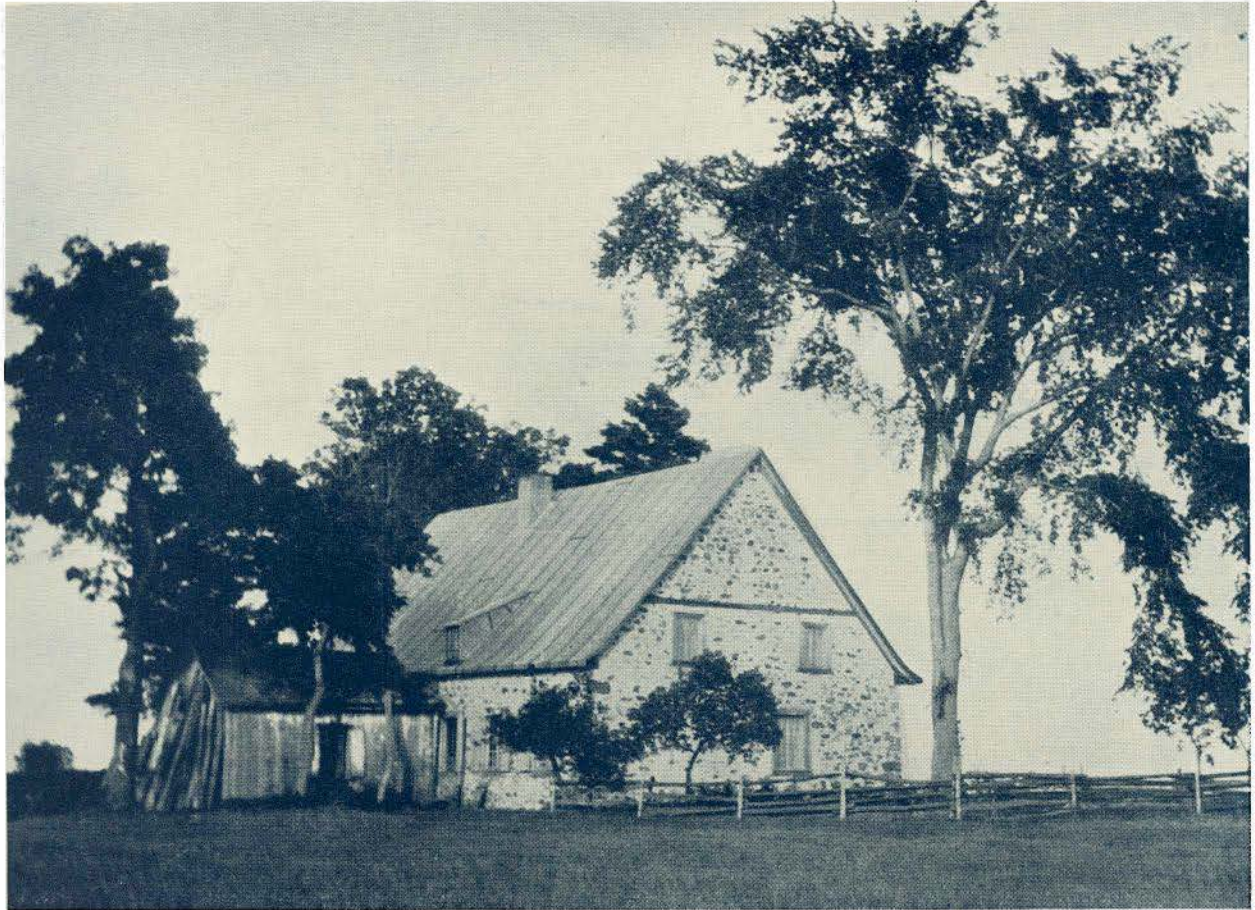
The Academy Exhibition includes a notably large number of water-colours, a reflection of the awakening interest in this medium. A. J. Casson makes of "Old Farmhouse near Maple" an opportunity for studied simplicity and delightful fluid colour. The work is conspicuous for the effect of soft light attained without the usual recourse to strong contrasts, and a definite well-marked pattern well distributed. While not perhaps the finest he has produced, the water-colours by Frederick G. Cross, of Alberta, show a brilliance and appreciation of the qualities of water colour. Mr. Cross, although

new to Canadian exhibitions, is already a master, and exhibits a profound sympathy with Western landscape, and his studies of prairie skies are remarkable for an intense atmosphere of light and heat. The charm of the direct washes of colour on white paper is found in "Karlukwees, B.C." by Walter Phillips, in which the angularity of the interesting composition well suggests the primitiveness of the people themselves. Joachim Gauthier's study of "March" is well conceived as a pattern and ably handled; Mrs. D. M. Bagley's "Laurentian Rapids" is direct and fresh; Paul Alfred's "Gatineau Woodland" is a pleasing union of reds and blues, and George H. Griffin's "Matapedia Valley" is broadly treated in greys.

Among the sculpture is Emanuel Hahn's mysterious "Madame X in Mood Y;" a strikingly realistic portrait bust of the Academy Secretary, Edmond Dyonnet, by Geo. W. Hill, and characteristically fine pieces by Florence Wyle and Frances Loring. A number of etchings and drawings complete a well-balanced exhibition.

Toronto is fortunate in being selected as one of the three centres in which the Academy places its annual exhibitions. With its 269 exhibits of painting, drawings, etchings and sculpture, the 1932 showing has adequately maintained standards, and demonstrated completely that Canadian Art moves on from strength to strength.





VIEW FROM THE NORTH-WEST BEFORE RESTORATION

## THE OLD PRESBYTERY AT BATISCAN

RAMSAY TRAQUAIR, M.A. (HON.), F.R.I.B.A., AND G. A. NEILSON

**T**HE Seigniory of Batiscan is situated on the north shore of the St. Lawrence twenty miles east of the town of Three Rivers. It was granted to the Jesuit Fathers, "pour l'amour de Dieu," on the 13th of March, 1639, by Jacques de la Ferté, Abbé de Ste. Madeleine de Châteaudun, in the name of the Company of the Hundred Associates.<sup>1</sup> Although it remained Jesuit property up to the time of the dissolution of the Order in Canada, none of the Jesuits ever appear to have lived there. They built the usual mill and collected the seigneurial rents amounting, according to a Declaration of Revenue made by the Order to the King of France in 1701, to 300 li. a year, but that was all.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> B. Sulte, *Hist. des Canadiens Français* Vol. II, p. 69.

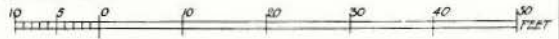
<sup>(2)</sup> *Jesuit Relations and allied Documents*, ed. K. G. Thwaites, Vol. LXX., p. 183.

There is no evidence to show that the Jesuits ever built a house on the site of the old presbytery in the XVII century. Had they done so it would have been used by the missionaries on their visits to the parish. Yet in the Procès-verbal of the General Assembly of the parishioners who met to elect the first churchwardens (*marguilliers*) of the parish in 1670, it is definitely stated that "M. Morin, prestre Missionnaire, y exerçoit les fonctions curiales au logis di Sr. Nicholas Rivard de la Vigne, Lientenans de la Milice aud Batiscan."<sup>3</sup> This statement makes it clear that at that date there was no presbytery in the parish.

