Wednesday, July 15, 1925. Vol. LXII. No. 1593.

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL & Architectural Engineer

With which is incorporated "The Builders' Journal."

FROM AN ARCHITECT'S NOTEBOOK.

The lesson taught by the study of Greek and of Gothic art, of antique and of Pre-Raphaelite painting, was worth all the research —namely, that all beauty must be organic; that outside development is deformity. It is the soundness of the bones that ultimates itself in a peach-bloom complexion: health of constitution that makes the sparkle and the power of the eye. Hence our taste in building rejects paint, and all shifts, and shows the original grain of the wood: refuses pilasters and columns that support nothing, and allows the real supporters of the house honestly to show themselves.

EMERSON.

9 Queen Anne's Gate. Westminster.

The New Headquarters of the British Medical Association, Tavistock Place, London

Sir Edwin L. Lutyens, R.A., Architect

The building acquired by the British Medical Association for their headquarters was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens for the Theosophists before the war. The war prevented its completion, though it was advanced far enough to be occupied by a War Department. It is at last finished, and the King opened the

THE

ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

9 Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster.

Wednesday, July 15, 1925. Volume LXII. No. 1593.

Save the Squares!

LONDON has surely little enough at the moment to boast of. Her greatest town-planning achievement, her one attempt to bring herself into line with other European cities when the great rebuilding epoch swept the west of the Continent in the latter part of the eighteenth century, is irrevocably ruined. Her greatest building threatens to subside, her greatest bridge is in danger of destruction, while her streets rapidly lose in dignity what they gain in splendour. Yet she has something which distinguishes her from all other cities, something at once beautiful, dignified, and salutary: she has her squares. Now they too are threatened. The French may have their Place, the Germans their Platz, the Italians their Piazza, and beautiful they are too. Who knows the Place of the Midi town with its pleached limes yielding the coolness of a cloister from the summer heat, or the great axial Platz of many a German court town, or the Piazza of Italy dominated by the palazzi municipale, and does not admire them? But no man of sense or judgment would change for them the London squares. Yet these are threatened. But this time there is no villain of the piece. It is just hard, stern, unpalatable economics. The presence of a square enhances a district so long as that district remains residential, especially, of course, increasing the value of the property immediately surrounding the open space; but so soon as that district ceases to be residential, and becomes commercial, the square ceases to be an asset as an open space, and at once becomes valuable building land, a fact which scarcely redounds to the credit of the business man who would presumably as soon look across a narrow street as across a green open leafy space.

We should save our squares; yet the task is not an easy one. It is one thing to write to the papers insisting that the squares should be acquired by the L.C.C. or the boroughs, or that they should be sterilized; it is quite another to pay the higher rates that such a procedure must inevitably involve. The present agitation, moreover, glad as we are to note it, has introduced a new issue by suggesting that the squares should be open to the public; yet, where the burden of maintenance falls upon the surrounding houses, this is surely demanding a degree of altruism to which many aspire but few attain.

Let us be just; our gratitude is due to the L.C.C. for what it has done in the past and for what it is doing in the present with regard to our squares, but to expect this body to enter upon a policy of wholesale purchase, or even sterilization, especially at a moment when demands upon its exchequer for housing and kindred matters are so enormous, is manifestly absurd. Let us remember that it was the L.C.C. that promoted the London Squares and Enclosures (Preservation) Bill which became an Act in 1906. This Act has so far affected some sixty odd squares, leaving some three hundred still to be dealt with, so numerous are the squares of this great city. The result is that on these sixty building has been for all time prevented or restricted by agreement with the freeholders, who, let it be noted, have also agreed to forgo compensation. If the owners of sixty squares are willing to act so generously, surely they are setting an example which others might emulate. It must, however, be added that the majority of these squares were already in the hands of borough councils or other authorities. It is of course possible that more squares may yet be brought within the scope of the Act. Meanwhile, as long as eighteen months ago the L.C.C. began an inquiry into the whole matter, and is at this moment engaged upon a survey in which the whole 360 garden squares of London will be scheduled according to their position of safety or danger as regards building operations, their particular merits according to the amenities which they offer, and the relative density of their surroundings. This is the first time, we believe, that such a survey has been undertaken, and its value in deciding any subsequent course of action will be immense. We must, particularly in these days, cut our coat according to our cloth, but we do not doubt but that the L.C.C., with this information before it, will make heroic efforts to save any particular square should its further existence be threatened and its preservation be of sufficient importance to its district.

We feel, however, that the burden should not entirely be left to the L.C.C. to shoulder. In the first place every effort should be made to maintain in their present condition those squares which are still residential, since by so doing the danger to them is averted. It is difficult, however, to see how this is to be done except by an extension of the principle of zoning, and this brings us to the more important suggestion, and that is, that the Town Planning Act should be so amended as to make the compulsory acquisition of the squares possible. This would be town planning by deed and not by word. The phrase town planning to-day is bandied about the country; it is on everyone's lips, yet where is the thing itself? We are all agreed that to-day we are paying, both directly and indirectly, both in street widening and in loss of life, for the absence of one thing during the last two or three generations, and that thing is town planning. If we let our squares go, shall we be one jot better than our ancestors? No, we shall be worse, for they were ignorant where we are wise. What in the world does town planning stand for if it allows to be destroyed the few amenities which our uncouth towns possess?

But we must—save the squares.

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The British Architects' Conference at Newcastle

THE inaugural proceedings of the 1925 Conference of British Architects at Newcastle-on-Tyne took the form of a smoking concert at the Old Assembly Rooms on Wednesday evening, July 8, as a preliminary to the more serious business.

Thanks to the efforts of the Northern Architectural Association, the welcome accorded the visitors was characteristically hearty, as one might expect in the north.

The President of the Northern Architectural Association, Col. G. Reavell, O.B.E., was there to give the members of the Conference and their ladies the most cordial of welcomes. With him were the members of the Local Conference Committee, with Mr. R. N. MacKellar as the ubiquitous honorary secretary.

During a pause in the musical programme the opportunity was taken to honour a distinguished servant of the R.I.B.A. in the person of Mr. Ian MacAlister, Mr. T. R. Milburn presenting Mr. MacAlister with a gold watch and a cheque, in recognition of the services he had rendered both to the profession and the Institute.

Having referred to the fact that Mr. Buckland had been largely instrumental in doing a great deal of the work in connection with the testimonial, Mr. Milburn said he had been connected so long with the Royal Institute that he could remember no fewer than three secretaries: Mr. W. H. White, Mr. W. J. Locke, and lastly Mr. MacAlister. The work of the Royal Institute had increased enormously during the last few years, and no one who was not a member of the London Council could possibly have any conception of the enormous amount of work which fell upon the shoulders of the secretary. The meetings of the Council were fortnightly, and this involved constant work, and, in addition, there were the elections, and above all, the great question which had been agitating their minds for so many years—the question of Registration.

"It is my great pleasure and privilege," concluded Mr. Milburn, "to ask your acceptance, Mr. MacAlister, of this gold watch and accompanying cheque as a mark of the esteem and affection which we all have for you personally, and of our appreciation of the eminent services which you have rendered to the Royal Institute. The cheque does not in any way represent all your worthiness. Ten thousand pounds would not be sufficient to recognize all you have done, but I know that you will regard this testimonial as the heartfelt expression of our affection for you, and as a symbol that we are not unmindful of all you have done for us."

The Inaugural Meeting.

On Thursday, Mr. E. Guy Dawber, P.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., officially welcoming the members of the Conference, said they had with them the presidents of most of the allied societies, and a great many of their past presidents as well as representatives of their Dominions overseas. He named Mr. and Mrs. R. Alsop, of Australia; Mr. Kerr from Australia; Mr. McWilliams from South Africa; and Mr. Harvey Corbett from New York.

An address on "Architects and the Public" was read by Sir Theodore Morison, principal of the Armstrong College, and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Durham. He said that the two points he wished to make to them were these: We must, firstly, persuade the owners of property in our shopping quarters that harmony of design was essential to the beauty of a street, and that they must therefore agree, jointly and severally, to pursue one architectural policy. Secondly, the architects who design the elevations of mercantile buildings must make provision for publicity both by day and by night. To his mind the main fault of our modern streets was the want of harmonious design. Taken separately, many of the buildings were well enough, but each of them in too many towns was of a different height and in a different style, and the effect of all together was nothing but discord. Each building in it should be in harmony with the general design, and should contribute to its realization. Our streets were a riot of individualism. Each owner had indulged his particular taste or fancy. Very often his object had apparently been to be as bizarre and unlike his neighbours as possible. How could we persuade the individual to subordinate his fancy to a general design? To educate the whole public would be a long business, and might well fill you with despair. But our task was not really so serious as that. The people they wanted to influence were neither numerous nor very hard to convince. They were the owners of house property in the shopping centre. The shopping quarter ought to be the most delightful part of the town. Indeed, it was not fantastical to say that a beautiful aspect was a necessity for a shopping quarter, and we did not need to insist that good architecture paid the shopkeeper. He knew it already, and was ready to back his knowledge with money. What he had failed to grasp was that he could not get full value for his expenditure unless he submitted to a general design.

Mr. Harvey Corbett proposed a vote of thanks to Sir Theodore for his address.

The Civic Reception.

On Thursday night the Lord Mayor and Corporation accorded a civic reception to the members of the Conference. The Lord Mayor said that they all realized the part the architectural profession took in beautifying cities, and they looked to architects to help those who were responsible for the municipal life of the city to help to provide a city beautiful.

They had had men with vision in the past, like Dobson and Armstrong. Dobson was the architect for about the only street that they could justly be proud of in Newcastle, which was Grey Street, and it was a great pleasure to remember that in the building of that street a man of vision took the risk himself, and a great risk. It was not a municipal scheme, and now the estate was being adequately rewarded for the enterprise shown.

A Day in Durham.

Most of the hours of Friday were devoted to a visit to Durham. The members journeyed by special train from Newcastle, and on their arrival proceeded to the Town Hall, where they were received by the Mayor of Durham, Councillor T. W. Holiday, accompanied by Alderman Robert McLean and Alderman R. T. Herring. At one end of the hall was displayed the civic plate, which is acknowledged to be unique, and which was inspected with the greatest interest by the visitors.

By devious roads over which, in days gone by, Norman kings and Stuarts had wended their way through the tortuous streets of the northern citadel, the members then made their way to the Palace Green, where they were taken charge of by various guides for the purpose of viewing the cathedral.

A luncheon was provided for the visitors, who were the guests of the president and council of the Durham colleges, in the Lecture Hall, Palace Green.

Following the luncheon the visitors were photographed in the courtyard of the castle. They then made a tour of inspection of the castle under the expert conductorship of Mr. W. T. Jones, F.S.A., whose knowledge of the castle and its history is unsurpassed.

Later in the afternoon tea was provided in the Lecture Hall, Palace Green, and in the evening the Conference Banquet was held.

Architectural Style—7

By A. TRYSTAN EDWARDS, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.

Punctuation and Inflection—(*continued*)

THE styles of architecture indigenous to China and Japan have as their most prominent characteristic the curved and tilted roofs, whose graceful forms have inspired innumerable artists to pictorial composition. None the less precious because familiar are the charming patterns on those china pieces which in azure tint show, against a background of conventionalized hills, trees, water, and sky, that romantic architecture of wood first created by the genius of the Orient. I invite anyone to take a plate of such china and substitute for the curved roofs of the temples and pagodas therein depicted the crude rectilinear gables and hips we see in our European buildings, and then to consider how much would remain of the beauty and sensitiveness of the design. The obvious fact is that these rectilinear forms cannot blend satisfactorily, either with the landscape or with each other, because they are insufficiently *punctuated*. Sir Christopher Wren gave it as his opinion that the only roof fitted to be the dominating feature in a design was the dome, and a roof made of the intersections of planes covered with slates ought to be kept low, and had best retire behind a parapet. If such a roof, however, raises its head and seeks to become the climax of the architectural composition, then it must be elaborated and refined, and attain that state of self-consciousness which can alone be brought about by the method of punctuation.

Fig. XXIII shows some elementary forms which illustrate the particular quality of design which is obtained by the simple process of terminating straight lines by a curve. Let us compare diagram A with B and C. The first is an extremely simple combination of members, which yet has significance. One glance at it suffices to convince us that it is a finished conception; it is, in fact, architecture. The cross-bar is made self-conscious of its extremities by means of the upward tilts which, however, only begin *outside* the rectangle bounded by the upright members of the composition, and thus not only punctuate the cross-bar but also inflect it to take account of the presence of its substructure. Had the curvature begun at an appreciable distance either before or after the bar had crossed the uprights, the design would have lacked cohesion. B, which is merely jejune, is improved upon in C, where the projections of the transome provide an elementary punctuation to the rectangle. The length of such projection is, however, indeterminate, and the transome itself is not inflected to take cognizance of the uprights. F shows an elaboration of C, inasmuch as the projections of the transome are now stabilized by being associated with a pattern of small horizontal and vertical members which, moreover, perform the double function of conjugating the main uprights so that they form a pair, and inflecting them to bring them into relation with the sign-board, which, in this instance, provides the motive for the structure. D shows the ends of the transome turned downwards, and as far as the punctuation is concerned this shape is just as satisfactory as A, but while its *form* is unimpeachable it has a defect in its *subject*, and this subjectival defect is probably responsible for the fact that, in the architecture of Japan and China, transomes of gateways and eaves and ridges of roofs have never been allowed to droop at their extremities. In the first place, the upward tilt is more satisfactory because, being contrary to gravity, it implies strength and stability; we can scarcely contemplate the drooping form of punctuation with pleasure, because it suggests that the material is bending under its own weight, and if it has bent already it may yield still further. Secondly, and this is perhaps a more subtle point, the lines of the upward tilt, if in imagination we pursue them further, lead to some quite indeterminate spot in the sky, and we do not worry about the exact direction and ultimate destination of the tilted lines, for we are content to appreciate them as the quite limited formal punctuations of cross-bar, eave, or ridge; but did these latter members droop at their ends, the curved lines, when continued onwards, would after a brief interval strike the ground, and at some definite point which would have a totally unnecessary and irrelevant relationship to the building itself. The consciousness of this fact would tend to destroy our pleasure in the punctuation. Moreover, the upward tilt has another advantage, in that it is much more conspicuous than the downward, and provides an easier means of attaining the necessary formal emphasis.

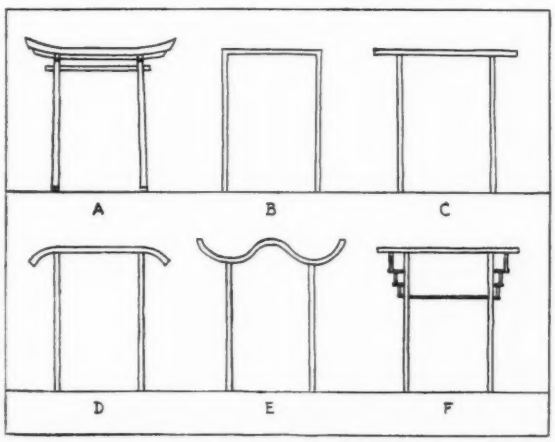


FIGURE XXIII.

Any roof concave towards its exterior is more likely to blend with the dominant horizontal line of architectural composition than is one composed of planes whose intersecting lines impinge upon the ground at an arbitrary angle. For instance, in Fig. XXIV, example A is more pleasing than it would have been had the building shown the ordinary straight-edged gable, for the very existence of the curve suggests that an effort is being made to bend the lines of the roof into closer harmony with the horizontal. But even this has the fault that, inasmuch as the section of the roof is bounded by two arcs of a circle, its profile shows a uniform curvature, and the arcs seem cut off at random, and have no quality of punctuation. In B we see a segmental roof inflected into a shape far more significant than the crude arc of a circle, for here at its extremities the curve is bent upwards, not merely to punctuate itself, but with the ulterior object of attaining a graceful accord with the line of the transome beneath it.

European critics of Japanese architecture have sometimes spoken as if these curved roofs merely indicate on the part of the Japanese a temperamental fondness for curves. But curves, like everything else, can be either right or wrong, and I have shown that it is possible to discover the reason which lies behind and justifies the tilted roofs of Japan. They are an example of punctuation, and the fact that their purpose is made clear by referring them to this formal principle proves the universality of the grammar of design. Of the symbolic meanings attaching to the ornament found in the temples of Japan I do not speak, and it suffices for the present argument that the main characteristics of the Chinese and Japanese styles do not belong to symbolism, but are expressional—that is to say, in order to understand them we do not need to be Buddhists or to be otherwise acquainted with the life and history of the folk who created

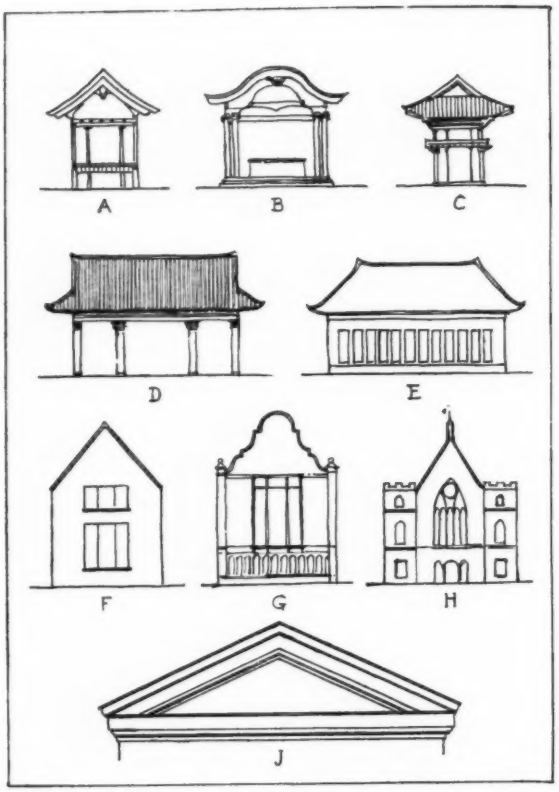


FIGURE XXIV.

them, for these forms of building speak the international language of architecture, which can immediately be understood by applying to it the interpretative principles of number, punctuation, and inflection. The use of the curved member in transome or roof can easily be abused. For instance, Fig. XXIII, E, shows a quite meaningless form, a wave-line, which might go on for ever, and the curvature here does nothing to punctuate the transome.

