Wednesday, August 26, 1925. Vol. LXII. No. 1599.

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL & Architectural Engineer

With which is incorporated "The Builders' Journal."

FROM AN ARCHITECT'S NOTEBOOK.

We are obliged to Devotion for the noblest Buildings that have adorn'd the several Countries of the World. It is this which has set Men at work on Temples and Publick Places of Worship, not only that they might, by the Magnificence of the Building, invite the Deity to reside within it, but that such stupendous Works might, at the same time, open the Mind to vast Conceptions, and fit to converse with the Divinity of the Place. For every thing that is Majestick imprints an Awfulness and Reverence on the Mind of the Beholder, and strikes in with the Natural Greatness of the Soul.

ADDISON,
"The Spectator," No. 415.

9 Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster.

The Foundling Hospital, Bloomsbury: The Infants' School

Theodore Jacobson, Architect

The Foundling Hospital, the site of which has been sold, was founded in 1742 by Captain Thomas Coram of the Mercantile Marine. The institution will be transferred to the country, and the original buildings will probably be demolished.

THE

ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

9 Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster.

Wednesday, August 26, 1925. Volume LXII. No. 1599.

The Foundling Hospital Purchase

BLOOMSBURY, deprived of the Foundling Hospital—after the British Museum its most outstanding feature! How can it survive such a shock? But it must contrive to do so somehow, for the Foundling is going, and we are confronted with the prospect of some drastic reconstruction, drastic because nothing closely following the traditional character of the locality could give a financial return for the sum for which the estate has been sold.

For some time past it has been hoped that the site might have been available for King's College, for which it is admirably suited, as being near the proposed London University group, and forming part of a programme that would lead Bloomsbury towards its appropriate goal as London's educational centre. This is now, we fear, a faded dream, for King's College is not rich enough to make an offer proportionate to the purchase price which has just been paid.

Probably a development only a trifle more subversive would be a comprehensive scheme of residential blocks or private hotels, with a liberal allowance of open space enabling the fine trees to be preserved; but it may be doubted whether this would give the purchasers what they are expecting as an adequate return for their investment.

It is possible that their eyes are turned more in the direction of some form of commercial exploitation, in which case Bloomsbury, from Woburn Place eastward, would inevitably undergo a complete change of character. A market has been much talked of, and the bad location of Covent Garden has evoked the suggestion that it might be moved to this site; but to go to the trouble of overcoming all the legal and other difficulties for the purpose of creating a new Covent Garden on a site almost as unsuitable as the present one would be absurd. Traffic in Gray's Inn Road and Judd Street, the main approaches to King's Cross and St. Pancras, would be, in such circumstances, reduced to a state of chaos. When Covent Garden goes, it must go to a position with rail communications and with better possibilities for a specially organized road system than the Foundling site possesses.

The only means that could be taken to render this site practicable for market purposes would be the extension of rail and road communications at a low level from the north end of the King's Cross terminus; and if this were to be considered, the suggestion inevitably comes to mind, why not bring King's Cross to the Foundling, and turn the old terminus into a market, or possibly a railway clearing-house? But where would poor old Bloomsbury be then?

Without some such grandiose scheme as this, neither Covent Garden nor any other type of market is within the range of possibilities, and the site is somewhat too remote from the fashionable centres for a first-class hotel or the demands of the best type of retail trade, while no other type would offer sufficiently remunerative rents. It is, therefore, left to us to consider the claims of the wholesale businesses. These are mostly fairly definitely located, though there is an occasional transfer, such as the present gradual movement of the dry-goods stores from the City to the West End. Grouped round the City we find shippers and importers to the east, furniture to the north-east, clothiers to the north, jewellers, etc., north-west, newspapers on the west, and hardware along the south. The Foundling lies outside this circle, and is disconnected from any of these groups. It could, however, legitimately look towards some of the newer growths in seeking a *raison d'être* for offering a home to a sufficiently important commercial activity. Perhaps the most likely one in the circumstances would be the publishing trade, which is at present scattered, and wedges itself in where it can, either in the City, Fleet Street, or Covent Garden. It has shown a tendency lately to migrate towards Bloomsbury, and the Foundling estate would be an eminently natural location, less cramped than its present ones, and releasing premises for newspaper purposes, of which the latter industry is in need. Moreover, the handling of books is a function which appears peculiarly suited to a situation in proximity to London's educational centre.

In default of this there are the electrical and motor industries that could be considered, though it must be admitted that these do not appear to have so definite a claim, and would be less desirable as neighbours to residential Bloomsbury. At the same time, both would benefit by a definite location, not, of course, for the purpose of production on a large scale, but for the handling of goods and the minor operations required to meet the needs of the seven million inhabitants of London.

As will be recognized on studying the plan of this estate, the development of the Foundling site itself is not the only problem, as the gradual reconstruction of the surrounding property has also to be considered. This property, while it has an appreciable value in its present condition, appears likely to become out-of-date at varying periods in the future. While the actual site of the Foundling buildings will take priority in development, it is obvious that the purpose for which this is utilized will have a marked influence on all the surrounding areas.

The many who delight to live in the substantial houses of Bloomsbury, and are willing to condone their shortcomings in matters of domestic convenience on account of their old-world charm, naturally hope that it will be found possible to occupy this site with residential blocks, designed in harmony with the surroundings, and to preserve the two squares as an enhancement of the amenity of the district. It may yet be found that, having regard to the interests of the estate as a whole, this may prove to be the wisest course, and its adoption would undoubtedly evoke

pæans of rejoicing. Alternative courses have been cited, not because they appear better, but lest something still worse should come to pass.

Incidentally, a word or two may be added about these London squares. At present they are very inadequately used, and offer a target for those who regard them as superfluous. At the same time, scraps of building land are being taken up in the inner suburbs, and return the equivalent of their building value when laid out and rented as tennis-courts. Could not these squares, with only minor modifications not destroying their sylvan character, be organized on similar lines? There are numbers of people who would welcome the chance of healthy recreation near their homes, and who would be quite willing to pay for it. As these enclosures are managed at present, such forms of activity are so much discouraged as to render them well-nigh impossible; while at the same time the expense of upkeep is borne by the landowners, who receive only a small return, if any at all, from residents holding the privileges of admission.

Thus, on an estate like the Foundling, good planning would admit of the provision of open spaces which, apart from enhancing the amenity, and consequently the value, of the neighbouring properties, would also produce an appreciable income from their employment for recreative games. May we not hope that some such proposition would tend to arrest the gradual disappearance of London's private enclosures? There seems to be little doubt that if the L.C.C. were prepared to take them over at a proportion of their value (the balance being credited to amenity), by utilizing them for tennis and bowls, and making a remunerative charge, they would not be much out of pocket.

H. V. LANCHESTER.

The Twin Bridges

The simultaneous use of Rennie's Waterloo Bridge and the temporary steel girder affair put up by the L.C.C. engineers is opening our eyes to what a dual bridge really means. If the approaches were divided also, a separate thoroughfare being set aside for each line of traffic, the qualities of this arrangement would be exhibited yet more strikingly. But the dual bridge is more than useful; it is beautiful also. Professor Beresford Pite, in a letter to "The Times," reminds us that Piranesi toyed with the idea in one of his great etchings; he might have added that George Dance worked hard to promote such a scheme on the site of old London Bridge, when Rennie's London Bridge was still unthought of. If a dual London Bridge had been built, as Dance tried to get it built, there would have been no need to corbel out footpaths afterwards. And a dual Waterloo Bridge—Rennie's fine work being supplemented by a new bridge east of Somerset House—seems to constitute, as Professor Pite points out, one of the most reasonable solutions of an avowedly difficult problem.

Where Charity Begins

An English sculptor, commissioned to execute a memorial to be erected in this country in commemoration of English soldiers fallen in the war, has achieved a small and rather unenviable notoriety by placing the casting work with a Belgian firm. His attitude is certainly not without precedent, but somehow it seems to be just one shade less excusable to order a war memorial abroad than to order a load of bricks, or, as the Admiralty did the other day (only to find themselves pulled up short by an English patent) a squadron of parachutes. There is always the possibility that the bricks, or the parachutes, may be necessary, while a war memorial can scarcely be so described. You can always argue that without the cheap foreign bricks a certain house would (much to our loss) not have been built, and that without the cheap foreign parachutes an Englishman's life might any day be lost in a flying accident. But if the war memorial were not built, the principal sufferer would be the Belgian brassfounder; and, really, his plight does not appear to be such as to afford a good excuse for the action.

The White Line

Few of the world's inventors are permitted to reap the reward of their industry, but the person who can supply the Ministry of Transport with a permanent pigment for drawing white lines on a metalled road surface will probably have good reason to congratulate himself. The white line, which is used, we are told, practically from one end of the United States to the other, is now expected to solve a good many of our traffic difficulties for us. Provided, that is, we can induce our motorists to observe the boundary laid down for them in turning corners or overtaking. It is certainly a more promising idea than the microphones and loud-speakers that were suggested by the Roads Department at the same time. Its disadvantage is that it demands a very material renunciation from the driver.

Monuments to Cherish

The fifth list of monuments scheduled for preservation under Section 12 of the Ancient Monuments Acts brings the aggregate to a formidable total. More than thirty counties are represented in a list which, as reprinted from the official paper published at threepence by the Stationery Office, makes nearly a column of small type in last Friday's "Times." Of this space the largest proportion is taken up by Wiltshire, mainly with barrows, which seem to invite a prodigious amount of spadework. In point of length the Dorsetshire list comes next, but its formidable array of camps, tumuli, and earthworks is redeemed from dullness by the addition of several monuments of more synthetic character, such as churches, gates, bridges, and crosses. England is quite rich in ancient gateways, and one observes with peculiar pleasure in this latest list that among those scheduled for preservation are the half-dozen or so of which Rye and Winchelsea are so justly proud. An equally gratifying item is the fine old Roman gate at Lincoln known as the Newport Arch.

The Future of Wembley

When "the hurly-burly's done," what is to become of Wembley? Mr. Harry Day, M.P., is negotiating for its purchase, with the object, it would seem, of preserving it as some sort of pleasure park. Whether the popular love of pleasure, which the exhibition has done so much to foster, will survive its extinction in sufficient volume to make such a scheme a paying proposition, and whether its continuance as a sort of perpetual world's fair is desirable, are rather serious questions. On both points we have our doubts. As it is proposed to retain the stadium, it seems possible that Wembley may develop into a colossal sports ground. It might meet with a worse fate, and a much better. In a way it has been, during the exhibition, a centre of a certain kind of educational utility. Why should it not develop and intensify on those lines? Why should not the park become the headquarters of London University? or the site of a Shakespeare memorial theatre?

The King and the Cricketer

As breadth of sympathy and comprehensive range of interest have ever distinguished the architect in no common degree, it may be confidently assumed that at least the junior members of the profession have shared in the national rejoicings over the triumphs of J. B. Hobbs the cricket phenomenon. Why not? Has he not attained to superlative accomplishment in a certain form of art? And hath not the King himself deigned to commend him? If there has been some excess of public rapture at Hobbs's achievements, that, surely, is in accordance with ancient precedent. From Horace to Hobbs is certainly a far cry: yet the rapturously applauded feats of the modern hero recall those of the poet's charioteer, whom the "fickle throng rushed to exalt with the ennobling palm, lifting him among the lords of earth." The apotheosis of Hobbs has not been quite so extravagant as all that, and we feel sure that architects, especially those proficient in the noble game—Sir Reginald Blomfield and the Messrs. Doll, for instance—will not withhold their plaudits from a great artist after his kind.

A MONTHLY CAUSERIE

Joking Apart

Ex Machinâ

THE day after I read in my morning paper that James Watt's house in Birmingham was being demolished, and that his attic workshop, with its tools and fitments, had been reassembled at Kensington, I found myself with twenty minutes to spend in Exhibition Road and wandered into the Science Museum to inspect the display. I am attracted to Watt by the remarkable fact that he did *not* invent the steam-engine, and he is endeared to me by the circumstance that the story of the boiling kettle and the grandmother and the egg-cup and the spoon is a pure invention that has no foundation in history. Watt, it seems, was no legendary heavy-weight, as he is popularly esteemed to be, but a human being; and the human interest in him is heightened when one remembers that he was a humble maker of mathematical instruments who, being of inexhaustible activity of mind, seized, at the age of twenty-six (as the result of repairing a model steam-engine), upon the idea of a separate condenser, and, after thirty years of indomitable industry, perseverance, and courage in the face of enormous obstacles, saw his invention perfected. It was accordingly the human rather than the scientific interest in the exhibit which led me to seek a closer intimacy with the man by prying into the secrets of that attic workshop, with its orderly litter of tools and its iron stove, where the indefatigable old man would keep his dinner hot rather than interrupt his labours to eat it. What, I wondered, was the old boy at, working away alone and unseen? What was it that engaged the mind of James in the midnight hours? My curiosity was rewarded with a surprise. A wide view of the "Wonders of Wembley" might have led a shrewd man to a near guess at the truth, but I confess that I was taken aback to discover that one who had given the best years of his life to perfecting the steam-engine should dedicate what remained of it to harnessing up that steam-engine to drive the arts; yet this is what the old man was working at. He had already seen his engine driving Arkwright's Jenny, and it is to be supposed that his aspirations soared. In his attic two power-machines are set up: one designed to reproduce sculptures, the other to make copies of them to a smaller scale.

The mischief is that, like the multitude of engineers who have followed in his steps, Watt understood nothing of the thing he meddled with. To understand sculpture even a little, is to love it, and no one who loved sculpture would concern himself to devise dolt mechanisms to throw out bad reproductions of it in response to shovelfuls of coal, as a geyser throws out mud in response to scraps of soap. I become fervid when I dwell on this subject. We have here an instance of the general truth which I hold to be "The Lesson of Wembley"—that industry, supported by the engineer, enervates, cheapens, and degrades art wherever it concerns itself with it, and inculcates ideals destructive of the very conception of art. It is impossible to avoid the conclusion that industry's exploitations of art are the result of callous ignorance in men inured to the habit of that kind of indifference.

No man who had arespect for art, or any comprehension of the nature of the impulse that inspires the artist and is reflected in his work—from a South Sea Islander's canoe paddle to the Venus of Milo—could ever, without an unworthy motive, associate himself with conspiracies for exploiting ignorance enticing machine-made forgeries, in fraudulent substituted materials, of the genuine products of the handicratts. The circumstance that it causes a shock, as though an indecency had been committed, to see a plain fact of this kind thus stated in plain words is because we are not accustomed to regard machine-made fabrications of craftsmen's work as "forgeries" or cunning simulations of reputable materials as "fraudulent substitutions." This, however, does not weaken the case against industry, but enormously strengthens it, for the machinations of industry are thus shown to be so far-reaching as to have poisoned our very souls; our perceptions of what is foul and fair, as well as of what is ugly and beautiful, have alike been obscured and perverted by them. It is the intellectual descendants of James Watt, furnished and egged on by industry, that have accomplished these things.

The arrogance of the machine in concerning itself with the arts—with a thing that for ever illusively transcends the attainment of men's minds and hands—would be a matter for riotous laughter, were not the mischief so far-reaching. And what of the men who direct the machines? I have known a large number of mechanical engineers, and, with one exception, have observed them to be not merely insensible to but unconscious of the arts. I shall be doing them, as a group, no injustice if I say that for them music means a tune or a cheerful din; painting and sculpture, the representation of recognizable objects; and letters, the recording of facts and arguments. What architecture stands for in their eyes I do not know. They regard it with an easy indifference or with a somewhat stiff, disdainful jealousy. It means something to them, but what that something is I have never been able to understand. The capacity of such men to devise machines to replace the work of the craftsman is, however, as nothing compared with the lumbering incapacity of machines to do anything at all except to make other machines. The machine is not supreme even in its special province of extreme accuracy. Not only does it produce work in all spheres worse than anything done by hand, so that it is now almost impossible to get a reputable, honestly made, pair of boots, or a good watch; but the bootmaker and the watchmaker have almost been driven out of existence, and the world flooded with wasteful incompetent semblances of the real thing, which are not worth mending and which are piling the dust-carts and choking the middens. It cannot even turn an ivory billiard ball truly round, or grind reflecting or refracting lenses, nor even plane two iron plates so that they are in exact coincidence when opposed, all of which work has to be finished by skilled hands holding simple tools when the machines have done their best upon it.

