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MABEL KEYES BABCOCK A.B., B.S.

EDGAR IRVING WILLIAMS. B.S.

A SUMMER RESORT IN THE MOUNTAINS

DESIGNED ESPECIALLY FOR

THOSE INTERESTED IN AVIATION.

Edgar Irving Williams, B.S.

Mabel Keyes Babcock, A.B., B.S.

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The success of recent experiments in the navigation of the air, has created a rapidly increasing and widespread interest in the subject.

Hypothetical questions based on the possible mastery of this dream of the ages need no longer be regarded as the vagaries of an idle mind, but may justly claim to be regarded as food for thought and discussion in preparation for the rapid and successful solution of the many contingent problems of legislation and provision for public comfort which will immediately follow the extension of the use of flying machines beyond the band of scientific investigators. Such an hypothetical question your orators propose as follows.

Assuming that within the lifetime of the present generation progress in aeronautics has proceeded to such an extent that sustained motive power and dirigibility are practically assured, except when unforeseen weather conditions destroy all dependence upon known methods and systems: Assuming also that knowledge of meteorological conditions has made a decided step in advance until a certain amount of precision can be incorporated into charts of the upper currents of the atmosphere: Assuming that these conditions affording comparative safety in navigation of the air have removed excessive terror and risk connected with its exer-

cise: Assuming, further, a body of men with ample financial resources desirous of promoting in a broad and dignified manner, both the popularity and perfection of this means of locomotion; what means could such a body of men take to best further their purpose?

By preparing a place which shall provide a common meeting ground for the scientific experimenter, the financial patron and the practical enthusiast.

Considerations arising in the nature of the one interest common to all furnish the most potent factor in the choice of a suitable location, but scarcely inferior in importance is the necessity of providing for the comfort and recreation of these three classes of persons.

To provide suitable grounds for experimental flights, a space is required of unusual dimensions, free from obstructions of any sort.

This space is found in imagination in this table land among the mountains.

With its broad bosom open to the skies above, with the break in the mountains to the south and the somewhat abrupt though not precipitous slope to the valley below, it presents the conditions required for a safe landing place for airships of even maximum dimensions. At its northern end will be located aerodromes of differing dimensions as well as shops for storage of parts and repairs.

To the west, adjoining this plain is a ~~gravity~~^{granite} ridge effectually protecting it from the encroachment of the glacial lake beyond. The presence of this lake amid the mountains proclaims at once the wisdom of the choice of this spot for the entertainment of the hosts of admirers of this new Art.

Luxuriously housed in a hotel of superior dimensions and superlative equipment, with the prospect of the utmost grandeur of Alpine scenery on the one hand and the most novel of human interests on the other, the busiest man of affairs can forget the city's heat and burden from which his escape has been so quickly accomplished.

For himself and for his family every variety of recreation is furnished to make a stay of days or weeks or months pleasurable. The boat houses upon the lake on one side and the theatre upon its other shore suggest the extremes of interest possible at this favored spot.

Upon the sunny slope on the mountain to the north, the opportunity is presented for favorable disposition of detached establishments to be occupied by season visitors or life members of the directorate. In picturesque variety these villas provide exclusive domains for those who prefer the seclusion of private places to hotel life. At the same time they afford the same variety of view and easy access to all the interests that are centred about the main

establishment. Upon the peak to the northwest the scientific observatory with its corps of experts, renders valuable assistance, to the cause of science at large and to aeronauts in particular.

With its wireless apparatus it establishes direct communication with the world in the plains below besides accumulating a mass of valuable data having direct bearing upon the conditions and results of experiments in aviation which should contribute definitely toward bringing about the desired perfection of method. On the opposite side of the lake the more gentle slope suggests the opportunity for a more compact group of houses of moderate dimensions, of the bungalow type.

This group is intended for those families, not necessarily of less means than those occupying the villas upon the northern slope, who for any reason prefer to escape the task of maintaining large establishments and yet are disinclined to hotel life for a long season.

These detached houses are arranged about a central community kitchen and dining room. Each is so located as to be within easy walking distance of the central hall, at the same time possessing a separate entrance drive, as well as an extended view, combining the comfort of association with moderate seclusion.

The terminus of the railroad is in the village in the valley below.

In this village are arcades of exclusive shops and

markets, club houses for the men employed by the villa residents, churches, school houses and dwellings for the permanent residents and caretakers of the entire property.

Arriving by automobile or railroad at the village, the visitor has the choice of proceeding by a gradually ascending automobile road to the level of the divide upon which the hotel and its dependencies is placed, or he may proceed by funicular railway directly to the spur of the aerodrome plateau whereon is the railway station.

Inns, garages and restaurants form a group of buildings around this extremity of the grand plateau which is surrounded by a broad avenue of drives, walks and trees with occasional breaks opening up extended vistas over the mountain side below.

The architecture^{of} the hotel and its dependencies, the theatre by the shore, the library, buildings for recreation, amusement and instruction has been chosen with respect to its environment in the fastnesses of the mountains.

Broad esplanades, frequent gardens, terraces for promenade and out-of-door restaurant service and music create the note of formal human interest reflected and enhanced by the surrounding beauties of nature.

To illustrate this problem in design⁶,
the following drawings have been made.

1. a general plan at the scale of
200 feet to the inch embracing an area
of about 4 square miles. This plan
shows the topography of the land and
the relation of the buildings to the large
surroundings. It is preeminently a
study in landscape design.

For the detailed architectural study:-

2. a plan of the hotel with its immediate
surroundings at the scale of 20 feet to the inch.

3. An elevation of the hotel at the scale
of 15 feet to the inch.

4. a small perspective drawing of the
large central hall of the hotel.

Mabel Clegg Babcock -

Edgar S. William