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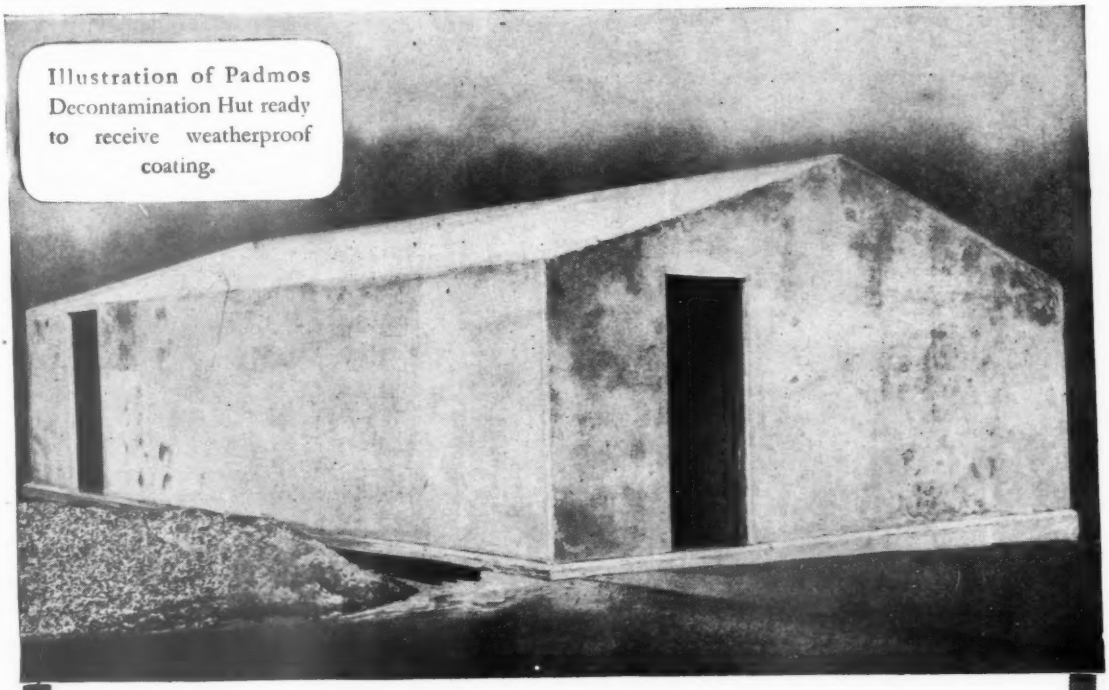
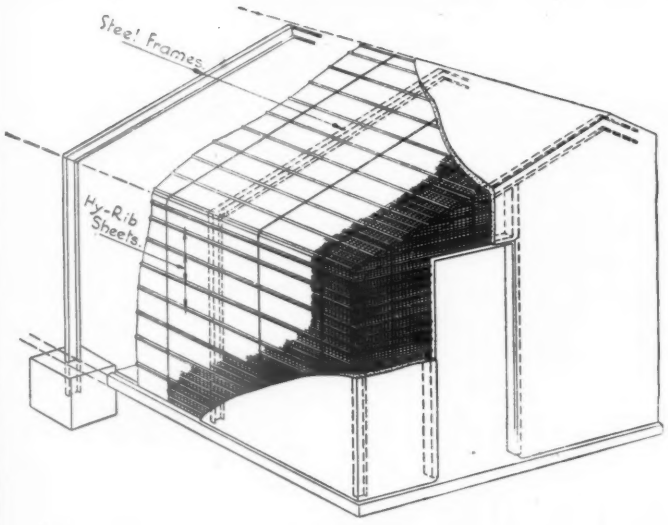


Illustration of Padmos Decontamination Hut ready to receive weatherproof coating.



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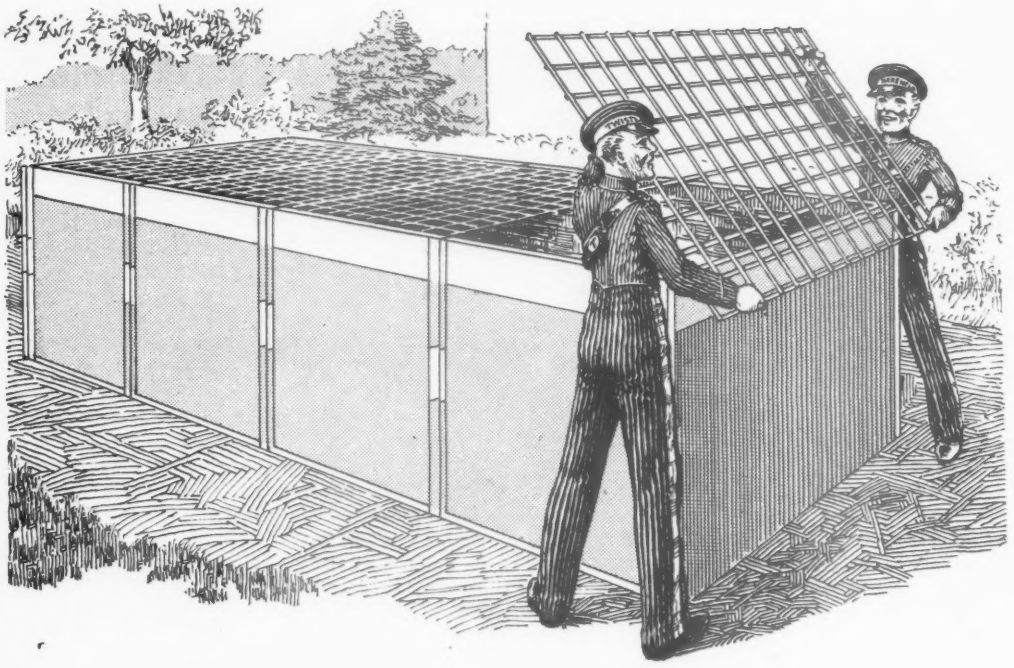

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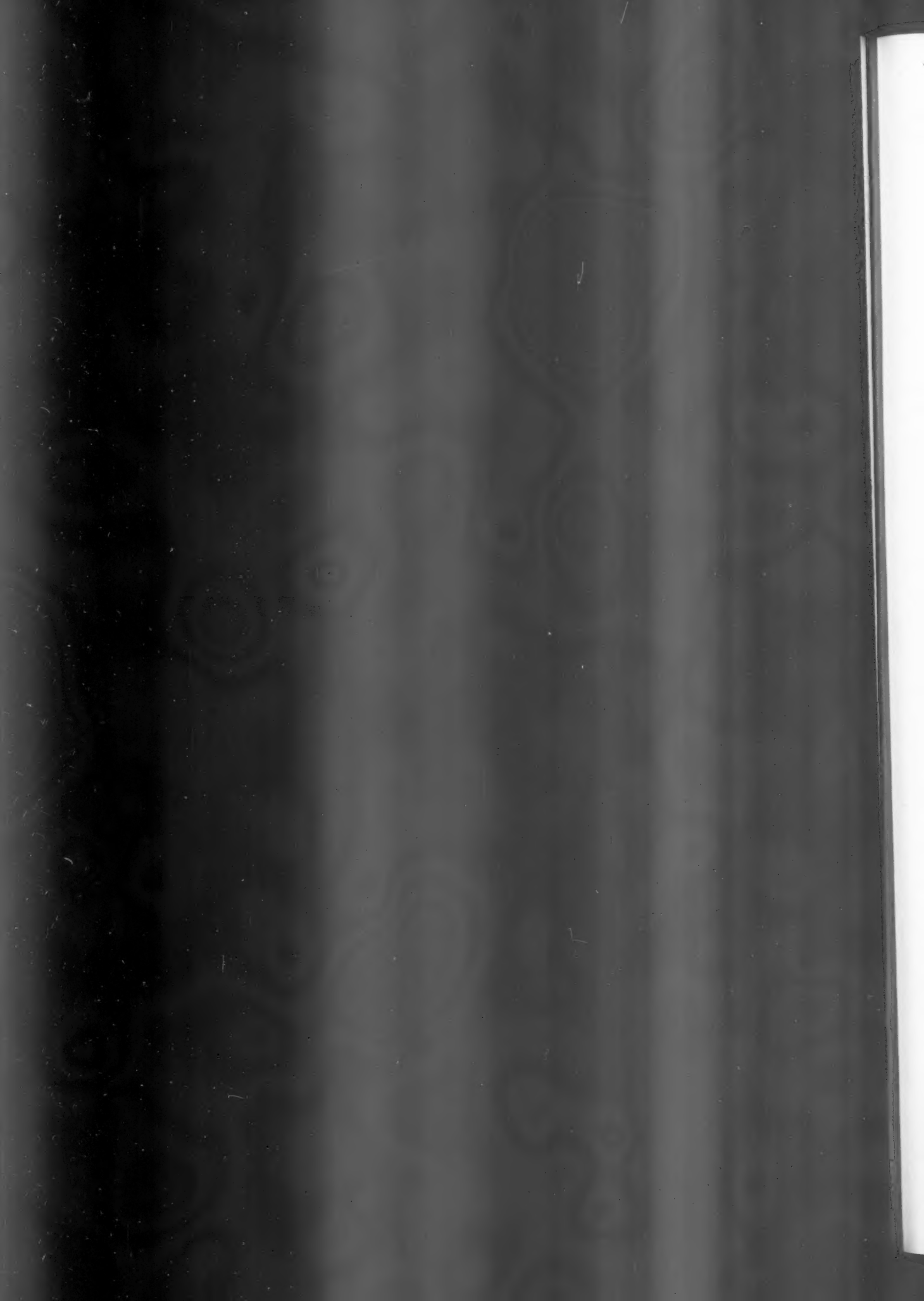

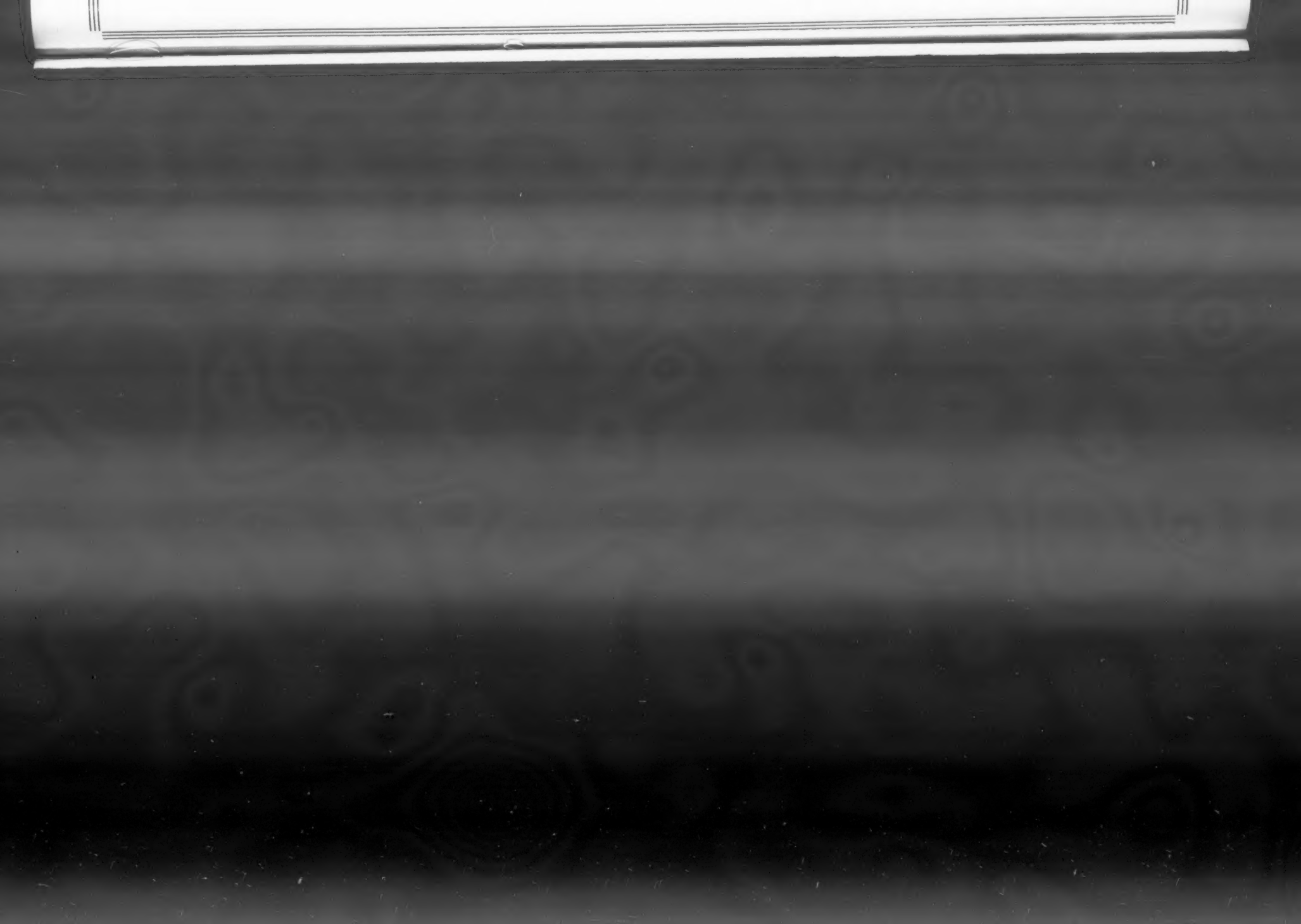

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THIS . . . SISALKRAFT

ADJECTIVE, the name of an attribute, added to the name of a thing to describe the thing more fully. — *Oxford Dictionary.*