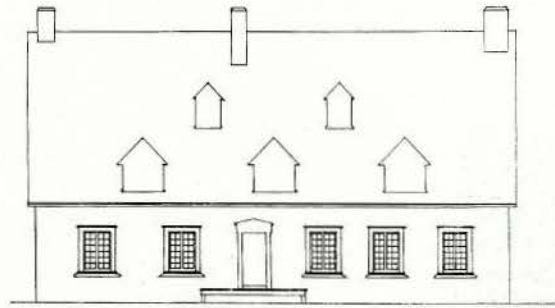
In 1674 Père Louis Nicolas de la Compagnie de Jesus, in the name of his Superior, Père Claude Dablon, sold to the "noble homme Messre Germain

<sup>(3)</sup> *Livres de Comptes de Batiscan*, Vol. I.

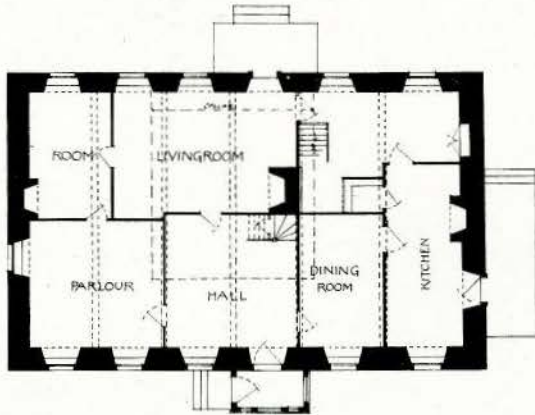
# THE OLD PRESBYTERY AT BATISCAN



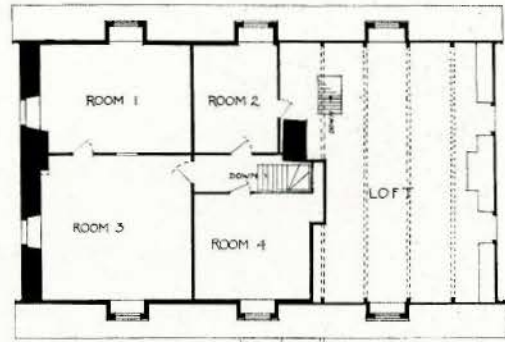
FRONT TO THE RIVER



BACK TO THE ROAD



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



UPPER FLOOR PLAN



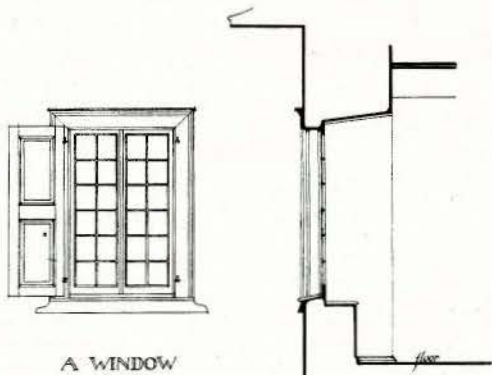
CROSS SECTION



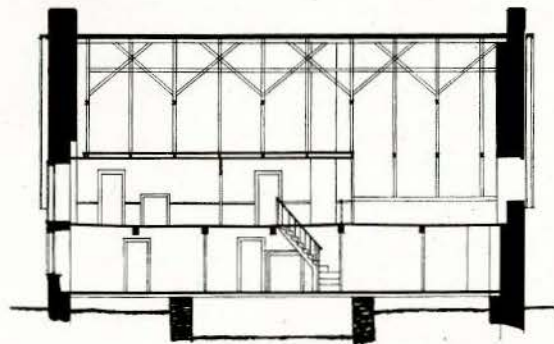
WEST END



EAST END



A WINDOW

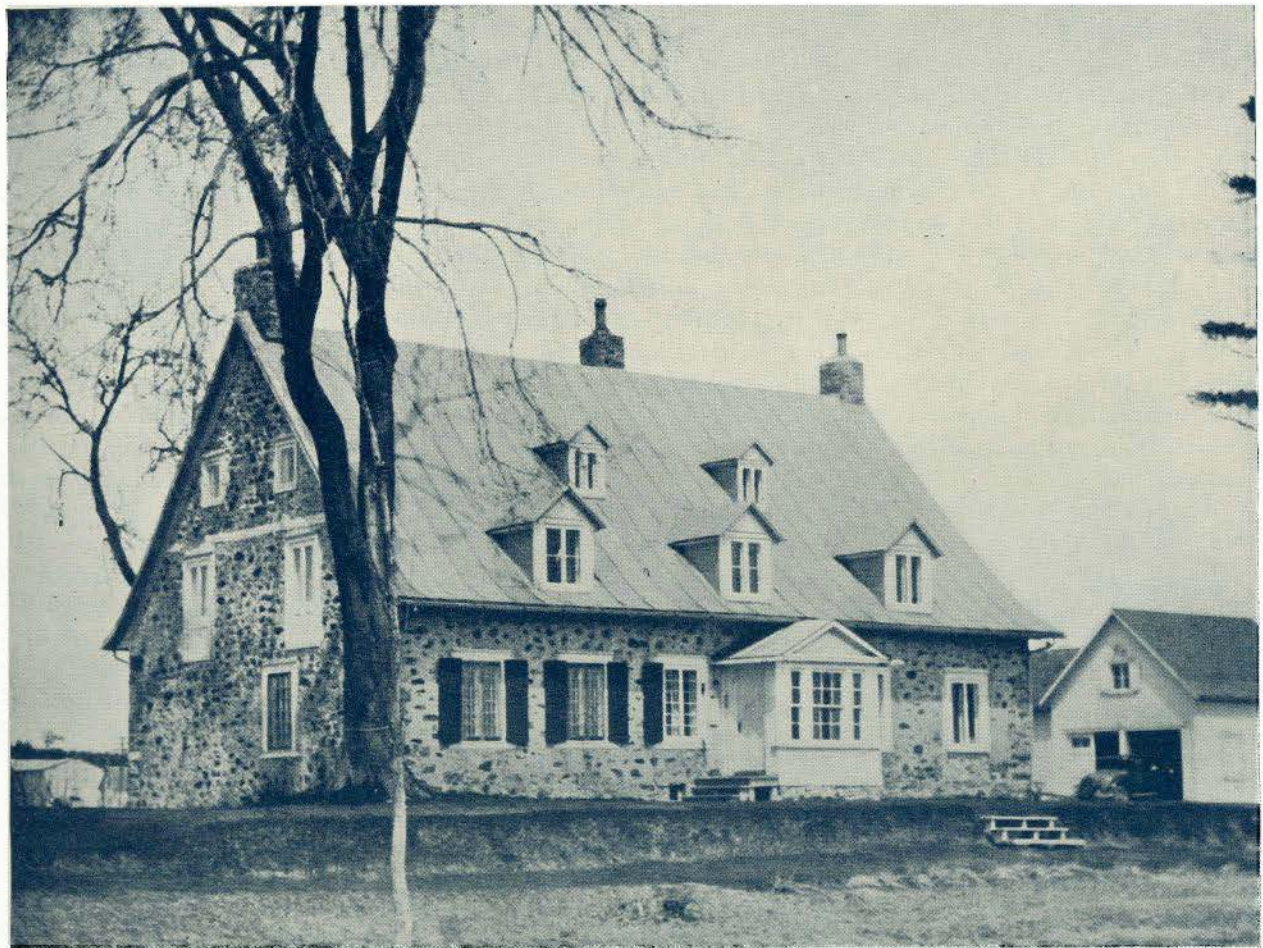


LONG SECTION

27/890



THE SOUTH SIDE BEFORE RESTORATION



THE SOUTH SIDE AFTER RESTORATION

Photo R. T. 1929

Morin prestre faisant fonction de Curé en la paroisse de batiscan un emplacement ou est apresen sise et sittuée Leglise paroissiales dud lieu de Batiscan de la consistance de cem quatre ving pieds de long y compri la place ou est batie la ditte Eglise,"<sup>1</sup> This deed of sale, which was drawn up by Jean Cusson, Notary at the Cap de la Madeleine, mentions no buildings excepting the church, though such deeds customarily enumerate carefully all buildings on the land.