What, then, of this aspiration of Mr. Watt's to supplant the sculptor by a steam-engine? The aspiration is not yet dead, although, for the time being, the steam-engine has not been harnessed up. I was lately present when a speaker described how, when in Switzerland, he had submitted himself to a process by which his bust was modelled from life by mechanical niceties devised by engineers. The mechanism was positively exact in its performance. A point traced the whole surface of the sitter's features, and recorded its tracings with rigid precision on the clay, or the compo which replaced the modeller's clay. And the result! The speaker told us it was not grotesque. We all knew, he said, what a grotesque was—an absurd exaggeration, a burlesque, a travesty of life; but the work of the exact machine bore no relation to life. The image was a thing altogether outside recognition or belief; it did not belong to this world; it was a nightmare out of limbo. Although the speaker did not say so, I imagine that the engineers are fascinated with their sculpturing machine, and delighted with results which are no worse than the achievements of the machine in other like adventures, although the peculiar sensitiveness of humanity to the aspects of its own visage makes its imperfections too oppressive to be endured.

KARSHISH.

D

The Second International Exhibition of Decorative Arts, Monza

By SELWYN BRINTON

THE series of international exhibitions of the decorative arts in the Villa Reale of Monza, after its successful and brilliant opening in 1923, is continued this year in the no less interesting display which will be open from May to October of the present year. Decorative art is every year claiming more fully its true and proper place among the sister arts, which, in our own Victorian days, before the eloquent protest in its favour of that great decorator William Morris, were too much confined to painting, sculpture, and architecture; and here it is worth noting that the great pictorial creations of the Renaissance, such as those of the Stanze of Rafaelle, of the Sala del Cambio at Perugia, were always considered decoratively in relation to the spaces to be filled, and that the great modern creations of American decoration, such as the Washington "Congressional," and many of the State capitols, blend together architecture, sculpture, painting, mosaic, and decoration into a scheme of harmonious beauty. I feel these remarks may be useful in stressing the importance of decoration in all serious art manifestation, and therefore suggesting the immense value of these exhibitions, to which, with the ungrudging support of his committee and of the Consorzio Milano-Monza-Umanitaria, the general director, On. Guido Marangoni, has devoted himself with enthusiasm, with untiring energy and, it may be added, with remarkable success. There is not, I believe, anything like this in Europe to represent the claims of decorative art; and in the present display the number of rooms filled have increased from some 180 to nearly 250. Let us now try to get some clear impression of their contents.

Italy, of course, comes here, very properly, first with her regional displays. In 1923 these regional displays included what were called the "Tre Venezie" (three provinces of Venice), Rome, Piedmont, Tuscany, Liguria, Abruzzo, Calabria, Bergamo, Faenza, and Sardinia; and, reducing the share of the first of these, changing the last for Sicily, and including Milan, we shall have a very fair idea of those now on view at Monza. We must add the excellent Sala della Mensa, which was also an attraction of the last exhibition, giving the idea of a perfectly appointed dining-room, with the choicest linen and glass of exquisite design from the factories of Murano, and the "Mostra degli Orafi" (goldsmiths' work), which was, however, better

MAJOLICA OF DOCCIA.

"LA GORGONE" (GORGON HEAD), BY FERRUCCIO MENGARONI.

done in 1923, with various individual displays, such as those of the Venetian worker in beaten iron Umberto Bellotto; the Roman sculptress Antonietta Pogliani; that fine decorator Galileo Chini; the marble work of Federico Morosini, and others.

What is particularly interesting in these regional displays is that of an art which is a kind of tradition of the land itself, which has, as it were, grown out of the soil, derived from some special material, conditions, or racial aptitude. Such was the alabaster work of Volterra, which was shown in 1923; such the delightful modern cameos (*cammei in conchiglia sardonica*) of the school of engraving of Torre del Greco; such are the majolica of Faenza, famous for this craft since the *cinque-cento*; such too the woven fabrics of the Abruzzi, of Apulia and Sicily, where an inherited tradition of beautiful design in what has been named "peasant art" (*arte paesana*) has been handed down from parent to child for generations. And these forms of art are of special interest, because, while they need encouragement, support, even guidance in design, the very last thing to be wished for is any interference which would crush out their beautiful spontaneity; though yet, at the same time, it is evident that in such work as the cameos I have mentioned a better knowledge of the best examples might be of profit to these southern workers, while even in the woven fabrics from Sicily and the south, with their free natural conventionalization, a better use might be possibly made of existing designs and materials.

In speaking of the ceramics it is difficult to avoid some allusion to a tragic event which cast a shadow over the opening ceremony of this year's Biennial at Monza, occurring, as it did, on May 13, only a day or two before the inauguration. In the section of the Marche (*Marchigiana*) may be seen the gigantic head of "Medusa," which dominates the room, and which was—terrible in itself—the direct cause of that terrible tragedy. An artist full of energy and enthusiasm, Ferruccio Mengaroni, put something of his own personality into his ceramic art, modelling human

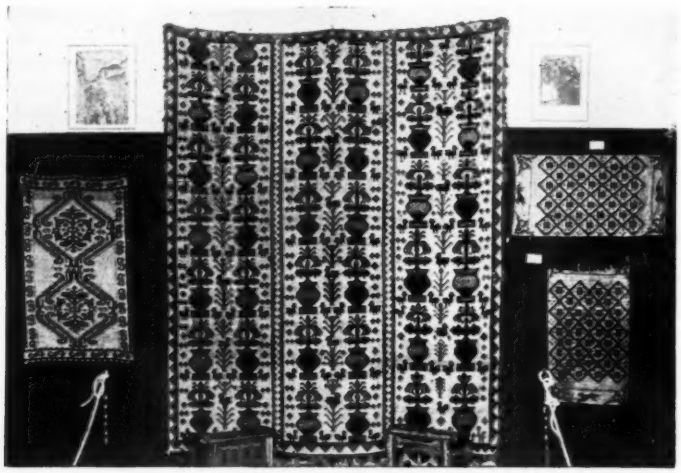
A ROOM IN THE BRITISH SECTION.

PANEL AND CHEST IN CERAMICS BY BASILIO CASCELLA (ABRUZZI).

figures and animals with a splendid sense of design and colour harmonies; it is even said that in this "Medusa" he had introduced his own features—an artistic jest which seems to have been ill-omened. For when the enormous round from whose centre the Gorgon head emerged was being carried to its destination in the Villa Reale, and the unhappy artist himself, superintending the transport, was supporting its weight, by some accident it became misplaced, and falling to his side crushed him, inflicting injuries which were almost immediately fatal. The Gorgon head remains in this room, invested with a tragic memory; but a few remarks on the work and career of the artist himself may here be very appropriate. Ferruccio Mengaroni had given himself from childhood to ceramic art, gaining, no doubt, inspiration in these early years from that fine collection of the ducal palace of Pesaro, filled with choice pieces from Faenza, Castel Durante, and from the workshop of Maestro Giorgio di Gubbio. As he became master of his craft he turned to the great Italian Renaissance tradition, and a panel in tile-work shown in the last Monza Biennial was derived from the famous "Battle of Constantine" in the Stanze of the Vatican; but yet more interesting are the tile pieces which he derived from religious subjects, such as the finely composed "Flight into Egypt"—of the great Albrecht Dürer. Yet with all this, Ferruccio Mengaroni was a true craftsman in ceramics (*ceramista*), not overpowered by the past tradition, but always asserting his strong individuality, as, for instance, in such beautiful pieces, taken direct from nature, as his great fishes and crabs, drawn with a true eye and rich in pearly reflections.

I turn now to the foreign sections at Monza, which this year include France, Belgium, Germany, Hungary, Jugoslavia, and even that land of present strife Morocco, and far-off Mexico, besides ourselves. The place claimed by Germany in the present exhibition is an important one, and is a continuation of the tradition of her art earlier in the century—at Paris in 1900, at Darmstadt in the year following, and at Turin in 1902. I was specially impressed by the excellent design and sense of form in the silver and white-metal work, which is a speciality in this section of Germany, as well as the porcelain and ceramics from Karlsruhe, Berlin, and the "Munich Majolica-Manifactur." "Germany," says Dr. Walter Riesler, the delegate for this section, "has been for thirty years in search of the new style; and this style, taking its starting point from the individualism of certain artists, is commencing to form something less personal, diverse from the styles of the past, influenced by the positivism of the present, the severity of its forms determined by the tremendous powers of technique and machinery." In any case the share of Germany here, filling ten rooms, is an important one, and shows her determination to claim a place in decorative creation. The French section is admirable—quiet, reserved, harmonious, with her Gobelins tapestries, her bronzes, and Sèvres porcelain; and Hungary, where furniture is becoming an important industry, and with present prices securing an export trade, is well represented. One cannot help regretting that England does not make a stronger appearance in this important exhibition, for the three rooms here (as compared with ten of Germany and twelve of Hungary) are insufficient, even admitting the quality and design of the hand-woven fabrics sent by Messrs. Morris (from the designs of William Morris), and the printed textiles of Messrs. W. Foxton.

One would like to see our furniture of really choice modern design, such as is being made by men who are creative artists in that line, put before the Italian public; one would like to see what one of our great houses, in touch with the Eastern as well as Western designs and fabrics, such as Liberty & Co., could give here to the world if they really tried. For these Monza displays have made good, and are going to be a real art inspiration. The wonderful fairy palace, designed by Piermarini, in its cool, umbrageous park, has become a home of art, and even its riding-school I found turned into a school of decoration, and its eighteenth-century theatre reawakened to the beautiful staging of classic drama.



HAND-WOVEN FABRICS FROM THE ABRUZZI.

"New Lauriers" Hotel and Restaurant

William and Edward Hunt, FF.R.I.B.A., Architects

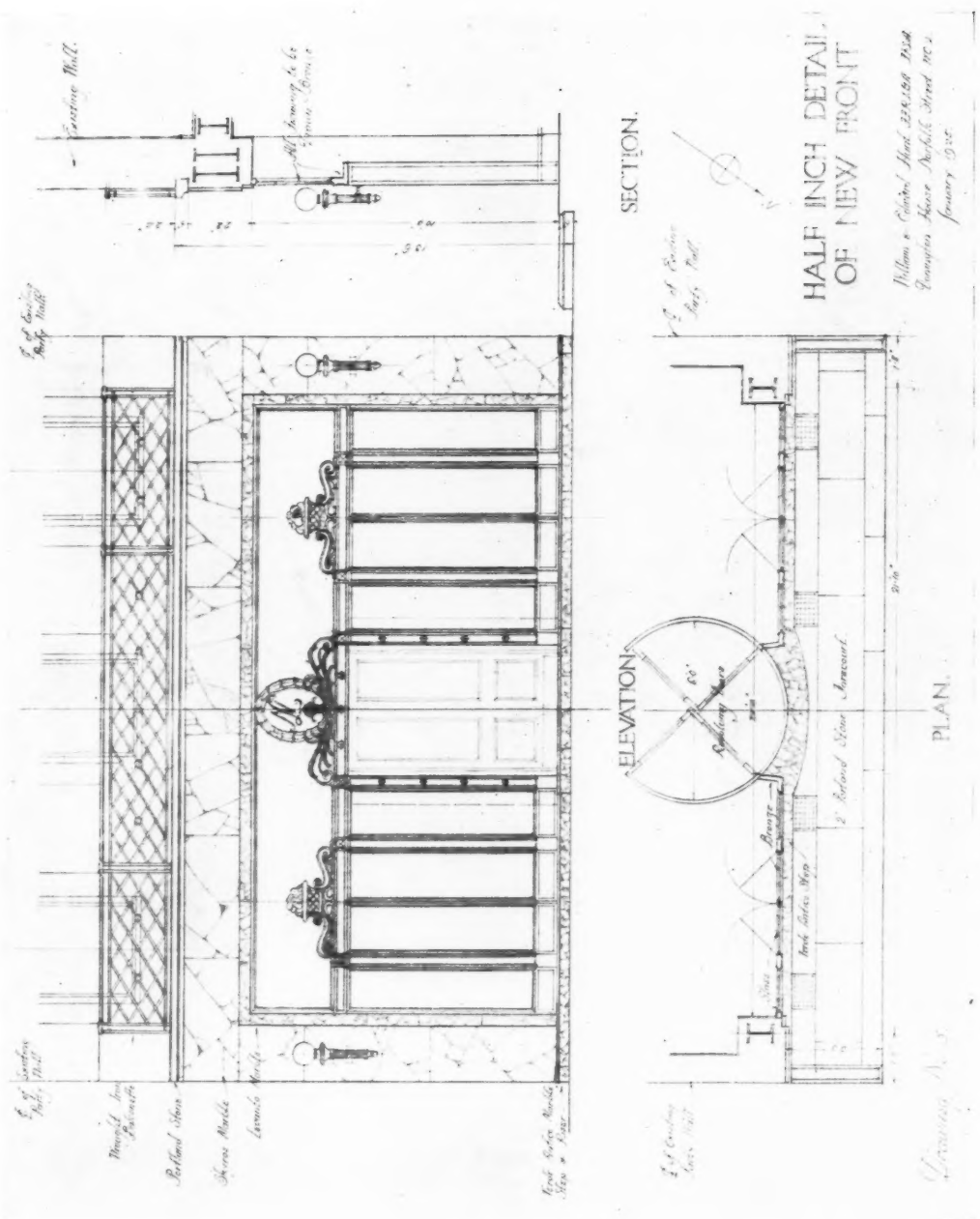
This building occupies the site at No. 102 Jermyn Street, S.W.1. The work carried out by Messrs. William and Edward Hunt comprised the reconstruction of the restaurant and the hotel, and the construction of a new front to the ground floor. The hotel has furnished suites as well as single and double bedrooms. The restaurant and the hotel are "run" by the same proprietor as the "Les Lauriers" restaurant, which was at No. 27 Jermyn Street.

The general contractors were the Law Land Building Department, Limited, and the sub-contractors were as follows: A. Bell & Company, Ltd. (tiles to fireplaces); J. W. Singer and Sons, Ltd. (art metal work, special designs); H. C. Tanner (marble work); Smith, Major, and Stevens, Ltd. (lifts and cranes); The Air Vent Heater Company, Ltd. (heating and ventilating).

Architects' Working Drawings. 103.—The "New Lauriers" Hotel and Restaurant, Jermyn Street, London: Details of New Front

Architects' Working Drawings. 103.—The "New Lauriers" Hotel and Restaurant, Jermyn Street, London: Details of New Front

William and Edward Hunt, FF.R.I.B.A., FF.S.A., Architects



This new front, a photographic illustration of which appears on page 301, has just been completed.

Current Architecture. 279.—The "New Lauriers" Hotel and Restaurant, Jermyn Street, London: The New Front

William and Edward Hunt, FF.R.I.B.A., FF.S.A., Architects

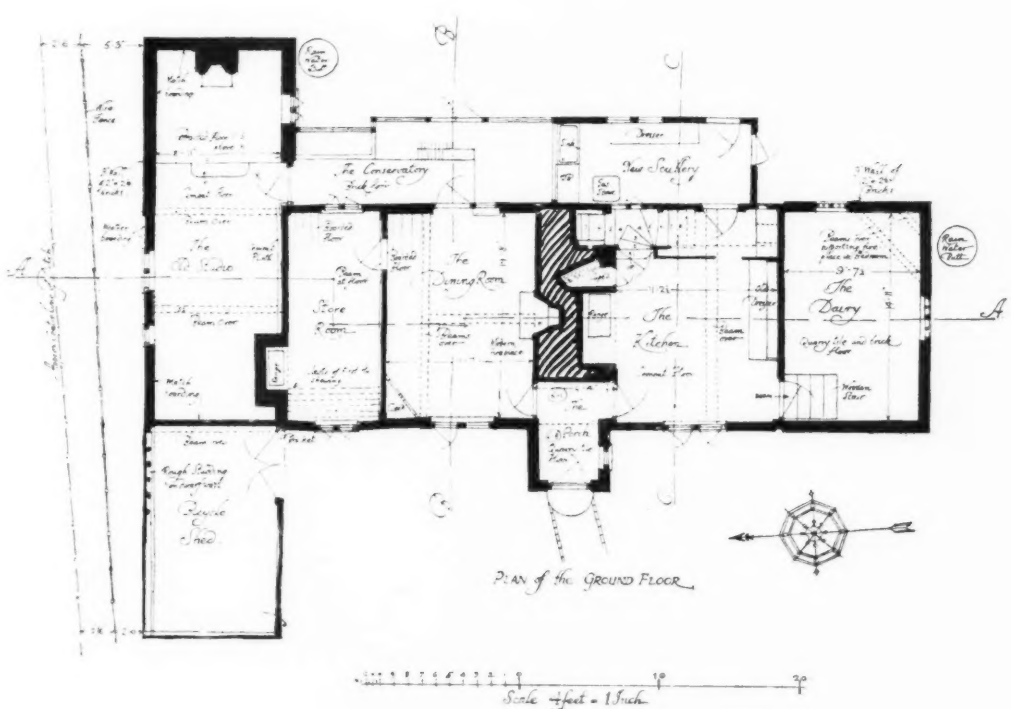
The surround, step, and riser are of marble, the framing is of bronze, and the balconette is of wrought iron.