PERFECT	SUPREME	DURABLE	USEFUL
Superlative	Best	Stable	Serviceable
Superfine	Paramount	Enduring	Beneficial
Excellent	Pre-eminent	Hard-wearing	Valuable
Inimitable	Foremost	Lasting	Profitable

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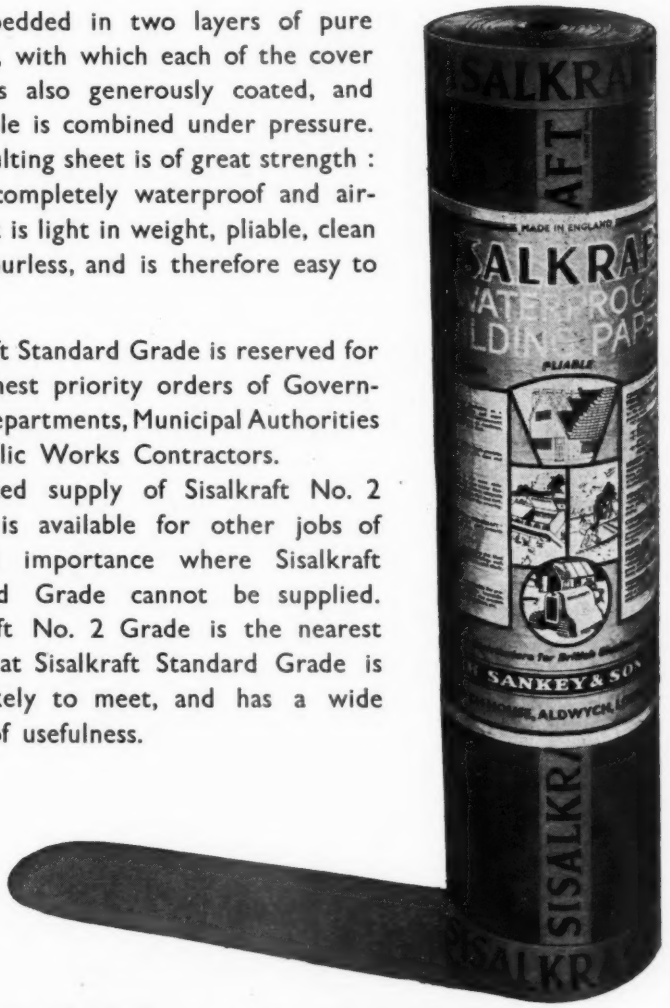

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The Editor will be glad to receive MS. articles and also illustrations of current architecture in this country and abroad with a view to publication. Though every care will be taken, the Editor cannot hold himself responsible for material sent him.

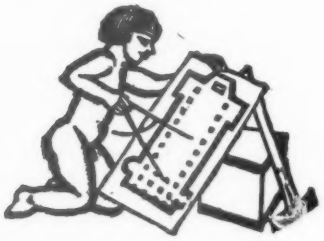
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1942. NUMBER 2499 : VOLUME 97

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

The fact that goods made of raw materials in short supply owing to war conditions are advertised in this JOURNAL *should not be taken as an indication that they are necessarily available for export.*

Owing to the paper shortage the JOURNAL, *in common with all other papers, is now only supplied to newsagents on a "firm order" basis. This means that newsagents are now unable to supply the* JOURNAL *except to a client's definite order.*

In common with every other periodical and newspaper in the country, this JOURNAL *is rationed to a small proportion of its peace-time requirements of paper. This means that it is no longer a free agent printing as many pages as it thinks fit and selling to as many readers as wish to buy it. Instead a balance has to be struck between circulation and number of pages. A batch of new readers may mean that a page has to be struck off, and conversely a page added may mean that a number of readers have to go short of their copy. Thus in everyone's interest, including the reader's, it is important that the utmost economy of paper should be practised, and unless a reader is a subscriber he cannot be sure of getting a copy of the* JOURNAL. *We are sorry for this but it is a necessity imposed by the war on all newspapers. The subscription is £1 3s. 10d. per annum.*



from AN ARCHITECT'S *Commonplace Book*

Exponents of town planning have always, and with good reason, insisted that the communications must be adequate. There is, however, another aspect more vital still, which has not yet received the full attention which it deserves, namely that the communications must also be safe. During the ten years preceding the war 68,248 persons were killed and 2,107,964 injured on the roads of Great Britain. Casualties on that scale are at battle level.

From Town Planning and Road Traffic. *By H. Alker Tripp.*

Though every news item is news to someone, it doesn't follow that all news has the same value for everyone. The stars are used to draw attention to the paragraphs which ought to interest every reader of the Journal.

★ *means spare a second for this it will probably be worth it.*

★★ *means important news, for reasons which may or may not be obvious.*

Any paragraph marked with more than two stars is very hot news indeed.

N E W S

Lord Portal, the Minister of Works and Planning, attended the meeting of the Council of the R.I.B.A. on December 8 and addressed it on the subject of the work of his Ministry and the place of THE ARCHITECT IN RECONSTRUCTION.

Lord Astor has arranged TO HAND OVER CLIVEDEN, BUCKS. TO THE NATIONAL TRUST. *Lord Astor's gift includes the monetary endowment needed for its upkeep and with the house he is giving many of the furnishings, among them the tapestries in the great hall and fine examples of Lely and other masters. The famous Cliveden Woods, with their mile-long frontage to the Thames, are also part of the gift. The amenities of Cliveden Reach, one of the most beautiful stretches of the river, have for some years been protected by a planning scheme prepared for Lord Astor by Professor Patrick Abercrombie.* Lord Astor has joined with his neighbour, Lord Desborough, in arranging that under the scheme there should be no building on the slopes running down to the Thames, and that the great avenues of trees should be preserved. The present gift completes in fact the final stage in a plan of preservation pursued by Lord Astor for a number of years. The woods and extensive gardens at Cliveden, adorned with statues, fountains and pavilions, will in due time be open to the public. In this war, as in the last, Lord Astor has freely lent to Canada houses and land on the estate, and a Canadian Military Hospital has been built. The present war hospital was erected and equipped by the Canadian Red Cross Society for the use of the Canadian Government, which has installed additional equipment and operated the hospital. Under the original agreement with Lord Astor the hospital was to be demolished or removed at the end of the war. The Canadian Red Cross Society and the Canadian Government have, however, agreed to give the buildings with their equipment to the National Trust when they are no longer required for the present purpose, so that the British people may have the benefit of them. This transfer will take place after the conclusion of hostilities, and as soon as the hospital is no longer needed for Canadian servicemen. It is hoped it may then become a civilian hospital, which would fill an important place in the reconstructed national medical services.

★

Royal Engineers, augmented by civilian labour, are constructing a NEW £5,000,000 CENTRAL ORDNANCE DEPOT. *It will be used for the reception of ordnance stores from abroad, and from manufacturers in this country and for their issue in bulk to smaller depots in Britain and Overseas. The total working strength on the depot is* 4,200.

An exhibit called " HAS YOUR OFFICE A BORDER RAIDER? *" at the exhibition "Design for Economy—Paper in Battledress," on view at the Ford Showrooms, Regent Street, London, reminds visitors of the value of scrutinising all correspondence before passing it for filing to see whether it is really necessary to retain it. The trimming of borders before papers are filed can often provide useful scrap paper. The exhibition is open from 9.30 to 5 on weekdays and till noon on Saturday.*

★

We regret to record the DEATH OF MR. W. S. PURCHON, *head of the Welsh School of Architecture at the Technical College, Cardiff, since* 1920. *He collapsed while speaking at a town planning conference in Cardiff last week, and died in hospital on the same day.* The son of William Smith Purchon and Martha Isabella Hunter, he was born in 1879, was educated at the Royal Academy Schools, and after serving his articles, and working from 1899-1907 in the Admiralty Works Department, became lecturer in charge of the department of architecture at Sheffield University, a post which he held until 1920. He had been a member of the R.I.B.A. council, and from 1935-37 was president of the South Wales Institute of Architects. He married Eleanor Maud Strong and had a son and two daughters.

Assistant Commissioner at Scotland Yard

The figure above who looks like a major-general, is H. Alker Tripp, Assistant Commissioner at Scotland Yard. Titles as well as appearances are deceptive, and Holmes himself might be forgiven if he failed to deduce from the above that Mr. Tripp was a planner and not a policeman, but in point of fact Mr. Tripp, who is the country's leading traffic expert, is also at the moment the country's boldest town-planning theorist. As uncompromising as Frank Lloyd Wright, as original as le Corbusier, he has formulated a street theory which, if put into practice, will create a revolution in town-planning practice more far-reaching than any since city walls were taken down. It is, that buildings should turn their backs (''backages'') upon the main traffic arteries, and be planned in the manner of the Inns of Court, round reservations where people can live and work away from traffic noise and danger; traffic in these areas being entirely subordinated to the needs of pedestrians and the local population. Such areas he treats as pockets in the road system, and he has named them *precincts*. Essential reading for every architect is his new book, '' Town Planning and Road Traffic '' (Edward Arnold, 10s.), which sets out with wonderful precision the case for his traffic policy. It was reviewed in the JOURNAL for October 22 of this year.

We regret to record the DEATH OF MR. ALBERT KAHN, *industrial architect and engineer. Known as the "father" of modern factory design, Kahn designed most of the plants of the American automobile industry, many well-known office buildings and libraries throughout the world, and numerous aeroplane factories, flying fields and naval bases. He died at Detroit last week.* According to the New York correspondent of *The Times* he was one of the first men summoned to work for the United States after the Pearl Harbour disaster of 1941, and was given the task of drawing up the plans for the vast mass production works which were to be erected for war work in all parts of the country. Among them were the plant of the Wright Aeronautical Corporation in Cincinnati, the Willow Run Ford bomber factory in Detroit, and the Chrysler air engine works in Chicago. Examples of his work are also to be seen in Russia and other countries. He was rewarded with a gold medal for war service in the summer of this year. Kahn, with his organization, worked for all firms alike. He had been Packard's architect for 39 years. Ford's for 34, Chrysler's for 17, and for General Motors he had erected 150 plants, worth £400,000,000, in 40 years. In 1928 he went to Russia to undertake the heavy industrial building programme of the first Five-Year Plan, and after spending two years there with a large staff he had trained 4,000 Soviet engineers and apprentices to carry on the work after his departure. He had erected 521 factories in the country. The secret of his success

in the speedy preparation of plans and their completion lay in his application of mass production on the Detroit lines to architecture. He employed more than 500 assistants and when a job was undertaken most of them were employed on some part of it. Architecture, he used to say, is 90 per cent. business and 10 per cent. art. He was born at Rhaunen, Westphalia, Germany, on March 21, 1869, and was taken to the United States as a boy of 12.

★

The Association of Building Technicians has passed a resolution viewing with dismay the failure of certain industrial employers to appreciate the value of the architect as a planner, inasmuch as there is a vast amount of building work being carried out in INDUSTRY WITHOUT ARCHITECTS *being employed either as staff architects or as consultants.*

December 9 was the HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY *of birth of Filfold Fletcher-Watson, R.B.A. He was founder in* 1891 *and First President of The Australian Academy of Arts, in whose honour student scholarships of £25 yearly have been endowed at The Royal Academy, London, and The Academy of Arts, Australia, primarily for water colour work in Architectural subjects.*

★★★

The RESULT OF THE ILKLEY COMPETITION *(architectural and town planning) for the Castle Hill Site and surroundings has been announced. The winning and commended competitors are :*

1st Premium (50 guineas), Scheme No. 50. Capt. Hubert Bennett, F.R.I.B.A., 3, The Horseshoe, Dringhouses, York.

2nd Premium (30 guineas), Scheme No. 41. H. E. Burton, 247B, Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 16.

3rd Premium (20 guineas), Scheme No. 53. Lieut. Frank Booth, A.R.I.B.A., Middlethorpe Lodge, Dringhouses, York.

Commended : Scheme No. 36. E. J. Harrison, B.ARCH., A.R.I.B.A., 35, China Street, Lancaster. Scheme No. 45. Messrs. G. Grenfell Baines, A.R.I.B.A., John A. Ashworth, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., and T. Mellor, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., 12-24, Guildhall Street, Preston. Scheme No. 70. Messrs. A. J. Steel, A.R.I.B.A., and L. Whitaker, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., "Roseway," Molescroft, Beverley, E. Yorks.

★★

The R.I.B.A. Council proposes to submit to H.M. The King the name of Professor C. H. Reilly, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., as a fit recipient of the ROYAL GOLD MEDAL *for* 1943.

YOUTH PLANS FOR ITSELF

ONE day a member of an Edmonton Youth Club casually remarked to an architect that a section of the club was to hold a discussion on the Ideal Youth Centre. The architect offered to act as a medium for co-ordinating and transmitting the ideas of the members into plan and elevation, and his offer was accepted. The club has a maximum membership of 150 boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 21. It is run by a members' committee of eight, with the guidance, assistance and sympathetic co-operation of voluntary adults, who combine to make an executive of four members and four adults, with the President, Mr. F. E. Geary, in the chair.

It was in such an atmosphere that over ninety members gathered round the architect freely expressing themselves as to how they would like this and that particular room in their Ideal Youth Centre, or where they wished the hall, gymnasium or other rooms to be placed. A committee was formed consisting of representatives from each club-activity, and a series of meetings held, at which members put forward suggestions in relation to their particular interest. Individual members of the club were allowed to submit ideas in a written paper.

