

## Arx News

The following Armour men passed the May, 1930, Illinois Architectural examinations: George Fredrick Kleinhaus, '29. Harold R. Lutz, '29. Wm. N. Setterburg, '29. Albert F. Heino, '26.

In our issue of May 20th, it was announced that Alexander Bacci, '26, won the Thirteenth Annual Scholarship of the Architectural Sketch Club of Chicago. The scholarship award included a gift of \$1,200 to be used in making a six-months' tour of Europe. Mr. E. S. Hall of the donor's committee, recently received a letter from the winner, which is printed here in full:

Frankfort-on-the-Main,  
Germany,  
August 16th, 1930.

Mr. Emery Stanford Hall,  
My Dear Mr. Hall:

Today ends our second week in Germany, and I may add that due to rains and cold it has not been very pleasant. However, in spite of this, it has been interesting enough to keep us hopping around from one town to another.

Berlin, and in fact all the larger cities of Germany, seem very modern to me. Their system of living is not unlike ours in the states, and even in the smaller and more picturesque towns you are impressed with German efficiency and ingenuity.

We plan to stay in Germany several weeks more and then continue on into Italy. In all probability we shall return to Vienna the first of November. I am writing from Frankfort but haven't seen the town as yet. Tomorrow we shall see several outlying suburbs, the addresses having been given to me by some students at the "Kunstgalerie" in Halle, which, by the way, was one of the most interesting towns on our trip. The school, which dates back to the year 1000, is situated at the foot of an old fort on the Saale River, and in these buildings, surrounded by tradition, are created some of the most unusual and original designs in furniture, jewelry, and weaving we have yet seen. The students were very much interested in what we are doing in America and seem to think the U. S. is a haven for starving artists. I did my best to change their impression.

When we have done Frankfort

## Engineer's Device Now Fools the Baby

A young electrical engineer having a baby, a wife that worries about it whenever they go out, a salary so modest that he cannot employ a nursemaid, and an old cigar box, put his mind to work a few weeks ago and evolved a pretty neat little contraption, something like the telephone but more like the Televox. To one side of the cigar box he attached a telephone diaphragm. Inside it he placed transformers, radio tubes, coils, all arranged according to the mystical formulas of electricity. From the bottom two wires lead off, one to a light socket, the other to a buzzer in a neighbor's apartment. Now, whenever he and his wife go out of an evening, the cigar box stands by the baby's crib, silently watching. Baby doesn't cry very often, but when it does, the first yip out of it sets the diaphragm vibrating, the various other sections of the instrument respond, and the upshot is that, two floors down in the neighbor's apartment, the buzzer emits a warning buzz. The neighbor is a good soul, and knows just what to do in such cases.

we shall go on to Worms and from there make several excursions to Darmstadt and Heidelberg, which should prove interesting. I don't have enough imagination to describe our journey to Stuttgart, Murenbach, and Munich, so maybe it's best to close this letter and write one after I reach Italy.

(Signed) Alexander H. Bacci.

During the summer months there occurred an open competition in which a design for a coordinate memorial wall in the lower lobby of the Passavant Memorial Hospital on the McKinlock campus of Northwestern was the subject. Dave Chapman, '32, entered, and although pitted against seasoned professional architects, won second prize of \$100.

Mr. Frank Lloyd Wright spoke in the Fullerton Hall of the Art Institute on Wednesday, October 1st. The idea of his talk might be summed up in a short phrase of Carlyle's, "The Ideal is within thyself, thy condition is but the stuff thou art to shape that same Ideal out of."

## REVIEWS

### CORONET

MANUEL KROMOFF

While the majority of the books being published today are of the light and interesting variety, occasionally one breaks through and presents a new type of novel. "Coronet," by Manuel Kromoff is indeed a story of this type.

The entire book, and it is quite a thick one at that, is based on a gold coronet and a silver whip, and around these two symbolic items a story that ranges from the medieval days to the present is woven.

The book is replete with descriptive matter concerning the various historical ages that it portrays, but its real charm lies in the interesting narratives wound around the whip and the coronet in each period.

One first meets them in the period of the Renaissance, and the theme in that portion concerns an errant goldsmith's apprentice and his rise to power through the pig industry. This, like all other portions of the book consists of local color intermingled with a rapidly moving and fascinating plot structure.

From this period the story jumps to the time of the Napoleonic invasion of Russia and the framework is wound on the adventures of two lads who enlist in the army. Many sides of the life of Napoleon and his men are revealed here in a light somewhat different than the usual one.

The scene then changes to the post-war days, and gives a chance for more of this descriptive narration. From this point we move through the age of Chopin, and he in turn is sketched.

A sweeping view of Russian life is included through the lives of the Burnin family; they are the owners of the whip and are a most interesting set to read about. As a fitting climax to series of adventures, the story then returns to Chicago, in the year 1919, when we see the coronet finally come to rest in the home of a pork packer. Thus, after all the adventures that the coronet, the symbol of power, has witnessed, it finally returns to the same environment as its beginning, that of pigs.

The book has been rated as a "best seller" for some time, and when one reads it, the skill of the author and his erudite knowledge of conditions are revealed. It is a long book to read, but it has a peculiar charm that will not permit one to desist.