Green Lane Farm, Chertsey, Surrey

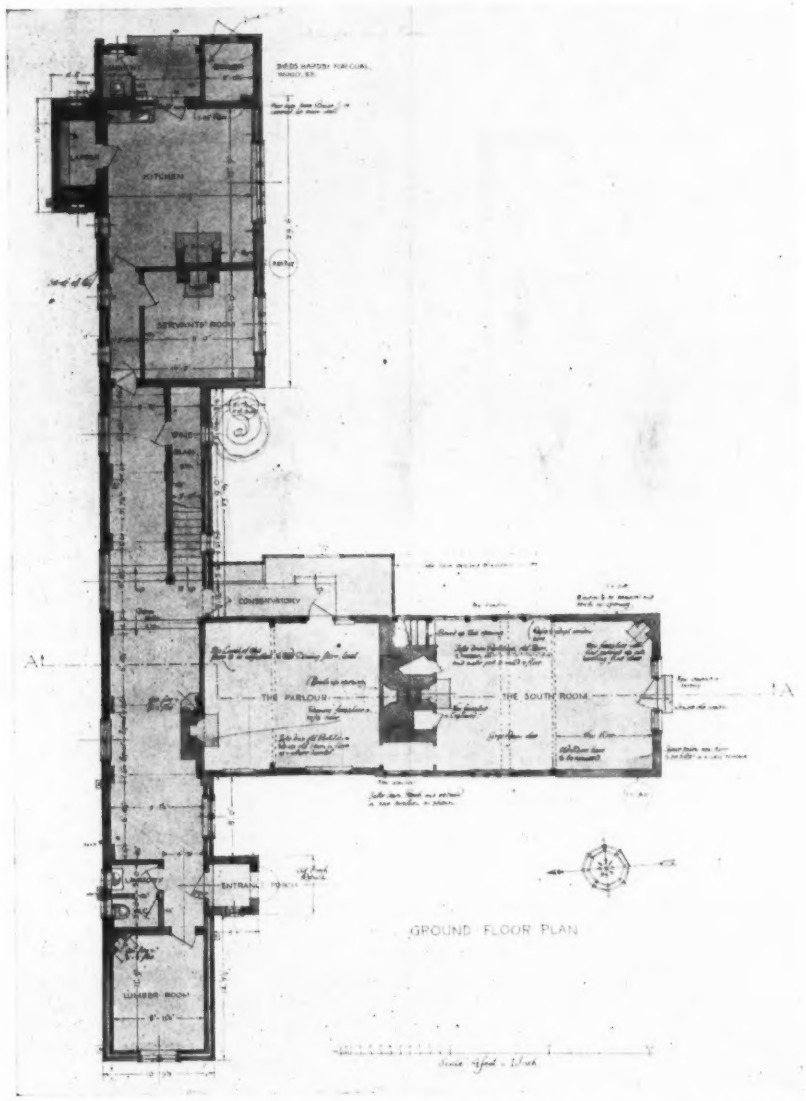
The Reconstruction of an Old House

SYDNEY TATCHELL and GEOFFREY C. WILSON, FF.R.I.B.A., Architects

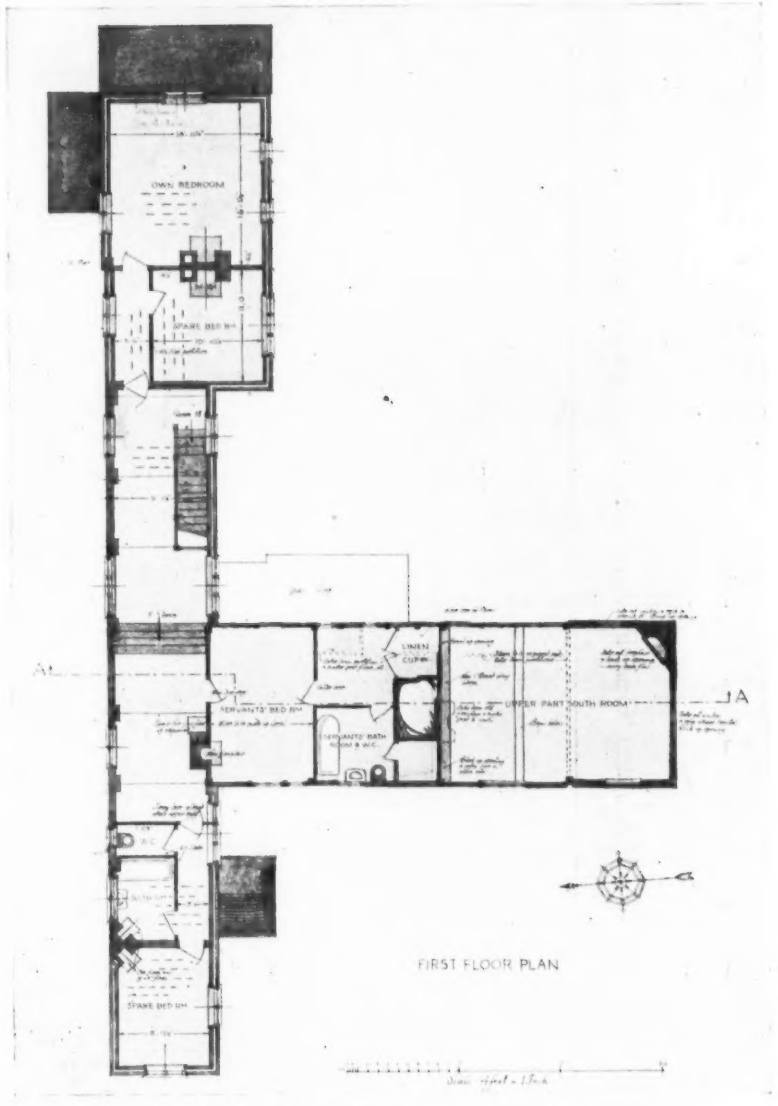
WEST ELEVATION



The plan and west elevation of the original buildings are shown above. As will be seen from the illustrations on the following pages, the buildings have been remodelled and considerably extended in an easterly and a westerly direction.



GREEN LANE FARM, CHERTSEY, SURREY: GROUND AND FIRST FLOOR PLANS.



SYDNEY TATCHELL AND GEOFFREY C. WILSON, FF.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECTS.

Modern Domestic Architecture. 124.—Green Lane Farm, Chertsey, Surrey

Modern Domestic Architecture. 124.—Green Lane Farm, Chertsey, Surrey

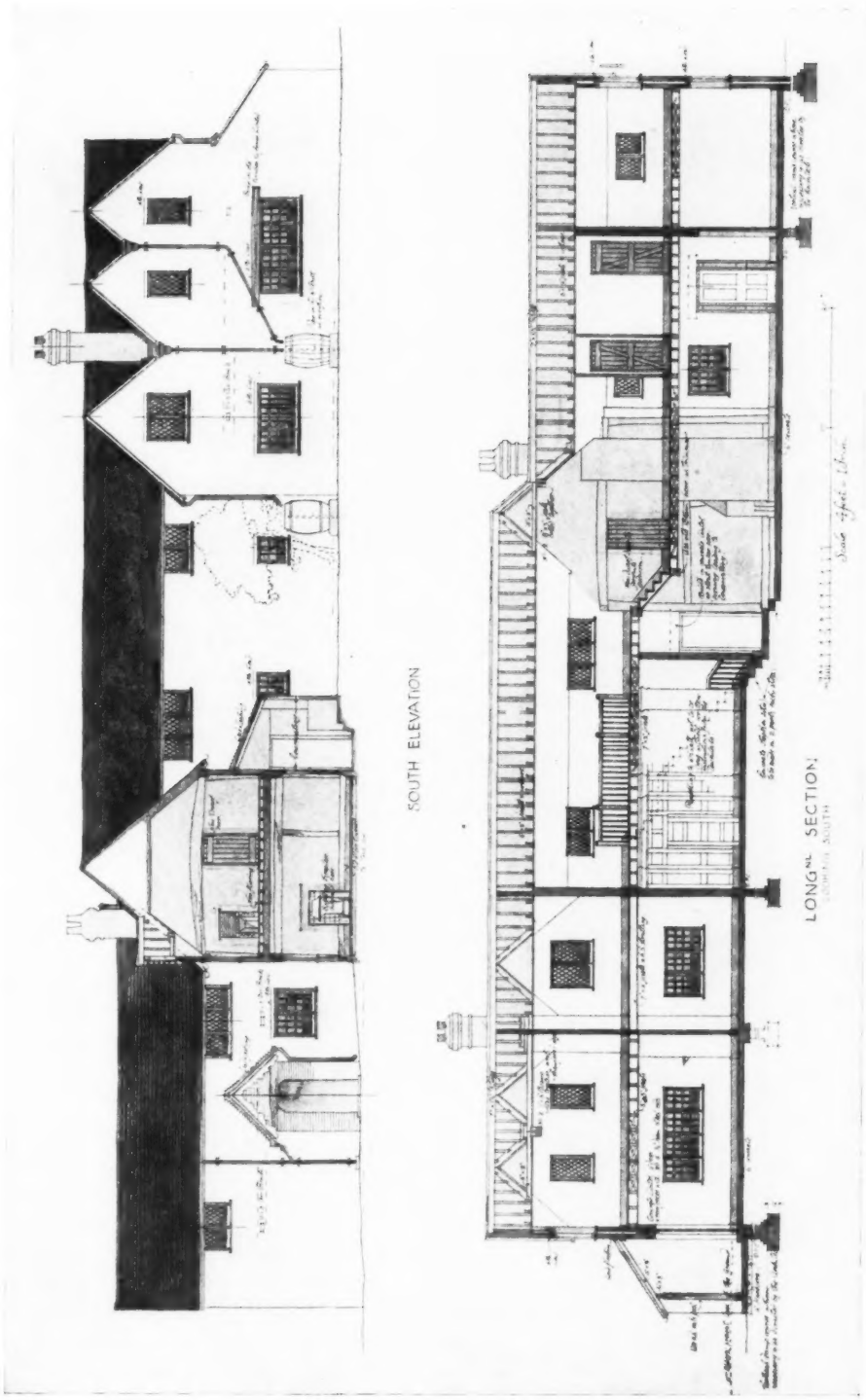
Sydney Tatchell and Geoffrey C. Wilson, FF.R.I.B.A., Architects

The South-West Corner, showing the new West Addition and the old Farm House.

Modern Domestic Architecture. 125.—Green Lane Farm, Chertsey, Surrey

Sydney Tatchell and Geoffrey C. Wilson, FF.R.I.B.A., Architects

The Ground Floor Gallery Hall, looking towards the stairs in the new addition.



GREEN LANE FARM, CHERTSEY, SURREY: ELEVATION AND SECTION. SYDNEY TATCHELL AND GEOFFREY C WILSON, FF.R.I.B.A. ARCHITECTS.

Nationalism in Architecture

By MANNING ROBERTSON

I—The Effect of Climate

ONE of the favourite among architectural catchwords is the phrase "national architecture"; if we were asked what we mean by this expression we should probably say that the main influence that made for a national style was that of climate, and that interacting with this were the habits, traditions, and philosophy of the people and the materials at their command. Are we not persistently inclined to attribute too much to climatic influences? The student is taught that in the warmer countries of the South the brilliant light necessitates less and smaller window openings than are required in Northern countries, but anyone who travels about the countries of the North cannot help observing that the windows in modern Northern towns bear precisely the same relationship to the sizes of the rooms as those in Marseilles or the European quarters of Algiers and Tunis. The larger your windows, the more difficult it is to heat your rooms in winter, and this consideration counteracts the other. People often forget that every spot on the earth's surface is given precisely the same allowance of time annually when the sun is above the horizon; daylight is certainly more evenly distributed in some places than in others; but when daylight is not there, windows are not going to create it; and also, places that are unusually cloudy and foggy are as a rule correspondingly damp and cold.

Take the question of life in the open air. The Englishman, when asked why he does not enjoy open-air meals as they do in Paris and the South, shrugs his shoulders and talks about the climate. If you ask a Dane why, with such a climate, he is so fond of loggias, open-air street cafés, terraces, and tea-gardens, he answers that the fine weather is so short that he wants to make the most of it while it is there. We are told that the buildings in Tunis and Egypt are white because of the heat of the sun, but the Bedouin tents in the Sahara, which is hotter, are black.

The effects of moisture and heavy rainfall appear, at first sight, to be more considerable, and they have been important factors in the past, although Northern countries do not, as has popularly been supposed, get an undue share of rain. The heaviest rainfall occurs in the tropics, and it is only in respect to the dry belts North and South of the tropics, in one of which lies the Mediterranean, that we get rainfall and latitude in any way interdependent. It is easier to make a steep-pitched roof watertight than to keep dry under a flat roof; and in wetter countries, such as ours, we find that roofs are traditionally steep. But the flat roof, provided it can be made watertight, is obviously the best in cold countries, for the snow lying on the roof tends to prevent the temperature from falling below freezing point, whereas in a temperature of 50 degrees of frost a steep roof without a snow covering allows the intense cold to permeate the house. For this reason the roof of the Swiss châlet is as flat as the materials will allow.

With primitive materials at his command, man found it difficult to make a perfectly flat roof either watertight or strong enough to bear a heavy weight of snow, but with new materials, such as reinforced concrete, the flat roof becomes the most practical and can be employed in hot and in cold countries. In England the flat roof would give us no snow protection, and in any case our temperature is seldom below freezing point, but it would enable us to use the extra space on the roof; and, having surmounted the difficulty of making a flat roof watertight, there seems to be no corresponding advantage in using a sloping roof, unless it be in cost or æsthetics. It seems clear, therefore, that while rainfall had in the past an effect on the architecture of the roofs, there is no reason why it should continue to effect it. As to the cost; where ballast is available a flat concrete roof is cheaper than a tiled or slated roof. During the period of maximum prices under Dr. Addison the difference was found to amount to £30 per house. When we come to æsthetics, it seems absurd to argue that the flat roof is æsthetically unpleasing in latitude 51 but not in latitude 38.

The thickness of walls is, of course, influenced by temperature, and a 9-in. brick wall, which is sufficient for a cottage in London, would not be sufficient to keep out the cold in Winnipeg or Moscow, but it is hard to see how the actual thickness of the wall can be regarded as a serious factor in design, beyond allowing a more flimsy type of construction in one country than in another.

The effect of climate upon modern architecture need only show itself in actual flimsiness of structure and—which is a point of importance—in the necessity in hot countries of providing arcades or verandas to protect the walls and windows from the direct glare of the sun. A wall (and the same, of course, applies to a roof) that is a bad conductor of heat is the best as a protection from cold, and is also the most efficient for keeping out heat, hence the two extremes of climate demand one and the same kind of wall and roof. Only in half-and-half climates like ours can we indulge in makeshift walls, and even then we provoke complaints that the houses are "cold in winter and hot in summer." The two necessarily go together.

