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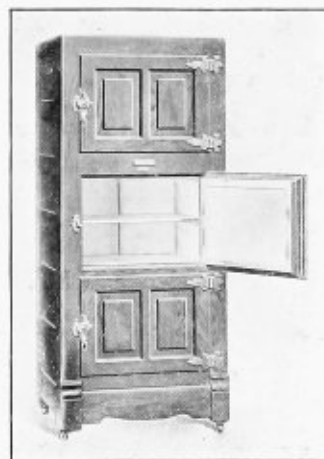
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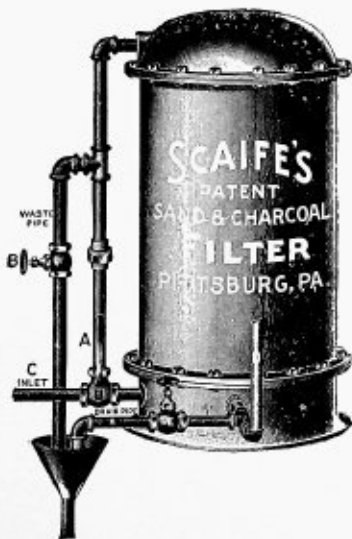
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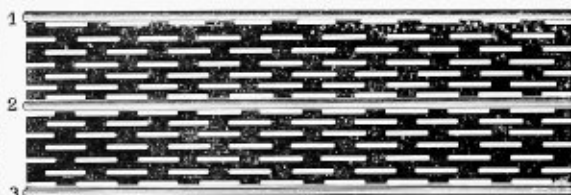
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# THE BUILDER

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No. 9

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BY

T. M. WALKER

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PITTSBURGH, PA.

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## Return of Christmas-Tide

Again the great festival of Christendom is here, and again its beneficent influences are diffusing that elusive and somewhat electric enthusiasm of good will towards men and consideration of the needs of the unfortunate and the miserable that stirs the hearts and nobler impulses of mankind.

This is, to the religionists of all beliefs, and even the unbeliever, the one period in the year when the mind is directed to giving, giving not alone to members of families and kindred, but giving to contribute to the comfort and happiness, even though it be for a day, of all who are so circumstanced that they cannot themselves provide the elements of comfort and happiness for themselves. Even the Government, which represents all the inhabitants, gives to its wards, the inmates of its eleemosynary and penal establishments, so that the spirit of sympathy and humanity that the world owes to the Christ-child goes out to the lowliest and meanest of those among us.

It is well. It recalls to us that there are some whose condition demands our sympathy and commands our consideration. Insofar as it does this, the Yule-tide festival of the heathen, that has been appropriated and Christianized, becomes an annual revivifier of the nobler instincts, and teaches us to forget for a time the cold-blooded materialism of our business, and to suspend for a time the grasping avarice that, from habit of daily pursuits, we are too prone to fall into. Even emotionalism has potential influence in the civilization of mankind.

Fortunately for those of us who live in this land of abundance in everything, not the least of which is opportunity and freedom of individual initiative to do whatever is lawful, there is no need for any to miss a portion of the good cheer and the feasting that is a concomitant of the day and season. In this regard the religionists will find new cause for gratitude, and, in its material manifestation, will give generously for church benevolences. On the other hand, the simple humanitarian, catching the contagious spirit of the season, will remember those that are sick and in prison, and others, who, by mischance or misfortune, appeal to his sympathies and generosity; hospitals, asylums, fruit and flower missions, the Salvation Army and the Volunteers of America will find dollars instead of dimes in the returns made by their collectors and agents.

This is the season of all the year to which children look forward with hope and buoyant expectation; let us hope and wish that no child, however circumstanced, throughout the length and breadth of the land, will have occasion to say that it has had no happiness with which to cheer it for life's devious pathway as it sinks into slumber while thinking of the joys and pleasures that only a truly merry Christmas can give. And don't forget the faithful wives and mothers. They look forward to Christmas so unselfishly, stimulated by their work and efforts to make others happy, that they have no time to think for themselves, or to indulge in those dreams of anticipation that are more enjoyable than realization. Let husbands and sons, after giving them the customary Christmas greeting, throw an arm around their neck and give them an embrace and a kiss, and only the unseen angels and themselves can ever know how much lighter will be the cares and the labors of what is, in every home of the land on Christmas, a busy and a wearying one. It is the wish of THE BUILDER that peace may sit enthroned at every ingle-side, and that plenty may grace every board on Christmas Day! So let it be!

## Shall Two Stories Be Added to the Court House

Much has been said for and against the proposition to add two stories to the Allegheny county court house. Against it has been leveled the anathemas of various persons, some of whom have denounced the idea as vandalism, as a profanation of "Richardson's Masterpiece," and other hard names. Others have commended it just as earnestly, and have cited, first, the utilitarian purposes for which the building was erected, and, second, the necessity of providing larger accommodations for the courts and the public offices that are incidental to the legal business of the community. Now what are the facts?

The Allegheny county court house was erected at a cost, for the building, of about \$2,000,000, and \$500,000 additional for its furnishment and equipment. It was designed by Richardson, and erected under the zealous supervision of the county commissioners, at the head of whom was Robert E. Mercer, brother of one of the present commissioners. It is one of the best specimens on the Western Hemisphere of the Byzantine-Roman style of architecture—a style, let it be said in passing, more suited for armories and castles and fortifications than public buildings. In this age and in this country, men do not assail court houses with battering rams and artillery; hence, while a fine specimen of the particular type of architecture it exemplifies, it is not a style that is best suited for public buildings. But that is another story.

Shall the present building be enlarged is the question. Why not? The building was erected for utilitarian purposes, not as a monument to an architect or to those whose names are associated with its construction. They did their work well; nobody says they did not; but is the public need for a

larger and more commodious building to be ignored simply because a few gentlemen, some of them painters, some of them aspiring for reputation as dilettanti, and none of them architects nor authorities on architecture, are horrified at the idea of elevating the crest of the building and at the same time preserving its unity of architectural style and appearance? What would they do—these gentlemen who have arrogated to themselves the position of conservators of the public in the matter of art and architecture?

It is said that to elevate the crest of the court house will ruin the symmetry of the structure. Why? Has not one of the chief criticisms leveled against the building been that it is "too squat?" That its buttressed tower and bastioned corners are too heavy for the height to give it that majestic proportion that its heavy stones and massive walls suggest; and that an additional height would give it a more imposing appearance and a nobler dignity? Divested of buncombe and sentimentality, the fact is that those who have essayed to criticize the county commissioners for their audacity in proposing to add two stories to the structure have been aroused by an idea; for it is a million to a minnow that most of those who have been the most loquacious in their assertions have never seen the elevation of the building as it would look with the two stories added. It is to give opportunity to see what the building would look like after the change that THE BUILDER presents to its readers in this issue a photographic illustration of the building "before" and "after." Most men will say that it will improve rather than detract from its appearance; for the style of the architecture is preserved in minute detail.

What is it proposed to do with the building in order to preserve the harmony of its architectural appearance? In the first place, to take off the roof and the top story down to the crown of the big arches, then to rebuild the two stories in identical form with those below, replace the stones of the top story, replace the roof, elevate the tower in the same way, and—there you are! In other words, the two stories are to be inserted in between the second and the third stories of the present structure; the architectural form is to be preserved, the tower elevated about 30 feet, to correspond with its present elevation above the roof crown. Then the entire building is to be cleaned so that the stones will have the same color and will "age" uniformly. The quadrangle in the center will be carried up in the same way, the court rooms will be provided in harmony with those on the second and third floors of the present building, removed from the roar and uproar of traffic in the streets that so seriously interferes with the hearing of testimony or pleadings by judges and jury, often to the possible injury of litigants; the arrangement of the rooms being identically the same as in the floors below, but with judicial chambers, waiting rooms for witnesses and jury rooms, conveniences that are sadly lacking in the present building.

It is admitted by everybody whose opinion is based on knowledge that the judicial and other public business has outgrown the accommodations of the present structure. It is remarked by all who have business in the building, or who are obliged to work in it daily, that it is dark, badly ventilated and inconveniently arranged for the purposes intended. Greater accommodations are required by general assent and by public necessity. How shall they be provided? The commissioners say by "inserting" two stories in the present structure, so that its symmetry and harmony of proportions will preserve its architectural form, and for which needs of the future Richardson is said, by those qualified to speak with authority, to have planned the foundations and the entire structure.

It is to be said, however, that it would be somewhat of a novelty to adopt the ideas suggested by those painters and others whose comments on the proposition have been loudest

and voluntary, and to build an annex across Diamond street. It is something new to have courts in different buildings, and public offices of record scattered about in that way. Those who have daily business in the courts and the offices of record would find it very inconvenient. After all, they are best qualified to give testimony of a practical nature on the subject, but it is remarkable that there have been few of them who have joined the hue and cry of iconoclasm and desecration.

What is required by the exigencies of the situation is a full, free and fair consideration of the proposition, after men whose knowledge of the art and science of architecture will have passed an opinion on the case; the laymen can then with intelligence pass upon the business questions involved. It is apparent that greater accommodations for the hearing of the causes of litigants are needed, to the end that those accused of crime may not lie in jail for months, as they often now do, without trial; or that civil litigants be exhausted by bankruptcy while waiting for adjudication of their claims. Let us have the whole subject threshed out without prejudice and without passion; for there is no occasion for either in what is a purely business matter, and especially when determination is entrusted to men who have as loyal a regard for the work done by Richardson and by Mercer, our greatest county commissioner, as any of the self-appointed gentlemen who have taken it upon themselves to defend the reputation and the work of both.

### Make the Change Now

"Hurrah," said a manufacturer, when he heard the labor unions had tied up the New York builders again. "Good, I hope from the bottom of my heart the unions will keep on and harass them to a finish." It is the deserved treatment of any set of employers who say and reiterate in a most cowardly manner, "Don't think we are in favor of the open shop; we want the unions to know that we are opposed to the open shop and in favor of employing only union men."

Such a sentiment is so unfair and unjust and un-American that the very law of compensation works the destruction of employers who use it.

Manufacturers who have been forced into the closed shop have had about all the experience they can stand up under. There is absolutely no living with a union when it obtains possession of an employer's business and dictates all sorts of rules and regulations.

No living man can keep a business going when the royal hod carriers' union becomes incensed at the tile layers' union, and the carpenters strike because a bricklayer's tender fixed a beard in a hod; then the nailmakers' union struck because an old nail was straightened out and used, being more convenient. Then there was a sympathetic strike of the horse-shoers, because they found that an old shoe had been worked over and put on one foot of the horse that drew the box from which the nail was pulled that was straightened out and driven into the hod. Of course, the employer should have thought of these things in advance, but he didn't, and so the works were tied up.

#### WHY FREEDOM IN EMPLOYMENT IS NECESSARY.

Some one says this is ridiculous. It is, but the real facts in the fussing between unions are more ridiculous. It has been forced upon the minds of all thoughtful employers that it is absolutely out of the question to meet all the demands of the unions that have taken a business in charge.

Who but a fool will start a building nowadays, requiring perhaps years to finish what should be done in months,

and the cost under union methods of strikes, wrangles and delays (to say nothing of the personal annoyance), running frequently double what it should, setting an original cost or investment that the building can never hope to earn an income upon?

The labor unions have driven away prosperity and have themselves to thank for the hard times and depression.

So there is but one way for the employer—he must have an open shop; he must have absolute control of his business and brook no interference whatever.

Some union man says that is a very radical view. It is time radical views were adopted. Either the employer owns his business or he does not. Under the laws of this land there are well-defined property rights, and no discharged laborer, who is free to go to any part of the country and seek work, has the right to go back to his former employer and dictate what that employer shall do with his money or his works. It is absolutely no business of the employe.

The foundation for nearly all of this impudence is based upon a feeling in the minds of many ignorant people that labor produces all of the wealth and therefore is entitled to own the results. It is common to hear a socialist or anarchist say, "You workmen built these buildings; why don't you go in and take them?" They believe that even after they have received the week's pay there is a residuum left in the work that they have never received and are entitled to.

