

THE  
JOURNAL  
ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL  
INSTITUTE OF CANADA



Vol. XII, No. 3

MARCH, 1935

TORONTO



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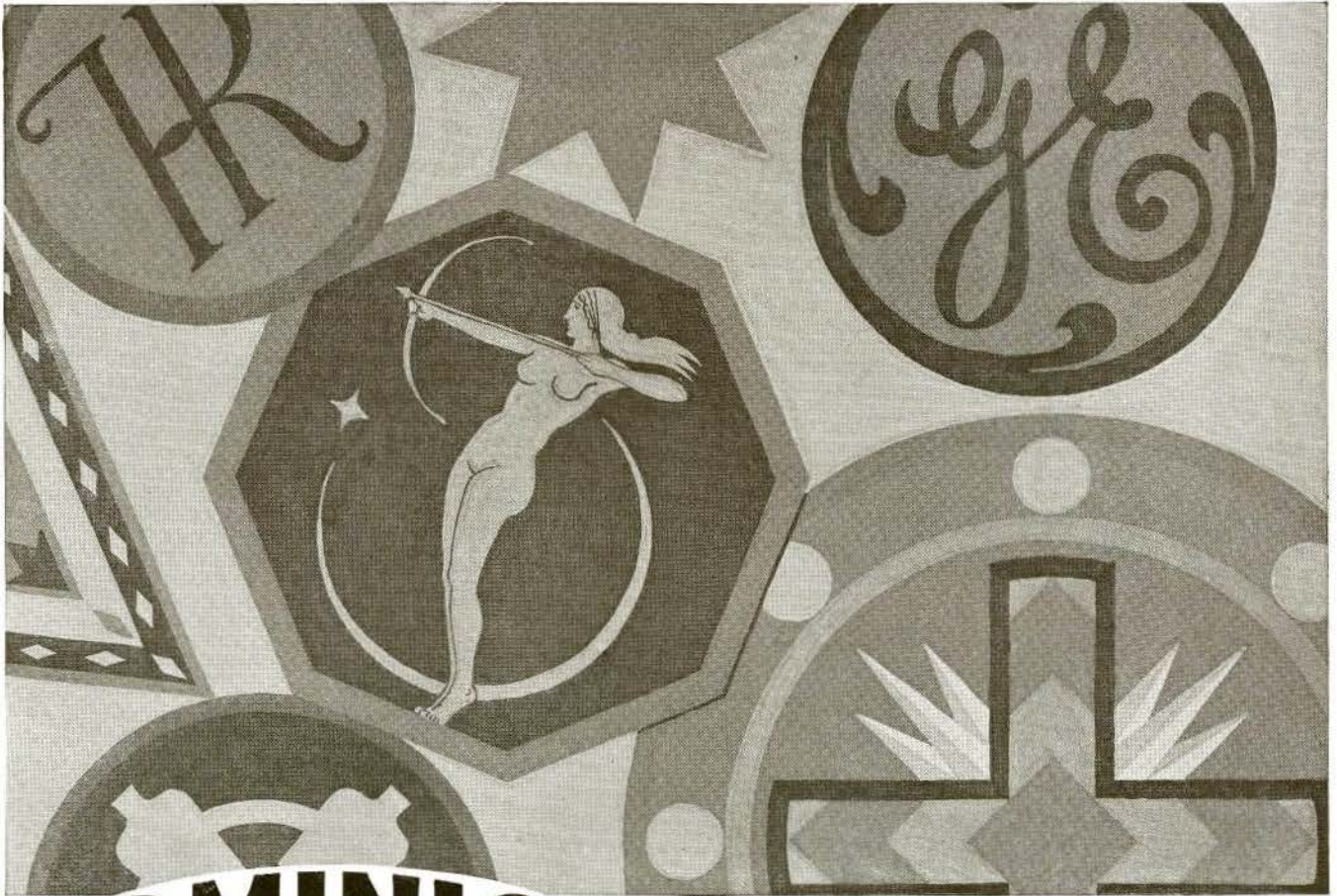
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# THE JOURNAL

## ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

Serial No. 115

TORONTO, MARCH, 1955

Vol. XII, No. 3

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PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH FOR THE  
ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

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PUBLISHERS: ARCHITECTURAL PUBLICATIONS LIMITED

*Publication, Editorial and Advertising Offices*..... 74 King Street East, Toronto  
*Chicago Representative*..... Macintyre & Simpson 75 East Wacker Drive, Chicago  
*Great Britain Representative*.. C. Rowley Ltd., 53 & 54 Ave. Chambers, Southampton Row. London W.C.1, England

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Canada and Newfoundland—Three Dollars per year. Great Britain, British Possessions, United States and Mexico—Five Dollars per year.  
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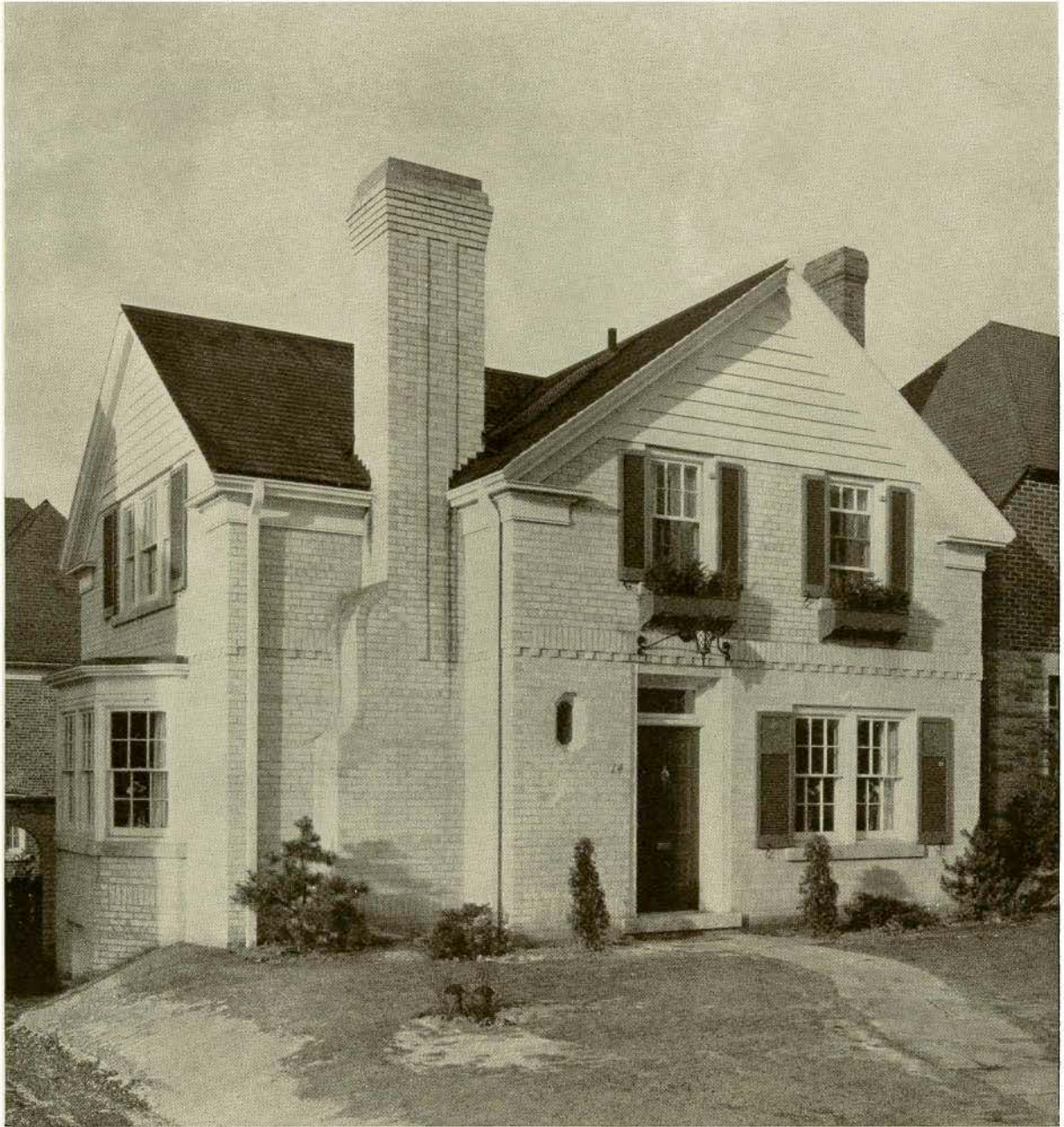


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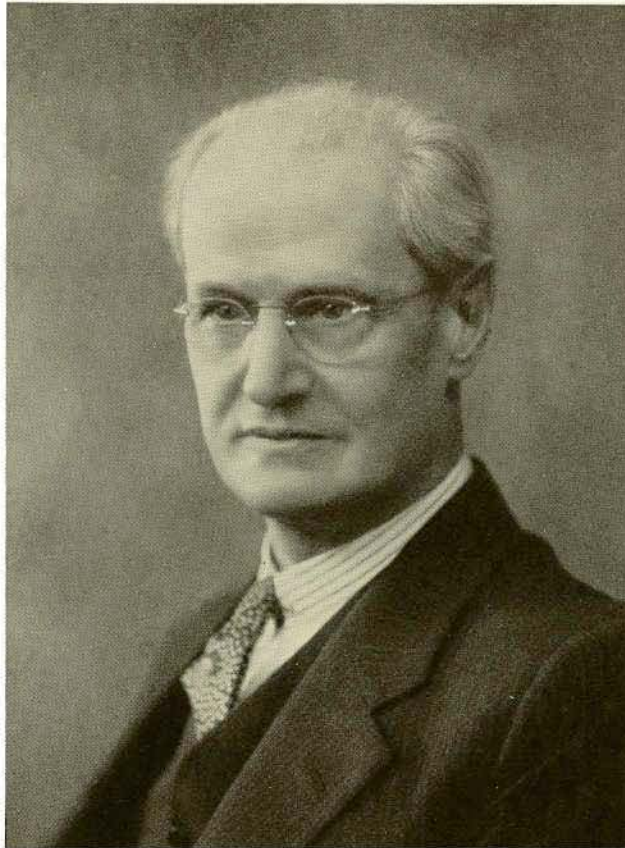




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## AWARDS IN R.A.I.C. STUDENT COMPETITIONS

**F**OLLOWING the judging of the 1934 R.A.I.C. Student Competitions, a number of suggestions for the conduct of future competitions were made by the heads of the participating schools of architecture. Briefly, the suggested changes were:

1. That the title of the problems be announced to the schools one month before the esquisse date.
2. That no information regarding the programmes be given to students before the actual time they go *en loge* to make their preliminary esquisses. The esquisses to be made under surveillance, without criticism from anyone.
3. That the names of schools and names of students be omitted from all drawings.
4. That a jury of five qualified members of the Institute be appointed who are neither directly nor indirectly on the staff of the competing schools.