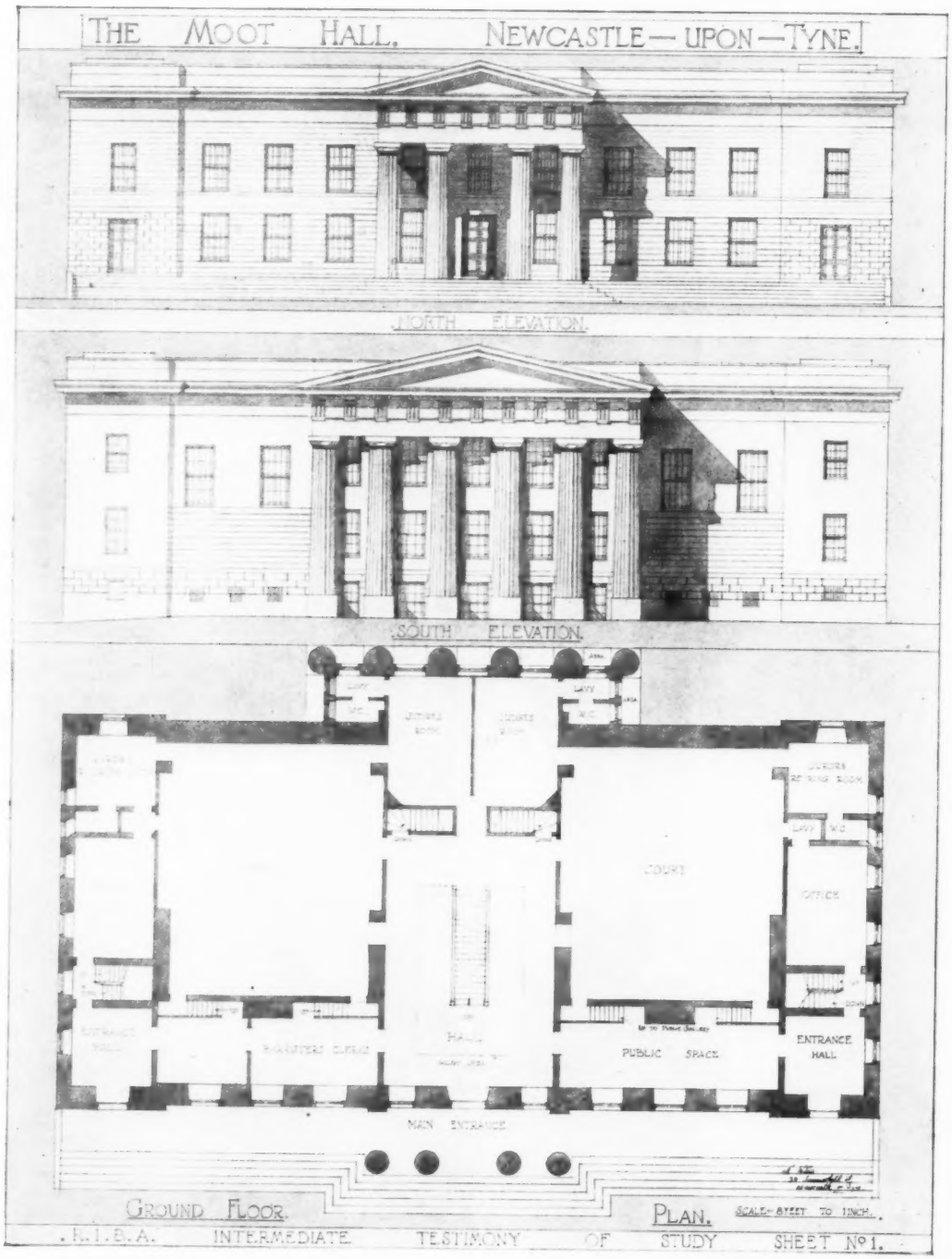
When we consider colour, we find once more that climate is not the stern arbiter that we have allowed ourselves to believe. The gilded domes of the East have spread through Russia and the golden three-crowned lantern gleams over the Stockholm Town Hall. Where people want colour they find a place for it somewhere. Secco wall painting can be enjoyed externally at Naples and Palermo, but internally it is universal in Scandinavia. Stained-glass is rare in the North, popular in France and England, rare again in the South. It is not until one is familiar with the rich colouring of the Northern countries that one realizes the ineffectuality of so-called climatic prohibitions. In damp climates such as ours, wood and metal require constant coats of preservative paint. If we really cared about colour, surely we should have formed habits other than gasometer red, mud-brown, and laurel green, since our paint manufacturers provide us with ample choice. One of the most encouraging symptoms at the Paris Exhibition this year is the free use of primary colours for decorative effect in the international pavilions.

We may take it, therefore, that the effects of climate are slight compared with those of men's habits and preferences; and that even these do not always go together is illustrated in the Englishman's love of *al fresco* meals the moment he gets abroad, whether he goes North or South. He can get lunch and coffee in the streets of Paris or Stockholm, but not in London or Oxford. Why? Not because he does not like them, but because it is not his habit, and, if he thinks about it at all, he attributes the difference vaguely to the climate. Habit and tradition are the real arbiters of national architecture. We speak of the Gothic vigour of the North and the classic repose of the South, but we find in our own country that the age of Gothic vigour was succeeded by the classical repose of the Georgian period, and the one was as English and climatically as suitable as the other.

Recent Work in the Schools

Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

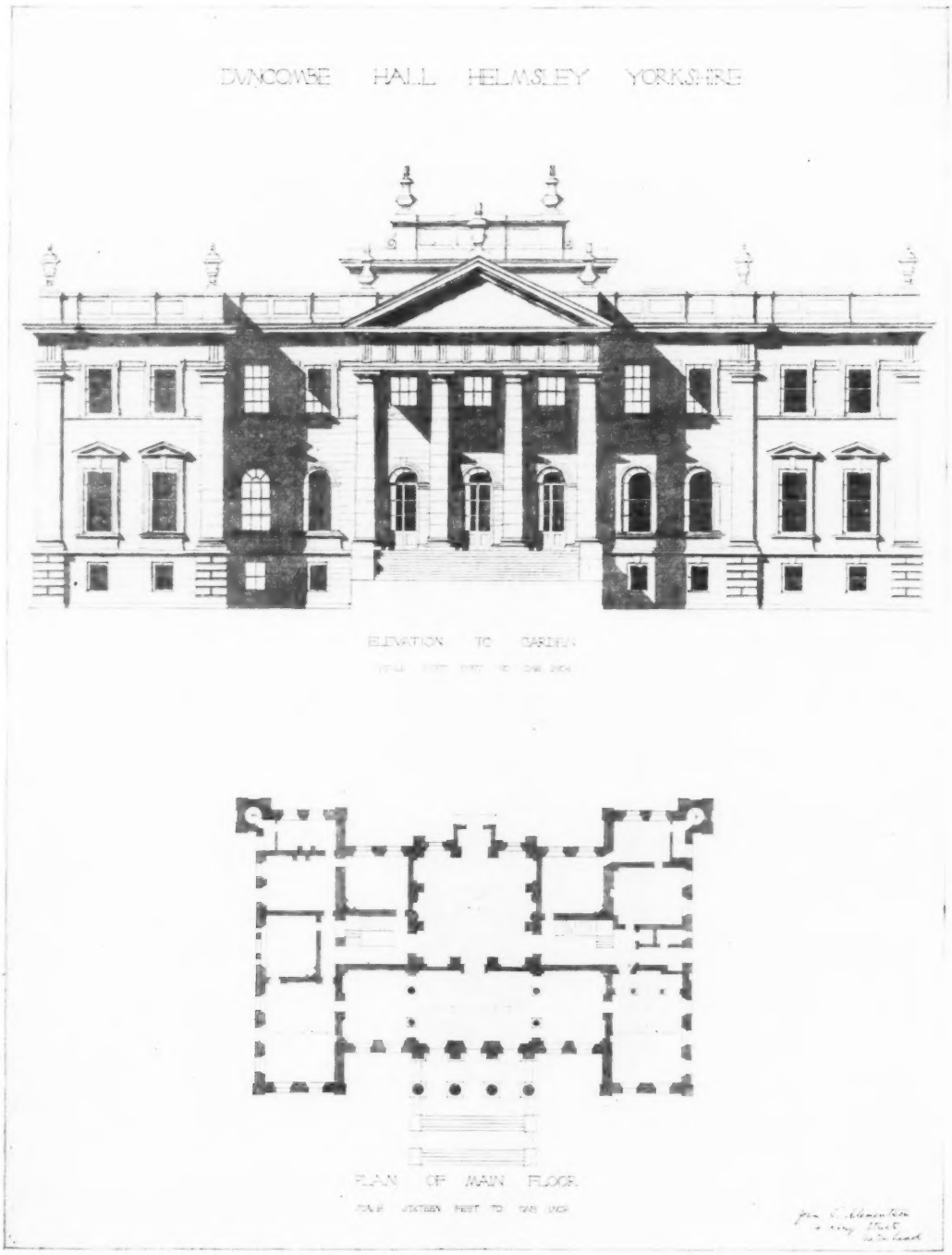
Principal: F. N. WEIGHTMAN, Licentiate R.I.B.A.



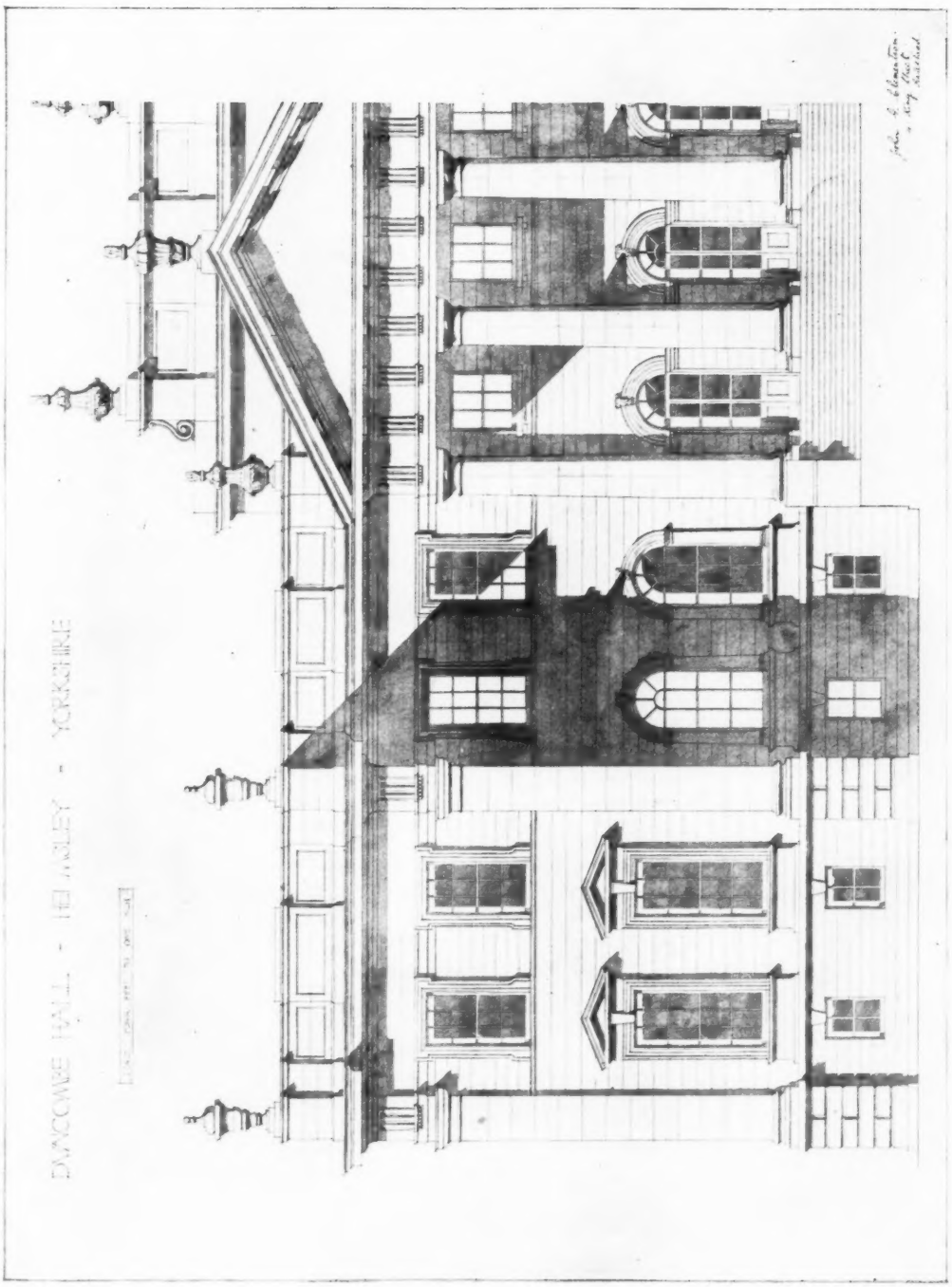
THE MOOT HALL, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. MEASURED AND DRAWN BY N WILLIS.

Duncombe Hall, Helmsley, Yorkshire

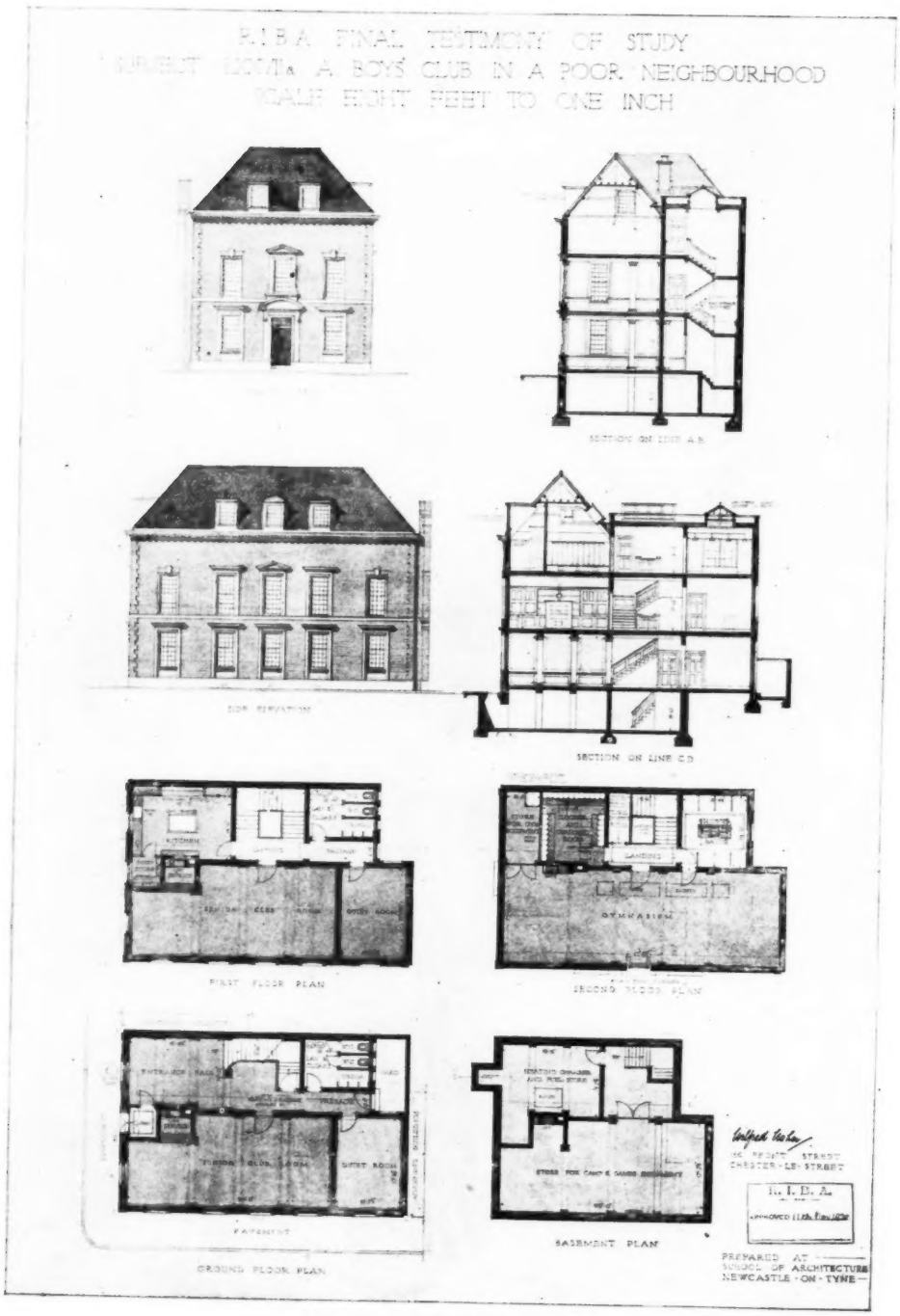
Measured and Drawn by John C. Clementson, Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne



Details of the Garden Front appear on page 315.