In Fig. XXIV, C, the profile of the roof, already curved, receives an additional tilt at its nether extremity; in D and E the curves are used to punctuate straight lines. I shall return to the general question of the applicability of this style to European usages in a later article. Meanwhile it is instructive to note that the crudeness of the plain gabled form F has long been apparent to European architects, and interesting attempts have been made to "civilize" the gable. Example G, with the curved ramps on a wall which masks the gable is one solution; while H shows how, even if the gable be retained, punctuating features in the form of tower-like lateral appendages may be introduced with the object of reconciling the obtrusive triangular shape with the horizontal lines of adjacent buildings. The renowned architectural form shown in Fig. XXIV, J, gives yet another solution of the same problem. Here the sloping sides of the roof, although rectilinear, are limited and composed by being formed into a self-conscious triangular pattern. In the pediment the junction between the horizontal and sloping members is most skilfully effected by inflecting their sections in such a manner that the sloping member, while being in accord with the horizontal in so far as it shares the mouldings of the latter, is yet suitably differentiated from it by the addition of the crowning moulding, which also serves to complete the profile of the cornice at either side of the pediment.

These examples show that the historic styles of architecture in their several ways express the grammar of design. Figs. XXV and XXVI illustrate a new building, whose architect has obviously made an attempt to emancipate himself from the past. Does he also emancipate himself from the grammar, and thus fail to say anything coherent at all? Not entirely. The tower is, indeed, punctuated at its top, but perhaps too suddenly, for its plain surface is in no way inflected to prepare us for such a diminution; between the tower and its punctuating member there is nothing in common. Its base is not articulated at all. Moreover, by far the most important event in the life of that tower was when it made the acquaintance of the buildings adjacent to it; but through lack of sensibility it makes no sign of recognition or consciousness. These buildings it does by its presence indeed join together, but the junction is merely physical and not spiritual. Perhaps, though, as the two wings have so little homogeneity, the best thing to do was to separate them by a tower which equally ignored them both by presenting a smooth surface undisturbed by as much as a ripple at the points (of great formal importance), where the buildings, presumably of one composi-

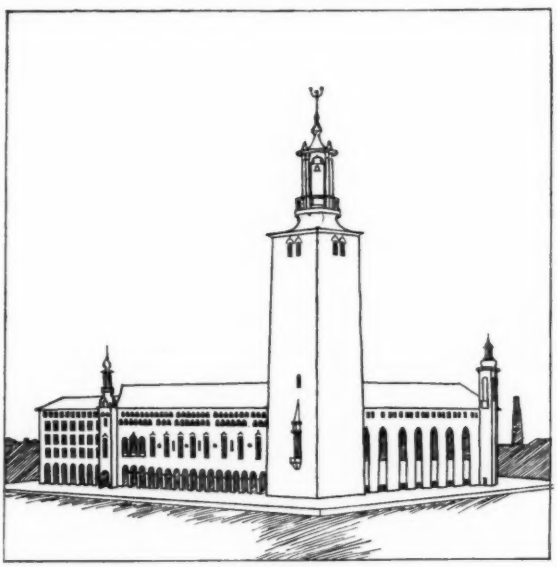


FIGURE XXV

tion with itself, insistently impinge upon it. In Fig. XXVI we see the same lack of homogeneity between the façades. The arch on the right-hand side ignores the windows above it; the tower, standing aloof from the walls of the main building, has apertures out of scale with everything else. In fact, here contrast has been considered a virtue in itself. But while contrast is an element in inflection it is not the whole of it. Inflection implies not only the dissociation of elements to express differences in their function or locality; it implies association as well, so that we may say of all the parts of a design that they should have not only suitable differences, but suitable resemblances.

(To be continued.)

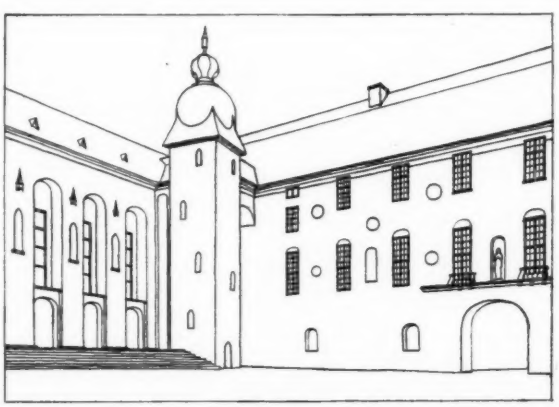


FIGURE XXVI.

The New Headquarters of the British Medical Association

SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., Architect

WHEN the British Medical Association contrived to purchase the great unfinished brick building on the north-east side of Tavistock Place, that Institution earned one of the greatest pieces of good fortune that has ever befallen a professional organization in this country. The situation of the building is admirable. If it lies, perhaps, in a quarter of departed social pre-eminence; the region is one which is rapidly coming into its own once more after many years of comparative neglect. The direct route from Kingsway to King's Cross, moreover, is one which will some day be of incalculable importance. It is towards the northern end of this route that the building stands.

It was a sober and austere Lutyens who drew these broad façades. They were originally designed to shelter a religious organization, which may have had something to do with it. Its plan is of that delightful enclosing U-shape, which is the principal charm of so many of our collegiate and other buildings in which a great many people live and work together. The open space of the U is, however, approached through an extra neck which separates the central Court of Honour from Tavistock Square.

Entering through this neck (flanked on each side by buildings which will one day yield place to extended wings of the new edifice) the first objects that strike the eye are the beautiful Gates of Remembrance, and beyond the gates the façade of the main block with its tall and stately windows. The Gates of Remembrance are of wrought iron. They are surmounted by a shield bearing a brief and appropriate legend, lettered in gold.

The great windows of the main block, which are the most conspicuous feature of the building itself, naturally suggest the presence of some apartment of great consequence, and in accepting their evidence we shall not be disappointed. The great hall, into which they admit an abundance of light, is an imposing room, 120 ft. long, shaped approximately like a double cube. The simplicity of the whole building is here very logically maintained. The roof above this hall is supported on semicircular arches of light steel framing, which remains uncased except at each end, where one bay is surmounted by a painted vault moulded to the shape of the arches behind it. Modern conditions demand that beauty should be contrived directly out of the useful and inexpensive, and in his treatment of the roof and vault of the great hall Sir Edwin Lutyens has complied with this demand in an extremely skilful way. The inside of the roof itself, together with the many subsidiary members of the framing that support it, are painted a nocturnal green, if such a colour exists (which one doubts), and against this shadowy background the semicircular ribs appear in narrow arcs of gold. The whole is supported upon a row of Corinthian columns whose shafts appear as though turned out of some brilliant peacock-blue marble. This astonishing effect appears, upon close inspection, to have been achieved by means of paint.

Centrally below the great hall there runs a vestibule which connects the Court of Honour entrance with that situated in Burton Street. Entering this vestibule from the courtyard you will find on the left the library, on the right the lounge, a spacious apartment with long French windows overlooking the court, its walls finished in white and a delicate pearly-grey—the lightest and most ethereal grey imaginable. A narrow black skirting helps to punctuate the subtle gradations of the walls. Below these rooms are the general offices, the staff dining-rooms, and the printing-machine rooms, besides additional library accommodation.

The windows of the lounge and library are repeated in the façade of the north and south wings, but the apartments lighted by them are several feet below the ground floor, and are approached by flights of stairs and passenger lifts situated at each end of the wing. There are, in the north wing, the Hastings Hall, and in the south wing the great council room. Both rooms are similar in shape and design, the ceiling springing from the walls in an ample cove intersected by the arched ceilings over the window openings. The colour-scheme in each room is a combination of white with a pale chamois yellow; artificial illumination is provided by means of inverted bowls resting on little gilt pedestals of very interesting design. The floor of the council room rises in tiers, and on these tiers are row upon row of comfortable seats upholstered in green morocco. The walls are lined with oak panelling bearing the names of past chairmen, editors, and other dignitaries of the Association.

The building covers 18,000 sq. ft., and covers a site on which once stood Tavistock House, Dickens's London home before he removed to Gadshill. The actual site of the novelist's house is now covered by the sunken garden of B.M.A. House, but the tree under which Dickens used to sit is still preserved, and it is proposed to set up a memorial tablet marking the position of the house and recalling that he lived there from 1851 to 1860.

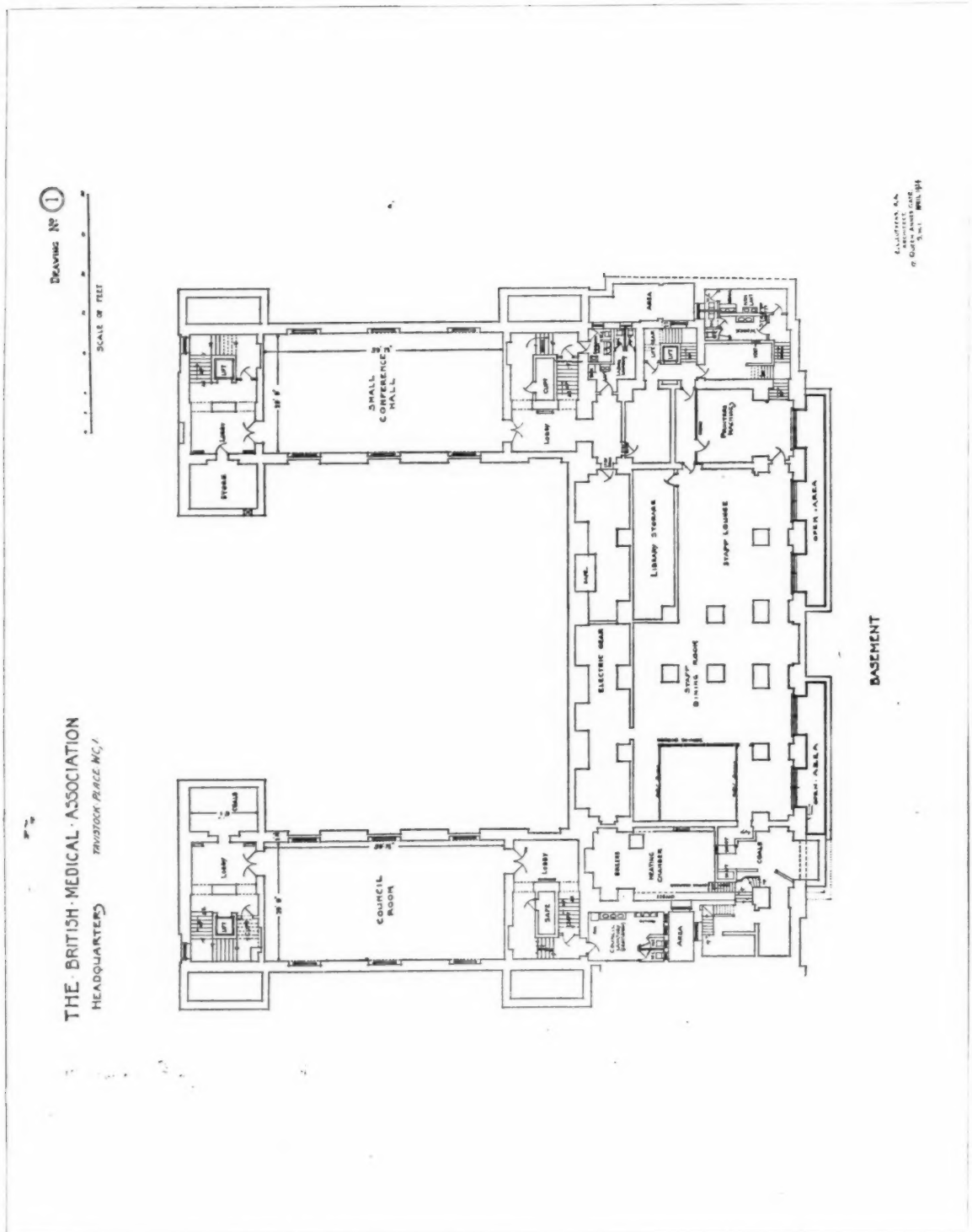
It was at Tavistock House that Dickens was visited by Hans Christian Andersen, who "had a snug room looking out on the garden, and over the tree-tops saw the London towers and spires." In this house Dickens wrote portions of "Bleak House," "Hard Times," "Little Dorrit," and the "Tale of Two Cities." It was his last permanent home in London, though he afterwards had chambers in which he occasionally stayed at 26 Wellington Street, Strand, over the offices of "All the Year Round."

Messrs. Ford and Walton, Ltd., were the general contractors, and the sub-contractors were as follows: Richard Crittall & Co., Ltd. (heating and hot water); Higgins and Griffiths, Ltd. (electrical works); Carter and Aynsley, Ltd. (handrails, etc.); General Electric Co., Ltd. (electric fittings); G. H. Barrett & Co. (copper glazing); Robert Adlard & Co. (bricks and tiles); Nine Elms Stone Masonry Works (Portland and York stone work); the Birmingham Guild, Ltd. (memorial gates and railings); Wm. Morris & Co. (Westminster), Ltd. (bronze name-plates); Thomas Elsley, Ltd. (bronze name-plates and railings); Joseph Kaye and Sons, Ltd. (keys and door furniture); Hampton and Sons, Ltd. (interior decoration); Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd. (steelwork); Waygood-Otis, Ltd. (lifts); Salter, Edwards & Co., Ltd. (asphalting); A. Broadbent and Sons, Ltd. (carving and modelling); John Bolding and Sons, Ltd. (sanitary fittings); Chatwood Safe Co., Ltd. (strong room); Stevens and Adams, Ltd. (parquet floors); Dyne and Evens (flag poles); Constable, Hart & Co., Ltd. (tarmacadam); Wainwright and Waring (lead lights); James Adams & Co., Ltd. (door springs).

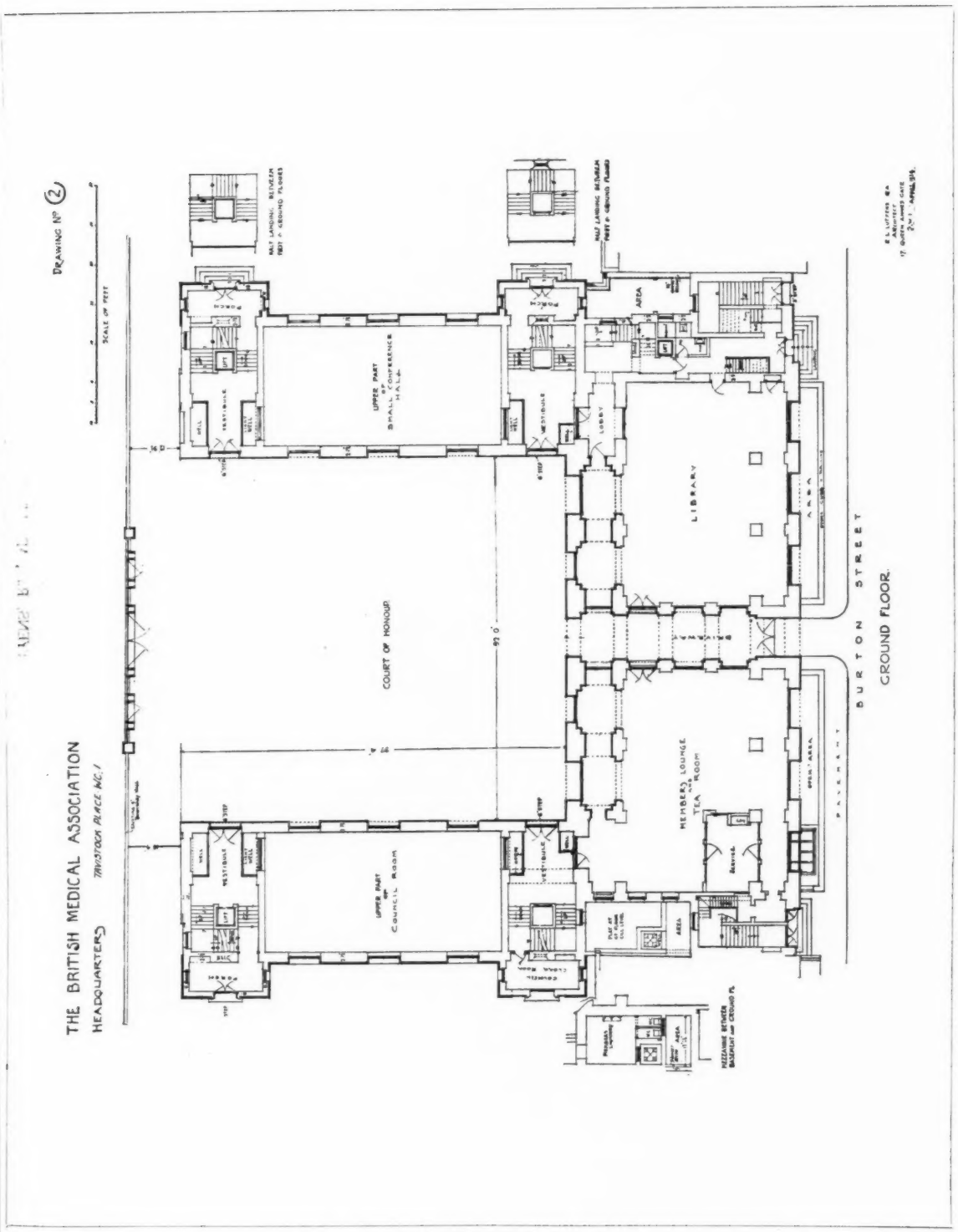
Messrs. Samuel Wright & Co., Ltd., carried out the plaster work in the Great Hall, including the vaulted ceilings, the whole of the job being plastered in Keene's cement. The Leyland and Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd., laid the rubber flooring, covering an area of about 2,800 square yards; and the staircases were covered with special treads, as designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens for Britannic House. This firm also laid the carriageway with rubber blocks.

THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK PLACE, LONDON: THE SOUTH-EAST ELEVATION. SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., ARCHITECT.

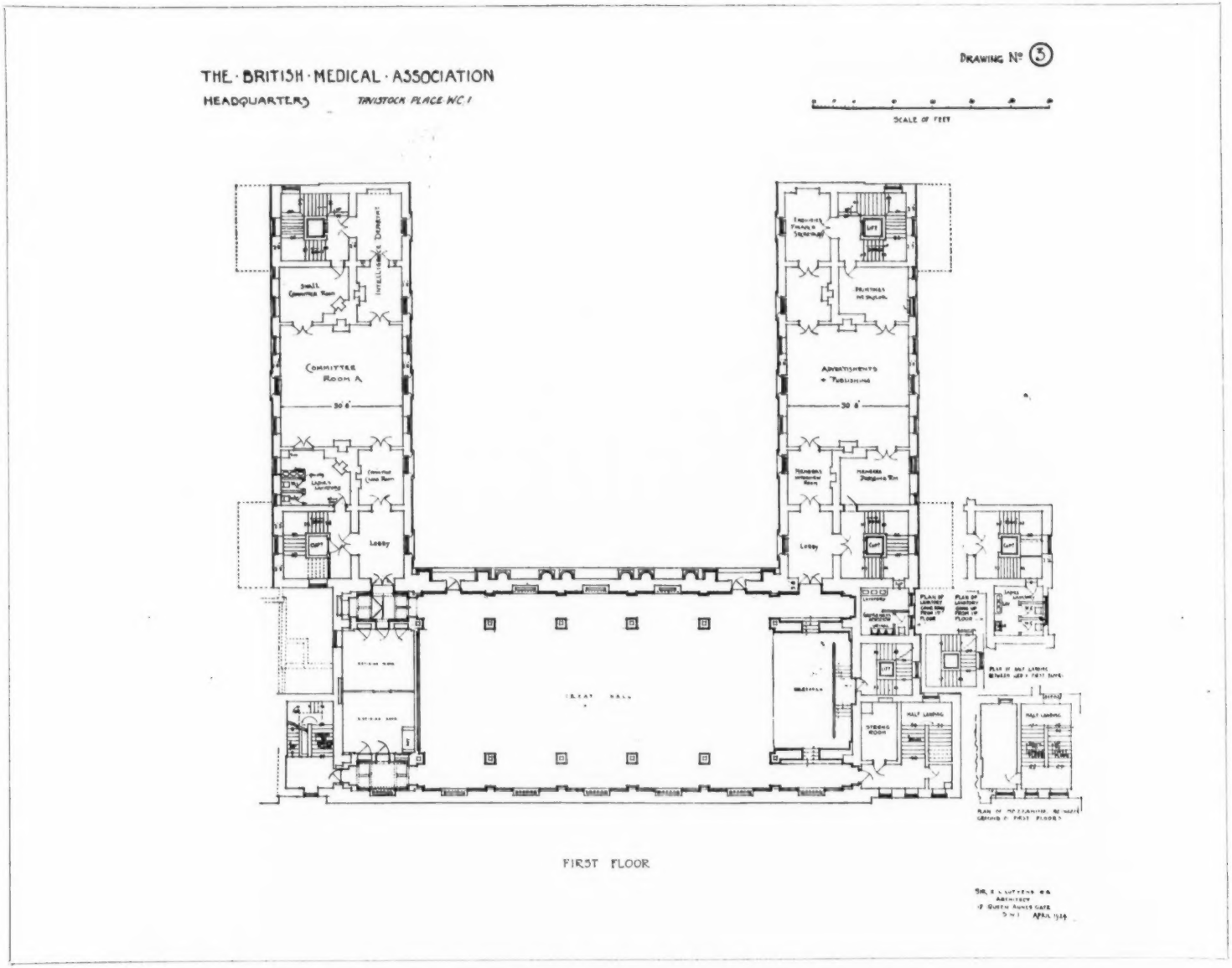
THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK PLACE, LONDON: THE BURTON STREET FAÇADE SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., ARCHITECT.



THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK PLACE, LONDON: BASEMENT PLAN.
SIR EDWIN L LUT A. ARCHITECT.



THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK PLACE, LONDON: GROUND FLOOR PLAN.
SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., ARCHITECT.

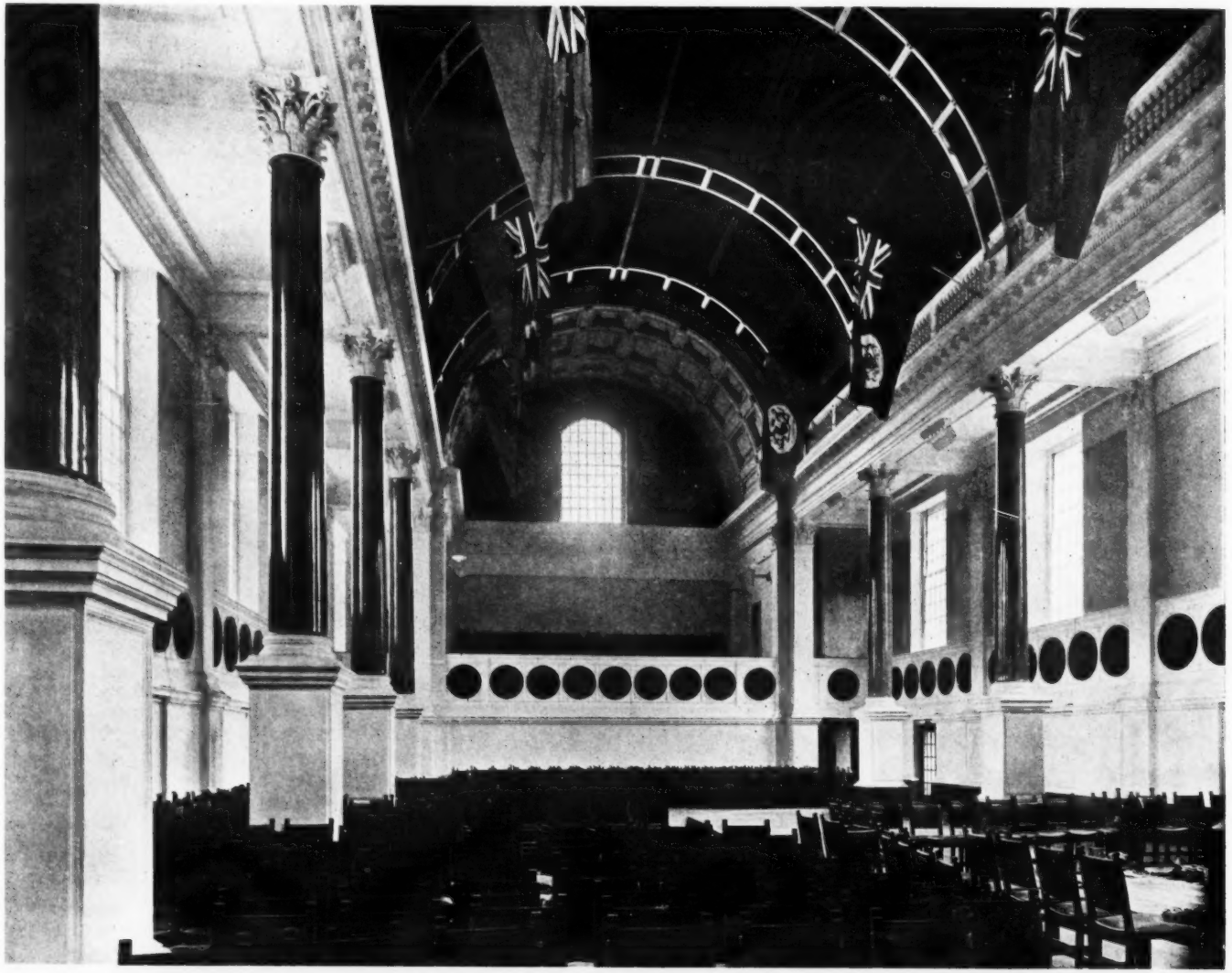


THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK PLACE, LONDON: FIRST-FLOOR PLAN.
SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., ARCHITECT.

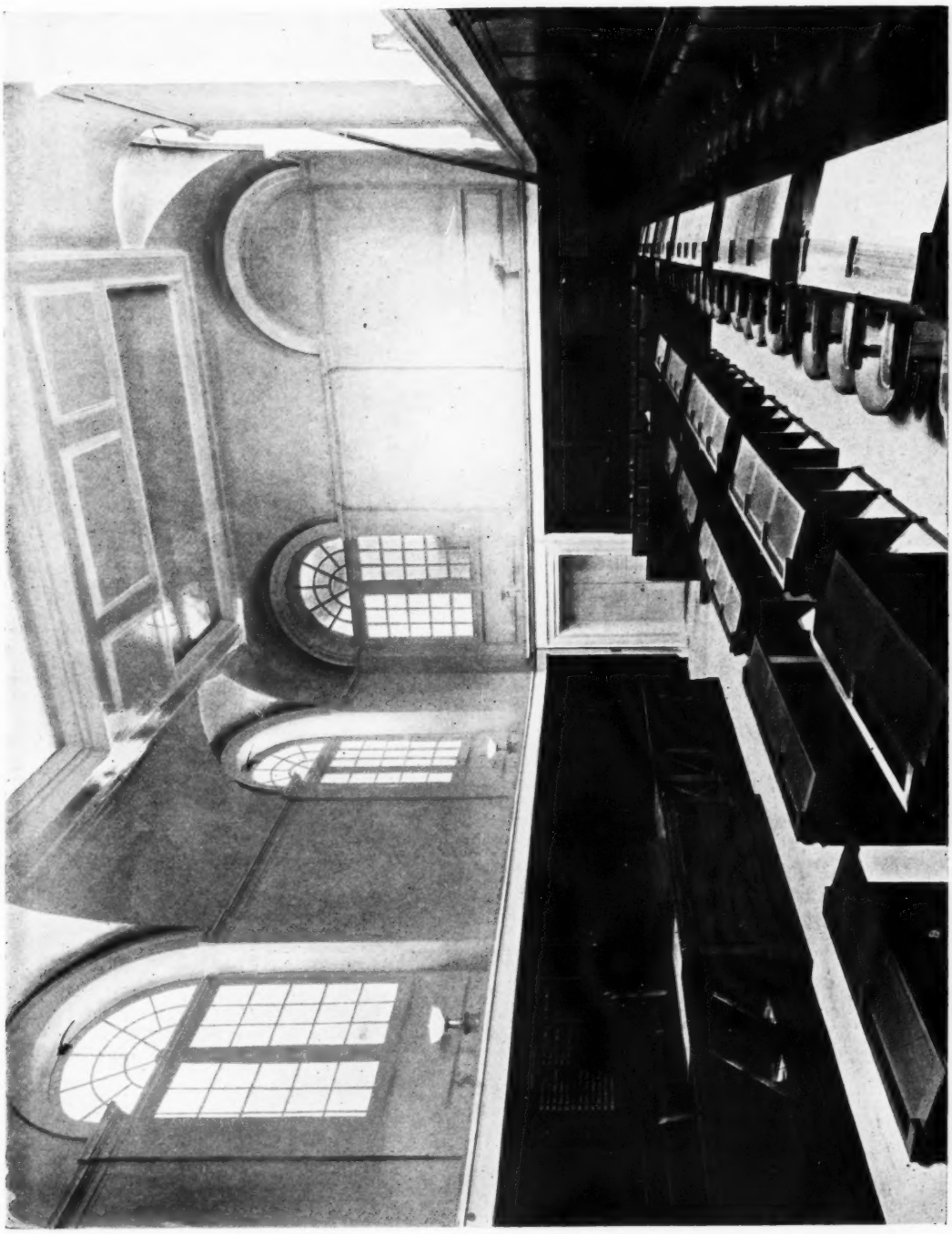
The New Headquarters of the British Medical Association, Tavistock Place, London: The Great Hall

The New Headquarters of the British Medical Association, Tavistock Place, London : The Great Hall

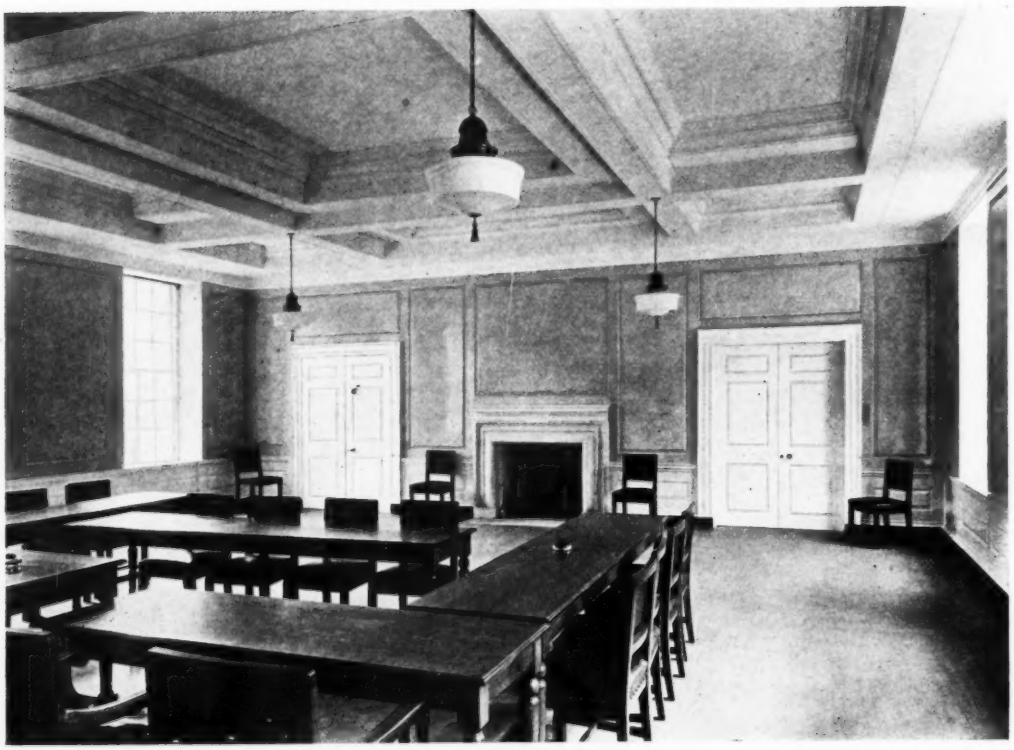
Sir Edwin L. Lutyens, R.A., Architect



The Great Hall is on the first floor of the building, with windows at the front facing Tavistock Square, and overlooking the Court of Honour.



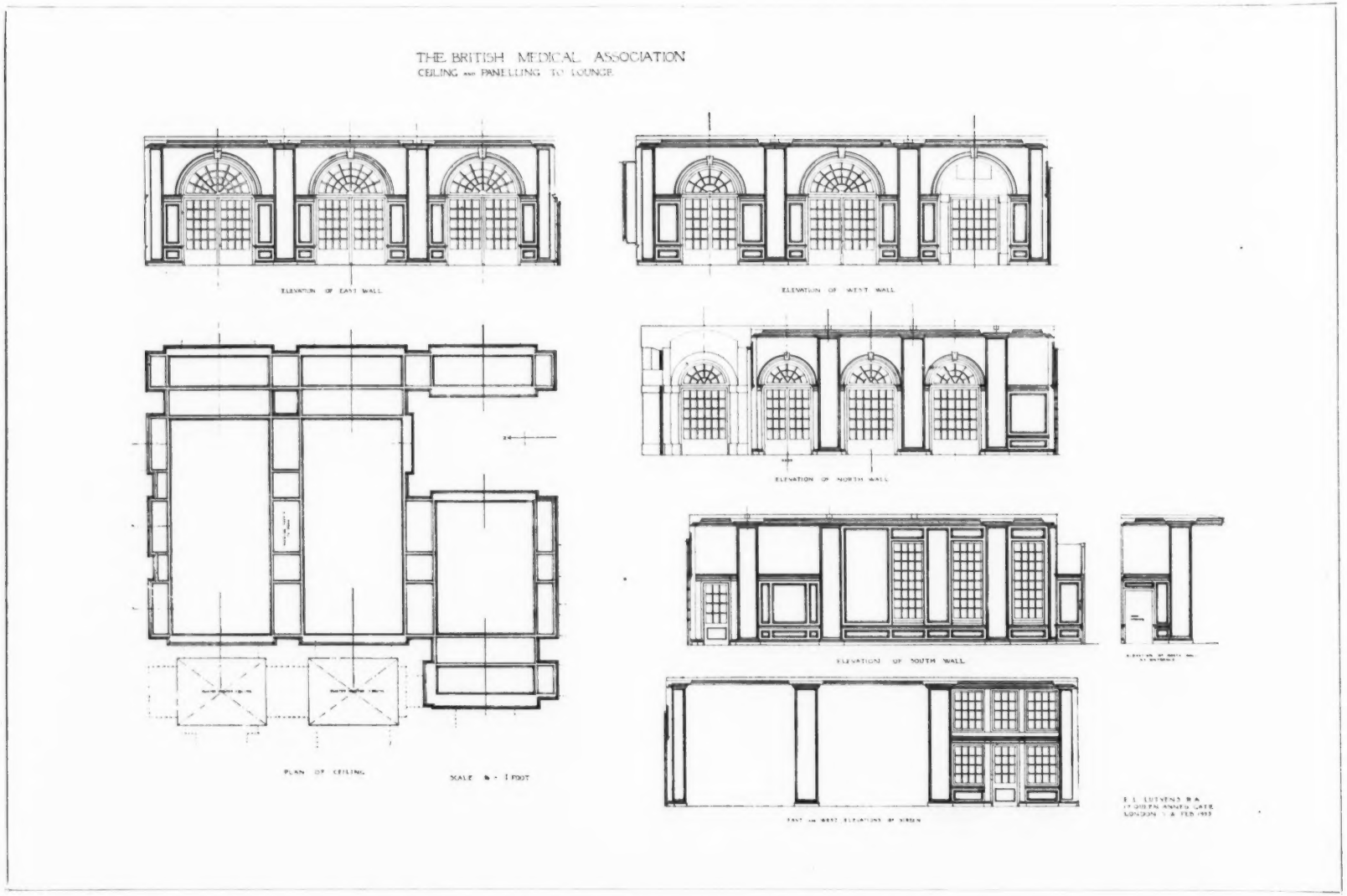
THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK PLACE, LONDON: THE SMALL CONFERENCE HALL.
SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., ARCHITECT.