These recommendations, which were adopted by the Institute and incorporated in the conditions governing the 1935 competitions, resulted in all the recognized schools of architecture taking part this year.

The programmes were drawn up by Mr. Ernest Cormier and Mr. E. I. Barott of Montreal, and consisted of two design problems, one for fourth and fifth year students, and the other for second and third year students.

The problems were as follows:

Class "A" projet—"A Maritime Landing Station for Transatlantic Liners"—open to senior students.

Class "B" projet—"A Swimming Club, with Outside Pool, at the Seashore"—open to junior students.

The senior problem assumed that a steamship company intended to erect near the mouth of a river at an important Atlantic port, a landing stage for its fast liners. The landing station was to be built at the end of a long pier, accessible by trains at the lower level and by automobiles at the upper level by means of an incline. Parking spaces were to be provided at both ends of the station proper connected by a covered roadway flanking one side of the building. The structure was to be of reinforced concrete and the building proper was to consist of two storeys dominated by a tower clock and a mast for optic signals and wireless telegraphy.

The junior problem assumed that a competition was to be held among a limited number of archi-

itects who had been asked to submit plans for a swimming club to be built within fifteen miles of a city at a private beach at the seashore. An outside pool 150' long was to be provided, uncovered and open to the sun with a tower for exhibition diving. The clubhouse proper was to consist of a dining room of about 2,000 square feet with open terraces adjacent for dining and sitting. A lounge about 1,000 square feet, together with the necessary service rooms, and private office for the manager of the club was also to be provided on the ground floor. The upper floor was to contain fifteen bedrooms each with a private bath. Special accommodations not to be incorporated in the main clubhouse but conveniently located near the pool was to be provided, including a bathhouse with lockers for men and women, private dressing rooms, showers, etc.

Competitors were required to prepare a preliminary esquisse and were limited to 45 hours of actual working time in the junior and 60 hours in the senior problem for the development of the projet. The competitions closed on February 19th and the drawings were judged during the annual meeting of the Institute by a jury consisting of Messrs. W. L. Somerville and John M. Lyle of Toronto; Hugh G. Jones, Marcel Parizeau and Lucien Parent of Montreal. The jury's report, containing the awards follows:

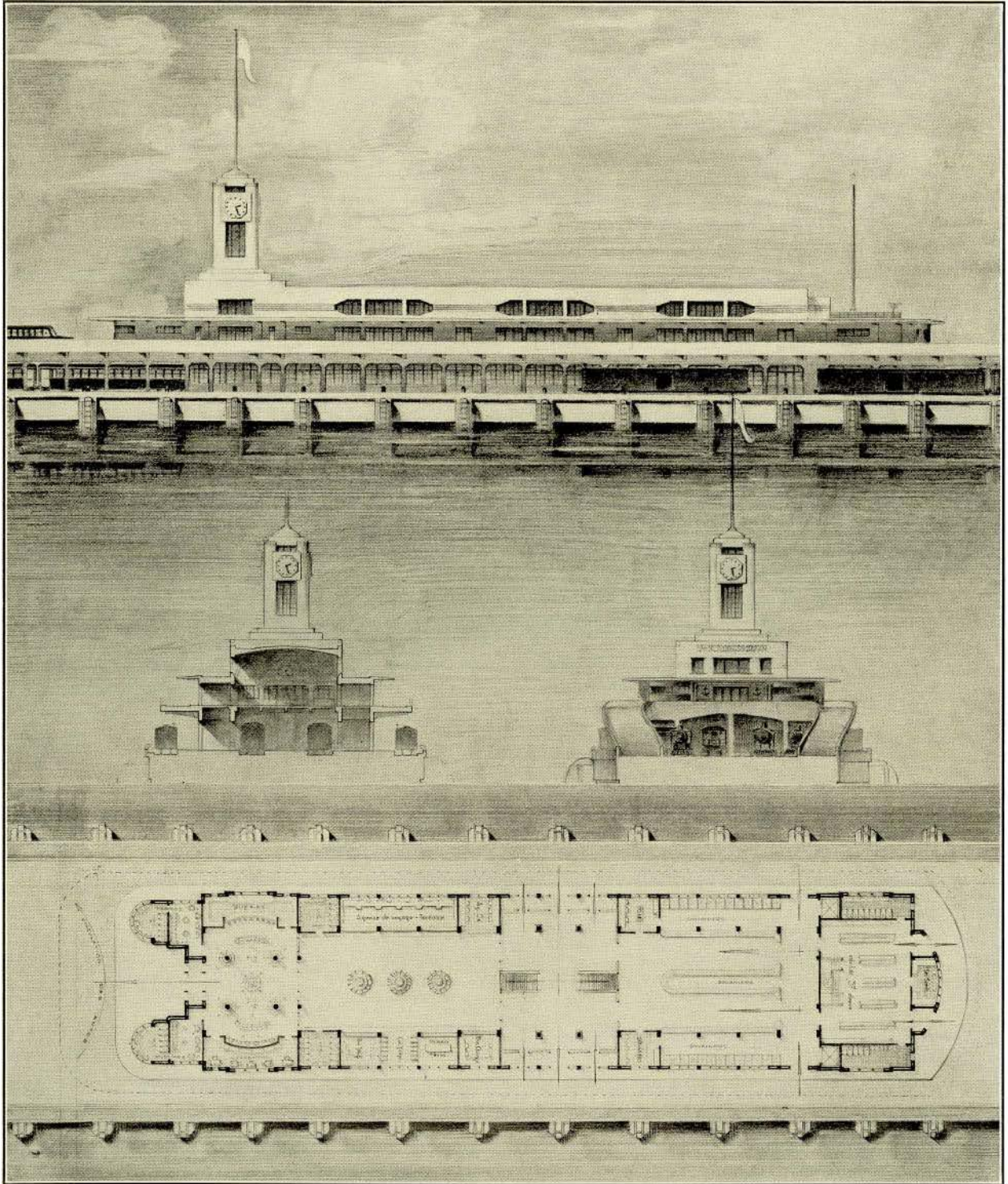
### *Report of the Jury of Award*

It is worthy of comment that the general high quality of the work submitted by students from all the schools of architecture is particularly noticeable in this year's competition, in both classes.

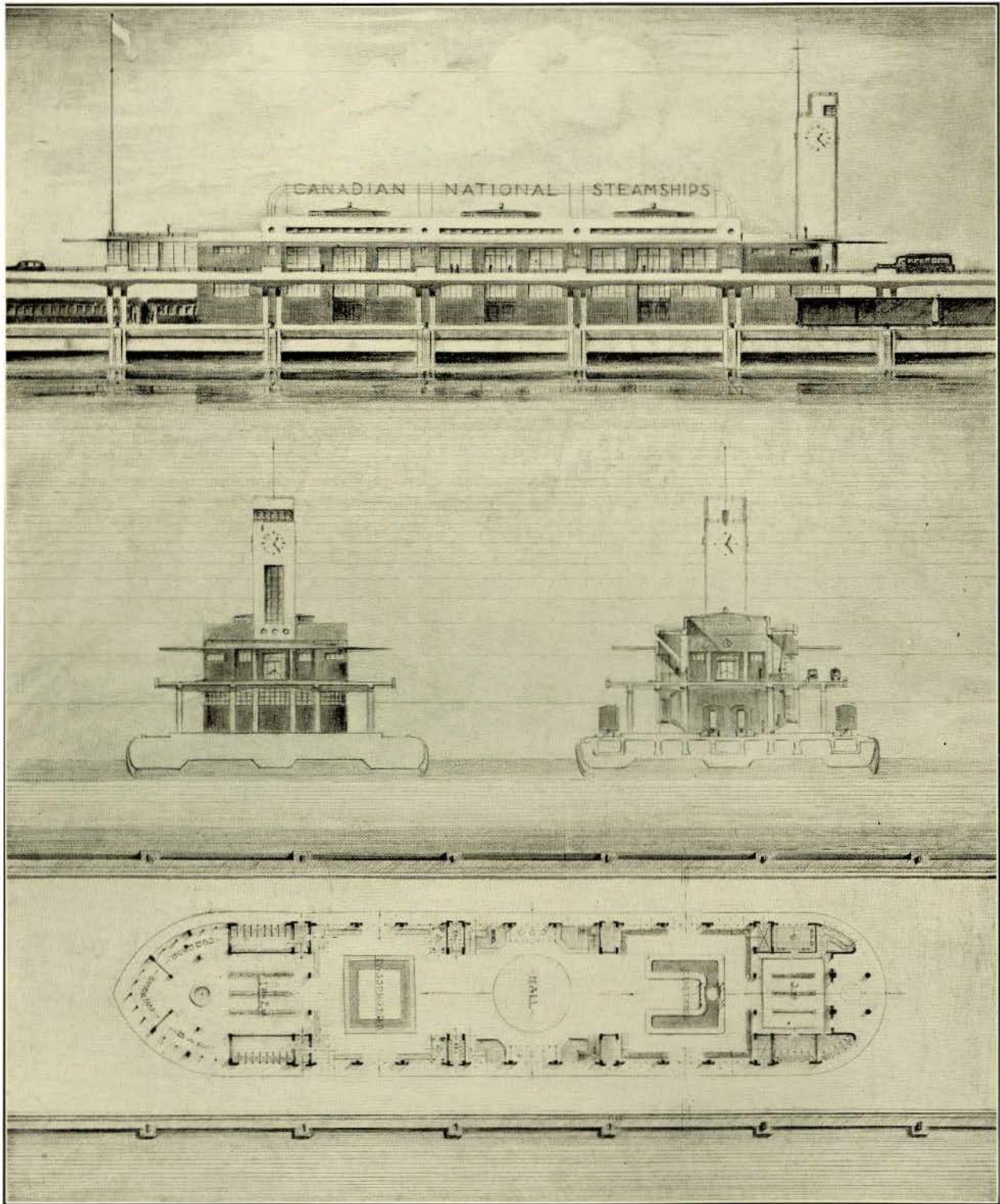
There were eighty-eight designs submitted in the two classes. Naturally there were many that did not receive any award but nevertheless displayed careful thought and meritorious work.