Suppose after a building is completed the members of the bricklayers union explain to the owner that, having done the work, they "created" the building, and, as "labor creates all wealth," they should own it, notwithstanding they received full pay during its erection.

So the building is given to them. Then the brickyard owner demands the building of the bricklayers because he produced the brick.

After the brickyard owner secures the building the workmen in the brickyard claim it, for they "created" the brick. But the makers of the brick-making machinery lodge a just claim to it, for without their machinery the laborers could not have made the brick. So the building was passed on to the workmen of the builders of the machinery and from them to the miners who dug the iron ore which made the castings, which made the brick machines, which made the brick, which the bricklayers laid to make the building, which the original owners paid United States gold for.

Then it suddenly became known that the far-sighted man who first thought he owned the building had foreseen all this, and had gone to the ore miners before the building was started and explained his plan; that the building, when done, would be handed down to them as pay for their work. But the miners said they didn't want their pay that way; they couldn't use the building to buy meat and bread with. So the man said, "The bricklayers have for years been taking meat and bread from my store and have given me certain gold coins in even exchange, at agreed value, for the food. I have saved these coins, and if you prefer, I will hand them back to the bricklayers in such quantity as we can agree is equal value in exchange for their labor; then the bricklayers can pay the brickmakers, and the brickmakers their workmen, and, so on down, until finally these gold coins come to you as full equivalent for what you 'created.'"

#### INDUSTRIAL HADES INEVITABLY INVOLVED.

The miners, knowing that the gold coins were much easier to use in the purchase of bread and meat than the building would be, said they preferred it that way. So it was discovered that every workman on the building had received full and complete recompense at agreed value for his help in "creating," and that left the building really owned

by the original man who planned it, set all these work people going and paid them in the gold they had previously given to him for other things they had taken from him.

Here we see the wisdom and convenience of something to represent the value or service, and we call it money; and when we sell our labor, or wheat, or lumber, at an agreed price and are paid in such money, the exchange is complete and each party has received a full measure of value for what he gave.

Many people do not realize that the law of commerce is as much the law of the Creator as any law He has established.

When a man contracts his labor at four dollars a day, the standard market price at that time, he delivers by the end of the week twenty-four dollars worth of agreed value. The employer pays him in United States gold of established value to the world of twenty-four dollars.

The employer has given someone else twenty-four dollars of an agreed value to secure this gold, for it represents that amount of value. So when he gives the workman this unquestioned value of twenty-four dollars for the service agreed to be worth twenty-four dollars, the exchange of equivalents is completed, the account is exactly balanced, and absolutely nothing of any sort or kind remains unaccounted for; nor has the employe the slightest grain of ownership or interest remaining in the building or business.

If the laborer took only twelve dollars of the agreed twenty-four, he would have remaining in the enterprise twelve dollars belonging to him, but when he draws it all out, naturally nothing remains.

Every property owner must make a firm stand against this anarchy of labor unions. The time has gone by when any employer can afford to salaam and kow-tow to the impudent men who propose to dictate how industries shall be conducted. You allow any outsider to interfere with the peaceable possession of your personal liberty and Hell begins and *will continue* until the broken law is appeased and you pay fearfully for permitting the infraction of that fixed, unchanging law which is that the owner must be allowed full liberty to manage his property, or sell his labor as seems to him best, provided he does not trespass upon the rights of others.

The great, fair-minded American public have finally awakened to the fact that labor unions, as now conducted by their many law breakers and anarchists, with the slugging, dynamiting, wrecking and murder, bring up to actual civil war as shown in Colorado, where the dog in the manger wouldn't eat the hay nor allow any other one to eat it.

#### WHAT HAPPENED IN COLORADO.

The union men refused to produce wealth from the ground in that state, and when other Americans sought to produce that wealth and add it to the value of our great country, and furnish food and shelter for our people, they beat, shot and murdered American citizens right and left, deporting many whom they did not (for some unexplained reason) shoot.

The ancient spirit of union associations was benevolent and kindly, but that wise and friendly spirit has had its wings bound and been thrown over a precipice into the depths of oblivion; while the spirit now in control is a black, venomous, big bat that turns good, peaceable citizens into fighting tyrants, law breakers and oft-times murderers.

Then when the peace officers employed by the people put some of these law breakers out of the state, so that willing hands could go on with the work of bringing value out of the ground, a great howl went up and certain politicians, always ready to champion the criminal classes, made noisy speeches about the "oppression of the miners."

These inhuman hyenas, who would not work at high wages nor permit any willing hand to work, built forts, blew up property, dynamited homes and human beings, and shot, cut, tortured and murdered scores of American citizens.

Any one of these acts, committed upon a citizen of this republic in a foreign country, would have brought a fleet of warships into action; but here in America we see and know of them day after day and have come to expect them as the natural concomitants of strikes and labor unionism.

#### HOW PUBLIC SYMPATHY HAS CHANGED.

The blood of hundreds of our citizens drenches the soil of many states and cries aloud for justice. These are indeed cold words to use in speaking of our butchered American brothers, whose murderers now pose as abused union men begging to be taken back to work. There was a time when people felt interested in the "union idea," and accorded more sympathy, perhaps, than the case deserved, as it turns out. All admit that associations for the real benefit of members are desirable, but when such associations develop into tyrannous trusts, to sell labor at any price they choose to fix and keep any other American from selling his, and to slug men and women, dynamite and murder, to carry out their demands, every law-abiding man and woman turns from them with loathing and disgust, forced to see that American manhood must rise en masse and by the strong hand of public opinion and law suppress these anarchists and destroyers.

Employers must now stand firm and unyielding for the open shop; no more dickering with or dictation from unions, for it means absolute ruin sooner or later.

There are two or three well-conducted unions, but they represent about two or three drops of water to a tubful, and cannot be considered in this general tremendous movement of employers to clear themselves of the cancer that has threatened the destruction of this country.

The time to press an enemy is when he is on the run. All along the line can now be seen the downfall of the ob-

jectionable kind of trade unions. This downfall was most deserved and was brought about by their own tyrannous and oppressive as well as criminal acts.

#### HOW CITIZENS WELCOME FREE CONDITIONS.

Employers are forced to discontinue any further dealings whatsoever with such unions. Notice the great Chicago employers—the packing houses, the Harvester works, the Pull-



PARLOR MANTEL.



COLONIAL HALL.

man Car Company, the various rubber works, and many others that have made their last deal with labor unions; after having been harassed beyond endurance in their efforts to be more than fair to organized labor, they have finally once for all time *quit*.

There was no other way. Now these thousands of employees come back on individual contract or not at all.

This plan is fast becoming general and every employer is driven to it. There is no other way to save the business and the property. Employers massed together have shown their power to control and put a stop to these fearful abuses. Now that the power is in their hands, let them exercise the greatest care to use it wisely, and allow no form of tyranny or oppression to creep into any of their acts.

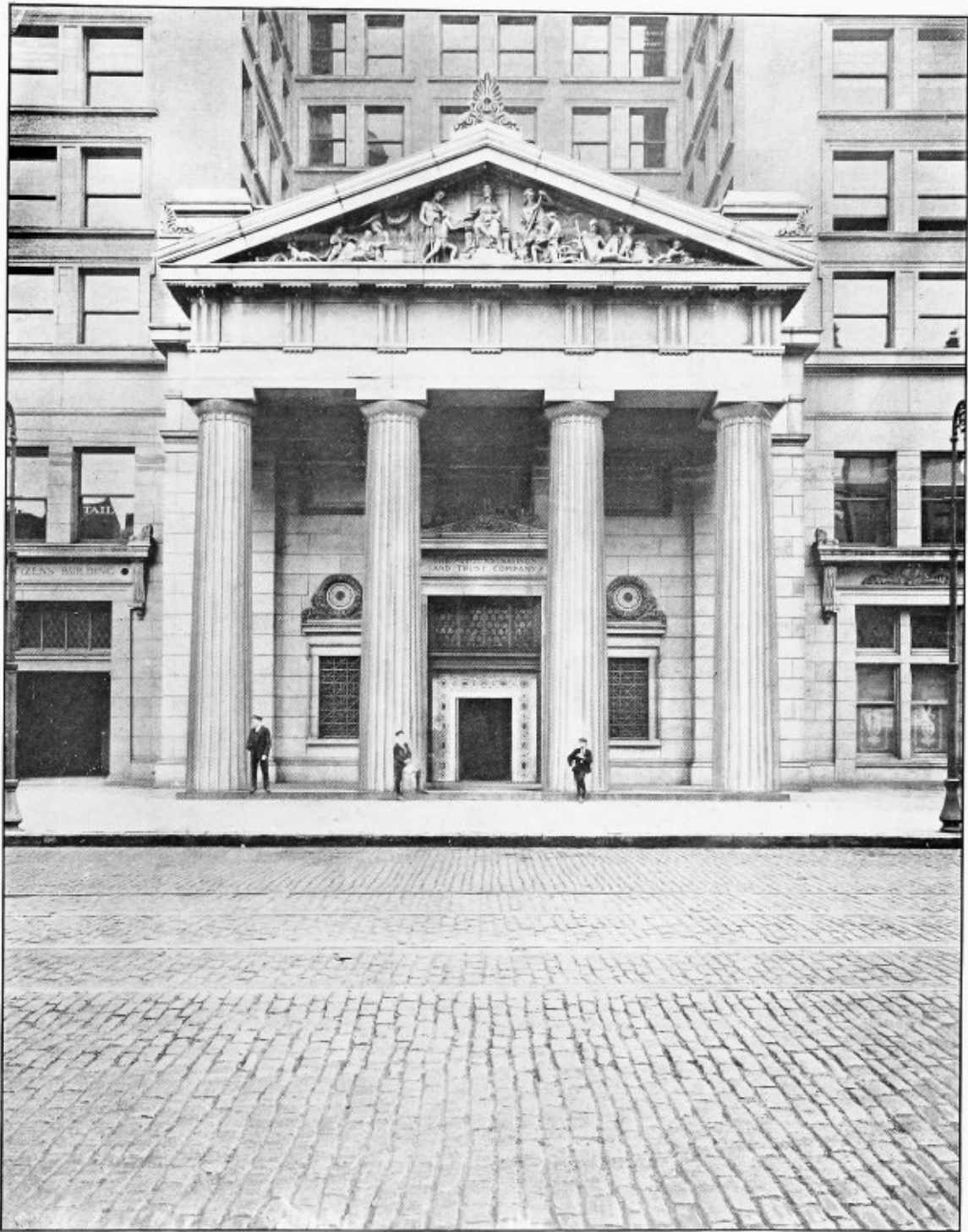
In this great contest set up by the unions the employers have never been known to picket the workmen's houses to keep them from working for someone else. They have not waylaid, assaulted, dynamited men and property or murdered because the work-people would not obey. Everyone knows that those fearful acts of crime and outrage have been done by violent labor union men.

Thousands of patriotic, upright and peaceable citizens are now or have been members of unions and they deplore the spread of wreck, ruin and anarchy; but the violent members have overruled them. Now the law-abiding members welcome the chance to work in peace and free from the evil spirit of hate and destruction; and employers must make a firm and final stand now and for all time to free themselves and their faithful helpers from that spirit.