When all the ideas were collected, preliminary sketch plans were prepared, together with perspective drawings, to show the members what the completed building would look like. The sketch plans were put before the full club and explained in detail. Suggestions were invited, the plans were amended, and final sketch plans were prepared. No influence was brought upon the members by the architect in regard to accommodation. He gave advice only on construction and materials. The choice of architectural style was put to the vote of the full club. This was in favour of a simple modern treatment, subject in certain cases to alteration if the club was to be built in a locality having a marked traditional style and by the choice of local materials.

One of the members of the committee was Mr. Ronald F. Miller, the honorary secretary of the club. He has many original ideas on the functions of the Ideal Youth Centre. The main plans, he says, describe a centre in a large town, but he points out that this should have sub-buildings throughout the adjacent district. These sub-buildings would meet the partial needs and afford facilities for special features, both

of the sub-clubs and the centrally housed main clubs. In such towns or densely built-up areas, the parks and recreation grounds would afford natural sites. Rational use of such a centre by clubs, scouts, guides and other youth movements, free from political association, would thus form a common meeting ground for the new separate units and yet enable them to retain their own particular identity. This would lead, he contends, to a greater trust between one generation and another and to the development of citizenship. It would also awaken interest in craftsmanship and art and lead to their applied application obtainable in evening institutes, technical schools and specialised training centres.

The ideal premises, he says, could be used by day as a community centre for parents, trade and professional trainees, and in the case of provincial towns and villages for public meetings, lectures, demonstrations of art, crafts, cooking and the like. In fact, all activities limited only by non-interference with the building's primary function of a youth club centre.

Such a venture as that discussed by the Edmonton club should cause no frowns at the Board of Education. In the Education Act, 1918, statutory recognition was given for the first time to the need for social and physical training among children and young persons alike. The overriding aim of all this training is the building of character. This implies developing the whole personality of individual boys and girls to enable them to take their places as full members of a free community. But the movement so begun was shipwrecked by the financial crisis of the post-war years and the competition of other educational needs. Today a new beginning has been made and the principle has been accepted that youth welfare must take its place as a recognised province of education, side by side with elementary, secondary and further education. And one of the ways in which this can be achieved is the youth centre. This is officially recognised by the Board of Education.* The particular club whose history we have described is illustrated in this issue. The architect is Mr. Stanley H. Smith.

* In a circular, The Challenge of Youth, the Board of Education state that there are five ways in which youth work may be organized and housed. They are :—

(i) *Separate Clubs or Units.*—Separate Clubs, belonging either to a voluntary body, a church or a works, exist throughout the country.

(ii) *Youth Centres.*—A well designed or adapted youth centre may be provided by a local education authority or by voluntary effort or by both. A full-time warden is usually essential. In such centres all local units, voluntary and otherwise, can meet regularly and share the use of the hall, gymnasium and other facilities.

(iii) *Recreational Evening Institutes.*

(iv) *Old Scholars' Clubs.*

(v) *Emergency Clubs.*—In more recent months emergency clubs have been opened, often in makeshift premises, for young people of both sexes as a means of combating the effects of war and the black-out. Their objective has been limited ; but it is hoped that, by their informal methods of approach, they may lead young people to make a better and fuller use of leisure.

The Architects' Journal

War Address : 45, The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey

Telephone : Vigilant 0087-9

NOTES & TOPICS

PUTTING PROPAGANDA ACROSS

Some time ago now Misha Black speaking, I think, to the Architectural Association, pointed out that exhibition designers needed to look at things rather differently from architects. The architect's first concern is to design something that works. The exhibition designer's main object is to put his public into an emotional state likely to make them receptive of the particular type of propaganda he has been asked to get across.

*

Misha Black delivered this opinion some time ago, but the Ministry of Fuel's exhibition at Dorland Hall (also some time ago) struck me as being the first I had seen which put this idea into practice in a big way. The result was far from being mere emotional flapdoodle, the exhibition having been divided into three main sections with an appeal carefully graduated from sensational to intellectual, the earlier sections acting as a kind of hors-d'œuvre to the rest.

*

The first section was the gallery of a coal-mine reproduced as realistically as possible in the few odd feet of space which separate

Lower Regent Street from the main body of Dorland Hall. Here loud-speakers shouting economy slogans combined with the jostling of crowds in a narrow tunnel to create a feeling almost of panic. The actual process of coal getting had to be shown in a film, but a real live pit pony stabled in a recess just off the gangway and behaving as horses do, gave the whole an air of verisimilitude, and the audience emerged ready for anything.

★

The next section, slightly more conventional, was made more than usually effective by dramatic use of light—more like stage lighting than an ordinary exhibition—all light being concentrated on the exhibits leaving the spectators in the dark. Finally there was a section showing how fuel might be saved in industry complete with scale models of boilers and diagrams for stokers, arranged under business-like factory lights.

★

The Ministry of Fuel deserves to be congratulated on this brilliant exhibition. From the light verse section comes :—

Switched-on switches and turned-on taps
Make happy huns and joyful japs.

THOUGHT FOR CHRISTMAS

Bearing the Gothic-lettered label, Acceptable Yuletide Gift,' it stood alone on the counter, a small bronze replica of a flamingo standing stiffly in a sculptured marsh. It was a painstaking piece of work, every feather, every reed-tip, was faithfully reproduced. But this was not all. Concealed among the brazen reeds was a small lever, which, when pressed, caused the flamingo to lower its head sharply to the ground and to reappear proffering in its beak a cigarette which it had snatched from some hidden container.

★

Musing upon the ingenuity and skill which had gone to the making of so curious and inessential an object, I was irresistibly reminded of a sage remark made some years ago by an American observer. "The flamingo," he said, "can be trained but it takes years of patient work, and at the end of it all you've got is a trained flamingo."

A.B.T. AND PRODUCTION COMMITTEES

1. The A.A.S.T.A. is no more.
2. The A.B.T. has published its membership—2,500, some 300 having been struck off for not paying subs.
3. New rules give majority of seats on the Council to the Branches.
4. Branches are to do the technical work in future, being more in touch with the jobs.
5. First report† to be published by the A.B.T. under its new name is now available. Title. Production Committees for Building and the Technicians' part on them.

★

It consists of letters written to the A.B.T. by technicians, Building Trade operatives and Trade Union organisers who are in favour of production committees and anxious to show just how useful these committees can be to the Building Industry and how useful technicians can be on these committees.

★

An outstanding example of Production Committees being used with success is the organization built up by Messrs. Wimpey, as described in the report of Mr. J. L. Clyde, K.C.

★

The main points which emerge from this pamphlet (apart from the fact that MOWP understands the building industry better than MAP*) are :—

(1) That the existence of a production committee encourages workmen to *organize themselves* in teams with a high standard of workmanship and output—an arrangement that provides an alternative in large firms to that personal supervision which only a small contractor can give, and which also helps to counteract the less fortunate results of trade unionism ;

(ii) That the present system of subcontracting is inefficient.

(iii) That production committees give technicians what they so often complain they lack—an understanding of building materials and technique—obtained by contact with men on the job, which is a quicker and more effective way of obtaining it than three years in a bauhaus laying bricks ;

(iv) That they provide an effective counterweight to clients and client departments, always anxious to override the advice of architects and technicians and to start work without proper plans and particulars.

★

From which it should be clear that architects have as much to gain from production committees as production committees can hope to gain from architects.

ERIC RAVILIOUS

The death on active service is now presumed of Eric Ravilious, official war artist and Temporary Captain in the Royal Marines. He was a passenger in a Sunderland which did not return from a North Atlantic patrol.

★

There were those who said that the intensely personal style of Eric Ravilious would be too thin and delicate for the tremendous subjects with which it would be faced. But he survived the test triumphantly. His sensitivity to pattern—of a ship's wake in a calm sea, or a piece of deck furniture—and his exquisite handling of colour seemed to be sharpened by his new environment, and the works he has left behind are as good as pictures as they are as records. Those who saw his paintings of naval scenes in the Norwegian Campaign will remember how acutely he caught the atmosphere of that strange and twilit world, and it is a tragedy that his death has occurred when he was dealing brilliantly with that subject where so many have failed—aircraft.

★

Ravilious was of course best known as a "straight" painter, but his murals, his furniture and book illustrations, and above all his delightful work for Wedgwoods, will long be remembered by architects.

ASTRAGAL

†Production Committees for Building and the Technicians part on them, obtainable from the A.B.T., 113, High Holborn.

*This is not stated in so many words, but most of the muddles appear to occur on runways.

LETTERS

"Atreus"
A. M. Lacey
"Archer"
"Anchorite"
Professor Matsa (Russia)
Professor D. Arkina (Russia)

Civil Engineers on Building Works

SIR,—Astragal's comments on the preponderance of civil engineers engaged on building works are interesting, but is he not endeavouring to "pull his punches"?

Until recently, I occupied a "ringside seat" with one of the fighting arms, in a professional capacity. This has enabled me to form what I hope to be an unbiased opinion. (I have not been dismissed nor asked to resign so that if any rancour is evident in this letter, it arises from a deep concern for the welfare of my country.)

Government departments in general are utilizing the services of civil engineers on building works, and qualified architects are relegated to the performance of the menial duties of a first year articled pupil. The sight of many so-called working drawings and specifications has filled me with disgust, and I have now formed the opinion that to many civil engineers these building works form a kind of post-graduate course in building construction.

I am satisfied that the wrongful utilization of the cost plus profit (prime cost) form of contract can be largely attributed to the inability of civil engineers to furnish accurate working drawings and specifications, so vitally essential under any other form of contract. The place has become a "funk hole" and to borrow an expression which was once uttered by the late Major Harry Barnes "funk holes should be ventilated to render them sanitary." But ventilation should not await the termination of hostilities when it will then serve no useful purpose.

"ATREUS."

The Shortage of Planners

SIR,—May I endorse Astragal's notes concerning Professor Abercrombie's remarks on the shortage of planners, particularly with regard to experience. Has Professor Abercrombie applied to the Central Register or to the professional institutions for suitable men, or has he even advertised for them? I doubt it.

I feel you may be interested in my experience of the other side of Abercrombie's problem; that of a man trying to get a job as a planner.

I am a chartered surveyor, and have applied for registration as an architect. Large scale planning has been my main interest for some time, and I was a member of the School of Planning and Research for National Development from 1936 until its dissolution at the outbreak of war.

From the date of the formation of the MOWB and the Government's alleged acceptance of planning as a national policy, I have endeavoured to get a planning job through the channels mentioned above, and by direct application to MOWB (or P). I was met in every case with mild astonishment and politely but firmly informed that planning jobs did not exist, and that planning was only in the talking stage!

I still believe that the best thing we could do immediately would be to select a body of men and send them to study American and Russian experience in territorial planning as a preparation for doing the job here.

London. A. M. LACEY.

Unity in the Profession

SIR,—Regarding F.R.I.B.A.'s championship of qualification by examination; I have a handbook of building practice showing cottage plans by some A.R.I.B.A. A larder shelf is shown under the fourth step up, and to the same stairway the bathroom is shown extending over the seventh step down, allowing of stairway headroom at just 3 ft. 6 in. The building trade has no doubt been impressed.

"ARCHER."

Registration

SIR,—Is it too much to ask that a hearing by the tribunal be extended to all those rejected by the admission committee?

"ANCHORITE."

Details of the wartime activities of U.S.S.R. Architects and the German destruction of Russian Architectural treasures were cabled to us last week in two

CABLES from Moscow

1

First volume of Information of Committee on Preservation and Restoration of Architectural Monuments has just been published by Moscow State Publishing House of Academy of Architecture. It contains documents, investigations and photographs of number of architectural monuments destroyed or damaged by Fascist occupation army. Since beginning of this year commission on preservation and restoration of architectural monuments is developing.

Work on tremendous scale registering monuments recording their state in regions already cleared of German invaders. Note of People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs, Molotov, concerning vandalistic devastation perpetrated by Germans in towns and villages of Western Regions of this country. Commission is registering these from professional architectural standpoint, and planning initial measures that are necessary first to prevent damaged buildings from falling into decay, and second to see they are under proper technical and architectural observation.

Book of which we are speaking publishes only small proportion of facts on five towns and on populated points of liberated districts of western front. Not all destruction done is recorded in this book of course, only buildings possessing architectural significance.

Most important among data on Kalinin (formerly Tver) are two large edifices built in sixties of eighteenth century by that great representative of Russian classicism, Matvei Kazakov, who designed Palace at which Catherine Second used to stay to break her journey.

There are sixty-one photographs illustrations to text of this edition which is one of large series of documents on German barbarities perpetrated on Soviet soil. It's large, because destruction worked by Hiterlites pillage carried out by special department of German Ministry for Foreign Affairs attached to army has assumed colossal proportions.

PROFESSOR MATSA.

2

Forwarding for exclusive publication your journal following article U.S.S.R. Architecture. Apletin, President, Foreign Committee Soviet Writers' Union.

After lengthy interval in its publication caused by war-time conditions, first issue Soviet Russia's well-known architectural journal "U.S.S.R. Architecture," published by Architects' Union, edited by Architect K. Alabyan and Professor Arkina, just appeared.

