

from ~~the~~ Encyclopedic of Texas

the degree of electrical and mechanical engineer. He then began miscellaneous engineering and surveying in North Texas and took later the student's course of the General Electric Company at Schenectady, N. Y. For two years he was with the General Electric Company in the testing and railway engineering departments. In January, 1902, Mr. Jones opened an engineering office in Houston. He served as consulting engineer, building the Southern Pacific Terminal Company's power station at Galveston, the Corsicana Gas & Electric Company's power station and many other such plants together with a great number of engineering reports. By 1909 he had gathered about him other highly efficient builders. To list his chief buildings would be to review the greater building operations of every chief center of Texas, from the older cities to the new-born oil centers. Among other structures at Dallas that are his, is the Dallas Country Club, the Sumpter Building, Southern Methodist University Administration Building, the City Hall, which is a lasting monument of beauty and stability which compares well with the foremost municipal buildings of the largest cities, the Southland Life Building, the eight story addition to the Interurban Building, the Whiterock Reservoir, the Dallas Filtration Plant, the Texas "Farm and Ranch" Building, the Hulsey Theatre now in process of construction and which will rank with the leading theatre buildings of America, the three interurbans leading from Dallas to Sherman, from Dallas to Corsicana and from Dallas to Waco. At Houston the Rossonian Apartments, one of the most exclusive apartment houses in the South, the Sunset Hospital, the Bender Hotel, Levy Brothers Department Store—are some of his work in that city, as well as the Telephone Exchange to his credit. Then there is the American National Insurance Building at Galveston, Nueces Hotel at Corpus Christi, the Paso Del Norte Hotel at El Paso, Trinity University Dormitory at Waxahachie, the National Supply Company Warehouse at Ft. Worth, the National Supply Building and the Republic Supply Building at Ranger, the Atlas Supply Company Building at Eastland, the County Hospital, the Moulton Hotel and the American Trust & Savings Bank Building which is a twenty-story structure, all at Birmingham, Ala. Then there is the valuation report on the Roosevelt Dam, Salt River Valley project which brought into usefulness \$10,000,000 of land. The Dallas-Wichita Valley Interurban Survey and Reports are his work. Camp McArthur cantonments, Rich Field an aviation camp at Waco. Also a large hospital for the government at Waco. During the late war Mr. Jones was chairman of Military Training Camps Association, and conducted examinations of civilians for officer's training camps and also represented the Secretary of War in visiting training camps and aviation fields in Texas and conferring with officers on various matters.

Chief among his work now under construction are the Hulsey Theatre at Dallas and the Telephone Exchange at Austin, he keeps in employ an average of men ranging from three hundred to five hundred.

On September 5, 1910, Miss Gussie Holland, daughter of Hon. Frank P. Holland, formerly mayor of Dallas, owner of "Farm and Ranch" and "Holland's Magazine," became the bride of Mr. Jones. They have two children, Fred A., Jr., and Holland, and the family has residence at 3902 Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, opposite the Country Club.

Mr. Jones has also identified himself with the so-

cial and civic life as well as with the affairs commercial in every city in which he has resided. He is a Shriner at Hella Temple, a member of the City Club, the Idlewild Club, the Dallas Country Club, the Houston Club and the Old Colony Club. His name is found on the rolls of the American Society of Civil Engineers and is one of the oldest members of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Though quiet and unassuming, yet Mr. Jones' fruitfulness as the premier builder of the South marks him out as one of America's big men.