The jury arrived at a decision with regard to awarding the medals in each class by a process of elimination, reducing the number to those from which the final selection of medal awards was made. Those who did not receive medals were given mentions according to their merit in the opinion of the jury.

A feature of this year's competitions was one that the jury were at a loss to understand, namely, that the students in each school reached very similar solutions of the problems, whereas the schools differed widely in their solutions. This was particularly noticeable in the Class "A" programme.



FIRST MEDAL—CLASS "A" PROJET  
"A MARITIME LANDING STATION FOR TRANSATLANTIC LINERS"  
*Pierre Morency, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal*



SECOND MEDAL—CLASS "A" PROJET  
"A MARITIME LANDING STATION FOR TRANSATLANTIC LINERS"  
*Roland Dumais, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal*

*Class "A" Programme:*

A MARITIME LANDING STATION FOR  
TRANSATLANTIC LINERS

There were thirty-seven designs submitted in this class.

The problem as originally written called for the liners docking on one side of the pier only. We understand that representations were made to Mr. Cormier that it would be desirable to make it optional that ships might dock on either side of the pier. The programme was changed to conform to this suggestion.

In the study of the designs submitted, it was apparent that different interpretations had been placed upon some of the conditions of the programme by the various schools. The judges, therefore, in making their selection took a broad interpretation of the conditions, and did not eliminate, or discriminate against, any design on such points.

Some of the plans submitted indicated that the designers were unnecessarily concerned with regard to the motor traffic. The question of interference of motor traffic by passengers embarking or disembarking was not necessarily a problem as the condition permitting the ship to dock on either side of the pier would give opportunity to regulate the traffic allowing it to pass on the opposite side of the station, as ample turning space in the parking areas at both ends of the station, was provided under the conditions of the programme. It should be borne in mind that motor cars are usually parked sometime in advance of disembarkation and would be free to pick up passengers on the opposite side of the station.

The jury felt that the station should be placed in the most convenient location on the pier to facilitate both the embarkation and debarkation of passengers, which would naturally be on the outer end of the pier immediately parallel and adjoining the ship.

A number of the competitors placed the station on the land end of the pier which would have forced either incoming or outgoing passengers to walk a long distance between the boat and the station. The jury also felt that this position of the station exacted a heavy penalty in the handling of the baggage.

Many designs displaying excellent ability and meticulous care in solving practical solutions of the problem were eliminated due to lack of freedom in the circulation and an open broad treatment of the plan which was considered by the judges as essential in a building of this type.

*First Medal*—Pierre Morency, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal. The general excellence of the design was considered worthy of the award. The plan was considered an excellent

solution of the problem. Good circulation of traffic for both incoming and outgoing passengers and luggage was provided. The arrangement of facilities for Customs examination and other services is simple, direct, and visible to all entering the main concourse. A very desirable feature in such a building. The design, although not as interesting or as brilliant as some of the others, is a true expression of the functions of the building and of the plan. The structure necessities are well considered and expressed.

*Second Medal*—Roland Dumais, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal. The plan lacks some of the desirable features of the design awarded first place but the design is an excellent one and considered worthy of the award.

The *First Mention* was awarded to Paul Lambert, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal.

Of the *Mention* awards, the designs submitted by Eric Thrift of the University of Manitoba, and R. A. D. Berwick of the University of Toronto are worthy of particular mention due to the excellence of their design and clear presentation.

The following *Mentions* were also awarded:

Roland Gariépy, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal

Gerard Charbonneau, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal

Paul Paquette, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal

Edouard W. Tremblay, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal

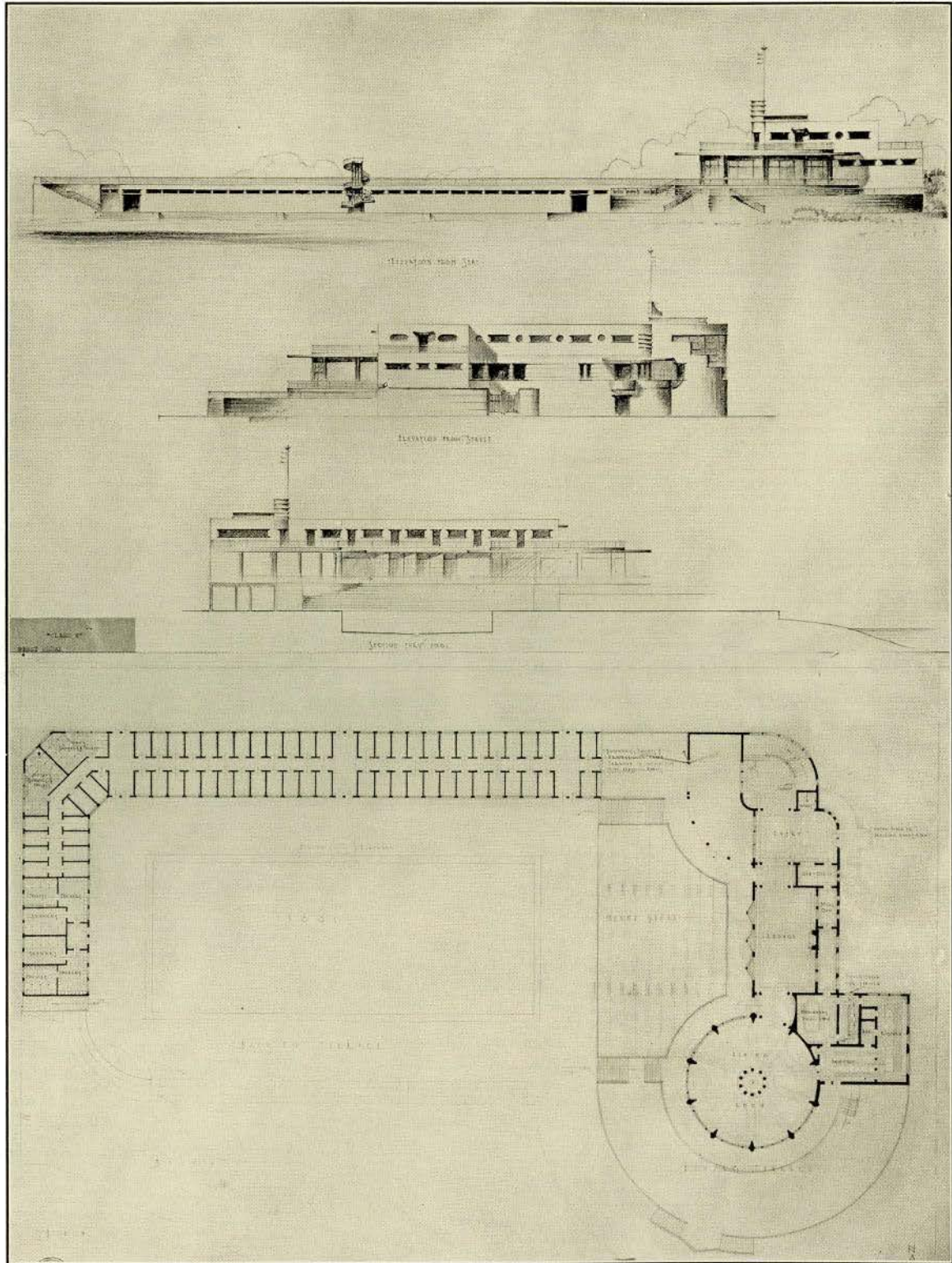
*Class "B" Programme:*

A SWIMMING CLUB, WITH POOL,  
AT THE SEASHORE

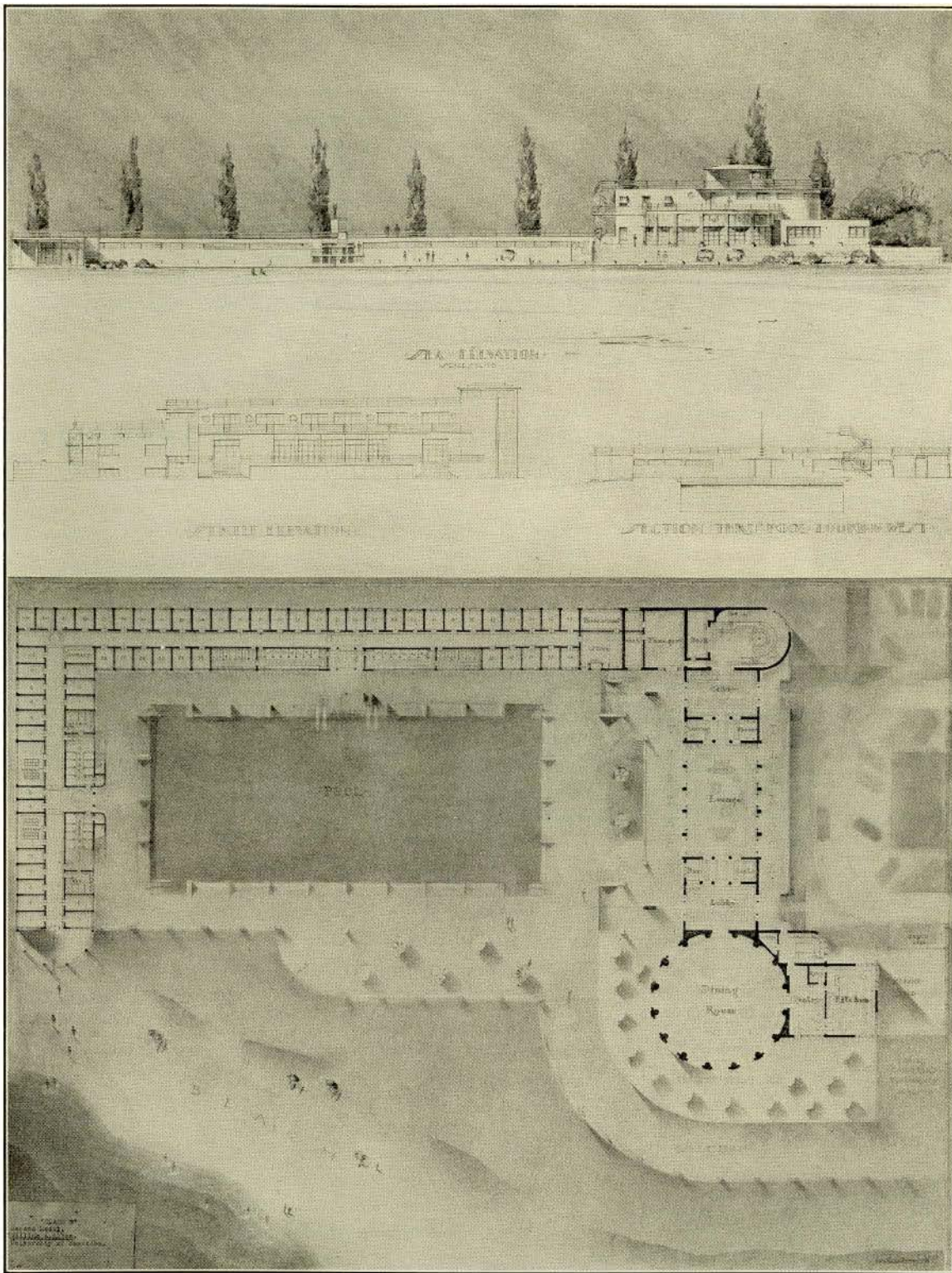
There were fifty-one designs submitted in this class.

A number of interesting designs were eliminated due to weaknesses in general arrangement, which did not display proper consideration of the view of the sea, and of the pool from the principal rooms, also for lack of harmony in its composition of the various units.

*First Medal*—Roy Sellors, University of Manitoba. The plan fully develops the opportunities of the site and furnishes an opportunity for an excellent architectural composition interesting in mass and general arrangement. Ample provision is made for bathers and spectators. The various levels have been handled exceedingly well. The position of the diving tower is questionable, but the plan would permit of it being placed in a more desirable location at the end of the pool.



FIRST MEDAL—CLASS "B" PROJÉT  
 "A SWIMMING CLUB, WITH POOL, AT THE SEASHORE"  
*Roy Sellors, University of Manitoba*



SECOND MEDAL—CLASS "B" PROJÉT  
 "A SWIMMING CLUB, WITH POOL, AT THE SEASHORE"  
*William A. Allen, University of Manitoba*



*Second Medal*—William A. Allen, University of Manitoba. A similar parti but not as well developed as that awarded the first place, and lacks interest in composition.

The following were awarded *First Mentions*:

J. T. Ridley, University of Toronto  
C. Noel Wortman, University of Manitoba  
Alexander A. Laske, University of Manitoba

The following *Mentions* were also awarded:

W. A. Salter, University of Toronto  
A. G. Keith, University of Toronto  
W. E. Fleury, University of Toronto  
J. F. C. Smith, University of Toronto

With regard to future competitions, the judges are of the opinion that the number of designs submitted from each school should be limited so that each school will have an equal number of chances of receiving awards or mentions.

This year one school submitted twenty-five designs which is almost a third of the total number, whereas three of the schools only submitted ten or less.

If the number submitted by each school were limited to possibly six in each class, we believe it would be more equitable. This would also facilitate the work of the judges whose time for assessing is necessarily limited.

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## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT URGED TO UNDERTAKE NATIONAL HOUSING PROGRAMME

At the invitation of the parliamentary committee on housing recently appointed by the Prime Minister of Canada, representatives of the National Construction Council of Canada submitted a brief on housing and slum clearance to a meeting of the committee held in Ottawa on March 12th. The delegation from the National Construction Council consisted of Gordon M. West, acting president; W. L. Somerville, chairman of the general committee on housing; James H. Craig, chairman of the finance committee on housing; J. A. Bradley, a member of the council; and I. Markus, secretary of the council.

Briefly the council recommended:

*First*—The creation of a permanent national housing authority to:

- (a) Draw up and establish minimum housing standards applicable to existing as well as new housing.
- (b) Draw up and establish regulations pertaining to the rehabilitation of existing sub-standard dwellings.
- (c) Make recommendations as to the distribution of funds.
- (d) Administer its provisions in respect to repayments, housing renewals and maintenance.
- (e) Draw up such other regulations as may be necessary.

*Second*: That in each region there be created a similar body to administer and make effective such standards and regulations and to co-operate with the national housing authority.

*Third*: That all municipalities benefitting under the scheme be required to enact zoning regulations as part of a town plan providing for the growth and development of the municipality, including adjoin-

ing suburban and rural districts, and that all provinces desiring to benefit under a national housing programme be required to pass necessary enabling legislation.

*Fourth*: That for the purpose of housing the lowest income groups, money be made available at a rate of interest not exceeding  $2\frac{1}{2}\%$  in order that such schemes may be self-liquidating as far as possible.

*Fifth*: That a portion of any funds which may be made available be allocated to encourage the construction of houses, and for the repair and rehabilitation of existing buildings by private enterprise. Further that such funds be utilized to relieve private capital of a portion of the risk at present inherent in making large sums available for mortgage purposes at a low rate of interest for long terms. Thus relieved of part of the risk involved, private capital would be enabled to provide funds at low interest rates with an amortization period of at least twenty years.

In addition to the brief, a summary of the reports of the regional committees of the council was submitted to the parliamentary committee which gave a cross-section of existing housing conditions throughout the Dominion.

A scheme for financing a national self-liquidating housing plan was also presented to the committee by Mr. James H. Craig.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Mr. A. D. Ganong, chairman of the parliamentary committee expressed his thanks for the very valuable information contained in the brief and the manner in which it was presented. He assured the representatives of the council that the committee would be glad to receive any additional recommendations that the council cared to submit.

## ARCHITECTS ON THE AIR

The third of the series of radio broadcasts under the auspices of the University of Toronto and sponsored by the Toronto Chapter of the Ontario Association of Architects, was given by Mr. A. Frank Wickson on February 7th, 1935, the subject of the address being "The Conscientious Observer."

Mr. Wickson suggested that if the vehicle used by a quartette of ladies for their peregrinations in the city was a motor car the ladies would probably be absorbed in a discussion of fashions, quintuplets, or bridge, and therefore would be likely to observe but little, but in spite of the foregoing diversions, one would be sure to see something of the surroundings.

The speaker stated that a lady when asked by him what impressed her most in going about cities replied that in her own city it was its dirtiness; another that she was most impressed with the monotony of attempts to diversify the design of the houses.

Cities, Mr. Wickson said, are likely to be much more beautiful where design is officially controlled, also that the exterior of a building should never camouflage the purpose for which it is to be used.

Attention of the listeners-in was drawn to the fact that ornament and special features do not necessarily add to the effectiveness of a structure, but quite frequently detract from it. It is the spirit of the work that counts, further, that man should not strive for happiness but should strive to be worthy of happiness, just as an architect should not have as his aim the obtaining of praise for his work but should so labour that he will produce that which is deserving of praise whether or not it has a popular appeal.

The appeal to build beautifully applies to small as well as large buildings, and in his concluding remarks he advocated that expression be given by the public in whole hearted commendation of what is good and beautiful in architecture.

Mr. W. L. Somerville gave the fourth lecture in the series on February 14th, 1935, the title of which was "Civic Design." The speaker informed the radio public of the interest evinced by His Majesty the King in architecture when opening the new "home" of the Royal Institute of British Architects recently.

Mr. Somerville placed the responsibility of the aesthetic life of the community upon the architect. He referred to the uncontrolled and haphazard growth which took place during the latter part of the 19th century incidental to the great industrial development, the result being slums, narrow and

over-crowded ugly streets, and the accompanying problems of transportation and economic waste.

The speaker claimed that the erection of a building whether it be a residence or a large office building is a matter of civic design and deprecated the practise of the speculative builder who alternates what he calls Tudor with Colonial thereby giving the streets an appearance of an architectural digestive disorder.

The development of the billboard and illuminated signs was referred to as also masses of overhead wires which destroy any attempt the architect may make to improve the appearance of city streets.

Mr. Somerville in conclusion reminded his radio audience that His Majesty the King has urged that the architectural profession should use its influence and skill in overcoming these undesirable conditions so that the people may have the benefit and enjoyment unconsciously derived from order, harmony and beauty.

The fifth broadcast was by Allan George, the subject being "The Adaptation of the English House to Canadian Requirements." Mr. George confined his remarks to the country house, and insisted that its garden and surroundings must be planned together for it is only by developing the house and garden as a unit that the best site may be chosen with correct orientation and vistas, and in general, that harmony of the composition may be attained. He further stated that the English garden is peculiarly adapted to Canadian conditions and mode of life; the main living rooms and the garden being inseparable.