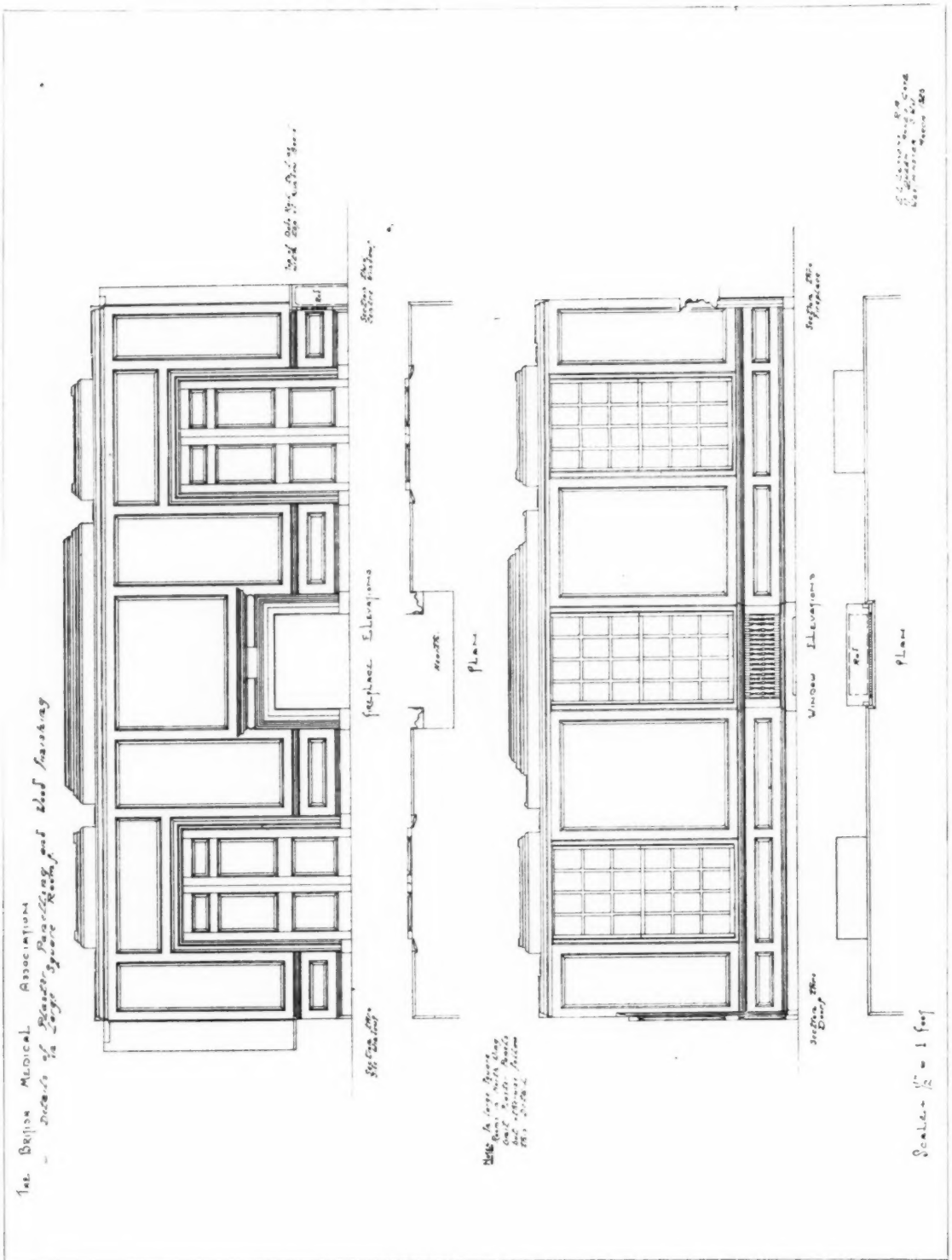
A COMMITTEE ROOM.

MEMBERS' LOUNGE AND TEA ROOM.

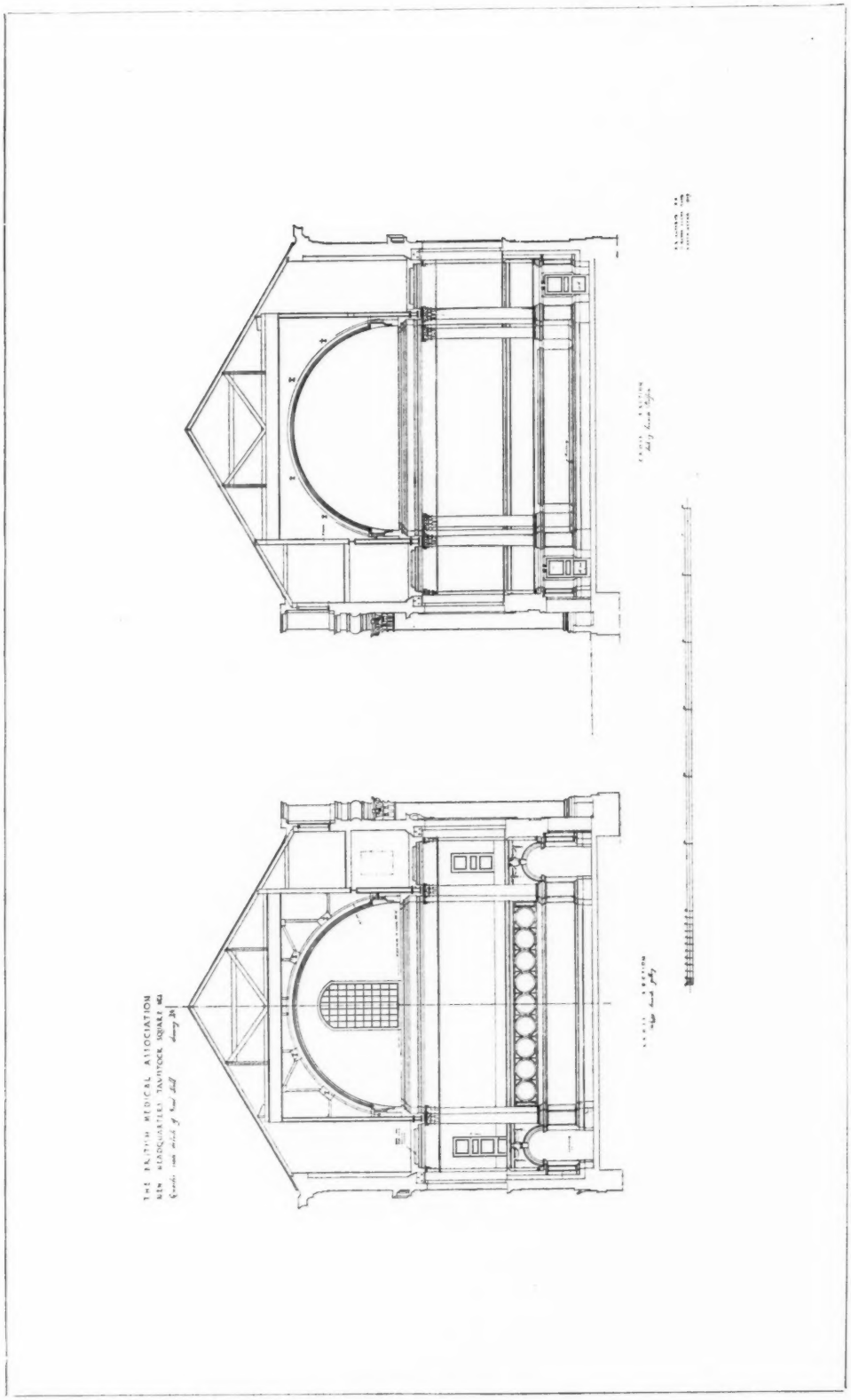
THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK PLACE, LONDON.
SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., ARCHITECT



THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK PLACE, LONDON: DETAILS OF THE LOUNGE.
SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., ARCHITECT



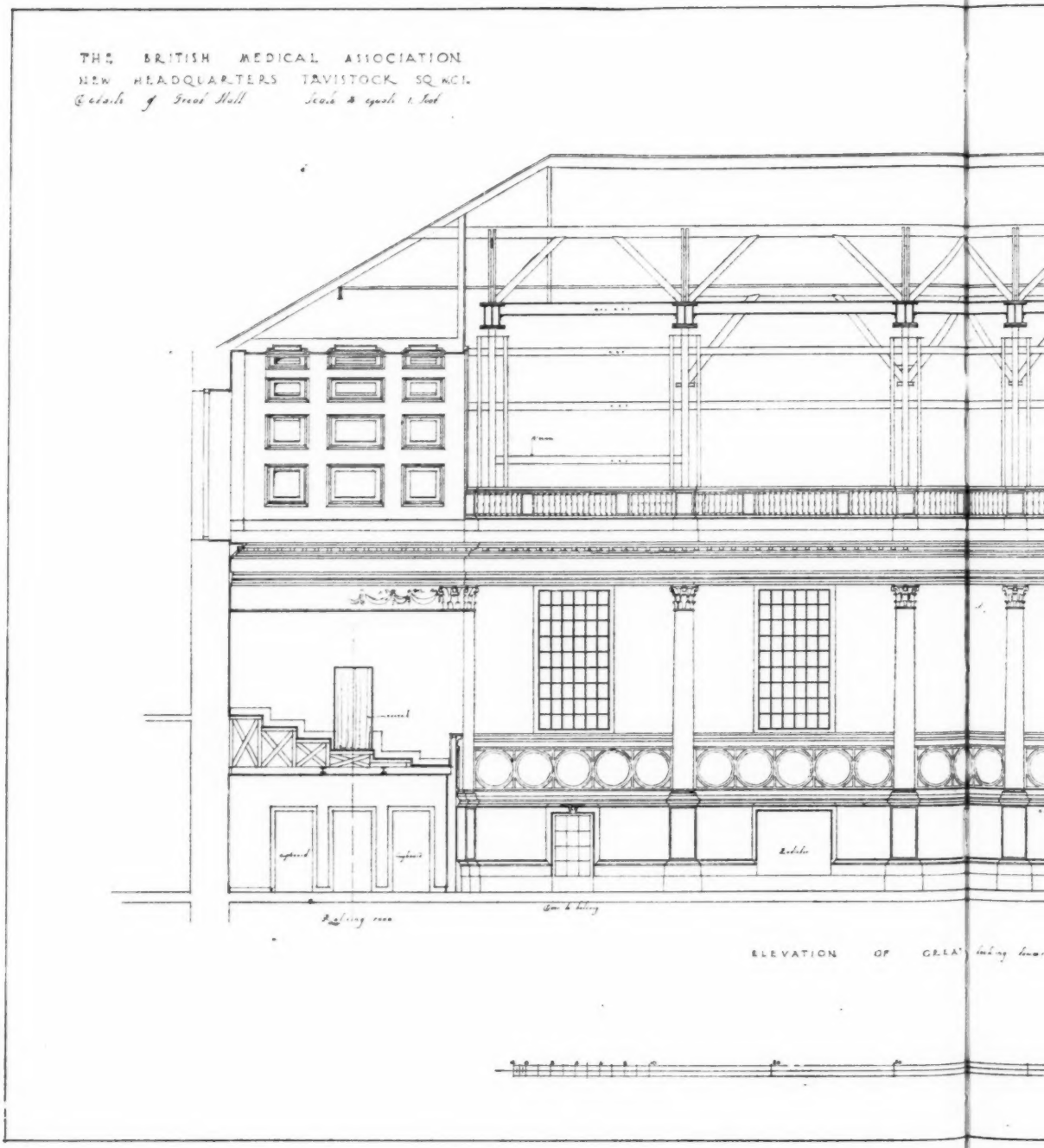
THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK PLACE, LONDON: DETAILS OF LARGE SQUARE ROOMS.
SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., ARCHITECT



THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK PLACE, LONDON: DETAILS OF THE GREAT HALL.
SIR EDWIN L. LUTYENS, R.A., ARCHITECT.

Architects' Working Drawings. 101.—The New Headquarters of ...ish Me...

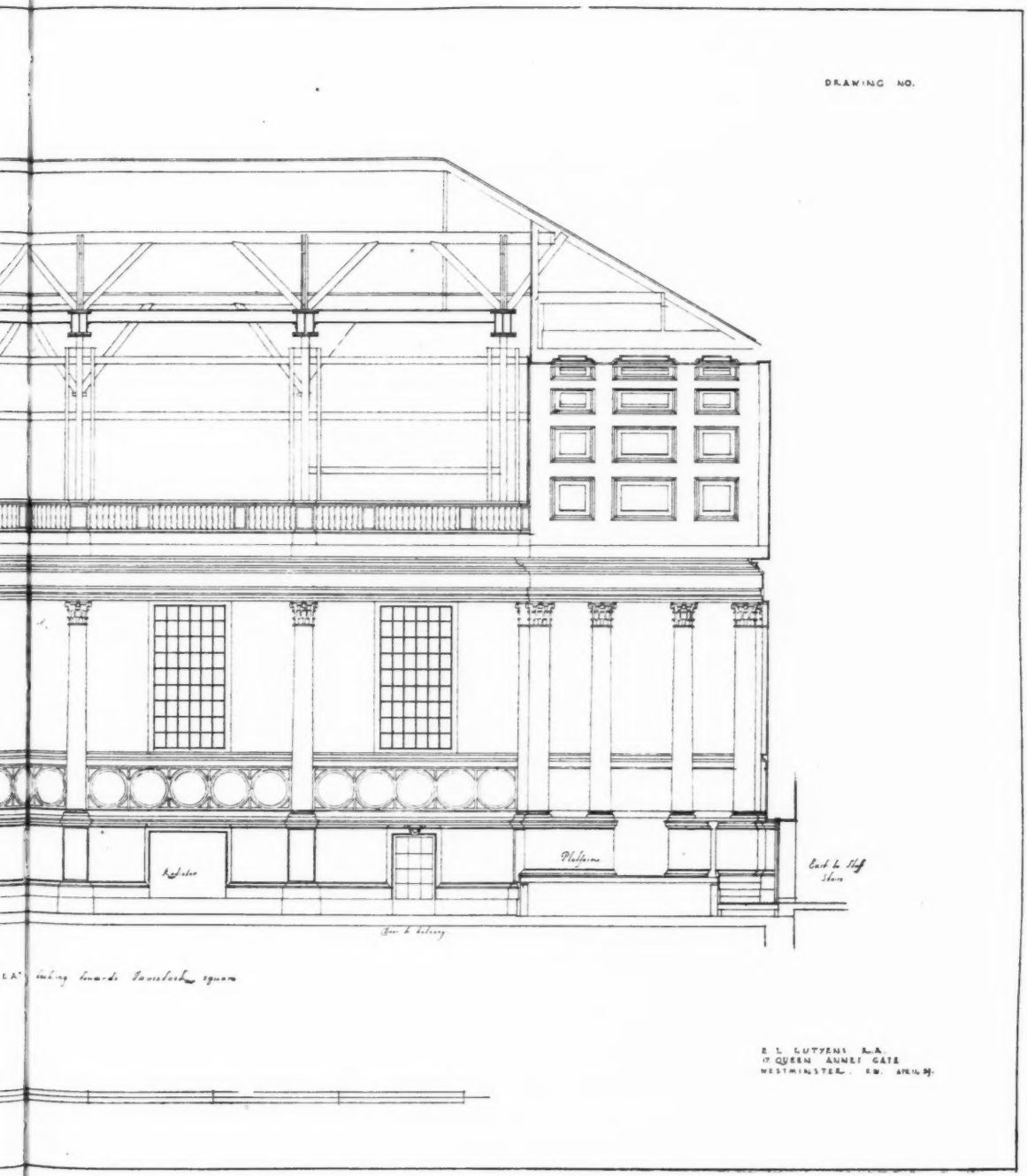
Sir Edwin L... R.A., A...