Some years later, in 1706, a Mr. Roy, who was then Curé of Batiscan, gave a part of the property "sur laquelle est situé l'église et le terrain de la Cure," to the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame de Villemarie on condition that they opened a school for girls on the property.<sup>2</sup>

When M. Chartier de Lotbinière, the Grand Vicar of the Bishop of Quebec, visited the parish in the month of March, 1734, he found that the "presbitaire étoit prest de tomber en ruine."<sup>3</sup> He appointed two of the parishioners, Jean Montgrin and Pierre Gouin, as commissioners to examine the building and have it repaired. But it appears that nothing was done and on the 23rd of July of the same year the Intendant Hocquart issued an ordonnance replacing Pierre Gouin by the S. Duclos de Carignant and ordering the commissioners to begin work immediately. This document is of first importance in the history of the building.<sup>4</sup> It states that the presbytery was built in 1696 by the Sr. Foucault, Curé of the parish, at his own expense. At the date of the ordonnance, in 1734, the building threatened to fall down since the beams of the cellar were decayed by the floods which often rose into the building. The beams of the first floor were also much damaged by the rain which was destroying all the interior of the house. The roof was quite spoilt and unable to resist the weather. The north-east gable was beginning to fall, the masonry of that side threatened ruin which would soon involve the rest of the building and render it incapable of repair, thus causing a much greater expense to the parishioners.

The building was, in fact, in very bad state, but not yet impossible to repair. The architectural

(1) Archives de l'Evêché des Trois Rivières, Cartable de St. Frs. X. de Batiscan, pièce No. 1.

(2) Livres de Comptes de Batiscan, Vol. I, f. 54a.

(3) Livres de Comptes de Batiscan, Vol. I, f. 16a.

(4) Archives de l'Evêché des Trois Rivières. Cartable de St. Frs. X. de Batiscan, pièce No. 3. An excerpt of the important passage follows: "Vu la request a nous présentée par le Sr. François Richard Prestre Missionnaire de Batiscan soutenant que le Sr. Foucault cy devant curé de lad Paroisse de Batiscan auroit faire construire en 1696 un Presbytere de pierre aud Lieu a ses frais et depens sans que les habitants y aient fourni un sol de leur argent. Lequel Presbytere aujourd'hui menaceroit ruine par les poutres de la Cave que les eaux qui sont souvent montés dans led Bâtiment auroient pourries; Que les Poutres d'enhaut seroient aussy tres endommagées dont une entièrement sortie de la Muraille par les pluyes qui pourrissent tous les dedans de lad maison, La Couverture estant entièrement gâté et hors d'Etat de resister aux injures du temps; que les Pignons du Nord Est commenceroient a tomber. La muraille dud costé menaçant ruine, ce qui entraineroit bientot le reste du Batiment, le mettroit hors d'estat de pouvoir estre relevé; et causeroit par consequent une depense bien plus considérable aux habitants de lade Paroisse . . ."

evidence shows that the necessary repairs were carried out, the building was at any rate rendered safe and in the *Aveu et Denombrement des terrains des Pères Jésuites en Canada* in 1781, it is stated that on the "Fief and Seignory of Batiscan there is a mill newly built and not yet finished; also a church and clergy house on a lot of land two arpents in superficies for the use of the Curé."<sup>5</sup>

The parish accounts contain no further entries regarding work done to the presbytery until 1835, when the Bishop of Quebec on his visit to the parish mentions as being completed "quelques ouvrages extérieures de l'Eglise et du presbytère."<sup>6</sup>

These were probably a part of the repairs of which Mr. Loranger, Curé of Champlain, writes in a letter to the Bishop in December, 1835, in connection with Batiscan, "M. Guillet qui conduit le tout, m'assure que le Presbitere, l'Etable et les choses actuellement nécessaires seront prêtes lors de l'arrivée du nouveau Curé."<sup>7</sup> It would appear that for many years there had only been one Curé for the two parishes of Batiscan and Champlain. In 1834 the parishioners of Batiscan had written to the Bishop asking him to give them a resident priest and stating that for the past twenty-five years there had only been one Curé for the two parishes and that this Curé had always lived in Champlain.<sup>8</sup>

This explains the extensive repairs that had to be made; the old building had probably been uninhabited for twenty-five years.

At a meeting of the churchwardens on the 13th of March, 1836, it was agreed that, in view of the necessity of making repairs to the presbytery, both interior and exterior, there should be taken from the strong box of the fabrique and placed in the hands of the Curé and churchwardens the further sum of twenty-five livres for these repairs.<sup>9</sup>

Apparently there was some doubt as to what repairs were really needed, for the Bishop a few days later ordered M. Coté, Curé of Ste. Geneviève, to go and examine the presbytery at Batiscan. In his report, made on the 13th of April, M. Coté writes, "J'ai examiné les ouvrages et réparations à faire et les ai jugés absolument nécessaires et pour le logement de Mr. le Curé et pour la conservation du presbytère même. La requête fait connaître à votre Grandeur quelles sont ces réparations réellement nécessaires."<sup>10</sup> Unfortunately this "requête" has not been found; it would apparently have given us a detailed account of the work, but we may conclude that the repairs were considerable or they would not have required so much consideration.

(5) Jesuit Relations, Vol. LXXI, p. 81-82.

(6) Livres de Comptes de Batiscan, Vol. II, part I, f. 148 a and b.

(7) Archives de l'Evêché des Trois Rivières, Cartable de St. Frs. X. de Batiscan, pièce No. 25.

(8) Archives de l'Evêché des Trois Rivières, Cartable de St. Frs. X. de Batiscan, pièce No. 17.

(9) Livres de Comptes de Batiscan, Vol. II, Part I, f. 149a.

(10) Archives de l'Evêché des Trois Rivières, Cartable de St. Frs. X. de Batiscan, pièce No. 31.



Photo R. T. 1929

A WINDOW IN THE OLD PRESBYTERY AT BATISCAN



In 1845 the Bishop again called the attention of the churchwardens to the need of making certain repairs to the presbytery.<sup>1</sup>

Finally, at a general meeting of the parishioners in 1855, it was decided that all repairs to the presbytery should be completed in the following summer and that in addition an extension kitchen should be added to the old house. One hundred pounds were spent on the building in that year.<sup>2</sup>

In 1865-66 a new church and presbytery were built about a mile to the east of the old church which was then disaffected. It fell into ruin and now there is no trace of it left, though a fine carved altar from it, by Levasseur in 1741, is preserved in the sacristy of the new church. The Curé moved into a new presbytery beside the new church and the old presbytery became a farm house. Whilst in this occupation it does not seem to have been seriously altered and finally in 1926 it was carefully restored for use as a summer house by Mr. A. R. Decary, in whose possession it still remains.<sup>3</sup>

## II

The presbytery is a rectangular building, 56 feet 9 inches long by 35 feet 3 inches broad, in one storey, with an attic. It has rubble walls of field stone, about two feet eight inches thick. Under part of the floor is a low cellar with an earth floor and in the roof is a large loft, in the parts not occupied by the attic rooms. The roof is about fifty degrees pitch, with verges, twelve inches deep, at the gable ends. These gables were carried up in stone; that at the west end still is, but the east gable has had to be taken down to wall head level owing to its dangerous condition, and today the gable is only carried up in wood. It will be remembered that this is the gable that was threatening to fall in 1734. Old photographs show that it was sheathed in wood, a common practice to give protection against the northerly storms in winter. The chimneys have been restored. Originally there were three, as at present, but at some time the two in the gables were disused and the photographs before restoration show only one, in the middle of the building.

