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The R. A. I. C. Call

The official announcement of the General Annual Assembly of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada to be held at Ottawa, October 1 and 2, stresses the point that "every Canadian architect is expected to be present." It is at least to be hoped that the attendance will in every way be representative of the importance of the Institute and the very worthy objects it is endeavoring to further. Following almost immediately on the heels of the successful meeting at London of the Ontario Association, the assembly will undoubtedly enlarge on a number of questions discussed at the time, and take steps tending to greatly broaden the scope of association activities in the various provinces.

Supplemental to the programme which has been sent out, it is announced Mr. Charles Harris Whitaker of the American Institute of Architects, Washington, D.C., will speak on "Development affecting the Practice of Architecture in the United States," "The Congress of the Building Industry of Chicago," "The Post-

War Committee of the A. I. A.," and "The General Tendencies which have paralyzed the Building Industry."

Mr. Eric Brown of Ottawa, Director of the National Art Gallery of Canada, will also deliver a talk, his subject being "Canadian Art and the Canadian Art Gallery." Other speakers will be Mr. Percy E. Nobbs, who will discuss "War Memorials," and President J. P. Anglin, of the Canadian Building and Construction Industries, who will speak on "Labor and the Building Industries."

Not only is the programme in general an attractive one, but the issues to be discussed lie very close to the interests of all architects to-day.

Besides this the Ottawa architects have organized an architectural exhibition in connection with the Assembly. Among the exhibits there will be some interesting subjects from the Department of Public Works, as well as a number of drawings of the new Parliament Buildings. An interesting collection of drawings and photographs on housing will also be shown.

Housing Progress in Ontario

According to information made available by the Railway and Municipal Board, the end of the year will have seen about 2,200 houses erected in Ontario under the Ontario Housing Act, 1919. During last year 1,184 houses were erected and 1,000 have been erected or are in course of erection in 1920. The total costs of these houses and the land on which they were built is approximately \$8,800,000. The persons who have received loans have contributed toward the cost of the houses over one million dollars. About two-thirds of the houses have been erected on lots already owned by the persons building. Ontario leads the Dominion in the matter of municipally and Provincially assisted housing.

The foregoing, however, does not apply to Toronto where little progress has been made in housing despite the fact that accommodations are badly needed, and as this issue goes to press the Board of Control is again proposing a home building programme and have sent on for confirmation by the Council the names of E. L. Cousins of the Toronto Board, John T. Russell, shipbuilder; W. H. Smith, Chairman Social Service Commission; Geo. Barron, merchant, and Lt.-Col. Boyd Magee to constitute a new Commission.

The proposal is to erect 500 houses of a cheaper class than was formerly erected by the Housing Commission to be sold or rented to those who have been residents of the city for two years and to loan bona fide builders (not speculators) an advance of \$1,000.