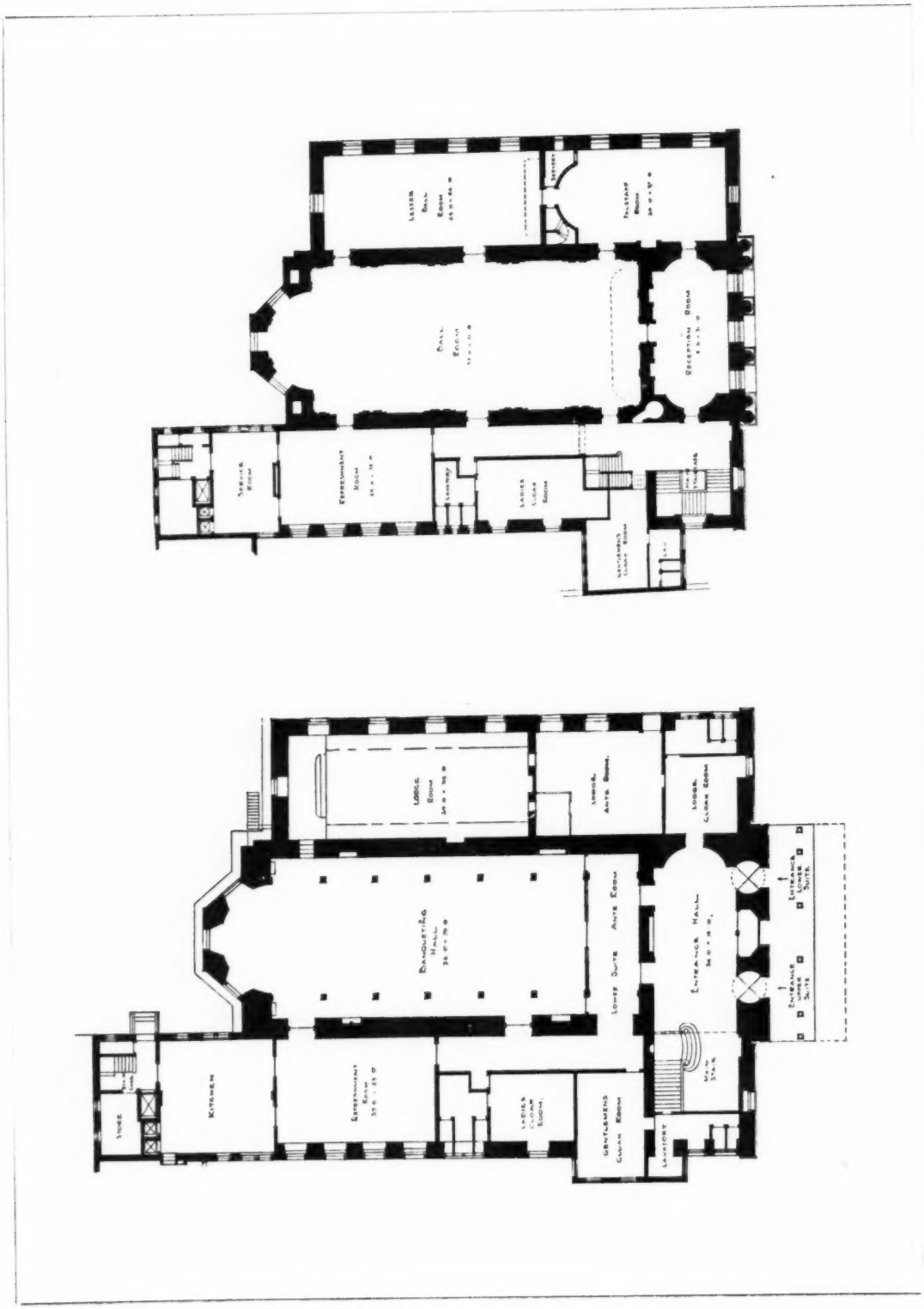
A photographic view of the Great Hall ...age 89. O...

f tish Medical Association, Tavistock Place, London : The Great Hall

L. R.A., Architect



Hall page 89. Other details are on page 95.



THE OLD ASSEMBLY ROOMS, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

J. NEWTON, ARCHITECT (1776). CACKETT AND BURNS DICK, FF.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECTS FOR THE ALTERATIONS

The Old Assembly Rooms, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

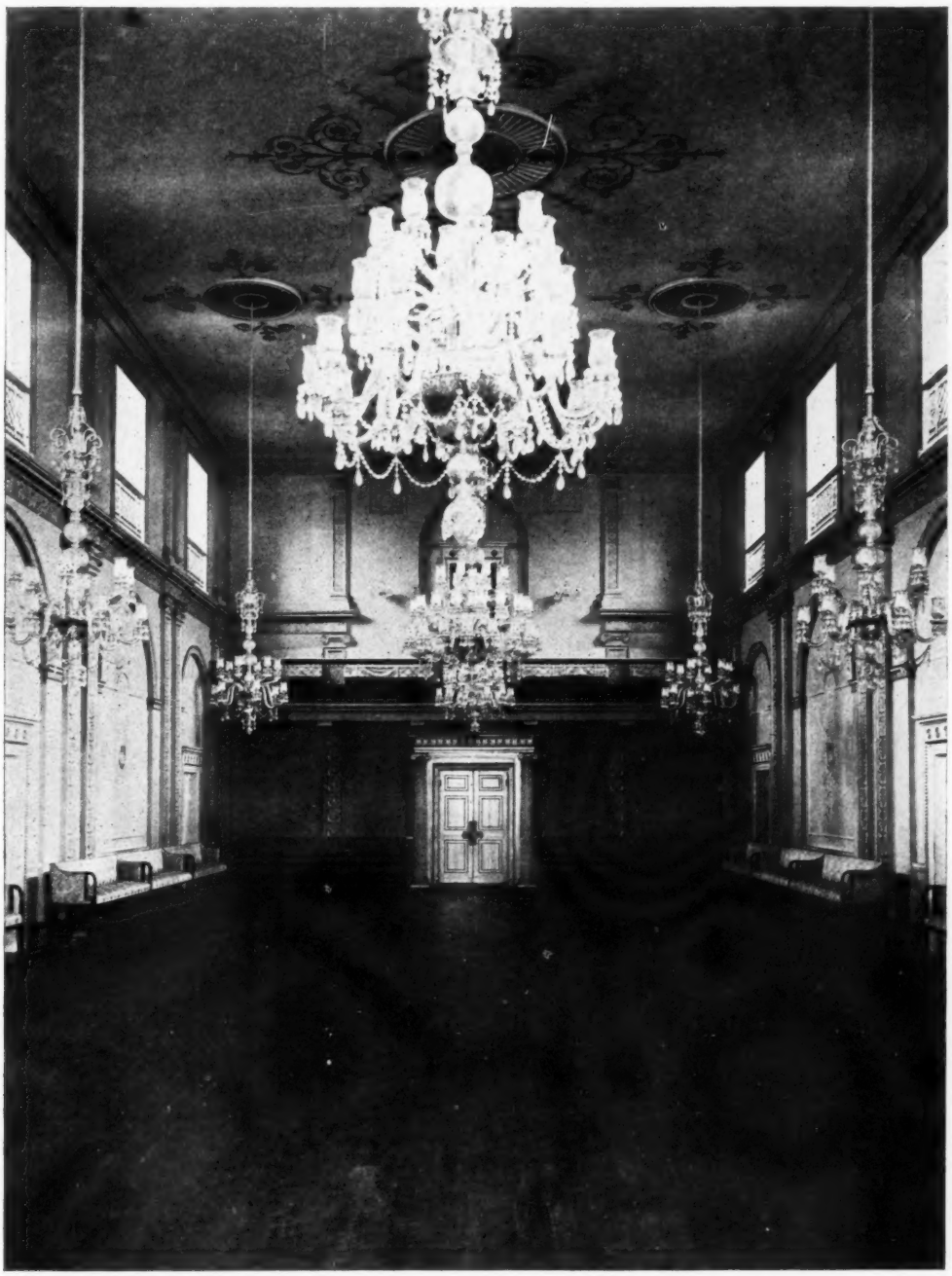
J. Newton, Architect (1776)

This eighteenth-century building in Westgate Road will be fresh in the minds of those members of the R.I.B.A. who attended the Conference.

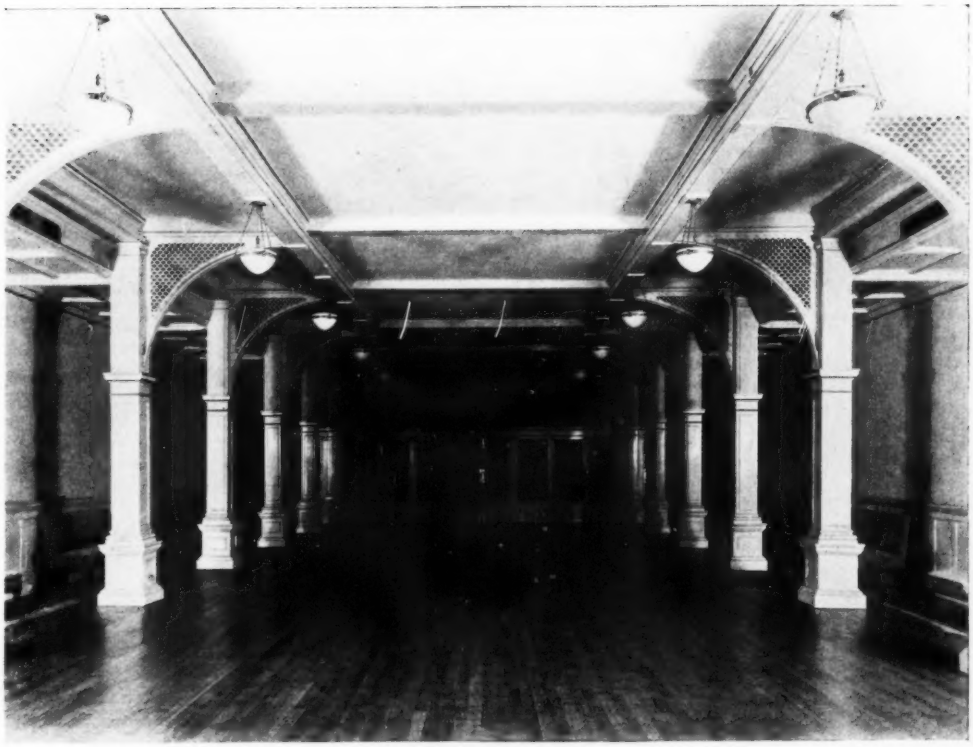
The Old Assembly Rooms, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

J. Newton, Architect (1776)

Cackett and Burns Dick, FF.R.I.B.A., Architects for the Alterations



The view is of the Ballroom, looking towards the Reception Room.



THE BANQUETING HALL.

THE ENTRANCE HALL.

THE OLD ASSEMBLY ROOMS, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. J. NEWTON, ARCHITECT (1776), CACKETT AND BURNS DICK, FF.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECTS FOR THE ALTERATIONS.

The Manchester Art Gallery Competition

A Criticism of the Designs

By PROFESSOR L. B. BUDDEN

THE method of judging architectural competitions by a jury rather than by a single assessor has long obtained in other countries. We, on the other hand, have been curiously reluctant to adopt it. It is with us the rule and not the exception, even in the case of large and important competitions, to entrust to one person the difficult and arduous task of analysing, sifting, and placing in order of merit the designs submitted. The practice, in many cases, has proved unsatisfactory and the profession—or at least the younger members of it—have agitated for the introduction of the jury system. Their wishes in this matter have rarely been gratified. The fact that a jury was appointed for the adjudication of the Manchester Art Gallery competition must have been generally welcomed, and we may hope that it will afford a valuable precedent for the future.

When, however, the jury system becomes universal, as it should be for all competitions of major importance, there will still remain further reforms to be effected in the organization of the competitions themselves. No less than one hundred and seven competitors submitted large and elaborate sets of drawings in the Manchester competition. The amount of work which the profession has undertaken in this case is immense; to see it assembled in one great hall is to realize only imperfectly what expenditure of thought, time, labour, and money must have been involved. The last of these alone may be approximately computed. At a very conservative estimate it may be reckoned that each individual competitor, or firm of competitors, must have spent not less than £100 in preparing their drawings (I know of one instance in which over £250 was spent). Taking this average expenditure at £100 it will be seen that the profession as a whole has devoted over £10,000 to the object of providing the City of Manchester with alternative schemes, from amongst which a jury appointed by the City Council might select a design for execution. The recompense to the profession, apart from the remuneration of the winner, when and if he carries out his own scheme, amounts to £1,100, divided into four premiums of £500, £300, £200, and £100, awarded respectively to the authors of the designs placed first, second, third, and fourth.

To a competitive system which operates so wastefully, and which imposes so inequitable a burden upon the profession, there is a very simple and, outside Great Britain, a normal alternative. A competition of such magnitude can and should be an affair of two stages. The first stage should be an open one in which any qualified member of the profession would be free to compete. The drawings for this stage would be strictly limited to three or four at the most; they would be drawn to the smallest practicable scale, purely diagrammatic in form, and unrendered; they would, in fact, be simply *sketch designs*, and any competitor who tried to secure an advantage by elaborating his scheme beyond the restrictions imposed would for that reason alone be disqualified. The sketches thus submitted would be judged in the main simply on *parti*, that is, on the fundamental idea or ideas indicated in them. From the schemes presented in the open stage, ten, or at the most a dozen, might be selected by the jury for the final competition. As this last stage would involve numerous and elaborate drawings for the full development of the projects, a sum of at least £100 should be allocated to each selected competitor to assist in meeting the heavy expenses that would be incurred. In the case of a parsimonious authority, which refused to set aside further sums for premiums, the ultimate reward would have to be that of the commission itself, given to the winner on the terms approved by the R.I.B.A. Even so, a competition held on these lines would be vastly more satisfactory and altogether fairer to the profession as a whole than a competition conducted on the present method. A hundred or more architects would not be called upon to prepare completely finished sets of drawings, and to speculate with more of their time and money than many of them can reasonably afford. And, for competently trained assessors, the work of judging would itself be greatly simplified and made actually more certain.

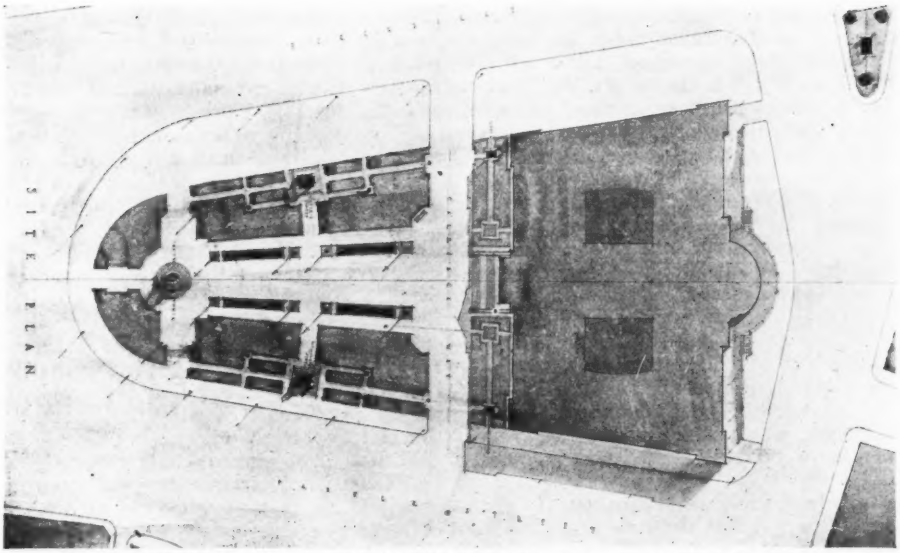
To come now to a review of the drawings on exhibition in the Manchester Town Hall. Within the space available for this notice it will not be possible to refer to all those designs whose merits may deserve to be recorded, I can only make an arbitrary selection, following on my criticism of the winning scheme in a previous issue.

It would seem probable that the feature to which Mr. E. Maxwell Fry and Mr. G. L. Owen owe their second place is the remarkably fine central vista their plan affords, a vista that extends from the main entrance up a grand staircase and through the sculpture hall, beyond which it terminates in the Hall of Memory. The rhomboid shape of their plan necessarily forces them to make a series of adjustments in the interior of the building. These are everywhere skilfully managed, and actually used to advantage in producing good architectural shapes. Twin courts, one on either side of the central axis, light the inner elements of the plan, top-lighting in particular the textile and pottery galleries on the ground floor. On this floor, in common with most of the designs submitted, the reserve galleries are placed; and whilst they are as well disposed as it is possible for them to be on that floor, the effective result shows how much the winner has scored by placing his on a mezzanine. The circulation on the first floor is better than that on the ground, being altogether easier to handle. As far as the lay-out is concerned, there does not seem to be much to choose between it and that of the winner; both are simple, open, and broad, and would make the area in front of the building a dignified *place*. Of the elevations to the second premiated scheme, that at the back, facing on to Portland Street, seems the best composed and the most interesting, its central apsidal projection being very pleasantly modelled.

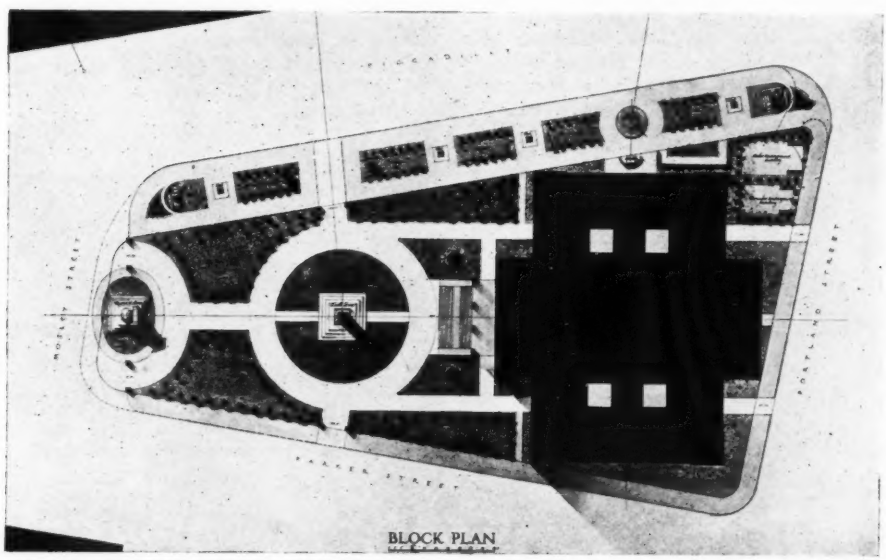
Excellent circulation is one of the strongest points in the plan by Mr. Alfred W. S. Cross and Mr. Kenneth M. B. Cross. The *parti* here is one of the most direct submitted in the competition; the silhouette, by providing rectangular projections on the east and west sides, frees the major rectangle of the plan for uninterrupted traffic lines parallel to all four sides. Four large staircases grouped in pairs, one at the front, the other at the back of the plan, are so arranged that the circulation passes easily through them. Internally, the plan is lighted by four courts. On the first floor the galleries are either top-lighted or are lighted on the Hurst-Seager system. In this respect, the methods followed are roughly similar to those adopted in the design placed second, except that in the latter Mr. Fry and Mr. Owen have been content with a modified form of scientific top-side lighting.

Mr. W. Warman and Mr. W. G. Sinning, who receive the fourth premium, have produced a plan different in type from any other evoked by the competition. It is worked out with great thoroughness, and includes a basement as fully developed as the ground floor itself. To accommodate their Hall of Memory they have resorted to a second floor, and have placed this hall above the main entrance block, over which it rises as a lofty tower crowned by a dome.