The speaker claimed that the terrace, an important feature of the English country house, linking as it does the house with the garden, is equally attractive in Canada. Combined with a proper treatment of levels with retaining walls, balustrading and steps, the terrace forms an ideal setting for the house.

The listeners-in were adjured to remember that the old country rambling house is not in keeping with our times, and that if the house harmonizes with its setting and fulfils modern requirements of comfort and convenience, its style may be modified traditional or so-called modernistic. Servile copy of ancient forms or the transplanting of types not suitable on account of climatic or other reasons, are errors to be avoided. Only a simple, direct interpretation of the plan can be really successful.

—B.E.P.

*Editor's Note: These Broadcasts are given over station CRCT, Toronto, every Thursday at 7.15 p.m.*

## THE TWENTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

**T**HE Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada was held at the Rooms of the Institute, 627 Dorchester Street West, Montreal, on Friday and Saturday, February 22nd and 23rd, 1935, under the Chairmanship of Mr. W. S. Maxwell, President of the Institute. Over eighty members were present, including delegates from Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, and Quebec.

After the President had extended a welcome to the delegates, he presented the following report of the Council and Executive Committee for the year 1934:

In the slow march towards recovery, the building industry continues to occupy a position in the rear ranks. The world is a sick patient and efforts to assist him are being valiantly put forth. Some countries are doing well, experiments political and economical are being tried out on a large scale—successes and failures are evident—yet through the veils there is a growing consciousness that international co-operation is gaining ground. If the spirit of distrust and rampant militarism can be held in check, the road to recovery will be cleared and progress made.

From the Canadian point of view the bright spot in the picture is the very substantial progress made by the countries forming the British Empire. The trade agreements now in force have worked out to the mutual advantage of all concerned. In Canada we have achieved a favourable balance in our export trade, due largely to our natural resources.

Statistics prepared in September, 1934, show notable gains have been made in electric power, textile, newsprint, and mineral production, and in manufacturing we have advanced about 75% beyond the low point of the depression of average prosperity. In contrast with this we find that construction, one of the key industries, has advanced but 17%. Another tabulation covering the whole of 1934 shows a 28.3% gain over 1933, but includes government buildings started in the autumn, and on which comparatively little progress has been made.

The main constructive feature of 1934 which directly affects us was the public works programme involving an estimated expenditure of \$40,000,000 by the Federal Government. This work will assumedly all be under way in 1935. Of the total, \$26,000,000 is for work which architects will carry out, the balance being engineering works. In 1934 the government placed in the hands of architects in

private practice approximately \$16,000,000 of work, a portion of this will be designed and superintended by them, for the balance they will superintend the work, as the plans were prepared in the chief architect's office of the public works department.

Our Institute appreciates the great assistance this building programme will be to the construction industry, to some architects, and to many draftsmen. As taxpayers we approve the scheme because all the buildings will be devoted to useful purposes, and are actually needed.

Our Institute has held and continues to hold the opinion that the government should limit the functions of its architectural department to the upkeep of and to additions to its buildings. The government's opinion is at variance with ours, but in the present building programme it made use of architects and an opportunity has been afforded to demonstrate how well the architect in private practice can design and carry out efficiently and economically a superior type of building.

Reverting to a consideration of conditions in our country. We have been flooded with optimistic opinions and favourable statistics from governmental and other sources. Canada has done exceedingly well and is definitely on the upgrade. This has been achieved without radical legislation by parliament, and if the experiment of "rocking the boat" is avoided, 1935 may well show noticeable improvement over the past year. Any approximation to normal times, however, can only be achieved when the condition of the farming and construction industries becomes improved.

The work of our Institute, co-operating with the National Construction Council of Canada, of which it is a member, has been of value. The importance and weight of the views advocated by this body is related to its representative membership composed of The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, The Canadian Construction Association, Canadian Manufacturers Association, Engineering Institute of Canada, Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, Canadian Lumbermen's Association, Canadian Paint Oil and Varnish Association, Brick Manufacturers Association, Canadian Ceramic Society, Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers of Canada, Structural Clay Tile Association, Canadian Council of Master Painters and Decorators, and the Canadian Founders and Metal Trades Association. We look forward during 1935 to its rendering a valuable active service in which it may count on the full co-operation of our Institute.

The activities of the Institute have been well maintained. Six regular executive committee meetings were held during the year. These were supplemented by meetings for special purposes, attended only by the Montreal members. When essential, the opinions of out-of-town members were obtained previous to the meetings, and by these methods the work was carried on with efficiency, economy, and without exceeding the budget allowance.

THE JOURNAL has appeared regularly and in contents and quality reflects credit on the editorial board and the editor. The loan authorized at the last annual meeting was required in order to meet the deficits. During the year your president wrote a letter which was sent to fifty firms who in the past had used THE JOURNAL for advertising purposes. Replies received indicate the high opinion in which it is held and there is reason to expect a resumption in the near future of some of their advertising. We must always remember that the prosperity of THE JOURNAL is related to the volume of advertising it carries and that members can assist it by bringing its merits to the attention of others.

Last year we again planned to hold an exhibition of our members' work at the Royal Canadian Academy Exhibition, which was held in Toronto during November. Due to lack of space placed at the disposal of the Academy, this desirable feature in our activities did not take place. If it is to be resumed in the future, we may have to limit it to a biennial showing when the R.C.A. holds its exhibition in Montreal. Owing to the important and well-attended exhibitions of the Toronto Chapter of the Ontario Association of Architects held every two years in Toronto, it is questionable if our Institute will be able to hold exhibitions there because work once shown is not eligible for the Toronto Chapter Exhibition. If we limit ourselves to the R.C.A. Montreal Exhibition, it has been suggested that a selection of the work should be forwarded and shown at the Toronto Chapter Exhibition.

It is a source of satisfaction to have McGill University again take part in our annual student competitions open to architectural schools on our accredited list. Due to the initial efforts of Professor E. R. Arthur, and to negotiations carried on by others, the methods of conducting and judging the competitions have undergone changes which appear to promise well for the future.

In 1934 we had the honour of becoming affiliated with the Royal Society of Canada, and Mr. Wilfrid Lacroix attended their annual convention in Quebec as our delegate.

Since the last annual meeting, a modified form of the A.I.A. catalogue filing system has been adopted by the Institute, and a document describing the system has been sent to our members. The

Canadian Manufacturers Association has co-operated with the Institute in sending a copy of the document to their members with the suggestion that they conform to the requirements contained therein when preparing catalogues for distribution to architects.

There has been a much greater demand for the R.A.I.C. standard forms of contract during the past year than heretofore, indicating that these contract forms are coming into more general use. The "Stipulated Sum" and "Cost Plus" forms of contract have been translated into French for the benefit of our French-Canadian members, although arrangements have not yet been completed for the printing of these documents in French.

Arising out of the discussion at the last annual meeting, the subject of slum clearance and low-cost housing has been receiving some attention by the National Construction Council of Canada, and a Dominion-wide survey is at present being conducted under the chairmanship of our honorary treasurer, Mr. W. L. Somerville. It is interesting to note that the Prime Minister has, in a recent public statement, admitted the necessity of formulating some housing scheme to improve the lot of those now living in sub-standard dwellings.

As a result of a suggestion made a year ago by Professor M. S. Osborne of the Department of Architecture, University of Manitoba, it has been decided to award an Institute medal annually to the student in each of the accredited schools of architecture who has obtained the highest average of marks throughout his entire university course.

Many other matters received consideration by your executive committee during the past year, among which were inter-provincial relationships with regard to reciprocal registration, and a more uniform schedule of architects' fees throughout the Dominion. An opportunity will be provided during the annual meeting to discuss these subjects.

Your council has decided to confer honorary fellowship in the Institute on Sir Raymond Unwin, past president of the Royal Institute of British Architects and representative of the R.A.I.C. on the council of the R.I.B.A. in recognition of the eminent position he has achieved as one of the world's greatest authorities on town planning, housing and slum clearance, and in appreciation of the valued counsel and co-operation given by him during his two recent visits to Canada. Four new Fellows have also been elected this year, and they will receive their Fellowship certificates at the annual dinner.

It is my sad duty to report that during the past year three of our prominent Fellows have passed away in the persons of John S. Archibald of Montreal, Dr. Henry Sproatt and C. Barry Cleveland of Toronto.

The R.I.B.A. celebrated the centenary of its existence by officially opening its new building on the 21st of November, 1934. Previous to this they had the honour of a visit from His Majesty the King. The greetings of our Institute were sent to the president and council, and Sir Raymond Unwin did us the honour of acting as our representative at the opening ceremonies. It was a matter of regret that members of our Institute could not attend. The new building reflects great credit on its designer, Mr. G. Grey Wornum, and all who were associated with him in creating a distinguished home for what may appropriately be referred to as the Parent Architectural Institute. An exhibition of photographs of contemporary architecture was a feature of the opening, and work by members of our Institute was included. These will remain in the archives of the R.I.B.A.

It is very pleasant to report that one of the members of our executive committee, Hon. Irene Vautrin, was signally honoured in being appointed Minister of Colonization in the cabinet of the Quebec Legislature. The council of the Institute has extended to him its hearty congratulations, and has also expressed to the Hon. L. A. Taschereau, Prime Minister of Quebec, its great satisfaction at the honour conferred upon one of our distinguished members.

We recall with pleasure the facilities and the many courtesies extended to us by the P.Q.A.A. when we had our last meeting in their attractive and commodious quarters. We appreciated the splendid exhibition the Ecoles des Beaux Arts so tastefully arranged in the rooms. This year the Department of Architecture of McGill University is showing the work of its students, and we deeply appreciate the opportunities thus afforded of studying the work of the architectural schools, each of which preserves its individuality and continues to function with vigour and vitality.

In conclusion, I wish to pay a tribute to the able services rendered by all members of the council, of the editorial board, and of our secretary. The affairs of the Institute have been carried out conscientiously and of necessity with economy. If the results achieved lack some of the lustre of previous administrations in part that may be due to the difficult times, and to the minor benefits accruing to our profession in the march towards prosperity.