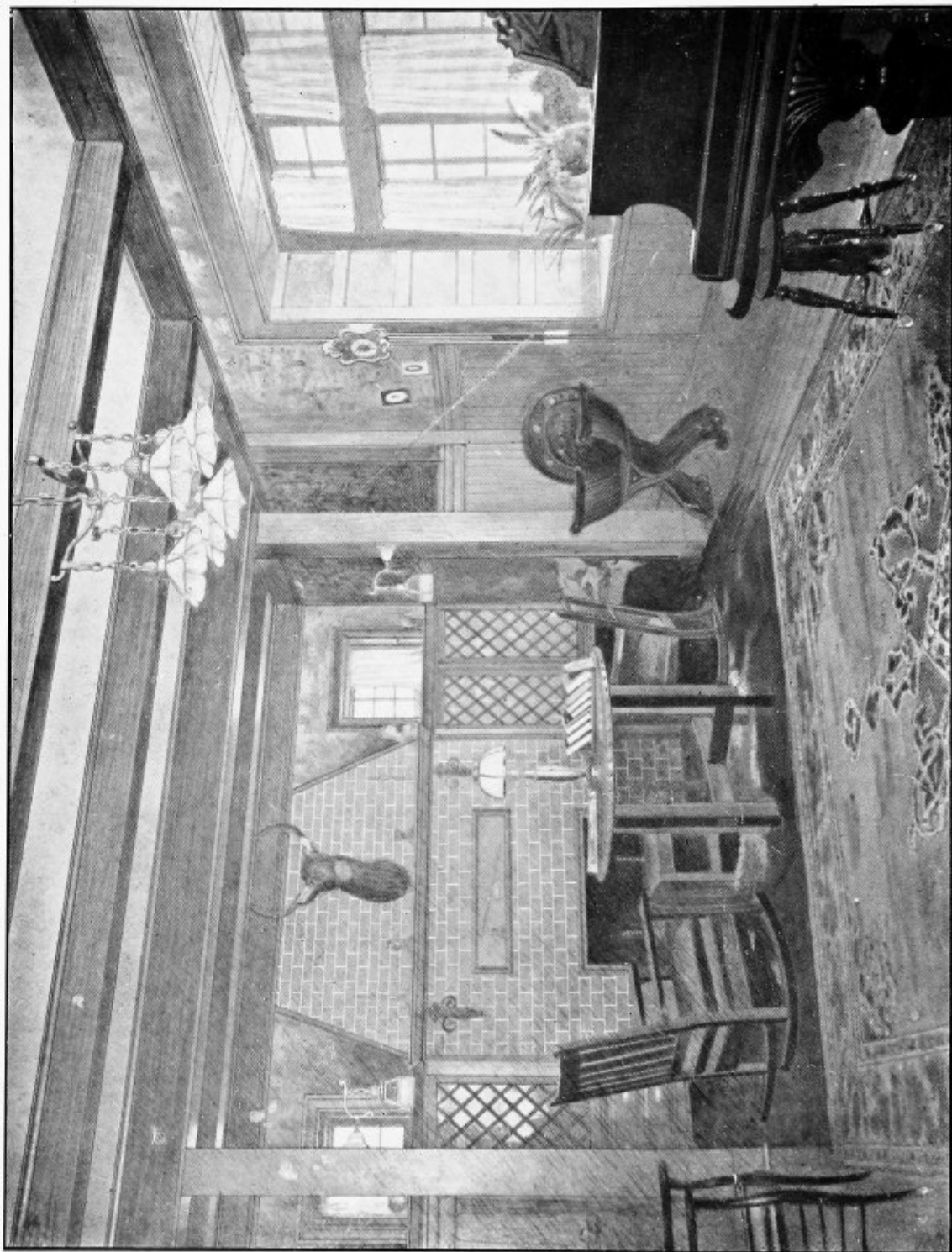


FOUNTAIN ROOM, CITIZENS' SAVINGS & TRUST CO., CLEVELAND, OHIO.  
Hubbell & Benes, Architects.

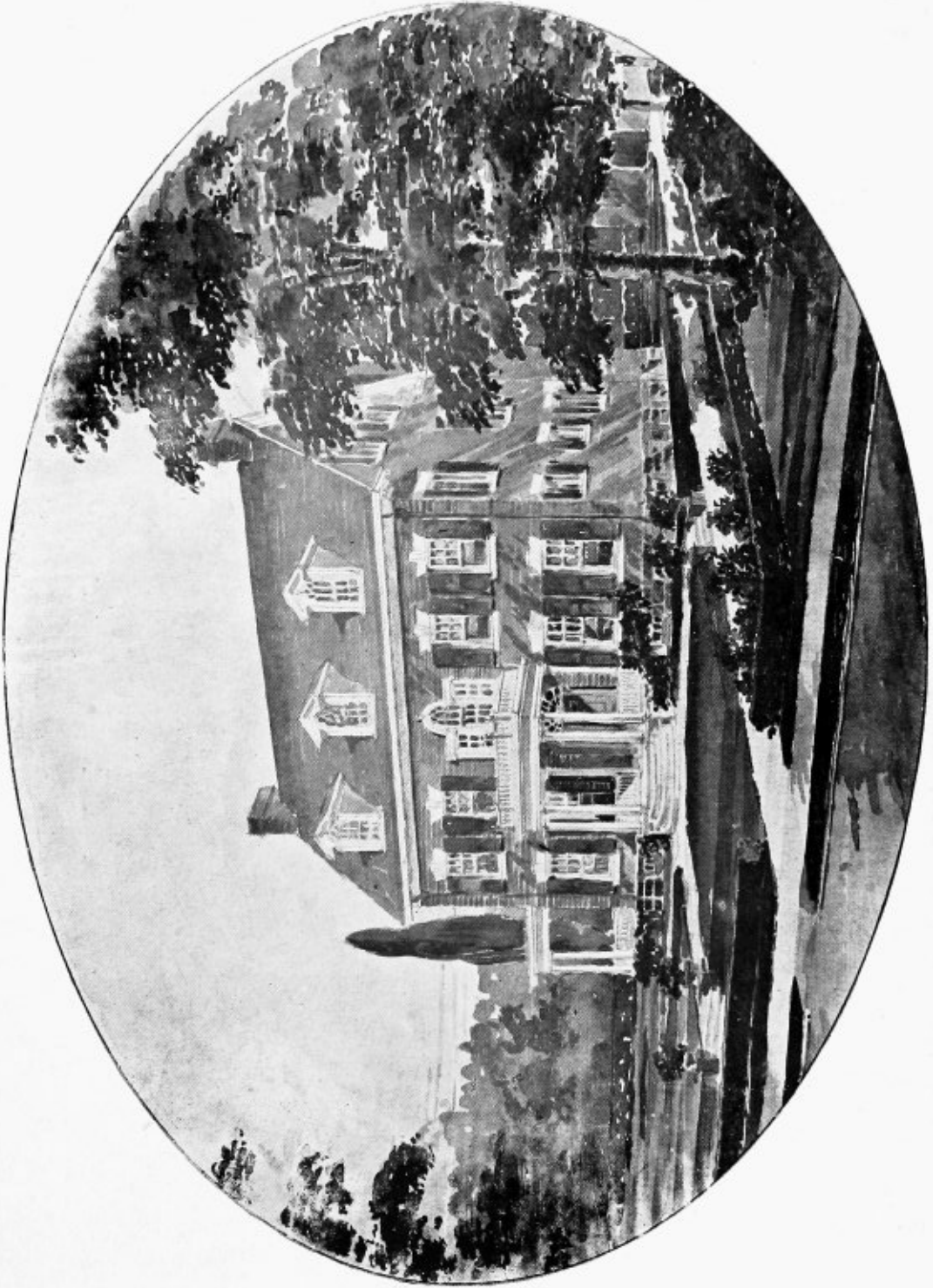




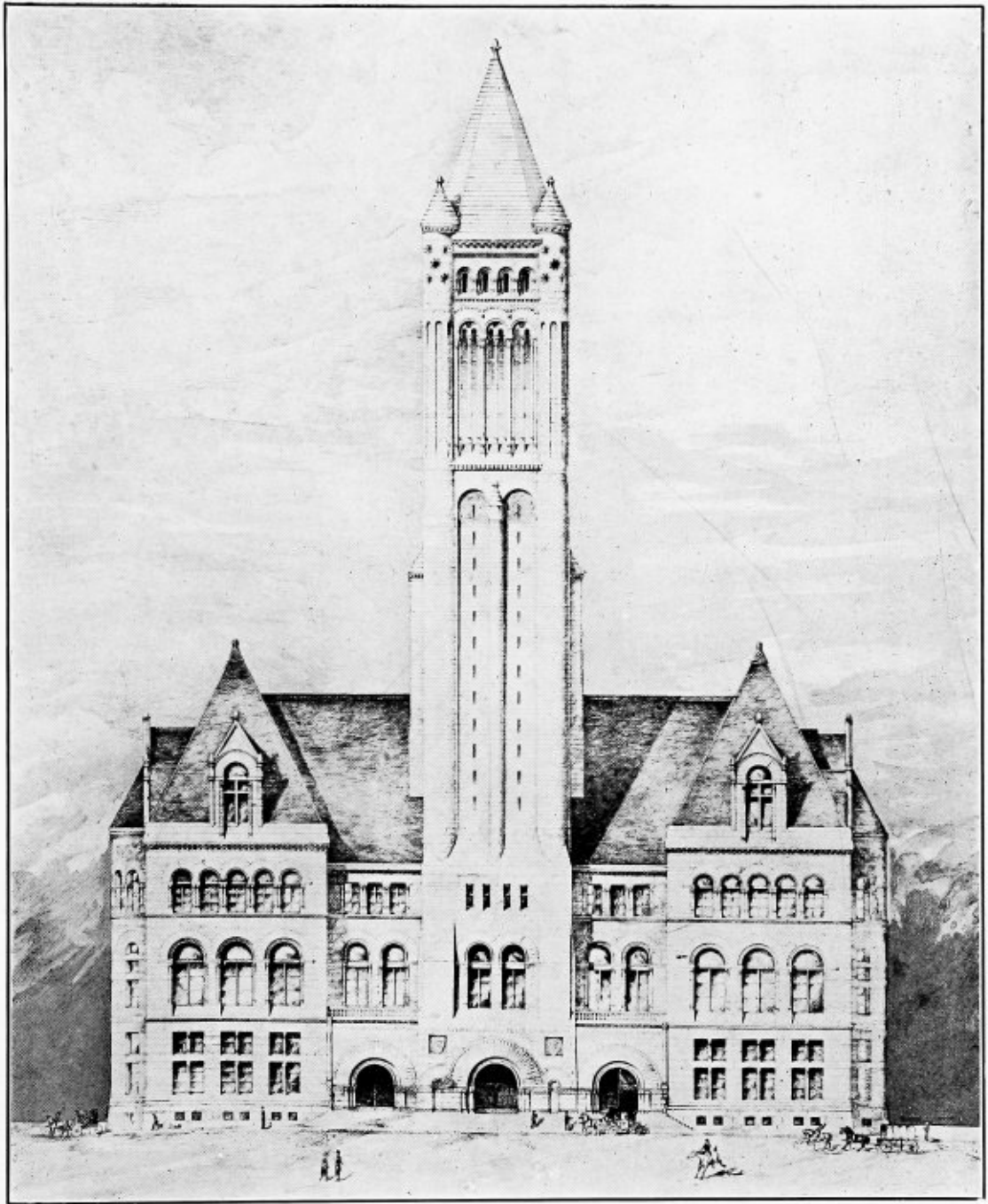
THE CITIZENS' SAVINGS & TRUST CO., CLEVELAND, OHIO.  
Hubbell & Benes, Architects.



LIVING ROOM, HOME OF W. P. FRASER, ALLEGHENY CITY, PA.