DUNCOMBE HALL, HELMSLEY, YORKSHIRE: DETAILS OF GARDEN FRONT
MEASURED AND DRAWN BY JOHN C. CLEMENTSON, ARMSTRONG COLLEGE, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.



DESIGN FOR A BOYS' CLUB.
BY WILFRED USHER, ARMSTRONG COLLEGE, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Reinforced Concrete Retaining Walls—V

By PROFESSOR HENRY ADAMS, M.Inst.C.E., F.R.I.B.A., Etc.

THE next condition to consider will be when the retaining wall has to carry a superimposed load upon the earth behind, as in the case of motor traffic, a railway, or the foundations of a building. This excludes building on the wall itself, as it is not then a retaining wall, but merely the basement portion of an ordinary wall.

Suppose the wall has to carry a load of 2 tons per foot run on a rail 3 ft. from back of wall, then taking the same general conditions as before, the additional thrust will be found as shown in Fig. 17. From the point of application of the load draw a line to meet the back of wall parallel to the line of rupture. Where it cuts the wall draw a horizontal line to meet a vertical from the load. From the point of intersection set up the load in lbs., and from this length draw a line parallel to the line of rupture to give the extra thrust which scales 2,089 lb. at a height of 5·57 ft., or an additional bending moment on the wall of $2{,}089 \times 5{\cdot}57 \times 12 = 139{,}629$ lb. in. The other calculations will be carried out as before. It should be noted that if it is a wheel load of 2 tons, each part of the wall will in turn be subjected to the same pressure, and that is why the whole load is taken on the foot of section that is calculated.

Perhaps the most useful case to consider in detail will be where the foundations of the front wall of a building come within the line of rupture; anything beyond this line may be ignored. Let Fig. 18 represent the case to be considered, where the foundation of the wall half overlaps the line of rupture. The whole load on the foundation is $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons, so that half of this acting at 2 ft. from the line of rupture will give a thrust of 1·05 tons as shown at a height of 2·1 ft. from lower ground line, or a bending moment of $1{\cdot}05 \times 2{\cdot}1 \times 2{,}240 \times 12 = 59{,}388$ lb. in. At the same time the wedge of earth as a whole is acting (less the space occupied by foundation, which may be ignored) producing a thrust of ·7 ton at a height of 4 ft., or a bending moment of $\cdot 7 \times 4 \times 2{,}240 \times 12 = 75{,}264$ lb. in., making a total bending moment of $59{,}388 + 75{,}264 = 134{,}652$ lb. in.

Then by the formula $B = 95bt^2$, $t = \sqrt{\dfrac{134{,}652}{95 \times 12}} = 10{\cdot}86$ in. effective. The reinforcement at ·675 per cent. $= \dfrac{10{\cdot}86 \times 12 \times {\cdot}675}{100} = {\cdot}88$ sq. in., or, say, two $\frac{3}{4}$-in. rods. The total thickness at that point will then be $10{\cdot}86 + {\cdot}375 + 1 =$ say, $12\frac{1}{4}$ in. Then $r = {\cdot}00675$, $m = 15$, $k = \sqrt{r^2m^2 + 2rm} - rm = \sqrt{{\cdot}00675^2 \times 15^2 + 2 \times {\cdot}00675 \times 15} - {\cdot}00675 \times 15 = \sqrt{{\cdot}21275} - {\cdot}10125 = {\cdot}36$; $a = 1 - \frac{1}{3}k = 1 - \frac{1}{3} \times {\cdot}36 = {\cdot}88$

$$t = \frac{B}{rbd^2a} = \frac{134{,}652}{{\cdot}00675 \times 12 \times 10{\cdot}86^2 \times {\cdot}88} = 16{,}017 \text{ lb. sq. in.}$$

$$c = \frac{2B}{kbd^2a} = \frac{2 \times 134{,}652}{{\cdot}36 \times 12 \times 10{\cdot}86^2 \times {\cdot}88} = 600 \text{ lb. sq. in.,}$$

which is quite satisfactory. The bending moment on the wall will be resisted by the downward thrust on the slab at the back. Suppose, as in Fig. 19, a distance be taken of 3 ft. 5 in. behind

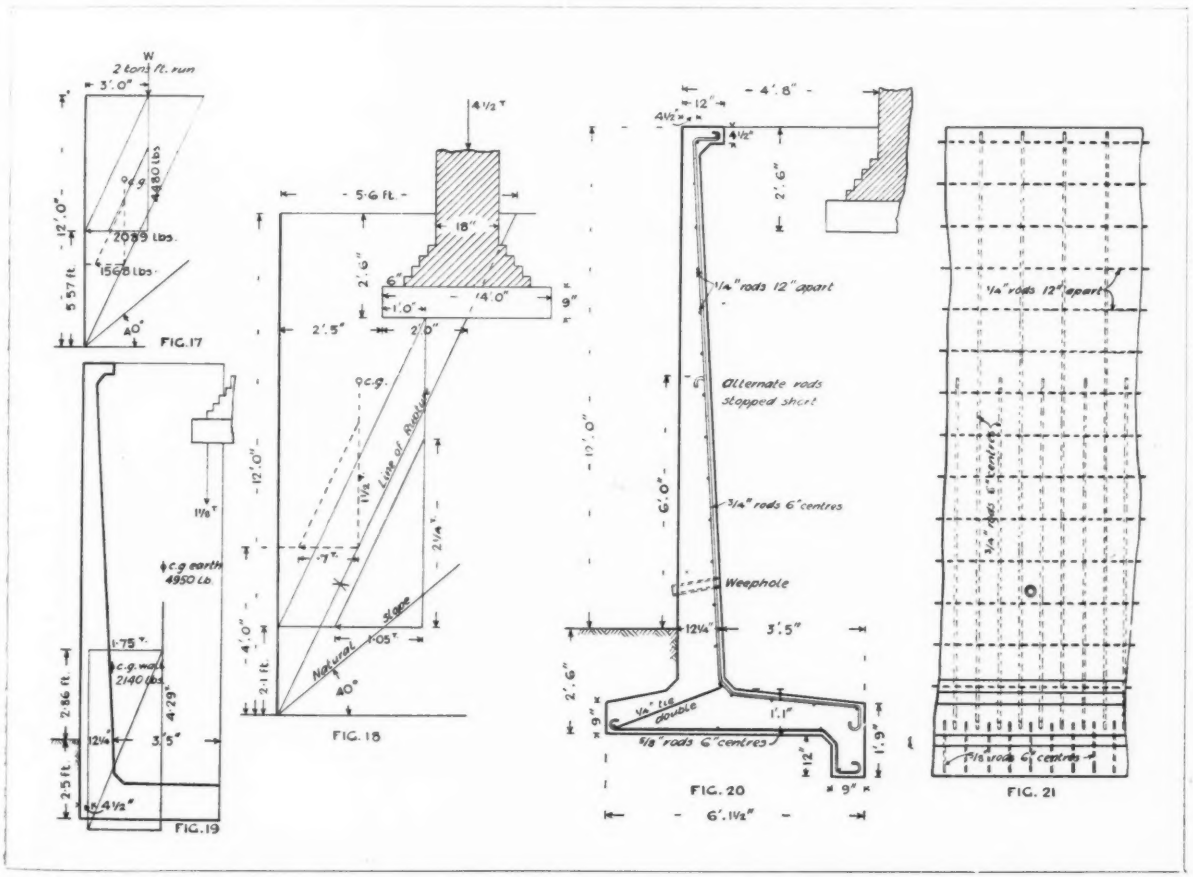


Fig. 17. Load on rail behind wall. Fig. 18. Building foundation behind wall. Fig. 19. Position of final resultant.
Fig. 20. Complete section of wall. Fig. 21. Part back elevation of wall.

wall, where one-fourth of the load from the foundation will come, this will give a weight of earth of $3\frac{5}{12} \times 12 \times 100 = 4,100$ lb. acting with a leverage of 20·5 in., and giving a bending moment of $4,100 \times 20{\cdot}5 = 84,050$ lb. in. Then we have also one-fourth of the foundation load, or $\frac{4{\cdot}5 \times 2240}{4} = 2520$ lb., acting with a leverage of 35 in., and giving a bending moment of $2520 \times 35 = 88,200$ lb. in., or, together, $84,050 + 88,200 = 172,250$ lb. in., which is more than the total bending moment on wall, and, therefore, safe against overturning. The mean centre of gravity of the loads is 2·5625 ft. from face of wall, and the mean leverage of the horizontal thrusts is 5·36 ft. from underside of slab, making the resultant 4·5 in. from face of wall. Allowing this to be the edge of the middle third the whole base will be 6 ft. $1\frac{1}{8}$ in., say, 6 ft. $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.

The maximum pressure on underside of slab will then be $\frac{4{\cdot}29 \times 2}{6{\cdot}125 \times 1} = 1{\cdot}4$ tons per sq. ft., and the finished section of the wall will be as in Fig. 20, and elevation as Fig. 21.

A point generally lost sight of is that the filling at the back of a retaining wall is "made ground," and the ordinary assumption that the angle of repose is the same as that of the undisturbed ground is not justified, even when the filling has been well rammed in layers not exceeding 12 in. deep and inclined downwards away from the face of the wall; this assumption may in some cases account for failures of walls which have been attributed to landslides or to water getting behind the wall. A more common source of failure is the omission to bench out the solid bank of earth before the filling is commenced. The writer once saw a dock retaining wall, the back of which was being filled in at the foot of a hard sloping bank, where no benching was made. He stated at the time that in his opinion the wall was not safe, and twenty years afterwards it fell into the dock. A celebrated engineer was then called in, and a new wall built, which was guaranteed not to fail, but, owing to the peculiar design, the cost was excessive and quite unnecessary if ordinary precautions had been taken in rebuilding the wall of the old section.

Retaining walls subject to a possible collection of water at the back should have weep holes put in at intervals to allow the water to escape, composed of a piece of 2 in. or 3 in. agricultural drain pipe without sockets bedded in the wall with a fall to the front. One row of weep holes is generally sufficient, say, 6 ft. apart, and 2 or 3 ft. above the bottom. With water in the soil and no means of escape the thrust may be increased 50 per cent.

(To be continued.)

[The previous articles of this series appeared in our issues for May 13, June 17, July 29, and August 12.]

Enquiries Answered

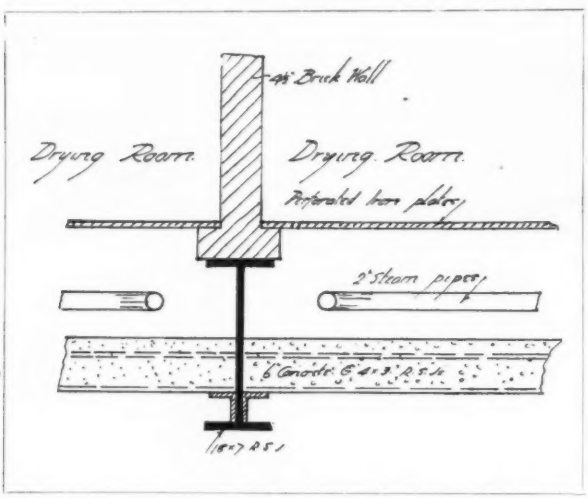
Enquiries from readers on points of architectural, constructional, and legal interest, etc., are cordially invited. They will be dealt with by a staff of experts, whose services are specially retained for this purpose. If desired, answers will be sent direct through the post. In no case is any charge made for this service. Whenever diagrams accompany an enquiry, they must be clearly drawn and lettered and inked in.

STOPPING PENETRATION OF HEAT.

"J. H." writes: "The accompanying diagram shows a section through the drying-rooms on the first floor of a works. The heat from the steam pipes penetrates the concrete below to such an extent that the radiation into the rooms underneath is very objectionable. The underside of the concrete is left rough from the shattering. Can you suggest any method of stopping the heat from penetrating to rooms below? The ceiling cannot be lowered more than about 3 in."

—Plastering the underside of the concrete would have some good effect, but if the nuisance from heat is acute it will probably be necessary to provide a coating of efficient insulating material, such as slag-wool or asbestos. One of the compositions, such as "slag-bestos" (F. McNeill & Co., Ltd.) might be used with advantage. To check the heat at its source a layer of insulation might be placed between the steam pipes and the concrete floor, raising the pipes slightly to preserve space for ample circulation of air upon which their efficiency depends. Another way of applying the insulating material would be to suspend a ceiling on the lower flanges of the rolled steel joists, and to pack the insulating material between the false ceiling and the existing concrete floor. The spans of the floor slabs are not shown on the sketch, but it should not be difficult to make a light reinforced ceiling that would be strong enough to carry the weight of the insulation. As it is essential to avoid large through connections of highly-conductive material, it would be well to dispense with the use of rolled steel joists, which would divide the insulation into separate strips, and instead to hang up the ceiling if necessary by the use of rag bolts let into the concrete floor. The ideal is to obtain a complete unbroken layer of insulating material between the source of heat and the air of the room below, and to this end the lower flanges of the main girders must also be covered.

W. H.



STOPPING PENETRATION OF HEAT.

RED ASH TENNIS COURTS.

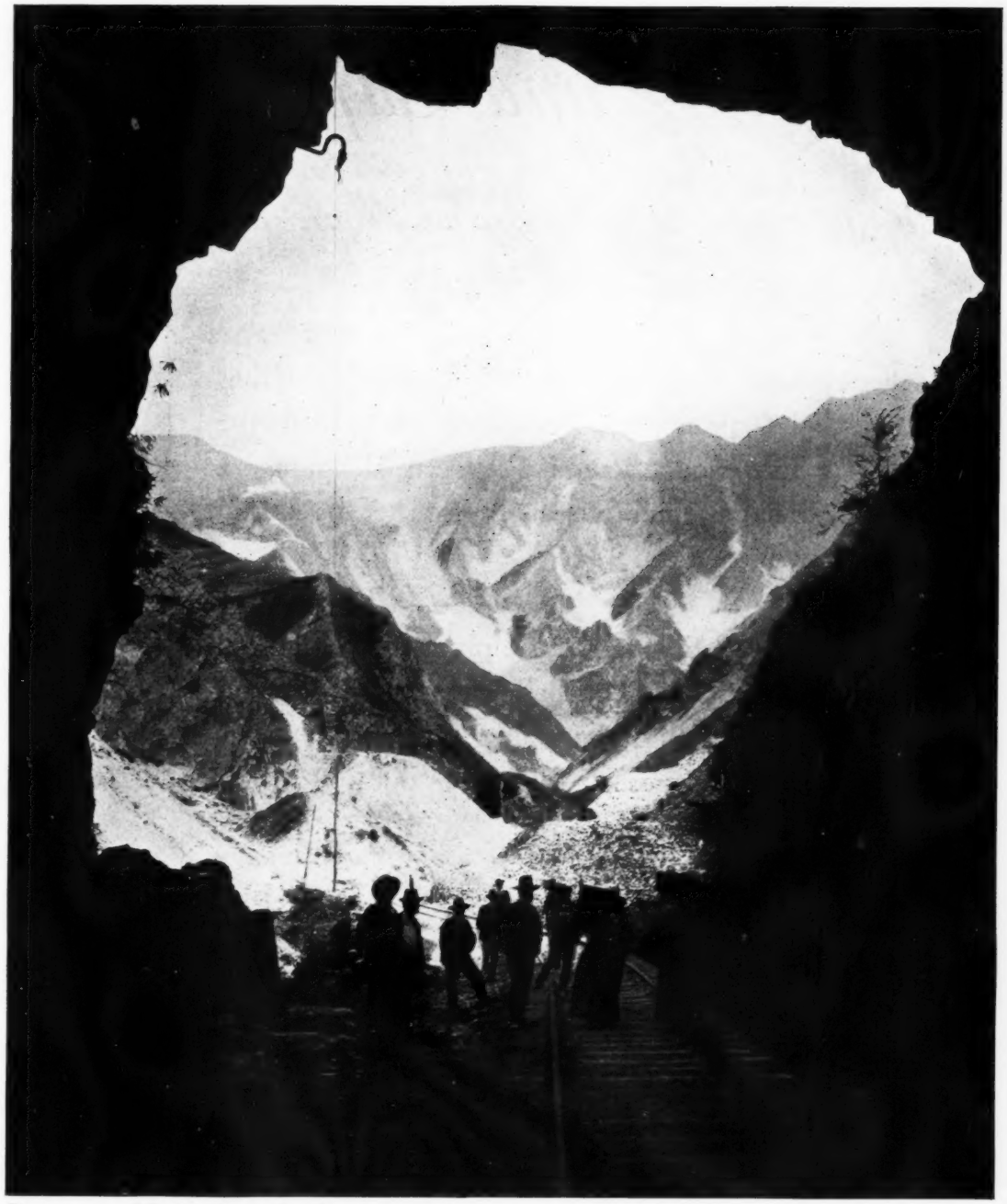
"Subscribers" write: "Please give us an outline specification for red ash tennis courts. These are proposed to be constructed on the site of an old depression which we have filled in. The filling-in material, obtained on the site from levelling, is red roche (or soft shaley sandstone)."