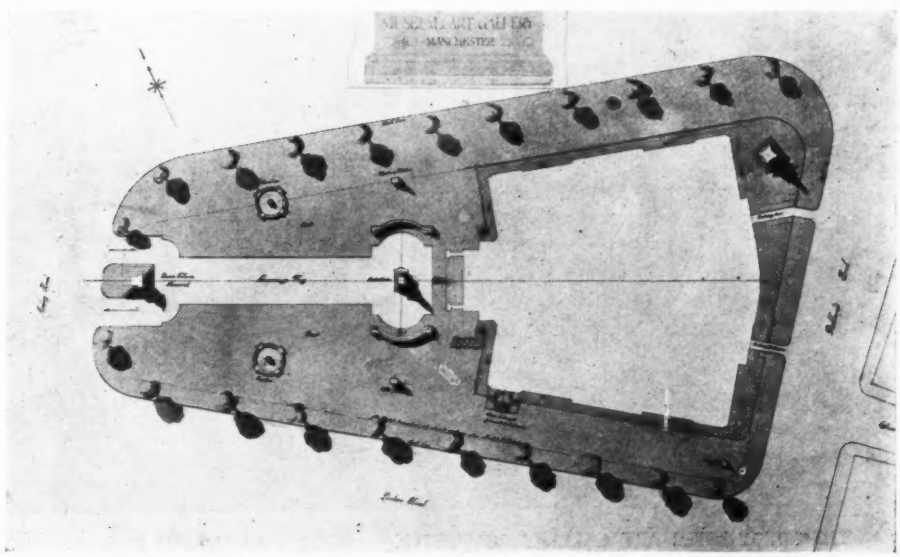
Every architect who visits the exhibition will no doubt form his own judgments as to the designs which have been premiated. It cannot be expected that the assessors'



SECOND PREMIATED DESIGN. E. MAXWELL FRY AND G. L. OWEN, JOINT ARCHITECTS.



THIRD PREMIATED DESIGN. ALFRED W. S. CROSS AND KENNETH M. B. CROSS, ARCHITECTS.



FOURTH PREMIATED DESIGN. W. WARMAN AND W. G. SINNING, ARCHITECTS.

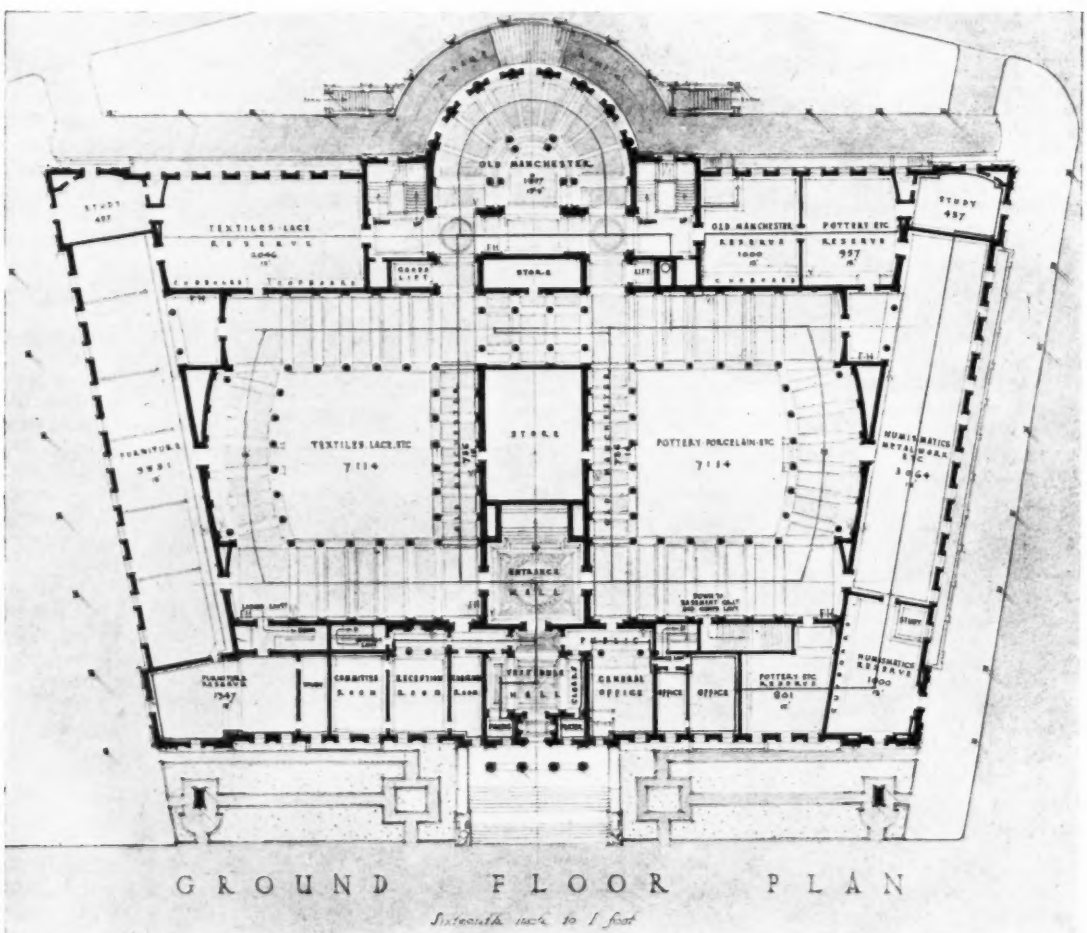
THE MANCHESTER ART GALLERY COMPETITION: LAY-OUTS.

selection will be endorsed by every private opinion. I may, therefore, permit myself to think that there are several designs not placed which have very serious claims to consideration. The first I would cite is that of Mr. W. Naseby Adams, whose plan is distinguished by a most effective simplicity. It shares with the winner two conspicuous merits. The principal staircases are disposed on either side of the main entrance, so that the circulation of the whole plan is released from the complications that are difficult to avoid if any other disposition be adopted. Secondly, a mezzanine floor is used to the great advantage of the plan as a whole. Had Mr. Adams accommodated in this mezzanine his reserve galleries, his plan would have been remarkably like that of the winner. The elevations are conceived in a manner reminiscent of San Micheli, and are very beautifully drawn. Whilst it must frankly be admitted that most of the projects are inadequate in their suggestions for the treatment of the *place*, Mr. Adams's scheme shows an arrangement—a sunk garden—that seems entirely appropriate and well calculated to assist the effect of the building.

Another design showing exceptional qualities is that submitted by Messrs. Grayson and Barnish. It is one of the most impressive and highly finished in the whole exhibition. In plan its unique features are: (1) The placing of the pottery room so that it performs also the function of a great entrance hall from which the main staircases rise at either end; and (2) the housing of the Hall of Memory in the lower part of a tower, which is attached to the north-east corner of the building. Both internally and externally the architectural treatment has a noble scale. The proportions are finely conceived, and the elements of each separate portion of the composition placed with sure judgment. Possibly no other scheme would, as pure architecture, build so well.

There are many other designs which repay careful study, notably the scheme presented by Mr. E. W. Armstrong and Mr. H. McGregor Wood, a Greek cross plan most expertly worked out; the broad and simple conception of Mr. C. Evelyn Simmons and Mr. A. Trystan Edwards, which, in its detail, exhibits the influence of Soane; the finely-drawn set shown by Messrs. Harvey, Wicks and Dougill; a project by Mr. D. Nisbett and Mr. F. Jenkins, that, in its elevations, is in the best vein of American civil architecture; the boldly original plan and beautifully rendered drawings of Messrs. Lanchester, Lucas and Lodge and Cyril A. Farey; and what is probably the most dramatic and imaginative vision which the competition has called forth, the great circular building conceived by Mr. W. J. H. Gregory.

Whilst there remain admirable designs that have not been mentioned, it must be confessed that very many schemes have been submitted which are neither practicable in their planning nor possessed of architectural quality in their elevations. The idea appears still to be prevalent that architecture is an affair of stylistic trappings, and that compositions which are inherently bad in their massing, silhouette, and proportions can be remedied, and even altogether saved, by applying classical orders to walls, entablatures and pediments to windows, and fluted bands to blank spaces.



THE MANCHESTER ART GALLERY COMPETITION: SECOND PREMIATED DESIGN.
E. MAXWELL FRY AND G. L. OWEN, JOINT ARCHITECTS.

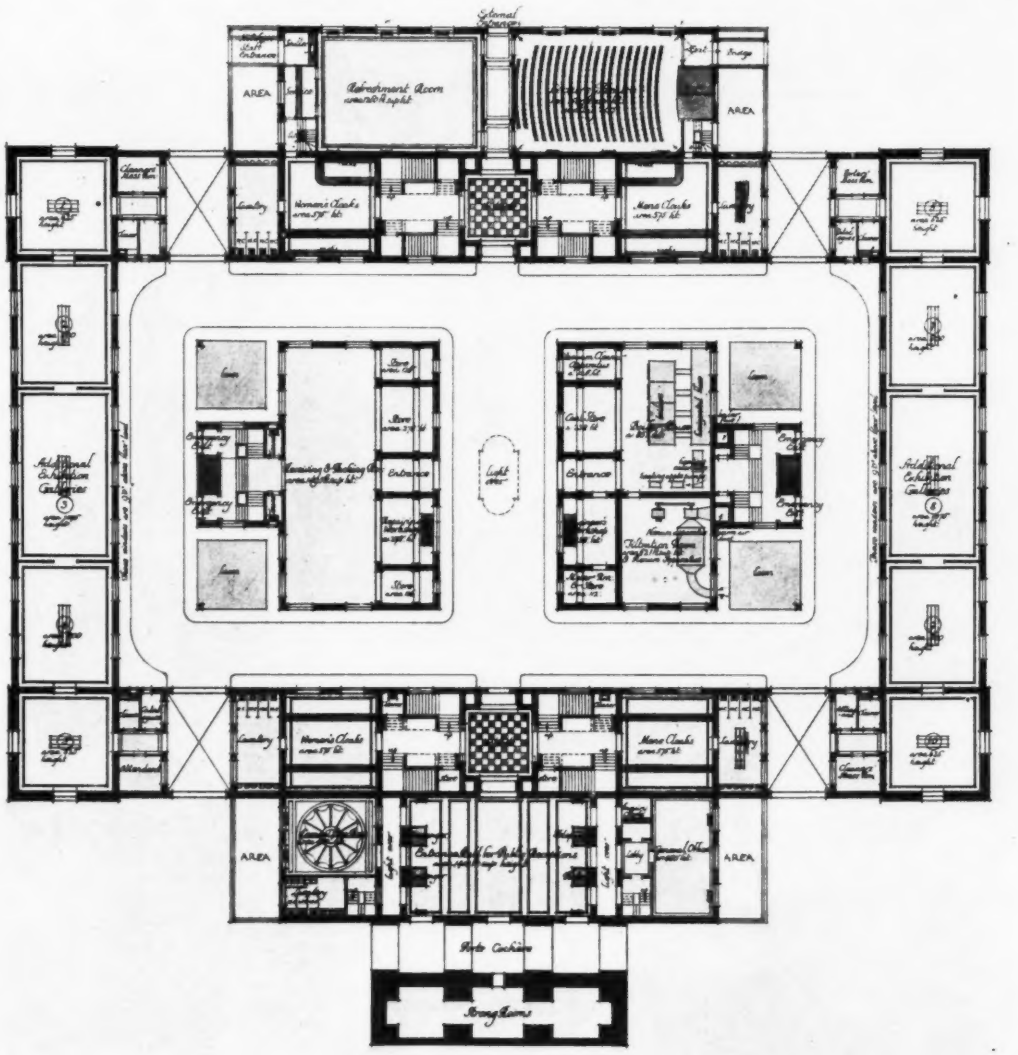
Our Works at the Oval. *Frank Brangwyn, R.A.*

The Conditions of the Competition

The competition was promoted by the Corporation of the City of Manchester, and four premiums, one of £500, another of £300, another of £200, and another of £100, were offered for the designs placed respectively first, second, third, and fourth by the jury. Subject to the Corporation deciding by resolution to proceed with the scheme, the author of the design placed first is to be appointed and employed to carry out the work in accordance with the R.I.B.A. scale of professional charges. In the event of the Corporation not proceeding with the work within two years a sum of £1,500 (including the premium) is to be paid to the author of the winning scheme. Each set of drawings submitted had to be accompanied by a report, and to be submitted under conditions of strict anonymity. The following drawings were required:—

1. A plan of the whole site to twice the scale of the plan attached to the conditions, showing the lay-out of the open space and the block of the building. 2. A plan of each floor of the building to $\frac{1}{16}$-in. scale. 3. Elevations respectively to the open space, to Portland Street, Parker Street, and Piccadilly, to $\frac{1}{8}$-in. scale. 4. A longitudinal and a transverse section, also to $\frac{1}{8}$-in. scale; additional sections to $\frac{1}{16}$-in. scale could be submitted if desired. 5. One $\frac{1}{2}$-in. detail not exceeding double elephant size, showing an important portion or portions of the building; this drawing

MANCHESTER ART GALLERY



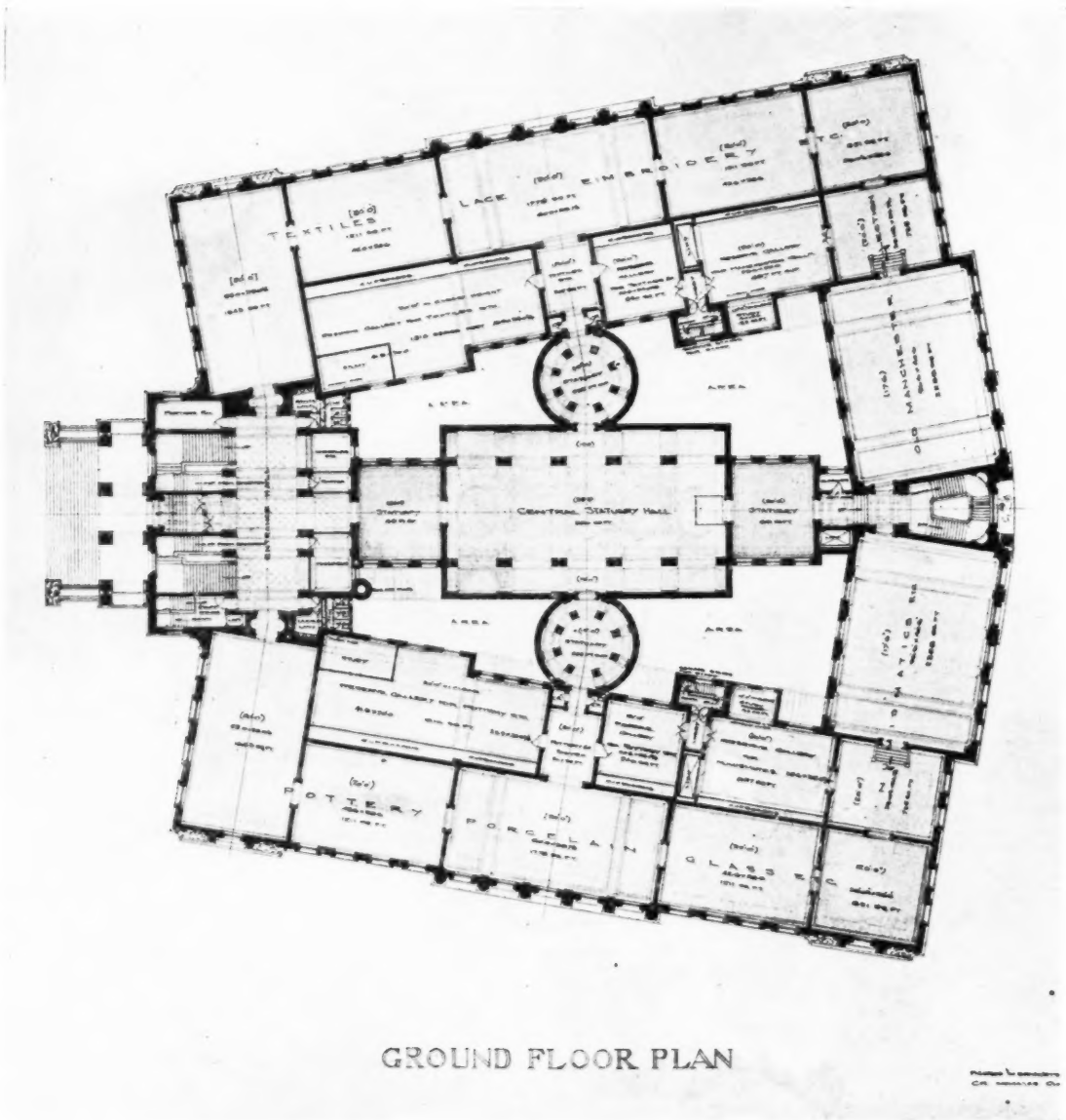
LOWER GROUND FLOOR PLAN

THE MANCHESTER ART GALLERY COMPETITION: THIRD PREMIATED DESIGN.
ALFRED W. S. CROSS AND KENNETH M. B. CROSS, ARCHITECTS

might be supplemented by another ½-in. detail of the "Hall of Memory." 6. In addition, for the exhibition of the drawings, a perspective or perspectives had to be furnished by the winner of the competition, fully to illustrate his building and lay-out.

Known as "the Piccadilly site," the area to be dealt with was indicated by cross hatching on a diagram in the conditions. Street lines were to be retained, but all buildings and railings within the street kerbs were to be removed. At present a sunk garden exists, and statues are placed on the pavement and in the centre of the garden, but competitors were free to make "any suggestions for the most dignified possible lay-out of the whole of the space" within the dotted pavement lines, and could re-arrange, if they thought fit, the various existing statues, etc. In the placing of the building on the site, and in the adoption of its main outlines, whether in parallel or oblique formation, stress was laid on the necessity of considering the problems of axis and alignment in connection with the general lay-out of the open space. Neither in the case of the Portland Street frontage nor of the Piccadilly flank was it stipulated that a parallel adjustment should be adopted. The building was to be placed at the east end of the site, and to occupy an area not exceeding 5,500 sq. yds.

