



JOHN GOTTHELF LEGEL, JR.

Thesis: *State Capitol Building.*

Atelier

"Nec scire fas est omnia." Horace asserts that "One cannot know everything;" but it must be acknowledged that John knew a great deal. "If not, why not?" In this manner John would answer many of the numerous questions put to him daily; and invariably he could figure out the "why;" or in other words, John was the mathematician and engineer of our little community. When a small boy in Charles City, there was an idea in John's head that he would some day be that city's leading pharmacist. But the Fates (and also "the Papa") willed it otherwise; and so, after graduating from high school in 1908, he turned toward the East, and in September his name appeared among the "freshies" registered at A. I. T. In the four years which followed there was never a single instant when any of us ever saw John rush around or appear excited even on the day of "Rendu;" but nevertheless he was usually the first one to clean up his paints and brushes. "Why hurry?" he would ask us; but to most of us the day the drawings were due meant nothing but hurry. Quietly but surely John was the first one to leave for the vacations, while the rest were "fussing" over their preparations for departure.

During his summer vacation he learned much concerning full sized details of wood-work, holding a position as draftsman in his home town; as well as a touch of Civil engineering, while tramping many miles with a surveying gang. He chose a "State Capitol Building" as his thesis, and we suspect a "method in his madness." For, with the political influence which the Legel family has in Iowa, it may be that the new capitol building a few years hence will be executed by J. G. Legel, state architect—at least we hope that it will be.