The house is divided into six bays by five beams of pine wood, eight inches thick and ten inches deep, with a moulding on the exposed edges. These beams run from wall to wall, a span of over 30 feet and support a solid floor, three and a quarter inches thick, formed of two layers of boards laid crosswise, the under boards forming the ceiling. The two bays to the east are about two feet broader than the others. Originally these bays formed a parish hall with a separate door to the outside, in the south side of the end bay, the dwelling house occupying the western part of the building. The

<sup>(1)</sup> Livres de Comptes de Batiscan, Vol. II, part II, f. 9a and b.

<sup>(2)</sup> Livres de Comptes de Batiscan, Vol. II, part II, f. 16b.

<sup>(3)</sup> Care has been taken to preserve the original spelling on the excerpts from old documents.

plan is quite regular; the third bay from the east contains the two entrance doors, to front and back, the remaining bays each have a window on each side. This arrangement of bays and beams supporting a solid floor is an essential part of the structure and could not have been the result of alterations. Similar beams and floors are to be found in the Ferme St. Gabriel, at Pointe St. Charles, Montreal, of the end of the XVII century and in the older parts of the Hôpital Général at Quebec, of the early XVIII century. At Batiscan it is evident that the walls and beams at any rate belong to the house built in 1696 and repaired, but not rebuilt, in 1734.

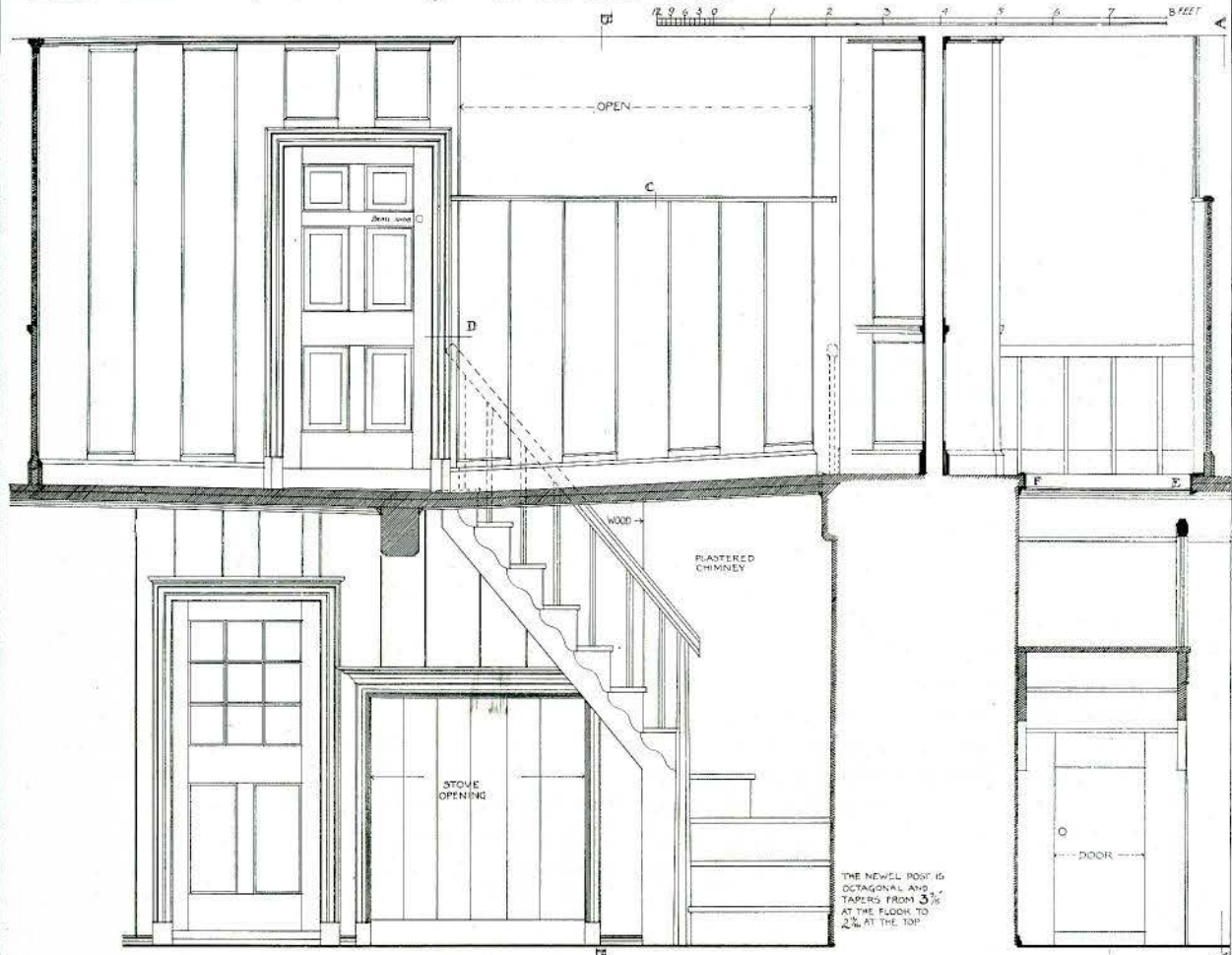
This floor construction is old and good. It is strong, economical and very soundproof. It must be more fire-resisting than the modern floor of small joists, it takes up little room and looks extremely well. The spans of the three and a quarter inch floor vary from seven to nine feet, yet the floors are quite stiff, though the beams have sagged somewhat with time.

This sagging is worth a little notice. The three beams in the west, or house division, have sagged from two inches to three and three-quarter inches in the centre. The remaining two beams, one in the partition and the other over the old parish hall, where there were no rooms above, have only sagged about half an inch. The internal partitions are of inch and a quarter boards and would sustain a very considerable weight without being distorted. They and the doors in them show no signs of any distortion or strain, but have been carefully fitted to the curve of the beams. It is quite evident that they have been put in after the sag had had time to develop, that is, at some time after the original building was finished.

The roof cannot, of course, be the original roof, but it is framed in the old manner with six by eight inch posts, five by four inch rafters and diagonal wind bracing. The rafters rest on double wall plates, one on each side of the wall, connected at intervals by dovetailed cross pieces all out of seven inch square wood. The roof is in ten bays which bear no relation to the bays below. It has a moderate bellcast and eaves projecting twenty-six inches. Roofs continued to be framed in this manner until the middle of the nineteenth century and there is no reason to think that this roof is more than a hundred years old at most.