Broadly speaking, the greater part of the accommodation required could be classified under one of two heads, that of the museum galleries and that of the picture galleries. The former were to afford a complete circulation and to be capable of subdivision into minor separate circulation, so that parts could be closed whilst others were in use. Top-light was not necessary for the museum galleries, which were to provide accommodation for the display of textiles, pottery, metal work, furniture, and a collection of exhibits relating to Old Manchester. A total floor area of approximately 23,500 sq. ft. was indicated for these departments. Reserve galleries for storage and study occupying one-third the above area were to be attached to the museum galleries. For the exhibition of pictures a floor space of at least 25,000 sq. ft. was to be provided. Of the galleries devoted to this purpose about three-quarters were to be top-lighted, the remainder to have side-light alone. In the case of the picture galleries, as in the museum galleries,



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

THE MANCHESTER ART GALLERY COMPETITION: FOURTH PREMIATED DESIGN.
W. WARMAN AND W. G. SINNING, ARCHITECTS.

a complete system of major and minor circulations was required. Wall heights were specified in the various kinds of galleries asked for, and particular attention was drawn to the need for properly directed top-light.

For sculpture a total floor area of 6,000 sq. ft. was allocated, the area to be taken up partly by "a fine central sculpture hall," and partly by accommodation, capable of subdivision, for the display of smaller sculptural work.

As part of the building, and situated preferably off the main stream of traffic, a Hall of Memory was to be designed to commemorate Manchester men of all ranks and services who fell in the European War. A lecture room to hold 300 persons, a print room and library, offices, refreshment room, receiving, packing and storage rooms, and other auxiliary accommodation were to be included in the scheme. Passenger and goods lifts, as well as service and public stairs, were to be conveniently placed. The principal staircase had to lead from a fine entrance hall. Access to the latter was to be from the front facing the open space, and this entrance was to be the only entrance for the public: it was to be approached by a fine flight of steps. A carriage-way to the main entrance was also required. Other entrances for the staff and for the lecture room and restaurant service could be disposed in lateral or rear positions. The principal façade was to be conceived as that overlooking the open space. Somewhere in the scheme "a prominent clock" was to be provided.

In designing the public portions of the building—the halls, staircases, corridors, and the Hall of Memory—advantage could be taken of the opportunities offered for frescoes and permanent decoration in colour. The building itself was to be faced with Portland stone. Its total cost had not to exceed £300,000.

The assessors were Dr. Percy Worthington, Professor C. H. Reilly, and Mr. Arthur J. Davis.

A criticism and illustrations of the first premiated design—that of Mr. Ernest B. Webber, A.R.I.B.A.—were published in our issue for June 17.

Waterloo Bridge

An Appeal for Its Preservation

A REPORT has been submitted to the London County Council by the Conference of Societies asking that the decision to destroy Waterloo Bridge shall be reviewed. The conference included the Royal Academy, the R.I.B.A., the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, the London Society, the Town Planning Institute, the Architecture Club, and a conference of engineers. Mr. Arthur Keen, F.R.I.B.A., is the chairman. The report is the outcome of a deputation which waited last February on the special committee on bridges, and pleaded for a further inquiry before the demolition of the existing bridge was finally decided on. The committee replied that a start could not be made with the new bridge for some months, certainly not before July, and if in the meantime any evidence against the destruction of the bridge was produced it could be considered. It is submitted that an unanswerable case is now presented, showing that on technical, artistic, and traffic grounds, the destruction of the bridge cannot be justified.

Following are extracts from the official précis of the report:

The subsidence of the bridge began many years ago. The flow of the stream has been increased by the removal of older bridges which acted as breakwaters to the tides, while the embankment of the Thames on one side, and the growth of wharves on the other, have influenced the currents and scour. The increased tonnage and power of shipping has also increased the river wash. Recently the subsidence became more threatening, particularly at pier No. 4. The London County Council decided to grout, but in the process loosened the gravel adjacent to and supporting the pier. Settlement proceeded at an alarming pace—8 in. in a few days. Grouting operations and all traffic over the bridge were stopped; subsidence then ceased. The adjoining arches were strengthened with centering supports, and 1,564 tons of material were removed from the roadway. The inherent strength of the pier was vindicated by the manner with which it withstood a serious weakening of its foundation. A further tribute to the strength of the bridge is perhaps afforded by the confidence with which the London County Council engineers are using it as the wharf upon which to assemble girders for the temporary bridge. These weigh about 600 tons, and will be moved from the old bridge on to the piers of the new bridge. The process must involve strain on the east side of the bridge, and it is unfortunate that it should have been considered necessary to remove the fine entablatures and to mutilate the coupled columns.

The London County Council report of February 2–9, 1925, p. 45, says it is "established that the old bridge is worn out and has to be taken down to prevent its falling down." This statement is emphatically contradicted. Even making allowance for the grave results of grouting at pier No. 4, considered arguments are advanced by engineers of experience, that the bridge can undoubtedly be preserved. These engineers, who are men of great experience, are confident that underpinning the defective piers is feasible. Sir Francis Fox exposes the fallacy that the timber piling is necessarily decayed below low-water level, and quotes striking examples, proving that such timber can fulfil its function of foundation piles for many centuries. This view is confirmed by all the evidence at the disposal of the conference. It is also asserted that the stone is seriously decayed. Here again, in spite of the fact that the stress in the masonry has been increased by the neglect to arrest movement in recent years, as well as by the disturbance caused by the "grouting subsidence" of March, 1924, the report shows that fears about the stone are much exaggerated. The crushing load on these stones is an insignificant fraction of their full power of resistance; moreover, the fact that the colour is uniform in tone shows that the surface is not crumbling away. It is now proved from samples tested that there is nothing in the quality of the granite or in the existing fissures which makes preservation impracticable.

Mr. Dalrymple-Hay's report shows by successive steps how the bridge can be saved: he meets every objection in turn, and advocates the replacement of the existing foundations by solid concrete and brickwork. In order to do this compressed air-chambers would be used. His scheme, which was adversely criticized by the engineer and advisers to the London County Council, has been examined by a large number of practical engineers; a striking measure of agreement is shown in their reports. There is occasional difference on questions of detail, but the fact that all agree on the main contention should satisfy everyone that preservation is quite possible. One report is printed dissenting from this view and supporting that of the London County Council advisers, but the overwhelming balance of authority and independent judgment outweighs the views upon which the decision to destroy the bridge is founded. It should be added that several experienced contractors entertain no doubt that the Dalrymple-Hay scheme,

supported by so many other engineers, can be safely executed. The opinion of the London County Council that the process of underpinning would be more dangerous to life and limb than rebuilding the bridge is emphatically contradicted. Indeed, it is held that underpinning is the less perilous of the two methods. At a certain stage in the demolition of the existing bridge during the removal of the stones of the arches there would be danger that a collapse might occur which would entail the fall of adjacent arches. To avoid such a contingency the arches would have to be centred, i.e. shored up by additional supports from below. It is probable that to make this centering adequate to prevent collapse river traffic would have to be stopped; in any case it would be much impeded. On the other hand, it is clearly stated that with due precaution compressed air can be used with the minimum risk to workmen.

As regards finance, it is noted that rebuilding on the lines proposed by the London County Council will cost £988,000, in addition to an unspecified sum for abutments and, perhaps, the first pier to the north. The Highways Committee recommend that if the bridge is reconstructed the new breadth should permit a double line of trams. No estimate is given for this, nor for a proposed subway under the Strand, but a new 75 ft. bridge would cost £1,295,000, exclusive of very large ancillary services. (Report February 2–9, 1925, pp. 45–6.) On the other hand, underpinning will cost from £400,000 to £690,000: like the London County Council estimates, these figures are provisional, but even the highest figure shows a large economy. Underpinning would require two to three years, rebuilding twice as long. The economy in time of underpinning as against rebuilding may well prove far more valuable financially to the public than the actual economy in cost of works. In combination, therefore, underpinning is much the cheaper alternative. The difference between the cost of underpinning and the cost of a new Waterloo Bridge would go far to meet the outlay on the new Lambeth Bridge.

The fundamental object of the report is to show that the bridge can be saved, but traffic questions arise, and it is argued in the report that the bridge to-day can carry all the traffic which its width and the existing volume of Strand traffic permit it to discharge. Without costly works at the Strand junction, and in the great triangle south of the Thames, the widening of Waterloo Bridge wastes money urgently needed for bridges elsewhere. The bridge problem shoud be considered as a whole, and though the report does not outline a scheme for Charing Cross or the Temple, it is made clear that this aspect of the problem is crucial.

The report is published by the Conference at 9 Conduit Street, London, W.1, price 3s. 6d. net.

Law Reports

Nuisance to Property from Dust Dump—Experts' Views

Attneave v. *Slimmon.*

King's Bench Division. Before Mr. Justice Sankey.

In this action the plaintiff, Mr. Harry Attneave, of Newgate, Sandpits Lane, St. Albans, sought an injunction against the defendant, Mr. Wm. Slimmon, of Marshwick Farm, which adjoins the plaintiff's property, to restrain him from using certain sandpits near plaintiff's house, so as to cause a nuisance to plaintiff's occupation of his house.

Plaintiff purchased his land, some five acres, from the defendant.

Defendant, by his defence, denied any nuisance, and said he had allowed the use of the pits to the St. Albans Corporation while the dust-destructor was under repair.

Mr. Blanco White appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. B. Matthews, K.C., for the defendant.

Mr. Blanco White said the plaintiff complained of the shooting of dust carts in April last and since along a line of 60 yds., and down a 30 ft. bank into a sandpit, at a distance of only 230 yds. from the plaintiff's house. The smell from the refuse was most offensive, and pestilential vapours entered plaintiff's house and awakened the sleepers. It had caused sickness to plaintiff's wife, and had given plaintiff a septic sore throat. When the plaintiff asked the defendant if he was going to fill in the whole of his sandpits in this way, he replied frankly that he wanted the holes filled, and he meant to allow the Corporation to shoot rubbish there when the destructor was out of order till the pits were filled. After an application for an interim injunction earth and ashes were put over the refuse. The value of the property had been diminished by the dump, Mr. Gilbert Scott, the architect, had informed the plaintiff.

Dr. H. R. Kenwood stated that on June 13 last he visited the plaintiff's house, and in the front found a strong odour from the dump of a kind to interfere with the ordinary comfort of life. Earth had been put on the top of the dump, but 2,000 ft. was still exposed. It was impossible to prevent a dust-shoot becoming a nuisance where people of a good class were concerned. He had often been asked for a cure, but while a deep trench or spraying might prevent a fire spreading, it was impossible, in his experience, to prevent a shoot being a nuisance all the time it was a shoot. Odour and flies were only stopped when the shoot was shut up.

Mr. Wm. Gilbey Scott, F.R.I.B.A., architect and surveyor, of 25 Bedford Row, said that on June 10 the smell at the dump was horrible, and for a couple of yards the flies were so thick that one could hardly see between them. As to the effect of this dump on the value of the estate at Newgate, he should say the owner could not sell it. It certainly interfered with the comfort and enjoyment of the occupiers, and the smell reached the house.

Mr. Matthews stated that his client was receiving nothing for the use of his pits. There was no nuisance arising from the pits at the present moment.

Dr. Robert Arthur Lister, medical officer of Hants, said he had visited the *locus in quo* in June and he could detect no smell in the house from the tips. There was only a faint smell at 35 yds. from the pits, and that was not part of plaintiff's land. Dr. Lister asserted that to-day science knew enough to be able to tip without creating a nuisance. Medical officers had learned enough to be able to make tips without causing a nuisance beyond a reasonable distance. Nothing from this tip could affect health. As to the generation of flies, he found a pool on the opposite side of the road to the house, with black mud and in a polluted condition, fifty loads of manure 20 yds. from the front door, and a cesspool 20 yds. from the back door, with stables, and flies were the best agents for spreading sore throat infection.

Dr. Lister agreed that it would have been better if the Ministry of Health's suggestion had been carried out of regularly layering with earth 6 ft. of rubbish and then 9 in. of soil. This would have been better than two months of dumping without putting earth on the face of the tip.

A large body of evidence was called in support of the defendant's case.

His lordship granted the plaintiff the injunction he asked for, with twenty guineas damages against the defendant, and expressed the opinion that the Corporation of St. Albans would pay the amount. He approached this case with a sympathetic disposition towards the Corporation, whose destructor had taken a long time to repair. Inefficient management was the cause of many of the complaints received. The Ministry of Health had published suggestions for scientific treatment of such dumps—deposits were to be in shallow layers covered with earth, one upon another, alternatively, to avoid flies, fire, and smells. This was not done by the Corporation. His lordship did not agree with the expert witness who said these recommendations ought to be neglected, not only in particular cases, but generally. It could not be contended there was not a nuisance during a great part of May; after an interlocutory injunction the Corporation did a certain amount towards mitigating what they must have known was an intolerable nuisance, but the householders smelt a smell

from the dump as late as June 29. Idle suggestions were made against the plaintiff—that his duck-pond was a disgrace to the county, and that his house was surrounded by the most terrible number of nuisances any house ever attracted to itself—and it was said, on the other hand, that smoke at the dump was morning mist. His lordship found it was a horrible burning smell, and he was satisfied that there was a smell from the dump in the house even when the court was sitting. He accepted the evidence of the plaintiff. The nuisance was an intolerable nuisance, a real interference with the ordinary comfort of existence, a danger to health, and a depreciation of the value of plaintiff's property so long as it continued. He did not think the nuisance was abated; it had been reduced since the injunction. In an emergency the Council did not take the trouble to avoid a nuisance. It acted hastily and without sufficient precautions. He did not say refuse should never have been tipped here, but, if tipped, there were precautions which would prevent a nuisance, which could have been adopted if the defendant had been so minded.

Alleged Nuisance—Motor Racing

St. George's Hill, Ltd., and Others v. *Brooklands Estate Co.*

Chancery Division. Before Mr. Justice Tomlin.

This action was mentioned to his lordship on a settlement between the parties. It was brought by the owners and occupiers of land and houses in and around the Brooklands motor-racing track for an injunction to restrain the defendants from using the track or permitting it to be used so as to cause a nuisance to the plaintiffs.

Mr. Stamp, for plaintiffs, said his clients had never desired, as had been suggested in some interested quarters, to prevent the use of the Brooklands track; but they took the view that proper care was not being taken to prevent undue noise by racing machines by using the best devices that skilled engineers could devise for preventing excessive noise. Since the issue of the writ the plaintiffs were satisfied that the defendants had made substantial improvements, and as a result of this the parties had come together to try to arrange a *modus vivendi*.

Terms had been come to, and his present application was that the action should be stayed on agreed terms. By these terms the defendants gave an undertaking to enforce certain regulations for moderating noise on the track and limiting the times and the number of days when racing was allowed. The defendants had also agreed to pay the plaintiffs' costs and to their right to have order for their taxation.

Mr. Hunt, for defendants, concurred with the terms.

His lordship made an order accordingly, plaintiffs' costs to be taxed failing an agreement as to the amount.

Parliamentary Notes

[BY OUR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.]

Augmentation of Labour.

In reply to Mr. T. Thomson, who asked what progress had been made with the schemes for the augmentation of labour in the building trades by means of the committees set up nationally and locally, Sir K. Wood said that the Building Industry Committee had set up local committees in most of the building centres of the country, and arrangements had been made for further committees to be set up as required. The committee were not yet in a position to furnish statistics as to the number of apprentices which had been engaged, but no obstacles had been reported as regarded the working of the scheme in connection with local authorities' contracts for house building.

Houses of External Steel Construction.

Sir K. Wood informed Mr. R. Smith that the following was a statement of the number of houses of external steel construction which local authorities had been authorized to erect :

Name of Authority.	No. of Houses.	Type.
Birmingham	8	Telford.
Bristol	20	"
Bolton	100	"
Hastings	8	"
Smethwick	6	"
Swansea	2	Own design resembling Weir type.
Woolwich	A small number (not exceeding 20).	Telford

The average cost of the Telford houses was £490 each, and the estimated cost of the two houses to be erected at Swansea was £500 each. All the houses were of the non-parlour type. The figures did not include the 150 houses to be erected under special arrangements for demonstration purposes.

Correspondence

The Rome Scholarship Designs

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL.

SIR,—I cannot allow to pass without comment the statement of your critic of the Prix de Rome drawings that the programme was carelessly worded. As a matter of fact a great deal of time and thought was given to it. He draws particular attention to the following passage as ambiguous : "On the ground floor there will also be a restaurant opening on to the Sculpture Hall, where two bandstands will be placed." An elementary knowledge of the rule of English grammar, that the relative pronoun should always follow immediately the word to which it refers, will make it clear that the word "where" refers to the sculpture hall. Whether it was too much to ask of candidates a knowledge of English grammar I will not at the moment discuss, but I should hardly have expected that your critic would have been caught tripping.

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM G. NEWTON.

London Builders' Action

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL.

DEAR SIR,—We think it may be of interest to your readers to know that we have to-day issued a writ on behalf of our clients, Messrs. Higgs and Hill, Ltd., against certain officials and members of the London Master Builders' Association. This writ institutes an action whereby our clients seek to recover damages from the defendants for libel in respect of matter contained in certain circulars, letters and the like, published by or on behalf of the London Master Builders' Association in connection with the question of the payment of standard rate of wages.

Yours truly,

BULL AND BULL.

Proposed "R.I.B.A. Travelling Studentship" to Mesopotamia

The following letter has been received by the secretary of the R.I.B.A. :

DEAR MR. MACALISTER,—I have been very much interested in what you tell me about the work which Mr. Leonard Woolley hopes to do at Ur, in the course of the coming winter. He appears to have in immediate prospect a piece of excavation which promises results of the greatest interest and importance, not only to archæologists and historians, but to architects and historians of architecture. The fascinating possibilities that are opened up by the exploration of what may turn out to be the Royal Palace of Ur ought to excite the enthusiastic interest of all who are concerned with the early history of our art.