—As the object of the hard court is to provide for play at all times of year, good drainage is essential.

The existing infilling of shale should be inspected to ascertain whether rainwater is satisfactorily disposed of by soakage. If this is the case, and it can be presumed that rain falling on the court will immediately sink in below the surface the upper layers can be put in hand.

If the existing material is not satisfactory in this respect trenches should be cut across its surface at about 6 ft. centres, with their bottoms sloping down from the centre to the edges of the court to conduct moisture to points where it can be dealt with by means of ditches, sump pits, or drains.

Agricultural drain-pipes laid in the trenches may be used in specially difficult cases, but where the subsoil is absorbent



Entrance to Marble Quarries from a tunnel.

a filling of hard clinker or broken brick or stone is all that is needed.

Care must be taken to remove any deposits of clay that have been spread or trampled into the bottom of the trenches.

Once the absorbent character of the foundation is assured, a bed of hard, well-burnt clinker should be spread and levelled over the area of the court and rolled in with a horse roller. The size of the clinker need not be uniform, provided that it is free from dust and excessively large lumps that would hold up the roller. A finished thickness of 4 in. will be required after rolling, about 6 in. being allowed to begin with. Any sinking of surface should be levelled up at this stage as the rolling proceeds.

A second layer of clinker broken to pass a 1-in. ring, or of well-burnt ballast, is then laid about 3 in. thick, and rolled with a lighter roller and plenty of water, until it is reduced to 2 in. in thickness.

The final coat of ash or burnt gravel is laid to the thickness of 2 in., and rolled and watered until it is brought down to a dead level and reduced to 1 in. in thickness.

Sockets for the net posts must be provided, and the outline of the court, 120 ft. by 60 ft., should be provided with a level curb of wood or stone to prevent encroachment by grass and weeds.

A 10-ft. fence of posts and wire netting is often provided along the line of the curb to prevent the balls passing out of the court on to damp grass.

W. H.

THE STAINING OF PLASTER BY BRICKS.

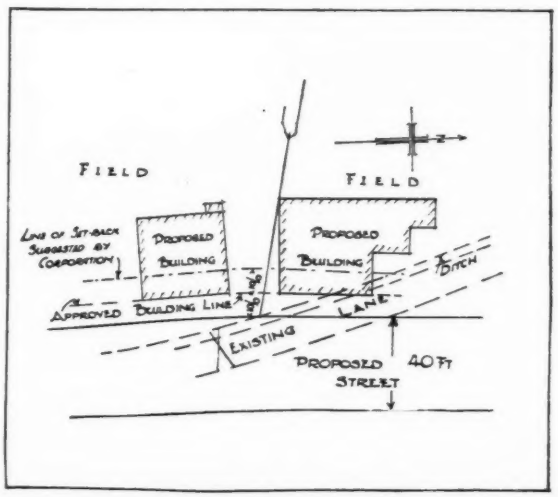
"R. H." writes: "Can you inform me how to prevent bricks, which have been subjected to the effects of smoke and soot, from staining the plaster with which they may be covered? I am erecting a house with old materials, and I suspect that bricks of this nature may have been used for the internal walls inadvertently."

—If the bricks are already erected in walls which it is intended to plaster it will probably be best to ding the surfaces thoroughly all over until the sooty coating has been removed, and clean, chipped surface reveals itself. If the plaster is to be whitened, or to remain uncoloured, it would be better to cut the bricks out and replace them with clean ones than to risk spoiling the job. The effect of a sooty stain might not be very apparent under a dark-coloured distemper, and where it is intended to apply such colouring the experiment of rendering the wall in waterproof cement and sand might be worth while. Stains ooze through slow-setting lime plasters which remain damp for long periods. It is possible that they would be prevented by a quicker setting and impervious coating provided that is thoroughly set and dry before the damp finishing coat is applied.

W. H.

PRESCRIBING BUILDING LINE.

"Provincial" writes: "The accompanying sketch shows the site of two proposed private slaughterhouses, plans of which have been deposited with the local authority. The municipal engineer states that unless the buildings are erected some distance (10 ft. is suggested) *behind* the approved building line of a new 40-ft. street, which is sometime to take the place of the present lane, the plans will be disapproved. At no time is the street likely to have any amount of traffic. Have the council authority to place this imposition? Can they withhold the necessary licence if we disregard it? The land is low-lying and falls from the street, and a considerable amount of filling and approach forming will be required if the council's requirements are to be met. My clients assert the setting back would also prove disadvantageous so far as dealing with the cattle is concerned. The fields are in the town-planning area."



PRESCRIBING BUILDING LINE.

—From the sketch plan sent I gather that there are no existing buildings in the "street"; consequently the regulations of section 156 of the "Public Health Act, 1875," do not apply. Under these circumstances the Urban Sanitary Authority have the right to prescribe a building line at such a reasonable distance back as they consider fit; 20 ft. is not unreasonable, and I advise your clients to conform to the proposed line. It will then be fixed for the whole street.

F. S. I.

Law Report

A Bedford Estate Lease

Gidden v. *Mills.*

King's Bench Divisional Court. Before Justices Salter and Greer.

This matter arose out of a grant of a lease of certain property at Eaton Place, Bury Street, W., granted in 1865 by the Duke of Bedford and the trustees of the Bedford estate.

Mr. Justice Greer delivered the judgment of the Court, Mr. Justice Salter concurring.

His lordship said the premises were leased in 1863 for sixty years to a Mr. Neighbour, but prior to 1913 they were vested in Messrs. Abbott and Rushton, who sub-leased them to the defendant Mills, sub-lease expiring December, 1923. There was no evidence as to how or when the premises had been converted from a warehouse into coach-house and stable, but it appeared that in Messrs. Abbott and Rushton's time, before the sub-lease with the defendant, the premises had been used as a coach-house and stable, with living-rooms for the coachman on the upper floor. The defendant Mills converted the premises into a garage with living-rooms over, the living-rooms having a separate and independent entrance, and occupied them by keeping cars in the garage, and by his chauffeur using the living-rooms, not as a tenant but as a servant. On September 1, 1922, the defendant ceased to occupy the living-rooms by his chauffeur, and let them to one Wilmore, at a rent of £6 5s. per month, but continued in occupation of the garage. His lease expired on December 22, 1923, and the head lease vested in Abbott and Rushton expired two days later. It was evident that after that date both the defendant and Wilmore would, apart from the Rent Restrictions Acts, have become trespassers against whom an order for possession could not be refused. On July 31, 1924, the freeholders leased the premises to the plaintiff, and it was conceded that in regard to the right to possession the plaintiff stood in the shoes of the freeholder. Under these circumstances the matter went before the Bloomsbury County Court judge, who dismissed the plaintiffs' claim for possession, holding that the premises constituted a dwelling-house to which the Rent Restrictions Acts applied, that the defendant was lawfully in possession, that breaches of covenant, if any, had been waived, that if such breaches of covenant had not been waived he gave relief under the Conveyancing Act, and in any event, he exercised his discretion under the Rent Restrictions Acts in favour of the defendant. In his lordship's judgment the County Court judge was right in refusing to give judgment for possession of the garage. In dividing the premises into two parts, one let as a dwelling-house and the other retained for his own use as a garage, the defendant had lost the protection of the Act so far as the garage was concerned. The action was a common-law action for possession of the whole of the premises. The defendant was entitled to say to the Court that section 5 prohibited an order for possession of the living-rooms inasmuch as his tenant was lawfully in possession of the rooms when the lease came to an end, but he could not rely on the section as an answer to plaintiffs' claim for possession of the garage.

The Court allowed the appeal, and gave judgment for the possession of the garage.

Book Reviews

Kent Coalfield: The East Kent Regional Planning Scheme.

The nearness of East Kent to London, its prominent position as the gateway to England, the fame of its health resorts, the beauty of its country, and its wealth of historic monuments and associations, make its future a matter of national importance. The issue by the East Kent Joint Town-Planning Committee, composed of seventeen local authorities, of the "Regional Planning Report," prepared by Professor Abercrombie, President of the Town Planning Institute, and Mr. John Archibald, M.T.P.I., is therefore a matter of considerable moment, and the authors are to be congratulated on having produced a document worthy of the occasion and worthily presented.

The need for planning has been hastened by the advent of the coal industry, now in vigorous and capable hands, and by the discovery of iron ore, and the object of the Joint Committee is to facilitate the new developments of mineral wealth on lines that will leave unspoiled the chief existing assets in and around the region, such as the seaside towns, a countryside famous for its pastures, orchards, and hop-gardens, the cathedral City of Canterbury, and other pleasant towns and villages.

The report in the main comprises a careful survey of existing conditions and resources, followed by suggestions towards the preparation of a regional plan. It is copiously illustrated by maps, plans, diagrams, photographs, and sketches.

The principal items covered by the survey are topography, geology, agriculture, archæology, administration, population, health, housing, industry, communications, open spaces and natural reservations, the ports, the old towns, and the seaside resorts. The effect of geology on topography and landscape is noted, and, in addition to coal and iron deposits and the factors that govern the placing of their workings—a fundamental matter in planning—information is given as to surface soils, their economic and agricultural value, and their suitability or otherwise as sites for houses or works.

Careful estimates are made as to the extra population that will be required in the region for the purpose of developing the coal and iron fields, and for the ancillary industries, such as electrical power production, that are likely to be established.

In the second part of the report the distribution of this population and methods of providing accommodation for it are discussed. The authors and the committee are emphatically of the opinion that pithead villages should be avoided, and that instead there should be established a number of sizeable new towns, on attractive and convenient sites that can be developed economically, and each within reach of more than one pit.

It is suggested that the larger units would make for economy not only in the provision of public services, water, drainage, electricity, gas, and so on, but also in public buildings, shops, and places of amusement. Another advantage would be the opportunity for a fuller social life. It is urged that the towns should be of loose texture, but compact and defined, and that untidy straggling development over the countryside should be prohibited.

Recommendations are made indicating the principles that should be followed in respect to zoning, a system of communications. Also alternative methods of realization are outlined.

It is pointed out that there need be no unsightly pit-heaps, and that all industry in the region can economically be electrically driven from one centre, thus avoiding the smoke nuisance. Suggestions are made for protecting the existing towns and villages and preserving their character.

As a comprehensive and illuminating survey of a region preparatory to planning, this report is a pioneer effort of note, and the suggestions as to the form of development indicated by the data that have been collected, analysed and compared, give it an additional value. No doubt the committee, which comprises such a splendid joint effort, will now take the next step and have prepared a complete regional plan, so that a prosperous and comely future for this famous corner of England may be assured.

"The East Kent Regional Planning Scheme: Regional Report." Price 10s. The Honorary Secretary of the Committee, Mr. F. A. Cloke, 51 Strand Street, Sandwich, Kent.

The Treatment of Damp Walls.

In this book Mr. Ernest G. Blake first draws attention to the widespread danger to health, and the serious risk to property, which arise from the continued existence of dampness in occupied houses, and then suggests, in as simple a manner, and in as good order as possible, the best and most effective methods by which these undesirable conditions can be remedied. Although the Ministry of Health's Manual of Unfit Houses classifies dampness as the most serious defect in their standard of fitness from a disease-producing point of view, Mr. Blake remarks that the trouble is rarely incurable. He says: "If proper measures are put into force, and cheeseparing methods are relegated to their proper sphere, in nine cases out of ten the desired object can be attained in such a way that it is absolutely impossible for these unsatisfactory conditions to occur." But it is only by boldly attacking the trouble at its root, and by taking drastic steps for its eradication, that success can be assured. No one realizes this more than the author. While devoting a certain amount of space to temporary remedies, he points out that the extent to which these are used must be commensurate with the degree of necessity for their application, and he advises the adoption of permanent remedies in all cases where their employment will guarantee freedom from subsequent annoyance. The main object to be aimed at in investigating dampness is to trace the visible evidence back to the actual seat of the trouble, so that it can be attacked at its source. It is not a good policy to hide dampness, although this method of getting over the difficulty is common with some people. A favourite practice to avoid the inconvenience of internal dampness is to line the wall with matchboarding. The result of this action is certainly successful so far as appearance is concerned, as the dampness is entirely hidden from sight, but it is essentially an ostrich-like policy, as it does not exercise the slightest effect on the wall itself, but merely disguises its condition and allays all fears, so that a false sense of security is produced. A fact that is too often lost sight of is that the danger to health that exists in a damp house is due solely to the conditions prevailing, and not to its dilapidated and dirty appearance. The author deals, among other matters, with the effects and causes of dampness, temporary internal and external remedies, permanent remedies, minor causes of dampness and their remedies, condensation, methods of waterproofing of Portland cement, and weatherproofing building construction. The methods put forward to overcome dampness are explained at length, and include most of those generally accepted by the building industry. The seventy illustrations are reproduced in the clearest and simplest manner, so that no one should experience any difficulty in following the text. The fact that the first edition of this work has been exhausted in a short period proves that the need for such a volume has been felt by those who are responsible for the upkeep of house property.

"Damp Walls." By Ernest G. Blake, M.R.S.I., A.B.I.C.C. Second edition, revised and enlarged. Price 8s. 6d. net. Crosby Lockwood and Son, Stationers' Hall Court, Ludgate Hill, E.C.4.

MARBLE

An Advertisement by
The Art Pavements & Decorations Ltd.
Marble Workers
St. Paul's Crescent, Camden Town, N.W.1.

Number Six.

"THE TRUE COLOURS OF ARCHITECTURE ARE THOSE OF NATURAL STONE"

THE true colours of architecture are those of natural stone, and I would fain see these taken advantage of to the full. Every variety of hue, from pale yellow to purple, passing through orange, red, and brown, is entirely at our command; nearly every kind of green and grey is obtainable; and with these, and pure white, what harmonies might we not achieve? Of stained and variegated stone, the quantity is unlimited, the kinds innumerable.

This is the true and faithful way of building; where this cannot be, the device of external colouring may, indeed, be employed without dishonour; but it must be with the warning reflection that a time will come when such aids must pass away, and when the building will be judged in its lifelessness, dying the death of the dolphin.

The transparent alabasters of San Miniato, and the mosaics of St. Mark's, are more warmly filled and more brightly touched by every return of morning and evening rays; while the hues of our cathedrals have died like the iris out of the cloud; and the temples whose azure and purple once flamed above the Grecian promontories, stand in their faded whiteness like snows which the sunset has left cold.

JOHN RUSKIN: "THE SEVEN LAMPS OF ARCHITECTURE"—THE LAMP OF TRUTH.

BLACK JAVA PANTHER CARVED DIRECT IN DIORITE.

SEA LION GROUP CARVED DIRECT IN BLACK GRANITE.

TWO CARVINGS BY MATEO HERNANDEZ.

Contemporary Art

Decoration and Design.