H. HUNT, of R. H. Hunt & Co., 1211 Southwestern Life building, Dallas, Texas and 1225 James building, Chattanooga, Tenn., is at the head of one of the largest architectural firms of the South. Their operations reach practically every southern state. Mr. R. H. Hunt, who is the senior member of the firm, has maintained offices at Chattanooga, Tenn., for more than twenty-five years during which time he has designed most of the large buildings of the city, including the twelve-story James Building, fifteen story Hamilton National Bank building, four hundred thousand dollar court house, two hundred thousand municipal building, Y. M. C. A. building, Carnegie Library and about fifteen churches. In addition to the above Mr. Hunt was recently commissioned to design a large High School plant for Chattanooga which is estimated to cost a million and a half dollars and which is to be one of the most complete high school plants in this country. The first section of this plant, costing half a million dollars is now under construction. He has also been engaged by the Auditorium Commission to design the new Memorial Auditorium which will cost six hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Hunt gradually extended his practice to every southern state east of the Mississippi River, having for a number of years specialized in churches, schools and public buildings. In recent years the practice has extended across the Mississippi River, which made necessary a western office and in 1919, after canvassing the field for a location, Mr. Hunt came to Dallas and opened an office in the Southwestern Life Building, from which all business west of the Mississippi River is handled. This western office has designed and supervised a number of important building enterprises including the six hundred thousand dollar improvements for Baylor College, Belton, Texas, three hundred thousand dollar improvement for Ouachita College, Arkadelphia, Ark., eighty thousand dollar fine arts and auditorium building for Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Texas, and hundred thousand dollar high school and eighty thousand dollar Presbyterian Church at Brownwood, Texas. A one hundred thousand dollar Methodist Church at Ranger, Texas, also a hundred thousand dollar Methodist Church at Ft. Smith, Ark., two hundred thousand dollar Baptist Church at Muskogee, Okla., together with other important churches at Houston, Beaumont, Marlin, Cisco and Belton.

In addition to the number of churches now being designed and constructed, this firm is the official architect for a number of colleges east and west of the Mississippi River and consulting architect for a large men's dormitory being erected for Baylor University at Waco, Texas.

A native of Georgia, Mr. Hunt was born in Elbert County on February 2nd, 1862. His father, R. S.

Hunt, farmer and merchant, lived in various states and finally settled in Tennessee. His mother, who was Miss Mollie E. McCrary, was a native of Georgia, though her family had originally come from Virginia. Mr. Hunt received his education in the public schools of Georgia and Tennessee and after he began work, continued studying, taking special course in architecture and finally entering the architectural practice in 1887 in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Associated with Mr. Hunt in the Chattanooga office are Mr. B. F. Hunt and Edwin G. Phillips, chief draftsman and associated with him in Dallas office are Mrs. C. B. Carter, secretary and treasurer and W. L. Love, chief draftsman.



A. OVERBECK, architect, 205-6 Deere Building has won a reputation as an architect of original ideas and exceptional ability. Mr. Overbeck inherited his constructive gifts from his father, who was also a contractor and mill and lumber dealer. That Mr. Overbeck puts more than mere ability into his work is demonstrated strongly by his achievements in constructing the Dallas County Criminal Court and Jail building, which building he erected in 1913. This building which Mr. Overbeck points to as his most noteworthy accomplishment is the most humane and best equipped jail in the country. It is a \$600,000 fire proof building, eight stories high; the two first floors being used by various departments of the Criminal Courts, the upper six floors for prisoners, whites and blacks being segregated. Mr. Overbeck travelled to thirteen states, inspecting all such buildings minutely before beginning the erection of the structure. The jail is equipped with shower baths, ice water supply and fumigating facilities on the first floor. Fans at the bottom and top of the building control washed air ventilation. The sanitary arrangements are of the very best, and the whole thing constructed for the purpose of treating prisoners like human beings.

It had been Mr. Overbeck's idea to have a modern sanitary kitchen on the roof that would supply food to the prisoners by dumb waiters. All prisoners were to eat in the exercise corridors from metal, collapsible shelves. Hospital wards, for black and white, emergency operating rooms, physicians and chapels were a part of the plan. The dungeon was to be eliminated and an electric lighted cell used for unruly prisoners. A laundry adjoining the kitchen on the roof and operated by trusty prisoners, and a separate apartment for first offense girls, under supervision of matrons, and away from the prisoners, formed other distinctive and humane features. It was Mr. Overbeck's ambition to have a pipe organ that would furnish popular music for recreation and, upon retiring, sacred music that would appeal to the better natures. However, the declaration of war stopped his campaign for funds, and the completion of plans had to be postponed.

