

NEW ATHLETIC CLUB IS "SHOW PLACE" OF CITY

Every Modern Convenience is Provided in Palatial New Eight-Story Home of Organization.

Not only are the members of the Omaha Athletic club proud of their modern eight-story club house, but every citizen of Omaha can well look upon this beautiful structure as one of the "show places" of the city.

The first two stories are constructed of Indiana limestone ashlar, while the upper stories are of artistic red brick in what is known as "rug texture," developed in variegated effect, with stone trimmings.

The projecting top cornice is of Italian model, developed with carved brackets and wide ornamental soffits. The facade expresses the general purpose of the building. It is so constructed that there is light and air on all sides. The second story windows are embellished with stone balconies and the stone window architraves extending from the second story window to and embracing the third in beautiful contrast with the red textile brick of the massive walls.

Between the third and fourth stories there is a wide band of Bedford stone extending across the front and sides of the building and the top story is faced with Bedford stone, made into ornate panels between and above the windows, merging into the cornice with magnificent effect.

Beautiful Lighting Effects.
A distinguishing feature is the iron canopy at the main entrance, extending to the curb. It is artistically designed and unique in its lighting effects. A wrought iron insignia of the club surmounts the marquee. The massive stone portal is a strong feature, with bronze torch lights on either side of the entrance.

Six store rooms face Douglas street on either side of the entrance, which is in the center of the building. The entrance way leads directly to the main lobby, its marble floors, walls and pillars presenting a spectacle of beauty and permanency. To the right is the manager's office and to the left the ladies' lobby and check room, leading to the ladies' parlor, from which an exclusive ladies' elevator mounts to the dining rooms and gymnasium. Beyond the main stairway back of the manager's office and to the right is the man's lobby, wash room, barber shop, kitchennette, etc. At the north end of the main lobby is the entrance to the large grill room, occupying a space of 35x68 feet. A service elevator connects the grill room and service room.

Second Floor for Men.
The second floor is designed ex-

Omaha Architects Who Designed Athletic Club



JOHN LATENSER, JR.



FRANK LATENSER.

clusively for men, the ladies' elevator not being accessible to this floor. A large lounge room, with a large, inviting wood fireplace, occupies the south center portion overlooking Douglas street, to the west of which is the library and two card rooms, and to the east a writing room, and "quiet room." Embracing the entire north portion of this floor is the billiard room, permitting space for 12 billiard and pool tables.

The third floor, which is accessible to ladies, makes an irresistible appeal to the masculine and feminine taste alike. The dining room occupies nearly one-third of the floor space overlooking Douglas street. The artistic architectural design of this room, with its 11 large windows opening on three sides, offers a cheery appeal to the diner.

Modern Kitchen.

From the dining room two service halls leads to the service kitchen which occupies the north portion of the third floor. Nothing has been left undone to make the commodious service kitchen a most modern and complete culinary department, planned by the architects with the most logical arrangement, and equipped with every labor saving device. An oyster stand, one of the few in this part of the country, a section for pastries, meats, vegetables—no part in the assemblage of full course dinners has been omitted. The refrigeration system is the best that can be purchased.

The grand staircase leading from the lobby on the main floor terminates at the lobby forming the entrance of the dining room on the third floor.

Balconies on three sides of the main dining room for the intermediate or mezzanine story between the third and fourth floors. It is proposed to use the balconies as ladies' dining rooms, and they are

so constructed that they can be closed off into separate dining rooms 17 by 46 feet.

The upper third floor on the north side of the building is taken up by the under part of the plunge which is on the floor above, and the men's locker, which is reached by a short stairs from the bath department immediately above. The ladies' elevator also reaches this floor leading to the plunge.

Gym Completely Equipped.

But the greatest point of interest centers about the fourth floor front portion of which is occupied by the gymnasium and the rear containing the plunge, natorium and spa.

The gymnasium is 46 by 85 feet, with a ceiling 20 feet high, permitting the installation of every kind of equipment into athletic and physical development, basket ball, hand ball and other athletic events. It is surrounded by a spectators' balcony on all four sides.

On the west center of the fourth floor is a large shower bath, steam room, and tables for the use of the rubbers. These conveniences are in direct connection with both the gymnasium and the plunge.

The east center of the fourth floor is occupied by the Spa where lunches are served. This room has direct connection by elevator with the service department.

Standard Plunge.

The plunge and the conveniences surrounding it are the most interesting features of the building, and are worthy of words of praise for their designer. The plunge is 25 by 75 feet, the standard adopted by colleges and athletic clubs, allowing 25-yard swimming races, with five contestants. When full the water is nine feet deep at the east end where the spring board is located and four and one-half feet at the west end. On ladies' and children's day the water in the plunge can be lowered to

a safe depth. By closing five doors the entire plunge can be turned over to lady swimmers, still leaving the men's bath department in operation. The room containing the plunge is of green and white glazed ceramic tile, extending from the vaulted ceiling, which is 20 feet above the water line. The entire room is surrounded by a balcony for spectators, the spring board extending from the balcony on the east end of the plunge.

Water Sterilized.

One interesting feature is that the plunge contains 15,000 cubic feet of water weighing 480 tons, or 112,500 gallons. The water is automatically kept at a regulated temperature. The plunge is equipped with the

Ultra Violet rays sterilizer, and the entire capacity is circulated through the sterilizer every 24 hours. On the fifth floor the plan of the buildings becomes an "H" shape. The front portion contains 14 bedrooms, each with private bath, with a public bath on the same floor containing a shower. In the rear of this floor is a hand ball or squash courts of the regulation size, three of which have observation balconies on a level with the sixth floor. The house tailor is also located on this floor.

Upper Floors Bedrooms.

The sixth floor has the same general arrangement as the fifth floor. The housekeeper is located on this floor. The seventh and eighth floors each contain 14 living rooms, the

arrangement being practically the same as the fifth and sixth. On a level with the seventh floor are also located five open air hand ball and squash courts.

A roof garden occupies the entire roof over the bedroom floors, 48 by 88 feet. A pergola covers a portion of it, and the balance will be covered by awnings. There will be a kitchen, service room, etc., in connection with the roof garden, and it will be reached by the elevators.

Bowling in Basement.

The basement contains the bowling alleys, indoor golf, servants' quarters, kitchen storage and receiving rooms. The ladies' elevator opens into the bowling room. The main storage refrigerator for the kitchen is in the kitchen storage

room, and the ice-making machinery, water filters and other mechanical equipment, is in the machinery room. From the receiving room a lift connects with the kitchen in the grill and the one in the dining room kitchen.

A complete survey of the building and equipment impresses one with the outstanding fact that the designers and promoters of the Omaha Athletic club have not overlooked a single modern feature to make it an attractive home for those who have been fortunate enough to secure a membership in this club.

agents of the United States Department of Agriculture and the state agricultural college, made and delivered to the American Red Cross 18,297 pieces of garments, at a total cost of \$1,427.91, during the season of 1918. There are 202 home economic clubs in the state, with an enrollment of 2,983. Of this number, 1,506 completed all the work allotted them, thirty-nine of the club groups being in the 100 per cent class, according to information just received by the Department of Agriculture. The bread-club members in Massachusetts also produced 40,306 loaves of bread and the garment-making clubs 1,890 garments.

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