(Signed) W. S. MAXWELL,  
President.

#### ARCHITECTURAL TRAINING

Following the presentation of the report of the council, Ernest Cormier, chairman of the committee on architectural training, presented the report of his committee. The report pointed out that the efforts of the committee had been concentrated on

the organization of the inter-school competitions conducted yearly by the Institute. Constructive criticism related to the method of conducting these competitions had been received at the time of the last convention, and after negotiations with the heads of the architectural schools the conditions for future competitions were finally amended to harmonize as much as possible with the opinions received.

The report further stated that a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. W. S. Maxwell, E. I. Barott and Ernest Cormier had prepared the programmes for this year's competitions, and thirty-four entries had been received in the Class "A" programme and fifty-one in the Class "B" programme, which were to be judged by a jury of award consisting of Messrs. John M. Lyle, W. L. Somerville, Hugh G. Jones, Marcel Parizeau and Lucien Parent.

Following the presentation of the report on architectural training, Mr. Maxwell stated that it was the consensus of opinion that this year's competitions were an outstanding success from the point of view of numbers, and the ability shown in solving the problems. He was pleased to report that a conference had been held by the professors from the different schools on the first day of the convention, and that this conference would undoubtedly result in recommendations which will help the Institute carry on these competitions in a more satisfactory manner than has been possible in the past. It was impossible, he stated, to achieve one hundred percent satisfaction when we have schools in different parts of the country with more or less divergent viewpoints; but we have come very close to harmonizing the different conceptions of how the work should be done in the coming year.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES

In presenting the report of the committee on scholarships and prizes, the chairman, Mr. H. L. Fetherstonhaugh, stated that there had been no additions to the scholarship and prize funds during the past year. He informed the meeting that it had been decided to award an R.A.I.C. medal to each school of architecture, and that in making recommendations for this award, the heads of the schools would take into consideration not only the scholarship of the student, but his character and possible usefulness as a future practising member of the architectural profession. The precise terms of this award, he stated, were being studied at the present time by a joint committee from the Institute and the architectural schools, and if possible the first awards will be made at the close of the present scholastic year.

#### ART, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

The report of the committee on art, science and research, submitted by Mr. B. Evan Parry, was read by the secretary. The report stated that the

committee during the past year had sustained the valuable contacts with the National Research Council of Canada, as also with the research bureaux of the United States, Great Britain, Germany and Russia. Valuable data had been received from these sources, much of which has proved of interest to the profession at large.

It was interesting to note, stated the report, that in the seventeenth annual report of the National Research Council, the efforts of the R.A.I.C. appeared to be nearer consummation than ever before. In this report, Dr. H. M. Tory stated that "The National Research Council has expressed the opinion that research of building materials and applications thereof should be undertaken in this field at the earliest possible moment, and that the necessary expenditure would be extremely small compared with the benefits derived both by the construction industry and the public generally."

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS

In presenting the report on public relations, Mr. L. A. Amos pointed out that this committee had been somewhat handicapped by the tacit retirement of one of its chairmen, the Hon. Irene Vautrin, who had been elevated to a cabinet position in the Province of Quebec Ministry. Many important problems had been submitted, but on account of political problems and the general financial conditions throughout the Dominion, the committee found it difficult to offer a solution to these problems.

Mr. Amos reported that the committee had been asked by the Western Component Societies to inquire if in the Province of Quebec the various trust and loan companies were willing to make advances on building projects. Many companies had been questioned on this subject and while some of them were prepared to advance money on sound building propositions if carried out from plans and specifications prepared by reputable architects; others absolutely refused to loan any money until thirty days after completion of the projected building on account of liens which could be placed on these buildings for unpaid accounts. It was, therefore, apparent that no speculative building was possible.

During the days of prosperity, Mr. Amos stated, the loan companies advanced too easy money with the result that wild speculative schemes were carried out, and when hard times came the mortgagee was left to hold the bag and inherited unproductive investment.

*Uniformity of Building Codes:* On account of climatic conditions varying so much throughout the Dominion, Mr. Amos stated that it was almost impossible to establish a uniform code of building materials. His committee, however, felt that it would be desirable that there should be some uni-

formity in the code governing the strength of material, hygienic and sanitary requirements.

*Low Cost Housing:* Public opinion, stated Mr. Amos, is gradually forcing the various towns to give the matter of slum clearance and low cost housing serious thought. Low cost housing, he said, should be a municipal endeavour and not a Dominion enterprise. The financing, however, could be made more easy by a Dominion Government guarantee, which would probably allow the large cities to proceed at once with the clearance of slum districts.

In closing his report, Mr. Amos expressed his appreciation of the good results obtained by the Institute and the National Construction Council in getting the Dominion Government to initiate a programme of public works as a means of stimulating activity in the construction industry, which, if carried out equitably, would be very helpful to the profession.

#### HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. W. L. Somerville, Honorary Treasurer, presented the Auditor's report for the year 1954 which showed a total revenue of \$4,263.37, and total expenses of \$3,988.99, leaving a surplus for the year of \$274.38. The report indicated that the deficit at the beginning of the year was \$589.43, and after deducting the surplus for the year 1954 the deficit at the end of the year was \$115.05.

#### THE JOURNAL R.A.I.C.

In presenting the report of the editorial board of THE JOURNAL, the chairman, Mr. W. L. Somerville, stated that the board was gratified to be able to report that although the year had been an anxious one with regard to the JOURNAL'S finances, it had been able to complete it, with the able assistance of Mr. Markus and his staff, with a deficit slightly less than was estimated. He regretted that the economies effected had precluded the use of a considerable amount of material submitted for publication which would otherwise have been used. However, the prospect for the coming year, he stated, looked decidedly more encouraging. He expressed the hope that every effort would be made to increase the revenue from advertising and urged all members of the Institute to use their influence to this end.

Mr. Somerville informed the meeting that a great deal of material had been reviewed during the year and that the illustrations had been selected with a view of making them as representative as possible of the work of the members throughout the country. Articles dealing with architectural economics had been published in accordance with the agreement made between the Institute and the generous donors of scholarship funds for the study of architectural economics. Mr. Somerville expressed the appreciation of the board to the authors of

these and other interesting articles on a wide variety of subjects.

The "Circumspice" page of THE JOURNAL, Mr. Somerville pointed out, was a new feature introduced this year and had aroused considerable interest, the Board having received a number of both favourable and adverse comments. He regretted that "Circumspice" would be unable to continue his amusing and interesting monthly contributions next year, and after expressing appreciation of his past efforts, expressed the hope that the readers of THE JOURNAL would have the opportunity of reading more of his whimsical satires in the future.

A lengthy discussion followed the presentation of the report of the editorial board, at the end of which a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Somerville.

#### JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE R.A.I.C. AND C.C.A.

Mr. Ludger Venne, chairman of the joint committee of the R.A.I.C. and C.C.A. reported that during the past year, this committee had dealt exclusively with matters pertaining to the standard forms of contract. The Engineering Institute of Canada had been granted permission by the R.A.I.C. and C.C.A. to use their standard forms of contract as a model on which their own could be based.

Mr. Venne further reported that the R.A.I.C. members of the committee were now considering a change in the contract forms suggested by the P.Q.A.A. He also informed the meeting that the R.A.I.C. had had the standard contract forms translated into French, and that these translations had been referred to the R.A.I.C. members of the joint committee for approval.

Following some discussion on the report, the secretary informed the meeting that the standard forms of contract had been universally recognized, and had been received throughout the Dominion, and used, with considerable satisfaction. Also that the sale of these contract documents during the past year had increased by almost one hundred percent.

#### EXHIBITIONS AND AWARDS

In presenting the report of the committee on exhibitions and awards, Mr. E. I. Barott, reported that efforts to conduct the R.A.I.C. exhibition this year had proved abortive. Negotiations with the Toronto chapter had resulted in the Institute receiving an invitation from the chapter to hold its exhibition in conjunction with their own instead of with the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts. However, it was not considered feasible to hold the two architectural exhibitions at the same time, and although it was decided to conduct the 1934 R.A.I.C. exhibition in Toronto during the month of November, in conjunction with the exhibition of the Royal Canadian Academy, it could not be arranged due to lack of space placed at the disposal

of the Academy by the Art Gallery of Toronto.

Mr. Barott further reported that in conjunction with the opening of the new R.I.B.A. headquarters in London, an exhibition of contemporary architecture had been held to which the members of the Institute were invited to submit photographs of representative Canadian architecture. One hundred and ninety-six preliminary photographs, representing the work of forty-two architectural firms, had been submitted to the R.I.B.A., of which twenty-two had been selected for enlargement, representing the work of sixteen architectural firms. These enlarged photographs, Mr. Barott informed the meeting, are to be retained by the R.I.B.A. for their permanent collection.

#### STANDARDIZATION OF BRICK SIZES

The secretary submitted Mr. Moore's report which stated that the question of a standard size for Canadian made brick had been under consideration for over two years by a special panel appointed by the Canadian Engineering Standards Association, and had been dealt with in a report favouring the use of a size  $2\frac{3}{8}$ " x 4" x  $8\frac{3}{8}$ ". The report has been finally approved by the C.E.S.A. committee on building materials, and now awaits official publication by that body.

The report further stated that the success of the general use of the standard must rest with the members of the architectural profession, and suggested that the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada which made the original representations to the C.E.S.A., take such measures as it may deem advisable to make effective the use of the standard.

#### NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION COUNCIL OF CANADA

In presenting the report of the National Construction Council for the past year, the secretary pointed out that subsequent to the council submitting a list of federal construction projects totalling \$51,000,000 to the Prime Minister a year ago, a Bill had been passed in the House of Commons providing for the construction and improvement of certain public works and undertakings throughout Canada at a total cost of \$40,000,000. The object of the Bill as stated was to provide for the construction of public works for the general advancement of the country and for the purpose of accelerating recovery to more economic conditions, thus increasing employment and reducing expenditures for relief purposes. The Bill also provided that all work estimated to cost five thousand dollars or more should be let by tender, and that the Minister of Public Works be authorized to employ such architects and engineers in private practice as would be required.

