

32/0/12/1

Library - Reading Room
Spooner - 1896/97

KC Times **Henry Van Brunt, Architect.** 12-1-1933

A reference in the Forty Years Ago column of The Star to the appointment of Henry Van Brunt of Kansas City as a judge of the fine arts display at the world's fair in Chicago recalls one of the most distinguished architects whose name is connected with this city. Incidentally, Mr. Van Brunt died in Boston almost exactly thirty years ago. At the time of his appointment as a world's fair judge, however, he was senior member of the firm of Van Brunt & Howe, which had transferred its headquarters from Boston to Kansas City in 1887.

This firm attained a national reputation, designing libraries and other public buildings in many parts of the country. One of these was Memorial hall for Harvard university. The firm was responsible for the design of the Electricity building and the spectacular court of honor at the Chicago world's fair of 1892 and in Kansas City it designed numerous buildings, including the present home of the Emery, Bird, Thayer Dry Goods Company and the Coates House. Mr. Van Brunt was the author of several essays on architecture that attracted considerable attention and his presence in Kansas City did much to improve architectural standards here in the city's formative period.

Mr. Van Brunt was architect
for Spooner Library.

Property of
University of Kansas
Archives

Party. 1920
University librarians gave
party last night to the