Considerable part of issue devoted to two main themes: Activities Russian Architects in Wartime, and Monuments Russian Architecture Demolished by Germans. One of primary accomplishments Russian architects during war has been erection blocks of dwellings for plants evacuated to eastern

[INTRODUCTION.—It is possible to regard the last three years as an unpleasant interlude at the end of which normal conditions will be re-established. To people who think this way the words *AFTER THE WAR* may mean what they seem to mean, but there are not many architects who confidently expect to return to the *status quo*. The majority feel that the war is not an interlude but the climax to a series of changes, the cumulative effect of which has been, amongst other things, to alter out of all recognition the conditions under which architects are trained to operate. For these people the significant date is not some future armistice but the declaration of hostilities on September 3, 1939, which finally put the closure on the particular world they had been accustomed to think of as normal. They are immensely concerned that steps should be taken now to re-organize the profession to meet the new conditions. These, as they see it, already exist, and after the war will continue to exist, modified certainly by the end of the war, but nevertheless growing out of it (the war, in this light, can be regarded as the first and painful stage of a British New Deal). Any architect who has something to say on this subject is invited to make his contribution. Anyone who accepts this invitation is asked to be brief. In view of the paper shortage both sides of a page can be written on, and notes need not be typed.]

territories of country to Siberia, Urals, Central Asia. Article by Vladimir Semenov, member of Academy, on subject is enhanced by numerous illustrations of living quarters designed in Central Asia Republics for factories transferred to these vast parts far removed from danger zone.

In connection with large-scale building of plant settlements, Russian architects naturally interested in similar construction in England and U.S.A., thus special contribution by Architect Vladimir Grossman familiarises Russian reader with speedup methods of mass building now being applied in Great Britain and United States.

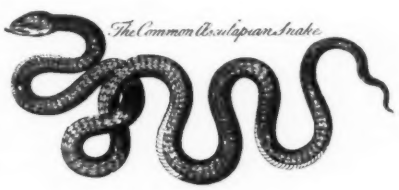
Opening article of magazine summarises shameless deliberate destruction wrought by German troops to historically important monuments of Russian architecture. Numerous photographs offer documentary proof of vandalism of Fascists. These include pictures showing ruins of renowned New Jerusalem Monastery, near Moscow, exploded by Germans. Munificent Palace in town Kalinin built for Catherine Great in eighteenth century, cathedral in Mozhaisk, castles and sumptuous mansions in Bogoroditsk Volokalamsk and other places that had been temporarily seized by Germans.

Special article in magazine dwells upon recently constructed new Government Building of Armenian Republic in its capital, Erevan. For this structure one of best. samples of modern Soviet architecture, architect was honoured with Stalin Prize for 1941.

Models monuments to be erected in memory of fallen heroes of present war are elaborately reproduced on pages of magazine. Most models were designed for contest in Moscow Architects' Union, and they include general themes like "Heroes of Moscow's Defence," "Heroic Leningrad," "Partisans of Great Patriotic War," memorial to 28 Guardsmen of Panfilov Division who blocked way of 50 German tanks and many others. Type of memorial evolves from simple rural monuments, marble slabs with some sort of relief on them, to huge pantheon like structures, from severe obelisk erected on battlefield to many-figured sculpture groups, depicting feats of glorious heroes. These initial sketches afford ample food for architects' and sculptors' imagination in creating future monuments.

In article entitled "Anglo-Russian Architectural Ties," after discussing old traditions of Anglo-Russian collaboration in sphere of architecture, author stresses importance wider intercourse between builders of two countries in wartime and in post-war construction period as well. In conclusion author says "architects of Soviet Union and Great Britain are united not merely by common professional interests, but by common efforts and aspirations in struggle that both countries waging against common foe for happiness and progress of all humanity."

PROFESSOR D. ARKINA.



AFTER the War 5

[*BY H. MYLES WRIGHT*]

The JOURNAL cannot have expected agreement amongst those whom it has asked to write about *After the War*, and the present contributor, enjoying the advantage of coming late on the list, is therefore free to express violent disagreement with the apparent attitudes of mind of Authors 1 and 2.

In the note which heads these articles, which may be taken as setting out terms of reference, the JOURNAL writes of "new conditions . . . (which) already exist and after the war will continue to exist." It seems clear that contributors are asked to consider professional changes which those *new conditions* make or will make desirable or essential.

But Authors 1 and 2 take no heed at all of this all important limitation. Author 1 described a plan for one-big-private-office-per-town and Author 2 worried the old Private *v.* Official bone as though architects had only to decide exactly how they wanted to work after the war and thereafter all other conditions would be altered in a twinkling to suit the profession's whims.

Let us look at the matter differently. The starting point in this matter must be the general conditions affecting building which are going to exist after the war whatever architects do, and whatever architects like. Only when these general conditions have been forecast as accurately as is now possible, and their implications fully comprehended, can architects profitably think about what they should try to do to meet them. It seems, therefore, that three questions and their answers must contain the key to the big architectural question of *After the War . . .* ? These questions, as one person sees them, are set out below.

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED

Q1. What will be the chief conditions governing or closely affecting all building after the war ?

Q2. What effects are those conditions likely to have on the architectural profession ?

Q3. [And *only* 3rd]: How should the profession, corporately and as firms and individuals, prepare to meet the changed situation created by (1) and (2) ?

SUGGESTED ANSWERS.

Q1.—*What will be the chief conditions governing or closely affecting all building after the war* ?

A.1.—(*a*) During the first post-war decade an attempt will be made to PLAN all reconstruction, readjustment and redevelopment. The most important stage of this attempt will be economic and industrial, and to some extent political, planning. The decisions taken in this first stage will be transmitted for execution—in so far as they affect the country's land surface—to a Central (Physical) Planning Authority or Ministry.

★

(*b*) The Central Planning Authority will be linked, in London, with interested Ministries and will also have Regional Branches through which it will be linked with all local authorities.

The attempt to guide all redevelopment which will be made by the Central Planning Authority will require :—

(i) Many Official Territorial Planners.

(ii) Very many Official Planning Administrators and Liaison Officers.

(iii) Very many Official Planning Assistants and Draughtsmen.

A much smaller number of privately-practising Planners, Liaison Officers and Assistants will also be needed.

★

(*c*) It is certain that for the first few years after the war building demands will much exceed current capacity in materials and skilled labour, and that therefore control of building, together with fixing of priorities for building schemes, will be carried out by the Ministry of Works. It seems certain that Government and local authorities' reconstruction schemes will be given preference over private works.

This control by the Ministry of Works and its Regional Branches will require :—

(i) Many Official Building Controllers.
(ii) Very many Official Priority and Liaison Officers.
(iii) Very many subordinate officials.
[Most of the above already exist.]

★

(*d*) The important part which local authorities will be asked to play in redevelopment and the priority which will probably be given to them for provision of housing will lead to a large expansion of local authorities' architects' departments and will require :—

(i) Many senior official architects.
(ii) Many official assistant architects.
(iii) Very many official architectural assistants.

(*e*) The factors listed in (*a*), (*b*), and (*c*), together with the operation of bodies like the War Damage Commission, will cause during the post-war decade an immense increase in building bureaucracy—four-fifths of the personnel being official and the remainder retained by outside organizations in order to bring the officials to terms.

★

Q.2.—*What effects are those conditions likely to have on the architectural profession* ?

A.2.—(*a*) The attempt to PLAN all physical development and redevelopment—whether successful or not—will split the architectural profession both horizontally and vertically.

The best architect-territorial planners or architect-town planners will be given posts of very great responsibility. They will indeed be the real architects of post-war Britain and will inevitably lose touch with architects whose interests remain limited by one building or building group.

Many other architects will obtain minor positions as planners or administration and liaison officers in connection with planning and will tend to have more in common with men holding similar jobs who have been recruited from other professions than with their fellow architects.

Most of both these groups will obtain official salaried appointments.

(*b*) The priority which is likely to be given to the building programmes of public authorities will also adversely affect private practice for the first few post-war years ; and it may well be that private architects will find themselves in the unusual position of being besieged by clients for whom they are quite unable to erect buildings.

It also seems certain that the few firms who succeed in obtaining building licences for private works will find it necessary to employ at least one specialist in territorial planning legislation and at least one expert in building and labour permits and materials licensing—the latter being already in existence on the staff of every organization which is handling war building.

★

(*c*) The introduction of a Central Planning Authority and positive planning legislation will tend to break down barriers between the various building professions. Not only will architects, engineers and land, building and quantity surveyors and valuers each contribute members to a vastly expanded Territorial Planning profession (surely "Town" Planning will become an obsolete expression ?) but some degree of fusion between these contributing professions seems unavoidable.

Effective positive planning will mean a fairly strict degree of control of all aspects of all building development—collieries as well as garden cities, waterworks and waste-paper warehouses as well as housing in the Lakes. It will therefore no longer be possible for a manufacturer to buy a piece of land and thereafter make any mess on it which cheapness or his engineer indicates ; nor will architects be able to claim immunity from other supervision which they may find galling. There will therefore be an increasing tendency for larger development schemes to be the joint product of territorial planners, architects and engineers.

If the foregoing prophetic sketch of post-war conditions affecting building and their consequences for the profession seems likely to prove reasonably correct, architects will have to be prepared to act very quickly indeed when the war ends. And despite the present lazy assumptions that nothing worth while can be done now because older architects are too die-hard and too unrepresentative and all younger architects are or ought to be in North Africa, there seems nothing to prevent a plan of action being prepared now and nothing to prevent its being complete in all important points within a year. It is this belief that the following answers are put forward to Question 3.

Q.3.—*How should the profession, corporately and as firms and individuals, prepare to meet the changed situation created by* (1) *and* (2) ?

A.3.—(*a*) The R.I.B.A. will have to realize that the top dogs of the post-war building world will be the territorial planners of the Central Planning Authority. It will be largely within their power to decide whether post-war architecture—in the broadest sense—will be good or bad or mediocre-dreary. And since a modest amount of guidance, a modest sense of the fitness of things may mean the difference between excellence and horror in a National Park, it can be held to be in the national as well as the architectural profession's interest that as many territorial planners as possible should have entered the planning profession through architecture. For of all the professions of the building industry, only in architecture is a man deliberately trained and encouraged to train himself in aesthetics.

It will however be ludicrous for architects to think that their profession will be given any preference in territorial planning appointments on this ground alone. For though architects have this one advantage, they suffer on the average under many disadvantages. Architects in general do not readily assimilate large masses of facts—about transport, catchment areas, electricity distribution and afforestation ; and they are not notorious for painstakingly reasonable step-by-step collaboration with people holding very different views from their own.

The R.I.B.A. will therefore have to make a very determined effort if it is to ensure that a reasonable proportion of important territorial planning appointments are held by architects. Two steps seem essential :—

(i) The planning schools now attached to Schools of Architecture should receive every assistance which the profession can give them. In particular the profession should give the greatest possible financial aid in the provision of scholarships for those who enter territorial planning through architecture, and try to secure Reservation for a certain number of territorial planning students.

(ii) A substantial proportion of the resources of the R.I.B.A. should be devoted to the interests of its planning members. Its premises and its library should be as much at the disposal of territorial planners as they are now available for architects ; and it should pay special attention to the publication of handbooks on planning legislation for the use of the general public as well as its own members.

★

(*b*) The R.I.B.A. will also have to consider very carefully how the standard of work executed by official architects' departments can be raised during post-war expansion and thereafter kept high. There seems no question that this can only be done by the R.I.B.A. and its officially employed members simultaneously pressing for the introduction of the Miners' Welfare system into all

official architects' departments. This campaign should be started now: otherwise bureaucracy of the Civil Service type—which is bound to expand in all fields of post-war building—will simply stifle all creative work in official building. It has already gone far towards doing so in time of war; and when once bureaucracy has obtained a hold on any field of endeavour the tenacity of its grasp is prodigious.

★

(*c*) Finally there is the problem of what individual private firms or privately practising individual architects should do to prepare for post-war conditions—apart from supporting the corporate exertions of the R.I.B.A.

It seems likely that the types of practice which will be available for these men after the war will fall into three main categories (which are of course capable of being blended one into another).

(i) *Large-scale practice of* 1919-39 *type.* Firms carrying on this type of practice would, by choice, confine the scope and organization of their work as closely as possible to that of architectural practice between the wars. They would look for clients among individuals and companies desiring to build flat blocks, offices and similar "architects'" buildings. They would accept all the regulations laid down by the Territorial Planners including those relating to amenity or elevational treatment and do the best they could for their client within this framework. They would perforce employ an expert in territorial planning legislation and probably an expert in materials and labour licensing as well. Otherwise they would attempt to retain all the inter-war compartmentation of the building professions and their own internal set-up would also be of inter-war type.

(ii) *Small-scale practice, partly of* 1919-39 *type.* Individuals or small firms carrying on this type of practice would rely on the amenity clauses of territorial planning legislation to bring them much of their work. Such men would form the bulk of the personnel of those paid Panels of Architects which the Scott Committee recommended should be set up to approve the external appearance of all buildings. No doubt arrangements could be made by which an architect can be asked to prepare "layout and external appearance" sketch designs for small buildings for a very small fee without being held responsible for their convenience or structure. Such a division of responsibility is both retrograde and basically undesirable. But there can be no question that it would largely prevent the measureless small-building vulgarity which spread throughout the country from 1919-1939. And practised by architects possessing common sense and discretion it might well lead within a decade to architects being asked, as a matter of course, to design the *whole* of all smaller buildings.

(iii) *Practice of "Post-War" type.* It seems very probable that the post-war decade will see the emergence of at least some private firms of a kind radically different from the "as-before but adjusted" type described in (i) and (ii) above.

It may be expected that a number of territorial planners, architects and engineers will think very hard about five main factors in the post-war situation:—

(*a*) The splitting of all building professions by territorial planning.

