

# W. L. STODDART HAS DESIGNED PENN-HARRIS HOTEL HAS MANY EFFICIENT STRUCTURES TO HIS CREDIT

## W. L. STODDART BIG FIGURE IN BUILDING WORLD

### Plans For New Hostelry Here Result of Years of Wide Experience

### CLASSIC IN EVERY LINE Best Ideas of Hostelry Are Embraced in This

WHAT style of architecture has the Penn-Harris?  
Of the myriad questions proffered, from the time Harrisburg's great hotel began to develop none has been more common than this, and, as Oom Paul Kruger identified losing the Transvaal with the word "staggering," the term might justly be applied to our community's general ignorance of this divine and useful art. The Telegraph man who interviewed William Lee Stoddart, planner of the Penn-Harris, knew himself to be one of these delinquents, and when Mr. Stoddart laconically replied "Adam" to the oft-heard query, the only thing the un-

## Recent Work of W. L. Stoddart, Architect of the New Penn-Harris Hotel

DESIGNED AND ERECTED AS ARCHITECT

Office and Bank Buildings—		
Citizens National Bank	Evansville, Ind.	\$300,000
Empire Life Building	Augusta, Ga.	450,000
Chronicle Office Building	Augusta, Ga.	225,000
Commercial Office Building	Augusta, Ga.	850,000
Perth Amboy Trust Company	Perth Amboy, N. J.	50,000
Hough Avenue Bank Building	Cleveland, Ohio	75,000
Garfield Bank Building	Cleveland, Ohio	100,000
Nat'l Herkimer County Bank	Little Falls, N. Y.	150,000
Hotel Buildings—		
O'Henry Hotel	Greensboro, N. C.	475,000
Penn-Harris Hotel	Harrisburg, Pa.	1,000,000
Farragut Hotel	Knoxville, Tenn.	500,000
San Carlos Hotel	Pensacola, Fla.	350,000
Savannah Hotel	Savannah, Ga.	450,000
Hotel Tybee	Savannah, Ga.	250,000
Georgia Hotel	Atlanta, Ga.	650,000
Dempsey Hotel	Macon, Ga.	450,000
Ponce de Leon Apts.	Atlanta, Ga.	500,000
*Hotel Ansley	Atlanta, Ga.	350,000
*Tinecoff Hotel	Atlanta, Ga.	350,000
*Trotter Hotel	Birmingham, Ala.	1,250,000