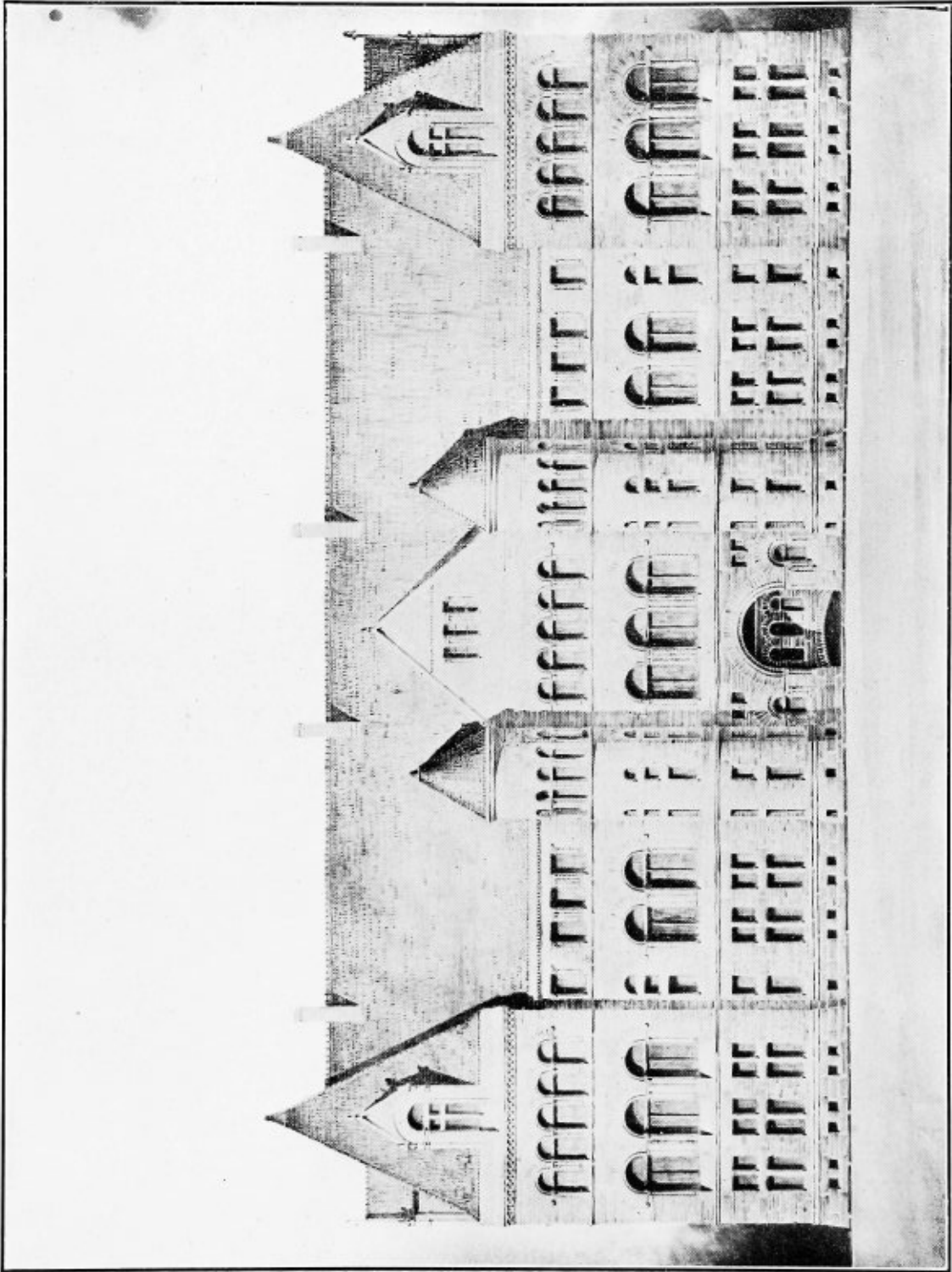
HOME OF MRS. JAMES L. STEWART, COCHRAN LANE, SEWICKLEY.



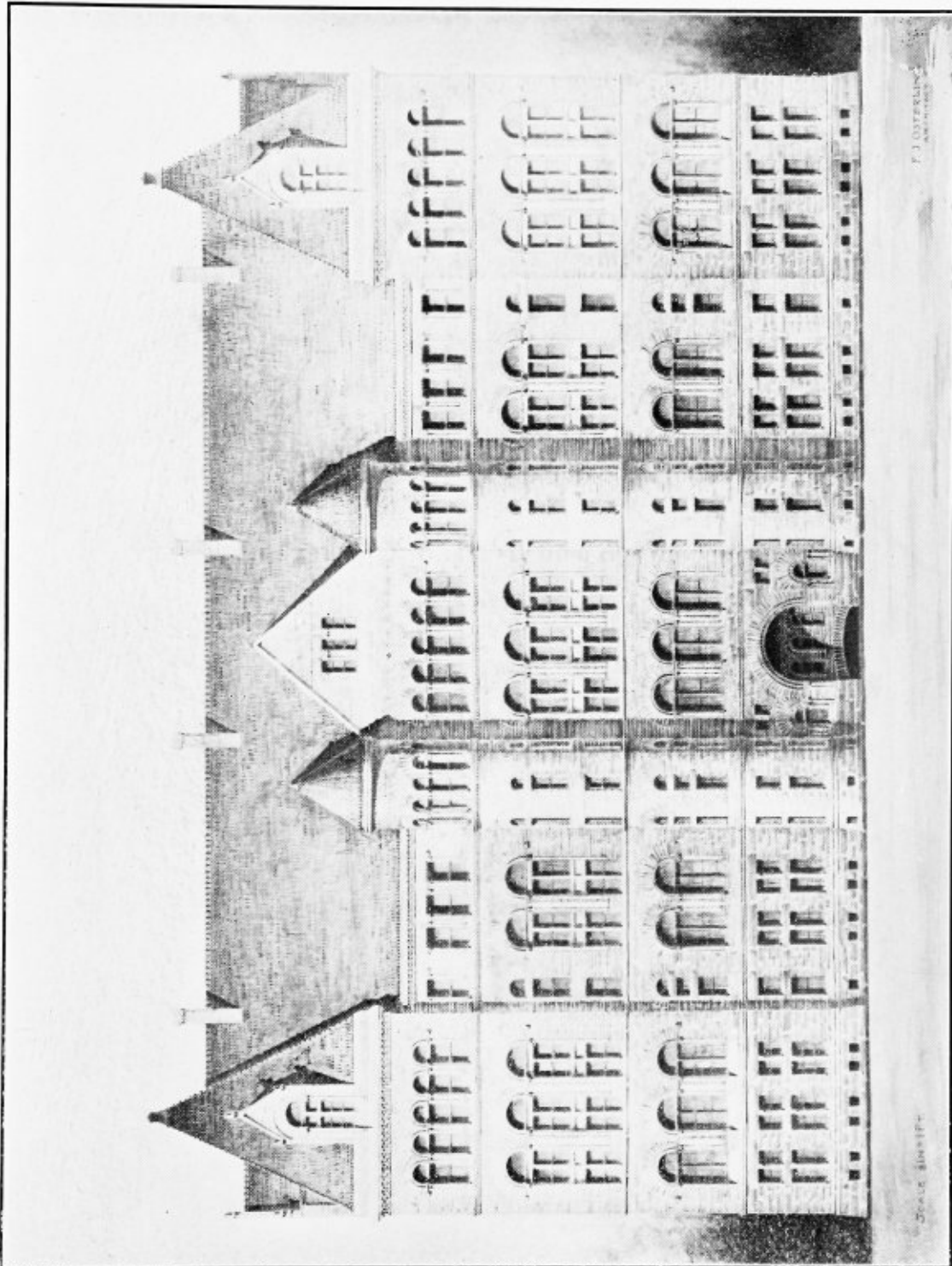
GRANT STREET ELEVATION ALLEGHENY COUNTY COURT HOUSE, PRESENT BUILDING



GRANT STREET ELEVATION ALLEGHENY COUNTY COURT HOUSE.  
(Showing Proposed Addition. F. J. Osterling, Architect.)



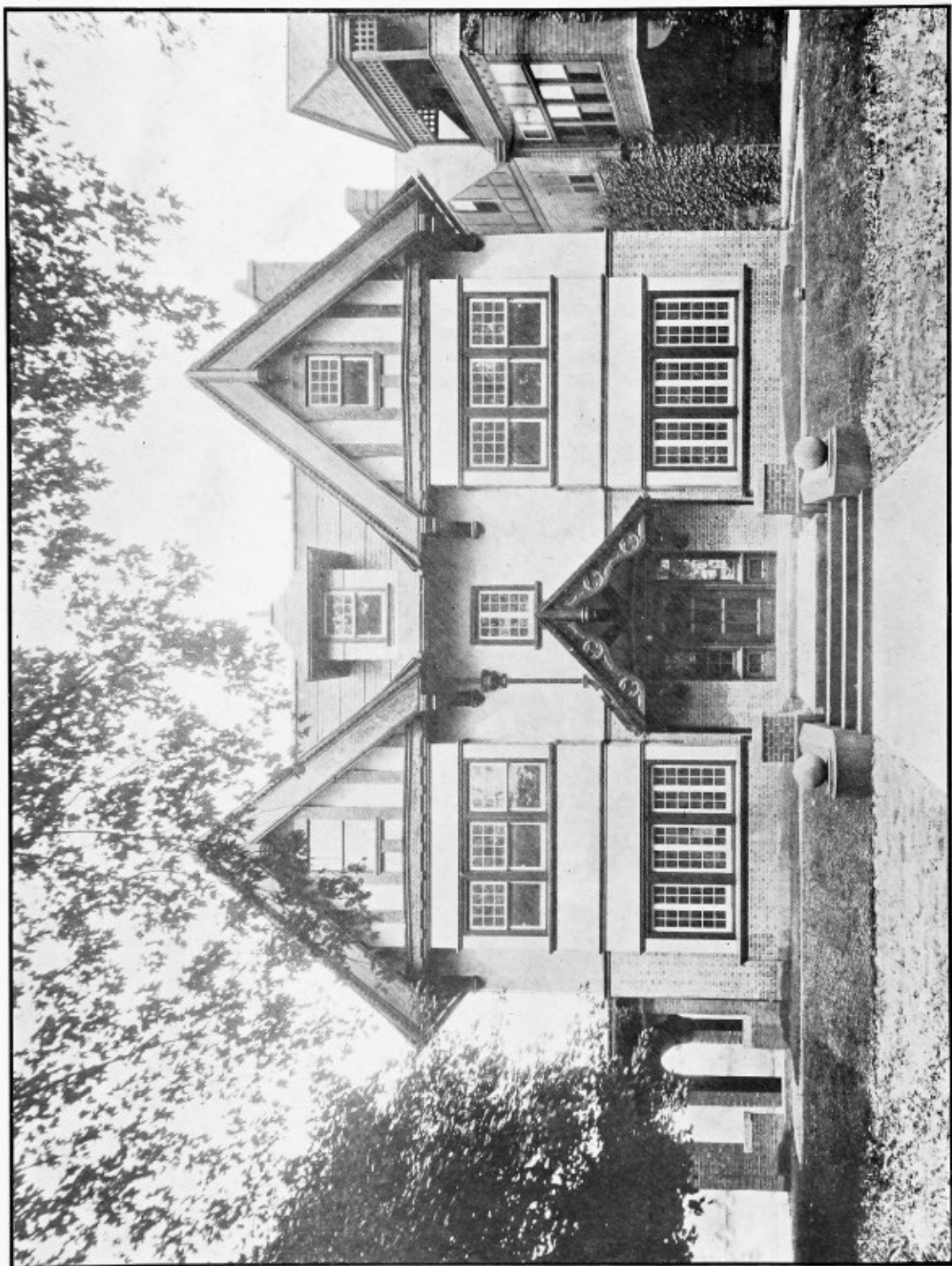
FIFTH AVENUE ELEVATION PRESENT BUILDING.



FIFTH AVENUE ELEVATION ALLEGHENY COUNTY COURT HOUSE.  
(Showing Proposed Addition. F. J. Osterling, Architect.)