## A. E. Erickson, '19 Dies After Illness

Word was recently received of the death of A. E. Erickson, Arch. '19, who died after a short illness on August 19.

While at the Institute he was active, in that he was a member of the Armour Architectural Society, Beta Psi Fraternity, and the "Seabird" in 1919. He was on the Track Team in 1916, and the Class Basketball Championship Teams of 1916-17, 1917-18. He was chairman of the Architectural Social Committee, and aided in the various dances and social programs. When the War came he enlisted and received a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the artillery. After the great conflict he opened an architectural office and continued in that capacity.

Five students at the University of Illinois were recently fined \$12.50 for playing baseball in the street.

## Professor William White Convert

(Continued from page 2) can Association for Advancement of Science, and The National Geographic Society.

His hobbies and interests outside of school work consist of collecting stamps, hiking, fishing and tennis playing. Last season he succeeded Professor Tibbals as coach of the tennis team. He is also interested in building radio receivers and amateur photography. Two being company, his latest interest is touring by automobile. During his last vacation he drove with his wife to the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas and Missouri.

It has been found at the University of California that the athletic leaders among the freshman class are only average in ability as demonstrated in a series of athletic tests recently conducted there.

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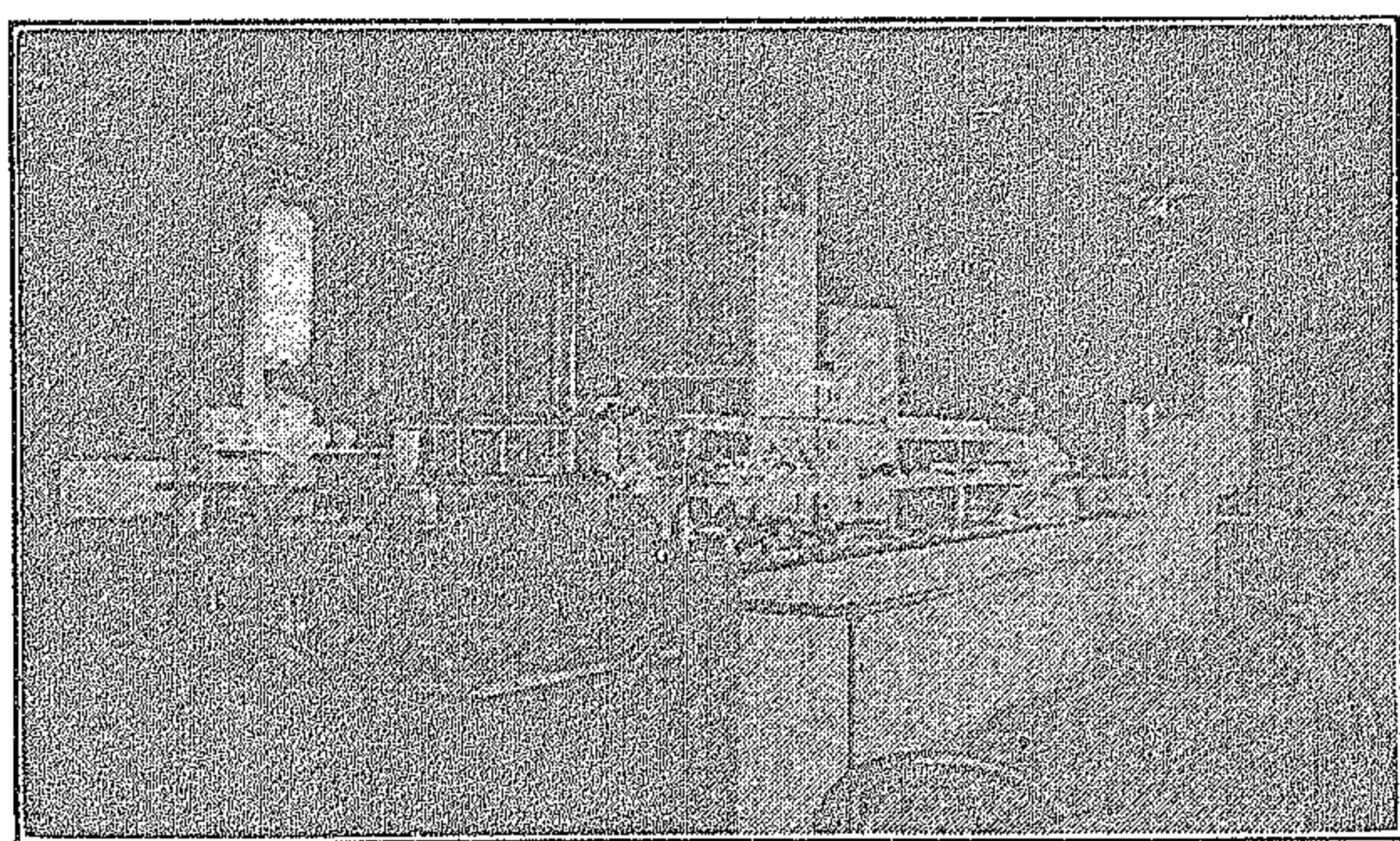
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