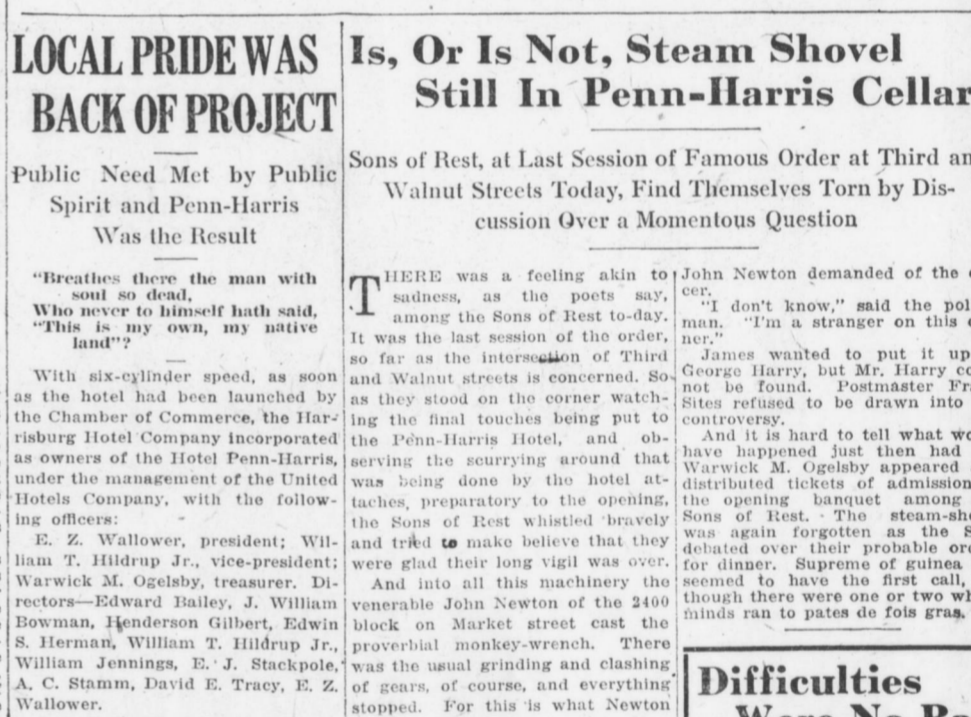
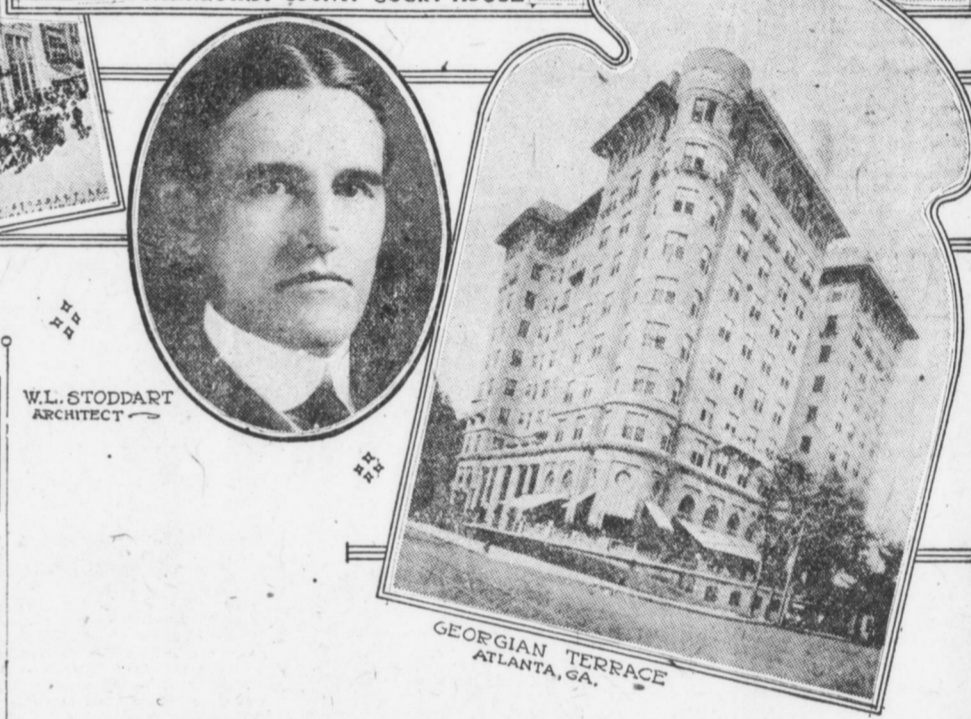
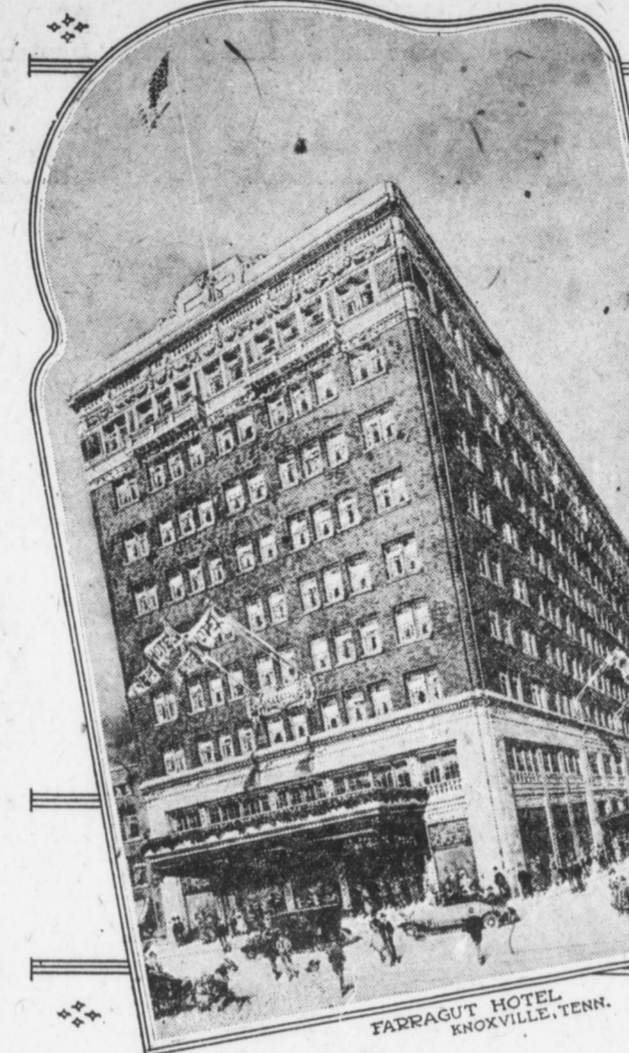
\* Associate architect.