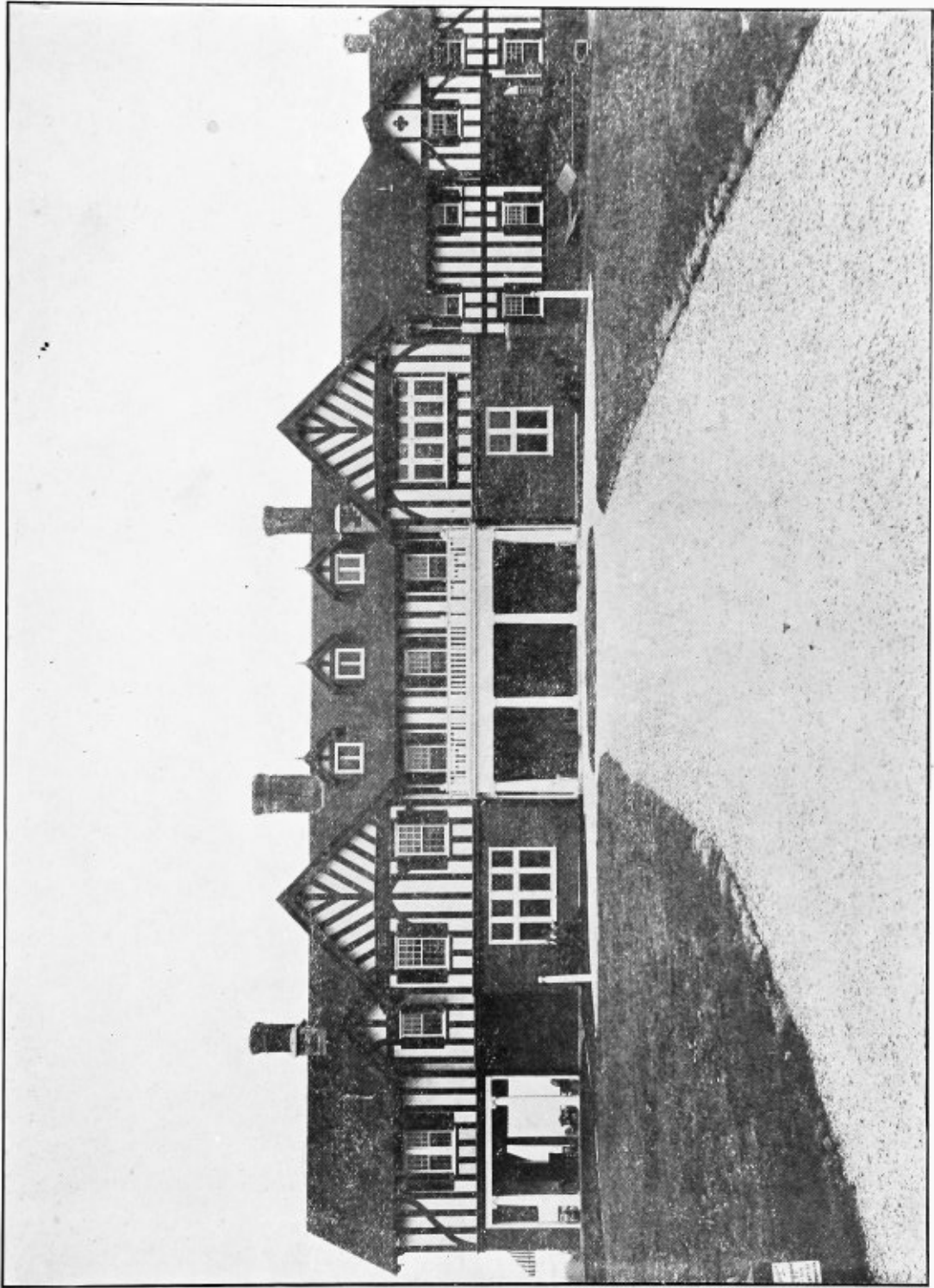
F. J. OSTERLING  
ARCHITECT

SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

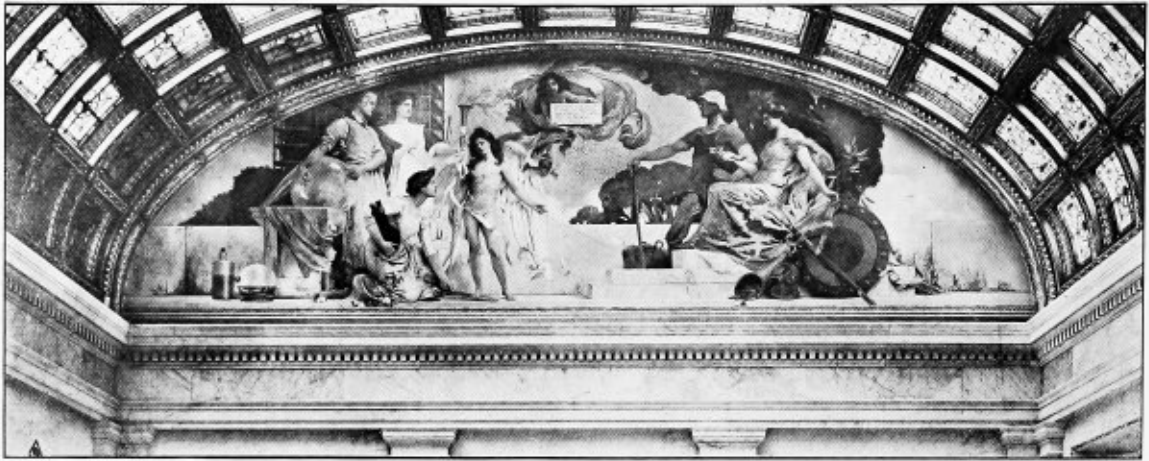


HOME OF ROBERT PITCAIRN, JR., AMBERSON AVE.  
McClure & Spahr, Architects.

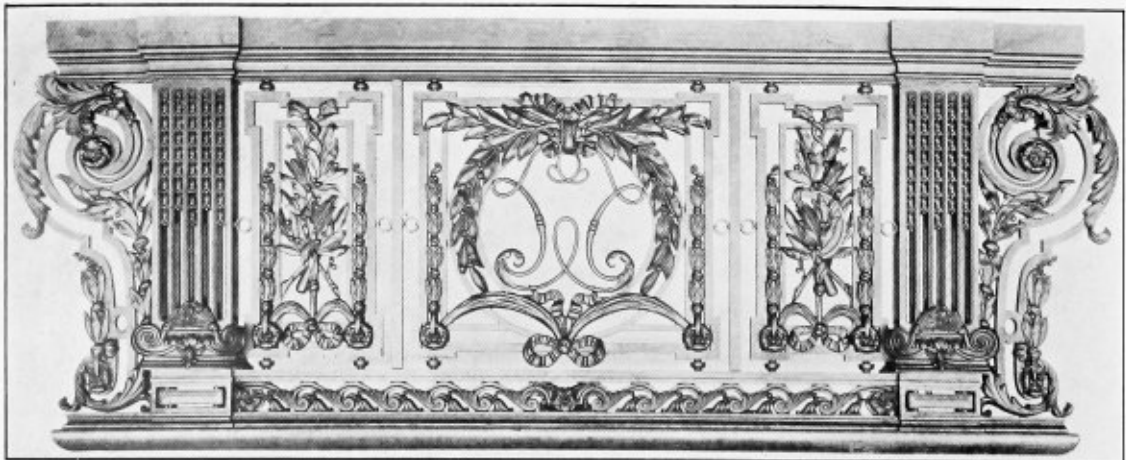




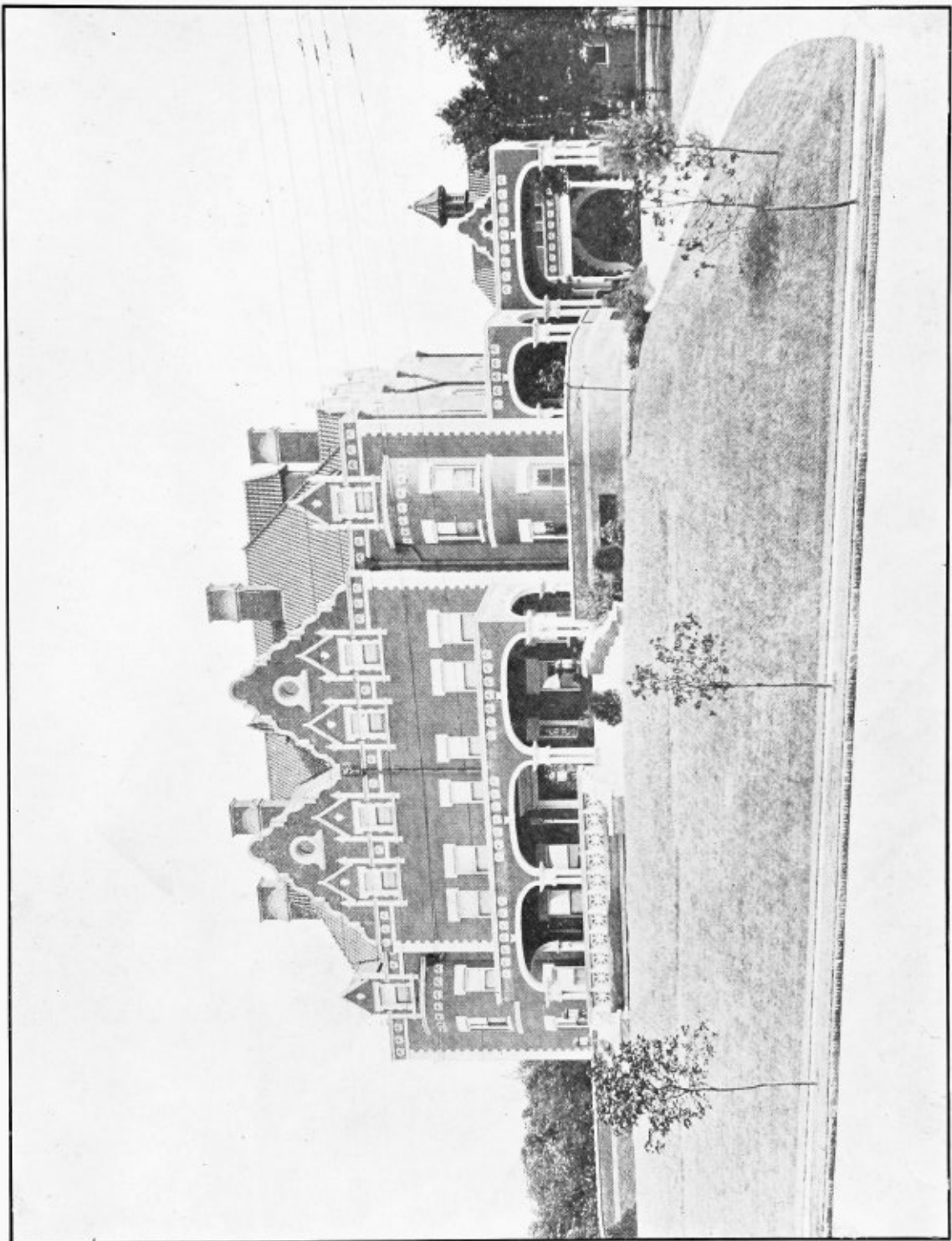
HOME OF W. R. RAY, SEWICKLEY HEIGHTS, PA.  
Proctor & Wass, Asst. Architects.



PANEL OF THE CITIZENS' SAVINGS AND TRUST COMPANY.



CAST AND WROUGHT IRON RAIL, MINNESOTA STATE CAPITAL.  
Cass Gilbert, Architect.



HOME OF A. A. FRAUENHEIM.

## Facts About Carnegie Library

I have viewed with much regret the criticism which has recently been directed against the amount of the city's appropriation for the Carnegie Library. This is not the first attack of the kind, but none in recent years has assumed a form so damaging to the best interests of the library and of the people who patronize it, who number practically the whole community. I have no doubt that those who are responsible for this one will go through the same experience as their predecessors in this line. They will inform themselves fully as to the facts and then sincerely regret having said anything on the subject. I have been interested in the library from the time Mr. Carnegie's offer to establish it was accepted by councils. Since it was opened I have been a frequent visitor to it and have had special opportunities of knowing all about its workings. I have witnessed the steady growth of its influence and its constantly increasing activities for the uplifting of the people of this community. I feel that I am well qualified to speak concerning its administration and its work, and that this is the proper time to give my testimony.