The secretary further reported that although only a portion of the work had been allocated to private architects, it was gratifying to note that

projects to the value of \$17,000,000 had been allocated to forty-six architects in private practice.

For the past year, stated the secretary, the national construction council had, with the assistance of its twenty regional committees, conducted a survey of housing conditions throughout the Dominion, and as a result had written to the Prime Minister of Canada offering to place this data, together with its recommendations, before the recently appointed national housing committee. He also informed those present that the annual meeting of the National Construction Council had been held in Toronto on May 17th, at which the officers were all re-elected for the ensuing year. Unfortunately, however, the Council had suffered a severe loss in the death of its president, Mr. George Oakley, who passed away suddenly on December 3rd, 1934, and therefore Mr. Gordon M. West, past president of the Institute and first vice-president of the National Construction Council had been appointed acting president of the Council until the next annual meeting to be held in May, 1935.

#### HOUSING AND SLUM CLEARANCE

Following the report of the National Construction Council, the secretary informed the meeting that housing committees had been appointed by the National Construction Council, and its twenty regional committees for the purpose of studying the question and making a Dominion wide survey of existing housing conditions. These committees, he reported, had been functioning for the past year, and had submitted a more or less complete cross-section of the housing needs in their respective localities.

A committee of the house, consisting of eighteen members, had already been appointed by the Prime Minister to study the matter and bring in a report, and the Council had been advised by Mr. Bennett that it would be afforded an opportunity to present its views.

The secretary assured the meeting that the National Construction Council would be very pleased to have the views of the Institute on the subject before presenting its recommendations to the parliamentary committee.

In the discussion which followed, Mr. Somerville stressed the need for housing of the lower income groups, which would necessarily have to be a rental proposition. No private enterprise, it was pointed out, would undertake the building of homes for these low income groups with the expectation of ever being able to get any return on the investment. Therefore, if decent living accommodation is to be provided for those of this group who can only afford to pay from ten to twelve dollars per month rent, the Government of the country has to give assistance in some way, either by providing credit or financing the programme itself.

In answer to a question of whether town planning was being taken into consideration by the committee, Mr. Somerville replied that one point the committee felt should be strongly stressed was that any municipality undertaking housing, whether it be slum clearance, or new housing, or the rehabilitation of old houses, should give consideration to zoning.

Mr. Maxwell asked how it would be possible to provide housing at low rentals, to which Mr. Somerville replied that a careful study of the question of rent had been made, and that fundamentally the rent was controlled by the rate of interest that had to be paid on whatever loan is advanced. If money could be obtained at not more than 2½%, it would be going a long way towards meeting the problem. Of course, he said, it would be impossible to do it through the ordinary building and loan sources at the present time, and therefore the money or credit would have to be provided by the Government.

Mr. Lyle suggested that the committee might consider the advisability of suggesting to the Prime Minister that the Government should aid in establishing building and loan societies such as they have in England from whom money to the value of ninety percent of the value of the house could be borrowed at an interest rate of 2½%.

Another scheme suggested was the guaranteeing of bonds by municipalities. This scheme, it was pointed out, had worked out very successfully with the Toronto Housing Company in 1912. It had not only carried itself but had actually paid the City something in the neighborhood of \$10,000 in taxes.

At the conclusion of the very lengthy discussion, it was decided to forward to the executive committee a record of the discussion, together with the several recommendations, with the request that they go into the matter at once and submit a suitable resume of the suggestions to the National Construction Council.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE ARCHITECTS ON PUBLIC WORKS

The president informed the meeting that much correspondence on the subject had passed between the Institute and the Prime Minister, and that he had also interviewed the Minister of Public Works. He also stated that a number of complaints had been received by the Institute during the past year from provincial associations, and that every effort had been made to get the Government to recognize the justification as well as the advantages of employing private architects, also to correct a number of unfortunate situations that had been created by giving two or more buildings to one architect.

Mr. Gordon McL. Pitts suggested that the approach to the Minister should be made from the



point of view that it would be greatly to the benefit of the Government and of the work that is to be carried out if it were placed in the hands of competent architects, rather than by imposing further congestion on the public works department which was already very seriously congested.

Professor M. S. Osborne, speaking for the Manitoba Association of Architects, thought the work should be more equitably distributed among the architects in the various provinces, and that an individual architect should not receive several commissions.

Mr. J. Roxburgh Smith considered that it was entirely unfair that in the distribution of public work in the Dominion, an architect who was a native of one province should be appointed architect and given entire charge of a building in another province.

The president advised the meeting that the dissatisfaction caused by some of the appointments had given the Institute much concern and that some very definite recommendations had been made to the Government, among which were that in the case of large building operations, the work should be given to an association of two or more firms whose appointment should be made by the Government; also that an architect should only participate in one building operation in which he acts as a principal.

The secretary informed the meeting that the Institute had also received a number of complaints regarding the conditions of employment of private architects as laid down by the Government. In brief the conditions complained of were:

1. That the architect shall furnish without extra cost to the Government as many copies of the final drawings and specifications as shall be required by the Department, *not exceeding sixty copies.*
2. That the services of a competent inspector who shall be on the work continuously during all working hours and during the construction of the building shall be provided by the architect.
3. That all travelling expenses except when required by the department to visit Ottawa shall be paid by the Architect.

It was pointed out that this latter provision might involve, especially in the West, considerable expense in visiting steel plants or stone yards far from the base of operations.

The secretary further advised the meeting that the Alberta Association of Architects had requested the Institute to approach the Government with a view to obtaining some mitigation of the imposed conditions since it could readily be seen that the expenses involved would make extremely severe inroads upon any benefit to be derived from the work done by private architects. An actual

example of a project for which one of the members of that Association had been appointed was quoted as follows:

The work to be done was some 250 miles from the architect's office and was in two separate units some 50 miles apart. Each unit was to cost \$10,000. According to the conditions laid down by the Government the result was approximately:

60 copies of drawings and specifications—	
—Estimated Cost . . . . .	\$100.00
Inspector for three months . . . . .	450.00
Travelling for occasional visits . . . . .	60.00
	\$610.00
Total fee collectable—5% of \$10,000 . . . . .	500.00

Net loss to Architect on one unit . . . . . \$110.00

The meeting was informed that the complaints received from the component societies relative to the conditions of employment of private architects had been sent to the Minister of Public Works, but that up to the present time no reply had been received from the Minister.

At the conclusion of the very lengthy discussion that followed, the president was congratulated on the very tactful manner in which he had handled the whole situation, and it was recommended that the matter of further representations to the Government be left to the incoming council.

#### INTERPROVINCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

The meeting was advised that an analysis of the requirements for registration in the various provinces had been prepared by Mr. J. P. Hynes, past president of the Institute. The analysis indicated that in certain provinces there were conditions governing the practice of architecture which, in some cases, would make it rather difficult to arrive at any reciprocal basis between the provinces in the matter of registration. After some discussion it was suggested that a copy of the analysis be sent to the component societies for study and comment in order that the incoming council could give the matter further consideration.

#### VOTE OF THANKS

At the conclusion of the business sessions, the members expressed their appreciation to the president and members of the executive committee for the work they had accomplished during the past year. Votes of thanks were also tendered to Mr. H. L. Fetherstonhaugh and the members of his committee for the very satisfactory arrangements made for the annual meeting and dinner; to the Dominion Oilcloth and Linoleum Company and Molsons' Brewery for their hospitality during the visit of the members to their plants; to the Province of Quebec Association of Architects for the use of their rooms; and to McGill University for their excellent exhibitions of students' work.

## NOTES ON THE CONVENTION

The twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Institute was one of the best attended meetings in many years. Delegates were present from five provincial associations. The business sessions proved to be extremely interesting, and the social side of the meeting thoroughly enjoyable.

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One of the interesting features of the convention was a visit to the plant of the Dominion Oilcloth and Linoleum Company. This was followed by a visit to the new reception room of Molsons' Brewery, which was designed by Ernest I. Barott, F.R.A.I.C.

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Members of the Institute attending the convention were guests of the Dominion Oilcloth and Linoleum Company at a very enjoyable luncheon held at the Montreal Hunt Club on Friday, February 22nd.

\* \* \* \*

Through the courtesy of the School of Architecture, McGill University, an exhibition of drawings prepared by the students of that school was held in the P.Q.A.A. Rooms. The drawings submitted in connection with the R.A.I.C. student competitions were also exhibited during the annual meeting.

\* \* \* \*

The annual dinner of the Institute was held at the Montreal Arts Club, on Saturday, February 23rd. About sixty members and guests were present. Mr. W. S. Maxwell presided at the dinner, and following the toast to the King, the secretary announced the results of the election of officers. The president then called upon the following guests to address the gathering: Frederick A. Gaby, president of the Engineering Institute of Canada; Fred G. Rutley, vice-president of the Canadian Construction Association; Professor Ramsay Traquair,

McGill University; Professor H. Madill, University of Toronto; Professor M. S. Osborne, University of Manitoba; Emile Venne, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Montreal; and J. B. Soucy, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Quebec. Mr. W. L. Somerville, chairman of the jury of award in the R.A.I.C. student competitions, was then called upon by the president to announce the results of the competitions, and in doing so, complimented the schools on the general high quality of the work submitted by the students. The menu cards for the dinner were designed by Mr. J. Roxburgh Smith, and were favourably commented on by those present.

\* \* \* \*

The entertainment provided during the banquet was thoroughly enjoyed by those present. In addition to a musical programme under the direction of Lucien Parent, a humorous sketch was presented depicting a mythical meeting of the P.Q.A.A. council. The sketch was entitled "Passing the Buck," and was written and directed by Edgar S. Marrotte.

\* \* \* \*

An interesting feature of the banquet was the presentation of fellowship diplomas to Andrew R. Cobb of Halifax, H. H. Madill of Toronto, H. Claire Mott of Saint John, and Milton S. Osborne of Winnipeg.