Miscellaneous Buildings—

G. Siegle Plant	Rosebank, S. I.	500,000
Schenectady County Courthouse	Schenectady, N. Y.	500,000
Hodgman Rubber Co. Plant	Tuckahoe, N. Y.	350,000
Mica Insulator Co. Mfg. Plant	Schenectady, N. Y.	150,000
Cavanagh Lumber & Mfg. Co.	Brooklyn, N. Y.	250,000
Vinograph Company of America	Brooklyn, N. Y.	250,000
Public School Building No. 3	Tenafly, N. J.	50,000
Hodgman Rubber Co. Office Building	Tuckahoe, N. Y.	100,000

and many other buildings of similar character.

of which Mr. Stoddart had personal charge during his ten years' association with George B. Post & Sons, architects, as chief superintendent.



## PENN-HARRIS IS OPENED TO PUBLIC

[Continued from First Page.]

occupancy today. Painters and decorators were at work and there was a decided notion in the mind of Manager Wiggins that the public should have the Penn-Harris for a week or so when everything will be in ship-shape.

### Demand For Rooms

The influx of demands for rooms began several weeks ago and today every room is occupied.

Manager Wiggins had answers from 175 legislators asking for the Penn-Harris is being so besieged for rooms that an immediate demand is going to be made to make the hotel bigger. If this demand is proved sane and demonstrable the chances are that Penn-Harris will be extended along Walnut street; Architect Stoddart having the foresight to put in an elevator at the far end down Walnut street way.

Today and tonight is the opening. Tonight marks the actual hotel opening and Harrisburg's citizens will celebrate with a dinner, beginning at seven o'clock, to be followed by music and dancing, the large ball-room being opened for the first time for the social feast.

The president of the Penn-Harris Company, E. Z. Wallower, will preside at the dinner and introduce Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh, Mayor D. L. Keister, Frank A. Dudley, president of the United Hotels Company, which will manage the Penn-Harris, and George S. Reinhold, the president of the Chamber of Commerce, who will extend the greetings of that body.

Marvel it was that the big hotel opened on time, but tonight, barring the working to finish details, everything is being about the lobby; the lounge and banquet rooms are ready; colored girls in uniform man the elevators; two orchestras will furnish music, and a special band at the dinner will be the selections of Miss Neva Landrum, vocalist.

So tremendously popular is the new hotel that the events are looked forward to by the city. This week will see the Victoria Ball, January 3; on January 4 the Moorhead Company banquet and the dinner to the Telegraph Family by E. J. Stackpole.

A public inspection of the Penn-Harris is announced for New Years Day — Wednesday — from 3 to 5 o'clock.