(*b*) The increasing invasion of architecture by engineering, the post-war invasion of engineering by architecture and the close liaison needed between both and territorial planning.

(*c*) The probable greater use of prefabrication for light building and the possibilities of "district heating" and other developments tried out in wartime.

(*d*) The much greater speed with which a closely linked group of privately practising territorial planners, architects and engineers could handle a large development scheme as compared with that of the great majority of official departments.

(*e*) The encouraging results of the close collaboration between building professions which has taken place on certain war building schemes.

The logical results of such reflection must surely be the formation of firms which can handle, *quickly*, all aspects of a building scheme. Such firms may begin as territorial planners and architects who have their structural, electrical and other consultant engineers in the same street, but there will be an inevitable tendency towards still closer collaboration. It has already been said that once an architect has had first-class consultant engineers under the same roof with him during the execution of a big scheme, he will never, while he is in his senses, let them go again; and everyone who has had a similar experience will agree with him. It is possible that some firms of consultant engineers may feel the same about architects.

One may thus expect that very soon after the war ends, first one and then another firm of "Territorial Planners: Architects: Consultant Engineers" will appear. The "balance of power" within such firms will vary—architects may be in the majority or minority, but provided the firms are directed by men who realize the full importance of each profession's contribution, they can hardly fail to obtain a very large share of that portion of post-war building which remains available for the private practitioner.

SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTIONS

Sound insulation was discussed at one of the recent Cantor lectures before the Royal Society of Arts when some new developments were mentioned. The lecture was given by William Allen, R.I.B.A., of the Building Research Station. In the article below our technical correspondent discusses in detail the points raised by Mr. Allen.

SOUND Insulation

[*BY OUR TECHNICAL CORRESPONDENT*]

It is customary to think of sound insulation in terms of the planning of buildings and structural techniques, and the Research Station's book on sound transmission* published in the early months of the war consolidated this position. Now, apparently, the station has gone beyond this and extended the subject to the field of town planning, and a substantial part of Mr. Allen's lecture was devoted to an analysis of this new approach, the authorship of which he ascribed to his colleague, Mr. Fitzmaurice.

Mr. Allen described first the basic principles of science upon which they have drawn for their newest development, and then illustrated their application to two types of problem, the urban district and low density housing.

The basic principles appear to be two in number, the first of which is this: *That sound waves expand spherically from their source, and the energy in the waves becomes distributed over an ever larger area so that the loudness of the noise is reduced. The reduction is 6 decibels each time the distance from the source is doubled.* Though this, to the scientist, in itself, is no new knowledge, its use for the present purpose gives a measure and significance, at once, to the use of space for sound insulation and is therefore important to the planner; 5 or 6 decibels is usually considered a useful and appreciable noise reduction.

The second principle is this: *That when a sound wave strikes an obstacle*

*Sound Transmission in Buildings, by Fitzmaurice & Allen

of effective size, it is reflected, and behind it an acoustic shadow is formed.

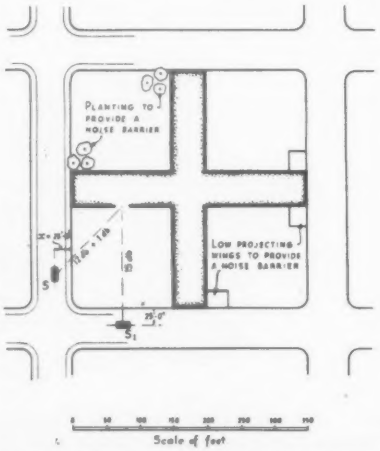
Mr. Allen mentioned a third principle which he said appeared to be of less importance than the others, that as the angle of incidence between the sound wave and a window became smaller, the apparent area of opening exposed to the wave is reduced, and the amount of sound entering a room becomes accordingly smaller. The effect is not important until the sound waves are running nearly parallel to the window wall.

Simple curves were given from which the reductions due to the first and third principles could be read at once, and it seems likely, if this development is as important as it appears to be, that these curves may become standard items in the education of the town planner. Their use in planning was illustrated by comparison in respect of traffic noise of two types of building, the hollow square and the cruciform. The analyses took the following form.

The hollow square is the familiar representative of the typical urban development, where a ring of independent buildings, or a single building, is erected around the perimeter of a unit block of land. The building faces directly upon the streets and the outer facade is subjected to the noise of traffic, the nearest important stream of which is probably about 20 to 30 feet away. Noise levels under these conditions are known to reach a loudness equivalent to 80 or 90 decibels at the building front. According to the lecturer it is difficult to carry on normal office work and telephone conversations if intruding noise exceeds 70 units, so the conclusion is reached that a minimum insulation value of from 10 to 20 units is desirable. This means, in practice, keeping the windows shut and using artificial ventilation if even a minimum standard is to be reached, and this applies not only to the ground floor but for several floors upward. A typical modern English building might be eight storeys high, say, 90 feet. The original noise level was noted as being 80 to 90 units some 25 feet from the traffic ; at the eighth storey the loudness reduction due to distance would only be about 10 or 11 units, with perhaps 1 or 2 more due to the reduced angle of incidence, so that only at this height do you begin to reach an acceptable standard of quiet. Common experience confirms this, and it was therefore concluded that unless fixed windows and artificial ventilation are accepted for outer rooms this type of building can fairly be criticized as inadequate in terms of modern street conditions, although the rooms facing inward may afford a high degree of quiet.

The analysis of the cruciform building which was given for comparison is illustrated here. It will be seen that it is placed on a block 350 feet square, so that the wings are set back about 150 feet from the streets which they face. This distance affords a reduction of 15 units and, by examining various other paths and taking account of the angle of incidence at the windows, it is found that the traffic would appear noisiest at the point marked S for a window in the ground floor in the centre of one of the wings. The reduction of loudness here is about 13 units. The lecturer therefore suggested that only the rooms between here and the street compare in noisiness with the whole of the outer facade of the other building type, and that, on the whole, such a building would offer reasonable office conditions for the great majority of the rooms while allowing as well natural ventilation. In respect of the increased height necessary to get equivalent accommodation in a cruciform building it was pointed out that this itself would benefit the reduction of noise, and, for instance, at 20 storeys, the improvement would be at least 29 decibels. In order to deal with the noisiness of the rooms at the outer corners of the building, Mr. Allen suggested the use of sound barriers, located so as to interrupt the sound waves where they caused the greatest annoyance. For this purpose he suggested either low buildings, or planting of suitable types. He was unable, he said, to quote figures of noise reductions for planting, but he suggested it as a useful field for study, and outlined what seems hitherto to have been a neglected aspect of landscape architecture, the relation between buildings and planting in the utilitarian sense. If the sound insulation value of planting can be determined with reasonable accuracy, it would at once begin to crystallize quite a new side of work for the landscape architect.

The comparison between the hollow square and the cruciform building leads to the root of the question of urban land utilization. The hollow square is not only the natural but practically the only arrangement which results from the independent development of individual properties ; everyone naturally wants to make use of his frontage, and the result is a ring of buildings around the perimeter of the block, offering the least standard of resistance to street noise. Any other form of development requires the power of comprehensive ownership, so that planning questions of the most fundamental character are affected by these findings.



A study of the cruciform type plan in terms of the reduction of traffic noise afforded for the ground floor.

The lecturer extended the application of the principles he mentioned to the layout of housing, discussing and comparing in this connection the ordinary street design, the cul-de-sac and the super block, and brought out again utilitarian value of landscape architecture for these purposes.

One other suggestion of interest was that for a given noise source one could prepare noise contour maps, with the aid of the data given, and so come to decisions regarding the location and standards of insulation to be provided in nearby buildings.

What seems, in summary, to be the importance of the new B.R.S. approach is not the novelty of the planning conceptions, but the fact that planning is subjected to measurement, so that the real value, in terms of known standards, can be assessed for different schemes. Equally important is the deduction by which one arrives at so firm a case for comprehensive land development in urban districts. If the B.R.S. can extend this study of planning to other aspects of the problem, it may conceivably make a very substantial addition to the whole subject of town planning which hitherto has not been characterized by the sort of precision or measurement we are learning to expect in other design fields.

NATIONAL BUILDINGS RECORD

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of effective size, it is reflected, and behind it an acoustic shadow is formed.

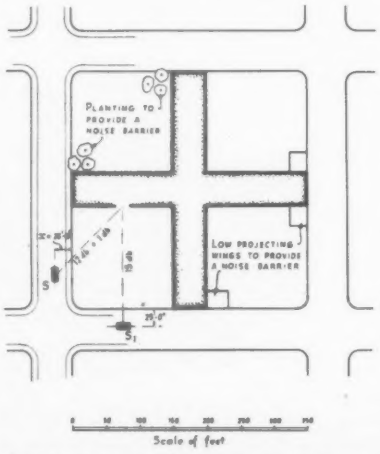
Mr. Allen mentioned a third principle which he said appeared to be of less importance than the others, that as the angle of incidence between the sound wave and a window became smaller, the apparent area of opening exposed to the wave is reduced, and the amount of sound entering a room becomes accordingly smaller. The effect is not important until the sound waves are running nearly parallel to the window wall.

Simple curves were given from which the reductions due to the first and third principles could be read at once, and it seems likely, if this development is as important as it appears to be, that these curves may become standard items in the education of the town planner. Their use in planning was illustrated by comparison in respect of traffic noise of two types of building, the hollow square and the cruciform. The analyses took the following form.

The hollow square is the familiar representative of the typical urban development, where a ring of independent buildings, or a single building, is erected around the perimeter of a unit block of land. The building faces directly upon the streets and the outer facade is subjected to the noise of traffic, the nearest important stream of which is probably about 20 to 30 feet away. Noise levels under these conditions are known to reach a loudness equivalent to 80 or 90 decibels at the building front. According to the lecturer it is difficult to carry on normal office work and telephone conversations if intruding noise exceeds 70 units, so the conclusion is reached that a minimum insulation value of from 10 to 20 units is desirable. This means, in practice, keeping the windows shut and using artificial ventilation if even a minimum standard is to be reached, and this applies not only to the ground floor but for several floors upward. A typical modern English building might be eight storeys high, say, 90 feet. The original noise level was noted as being 80 to 90 units some 25 feet from the traffic ; at the eighth storey the loudness reduction due to distance would only be about 10 or 11 units, with perhaps 1 or 2 more due to the reduced angle of incidence, so that only at this height do you begin to reach an acceptable standard of quiet. Common experience confirms this, and it was therefore concluded that unless fixed windows and artificial ventilation are accepted for outer rooms this type of building can fairly be criticized as inadequate in terms of modern street conditions, although the rooms facing inward may afford a high degree of quiet.

The analysis of the cruciform building which was given for comparison is illustrated here. It will be seen that it is placed on a block 350 feet square, so that the wings are set back about 150 feet from the streets which they face. This distance affords a reduction of 15 units and, by examining various other paths and taking account of the angle of incidence at the windows, it is found that the traffic would appear noisiest at the point marked S for a window in the ground floor in the centre of one of the wings. The reduction of loudness here is about 13 units. The lecturer therefore suggested that only the rooms between here and the street compare in noisiness with the whole of the outer facade of the other building type, and that, on the whole, such a building would offer reasonable office conditions for the great majority of the rooms while allowing as well natural ventilation. In respect of the increased height necessary to get equivalent accommodation in a cruciform building it was pointed out that this itself would benefit the reduction of noise, and, for instance, at 20 storeys, the improvement would be at least 29 decibels. In order to deal with the noisiness of the rooms at the outer corners of the building, Mr. Allen suggested the use of sound barriers, located so as to interrupt the sound waves where they caused the greatest annoyance. For this purpose he suggested either low buildings, or planting of suitable types. He was unable, he said, to quote figures of noise reductions for planting, but he suggested it as a useful field for study, and outlined what seems hitherto to have been a neglected aspect of landscape architecture, the relation between buildings and planting in the utilitarian sense. If the sound insulation value of planting can be determined with reasonable accuracy, it would at once begin to crystallize quite a new side of work for the landscape architect.

The comparison between the hollow square and the cruciform building leads to the root of the question of urban land utilization. The hollow square is not only the natural but practically the only arrangement which results from the independent development of individual properties ; everyone naturally wants to make use of his frontage, and the result is a ring of buildings around the perimeter of the block, offering the least standard of resistance to street noise. Any other form of development requires the power of comprehensive ownership, so that planning questions of the most fundamental character are affected by these findings.



A study of the cruciform type plan in terms of the reduction of traffic noise afforded for the ground floor.

The lecturer extended the application of the principles he mentioned to the layout of housing, discussing and comparing in this connection the ordinary street design, the cul-de-sac and the super block, and brought out again utilitarian value of landscape architecture for these purposes.

One other suggestion of interest was that for a given noise source one could prepare noise contour maps, with the aid of the data given, and so come to decisions regarding the location and standards of insulation to be provided in nearby buildings.

What seems, in summary, to be the importance of the new B.R.S. approach is not the novelty of the planning conceptions, but the fact that planning is subjected to measurement, so that the real value, in terms of known standards, can be assessed for different schemes. Equally important is the deduction by which one arrives at so firm a case for comprehensive land development in urban districts. If the B.R.S. can extend this study of planning to other aspects of the problem, it may conceivably make a very substantial addition to the whole subject of town planning which hitherto has not been characterized by the sort of precision or measurement we are learning to expect in other design fields.

