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Marshall Field Gives Family Residence to Industrial Art School

FAMOUS PRAIRIE AVENUE MANSION TO BE REMODELED

Built by Noted Merchant 60 Years Ago.

BY AL CHASE.
[Real Estate Editor.]

Marshall Field III., grandson of Chicago's famous merchant and founder of Marshall Field & Co., yesterday made a gift of the sixty year old Field mansion at 1905 Prairie avenue to the Association of Arts and Industries. Instead of being wrecked, as recently contemplated, the distinguished old residence, once a center of Chicago's society of a generation ago, is to be converted into an industrial art school to promote good design in industry.

MARSHALL FIELD.
[Acme Photo.]

The gift was accepted at a meeting of the board of directors of the association held in the offices of the Illinois Manufacturers' association, according to Col. William Nelson Pelouze, president of the Association of Arts and Industries.

Called Admirably Suited.

"The gift of Marshall Field III. of his family home makes it possible to conduct a school of unusual interest and importance," said Miss Norma K. Stahle, who has been executive director of the association since it was formed in 1922.

"The twenty-five room residence will be used for offices, library, and exhibition space, design rooms, and lighter machinery. Heavy machinery will be housed in the stables and garages. The fact that there are no nearby buildings makes every room light and admirably suited for design classes."

Marshall Field, grandfather of the present Marshall Field, erected the Prairie avenue mansion in what was then Chicago's south side Gold Coast, from plans by Richard Morris Hunt of New York.

First Home Electrically Lighted.

In style it is Neo-Grec, with walls of brick, trim of stone and a slate mansard roof. It was the first house in Chicago to have electric lights. A high fence of iron grill work surrounds the grounds.

"The interior has noble rooms," commented a Chicago architect. "The circular stairway at the far end of the central hall is a masterpiece in woodcraft. At the stair end of the hall stands a clock built in England in 1793 that required winding only once a year."

The widow of Marshall Field, now 82 years old, lives in Washington, D. C. She was the widow of Arthur

ADD NEW UNIT TO NEIGHBORHOOD STORE CHAIN



The above Leader department store, built at the southeast corner of 26th street and Turner avenue in 1929, has been acquired by Goldblatt Brothers, Inc., which will begin operating the store as the eighth unit in a chain of neighborhood department stores about Jan. 31. Details are

Caton, son of Judge John D. Caton of early Chicago fame. The Caton residence on Calumet avenue adjoined the Field mansion. The first Mrs. Field died in 1896 and Caton died in 1903. Field married Mrs. Caton in 1905, a year before his death.

Mansion Little Used Lately.

The Prairie avenue mansion has been little used since the death of Marshall Field, as the children of Marshall Field Jr. spent much of their time in England. Gradually the servant staff was reduced to a caretaker and housekeeper. Practically all of the furniture has been given to old family servants—with the stipulation that nothing ever be sold—claimed by the Field grandchildren or assembled in preparation for a Marshall Field & Co. exhibit.

It is understood that Mrs. Marshall Field some time ago turned the Prairie avenue property over to Marshall Field III. for him to dispose of as he saw fit. For a time wrecking was contemplated. Later arrangements for the bequest of the home to the Association of Arts and Industries were made by Richard H. Peel and George Richardson, representing Field; and Miss Stahle, Glenn G. Hayes, and Col. Pelouze representing the association.

Will Be Remodeled Shortly.

"Mr. Field, who lives on Long Island, has received a number of suggestions for the disposition of the Chicago family home, but none was deemed as worthy and suitable as that of converting it into a school of industrial art," said Peel.

"It is in the interests of industry and the growing demand for prac-

tically trained designers that the association has decided to establish its industrial art school in the old Field mansion," said Col. Pelouze. "Work of transforming the house into offices, classrooms, and workshops, and the spacious grounds into a campus will begin shortly."

Miss Stahle, in outlining the work of the association, said: "The aim of the school will be to train designers especially for industries of the Chicago area. Special stress will be laid on woodworking and metal departments, as they cover a wide range of industries, including furniture, electrical products, lighting fixtures, hardware, etc."

More Departments Later.

"Other departments will include interior architecture and decoration, printing and advertising, and book-binding. Textiles, pottery, and glass departments will be added later."

It is expected that classes will open in the Field mansion with the fall term of 1936. At present the association's industrial art school is conducted at the Art Institute.

Among the prominent citizens who have contributed in the past to the efforts of the association in carrying on its industrial art movement were: Julius Rosenwald, William Wrigley Jr., Charles H. Swift, James A. Patten, Edith Rockefeller McCormick, Sewell L. Avery, Ernest R. Graham, George Lytton, Martin A. Ryerson, Samuel Insull, and Mrs. Charles V. Hickox.

Among the directors of the association are E. H. Powell, Adolph Karpen, Mrs. George Woodruff, Alfred Decker, James L. Donnelly, Glenn Hayes, James D. Cunningham, and George R. Meyercord.

ONE-TIME SOCIAL LANDMARK



The Marshall Field mansion at 1905 Prairie avenue, erected by the famous merchant sixty years ago, has been given to the Association of Arts and Industries for use as an industrial art school. Details of the gift are given in an adjoining column.

OLD PULLMAN HOUSES TO BE MODERNIZED

Two Completed Units Are Open Today.

First steps in a move to modernize twenty-five of the half century old brick blocks of homes in Pullman have been taken and two of the completed residences will be open for public inspection today, according to Donald O'Toole of Donald O'Toole & Co. The two modernized old timers are at 11258 and 11260 Stephenson avenue, Pullman, and will be open this afternoon from 2 until 5 o'clock. The modernization has been done by the Pullman Trust and Savings bank and Donald O'Toole & Co., cooperating under the direction of Bartholomew O'Toole, president of the bank.

Irving K. Pond, in a recent article on "Pullman—America's First Planned Industrial Town" published in the monthly bulletin of the Illinois Society of Architects, has this to say regarding the community built in 1880: "There was not a square foot of shoddy construction, not a wall of plaster board or stucco, hardly a wooden shingle; but walls were of brick, roofs of slate, all laid by mechanics who took pride in their work." Pond was associated with S. S. Beemen, Chicago architect, who designed the many buildings of Pullman.

Have Modern Fittings.

"The two sturdy brick homes which we have transformed into modern residences, are equipped with porcelain-on-steel kitchenette units recessed in nooks off the dining rooms," said Donald O'Toole. "The units contain electric refrigerators, ovens and ranges, sinks and fitted cabinets, lighted through concealed fixtures."

"Walls and floor of the bathrooms are of a new permanent, waterproof, nonfading and noncracking material. Chromium plated plumbing fixtures are used throughout. Modern warm air heating plants have been installed. Interiors have been decorated in light colored wall papers. Stairways and halls are covered with the same carpets used in Pullman cars. The exteriors are of English design. J. T. Hetherington of Beverly Hills designed the exteriors. W. G. Carnegie planned the interiors."

Goldblatts Buy Store

Goldblatt Bros., Inc., yesterday announced completion of a deal to take over the Leader department store at the southeast corner of West 26th street and Turner avenue. Already operating seven large neighborhood department stores, Goldblatts will open the eighth unit on or about Jan. 31. The firm's ninth store will be one acquired in Gary some months ago but not yet operated by them.

Erected in 1929 at a reported cost of approximately \$1,350,000, the three