## How the Site Was Bought

"FORTUNATELY," wrote Mr. E. Z. Wallower, in his letter headed: "The Harrisburg, The Susquehanna, Or—?" (for at that time a name had not been chosen) "we now have under option the very best site in the city, at what is considered a most favorable price." He then went on to describe the old Grand Opera House corner, on which years ago burned down the play house of that name and which had long been vacant. "This location," he pointed out, "will command the largest rental values for the Third street front, a most important item in the present budget of the hotel. It will not only command a view of the Capitol Park, and the river from the upper stories, but its close proximity to the Post Office, the prospective widening of Walnut street by the state, its location in the heart of the city, within three blocks of the railroad stations, will all add value to its location for a hotel site."

The task of actually securing the option was assigned to E. J. Stackpole and Henderson Gilbert and one very cold but auspicious day they took a fast train for Philadelphia, feeling they were on a delicate and mighty important mission. Other spots for locating had been suggested as for instance Front and Market, the site of the Commonwealth Hotel and Third and Locust, so that if they failed to get the option another place would have been selected. But this one was the desideratum and the plenipotentiaries sought Hampton L. Carson with something suggesting a shiver. Mr. Carson, formerly attorney general, was counsel for the Weightman estate which owned the Penn-Harris location.

Procured An Option  
Talking at first of a mortgage he became interested greatly, but presently, in the twinkling of an eye the Harrisburg hungerers, suddenly suggested the option proposition and it was not long before they paid that historic one dollar to bind the agreement for all time.

## HAWES, RESIDENT HOTEL ARCHITECT

THE Susquehanna lured Ralph E. Hawes, resident architect, to remain here until the finish. "I only intended to remain a short time," he relates, "to fill a temporary job, but I found the city so fascinating, association with the architect and members of the Hotel Company so agreeable that I decided to complete the work."

"You ask me what my work was in Harrisburg. Well, I have directed the construction of the building for the supervising architect from the time the first footings were laid for the foundations until the completion of the building, and you will not mistake the facts in giving me credit for overcoming many of the difficulties to hasten the construction as well as obtaining the finished work of such high character."

"As to my history, my residence is in New Britain, Ridgefield, Conn. My father was an architect and builder who died in 1894, when I was eighteen years of age. I continued the business until I left with the Twenty-second National Guard of New York and served with them during the Spanish-American War. "I have since been associated with some of the best-known architects in the country, some of the finest as well as the largest building operations in this country—in fact, few

## ALL ROADS LEAD TO HARRISBURG

By M. H. JAMES, Secretary of William Penn Highway Association, and Associated Highway Organizations of Pennsylvania

TRAVELERS overland through the central tier of Pennsylvania counties have for years complained that hotel accommodations have not been sufficient. This condition has finally been remedied through the construction of the Berkshire Hotel, at Reading; of the Fort Stanwix Hotel, at Johnstown, and, finally, of the Penn-Harris, in Harrisburg. It is now possible for Pennsylvania tourists using the William Penn Highway, and the feeder-routes which come into the William Penn from the north and south, to find hotel accommodations as fine as can be found anywhere.

While automobilists can be pushing their cars make the Philadelphia-Pittsburgh trip in one day, a hurried trip of that sort; and two days are usually required. That means an overnight stop. Three years ago travelers found existing hotels in Harrisburg as fine as those in Philadelphia. The trip from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh in a season now takes 18 1/2 days. Short-trippers are five times more numerous. And the coming expenditure of \$50,000,000 for better highways in Pennsylvania will mean a further increase—one that cannot properly be estimated at this time.

While the William Penn Highway is the logical east-west route for central Pennsylvanians traveling to Pittsburgh or to New York and Philadelphia, the Lincoln Highway, in the southern tier of counties, carries a more extensive through-state traffic. Until recently these travelers, knowing as travelers do about certain cities everywhere, that hotel accommodations were insufficient in Harrisburg, refused to come this way from Lancaster, Gettysburg, or Chambersburg. But the opening of the Penn-Harris Hotel means that, once the word gets around, Lincoln Highway travelers will take advantage of increased accommodations and come to Harrisburg to see the Capital, and the city's other attractions.