Designing for the crafts and craftsmanship are two different things. The former brings art into commercialism; the latter is art, because it is the work, both in design and workmanship, of the same individual, and is, therefore, rarer than the former. Designing for the crafts presupposes an acquaintance with the craft concerned, but does not always get it. Such designing must be practical, but manufacturing processes are often unduly insisted on, resulting not only in imitation and mechanicalism, but in mediocrity. The designing room and the art school do not allow enough to the individual. Principles of designing are taught from the point of view of what has been done, rather than from that of what should be done.

Consequently, at the exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum of the competition works for the prizes and scholarships offered by the Society of Arts, there is but little originality. From the printed report of the judges it appears that this quality is not greatly encouraged. The designs are often good technically; sound historically, but lifeless. The eternal grindstone of tradition has but dully sharpened the wits of the competitors. In some cases they have been so concentrated on making a pretty design, that the real requirements of the subject have been overlooked or obscured.

Architectural Design.

The memorial library, for example, is by the students competing treated with a deplorable lack of what is needed in a modern library. There is in many cases more design than library; little real knowledge of even the outward sizes and shapes of books is displayed, nor is there any realization of the shelving problem. Many shelves ascend to the ceiling, many more are otherwise inaccessible. Fireplaces, sculpture, and wall-paintings, often quite arbitrarily introduced, are even more often misplaced and misused, and, what is worst of all, the furniture depicted is completely unsuitable. There are some comfortable interiors shown in quite nice drawings, but these are not real nor practical.

In the actual designs in the furniture competition a somewhat better result is achieved. In fact, there are at least three students who have done very well: James Watson, of the Brixton School of Building, in his bedroom; William Sanders, of the Barnstaple School of Art, and William D. MacKenzie, of the Edinburgh College of Art, in their china cabinets. In both of the latter there is evidence of fitting design to purpose. In this section there is better judging than in most. Other decorative domestic objects in the round, such as glass and pottery, show little imagination, but plenty of dull imitation.

Hangings and Wall and Floor Coverings.

Flat decoration is even more conventional. Ancient textile design has a deadlier grip in our schools than any other form. The patterns for imitation Wilton, Axminster, and Persian carpets are stodgy, and their colour is dull. An attempt at more modern feeling has succeeded in forcing a prize from the examiners, but it is bad in colour and tiresome in pattern; but there is another which approaches to abstraction in design which is original and unrewarded. The printed linoleums show no advance on the shop and store article, which is greatly to be regretted, for this class of material is, to speak frankly, dying for want of a breath of individuality in designer and manufacturer. No wonder plain surfaces have to be chosen, for linoleum design is below the level of general taste.

Almost as bad are the wallpapers. Prizes have been given for tame stuff, apparently because the technique of the repeat has been well exercised. The only wall-covering worth while is that for a theatre, boldly employing peacocks and trees, in blue, gold, and black, on a grey ground, but not recognized by the judges. The printed woven cloths are no better, and it is bad to have to confess that the designers show little appreciation of the difference required between a printed and a woven fabric. An Owen Jones prize goes, naturally enough, to one such design, and a prize to a bright and vigorous pattern by Elsie Thompson.

What this interesting exhibition chiefly lacks is taste and fancy. No amount of historical knowledge or technique can make up for this.

A valuable exposition of applied decorative work was made—unfortunately, for one day only—by the Incorporated Institute of British Decorators at the Painters' Hall. Here there were shown the best manufactures of the higher class of flat printings, tiles, tapestries, pottery, and drawings of an architectural character. The Voysey designs made their usual indisputable claim, and the wrought-iron work of the Albany Forge at Mortlake was exceptionally interesting, and formed one of the most prominent features of the show, a prominence shared with the admirable drawings lent by that versatile and sound artist H. Davis Richter.

Out-of-doors Sculpture.

The Spanish sculptor Mateo Hernandez, who has made a special feature of his carving direct in the stone and direct from his models, is well represented in the garden of the Spanish pavilion at the Paris Exhibition of Modern Decorative Art. His studies of animals and birds are admirably suited to garden application. They are simply and broadly treated, and always naturalistic representations, which also have an intrinsic decorative value. His black Java panther in diorite, and his group of sea lions in black granite, are good examples of his fine work.

KINETON PARKES.

National Portrait Gallery to be Extended.

The National Portrait Gallery is so overcrowded that seventy-five pictures are on loan to other collections. They are nearly all of persons already represented in the collection by better portraits; but to relieve the congestion the gallery is to be extended. According to the annual report of the trustees, provision has now been made in the estimates for 1925–6 for an extension westward on part of the vacant site formerly occupied by St. George's Barracks. It is intended to commence the new building next year. The visitors admitted free in 1924 numbered 175,676 out of the total of 191,401. The month of highest attendance was July (32,628), and of lowest, February (7,309).

Architectural Education

Cardiff Technical College—Department of Architecture and Civic Design.

At the Technical College, Cardiff, ten scholarships, covering tuition fees and maintenance grants of £40 per annum for three years, are offered for competition annually. As candidates for entry to the Department of Architecture and Civic Design are eligible to compete for these scholarships, they are of considerable interest to those contemplating entering the architectural profession. The scholarship examination is a competitive one, and is of about the same standard as matriculation. In the case of candidates for the School of Architecture the subjects of this examination are :

1. English.

2. Mathematics (two papers) : (a) algebra and arithmetic; (b) geometry and mensuration.

3. A modern language (French, German, or Welsh).

4. Physics with mechanics, or chemistry, or higher mathematics.

5. History or geography.

Candidates must further satisfy the head of the Department of Architecture as to their ability in elementary drawing.

The department has now been at work for rather more than five years under the charge of Mr. W. S. Purchon, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., the lecturer in architecture being Mr. R. H. Winder, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., and the assistant-lecturer, M Lewis John, M.A., A.R.I.B.A. The following local architects assist in the work of the advanced course as honorary lecturers : Messrs. Percy Thomas, F.R.I.B.A. ; Ivor Jones, A.R.I.B.A. ; T. Alwyn Lloyd, F.R.I.B.A. ; H. Teather, F.R.I.B.A. ; A. L. Thomas, F.S.I. ; C. S. Thomas, F.R.I.B.A. ; J. H. Jones, F.R.I.B.A. ; and T. Pierson Frank, M.Inst.C.E., F.S.I., city engineer, Cardiff.

Students in the department also attend courses in the departments of engineering, technical chemistry, mathematics, and the School of Art, all of which are housed in the same building.

This School of Architecture is "recognized" by the R.I.B.A., which grants exemption from its intermediate examination to students who pass successfully through the three years' full-time day course leading to the certificate. In addition to this course, the department provides a diploma course consisting of two sessions, the former of these being of six months' duration only, the intervening six months being spent in architects' offices. There is also an evening atelier for architects' assistants who cannot attend the day courses.

The department is in close touch with the South Wales Institute of Architects, representatives of this body being on the Advisory Committee of the school, and students of the school are eligible for the prizes awarded by the Institute. In addition to these awards, there are a number of school prizes presented in the main by local architects. The external examiner for the past session was Professor A. C. Dickie, M.A., F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A.

The school year commences on Tuesday, October 6, 1925, but intending students are advised to apply at an early date for particulars of the courses of instruction and of the entrance and scholarship examinations. Candidates for the latter should obtain application forms which must be completed and submitted by September 14, 1925.

The R.I.B.A. Board of Architectural Education Conference with Building Teachers.

The conference held in the R.I.B.A. Galleries by the Board of Architectural Education of the R.I.B.A. with the representative teachers of building, who have been undergoing a course in London arranged by H.M. Board of Education, was largely attended. The chairman of the Board of Architectural Education, Mr. Maurice E. Webb, F.R.I.B.A., D.S.O., M.C., presided, and papers were read by Professor Beresford Pite, F.R.I.B.A., and Mr. M. S. Briggs, F.R.I.B.A., H.M.I., on the teaching of building construction from the architect's and the the teacher's points of view respectively. In the subsequent discussion the following spoke : Messrs. A. R. Sage, M.B.E. (principal of the L.C.C. School of Building) ; J. W. Riley (head of the Building Department, Rochdale Technical School) ; W. W. Hitchins (lecturer in Building Construction, University College, Reading) ; Donald Cameron (School of Architecture, the Architectural Association) ; E. H. Evans (School of Architecture, the Architectural Association) ; C. B. Howdill (Leeds) ; T. P. Bennett (head of Department of Architecture, Surveying and Building, the Northern Polytechnic) ; F. E. Drury (School of Architecture, Manchester University) ; G. J. Grantham (School of Architecture, Manchester University). At the conclusion of the conference Mr. Hugh Davies, H.M.I., in a short speech, moved a vote of thanks to the chairman.

The teachers subsequently inspected the following examples of architects' working drawings, which were exhibited in the galleries : Adelaide House, London Bridge (Sir John Burnet, R.A., and Partners) ; Britannic House, Finsbury Circus (Sir Edwin Lutyens, R.A.) ; Tetton House, Kingston, Somerset (Mr. H. S. Goodhart-Rendel) ; Bush House, Aldwych (Messrs. Helmle and Corbett).

Societies and Institutions

The Smoke Abatement Conference.

A smoke abatement conference will be held at the Palace Hotel, Buxton, from Friday evening, October 2, to Monday morning, October 5. It is being arranged by the Smoke Abatement League of Great Britain, 33 Blackfriars Street, Manchester.

The Surveyors' Institution.

An application from the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors for affiliation with the Surveyors' Institution has been approved by the Council of the latter body. The South African Institute is a professional society of high standing in the colony, and was incorporated in 1908. It includes upon its governing body six members of the Surveyors' Institution. Under the conditions of affiliation members of the colonial society who are not members of the Institution will not be given any personal connection with the latter. The Council of the South African Institute will, however, supervise the Institution examinations in the colony, and in other ways co-operate with the Council of the Institution in furthering the interests of the profession.

The Professional Classes Aid Council Annual Report.

In presenting their record of the fourth year's work since their reconstitution as a peace-time benevolent fund for the professional classes and the new poor, the council testify to the continued success of the methods adopted at the conferences of professional benevolent and relief funds held in 1920. During the past year they have given their applicants more adequate help than in recent years, while at the same time slightly reducing their administrative expenditure. The council again acknowledge a grant from the Queen, this time in aid of a special case which has also received the support of the Prince of Wales. The following table shows the increased help given to distressed members of the professional classes during the past year :

	1923–24	1924–25
Education	£1,583	£2,434
Training	888	1,366
Illness and convalescence ..	510	575
Gifts	803	942

The total number of applications during the year was 686, and the council have given financial assistance—in many cases considerable—to 150 families, thus benefiting 344 individuals. In addition to those financially assisted, 305 were advised where to obtain help, as were also many of the 141 inquirers whose needs were not found to come within our scope. The numbers assisted by education have been larger than last year and the outlay much greater. The council remain convinced that education and training are the most satisfactory of all their branches of expenditure. In a large number of cases the crushing anxiety of the parents was not for themselves, but how to carry on the education and training of their children. The council have assisted with the education of twenty-nine boys and thirty-three girls belonging to forty-six families, thirty-two children being at boarding schools, and thirty at day schools. In sixteen cases the mother was a widow. Not only were school fees paid, but help was given with books, outfits, and travelling expenses ; in fourteen cases of marked poverty in the home, maintenance grants for the children were provided. In training also, both the number helped and the sum spent were largely increased. The total number of candidates assisted was forty-one, of whom eight were men and thirty-three women. Subscriptions and donations should be made payable to the order of the Professional Classes Aid Council, and sent to the secretary, 251 Brompton Road, S.W.3.

The Harvard New Business School Competition

The Harvard new business school competition has been won by Messrs. McKim, Mead, and White, of New York, architects. Two competitions were held. Every member of the American Institute of Architects was invited to compete in the preliminary competition, from which six competitors were selected to take part, with six other selected firms of architects, in the final. The competitors were given the problem of using to the best advantage an irregular site, the front of which curved for 700 ft. along the Charles River, extending southward back from the river for 900 ft. The width of the site, along the southern boundary, is 850 ft. In the programme, according to "The American Builder," were instructions that the entrance to the new business school be accessible to the Charles River bridge, which leads across to the freshman dormitories, the boat house and the yard, and accessible also to the stadium, which stands some 600 yds. to the west.

In the winning plan the bend of the Charles River itself was used as the "building line." This curve was effectively used for the entire group, and even the buildings curve slightly to harmonize with it. The entire group radiates away to the southward from the arc formed by the river bend. The new business school, as planned, is dominated by its library, the central edifice, which stands at the head of a formal campus, surrounded by elms. Its façade is elaborated with Ionic columns, and on its roof stands a cupola. Facing the river and separated from its banks by the River Drive stand two similar buildings, to be used for administration and business research halls. They are broad and shallow, three stories high, and each surmounted by two small cupolas.

Behind the administration and business research halls, to right and left of the campus, are three-sided quadrangles formed by student club, auditorium, and classroom buildings, and by two dining halls. It is an interesting feature that none of these quadrangles is precisely rectangular. They carry out a scheme of pleasant informality behind the main campus, and all their angles are slightly inexact.

The dining-halls are in the same style as the two halls in the foreground, though slightly modified, and with a single cupola on top of each. In the line of an arc, with the library at the centre, are four dormitories—two on each side. They are in the shape of three-sided squares, three-storied, and with informal gardens in their open spaces. Along the southern boundary are homes for professors.

Correspondence

A Model of St. Paul's

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL.

SIR,—I notice a news item under this heading in THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL of August 19 announcing that the authorities of the Science Museum have "ordered" from me "a model of St. Paul's Cathedral showing the faulty condition of the piers of the dome and the suggested method of saving the structure by means of hidden collars of reinforced concrete," etc. This statement is not correct, for while it is true that the Museum authorities invited me to devise a demonstration model to show the effects of loads applied by arches to imperfectly buttressed piers arranged like those of St. Paul's, the scope of the model was to be confined strictly to an analysis of pressures.

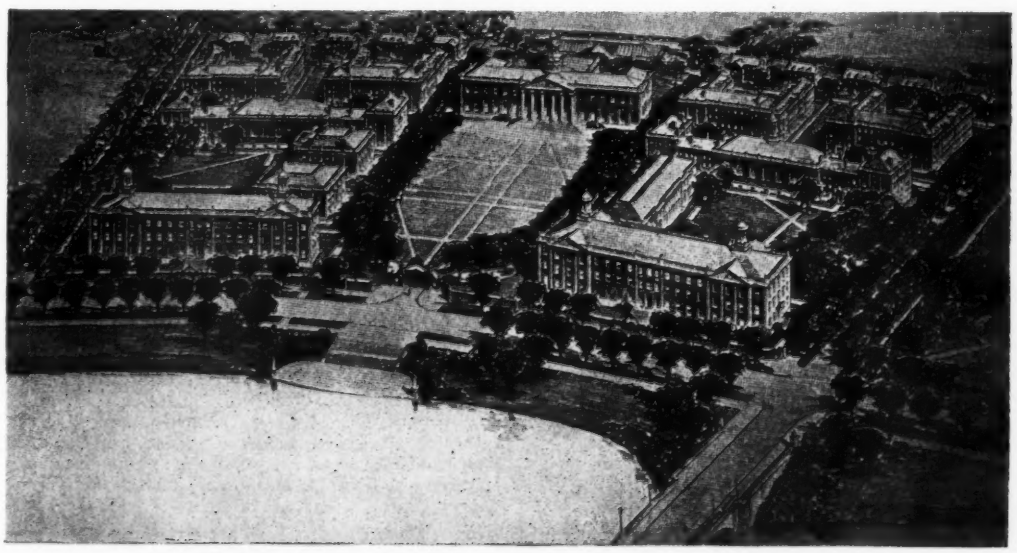
It was agreed upon, at the outset, that controversial matters, such as "hidden collars of reinforcement," and any representation of "the ideas of constructional experts of to-day," had best be avoided for the present, since their introduction in the model might savour of special pleading in favour of a particular solution

The model was intended as a companion to my collapsible model of Westminster Hall roof, already on exhibition in the Museum galleries, and, like it, would illustrate natural phenomena of compression and balance. Some of my own personal views on the repair of Wren's work are expressed in the model illustrated in my book, "The Preservation of St. Paul's Cathedral and other Famous Buildings."