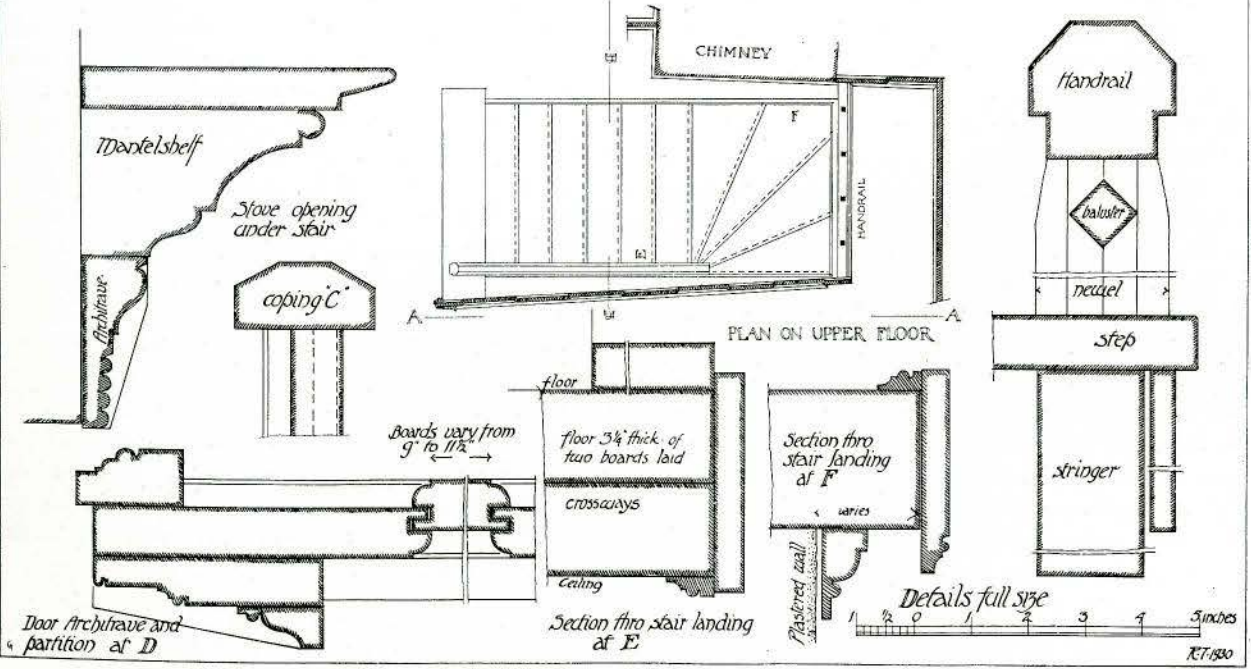
A number of the old window frames and sashes remain, glazed with the old thin glass. The windows have two casements with twelve panes in each, opening inwards. The frames are of wood, with wooden architraves and sills and double, panelled shutters. There is no cut stone in the building. The character of the architrave and other window mouldings indicate a date in the first half of the XIX century. They probably belong to the repairs executed in 1855.

# THE OLD PRESBYTERY AT BATISCAN



THE STAIR AND ROOM ABOVE ON THE LINE A-A

SECTION ON B-B



In the interior the stone walls are plastered direct and the ceilings and partitions are of pine, unpainted and darkened by age to a beautiful warm brown. The partitions on the ground floor are of boards an inch and a quarter thick, grooved and tongued and finished with a small bead. The boards are alternately grooved on both edges or tongued and beaded, not, as is the modern practice, grooved on one edge and tongued on the other. The doors are six panelled with L-shaped wrought iron hinges and exposed brass latches. The architraves have floor blocks and cornices. The character of the mouldings as well as the pattern of the panelling is early XIXth century. The iron work might be earlier, both hinges and latches are of a pattern in use in the later XVIIIth century, but such old-fashioned patterns continued in use in Quebec long after they had gone out elsewhere.

The partitions on the upper floor are of two varieties. Between the rooms marked 1 and 3 on the plan is a partition showing long wainscot panels to room No. 1, but plastered on the other. It is of inch and three-quarter boards grooved and tongued; the construction is shown on the drawing. Between the other rooms the partitions are designed to show wood wainscot on both sides. They are of inch and eighth boards, grooved and moulded, fitted together so that a panel on one side corresponds to a style on the other. At the floor is a shallow moulded base, at chair height a dado mould and at the ceiling a small concave cornice. The long upright strips formed by the boards are filled in at base, cornice and dado with thin cross pieces so as to form panels, with styles as broad as the panels and of quite irregular sizes.

The walls, ceilings and the cove of the roof are all covered with such wainscoting. It seems to have been in fairly common use in the province from the later years of the XVIIIth century. It is used in the Fargues House, 92 St. Peter Street, Quebec, as wall panelling and is a usual treatment for wooden ceilings. The double form, with panels on both sides, is very ingenious.

The stair rises from a corner of the living-room with a turn of three steps and reaches the upper floor in eleven steps of eight and three-quarter inches rise by seven and a half tread, with one square baluster, set diagonally, on each step. The steps have a cut stringer and shaped brackets and on the turn at the bottom is a tapered octagonal newel. The partition above, between the staircase and the front bedroom, is left open at the top and at the end of the stair opening is a curious little balcony entered from the bedroom. These openings

were probably in part intended to allow the warm air from the living-room to reach the bedroom. The stair is very charming. It is simple and direct and, in spite of its extreme steepness, not at all uncomfortable.

Underneath the stair is a stove opening, now boarded up, evidently meant to communicate with the kitchen stove, and beside it is a door glazed in the upper part. Glazed doors seem to have been usual in Quebec houses and were sometimes quite elaborately shaped and moulded.

A careful examination of this very interesting woodwork and of its mouldings leaves not the slightest doubt that it was all executed during the first half of the nineteenth century. For confirmation of this we may turn to a house in the village of Batiscan, now used as a telephone exchange and belonging to Mlle. Machildon. This house was built by the great-grandfather of the present owner, Thomas Machildon, and must therefore be about one hundred years old.

The house is wood-framed and its internal partitions and doors are identical with those of the presbytery. The staircase is of the same character with winding steps, cut strings and shaped brackets. The woodwork must be of about the same age as that of the presbytery; it looks as if it had been made by the same man. Now at the presbytery alterations and repairs were going on from 1836 to 1845 and again in 1855, when the extension kitchen was added. This feature can be seen on the old photographs and was of very rough workmanship. The present porch and door to the river are of much heavier and coarser workmanship and moulding than the interior woodwork and were probably made after it.

The history of the building seems quite clear. The walls and beams date from 1696, though they were repaired in 1734 and may in part be of that date. Thereafter the building was neglected until 1835, when it was thoroughly restored and renovated to receive a resident curé. The present internal woodwork dates from that restoration. Further work was done in 1855 when the kitchen was added and the porch placed on the river front, which at that time faced the old high road.

Since then little or nothing was done to the building until 1926, when it was restored by Mr. Decary. Of his work it is only necessary to say that it shows a love of the old building and a respect for its traditions. The old presbytery at Batiscan is one of the most perfect and most interesting of our small houses and it is fortunate in having fallen into such good hands.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTE

A meeting of the executive committee of the council of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada was held at the office of the Institute, 74 King Street East, Toronto, on Wednesday, December 7th, 1932, at 2.00 p.m.

*Present:* Messrs. Gordon M. West, president; W. S. Maxwell, honorary treasurer; W. L. Somerville; Jas. H. Craig, Forsey P. Page; B. Evan Parry; Herbert E. Moore, and I. Markus, secretary.

### *Reports of Standing Committees:*

*Architectural Training:* Mr. Maxwell advised the meeting that the recognized schools of architecture had been invited to take part in the R.A.I.C. student competitions to be held in the early part of 1933, and that the programmes for the two competitions were now being prepared by Mr. A. S. Mathers of Toronto, for which prizes amounting to one hundred and fifty dollars are to be awarded.