### Great Automobile Center

Harrisburg within five years will not only accommodate more tourists, but will be a center for the automobile traveler than any other city in Pennsylvania other than Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. The state of New Jersey is proceeding rapidly with the construction of the highway which will join the William Penn Highway at Easton, and afford an all-weather, shorter route between Harrisburg and New York,

## FRANK C. LEWIN IS BUILDER OF NOTE

YOU have all read of how Noah built the Ark, but he had a cinch, compared to the task of Frank C. Lewin with the Penn-Harris. "It is comparatively easy to describe the building, and draw a picture after it is all completed," he writes for the Telegraph under his own signature, "but it is quite another thing to work through the entire construction of a large undertaking of the nature of the Penn-Harris building and obtain the results, particularly under the circumstances and conditions which were brought upon all construction by the demands of the war. This building is practically the only large undertaking of its kind which during the time the country was at war. This has been accomplished by surmounting innumerable difficulties from the start to finish."

### Trouble From Start

"Beginning with the foundations the contractors encountered trouble in the excavating of the hard shale rock and formations of flint and slate which had to be blasted and practically pulverized to be removed. To make things worse an old stream which was covered up years ago was encountered, which had a heavy flow of water in it, and filled the foundation holes with mud. There were times when the entire lot was covered with water, resembling a small pond, the water being three or four feet deep over the entire area."

"After passing the stage of the foundations, the concrete of the superstructure was started, but no sooner had the concrete gained some headway, material supplies were considerably reduced by embargoes on the railroads. During the time that the coal administration stopped all shipments of coal, it was extremely hard to keep the work going. The labor available was not experienced in this class of work, which added to the troubles of the foremen in charge of the masonry work. In addition to all these difficulties the hardest and coldest winter of a generation came along and made concrete construction almost impossible to keep going. It was necessary to heat the stone and sand with steam, use hot water for the mixing, enclose the form work on the upper floors with canvas, and keep fires burning in salamanders for several days in order to keep the concrete from freezing."

### Granite Came Late

"After the combination tile and concrete floors were erected to about the seventh floor, the forms on the lower stories were removed and the brick work started on an angle-iron ledge at the third floor level, in order to save time and increase the upper part of the building. The granite and terra cotta work for the lower portion did not arrive until late in the spring, as the quarries were frozen tight during the severe winter, and the factories making the terra cotta were put on half rations of coal. While the brick work was well under way the government started a number of important projects in the vicinity and commandeered the entire output of most of the brick kilns in the territory and the kilns that were not commandeered, lost most of their help, that went to the government jobs for better pay. The building was actually starving for brick. There were times when the government material chasers intercepted carloads of brick as they entered the Harrisburg yards, and instead of letting them be delivered to their consignees, the bricks were switched to the government work. The only chance the contractors had to get around the government material men was to send out trucks a good many miles away for brick and have same trucked to the building as the government inspectors did not watch the automobile roads but only the railroads."

### Main Market Roads

Under the road-construction plan of Governor-elect Sproul Pennsylvania will have four north-south main market roads which will mean much to Harrisburg because of the great amount of travel that will be thrown this way. These four roads connect:

- Gettysburg and Pittsburgh.
  - Warren and Lewistown.
  - Elmira and Harrisburg.
  - Binghamton and Reading, through Easton and Allentown.
- These four feeders of the William Penn Highway tap a rich field, and the result cannot help but be advantageous to Harrisburg.
- Improvement of the road from Harrisburg to York and from York to Baltimore will bring business this way. There must be a better road to Gettysburg and to Chambersburg. The Lancaster route can stand a great deal of improvement. When these things come, it can easily be seen, Harrisburg will be the tourist and market center of the state. A glance at the map of Pennsylvania will show that Harrisburg is the logical highway center of the Commonwealth. All roads lead to it. For that reason its hotel accommodations should be of the best. The construction of the Penn-Harris Hotel now puts Harrisburg in a class by itself, so far as its hotels are concerned.

