

# “The Entrance Beautiful Assured by Use of Natural Stone”

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### Aid of Foundation to Home Owners Seen As Benefit to Building Industry

The organization of a foundation with a capital of \$30,000,000 to finance poor men in the building of homes has been announced. The plan, which goes the "little down, a little a month" idea one better by not insisting upon the "little down" payment has the backing of financiers and philanthropists working through an agency known as The American Home Foundation, Inc. The plan enables a man of good health and morals to pay for a home on advantageous terms so that he will own it within ten to fifteen years. Men with families are preferred as clients of the foundation. The feature of the plan of interest to the building industry and the material producers and dealers is that the working funds of the foundation are to be apportioned among five cities with fifteen other cities to be added later and still others as the plan works out. No restrictions are placed upon the

type or style of houses to be erected, other than that good materials be used and first class workmen employed on the jobs. Owner-occupants are to be protected in the event that they cannot make payments when due and not lose money already invested, as is the case in many financing plans in vogue today. When in full operation the foundation directors believe that there will be from 12,000 to 30,000 houses in course of construction at all times.

### Women's Club to Build \$7,000,000 Home

The American Women's Association has acquired a plot and will erect a twenty-two story club house at 353-366 West Fifty-seventh Street, New York City, instead of in West Twenty-third Street, as originally planned. The plot with an area of 29,100 square feet, cost \$1,400,000. Plans for the new building are being prepared by Benjamin W. Morris.

## The Entrance Beautiful Assured By Use of Natural Stone

**N**OTHING is more monotonous than an unbroken straight line, be it a road, a sidewalk, a wall, or a building facade. Passersby quicken their steps perceptibly in order to relieve the eyes of the sameness by reaching a more pleasing outlook as quickly as possible. Anything and everything that tends to become monotonous, or that fails to please the eye is avoided, even shunned. If the human race were not so constituted we would have little need for entertainment, for the arts, or for the architects and their creations that attract, as well as serve the needs of the people for houses in which to live and places of business in which to gain a livelihood. In the caves of the first races of mankind it was the entrance that they sought to embellish with decorative objects or characteristic markings to distinguish them from those of their neighbors. The crude huts and shacks that followed in the uplift of the race showed a tendency, even in that early period, to creating around the entrances an air of habitation and welcome, as well as a bar to intruders. This same conception of the uses and value of entrances remains unchanged in modern architecture, except, perhaps, that more attention is being given to this one subject than to any other problem of exterior design. Once the general style is decided upon and the entrance worked out to conform to its lines, the remainder of the exterior plan follows in

natural sequence, windows, side and rear doors, and roof lines taking the same inclinations as the entrance details.

The entrance has been likened to the face, in that it may be repellent or beautiful, but if the latter, it is certain to attract and welcome all who enter. In the design of apartment houses and public buildings much thought is given to entrance details because of this generally accepted idea.

Natural stone has been found to meet all require-



Entrance Detail of the New Belvedere Apartments, Cincinnati, in Which Indiana Limestone Was Used Exclusively. Architect: C. H. Ferber.

ments as to color tones, size of blocks and panels to be employed, for columns, arches and carved decorative work and objects. Even when doors are closed and locked against intrusion, or when grills are placed across an entrance, decorative effects need not be lost in the protection thus afforded. That architects are paying more attention to entrances than was the case a quarter of a century ago is no where better evidenced than in the ornate work throughout the country in making apartment houses and school build-

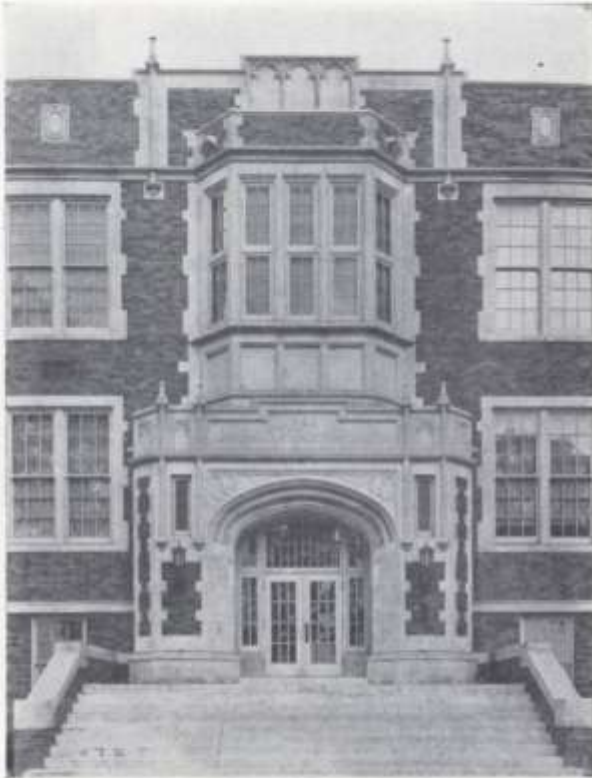
space. Schools as a general rule stand back from street lines and admit of a better view of the exterior, of which the entrance is always conspicuous for its attractiveness.

#### A New Tennessee Marble Project

Near Brighton, Tennessee quarrying operations in the holdings acquired by the Tennessee Marble & Brick Company have disclosed several colored marbles, namely, pink, bronze or dark pink, topaz grey, French blue, Bird's eye and a black marble. These holdings, comprising 143 acres are on both sides of a canyon and are accessible to a railroad siding. Operations up to this time have been confined to stripping and quarrying poorer grades for stucco dash, terrazzo and concrete meal. Plans of the company provide for the installation of a brick making plant and a mill for the finishing of blocks. Channeling operations are expected to start within a few months. The supply of marketable marble is said to run into thousands of cubic feet, these estimates being based upon the reports of geologists who have examined the holdings.

#### Indiana Mausoleum Nears Completion

The new mausoleum under construction at Crown Point Cemetery, Kokomo, will be completed early in the spring. The exterior is of North Carolina Granite, the interior of marble and Ohio Sandstone.



Main Entrance of Washington School, Decatur, Illinois, Showing a Generous Use of Indiana Limestone as Trim for a Brick Structure. Architects: Brooks, Bramhall & Dague.

ings more attractive, the former because of the added rental value of an attractive building and the latter because of the fact that children progress more rapidly amid pleasant surroundings than among sordid ones. Children have that same degree of pride for their school that adults have for their apartment houses and homes and the entrances are the magnets of each. Although stone, marble and granite are finding wide use in the working out of entrance plans it cannot be said that designs follow any marked line of similarity or style, the contrary being noted in the majority of instances. For purposes of comparison several photographs of entrances have been assembled and are reproduced on these pages as illustrations of recent work. In cities where apartment houses are erected to face on narrow streets, everything, it might be said, depends upon the entrances, for few, if any, visitors ever attempt to view an entire facade in such cramped



Ornate Entrance of Apartments at 956 Fifth Avenue at 77th Street. The Material Is Indiana Limestone. Architect: Nathan Korn.

The following is a list of photograph captions that are included in this article:

**“Entrance Detail of the New Belvedere Apartments, Cincinnati, in which Indiana Limestone was used Exclusively. Architect: C. H. Ferber.”** (pp. 603)

**“Main Entrance of Washington School, Decatur, Illinois, Showing a Generous Use of Indiana Limestone as trim for a Brick Structure. Architects: Brooks, Bramhall & Dague.”** (pp. 604)

**“Ornate Entrance of Apartments at 956 Fifth Avenue at 77<sup>th</sup> Street. The Material is Indiana Limestone. Architect: Nathan Korn.”** (pp. 604)