Other buildings that Mr. Overbeck has erected in Dallas are, the M. K. & T. building, Linz Office Building, (fire proof), Dallas University building, St. Paul Sanitarium, a \$350,000 structure, Crane Company Warehouse, Blair-Hughes Grocery Company Buildings, Simmons-Newsome Company Buildings, John Deere Plow Company, Parlin and Orrendorff Buildings, Texas Moline Plow Company, John Hughes Brothers Manufacturing Company, several fire stations, Pierce Oil Corporation Building of Dallas and the Shool buildings. He built the residences

of M. C. Levi, T. C. Manning; I. G. Bromberg and Chas. L. Cribbs; the City Park School Building, a five story reinforced concrete warehouse for Hughes Brothers Manufacturing Company, an apartment building for T. H. Rush at Gaston and Haskell Avenues, a private residence for Parter Farrell in Munger Place, and a \$60,000 home for James Harrison at Waxahachie, and two business buildings at that place, and at several other Texas towns.

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on July 19th, 1861, Mr. Overbeck was the son of J. H. Overbeck, contractor builder and lumberman, and Dena Enneking Overbeck. He attended the public schools of Cincinnati, following this by a college course at Dayton, Ohio, and special work in architecture at a mechanical institution in Cincinnati. Mr. Overbeck states that most of his practical architectural knowledge was gotten from his father, for whom he worked many years. Opportunities of the growing west appealed to him, and he went out to Omaha and opened an office of his own. He was there eight years, and made a great success of his work. His last contract before leaving was for the erection of the State Fair Building at Omaha.

In 1895 he came to Dallas and established his present business.

Mr. Overbeck was married to Mrs. May B. Pettigrew. Their daughters are Mrs. T. C. Morrison of Dallas, and Mrs. J. B. Hale of Fort Worth. The Overbeck home is at 4810 Reiger Avenue.

Mr. Overbeck is an Elk, a member of the Dallas Society of Architects, the State Association of Architects, the American Institution of Architects, and president of the Texas Chapter of the latter organization. When he came to Dallas twenty-five years ago, Mr. Overbeck predicted that Dallas would be the greatest city in the United States some day, and now he is more certain of it than ever.



B. THOMSON, architect of Dallas, Southwestern Life building, has combined in his work a harmony of constructive beauty and artistic arrangement that distinguishes his work from that of any other architect. Mr. Thomson has studied extensively in this country and Europe and has brought the best of old world architectural beauty to his home land and united it with modern ideas and modes of living. The result classifies him as an exceptionally gifted master builder.

Mr. Thomson opened his Dallas office in 1908. Seven people are employed in the firm, and in addition to architectural designing, landscape gardening is also undertaken, Mr. Thomson believing that each house should have its individual setting. Among the imposing homes in Dallas to be erected by him are the residences of Mrs. A. G. Elliot, Orville Thorp, Mrs. C. P. Adams, W. L. Lingo, L. P. Hart, J. J. Jester, W. L. Lewis, Judge George C. Greer, E. R. Brown, Frank Tholl, George Patullo, R. L. Warren, T. E. Jackson, C. C. Huff of Dallas, the \$100,000 home of R. Q. Austin of Bryan, Texas, J. C. Crook home at Paris, Texas, Lillo Munger residence at Mexia and W. B. Munson's home at Denison.

Born in Austin, Texas, on June 24, 1882, Mr. Thomson is the son of R. M. Thomson, who is a native Texan and prominent oil and cattle man of that section. His mother was a Texan by birth, Miss Mary Belle Bowers before her marriage. Mr. Thomson was educated in the private schools of Austin, graduating from a preparatory school in 1898, and from the State University in 1902 with a B. S. degree.