It has been charged that the appropriations by the city for the support of the library have increased from \$40,000 in 1895, to \$158,000 for the current year, and that probably \$5,000 or \$6,000 more will be asked for next year. This is true. It has also been charged that excessive and extravagant salaries are paid and an unnecessary number of employes engaged, and that the city authorities have not until recently known anything about the details of expenditure. This is not true. The appropriation for the first year the library was open was \$40,000. But it was open in that year only from November 1, 1895, to January 31, 1896, that date being the end of the city's fiscal year. It is true some of the then very small force were engaged for several months prior to the opening in getting the library ready. When it opened it had just 9,000 volumes on the shelves purchased with a portion of the appropriation. At the end of the last fiscal year, January 31, 1904, there were 180,702 volumes in the central and branch libraries, or 20 times as many as when the library opened, November 1, 1895. The great bulk of the increase, 171,000 volumes, has been paid for out of the annual appropriations made by the city in the intervening years. The library to-day contains probably 10,000 more volumes than last January.

For the first full year the library was open, or from February 1, 1896, to January 31, 1897, the total number of books circulated was 115,394. For the year ending January 31, 1904, the circulation was 607,442. For the present year it will probably be about 700,000 volumes. These figures take no account of the use of books and magazines in the reference and reading rooms of the library, which last year reached the enormous total of 1,200,000 in the latter and 157,309 in the former. The total attendance in the reading rooms of the library last year was 453,170 persons, and in the reference room 33,064. I want to direct especial attention to the educational influence exerted by the library upon the children. The number of books circulated among the children last year was 88,708. These are the books which they took to their homes. But they read many more in the reading rooms. The attendance at the children's reading rooms during the year 1896-7 was only 28,823, while during the last year it was 263,324, and this year it will be fully ten times as great as it was eight years ago.

While we have seen the appropriation for the partial year of 1895-6 was \$40,000, the appropriation for the full fiscal year, 1896-7, was \$65,000. The extra \$25,000 was for the putting of the electric light plant into the building, as it was found that the city could save money by providing its own light. Mr. Carnegie was going to pay for this, but councils felt, in view of the saving that would be effected in the annual expenses, it was a proper expenditure for the city. When Mr. Carnegie heard of the fact that the city had appropriated \$65,000 he was so delighted that he said Pittsburgh could not be more generous than he, and at once he purchased the Neapolitan bronzes for the art gallery, which cost the full amount of the appropriation. Since that time Mr. Carnegie has made it a practice every year to do as well or better than the city in his increased expenditures for the library and institute.

It should be remembered that Mr. Carnegie only offered the city \$1,000,000 for the library on condition of the city expending \$40,000 annually. Shortly after it was opened he gave \$1,000,000 for the Scientific Museum and Art Gallery as an endowment fund. Later he increased this fund to \$2,000,000. All the salaries of the officials of the museum and art gallery are paid out of this fund, while the music hall salaries are paid out of the receipts from rent. The city pays nothing for the maintenance of the employes of these three departments. Mr. Carnegie has increased his original donation of \$1,000,000 to the library to about \$6,000,000, the bulk of which is being expended in the additions now being made to the main library, and the balance being for the branch library buildings.

Five of these branch libraries are in operation, and a sixth, that at East Liberty, will be opened next February. The additional \$5,000 or \$6,000 to be asked next year is for this library's expenses. When the central library was opened there were no branches. For the first full fiscal year, 1896-7, the circulation from the library was 115,394 volumes. Last year it was 217,176, while the circulation last year from the branch libraries was over 390,000 volumes. Thus it will be seen that the branch libraries, located right at the homes of the people, have become of more importance than the main



MANTEL IN LIVING ROOM.

one. It is evident from these figures that the library in the last nine years has increased its work and influence ten-fold, while its appropriation from the city has only increased from \$65,000 to \$158,000. The increase in its expenditures in the future will be much less rapid because the books and the employes for all the libraries have now been provided. Mr. Carnegie's generosity has provided for the increased expenses which will be caused by the enlarged library building. The influence of the library on our public school system has been most remarkable. It has provided libraries for every school. The teachers are constantly being aided in their work by the library, and its forces. In the essay contest now on no less than 1,742 children are taking part. The home libraries are doing a great work in the poor districts, as are the children's clubs. The library is conducting a school for children's librarians, attended by students from all parts of this country and even from Norway, the whole expense of which is paid by Mr. Carnegie. The latter every year is spending large sums for special collections of books for the library and for special collections of objects for the museum. This year he paid the expenses of erecting the temporary art gallery. He has offered to expend from \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000 for the new technical schools, which he founded because of the appreciation shown by our people of the library and institute. Surely anyone who talks about the city's original appropriation of \$40,000 for the library in regretful tones at this time is most wilfully ignorant, or remarkably illiberal or stupid.

And now as to salaries, Mr. Anderson, as chief of the library, received for most of his long term of faithful and efficient service \$4,000 a year. The Brooklyn library offered him \$6,000, with the privilege of taking the place at once. He refused and remained here for the year. Then the Brooklyn people renewed their offer, whereupon our trustees increased Mr. Anderson's salary to \$6,000. The Brooklyn librarian at present is getting \$7,500. I know that a number of the chief and most efficient workers at the library have been offered larger salaries by other libraries, but have refused, because of their satisfaction with their treatment here and their personal devotion to Mr. Anderson. Now that the latter is gone, it will be hard to keep them, and impossible, if this talk of cutting salaries should amount to anything. There is a new Carnegie library being opened every month or so somewhere. There is a desire from these as well as from the older libraries of the country to secure people who have worked here. There is a dearth of experienced librarians, and if we do not look out, we will see the reputation of our library fall from the first place, by reason of the exodus of its people to other places. Until now there has never been any newspaper publication of salaries. I was surprised when I saw not how high they were, but how low. There has been special objection made to the salary of the superintendent of the building, who is said to be only a janitor, and to have charge only of the main library. As a matter of fact, he is an experienced electrical and mechanical engineer. He has charge of the main library and the six branch

ones. He has thirty-seven men and women under him, including engineers and electricians. All the plumbing and all the carpentering and general repairing has been done by him and those under him. When new engines were installed, they set them up, thus saving that expense. He is now superintending the construction of the great addition to the library. He was sent by the trustees all over the country to get the best information on heating and lighting. He has to take charge of the renting of the building for hundreds of meetings and lectures and keep the accounts. Surely no janitor ever performed such duties. As to the charge that there are too many employes, I need only say that everybody is kept busy about the library, including a large number of apprentices, who serve a year without pay, and that about 100 men and women give freely their services every week for several hours as volunteer visitors for the clubs and home library groups of children founded by the library.

In conclusion let me say that the city officials have from the beginning had an equal representation on the board of trustees of the library and have known all about its doings, and had a full say in everything. The other members of the board are leading business and professional men, who take a great interest in the library and institute, so great, in fact, that whenever a member becomes a frequent absentee from meetings, he is asked to resign. Perhaps the largest real estate owner in the city is on the board and he is not objecting to the taxes for the library. The trustees serve for love, and do not get any money or patronage. It may be said here while the library appropriation has increased \$93,000, the expend-



MANTEL IN WHITE HOUSE.

itures in the other city departments have increased ten times as much as those for the library, and there is now talk of increasing salaries in these departments. Certainly it would seem that if expenditures are to be retrenched, it ought to be in other fields of city expenditure than the library. It is said, with some appearance of vexation, that powerful political influence has not availed to get even a scrub woman in the library, a fact which may account for the attack upon it, but one which will satisfy the people generally that its administration has been both honest and efficient. We have two or three object lessons not far from Pittsburgh of the sad effects upon library administration of the politicians having control of the institutions and we certainly ought to be thankful we are not so afflicted. When John Morley was told of the many lines of useful educational work pursued by our library and institute, he said there was nothing to compare to them in Great Britain, a fact which ought to make us feel a greater interest and pride than ever in preventing them from deteriorating.—*Post*.

### Gompers On Science of Strikes

Four hundred and eighty delegates, representing 3,400,000 members of labor unions, met on November 14 in Lyric hall, San Francisco, in the twenty-fourth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor. Among those present were Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America; John R. O'Brien, president of the Retail Clerks' International Association, and other prominent labor leaders. The convention was called to order by J. O. Walsh, and addresses of welcome were replied to by President Samuel Gompers. Of much interest at the opening session was the report of President Gompers, in which he told how the Federation had increased in membership from 50,000 in 1881 to 1,750,000 in 1904. On the subject of strikes Mr. Gompers said:

"It is a science becoming more generally understood by labor to know when to strike and when not to strike; to know for what to strike and for what not to strike. It is said that it is not wise to strike on a 'falling market.' It cannot, however, successfully be gainsaid that a strike or preparedness to strike will prevent the market from falling still lower. But apart from strikes concretely considered and the accumulation of funds with which to win them when undertaken, there is another important side to this question to be considered, and that is, the maintenance of industrial peace. It is a condition for which we may devoutly pray and work; but so long as private greed or short-sighted interests dominate the judgment and actions of employers, just so long will strikes, or better still, the preparedness of labor to strike, be the determining factor to bring about industrial peace on a more equitable basis, and to prevent an industrial rupture. We would abolish war, industrially as well as internationally; but its abolition must come, and it will come, from conscious power, intelligent and broader humanity."

### The Beauty of Architecture

The beauty of architecture is its supremest quality; it is its finest and noblest expression. The aim and purpose of a building is to fill some human need; its beauty is the jewel with which the more homely construction is decked. It is the fine garment of loveliness with which the bride arrays herself. It is the supreme touch, the utmost point to which architecture can attain.

All architecture is not beautiful—how well we know it! All architecture is not intended to be beautiful; many build-

ings are, necessarily, poor and humble, slight and insignificant, even harsh and utilitarian. Some are so rigid in their lines, so purposeful in their use, so restricted in their ends, that beauty is the last quality they can hope to have, the last they should be thought of having.

Nor can all architectural beauty be of the same quality of loveliness. The beauty of one building is not that of another; the glory of one style is not that of another; the taste of one age is the taste of its age alone, and not that of previous or past epochs. The standard of architectural beauty varies with nationality and with age. It is as varied as the standards of human beauty.

Surely this is no detriment, for it gives an added zest to architectural enjoyment. It is as unthinkable that all buildings should look alike as that they should all have the same purpose and be used by human beings identical in mind and in appearance. It is the glory of architecture that it meets every possible requirement. True, it is the human mind which directs and produces this result, but architecture is the medium through which the end is accomplished.

So we may rejoice and delight in architecture because of its variety—its variety of form, its variety of materials, its variety of ornament, its variety of utility, its variety of beauty. Utility stands at one end of the scale, beauty at the other; and the noblest structure is that in which each quality puts forth its utmost effort; in which each has its own part to perform and does its best. For utility and beauty can not strive against each other. A structure in which some utility is lost because way must be made for beauty fails in true architectural expression; exactly as the untrue man fails when put to the test. And a building in which beauty is sacrificed to utility is likewise false and wanting and cannot boast the highest merit.

Beauty in architecture is an exacting mistress. It demands everything. Half way measures will not bring it. Half-hearted effort will not win it. Makeshift expedients will not accomplish it. Architectural beauty admits no failure; it must be good and true, complete and sound, thorough and entire. It must be right. That it is costly adds to its merit. That it is difficult to obtain adds to its splendor. That it is rare and unusual means beauty itself.

Yet a little beauty is not to be despised. On the contrary, it is to be welcomed as an oasis in a desert. It is a quality so rare and so inspiring that a little of it may redeem and glorify a building generally sordid and uninteresting. It is never to be belittled because there is not much of it. Better one supreme part, one inspired feature, one manifest effort, than nothing at all.