\* \* \* \*

Honorary fellowship in the Institute was conferred on Sir Raymond Unwin, past president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, in recognition of his efforts and accomplishments in town planning, housing and slum clearance, and in appreciation of the valued counsel and co-operation given by him during his two recent visits to Canada. Mr. Philip J. Turner, representative of the R.A.I.C. on the council of the R.I.B.A. received the honorary fellowship diploma on behalf of Sir Raymond Unwin.

## NOTES

Hugh G. Jones, M.R.A.I.C., of Montreal left on March 7th for an extended trip to Italy. Mr. Jones expects to return to Montreal in September.

\* \* \* \*

W. L. Somerville, F.R.A.I.C., Honorary Treasurer of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, addressed the Society of Interior Decorators of Ontario at a meeting held in Toronto on March 6th, 1935.

\* \* \* \*

Messrs. Northwood and Chivers, M.M.R.A.I.C., Architects, announce the removal of their offices from 615 Royal Bank Building to the London and Western Trusts Building, 348 Main Street, Winnipeg, Man.

\* \* \* \*

Philip J. Turner, F.R.A.I.C. delivered an illustrated lecture entitled "How the World Builds—Pyramids to Skyscrapers" at the Mechanics' Institute, Montreal, on February 21st, 1935.

\* \* \* \*

The name of Willem Marinus Dudok, distinguished architect of Holland, has been submitted to His Majesty The King by the Royal Institute of British Architects, as a fit recipient of the Royal Gold Medal for 1935.

\* \* \* \*

Norton H. Fellowes, M.R.A.I.C., delivered an address recently on the subject of Slum Clearance and Housing, before a meeting of the Recreational and Educational Division of the Council of Social Agencies held at the Forum Building, Montreal.

\* \* \* \*

According to a report recently issued by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc., New York City, the outlook for the building trades in the United States is the brightest in the past five

years. "The cloud," states the report, "that has enveloped the building industry with foreboding intensity during the last three years appears about ready to show its silver lining. Current activity generally is at a three-year high, and not all of the increase can be attributed to governmental aid, as privately-financed work has been rising steadily since November. With 16,000,000 homes in the United States listed as eligible for repair loans, and 5,000,000 new homes required during the next several years to provide for the normal increase in population, which is estimated at three times larger than present new production, the greatest era in building history lies immediately ahead, and in the majority of cities prospects are considered the best discerned in five years. With only a part of the building actually required under way, business generally would be accelerated immediately, as it would bring easement of monetary burdens to most of the 6,000,000 building workers now idle, and would provide employment for the 500,000 contractors and architects, while approximately 250,000 manufacturers and dealers of building materials and equipment would be benefited."

\* \* \* \*

An invitation was recently extended to representatives of the technical and trade papers by the Canadian Westinghouse Company, Limited, to visit their recently completed building in Toronto. The new building houses the entire Toronto organization of the company and is equipped with a most complete electrical service shop. The newly completed six-storey building, erected at a cost of \$250,000, is a tangible expression of the confidence which the Canadian Westinghouse Company feel in the improved business outlook, and in the future of the City of Toronto as a distributing centre for the Province of Ontario.

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Supplementing the modulating controls is a wide variety of on-and-off or two-position motors, controllers and valves, thus making the Modutrol System extremely flexible as to the selection of control equipment to produce the desired results.

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The heat release from the electrical heating element is designed to, and by an adjustable resistance can be made to, bear the same relation to heat losses from the control housing as the heat release from the heating fixtures within the building bears to heat losses of the building.

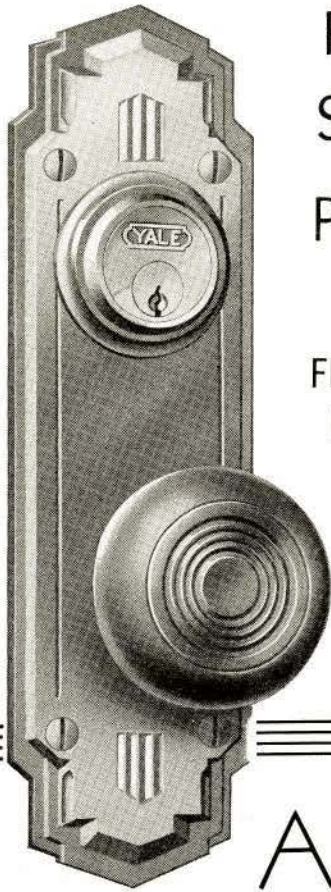
Being subject to the same weather influences, and the same relative rate of heating and cooling, the temperature throughout the zone or building and the temperature within the control housing will maintain a fixed relationship, and the temperature in the control housing can be used as the pilot temperature or control temperature for the zone or building.

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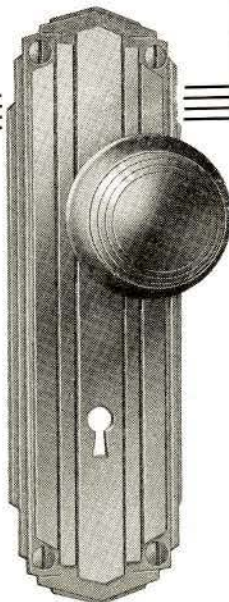
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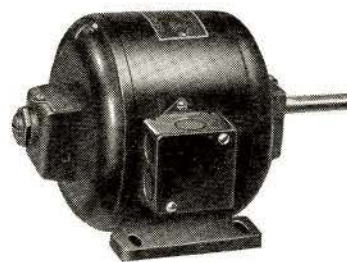


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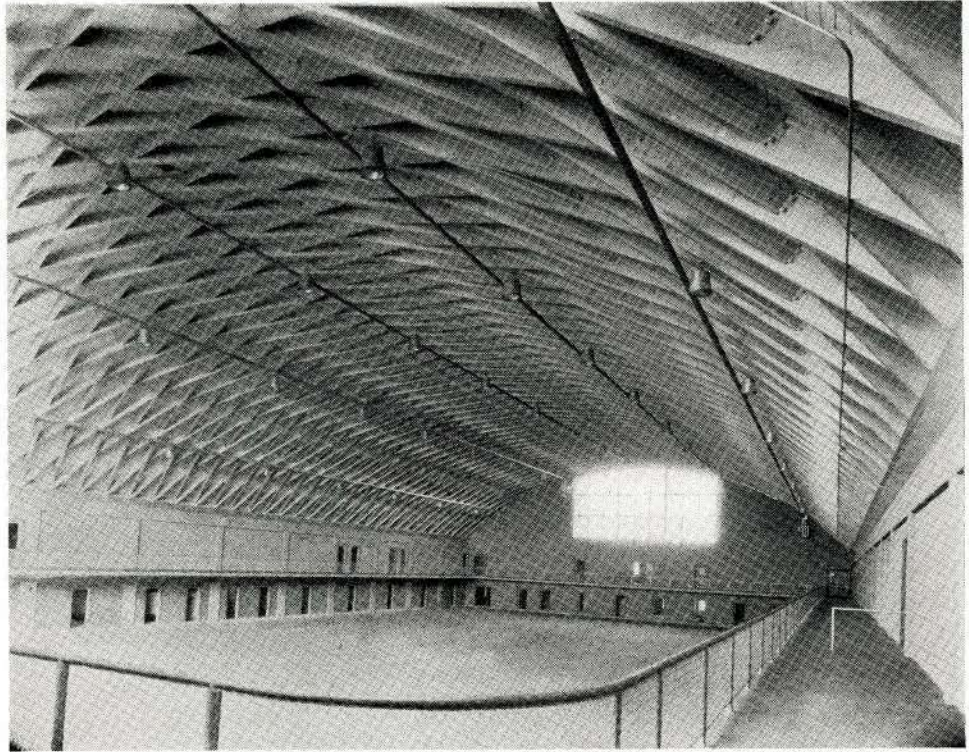
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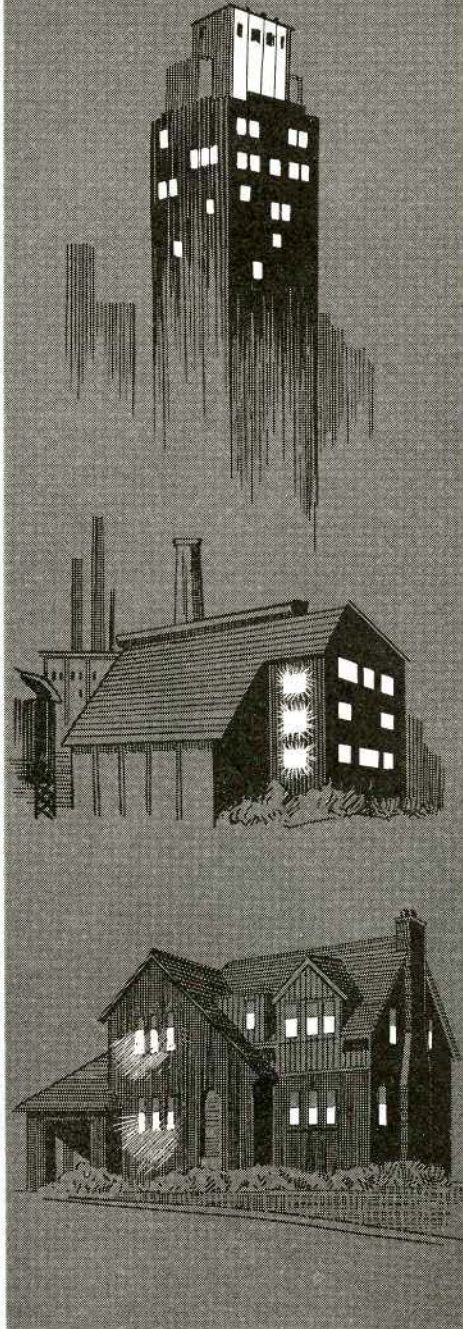
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