*Art, Science and Research:* Mr. Parry reported that he had represented the Institute on the committee appointed by the Canadian Engineering Standards Association to consider the standardization of colours for piping systems, and that a draft of a document had been prepared recommending the adoption of certain identifying colours for pipes used for specific purposes, in connection with which a number of changes suggested by him had been adopted.

*Exhibitions and Awards:* In the absence of Mr. Hynes, the secretary presented the report of the jury of award appointed to judge the photographs of buildings submitted in the recent R.A.I.C. Exhibition. The report stated that after giving careful consideration to the 106 photographs of 59 buildings entered by 31 exhibitors, the jury had awarded the Gold Medal to Messrs. Barott and Blackader, Montreal, for the Bank of Montreal Building at Ottawa, and that other awards had been made in the following classes: Public Buildings, Ecclesiastical Buildings, Educational Buildings, and Residential Buildings. The jury recommended that a bronze medal be awarded to Mr. Ernest Cormier for his residence in recognition of the skillful manner in which the problem was handled and of the personal and original character of the design. The jury's report met with the approval of the executive committee, and the secretary was instructed to have the medals for Messrs. Barott and Blackader and Ernest Cormier ready for presentation at the annual meeting.

*Proposed Standard Form of Tender:* Mr. Somerville reported that a proposed standard form of tender had been considered at a meeting of the Joint Committee of the R.A.I.C. and C.C.A. held on November 21st, and that the committee had agreed on a final draft to be submitted to the executive committees of the R.A.I.C. and C.C.A. for approval. After a number of changes had been made in the draft, the proposed form of tender was approved as revised.

*National Committee on Construction Recovery:* Mr. Craig reported that a number of meetings of this special committee had been held during the past few weeks and that it had now been enlarged to include representatives from a number of

national organizations interested in the construction industry. He further advised the meeting that a conference of representatives of the component parts of the construction industry was contemplated in the near future.

*Duty on Plans:* A letter was read from Mr. R. W. Breadner, commissioner of customs, advising the Institute of the changes made in the valuation for duty purposes of architects' plans imported into Canada, as outlined in Appraiser's Bulletin No. 3966. The president stated that the new ruling issued by the Department of Customs and Excise was very gratifying, inasmuch as it represented the culmination of four years of effort on the part of the Institute to have the basis of value for duty purposes raised from 2% to 3% of the estimated cost of the building, and the requiring of an affidavit to be filed with the Customs Department establishing the final cost of the completed building for final appraisal. The meeting expressed its gratification at the results obtained, and on motion duly moved and seconded, extended its sincere appreciation to all those who were in any way responsible for bringing about the changes in the customs regulations, especially to Messrs. J. P. Hynes and P. E. Nobbs, past presidents of the Institute, and Mr. E. L. Horwood of Ottawa.

*Employment of private architects on Public Works, execution of private work by official architects, and status of employed architects:* Mr. Parry advised the meeting that he had communicated with the members of his committee requesting them to submit their views as to the line of procedure which may be followed in the investigations to be carried out.

*Programme for next annual meeting:* Mr. Somerville reported that a meeting of the committee of arrangements had been held at which it had been suggested that the annual meeting of the Institute be held at the King Edward Hotel on the dates originally arranged, namely February 17th and 18th, 1933. This was approved by the meeting.

It was the feeling of the meeting that the expenses of the annual meeting should be curtailed as much as possible.

The secretary advised that the following recognized schools of architecture had accepted the invitation to send a representative to the next annual meeting of the Institute: McGill University, Montreal; Ecole des Beaux Arts, Montreal and Quebec, and the University of Toronto.

*Tercentenary of the birth of Sir Christopher Wren:* The president reported that Dr. John A. Pearson had represented the Institute at the Tercentenary of the birth of Sir Christopher Wren, in connection with which he had laid a wreath during the Memorial Service at St. Paul's Cathedral in the name of the architects of the Dominion of Canada. The president was requested to convey to Dr. Pearson the sincere appreciation of the council of the Institute for the valuable service he had rendered in this connection.

*Date and Place of Next Meeting:* It was decided to hold the next meeting of the executive committee in Toronto on Wednesday, January 18th, 1933, at 2.00 p.m.

*Adjournment:* The meeting adjourned at 8.00 p.m.

## NOTES

Mr. Percy E. Nobbs (*F*), past-president of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, left Montreal on December 22nd for an extended trip abroad.

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Mr. J. Y. McCarter, of McCarter and Nairne, architects of Vancouver, was re-elected president of the Architectural Institute of British Columbia at the annual meeting of that body held in Vancouver on December 7th, 1932.

\* \* \* \*

The next annual meeting of the Province of Quebec Association of Architects will be held on Saturday, January 28th, 1933, at the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. Heliodore Laberge (*M*), architect of Quebec, who has been away from his office for the past year through illness, announces that he has re-opened his office at 140 rue St-Jean. Mr. G. A. Poitras (*M*) of Quebec, will be associated with Mr. Laberge in his practice.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. L. C. Martin Baldwin (*M*), architect of Toronto, has recently been appointed temporary curator of the Art Gallery of Toronto. Mr. Baldwin succeeds Mr. Fred S. Haines, A.R.C.A., who has just been appointed principal of the Ontario College of Art following the death of Mr. J. E. H. MacDonald.

\* \* \* \*

The next annual meeting of the Manitoba Association of Architects will be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on Monday, January 16th, 1933.

\* \* \* \*

A Memorial Exhibition of the work of J. E. H. MacDonald, R.C.A., O.S.A., is being held this month at the Art Gallery of Toronto.

\* \* \* \*

Professor Ramsay Traquair of McGill University, delivered an address on December 9th, 1932, over radio station CKAC, Montreal, under the auspices of the McGill Graduate Society. Professor Traquair in his talk traced the history of the old architecture of the Province of Quebec.

Mr. Kenneth G. Rea (*M*), architect of Montreal, left on December 10th for an extended trip abroad.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. Arthur H. Eadie (*M*), of Toronto, was the winner of the Poster Competition announcing the Toronto Chapter Architectural Exhibition. Thirty-nine designs were submitted in the competition which was judged by a jury composed of Messrs. John M. Lyle and Murray Brown, architects, and J. E. Sampson, artist. Ten of the most outstanding designs will be exhibited at the forthcoming Toronto Chapter Architectural Exhibition which will be held at the Art Gallery of Toronto from February 4th to 28th, 1933.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. W. L. Somerville (*F*), architect of Toronto is delivering a series of three lectures at McMaster University, Hamilton, on the Architectural Background of the Christian Church. The first of the series of lectures was given on December 6th and dealt with Byzantine and Early Christian Origins. The second lecture which will be given on January 10th will cover the Romanesque and Mediaeval periods, and the final lecture of the series will be given on February 11th and will deal with Renaissance, Gothic Revival and Modern.

\* \* \* \*

The first part of the report of the sub-committee on Hospital Construction and Equipment of the Canadian Hospital Council appeared in the December issue of "Canadian Hospital," and will be continued in subsequent issues. It may be of interest to mention that Mr. B. Evan Parry (*F*), is the chairman of this committee.

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At the inaugural meeting of the ninety-ninth session of the Royal Institute British Architects held on Monday, November 7th, 1932, Dr. John A. Pearson, who was present at the meeting, conveyed the greetings of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. In addressing the gathering, Dr. Pearson suggested that it should be the incumbent of the office of president of the R.I.B.A. during his term to visit some of the Dominions Overseas.