I understand that it will be of the greatest help to Mr. Woolley if he can be accompanied by a well-trained young architect to assist him on the technical side of the work. The sad loss of Mr. Francis Newton created a vacancy which it is the duty of the architectural profession to fill. I understand also that you have found an enthusiastic young architect, with the necessary qualifications, who is prepared to go out in the coming winter as Mr. Woolley's architectural assistant if the necessary funds can be provided.

I am anxious to help in this matter, and I should like to offer the sum of 40 guineas as the nucleus of a fund for providing the required sum of £400, which will enable the R.I.B.A. to send out this young architect as an "R.I.B.A. Travelling Student" to Mesopotamia.* I hope you will have no difficulty in obtaining other contributions which will rapidly provide the full amount required.

Yours very truly,

HALSTEAD BEST, F.R.I.B.A.

St. John's Chambers,
87 Church Street, Blackpool.
June 8, 1925.

* The Council of the Institute have approved of this Travelling Studentship, contributions to which will be gladly received by the Secretary.

British Monomarks

Sir Sydney M. Skinner presided at a luncheon given by British Monomarks, Ltd., at the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, last week, for the purpose of explaining the William Morris system of monomarks, which claims to be the shortest officially recognized postal name and address in the world. Anyone may acquire a monomark for five shillings a year, and arrangements have been made with the General Post Office to hand over to the company's offices all letters addressed by means of a monomark, and the company will forward them to the holders of the mark. By this means purchasers of British goods, who may wish to buy further articles of the same kind, will be put into direct communication with their producers, and it is believed this would have a great effect on English trade. There are also many private uses to which monomarks would be put, as explained at the luncheon.

The chairman, in inviting Mr. William Morris to explain his invention, said that if it achieved all they believed it would, it must exercise a decided influence on British trade. They were striking a new note, and he hoped that the intense conservatism of the people in this country would not let them be prejudiced against it. It was hoped that the company would be ready to issue monomarks in November. In the meantime all communications should be addressed to 19 Abingdon Street, Westminster. They had already received a number of applications and promises of support from persons and firms well known in the commercial world.

Mr. William Morris (of Messrs. William Morris & Co., manufacturers of bronze statues and metal windows), who has devoted many years to the working out of his scheme, then explained it at length. Lovers of British goods in the Colonies and in America, he said, heralded it with enthusiasm, as articles were at present often falsely represented as "made in England." The results, he believed, would be more orders for the home country and readier repeat orders. The monomark was the most practicable proposition for achieving what the Merchandise Marks Act and various tortuous amendments had failed to achieve. Its virtue was that it was entirely voluntary, and it was offered equally to the manufacturer, the merchant, and the retailer. Four characters would express nationality, and the full name and address of the person or firm registering. Any article, whether textile, paper, metal, wood, leather, or any other material, might bear a monomark which, if necessary, could be as small as a hall-mark.

The Birmingham and Midland Building and Allied Trades Exhibition

The Birmingham and Midland Building and Allied Trades Exhibition (including public works and road making section) is to be held at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, from September 7 to 19. The presidency has been accepted by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Alderman P. Bower, M.B.E., J.P., and the patronage and support of the following associations has been obtained: The Birmingham Architectural Association; the Midland Federation of Building Trades Employers; the Birmingham Association of Building Trades Employers; the Birmingham and District Master House Builders' Association; the Birmingham and District Master House Painters' Association; the Birmingham and District Builders' Merchants' Association; the Birmingham Association of Master Plumbers; the Birmingham and District Master Gas Fitters' Association; the Electrical Contractors' Association; the Birmingham Civic Society; the Clerks of Works and Building Foremen's Association; the Birmingham Tame and Rea District Drainage Board; the Institution of Civil Engineers; the Midland Counties Builders' Merchants' Association. The organizing of the exhibition has been entrusted to the staff responsible for the highly successful British Industries Fair, with Mr. G. Henry Wright as secretary and Mr. Charles Stanley as general manager, their appointed positions in the Fair. The exhibits will include building materials; builders' ironmongery; architectural and ornamental work; constructional steelwork; reinforced concrete; sanitary apparatus; appliances and fittings; contractors' plant; shop, bar, and restaurant fittings; paints, varnishes, colours, enamels, stains, wood preservatives; decorating materials; wallpapers and coverings; electrical, gas, oil, and other illuminating and heating plant and fittings; road-making plant and materials. The following conferences have been arranged: September 8, Birmingham Association of Building Trades Employers; September 9, Birmingham and District Master House Painters' Association; September 16, Birmingham and District House Builders' Association; September 17, Midland Federation of Building Trade Employers. Prospectus and full particulars can be obtained from the General Manager, Birmingham and Midland Building and Allied Trades Exhibition, Chamber of Commerce, 95 New Street, Birmingham, to whom all correspondence should be addressed. It is advisable to act immediately if space is to be secured.

R.I.B.A. Council Meeting

Appended are notes from the minutes of the last meeting of the Council of the R.I.B.A. :—

The Excavations at Ur.—A letter from Mr. Holstead Best, F.R.I.B.A., containing the offer of a sum of forty guineas as the nucleus of a fund which would enable a well-trained young architect to accompany Mr. Leonard Woolley and to assist him in his excavations at Ur was received.

Sir George Oatley.—The secretary was directed to convey the congratulations of the Council to Sir George Oatley, F.R.I.B.A., on the occasion of his knighthood.

Housing in Holland.—A report was received from Mr. T. Alwyn Lloyd, F.R.I.B.A., the R.I.B.A. delegate who accompanied the official visit of the National Housing and Town Planning Council to Holland during Easter 1925.

List of Competitions Open

Date of Delivery.	COMPETITION.
August 10	Designs are invited from architects practising in Coventry for a new ward of the pavilion type. The designs will be adjudged by an architect approved by the Secretary of the Coventry Society of Architects. Apply, Miss Hooper, Secretary, Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital.
Sept. 1	**High bridge over Copenhagen Harbour. Three prizes to the value of Kroner 35,000. Apply City Engineer's Office, Town Hall, Copenhagen. Deposit of Kroner 100 (returnable).**
Sept. 5	**Proposed new out-patient and casualty department for the Board of Management of the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire Hospital. Assessor, Mr. T. R. Milburn, F.R.I.B.A. Premiums, £200, £150, and £100. Apply, with deposit of £1 1s., to Mr. W. H. Harper, House Governor and Secretary, Wolverhampton and Staffordshire Hospital.**
Oct. 1	**The Municipality of Drammen, in Norway, invites Norwegian and foreign architects and engineers to compete for the construction of a new bridge across the river of Drammen (Drammenselven) between the two neighbourhoods Bragernæs and Strömsö. Judging Committee: Professor Otto Linton, Stockholm, appointed by the Norwegian Engineers' Association; Mr. Arne Eide, architect, Oslo, appointed by the Norwegian Architects' Association; Mr. M. B. N. Saxegaard, district-chief, appointed by the Norwegian State Railways; Mr. Olaf Stang, engineer-in-chief, Oslo; Mr. U. Lied, chief physician, chairman, appointed by the Municipality of Drammen; Mr. Otto K. Römcke, wholesale merchant, Drammen; and Mr. A. Heitmann Arntsen, secretary, Drammen. Mr. Lied and Mr. Saxegaard are respectively president and vice-president of the committee. The following prizes are offered for the best designs: First prize, 10,000 Norwegian crowns; second prize, 8,000 Norwegian crowns; third prize, 6,000 Norwegian crowns. Apply Bureau of the Government Engineer (Statsingeniörkontoret) at Drammen. Deposit 40 Norwegian crowns.**
Oct. 8	**Proposed Fire and Police Station at Marlborough Crescent, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Premiums: £500, £300, and £100. Assessor, Mr. Percy S. Worthington, D.Litt., M.A., F.R.I.B.A Apply, with deposit of £2 2s., to Mr. A. M. Oliver, Town Clerk, Town Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, by July 4.**
Dec. 31	**The Argentine Government offer prizes of 10,000, 5,000, 4,000, 3,000, and 2,000 Argentine gold pesos for the best architectural designs for a National Institute for the Blind. Apply Enquiry Room, Department of Overseas Trade, 35 Old Queen Street, Westminster, S.W.1.**
June 30, 1926.	Competitive designs are invited by the Ministry of Wakfs for the rebuilding of the Mosque of Amrou. Prizes of £2,500, £1,000, and £500 are offered for approved projects. Those wishing to submit designs should apply before June 30, 1926, to H.E., the Under-Secretary of State to the Ministry of Wakfs, Cairo (cables "Wakfs Cairo"), who will forward details, conditions, etc. The final date for acceptance of proposals is January 1, 1927.
No Date.	**H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner at Johannesburg has forwarded a copy of minutes received from the clerk to the Municipal Council of Pretoria concerning the erection of a new Town Hall in that city. It is stated in the minutes that competitive designs will be invited at a cost (first estimate) of about £200,000. British firms interested in this announcement can consult the minutes referred to on application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35 Old Queen Street, London, S.W.1.**
No Date	A new secondary school for girls on the Thames House site for the Worcester City Council, at an estimated cost of £32,000. The competition is limited to local architects. Premiums, fifty guineas and twenty-five guineas.

The Week's News

Housing at Uxbridge.

The building of 186 houses by Uxbridge Urban District Council has been approved by the Ministry of Health.

More Flats for Kensington.

The Kensington Borough Council have prepared a £17,000 scheme for thirty-eight new flats in Virginia Place.

Baths and Washhouses for Bermondsey.

Baths and washhouses are to be built in Grange Road, Bermondsey, at a cost of £92,500.

Newmarket's Housing Programme.

The Newmarket Rural District Council have decided to build 200 more labourers' cottages within the next three years.

Housing at Ilford.

The Ilford Urban District Council have passed plans for 350 local houses to be built by private enterprise.

The Enlargement of Hackney Institute.

The London County Council are to proceed with the enlargement of Hackney Institute at a cost of £62,000.

Housing at Poplar.

The Poplar Borough Council propose building 90 houses and flats at Millwall.

New Secondary Schools for Essex.

The Essex Education Committee are to build eight new secondary schools.

L.C.C. Housing Schemes.

The London County Council are to erect 728 more houses at Becontree at a cost of £450,000, and 3,000 houses at Hendon at a cost of £1,800,000.

Proposed New Baths for Bethnal Green.

A Ministry of Health inquiry was held into the application of the Bethnal Green Borough Council for sanction to a loan of £115,000 for the provision of new baths and washhouses.

A New Cinema for Caterham.

Mr. G. Alan Fortescue, A.R.I.B.A., of 46 Dover Street, Piccadilly, has been instructed to prepare plans for a cinema to be erected at Caterham, Surrey.

Catford's Proposed New Parish Church.

Lord Forster, Governor-General of Australia, has promised £1,000 towards the cost of rebuilding the new parish church at Southend, Catford. The total cost is estimated at £35,000.

Housing at Cardiff.

Plans are being prepared for submission to the Cardiff Corporation for the building of 300 to 500 workmen's dwellings on the Pengam estate. The houses will be erected by private enterprise.

Music Pavilion for Deal.

At a special meeting of the Deal Town Council a scheme for the erection of a music pavilion and shelter at the shore end of the pier was adopted. The cost is estimated at between £20,000 and £25,000. Mr. T. Brammall Daniel, F.R.I.B.A., of 36 Victoria Street, Westminster, is the architect.

The City Engineer of Sheffield Retires.

The Establishment Committee of the Sheffield Corporation have received the resignation of the City Architect, Mr. F. E. P. Edwards, F.R.I.B.A., with regret, and have placed on record their appreciation of the conscientious and efficient manner in which he has discharged his duties during his seventeen years' service with the Corporation.

Uxbridge Rural Sewerage Scheme.

The Ministry of Health held an inquiry into the application of the Uxbridge Rural District Council for sanction to a loan of £81,000 for a sewerage scheme for the parishes of Harefield, Hillingdon, and Ickenham. The full scheme will cost £127,000 as the district is rapidly developing. The engineers are Messrs. W. H. Radford and Son, of Nottingham and Chatham.

The Director of Forest Products Research.

The Lord President of the Council has appointed Mr. R. S. Pearson, C.I.E., F.L.S., Forest Economist, Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, India, to be Director of Forest Products Research under the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. Mr. Pearson will be in charge of the Forest Products Research Laboratories, in which pure and applied scientific research will be carried on to meet the practical needs of the using industries and of Departments of State.

The Fifth International Congress of Design.

The Fifth International Congress of Design will be held in Paris from July 30 to August 6. It will be held under the patronage of the Minister of Public Instruction and of the Fine Arts, and in connection with the International Exhibition of Modern Decorative and Industrial Art. Persons interested should communicate with the Department of Overseas Trade, 35 Old Queen Street, Westminster, S.W.1. (Reference C.X. 1656.)

Thomas à Becket's House.

The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a loan for the purchase of sixty acres of land at Headstone, Harrow, as a public recreation ground. On the land is the historic Headstone Manor, a former residence of the Archbishops of Canterbury, and where Thomas à Becket lived for some time. It is also reputed to have been the residence of Cardinal Wolsey and Archbishop Chichele, the latter using the timber from the estate in the building of All Souls, Oxford.

The Edinburgh Housing and Building Exhibition.

A housing and building exhibition will be held at the Waverley Market Hall, Edinburgh, under the patronage of the Rt. Hon. the Lord Provost, Magistrates and Council of the City of Edinburgh, from February 10 to 20, 1926. It is the second of a series of specially organized housing and building exhibitions, and is the direct outcome of the successful one held at Leicester last October. The promoter of the exhibition is Mr. T. Percy Bentley. The exhibition offices are at 32 Victoria Street, Manchester.

Architectural Practice.

Mr. R. S. Dixon, B.Arch. (Liverpool), and Mr. N. D. Quick, A.R.I.B.A., have opened an office at 25 High Street, Guildford, where they will practise under the style of Messrs. Dixon and Quick, architects.

The architectural practice of the late Mr. C. G. Cowlishaw has been acquired by Messrs. R. T. Longden, F.R.I.B.A., and W. J. Venables, L.R.I.B.A., who will continue the practice at Stafford Street, Hanley, in conjunction with their own at St. Edward Street, Leek, Staffs, and York Chambers, Stoke-on-Trent.

London's Squares.

The Town-Planning Committee, it was stated at the last meeting of the London County Council, have instituted an inquiry into the conditions relating to all gardens and grounds of one acre and certain others of less than one acre. It was a work of great magnitude, and the committee were not likely to be able to report in the immediate future. Mr. J. D. Gilbert said they were anxious that the open squares in London should not be built upon, and as the matter was urgent he would like a report shortly. Mr. Swann, replying for the committee, said the committee had come to the conclusion that it was not a matter in which steps of a panic nature should be taken.

Big Road Improvement Schemes.

An extensive road-widening scheme is foreshadowed in a letter received by the Colwyn Bay Council from the Ministry of Transport. The Council submitted plans for a proposed widening of the main road from Old Colwyn, over Penmaen Head, to Llandulas. The Ministry state they have in view a comprehensive scheme for dealing with the road as a whole from Chester to Holyhead. A portion of this road, in the Colwyn Bay-Mochdre district, Denbighshire, is at present being considerably widened, and there are county proposals for widening the section to Llanwrst and Bettws-y-coed.

The Royal Sanitary Institute Congress at Edinburgh

The thirty-sixth congress and health exhibition of The Royal Sanitary Institute will be held at Edinburgh from July 20 to 25. The honorary president is H.R.H. the Duke of York, K.G., K.T., G.C.V.O., and the president the Rt. Hon. Sir John Gilmour, Bart., D.S.O., M.P., Secretary for Scotland. Up to the present over 800 delegates have been appointed, and many representatives of public health bodies are expected. The following Government departments have appointed delegates to the Congress: Ministry of Health; Admiralty; War Office; Board of Control, England; Scottish Board of Health; Scottish Education Department. The following Foreign and Dominion Governments and municipalities are also sending representatives: China, Egypt, France, Japan, Poland, Sudan, United States of America, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Nova Scotia, New Zealand, Ontario, South Australia, Victoria, Adelaide, Bombay, Calcutta, Capetown, Hobart, Kimberley, Karachi, Madras, Oudtshoorn, Port of Spain, Perth, Pietermaritzburg, Singapore, Sydney.

The Latest Trade Marks

The following trade marks have been "accepted" by H.M. Patent Office, and unless any objection is lodged the marks will be duly registered. They are, however, officially advertised for opposition, which must be lodged within one month from the date quoted. All particulars and forms for opposition will be sent free by Messrs. Rayner & Co., of 5 Chancery Lane, London.

TANCOL.

457001.—Anti-corrosives.—W. H. Hill, trading as W. H. Hill & Co., 73 Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.3. July 1.

DUROIL.

459217.—Anti-corrosives.—W. Briggs and Sons, Ltd., 5 Cowgate, Dundee, Scotland. July 1.

THARCO.

455264.—All goods included in Class 17 which includes manufactures from mineral and other substances for building or decoration, but not including paving materials.—The Armstrong Co., corner of Post Avenue and South Street, Detroit, Michigan, United States of America. July 1.

New Inventions

Latest Patent Applications.

16261.—Downes, G. H.—Buildings. June 24.

16035.—Fleming, J. A.—Methods for facilitating audition in halls. June 22.

16558.—Ganly, W.—Building construction. June 27.

16037.—O'Connor, D. G.—Protection of walls. June 22.

16159.—Rouma, J. J., and Rouma and Valantin.—Concrete, etc., walls and appliances for moulding same. June 23.

Specifications Published.

235320.—Wright, M. W.—Scaffold clamps.

235331.—Burn, J. F., and Hill, F.—Slab building construction.

235384.—Hoard, C.—Adjustable roofs for silos and the like.

235438.—Clark, G. M.—Walls.

Abstract Published.

233560.—Pitcher, L. A., 107 Victoria Road East, Leicester.—Building blocks.

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