Schools of architecture might profitably include the building of a St. Paul's model in their autumn session's work, but public bodies with a character for impartiality to maintain can hardly include in such a model any of the specific devices I have advocated unless they are also prepared to demonstrate the "cumulative effects of temperature changes" which have been advanced by the St. Paul's Commission to account for the progressive failure of the building. But, as the result of my researches into the decay of arched buildings, I am well assured that structural interplay of the weight and shape of the material in the building is primarily responsible for its defects, and that changes of temperature play a very subordinate part.

In view of the supreme importance of the monument, all these matters should be subjected to impartial investigation until some basis of agreement is reached.

WILLIAM HARVEY.



THE HARVARD NEW BUSINESS SCHOOL COMPETITION: WINNING DESIGN
McKIM, MEAD, AND WHITE, ARCHITECTS.

The Week's News

Bridge Widening at Stratford-on-Avon.

The Stratford-on-Avon bridge is to be widened at a cost of £22,000.

Fulham Road-widening Scheme.

The need for widening North End Road, Fulham, is to be urged upon the Ministry of Transport.

A New Church for Coalville.

The Church of England Extension Society propose building a new church at Coalville, Leicestershire.

The Doncaster Royal Infirmary.

The Doncaster Royal Infirmary Committee intend to have part of their new £300,000 building ready by next August.

A New School Chapel for Wycombe Abbey.

A school chapel is about to be begun at Wycombe Abbey. It will cost about £10,000.

Concrete Houses for Hemel Hempstead.

The Hemel Hempstead Corporation have approved plans for an estate of 600 concrete houses.

Change of Address.

Mr. E. J. May, F.R.I.B.A., architect, has moved to 21 Hart Street, Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1. Telephone: Museum 3604.

Surbiton Housing.

The Surbiton Urban District Council are to erect thirty-eight more houses and twelve flats on their housing estate at Tolworth.

One Hundred More Houses for West Bridgford.

The West Bridgford Urban District Council have resolved to apply to the Minister of Health for sanction to erect 100 houses.

Housing at Epsom.

The Ministry of Health have agreed to allow the Epsom Rural District Council to build thirty-four houses off Barnett Wood Lane.

Green Pavements Proposed for Brighton.

The Brighton Highways Committee are considering a suggestion for painting the concrete pavements of the promenade green in order to give a more restful appearance.

The Growth of Becontree.

In Becontree about 5,000 new houses are already occupied, and 500 other houses are almost completed. Alternative schemes of building are to be tried during the coming winter.

Dewsbury's Proposed New Municipal Offices.

Dewsbury Town Council are to give further consideration to a proposal to purchase the Dewsbury and District General Infirmary, at a cost not exceeding £30,000, for conversion into municipal offices.

The Widening of a Maidstone Bridge.

The widening of Maidstone High Street Bridge, rendered necessary by the new arterial roads between London and the coast towns, will involve an expenditure of between £50,000 and £60,000, and will be commenced within the next few weeks.

A Warwickshire Road Scheme.

Warwickshire County Council are considering a scheme for the construction of a subsidiary road at Knowle in order to prevent the destruction of a fine avenue of trees in a narrow road.

Housing at Ashbourne.

The Ashbourne Urban District Council have decided to apply for permission to proceed with the erection of twenty-two more houses on the Council's housing site. The cost is estimated at £12,000.

Skegness Bathing Pool Scheme.

The Skegness Urban District Council have decided to construct an orchestral piazza on the Grand Parade, with a bathing pool on the seaward side. The estimated cost of the scheme is in the neighbourhood of £30,000.

A New Housing Regulation.

The Ministry of Health have issued a new regulation, No. 778, to amend certain paragraphs in the Local Authorities (Assisted Housing Schemes) Regulations, 1919(B). A copy, price one penny net, can be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office.

Hereford Cathedral.

The work of restoration in connection with the pinnacles of the Hereford Cathedral tower, which are in a very dilapidated condition, is to be commenced. When the work is completed the Dean and Chapter hope to undertake the restoration of the tower itself.

A London Church Roof in Danger.

St. Peter-upon-Cornhill is the latest London church to be attacked by the death-watch beetle. The beams attacked are part of the newer woodwork, and the older wood has escaped. Temporary repairs will consist of patching up the steel clamps and cutting away the diseased wood. The present church was erected by Sir Christopher Wren in 1670.

Proposed Sanatorium near Wetherby.

The West Riding County Council have secured an option of the purchase of a site at Linton, near Wetherby, containing about 112 acres, for the erection of a sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis. Subject to the West Riding Public Health Committee being satisfied with the suitability of the site, it is proposed to erect a sanatorium for 300 patients.

The Tower of St. Genewys.

The tower of the old church of St. Genewys, Scotton, Gainsborough, is in a dangerous condition. Mr. Wilfred Bond, of Grantham, the architect, has reported that the tower is in great danger of falling, and his recommendation is that the "grouting" system, which has been applied successfully to Lincoln Cathedral, should be used.

The Coleford Housing Scheme.

The Coleford Urban District Council have adopted a resolution deciding provisionally to adopt a housing scheme under the Housing Acts of 1923 and 1924, to be carried out during the two years ending October 31, 1927. This scheme provides for the erection of about forty houses of parlour and non-parlour type on the vacant sites now held by the Council in Victoria Road and Albert Road.

The Barnsley War Memorial.

The casting of the bronze figure which is to surmount the Barnsley war memorial was done in Brussels. Mr. John Tweed, the sculptor, said in an interview that it was the first time that he had had any of his casting work done abroad, but at the time the prices charged for casting in this country were so prohibitive that he had to accept the Belgian offer, which was half as low again as the lowest British.

The "Mariners' Chimney" Demolished.

Every maritime authority in the world has been informed of the fall of the famous No. 1 chimney at Bevan's works, Northfleet, which has been demolished in connection with developments in the Thames-side cement industry. The chimney was marked on all charts, and known to every Thames pilot. In misty weather pilots bringing vessels up river would order a man to the mast-head to take a bearing on the chimney, which could often be seen over the low-lying river fog, and so became known among watermen as the "Mariners' Chimney."

Foreign Town Planners Visit England.

A party of German people interested in town planning and garden cities arrived in Birmingham in the course of a brief visit to this country to study town planning generally. Most of the visitors are members of the German Garden Cities Association, and include State and municipal officials from various parts of Germany as well as representatives from Switzerland, Japan, and Czecho-Slovakia. The party was conducted round some of the improvements on the various arterial roads and also round the Corporation's housing sites. The visitors were shown round Bournville, and afterwards proceeded to London.

The Week's News—*continued.*

Leeds Housing Schemes.

Plans are to be prepared for the laying out of several additional estates for houses in various parts of the city. The developments involve three estates—a new estate between York Road and Osmondthorpe Lane, one at Harehills Lane adjoining the present estate, and a third and undeveloped portion of the Meanwood estate. The land in Harehills Lane was recently bought, and the plans for the erection of houses upon it will link it up with the adjoining plot to make one large estate. Various sanctions have to be obtained for the erection of houses, however, both here and at Meanwood. The York Road land is virtually the property of the Corporation.

The New Kelvin Hall.

Two important decisions were arrived at by the Glasgow Corporation sub-Committee on Kelvin Hall of Industries. They decided to utilize for the rebuilding of the hall the whole of the Bunhouse grounds, and not to accept any of the five offers already received from firms of contractors for the work of reconstruction. The utilization of the grounds in their entirety will involve the removal of a small tenement in Old Dumbarton Road. It was agreed to give effect to the suggestions made by Mr. T. Somers, master of works, whom the sub-committee instructed to prepare a new lay-out plan showing the accommodation to be provided in the hall for the requirements of the general manager.

The Lanarkshire Housing Dispute.

The dispute between the Lanarkshire Middle Ward District Committee and the Building Trades Federation, which has held up the committee's building schemes through the withdrawal of operatives because of the committee ordering 100 Weir steel houses, has been settled. The committee undertakes not to make further contracts for supplying alternative houses built under conditions differing from those observed in the building industry till the question is settled for the entire country. The operatives agree, therefore, to withdraw the embargo on the committee's housing schemes. The dispute between Messrs. Weir and the federation remained unsettled.

Housing Progress in Scotland.

The following figures show the progress that has been made in State-aided housing schemes in Scotland to July 31, 1925 :

	Completed.	Under Construction.
1919 Act	24,769	727
Private subsidy schemes	2,324	—
Slum clearance schemes	1,566	2,669
1923 Act	3,468	6,269
1924 Act (Local authorities' schemes)	168	1,936
	32,295	11,601

Of the total number of houses completed and under construction under the 1923 Act, 3,075 are by the local authorities, and 6,662 by private enterprise.

The Town of Northwich Lifted Five Feet.

The whole of the business portion of Northwich, Cheshire, including ten streets, three banks, the county court, and two hundred shops and houses, has been lifted an average of 5 ft. during the last three years to counteract the effect of subsidence caused by the brine pumping which goes on continually beneath the town. In lifting, parts of the lower brickwork were removed and small hydraulic jacks inserted. These, using one or two quarts of water, raised from 10- to 150-tons weight, and wooden blocks supported the building until brickwork filled up the space. The town bridge was raised 5 ft. at each end to bring it up to the new level of the town. A fruiterer's shop with a frontage of 30 ft. was removed bodily to another position. It was put on baulks greased with soap and pushed along a distance of 35 ft.

Competition News

Proposed Parish Hall, Braunton.

The following notice has been issued by the R.I.B.A. : "Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects must not take part in the above competition, because the conditions are not in accordance with the published regulations of the Royal Institute for architectural competitions."

List of Competitions Open

Date of Delivery.	Competition.
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. E. 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.
Oct. 15	Workers' homes for the Moscow Soviet of Workers, Peasants, and Red-Army Deputies. The aim of the competition is to devise types of houses with dwellings for working-class families living in individual households, under the living and climatic conditions of the province of Moscow. The types of houses required are as follows : (a) A two-storied house containing 4–8 dwellings situated on one floor, i.e. the whole of each dwelling located on one floor; (b) a house of the ordinary block type with no less than three dwellings, each located on two floors; (c) a three or four-storied fireproof house with central heating; not less than three entrances to the dwellings from the staircase-platform on each floor. For the relatively best projects the following prizes will be awarded on each type of house separately : (a) (b) (c) First .. .. .. Roubles 2,000 2,000 2,500 Second .. .. „ 1,500 1,500 2,000 Third .. .. „ 750 750 1,000 Fourth .. .. „ 500 500 750 Fifth .. .. „ 400 400 500 It is not obligatory for contestants to cover all three types. The prize-projects shall become the property of the Moscow Soviet. The Moscow Soviet reserves the right of acquiring the unprized projects at the price of 200 roubles per project. Apply The U.S.S.R. Society of Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, 150 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
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.**
Jan. 1, 1926	New buildings for Liverpool College on a site at Mossley Hill. Assessor, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, R.A. Premiums, £500, £300, and £200. Conditions and plan of site can be obtained from Mr. J. H. Lintern, secretary, Liverpool College, Sefton Park Road, Liverpool, on and after September 1, on payment of a deposit of £2 2s.
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 Latest Wills

Mr. Stephen Ernest Smith, of Arncliffe Road, West Park, Leeds, architect, left £12,217; net personalty £10,740.

Mr. Alexander Brown (72), of Fountainhall Road, Aberdeen, N.B., architect, left personal estate in Great Britain to the gross value of £8,561.

Mr. T. H. Fosbrooke, of Rothley, Leicestershire, architect and surveyor, left £13,620. As an antiquary and archæologist he was well known in the Midlands. He gave £200 for the upkeep of the churchyard of Ravenstone "to make it a beauty spot in the village."

Mr. Vincent Craig, F.R.I.B.A., J.P., of High Close, Wokingham, Berks, architect, a former president of the Belfast Art Society, who died on July 1, aged fifty-nine, elder brother of the Right Hon. Sir James Craig, Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, left unsettled property of the gross value of £110,603, with net personalty of £104,055.

Trade and Craft

Messrs. Parlanti's New Premises.

For the convenience of their many architectural and other clients, Messrs. E. J. Parlanti & Co., the art bronze founders, have taken additional premises at 110 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. The foundry and works of the company are at Beaumont Road, W.14.

A New Paint Catalogue.

In their latest catalogue of paints, colours, varnishes, and distempers, Messrs. T. and W. Farmiloe, Ltd., give special prominence to their Nine Elms specialities. These are well known to decorators, and each of the materials has been specially manufactured to meet the peculiar and exceptional conditions under which it is used. The specialities of this brand cover every branch of the industry, and it should be easy, with this catalogue at hand, to select a suitable material for any particular work of decoration or preservation. In paints and enamels a particularly large variety are available. The white paint is made in four standard forms; finishing or oil finish, for final coat on all inside or outside work; undercoating, for undercoat; flat, to dry flat as a finishing coat or as an undercoat for enamel; and extra glossy for finishing. The latter is specially useful for outside work, and for places on the sea coast. A paint advertised as of the highest possible grade is the decorator's oil paint. This is supplied ready mixed for use, and is stocked in over thirty shades. For greenhouses and hothouses there is a specially prepared white lead paint in white or tinted colours. Another speciality, specially recommended as an internal paint for palm houses, forcing houses, and other horticultural structures, and all work subject to severe conditions, is the Hortrolite paint. This is a durable enamel-finish white paint, which dries with a hard yet elastic surface. It is claimed that it is impervious to moisture, that it retains its colour, and that it can be repeatedly washed without injury to its surface. Lustre paint, another speciality, is specially recommended for outside work in towns and industrial centres, where paint surfaces are exposed and liable to discoloration by atmospheric conditions. It is made in stone, French grey, or any desired tint, and can be used extensively in place of enamel for internal and external decoration. Another speciality suitable for inside or outside use in all climates is a high-class pure white paint. This is claimed to retain its colour under all adverse conditions, and to dry with an impervious yet elastic surface that will not peel, crack, or blister. There are also paints for the preservation of ironwork, washable distempers, an aluminium paint for iron work, especially in exposed sea-side positions, and a genuine oxide of zinc paint. There are several outstanding enamels in the "Nine Elms" brand. That for interior and exterior decoration on wood, stone and plaster, is manufactured in white, ivory-white, cream, and other tints. The catalogue contains particulars of many other materials, not included in the "Nine Elms" brand, in every-day use and demand. Wherever necessary tint cards are given to show the many standard attractive colours in which the materials can be obtained. It is of course impossible to produce standard tints to meet every individual requirement and the firm will undertake to mix their materials to any other colour. The catalogue can be obtained from the firm at Rochester Row, London, S.W.1.

Corrigenda

The Shelton Hotel, New York.

In illustrating the Shelton Hotel, New York, in our issue for April 29, the name of the architect should have been given as Mr. A. L. Harmon.

Recent Work at Welwyn Garden City.

In describing the "Recent Work at Welwyn Garden City" in our last issue it should have been stated the work illustrated was designed by Mr. Louis de Soissons, F.R.I.B.A., S.A.D.G., in conjunction with Mr. Arthur W. Kenyon, A.R.I.B.A.

New Inventions

Latest Patent Applications.

19758.—Austro-American Magnesite Co.—Mixing cement and fibrous material. August 5.

19780.—Caroni, I.—Bridges, &c. August 6.

19958.—Porter, A. A.—Foundations for buildings. August 8.

19680.—Wyatt, F. J.—Shuttering for concrete building construction. August 5.

Specifications Published.

237347.—Wade, J. R.—Reinforced-concrete structures and removable reinforcements therefor.

237380.—Caley, E. C., and Downs, C.—Building of houses and other buildings or structures constructed of bricks, stones, concrete blocks, or the like.

237438.—Stokes, G. W.—Centering of falsework used as temporary supports in the construction of concrete floors.

237475.—Wight, G. E.—Apparatus for use in the laying of bricks and similar elements in building.

Abstract Published.

235766.—Taylor, W. J., 167 Battersea Park Road, and Cayless, C. W., 93 Battersea Park Road, London.—Scaffolding and staging.

The above particulars are specially prepared by Messrs. Rayner & Co., registered patent agents, of 5 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, from whom readers of the JOURNAL may obtain all information free on matters relating to patents, trade marks, and designs. Messrs. Rayner & Co. will obtain printed copies of the published specifications and abstract only, and forward on post free for the price of 1/6 each.