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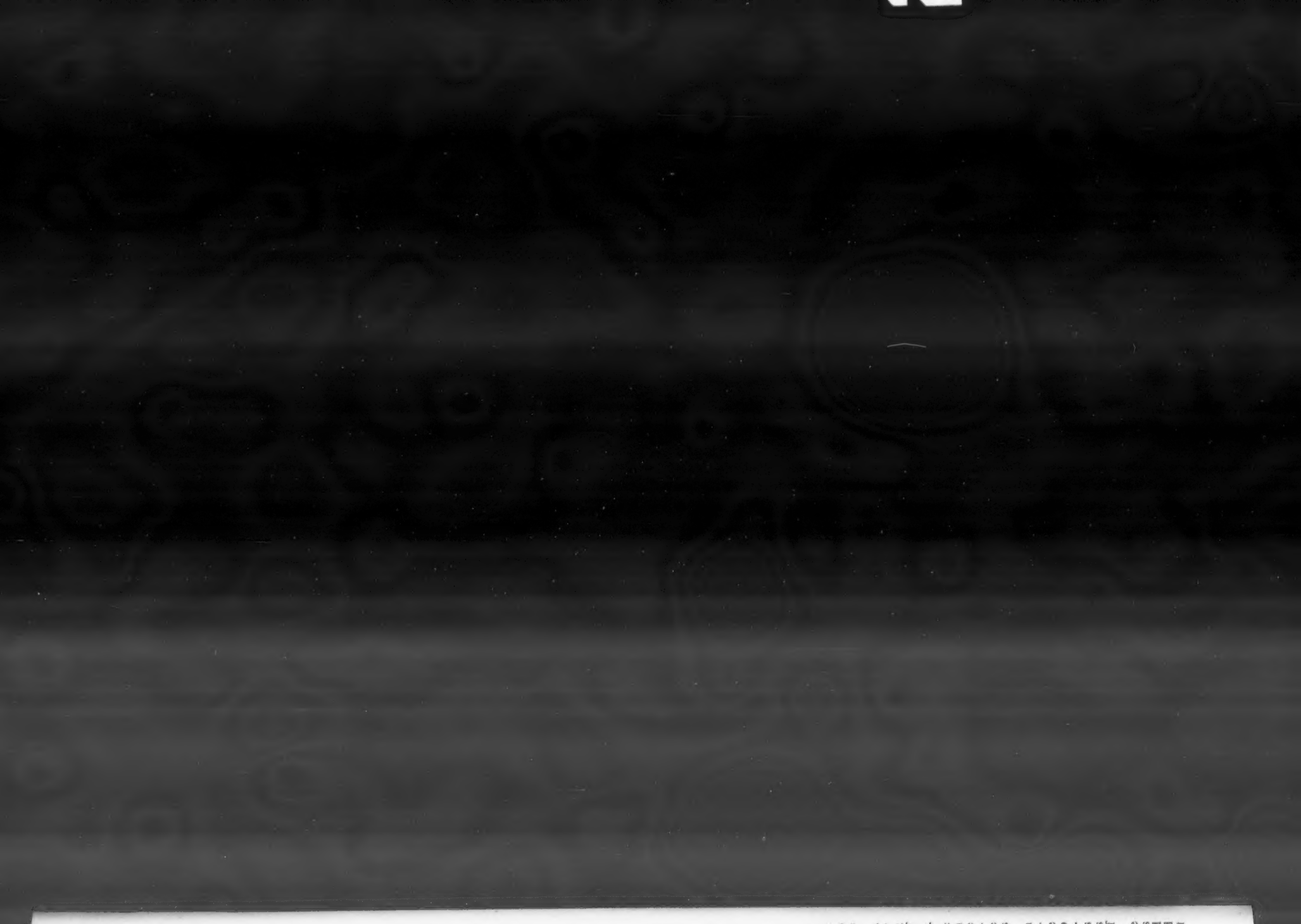

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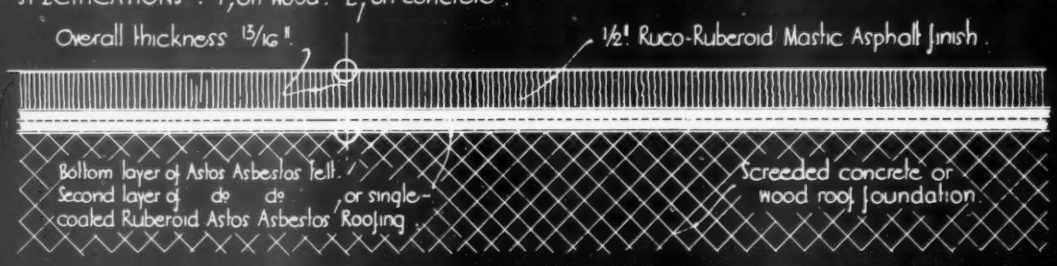
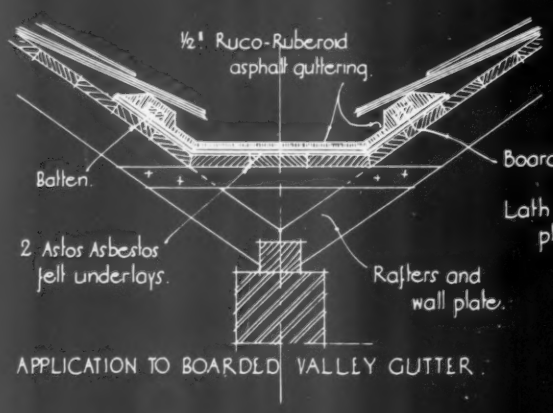
DETAILS SHOWING THE APPLICATION OF RUCO-RUBEROID ASPHALT TO WOOD & CONCRETE ROOFS :

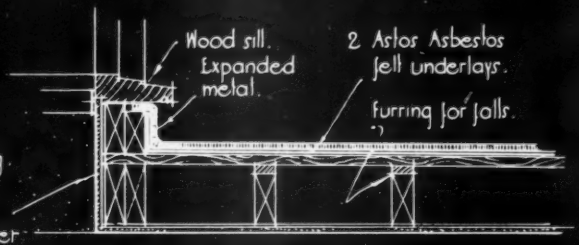
(Suitable for light traffic, wheeled or foot).

SPECIFICATIONS :- F, on wood. L, on concrete.

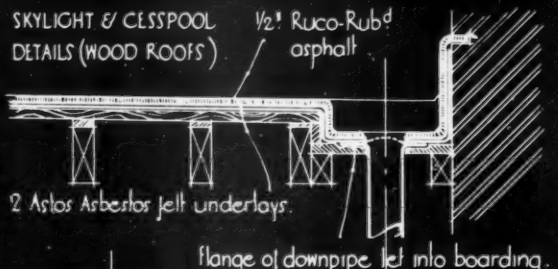


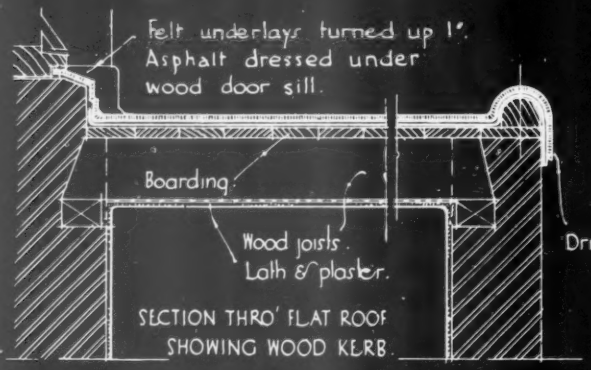


APPLICATION TO BOARDED VALLEY GUTTER.

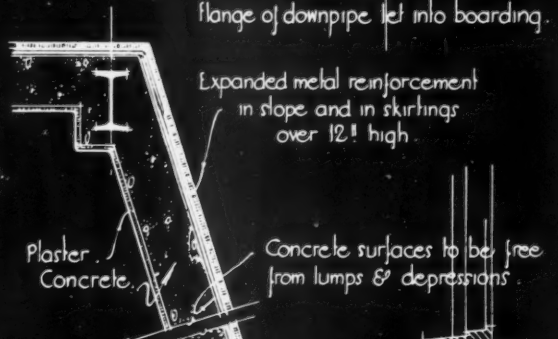


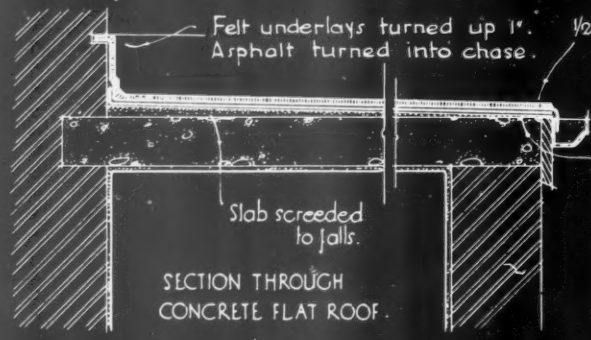
SKYLIGHT & CESSPOOL DETAILS (WOOD ROOFS)



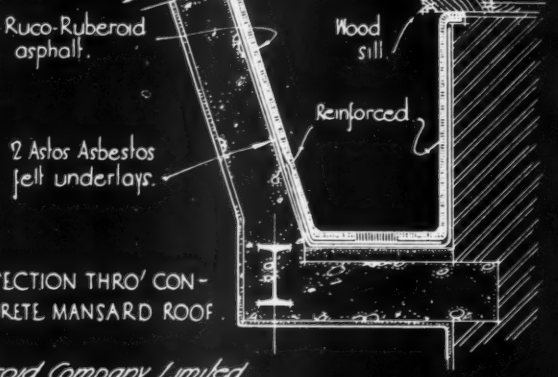


SECTION THRO' FLAT ROOF SHOWING WOOD KERB.





SECTION THROUGH CONCRETE FLAT ROOF.



SECTION THRO' CONCRETE MANSARD ROOF.

Issued by The Ruberoid Company Limited.

INFORMATION SHEET : BUILT-UP ROOFING, Nº G : ASPHALT FINISH ON WOOD OR CONCRETE

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ROOFING

Subject : Ruberoid 6 : Asphalte-finished Built-up Roofing for Wood and Concrete Roofs.

Description :

This Sheet illustrates the application of Ruco Ruberoid asphalte finish to Standard Built-up Ruberoid roofing. The surface is suitable for chairs, wheeled or foot traffic, and may be applied under these conditions to verandahs, sun parlours, terraces, etc., as well as to boarded or concrete flat roofs of every description.

If desired, the materials can be applied to curved and sloping roof surfaces of wood and concrete.

When applied to boarded roofs, the Company's specification letter for this type of roofing is F, and to concrete roofs, L. In each case a variety of alternative materials may be employed for the built-up underlayers, and these are listed in catalogue No. 326.

To prevent dry rot in timber construction, adequate ventilation should be provided between roof boarding and ceiling.

Construction :

Boarded roofs should consist of 1 in. T. and G. or 1½ in. rough boarding close-butted, and all upstanding edges should be planed down and nail heads well sunk.

Concrete roof surfaces should be correctly graded to falls and free from lumps or depressions. All surfaces should be protected from frost, and free from any excess of moisture or tendency to crumble. Tapered guide laths should be used to ensure a regular slope on flat roofs. The minimum fall recommended for all surfaces is 2 in. in 10 ft.

For the best results, the underlayers should consist of not less than two layers of single-coated 75 lb. Astos Asbestos Felt, which become fused under the ½ in. asphalte. The total weight of this finish is 697 lbs. per 100 sq. ft.

When price permits, the upper layer may consist of Astos Asbestos Roofing, when the total weight becomes 711½ lb. per 100 sq. ft.

Fire Resistance :

Flat roofs of Ruco Ruberoid Mastic Asphalte are fireproof, and comply in this respect with the requirements of the London Building Act (1935) and The Ministry of Health Model By-laws.

Application :

This type of Ruberoid roof should be laid by the Manufacturer's specialists only. The work includes upturns, flashings and gutters of asphalte as shown in the drawings, and the provision of expanded metal reinforcement in upturns over 12 in. high, and in the asphalte of all mansard and similarly sloped roofs.

Previous Sheets :

Previous Sheets dealing with Ruberoid roofing and water-proofing materials are Nos. 267, 304, 402, 404, 407, 873, 876, 878, 881 and 885.

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THE CLIENTS

1. *Margaret Darnell* (14, *Student*), *Morse Group. First member of Junior Section to qualify for Senior Section. Spoke of the difficulties when beginners mix with advanced members in the limited accommodation provided for youth clubs in school buildings.* **2.** *John Seaward* (20, *Analytical Chemist*), *Debate Group. Expressed his "wants" on cloak rooms, hobbies, lighting, heating, sports field and changing rooms. Had definite ideas on shape and lighting of a youth dance hall.* **3.** *Jean Hepden* (19, *Bank Clerk*) *Members Chairman. Stressed for Dramatic Group the many difficulties when numerous activities proceeded at the same time in school halls and classrooms.* **4.** *Anthony Miller* (16, *Student*), *Shorthand and Debate Group. Had ideas on accommodation and elevational treatment.* **5.** *Gwen Darnell* (17, *Chemist's Assistant*). *Spoke for Morse and First Aid Groups.* **6.** *J. Barber* (18, *Architects' Pupil*), *Dramatic and Debate Group. Spoke on architectural style.* **7.** *Ken Hillier* (19, *Student*), *Debate Group: Members Committee and Executive Committee. Wrote paper on his ideas for youth centre, a part of which is included in the following article.* **8.** *John Kerly* (18, *Stationer*), *Concert Party and Dramatics Group. Referred to difficult rehearsals during other group activities.* **9.** *Barbara Millburn* (19, *In Business*). *Spoke as principal player for Dramatic Group and illustrated difficulties of present accommodation.* **10.** *D. King* (19, *In Business*). *Dealt with requirements of Rhythm and Gramophone groups.* **11.** *Norman Long* (18, *Civil Servant*), *Members Representative on the Executive Committee. Plays classical and dance music for the club and spoke for the Music Group.*

1 Margaret Darnell (14)

2 John Seaward (20)

3 Jean Hepden (19)

4 Anthony Miller (16)

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8 John Kerly (18)

9 Barbara Millburn (19)

10 D. King (19)

11 Norman Long (18)

YOUTH CENTRE

[BY STANLEY H. SMITH]

St. Stephen's Youth Club came into being to satisfy the absence of the social enjoyment of leisure, cultural and social interests and to provide a meeting place where friendships could be formed under almost ideal conditions. It has run well into the second year. . . . The club constitution provides for the running of the club by a members committee of eight, with the guidance, assistance and sympathetic co-operation of voluntary adults, who combine to make an executive of four members and four adults with the President, Mr. F. E. Geary, M.ED., B.A., in the chair. It was in such an atmosphere that our architect friend, Mr. S. H. Smith, A.R.I.B.A., came along and sought from youth itself its own requirements as to the Ideal Youth Centre. Ronald F. Miller, Hon. Secretary.