## COMPETITIONS

### TOWN PLANNING COMPETITION ANTWERP, BELGIUM

The council of La Societe Intercommunale de la rive gauche de l'Escaut announces a competition for a scheme for the replanning of the area situated on the bank of the river opposite Antwerp. The schemes submitted will be judged by a jury consisting of Dr. H. P. Berlage, The Hague; Mons. H. Prost, Paris; Mons. le Baron Horta, Brussels; Mons. Henry Van de Velde, Brussels; Mons. P. De Heem, Antwerp; Mons. G. De Ridder, Antwerp; and Mons. J. de Bruey, Antwerp.

A sum of 300,000 francs (\$9,600.00) has been set aside for prizes to be awarded as follows:

First Prize—100,000 francs (\$3,200.00).

Two Prizes of 50,000 francs each (\$1,600.00), and

Four Prizes of 25,000 francs each (\$800.00).

Drawings must be submitted on or before May 31st, 1933.

The programme and necessary plans relating to the competition may be obtained on application to the offices of the Society, 26 Rue Arenburg, Antwerp, by sending a deposit of twenty francs (65 cents) for the programme and 80 francs (two dollars and fifty cents) for the plans.

## BOOKS REVIEWED

A HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH HOUSE. By Nathaniel Lloyd. Published by the Architectural Press Limited, London. Price \$17.50.

This volume, in the preparation of which we understand the author has given a great part of his life, is an exhaustive and monumental work and contains a great deal of material, both text and illustrations, on the history of the English house. The author shows the development of the English House from the primitive times to the Victorian period.

Following the general text, which has been arranged according to centuries, there are 888 illustrations divided into sections according to subjects under such headings as exteriors and plans, external wall treatment, entrances, windows, chimneys, interiors, internal wall treatment, ceilings, fireplaces, staircases, metalwork and various details. The illustrations are accompanied by descriptive captions and have been arranged in such a way that the reader may note the changes and developments of each particular feature throughout its history.

The reviewer of this volume has no hesitation in recommending this book to architects as a valuable reference work on English domestic architecture.

The size of the book is 9½" x 13", and contains 487 pages, including a very comprehensive index. I.M.

THE ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

**TWENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING**

AT THE

KING EDWARD HOTEL, TORONTO, ONTARIO

ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, THE 17TH AND 18TH FEBRUARY, 1933

*Programme*

FRIDAY, THE 17TH FEBRUARY, 1933

- 9.30 A.M.—Registration of Members. Room 306, 74 King Street East.
- 10.00 A.M.—Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council. Room 306, 74 King Street East.
- 11.00 A.M.—Meeting of the (1932) Council. Room 306, 74 King Street East.
- 12.00 Noon—Inaugural session of the Twenty-Sixth General Annual Meeting of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. Yellow Room, King Edward Hotel.
- (a) Reading and adoption of the minutes of the Twenty-Fifth General Annual Meeting of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, held at Montebello, (Lucerne-in-Quebec) on the 19th and 20th February, 1932.
- (b) Business arising out of the minutes.
- (c) Report of the Council.
- 12.50 P.M.—Group photograph to be taken.
- 1.00 P.M.—Luncheon, Banquet Hall, King Edward Hotel.
- 2.30 P.M.—Business Session. Yellow Room, King Edward Hotel.
- (d) Discussion on the Report of the Council.
- (e) Reports of the Standing Committees:
- (1) Architectural Training, Mr. W. S. Maxwell (F), Chairman.
- (2) Scholarships, Mr. E. R. Rolph (F), Chairman.
- (3) Art, Science and Research, Mr. B. Evan Parry (F), Chairman.
- (4) Professional Usages, Mr. Gordon M. West (F), Chairman.
- (5) Public Relations, Mr. James H. Craig, Chairman.
- (6) Editorial Board, Journal R.A.I.C., Mr. J. P. Hynes (F), Chairman.
- (7) Joint Committee of R.A.I.C. and C.C.A., Mr. W. L. Somerville (F), Chairman.
- (8) Exhibitions and Awards, Mr. J. P. Hynes (F), Chairman.
- (f) Report of the Honorary Treasurer, including the Auditor's Report, Mr. W. S. Maxwell (F), Honorary Treasurer.
- (g) Reports of the Election of Delegates from the Component Societies to the (1933) Council of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. Mr. Alcide Chaussé (F), Honorary Secretary.
- 6.30 P.M.—Dinner and Meeting of the Fellows of the R.A.I.C., Room 210, King Edward Hotel.
- 8.30 P.M.—Lecture at the Art Gallery of Toronto.

SATURDAY, THE 18TH FEBRUARY, 1933

- 10.00 A.M.—Business Session at the Art Gallery of Toronto.
- (h) Unfinished business from previous session.
- (i) New business.
- 1.00 P.M.—Luncheon at the Art Gallery of Toronto. Address by the Chairman of the Toronto Chapter, O.A.A.
- 2.30 P.M.—Meeting of the (1933) Council. Art Gallery of Toronto.
- (1) Election of Officers.
- (2) Appointment of the Executive Committee.
- (3) Budget for 1933.
- (4) Appointment of an Auditor.
- (5) Appointment of Standing Committees.
- (6) Delegation of powers to Executive Committee.
- (7) Authorization for the Honorary Treasurer to pay certain expenses.
- (8) Place of next Annual Meeting.
- (9) Other business.
- 3.00 P.M.—Toronto Chapter Exhibition of Architecture and Allied Arts—Art Gallery of Toronto. Exhibition of Drawings submitted in the R.A.I.C. Student Competitions—Art Gallery of Toronto.
- 7.30 P.M.—Annual Dinner at the University Club, University Avenue, Toronto. Presentations.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS

Messrs. W. L. Somerville, Chairman; A. S. Mathers, Murray Brown, F. H. Marani, Gordon M. West, W. S. Maxwell, James H. Craig, J. P. Hynes, Herbert E. Moore, Forsey P. Page, B. Evan Parry and Alcide Chaussé.

This programme is subject to change. Announcements of changes will be made at the business sessions.