It appears to be an innate characteristic of the human mind that it does not always rise to the height of finest expression. The greatest masters in art have nodded, and nodded more than once. The works of even the supremest minds are not always of the same degree of excellence. It is human to fail, and human to be unequal and uneven. So architecture, the most human of the arts, fails and nods when the very best is to be expected of it. And so general is this rule, so many are the failures of the art, that the wonder is, not that these failures exist, but that any success of pure beauty should be obtained at any time.

It is more important there should be some beauty than none; but unless this is good and true, refined and elevating, it is not beauty in the highest sense, but an artificial product which too loudly proclaims the inefficiency of its human inventor. "Almost beautiful" is, it is true, a pet phrase and one that frequently rises to the lips; but the limiting word is but an admission that it is not beauty at all, but simply something which is not beauty.

Beauty being the supremest quality of architecture, it follows that it is an essential quality. No building can, by any possibility, be too beautiful, and every building should be as beautiful as it can be. There may be reasons, and the best of reasons, why beauty cannot penetrate every part of a structure. It may be of a nature that will not permit it; the cost may not allow it, the ability of the designer—alas that such limits should exist!—may forbid it. Of excuses there is an abundance, and very many of them real and true. But the ardor of the beauty lover is not lessened because of circumstances over which he has no control or of whose existence he may have no knowledge.

Beauty that is beauty, real beauty, is never forced in architecture. It is a natural product, fitting gracefully the structure to which it belongs. The moment it assumes an artificial air, the moment it seems out of place, it ceases to be beauty and becomes a hybrid product of which there is no name. It is a quality that belongs to architecture by right.

It is the most difficult of all qualities to obtain. Architecture is never an easy art; beautiful architecture is its most difficult phase. The creation of beautiful things is easier to some men than to others, but pure beauty is never easy, although it is never labored. The greatest artists have ever been the hardest workers, and genius has well been defined as akin to a capacity for labor.

If beauty can only be had by means of hard work—which means simply consummate ability—it is certainly never obtained by stringing adventitious ornaments upon a building otherwise inoffensive. Ornament is not beauty, but beauty is ornamental. The addition of parts to a building which may in themselves be beautiful, and yet which have no real place either in function or in design, will not make a building beautiful. The multiplication of detail, even of a refined and delicate quality, will not, in itself, give beauty, although the parts may in themselves be truly beautiful. The intrusion of unnecessary features will not bring beauty. The striving after effort which is manifestly striving will not redeem an otherwise unbeautiful building.

It is sense and right that give beauty; it is appreciation of purpose; it is purpose rightly used; it is care and distinction; it is penetrating thought; it is exquisite workmanship; and, above all, it is appreciation of fitness. All these things make for beauty in a building and help toward obtaining it. Sometimes one will be more helpful than another, but behind the whole scheme must lie thought and effort.

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### International Fireproofing System

What is the best and most economical reinforcing material for concrete? That is the question that is sought to be answered by the issuance of a new and handsomely illustrated catalogue sent out by the International Fence and Fireproofing Company, of which the Pittsburgh Concrete Company is the agent, and it makes out a strong case for the International system. The International fireproofing system consists in the utilization of steel-wire fabric in combination with steel-cable distributing members, both of which are manufactured from special grade steel wire, having high elastic limit and high tensile strength. These cables are anchored to the walls or beams and extend to opposite ends or sides of a building, spaced 12 to 24 inches apart, according to the desired load-carrying capacity of the floors. They are drawn taut before anchoring, and are secured in a manner specially provided for in their construction. Over the cables wire fabric is placed and all are embedded in the lower half of the concrete, which gives a continuous reinforcement throughout the entire floor.

In the catalogue are detailed illustrations of methods of construction for floors, pavements, walks, bridges and like constructions where concrete is usable, and from the number of warehouses, hotels and other fireproof structures shown in various cities that have had the system introduced, it is apparent that it has found much favor among architects, fire underwriters and building inspecting officers. It has the approval of the board of fire commissioners of New York city, of Detroit, Columbus and other cities, and is now being introduced in Pittsburgh with great promise of extended use. The Pittsburgh Concrete Company, which has the exclusive agency for Western Pennsylvania, will be pleased to furnish information.

Among the advantages claimed for the system are the continuous distribution of the reinforcement over sectional systems, and especially for concrete beam or girder construction; that a series of concrete beams, reinforced continuously over fixed supports, will develop full 25 per centum greater strength than a similar series of beams reinforced by sectional materials. The same is claimed for flat-arch floor construction, whether the supporting beams and girders are of reinforced concrete or steel. Continuous cables and fabric can be placed at much less cost of labor, it is claimed, and entirely eliminates the danger of collapse, so often resulting from the use of sectional materials.

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### A Handsome Sewickley Residence

One of the handsome new residences that have given to Sewickley and its environs deserved reputation for palatial homes is that of Mrs. James L. Stewart, in Cochran lane. It is of the Colonial type, and very tasteful and complete in its appearance and appointments.

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### One of the New City Homes

Among the recently erected city homes that challenge admiration from beholders is that of Robert Pitcairn, Jr., in Amberson avenue. It is patterned after early English models, and in construction adheres faithfully to the example that suggested it. The materials used are red brick with black headers, timbered and plastered in an attractive fashion, and roofed with olive-green slate tiling. The living room and hall are finished in carefully selected dark oak, and the dining room in mahogany. In its appointments it is a model of comfort and convenience. Messrs. McClure & Spahr were the architects, and Patterson & Shaw were the general contractors.

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### A. A. Frauenheim's Residence

One of the noted buildings that so richly ornaments the new Squirrel Hill residence district of Pittsburgh is the sumptuous home of A. A. Frauenheim. The size of the building, its ample surroundings of gracefully graded and well-kept lawns, the air of comfort that its general appearance suggests, all accentuate the attractive lines on which the building was erected, and cause it to be noted by all who travel through the neighborhood. The materials used are red brick, with white terra cotta trimmings, surmounted by a roof of Spanish tile, furnished and emplaced by Scott A. White. H. L. Kreisler executed the woodwork in the building, and the work does credit to him for the excellent workmanship and careful selection which it exemplifies.

## Municipal Art Possibilities in Cleveland

In an address before the Cleveland Builders' Exchange, W. M. Hunt called attention to the growth of sentiment among the inhabitants of cities in favor of civic ornamentation, with especial reference to Cleveland. From this address, which has application to all popular communities, the following paragraphs are taken:

"Like majestic columns supporting a structure of imposing grandeur, the chief cities of our country emphasize in bold relief the material prosperity of the American people. In this peristyle of native genius, industrial architecture has achieved its crowning glory, has given to the world a new art.

"Tremendous is the responsibility resting upon the present and succeeding generations that this impressive evidence of American enterprise may ever attest the highest ideals of a patriotic citizenship. We may well direct attention to the civic responsibility resting upon every individual of these great municipalities. One-fifth of our country's population is accredited to twelve cities. The political and industrial life of the nation is dominated by them; the social and religious life of eighty millions of people is immeasurably influenced by their example.

"Provincial communities have reached the scale of the metropolis within a single century. By maintaining the ratio of the past, their future accretion of population will be stupendous. Is not, therefore, the question of proper government of these cities, and the rightful regulation of their industries and their society, the most important of all our great national problems?

"It would seem appropriate that attention be specifically directed to conditions which obtain with respect to our home city, and that we consider with lofty resolution municipal needs and our civic duty. Cleveland has displayed an aptitude for organization unequalled by any other city. Our growth has been possible only because of the co-operation of numerous effectively directed civic agencies. A great city is but a business enterprise of larger scope and more numerous ramifications. It differs from individual enterprise in that it represents the organization of varied interests competing with other great cities of the country for business supremacy. The same elements which contribute to the success of an individual enterprise insure a city's prosperity and continued expansion. Our rapid development makes ever present problems of grave character, affecting the welfare of our community. Conditions industrially and socially effect changes even while laws are being enacted for their regulation, hence wise statesmanship is demanded in the direction of every department of civic government. Responsibility rests primarily with the individual citizen. No man should be neutral with regard to any question his intelligence enables him to understand. His convictions should become a part of the public conscience, to be exercised for the common good.

"We are constrained to ask what is our destiny as a city? What is to be our inheritance as the result of municipal prosperity? There is promise that we shall emerge from this era of commercialism to a higher plane; that the aesthetic shall be more a factor in our progress and development. It is a curious anomaly that art and architecture reached the highest state of perfection in the earlier centuries, and under despotic rule. Throughout Europe and Asia may be seen architectural creations that have furnished themes to artists for all succeeding generations; stately piles, symbols of power, graceful in every feature, suggesting culture and refinement, sumptuous in ornamentation and indicating great wealth.

"It would seem that there has been a debasement of the arts and architecture under republican forms of government. It is true that industrial development has been greatest in those countries where sovereign power has been vested in the people. However, America furnishes a notable example of the debasing influence of commercialism upon the development of the higher arts. Artistic feeling and expression are subordinated to utility and revenue.

"With a sweep of the hand, as late as the last century, Napoleon accomplished the reconstruction of Paris—now admittedly the most beautiful city in the world. In a republic the will of the people must be respected, hence development of the highest art in municipal architecture in American cities is dependent upon an awakened public appreciation of the beneficence of architectural beauty.

"To Cleveland for many years has been accredited the most beautiful street in the world. Our rapidly developing park system is the envy of sister municipalities. The attention of two continents is now directed toward the plan for grouping our public buildings. The industrial enterprise of our people is acknowledged throughout the country. The possibilities in the development of the outer harbor for the advancement of our lake traffic are being realized. Monumental buildings of commercial character are giving to the business section a metropolitan aspect. The magnificence of our private residences indicates the wealth and culture of our community. The fraternal and social spirit of the city is dignified by permanent homes of impressive character. The religious activities of the city are characterized by stately ecclesiastic structures which attest a high moral status. Our educational system has been carefully fostered by wise and patriotic counsel. Our magnificent schools and college buildings creditably bespeak an intellectual people.

"However commendable are the conditions recited, there is a lamentable deficiency in organized, intelligently directed movement, contemplating the fullest realization of our opportunities in municipal architecture. Like other cities of rapid growth and industrial character, we are obliged to design our house after it has been partly erected and tenanted by an ever-increasing family. Our pride is coupled with mortification because of the peculiar construction of the civic edifice which we inhabit. Our guests coming to the city are ushered through a busy workshop, the index of our commercial importance, and reach our drawing room through a dirty and unkempt basement. We have a right to demand that there be built by the railroads which center here, and which have made millions from the traffic and commerce of Cleveland, a vestibule, if you please, of such character as will fittingly complete the facade of our civic house.

"Our hostelries are creditably adequate in their provision of guest chambers and culinary facilities; recreation and amusement are abundantly supplied; but for our intellectual betterment, and the sustaining of an ever-increasing interest in music and the arts, there is an imperative need for an assembly hall to symbolize our civic intellectuality.

"We further need a select art council, composed of men chosen with special reference to their ability to conduct successfully a campaign in the interest of municipal art. We have evidence of the results of the unselfish labor of such an institution in our park system which for many years received the direction of a body of this character. In a broader sense such an association as I have suggested would direct its efforts toward beautifying our city as a whole. No public or private enterprise or improvement should be contemplated without due consideration of architectural beauty and harmony; such monstrosities as are frequently the result of selfish consideration alone should be prevented by the timely expression of a disapproving public sentiment, through the medium of a civic art commission.



"Cleveland is to-day one of the most talked-of cities in the world. Wide publicity has been given to the plan in contemplation to group our public buildings and to create a court of honor under the supervision of eminent architects. As I have stated, the proper direction of supervision of these individual features, intending to create a "City Beautiful," is insufficient. That our municipal authorities, especially in future public enterprises, may be properly mindful of architectural beauty as well as utility, there should be created such a committee or commission as I have named. The opportunities for effective work of such a commission seem limitless. Its influence would be felt at once in the prevention of future abuses, and, in due time, in the correction of existing evils. A definite city plan should be suggested; thoroughfares and important civic centers, street terminals, and intersections, parks, and their approaches and connections, viaducts and bridges, public walks and pavements, gardening, street shelters and conveniences, arcades, public service utilities and fixtures, street signs and advertising; the location, architectural style and decoration of all buildings and grounds of a public or semi-public character—all should be properly supervised with a view to civic refinement.