It was from a chance remark to the effect that a section of the St. Stephen's Youth Club, Bush Hill Park, London, were discussing their views of an Ideal Youth Club that I decided to offer my services as a medium of co-ordinating and transmitting their own ideas to paper. This offer being accepted, a committee was formed consisting of representatives from each club activity, and a series of meetings held, at which the members put forward suggestions in relation to their particular interest. In addition to the committee, individual members were allowed to submit ideas in a written paper. The following is a typical example :—

" The scheme considered is for a club of not more than 300 members.

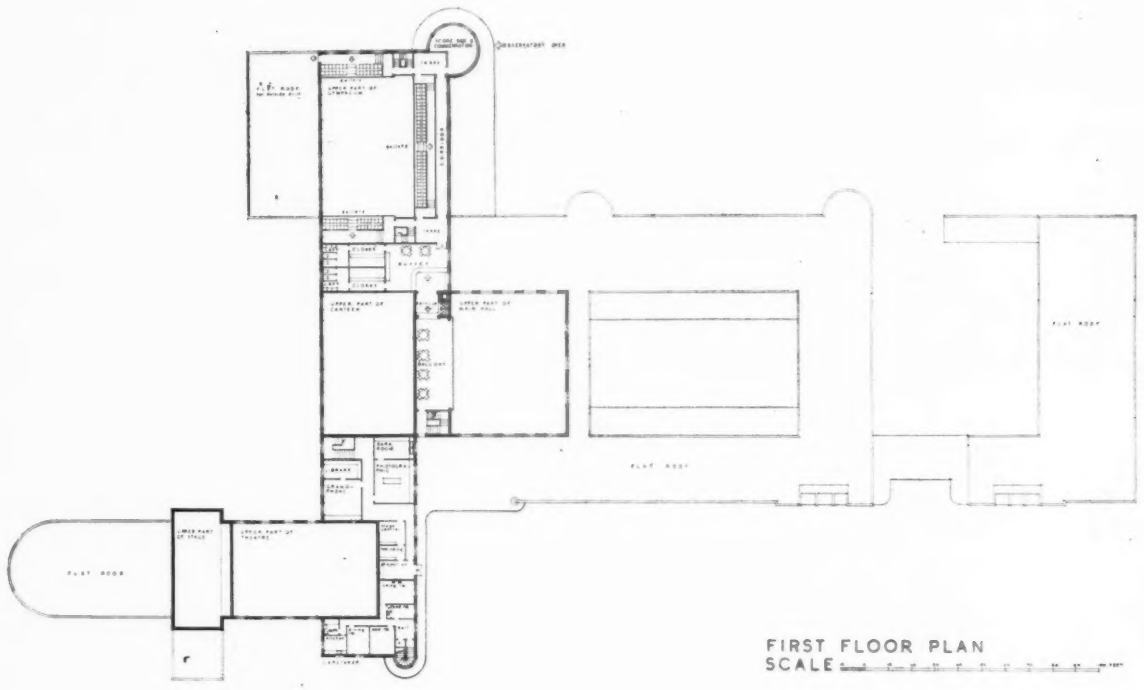
Entrance Hall.—This should be after the style of a cinema foyer, and have room for all notices and some method for registration and collection of subscriptions. I think the idea of a cinema pay box useful. The club office should be here, and a room after the style of a board room for committee meetings. The committees would have no more than 12 to 20 members, but I suggest a small public gallery be built so that the ordinary club members might see how some committee meetings went.

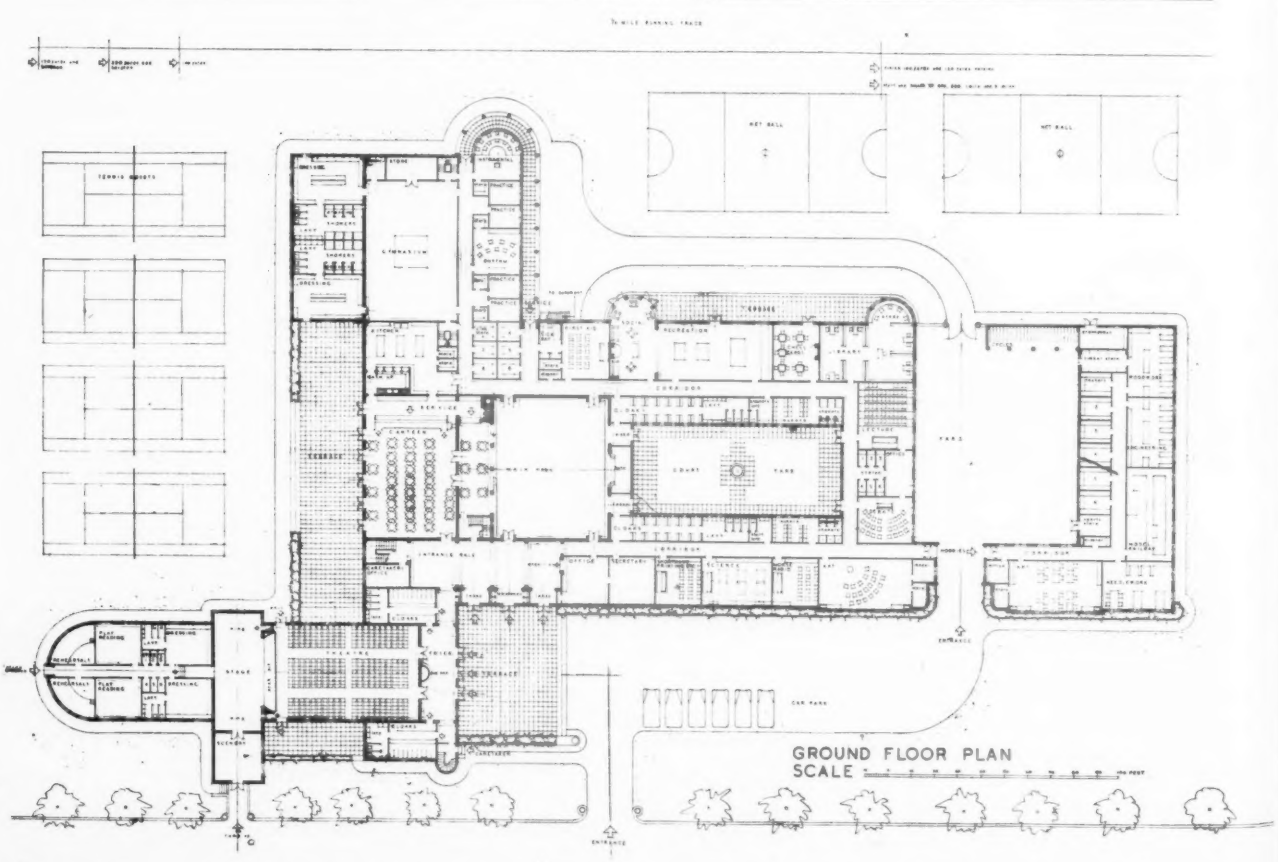
The essential part of a Youth Club is the room where the whole club can get together. There are two such places.

1. **The Large Hall.**—This should be about twice the size of the Raglan hall, and more in proportion in height. The floor should not be parquet, as this, though silent, is very difficult for dancing, which would take place here. At one end should be a large well-equipped stage, and also included in a separate room should be some method of film and slide projection. The question of sound projection should not be overlooked.

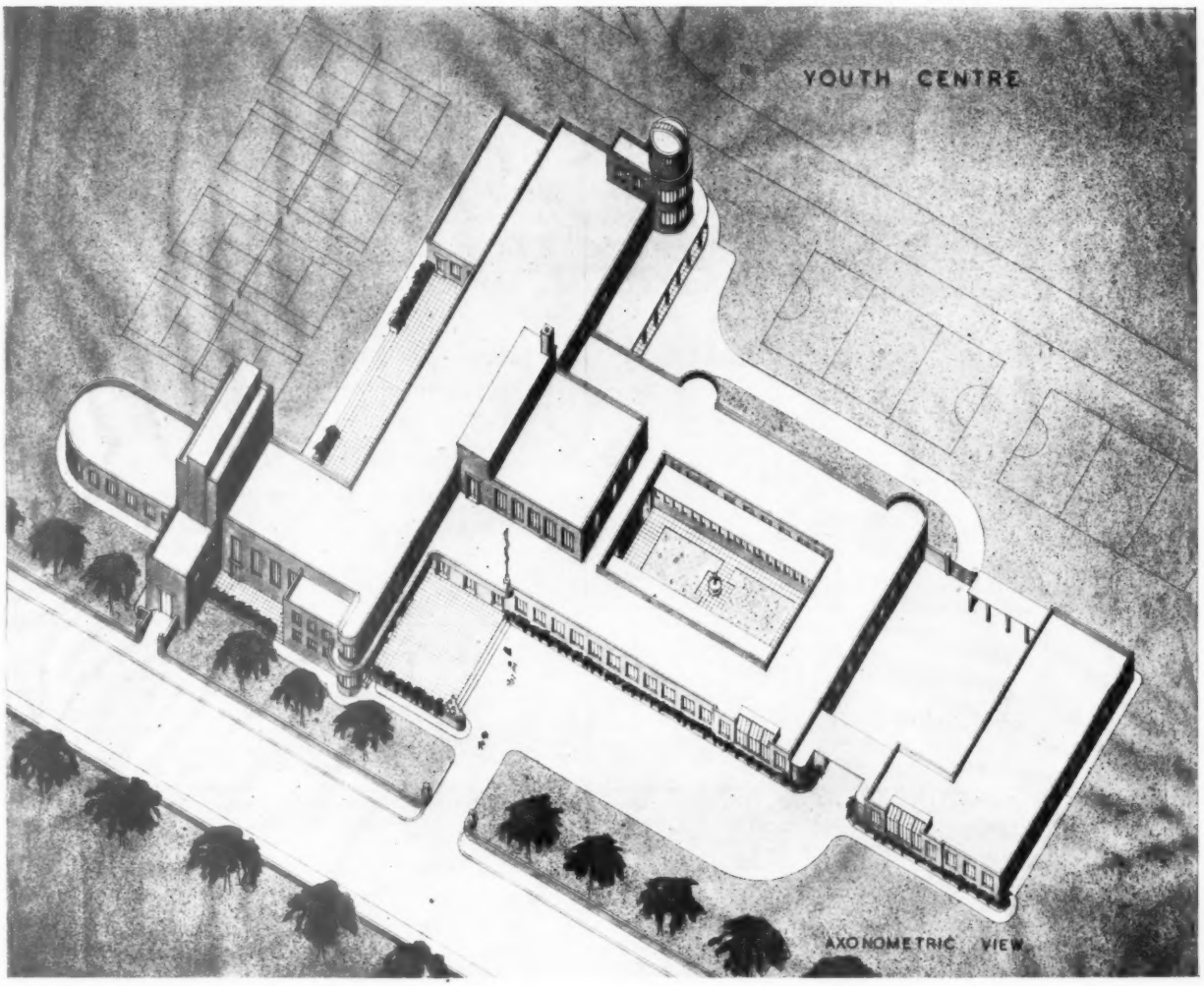
2. **The Canteen.**—This should be a large room and I suggest, as it forms part of the summer games system, that at least one side could be made by folding windows to open on to a balcony or verandah, or if on ground level, overlooking the sports field. It should be well equipped and capable of holding the full club for teas, etc.

I consider that there should be twelve separate smaller rooms for group work, dramatic, debating, etc. These should have only tables and chairs in them, and be capable





IDEAL YOUTH CENTRE: *BY STANLEY H. SMITH*



of holding thirty people. No special equipment is necessary, though I suggest that two of these rooms be given good acoustic properties to allow them to be used by a gramophone and orchestral group respectively.

Two further rooms should be provided, one equipped with benches and a small lathe and tools for handicrafts, and a second one for domestic handicrafts, with possibly a simple loom. These two rooms should be capable of producing both scenery and costumes for any dramatic or other show.

A second large room should be equipped as a gymnasium, and could be used for two table tennis tables as well. Nearby should be four changing rooms complete with shower baths, and another room similar to the entrance hall should lead on to the sports field, this room to be used as a sports pavilion. There should be asphalte tennis courts, netball courts and squash courts in addition to a sports field having netball, hockey, soccer and rugby football pitches. And, for the summer, tennis courts and cricket as well as rounders pitches.