627 Dorchester Street West,  
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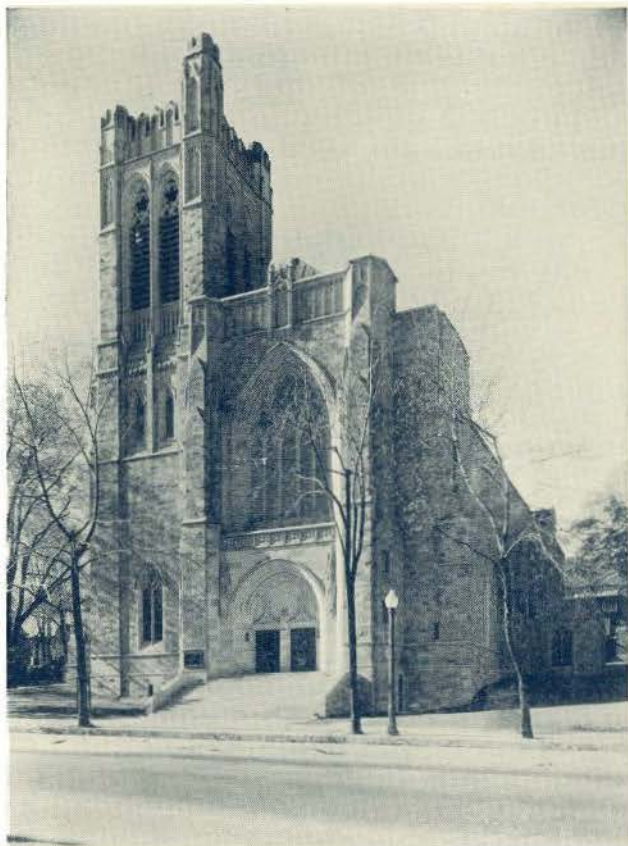
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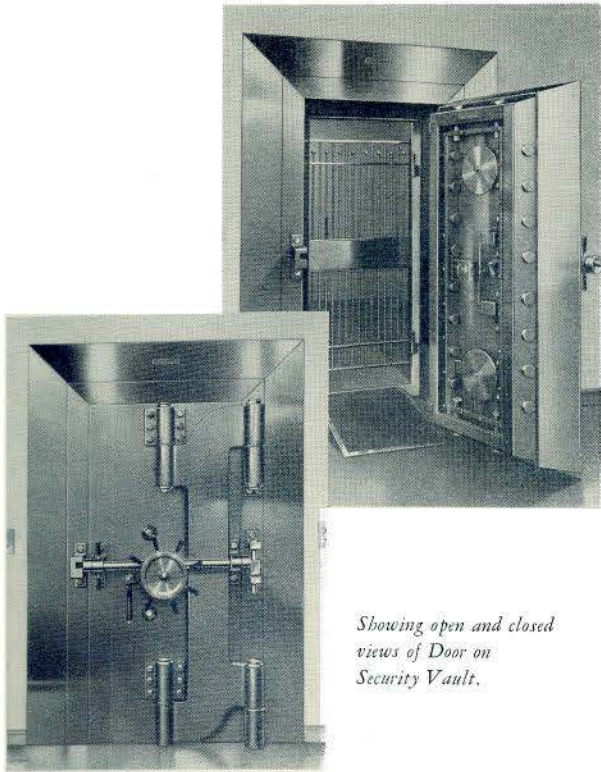
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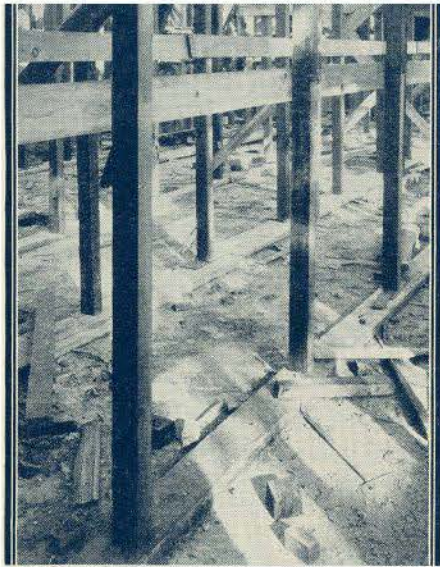
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## RECENT ARCHITECTURAL BOOKS

The following is a list of architectural books recently published which may be obtained from Architectural Publications Limited, at the published price, carriage and customs duties prepaid.

<b>Architectural Graphic Standards</b> —By Charles George Ramsey and Harold Reeve Sleeper.....	<b>\$6.50</b>
<b>Design of Concrete Structures</b> —By Urquhart and O'Rourke.....	<b>4.00</b>
<b>A History of Architecture (Ninth Edition)</b> . By Sir Banister Fletcher.....	<b>12.00</b>
<b>Acoustics of Buildings</b> —By F. R. Watson.....	<b>3.00</b>
<b>Kidder-Parker Architects' and Builders' Handbook</b> ...	<b>8.00</b>
<b>New Building Estimators Handbook</b> —By Wm. Arthur	<b>6.00</b>
<b>Metal Crafts in Architecture</b> —By Gerald K. Geerlings	<b>7.50</b>
<b>Good Practice in Construction</b> —By Philip G. Knobloch	<b>6.00</b>
<b>Modern Danish Architecture</b> —By Kay Fisker and F. R. Yerbury.....	<b>10.00</b>
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<b>Modern Architectural Sculpture</b> —By W. Aumonier..	<b>17.50</b>
<b>Architectural Design in Concrete</b> —By T. P. Bennett..	<b>\$9.00</b>
<b>The Practical Requirements of Modern Buildings</b> —By Eugene Clute.....	<b>6.00</b>
<b>A History of the English House</b> —By Nathaniel Lloyd.	<b>17.50</b>
<b>The Work of Sir Robert Lorimer</b> —By Christopher Hussey.....	<b>18.00</b>
<b>Old Houses in England</b> —By Rowland C. Hunter....	<b>8.50</b>
<b>Houses of the Wren and Early Georgian Periods</b> —By Tunstall Small and Christopher Woodbridge..	<b>8.00</b>
<b>American Apartment Houses of Today</b> —By R. W. Sexton.....	<b>16.00</b>
<b>American Commercial Buildings of Today</b> —By R. W. Sexton .....	<b>18.00</b>
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In addition to the above list, we carry in stock a large number of other architectural books which can be seen at the office of The Journal, R.A.I.C. A list of these books will be sent to architects outside of Toronto upon request.

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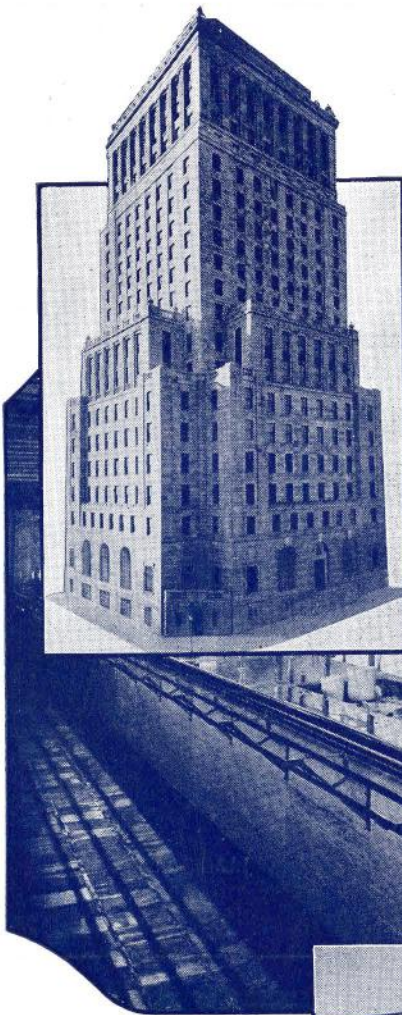
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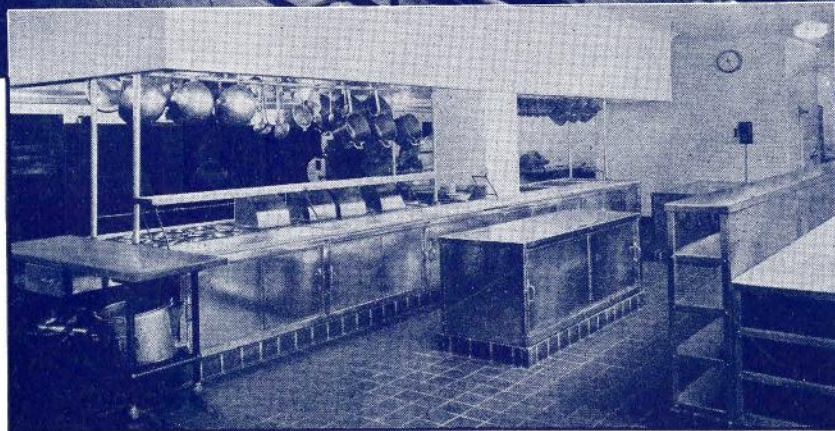
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