"What may be termed 'street architecture' demands rigid enforcement of an established artistic plan that our principal thoroughfares and street intersections may be developed along artistic lines. Certain sections of our city should be regarded as distinctly residential, and no encroachment of the commercial should be permitted except by common consent. A proper appreciation of the artistic, and a combination of the æsthetic with the practical, in the development of a municipality, are an industrial stimulus. The most cherished possessions of many continental cities are their boulevards and embankments, plazas and public places, free from the profanity of incongruous elements which defeat a complete and harmonious scheme. Municipal art is the chief asset of many of these cities.

"The peculiar topography of our city gives ample opportunity for the exercise of artistic taste in civic improvements; the lake front, the ridges surrounding the city, the division of the city into sections by the sinuous Cuyahoga, the radiation of the main arteries of traffic from a given center. Practically one-third of our city lies west of the Cuyahoga river. Communication at present is by means of the Superior street and the central viaducts, woefully inadequate as serving the purpose for which they were intended.

"These separated sections of the city should be connected by broad thoroughfares, at an elevation which would make possible uninterrupted intercourse. The approaches should be attractive, an invitation to traffic rather than a barrier. No investment could be made by the city of Cleveland that would stimulate the growth of the city more than additional viaducts which would bring the east and the west sections into closer communication with each other.

"A custom almost universal in our principal cities affords in our places of burial opportunity for the development of the highest art in sculpture and design. The skill of the landscape artist here finds its best expression; the graceful monolith, the stately mausoleum, the mortuary, the gateways, all of beauty and of commanding view. A completeness of scheme is impressed upon us, suggesting foresight and artistic treatment of hill and dale that all may contribute to a harmonious whole. The best talent available has been employed that these final resting places may be silent cities of beauty and comfort to those who mourn. While it is fitting that we give this evidence of our continued devotion to those who have gone before us, do we not owe to the living more consideration? If we have in our hearts the approbation of so beautiful a city of the dead, why not build a city beautiful for the living?"

## Unionism and the Open Shop

Exponents of unionism make the mistake of assuming that the protest of employers against the "closed shop" and arraying themselves in favor of the "open shop" is a manifestation of antagonism to stamp out organized labor. Nowhere in the history of American industrialism, and nowhere in the statements of those toward whom labor leaders are so inimical, is there ground for such assertion. Staunch adherents of the policy which they call the "union shop" number only a small fraction of America's toilers, and there are millions of them not affiliated in any way with organizations, nor are they reduced to a "bare subsistence," and whose homes are far from "wretched and desolate."

Labor organization is a desirable and perhaps necessary institution in the industrial world of to-day; but its existence will depend on the ability of its leaders to recognize basic and essential principles of right. The open shop, the freedom of the individual to determine for himself the conditions under which he will labor or will employ labor, is one of those principles, and unionism will do wisely to recognize it.

## An Attractive Living Room.

Attention is being directed to the illustration of a living room in the home of W. P. Fraser, a well-known banker. The room is finished in dark oak. The large mantel surmounts a large open fire grate for burning wood, and when logs or oak or hickory crackle on the antique andirons on a winter's night, the effect, it may readily be imagined, is both cheering and comfort-imparting.



Bronze Lamp in U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, Pa.

## Smoker of the Builders League

Members of the Builders' Exchange League are waking up to a realization of the fact that business and sociability can be happily harmonized at times. At a corporation meeting on the evening of December 12th, called to transact routine business and to elect delegates to the National Building Trades Employers' Association, Thomas Lane and S. Keighley were chosen.

Following the business session a social session was held, a feature of which was the serving of a luncheon. When the cigars had been reached Reese Lindsay took charge and in apt and happy phrases, combining wit and wisdom in due proportion, introduced various speakers. Among the latter, as guest of honor, was Arthur A. Hamerschlag, director of the Carnegie Technical Schools, who told those present what it is aimed to teach the students of the schools in relation to building construction and relative trades. Various others made brief and pertinent addresses, and when the session adjourned it was the unanimous declaration of all present that such sessions should be held frequently, as they are both profitable and enjoyable.

## A Convincing Tribute to Excellence

It is beyond question that a concern that succeeds in winning the award of the highest prizes for excellence of design and quality at successive national and international expositions of its products can justly claim first place in trade consideration. The juries of award at such expositions are always composed of men possessed of special knowledge, high technical training and large experience respecting the particular exhibit.

In sanitary fixtures and features, safety, convenience and attractiveness of design are considerations, and it is gratifying, or should be, to Pittsburghers to learn that the Standard Sanitary Manufacturing Company has been awarded the highest awards and honors and as well the grand prize for its exhibit of standard porcelain enameled baths and plumbing and household and public building sanitary equipments. Here is a list of awards that convincingly testifies to the premiership of the Standard Sanitary Manufacturing Company's wares: World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1893; International Exposition, Omaha, 1898; National Export Exposition, Philadelphia, 1899; Exposition Universelle, Paris, 1900; Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo, 1901; International Exposition, Glasgow, Scotland, 1901; Interstate Exposition, Charleston, 1902; Fifth National Industrial Exposition, Osaka, Japan, 1903; Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St. Louis, 1904.

## The Christmas Delineator

The December *Delineator*, with its message of good cheer and helpfulness, will be welcomed in every home. The fashion pages are unusually attractive, illustrating and describing the very latest modes in a way to make their construction during the busy festive season a pleasure instead of a task, and the literary and pictorial features are of rare excellence. A selection of Love Songs from the Wagner Operas, rendered into English by Richard de Gallienne and beautifully illustrated in colors by J. C. Leyendecker, occupies a prominent place, and a chapter in the Composers' Series, relating the Romance of Wagner and Cosima, is an interesting supplement to the lyrics. A very clever paper entitled "The Court Circles of the Republic," describing some unique phases of Washington social life, is from an unnamed contributor, who is said to write from the inner circles of society. There are short stories from the pens of F. Hopkinson Smith, Rob-

ert Grant, Alice Brown, Mary Stewart Cutting and Elmore Elliott Peake, and such interesting writers as Julia Magruder, L. Frank Baum, and Grace MacGowan Cooke hold the attention of the children. Many Christmas suggestions are given in needlework and the Cookery pages are redolent of the Christmas feast.

## Biography of A Sequoias

A remarkable recuperative power following an injury was found after examination of the *Sequoias*, or red-wood trees, of the Converse Basin, California. The effects of certain tremendous forest fires occurring centuries ago are registered in the trunks of these trees and the record completely concealed by subsequent healthy growth. Among a number of similar cases the most instructive record of these ancient forest fires was observed in a tree of moderate size—about 15 feet in diameter—five feet from the ground. It was 270 feet in height and 2,171 years old.

This tree when felled had an enormous surface burn on one side thirty feet in height and occupying eighteen feet of the circumference of the tree; this was found to have been due to a fire occurring in A. D. 1797. The tree when cut in 1900, had already occupied itself for 103 years in its efforts to repair this injury, its method being the ingrowing of the new tissue from each margin of the great black wound. When the tree was cut the records of three other fires were revealed. The history of the tree was as follows: 271 B. C. began its existence. The first year of the Christian era it was about four feet in diameter above the base. 245 A. D., at 516 years of age, occurred a burning on the trunk three feet wide. One hundred and five years were occupied in covering this wound with new tissue. For 1,196 years no further injuries were registered. 1441 A. D., at 1,712 years of age, the tree was burned a second time in two long grooves one and two feet wide, respectively. Each had its own system of repair. One hundred and thirty-nine years of growth followed, including the time occupied by covering the wounds. 1580 A. D., at 1,851 years of age, occurred another fire, causing a burn on the trunk two feet wide, which took 56 years to cover with new tissue. Two hundred and seventeen years of growth followed this burn. 1797 A. D., when the tree was 2,068 years old, a tremendous fire attacked it, burning the great scar 18 feet wide. One hundred and three years, between 1797 and 1900, had enabled the tree to reduce the exposed area of the burn to about 14 feet in width.

## NEW DINING SERVICE TO CHICAGO AND CLEVELAND OVER PENNSYLVANIA LINES.

"The Chicago Special" has new café car serving supper a la carte immediately after leaving Pittsburgh, 6:30 p. m., Central time, and breakfast a la carte before reaching Chicago, 7:35 a. m. "The Cleveland Special" has café car service, supper a la carte, leaving Pittsburgh 5:00 p. m., arriving Cleveland 8:15 p. m.

## DINING A LA CARTE IN CAFE CARS TO CHICAGO AND CLEVELAND.

Over Pennsylvania Lines. New café car runs in "The Chicago" Special, leaving Pittsburgh, 6:30 p. m., Central time, serving supper and breakfast a la carte, passengers arriving Chicago 7:35 a. m., ready for business engagements; also new café car in "The Cleveland Special," serving supper a la carte, leaving Pittsburgh 5:00 p. m., arriving Cleveland 8:15 p. m.



**A Veteran Builder.**

One of the veteran builders of Greater Pittsburgh is F. C. Martsolf, who for 35 years has been among those who have stood in the first rank of progressive contractors, but of late years he has devoted his chief energies to building small homes, which have been sold on terms in a manner that has contributed importantly to home ownership among folk of modest means. Diligent in his business, Mr. Martsolf has verified the proverb of the "wise man," in that he has "stood before kings"—of finance, which addenda are made necessary by the conditions of society on the Western Hemisphere.

### **An Early English Home**

An attractive example after the early English model of residential architecture is the fine home of W. R. Ray, on Sewickley Heights, conceived and designed by Messrs. Proctor & Wass, in association, and constructed by John H. Trimble & Bro. This residence possesses that charm of appearance, comfort-giving, coziness and other attributes that have so vividly impressed the traveler through rural England, where they abound, surrounded by spacious gardens. The transplantation has been too recent to give to our American replicas that mellowness that age alone can impart, but the style of architecture gives to our suburban and rural districts a charm because of the contrasts presented by comparison with other styles of home architecture, and in years to come they will be referred to and admired quite as much as have been the homes of England, from which suggestions for their creation were obtained.

### **Fine Specimen of Bank Architecture**

One of the notable evolutions in building in recent years is the large number of banking buildings that exemplify architectural art and taste in their construction. Pittsburgh has several of such buildings that challenge attention, but there are a number of other cities where like fostering of art in architecture is manifest. A notably attractive building is that of the Citizens Savings and Trust Company, of Cleveland, illustrations of some of the beauties of which are shown in the elevation and a section of what is known as

the "fountain room." The sculptures that ornament the gable of this front are notable for their clear, cameo-like appearance, relieving the subjects typifying Commerce, Industry, land and lake Transportation, Agriculture, Science and Philosophy.

The building is 104x180 feet in dimensions and 185 feet from pavement to cornice. The first two stories are constructed of granite, above which Kittanning brick and white terra cotta are used in admirable combination. The building throughout is fireproof, elegantly finished and equipped, and is alike creditable to the company that erected it and the architects who designed and planned it, who were Messrs. Hubbell & Benes of Cleveland.

### **The Oliver Building.**

One of the innovations that promises to become widely imitated, is exemplified in the new Oliver building at Sixth avenue and Wood street. This is the first large building to be constructed entirely of cream enameled tile, and as each block is finished in Renaissance designs in low relief, with ornate mouldings, friezes and cornice, it attracts much deserved attention. The building was planned and constructed under the supervision of D. H. Burnham & Co., and the tiling was manufactured and emplaced by the Northwestern Terra-Cotta Company, Scott & White being the Pittsburgh representatives. The tiles are placed together with one-eighth inch spacing with white cement. An advantage possessed by this material is that it can be washed down with sponge and water at a cost so trifling, as compared with the cleaning of brick, stone or marble, that the material of which it is constructed has a particular applicability for Pittsburgh.

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