

that now so strongly opposes compulsory education in any shape or form) the following resolution was unanimously adopted and given to the public:

"Whereas, The question of registration of architects has been brought up by the press, and as it is a matter with which the newly formed Institute of Architects of Canada, and the Ontario Association of Architects are attempting to deal, the club wishes to put itself on record as follows: THAT THE TORONTO ARCHITECTURAL CLUB IS NOT OPPOSED TO A PROPER FORM OF REGISTRATION OF ARCHITECTS, BASED ON EDUCATION, AND UNDER DIRECT GOVERNMENT CONTROL, but it is opposed to the form or forms of registration put forth by the Institute of Architects of Canada and the Ontario Association of Architects, which would mean giving the control of the profession over into the hands of certain privileged bodies of the profession."

The position of the Toronto Architectural Society as declared in the above resolution was a most commendable one, and it appeared for a moment as though some common basis of procedure could be agreed upon whereby the Ontario Legislature could be induced to give some legal status to the profession.

Realizing this, the Ontario Association dropped their former programme and endorsed the policy of placing the conduct of examinations etc., into the hands of the Government (a policy endorsed by the Toronto Society in their resolution). Then we again have a storm of protest. Against what? Against that very thing proposed by those who now oppose it. Mr. Horwood and Mr. Eden Smith have recently written letters to CONSTRUCTION, in which they voiced the views of the Toronto Society of Architects, and in which they opposed any and all forms of compulsory education.

It has been argued that legislation would tend to demoralize the profession. Such an unwarranted contention is hardly worth consideration. Wherever the law has been in force, it has proven to have exactly the opposite effect of that outlined by its opponents in Ontario.

In England a measure of this nature is now proposed. In South Africa the Transvaal Institute of Architects has drawn up a bill to provide for registration. In New South Wales a bill has been presented by the Institute of Architects that promises to meet with success. The State of Missouri has recently enacted a law whereby the architectural profession receives legal recognition, and while the law is moderate in its provisions, its enactment serves to show that the results obtained from the licensing acts already in existence in Illinois, New Jersey and California have operated in a manner such as has recommended them to the legislature in the other states of the American Union. The Missouri Law limits architectural services to buildings of \$10,000 and over, and provides for a Board of Examiners, one member of which is to be a professor of the State University. In general principles it is similar to the Illinois law at its enactment twelve years ago, and undoubtedly will eventually gain full control of the profession in the State. To give some idea of the practical working out of the Illinois law, we quote below from the last report of the Illinois State Board of Architects:

"The semi-annual spring class examination for license to practice the profession of architecture in the State of Illinois, was held at the University of Illinois, Urbana, April, 8 and 9. Thirty-four candidates appeared for examination. The Examination Committee reported at the regular meeting of the board held at Chicago on the 16th instant. Eleven candidates who had passed the examination on all subjects were awarded certificates entitling them to license. Seven others received an average of seventy and over, but received less than sixty in some topics. They were passed conditionally, and will have an opportunity to be examined again on those topics only at a future time, before license can be issued to

them. Eighteen candidates who had received less than seventy marks were rejected. At the meeting held April 16, Frank Easeberg, of Chicago, was on trial for dishonest practice in using his seal to enable another party to obtain a permit from the Department of Buildings. The case was continued to the May meeting of the Board. The prosecutors of the Board reported that on April 12, Lewis H. Sturges, of Indianapolis, had been convicted for practicing architecture without a license at Kansas, Edgar County, Illinois, and on April 15, Eugene E. Rother had been convicted for practicing architecture without a license at Chicago. He was fined \$25 and costs."

To those who contend that a licensing law may appear all right in principle, but that it is not effective in operation, the above report should prove more than interesting.

THE ENGINEERING RECORD recently made the following comment upon the general operation of the Illinois law:

"The Architects' License Law of Illinois has now been in force about ten years and the recent report of the State Board of Examiners of Architects gives a fairly clear view of the effect of such legislation. Since the Board was organized, 1,034 licenses have been issued and 326 have lapsed for one reason or another, leaving 708 in force. Apparently about 700 licenses are at present ample in the State, for this number has been fairly constant for some time. It is significant that a large proportion of the architects who were licensed in 1897, without examination no longer maintain their own offices and their places have been taken by younger and better educated men.

"In carrying out the terms of the law during the last two years it was necessary to revoke only four licenses for cause, two of them being cases of intentional violations of the building laws of Chicago, one a case of gross recklessness in connection with a theatre in East St. Louis, and one for dishonesty in placing a license seal on the plans of a building made by an unlicensed person to secure a permit from the Chicago Building Department. During the last two years seven persons have been prosecuted and convicted for practicing architecture without a license, and four attempts to form corporations for the practice of architecture without regard to the State law were abandoned at the instance of the State Board. Two prosecutions for revoking licenses were unsuccessful owing to the apparent belief of the juries that the penalties which the municipal judges would impose would be too great for the offenders to pay. As a whole, the law seems to be working very satisfactorily."

In the face of this most convincing evidence it is hard for us to see upon what legitimate grounds a practical, unbiased architect can intelligently oppose such legislation, legislation that has operated for the benefit of the public, the contractor, the honest builder and the architect alike wherever it has been enacted.

We are not inclined to deal further with the objections to this proposed law, based solely upon theoretical or problematical argument, but we beg to assure those who do not agree with us on this question that our columns are always open for such data or argument as may be advanced that deals with any feature of the actual operation of such laws as are already in existence.

DAILY PRESS EDITOR COMMENTS
UPON THE SUBJECT OF "BECOMING
AN ARCHITECT." A PITIFULLY HUM-
OROUS SERIES OF ANSWERS TO AN
UNSUSPECTING READER.

NEWSPAPER EDITORS are supposed, by most people, to be all-wise creatures. If an argument arises between two men over some event or character in history, or some point in law, of the geographical location of a city, lake or island, they appeal to the all-knowing editor of the question and answer