## LOCAL PRIDE WAS BACK OF PROJECT

### Public Need Met by Public Spirit and Penn-Harris Was the Result

"Breathes there the man with soul so dead, Who never to himself hath said, 'This is my own, my native land?'"

With six-cylinder speed, as soon as the hotel had been launched by the Chamber of Commerce, the Harrisburg Hotel Company incorporated as owners of the Hotel Penn-Harris, under the management of the United Hotels Company, with the following officers:

E. Z. Wallower, president; William T. Hildrup Jr., vice-president; Warwick M. Osgelby, treasurer. Directors—Edward Bailey, J. William Bowman, Henderson Gilbert, Edwin S. Herman, William T. Hildrup Jr., William Jennings, E. J. Stackpole, A. C. Stamm, David E. Tracy, E. Z. Wallower.

## Civic Club Is Much Pleased

THE Penn-Harris will be released by members of the Civic Club, spoke Mrs. William Henderson, "if for no other reason than that we may now invite here the Federation of Women's Clubs for its annual meeting. It has been a great disappointment to us that Reading and other cities could entertain this body but that Harrisburg had to be tabooed because there was no suitable hotel and assembling room."

"It is quite exhilarating to all women working for their sex to know that Harrisburg will have fine and clean quarters to take care of the vast number of women now traveling alone on business errands. Also, that like the Civic Club, which demonstrated its home atmosphere in the entertaining of soldiers, this beautiful place will appeal as a homey spot where folks may meet downtown amid such charming surroundings. The Civic Club extends its heartiest congratulations to the Penn-Harris

## Is, Or Is Not, Steam Shovel Still In Penn-Harris Cellar?

### Sons of Rest, at Last Session of Famous Order at Third and Walnut Streets Today, Find Themselves Torn by Discussion Over a Momentous Question

THERE was a feeling akin to sadness, as the poets say, among the Sons of Rest today. It was the last session of the order, so far as the intersection of Third and Walnut streets is concerned. So as they stood on the corner watching the final touches being put to the Penn-Harris Hotel, and observing the scurrying around that was being done by the hotel attaches, preparatory to the opening, the Sons of Rest whistled bravely and tried to make believe that they were glad their long vigil was over.

And into all this machinery the venerable John Newton of the 2400 block on Market street cast the proverbial monkey-wrench. There was the usual grinding and clashing of gears, of course, and everything stopped. For this is what Newton said:

"I'm only sorry for one thing—and that is that I didn't see them bringing out the steam shovel." It was the last session of the order, so far as the intersection of Third and Walnut streets is concerned. So as they stood on the corner watching the final touches being put to the Penn-Harris Hotel, and observing the scurrying around that was being done by the hotel attaches, preparatory to the opening, the Sons of Rest whistled bravely and tried to make believe that they were glad their long vigil was over.

"Of course they brought it out!" shouted Newton. "I'm only sorry for one thing—and that is that I didn't see them bringing out the steam shovel." It was the last session of the order, so far as the intersection of Third and Walnut streets is concerned. So as they stood on the corner watching the final touches being put to the Penn-Harris Hotel, and observing the scurrying around that was being done by the hotel attaches, preparatory to the opening, the Sons of Rest whistled bravely and tried to make believe that they were glad their long vigil was over.

## Difficulties Were No Bar

REPUTATION for getting things done! This was the slogan which caught the eye of the brick Chamber of Commerce men when they began looking about for an able contractor and builder and the message exactly fitted the firm of Frank C. Lewin, with offices at 26 North Third street; 616 Twelfth street, N. W., Washington, and the Peoples' Gas Building, Chicago. This firm had already erected 600 large buildings within a radius of Chicago, including hotels, club-houses, high-class apartment houses, etc., one of the most recent hostelrys being the Washington Hotel, at Washington, with its 500 rooms and baths. The latter rose in time to be a great boon for those working on government contracts.