The interior decoration of the rooms should not resemble school rooms too closely. Warm colours should be used, and mainly diffused lighting. I should have already mentioned that one room should be equipped for art.

Steel tube chairs should be used throughout. These are most convenient, and can be made attractive by using a distinctive club fabric for the seats and backs. The use of chairs will greatly facilitate the change over from dancing to concert hall, which will be necessary sometimes during the evenings.

Each room should have adequate storage space. The stage should have a good scenery dock. Additional cupboards to be made where possible.

A library equipped with reference books would also be used for chess. Darts and other games of that nature should take place in the canteen.

Certain rooms used by the debating and dramatic groups should have radio sets and television, for much material of use is relayed in the form of talks. Next to the projection room should be a dark room fitted for photographic work. Certain other movable equipment will probably suggest itself to group leaders, and some provision of this, for example, a printing press or duplicating press, and a map holder."

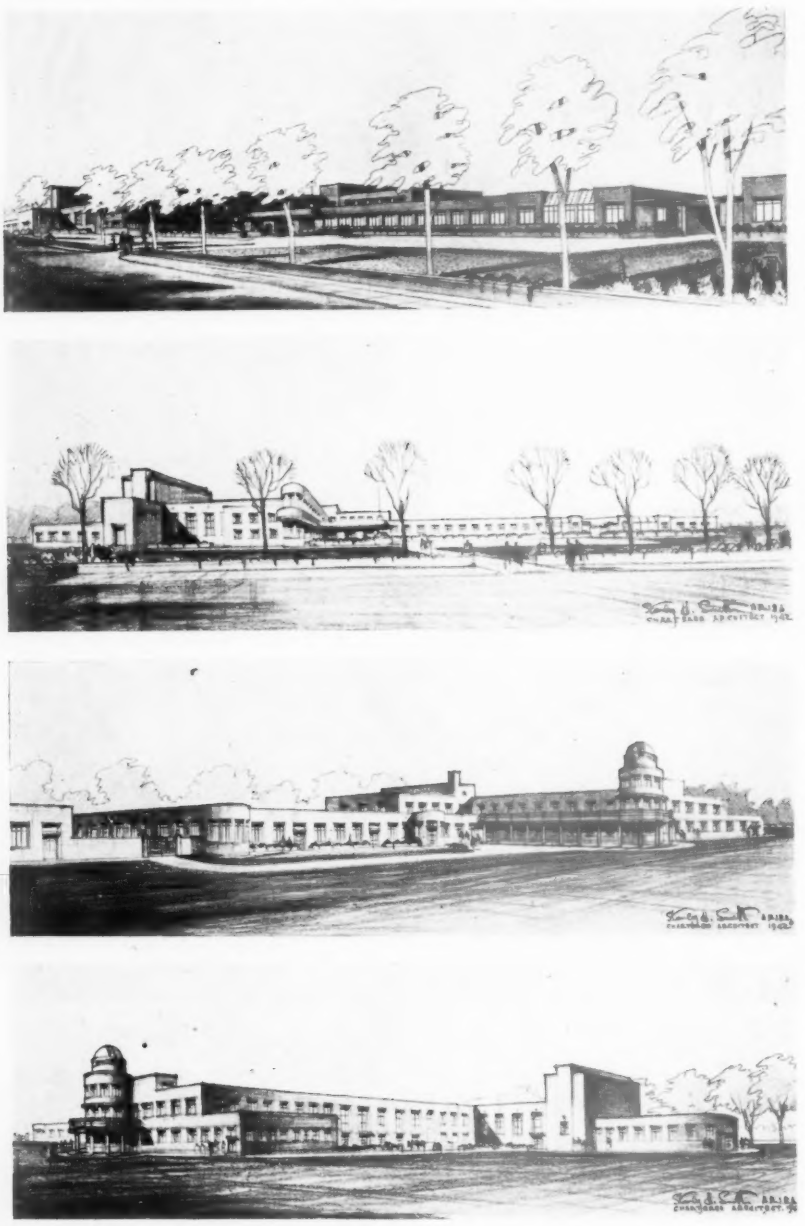
My purpose was solely to put down on paper the ideas raised, and in no way to influence the members as to what should be provided in regard to accommodation, but only to give advice on such matters as the limitations of construction and materials.

When all the ideas had been collected, the preliminary sketch plans were prepared, together with perspective drawings, to give members an idea of what the completed building would look like. These sketch plans were put before the full club and explained in detail. Suggestions were invited, and these resulted in many useful ideas being put forward as to the disposition of the various rooms. As the result of these suggestions the plan was amended, and the final sketch plans were then prepared of what Youth considers is the Ideal Centre for its own use.

Not all the suggestions put forward by the members have been incorporated in the plan. The committee decided themselves that while the scheme was for an Ideal Centre it had to be kept to some extent within reasonable limits.

The choice of architectural style was put to the vote of the full club. This was in favour of a simple modern treatment, subject in certain cases to alteration if the club was to be built in a locality having a marked traditional style, and also by the choice of local materials.

The equipment, furnishing, maintenance and running of the Centre was investigated, and while it is not possible to give full details of these items here,



Ideal Youth Centre. By Stanley H. Smith. From top to bottom, two sketches of main front and of views from sports field and tennis courts.

the following is a synopsis of the suggestions made and the accommodation recommended by the committee, more or less in the phraseology given to me by the members.

SCHEDULE OF ACCOMMODATION

The idea of the youth centre is that it would provide facilities for all the youth clubs in a town or district, and each club would have entire use of the premises for one night each week, except the hobbies block, which would be available at other times.

Representatives of the Various Groups on the Committee.—1, Dramatic; 2, Debating; 3, Musical (*a*) Rhythm, (*b*) Gramophone, (*c*) Instrumental; 4, Morse Signalling and Wireless; 5, First Aid; 6, Photographic; 7, Art; 8, Shorthand; 9, Hobbies; 10, Sports.

Dramatic.—The question was discussed as to the main hall being for the dramatic group. It has been found in practice that this is not satisfactory, as the hall might be occupied by another group, and it is not possible to obtain the required privacy and atmosphere necessary for rehearsals and play reading, therefore a separate theatre should be provided.

The theatre should have separate entrance from the club entrance so that it may be used independently on the occasions when a show is being given and the remainder of the centre is occupied. The theatre to have seating capacity of 400, consideration to be given to the provision of a balcony. There should be a sloping floor with fixed seats, a properly equipped stage with dressing rooms, etc., a control room connected to stage by microphone for control of lighting, etc., and a film projection room. The theatre will be used for any special lectures.

Provide two rooms for rehearsals, and two rooms for play reading. A large scenery store will be required. This would be a central store for the use of all clubs using the centre. Stage to be fitted with a microphone. Each club will require store for music and scripts.

Debating.—A room to seat 20 to 30 people, to have an intimate atmosphere and a raised platform with reading desk. In addition to the debating room there should be a lecture room to seat 40 to 50 for visiting lecturers; allow for lantern screen. Store for papers, etc., separate accommodation for each club, and a room where debate papers can be prepared, this would also serve as reception room for the visiting lecturers.

Musical.—These rooms to be isolated as much as possible so as not to cause nuisance to other groups: (*a*) Rhythm. Room to be large enough to take six players, and have blackboard for illustrating the theory of music and for lectures. Room to be soundproof, consideration to be given to the acoustics. Radiogram and record store. (*b*) Gramophone. Room to be soundproof and wired up to the theatre for musical accompaniment at shows, etc. There should be microphone, twin turntable gramophone and record store. (*c*) Instrumental. Room to be large enough for 12 players. Stores should be provided for music, chairs and music stands, and small rooms in order that separate players may practise. The large room to be arranged so as to serve as a bandstand for the sports field by providing folding windows.

Morse Signalling and Wireless.—One room only required, with necessary benches and acid-proof cupboard for accumulators. This room could be used for amateur transmitting and radio.

First Aid and Home Nursing.—This room should be near the sports field and gymnasium, so that it may deal, if required, with accidents. Small room required off the main one to serve as a model sick bay and rest room, and a store for bandages, etc.

Photographic.—The suggested position is adjoining the projection room in the theatre, to serve cine and camera members. Dark room with sink and other necessary equipment.

Art.—Large room necessary where drawing, modelling and craft work can be carried out, special consideration to be given to the lighting. Sink, all necessary equipment, and store cupboards should be provided.

Shorthand.—Nothing special required in this room, it will be of school classroom type.

HOBBIES

Note: the following rooms should be in a separate block connected by a covered way to the main building, but having separate entrance so members may work here on other than their own club nights if they wish. It should also be separated on account of noise from the workshops.

Woodwork.—To have benches and all necessary equipment. Provide wood store outside, but so designed that timber may be drawn from the shop side.

Engineering.—To be fitted with lathes, drilling machines, etc., and have store and washing facilities.

Needlework and Domestic Science.—Should have sewing machines, ironing tables and cutting-out tables, etc.

Model Railway.—Room to be left bare. The members would decorate and fix it up themselves, but there should be battens round the walls for the fixing of the track table.

Art Room.—This is in addition to the art room in the main building, and would be for the use of members wishing to carry out work on their own after having received instruction in the main building, and on nights other than their own club. This room would be fitted up in the same manner as the main art room.

Lockers.—Lockers will be required, contained in a separate room for each club, for storing their work, overalls, etc.

Stores.—Accommodation for groundsman and sports equipment.

OTHER ACCOMMODATION IN MAIN BUILDING

Main Hall.—This would be used for club dances, meetings, assembly, etc. If anything

PATENT WELDED TUBULAR CONSTRUCTION

Data Sheet No. 9

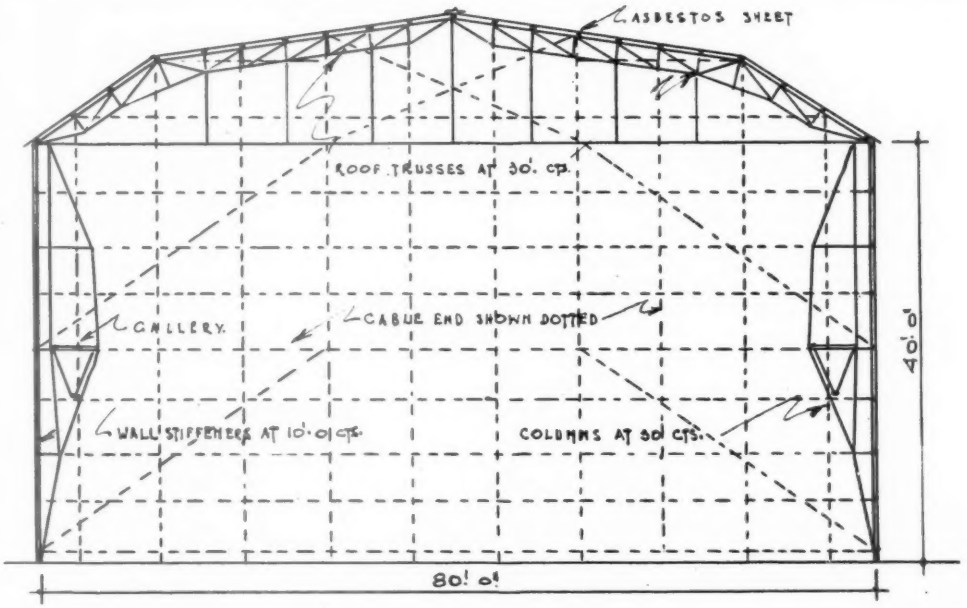
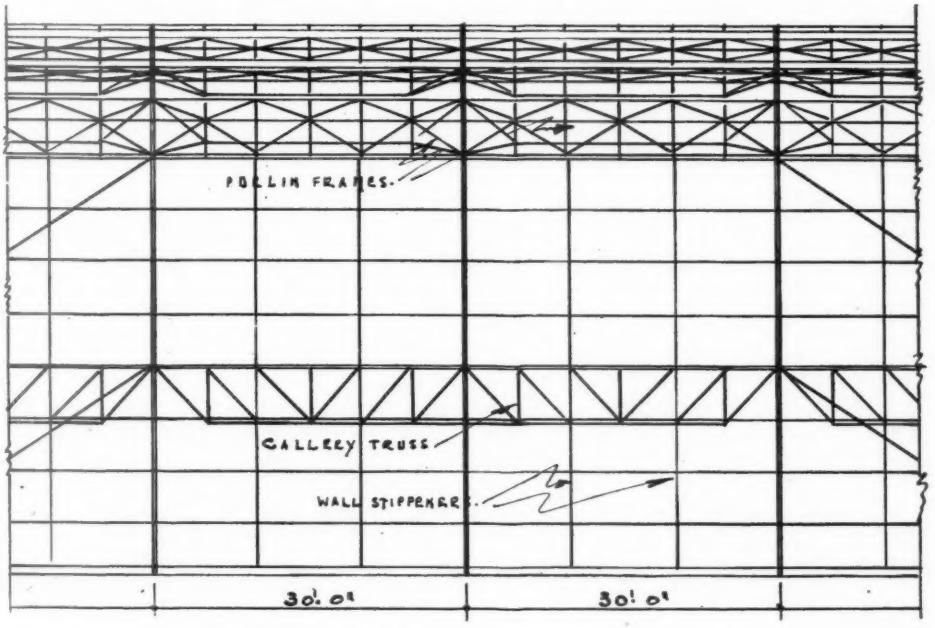


Fig. 20 (left). Tubular frame construction for an 80' span building.

Fig. 21 (below). Elevation detail.



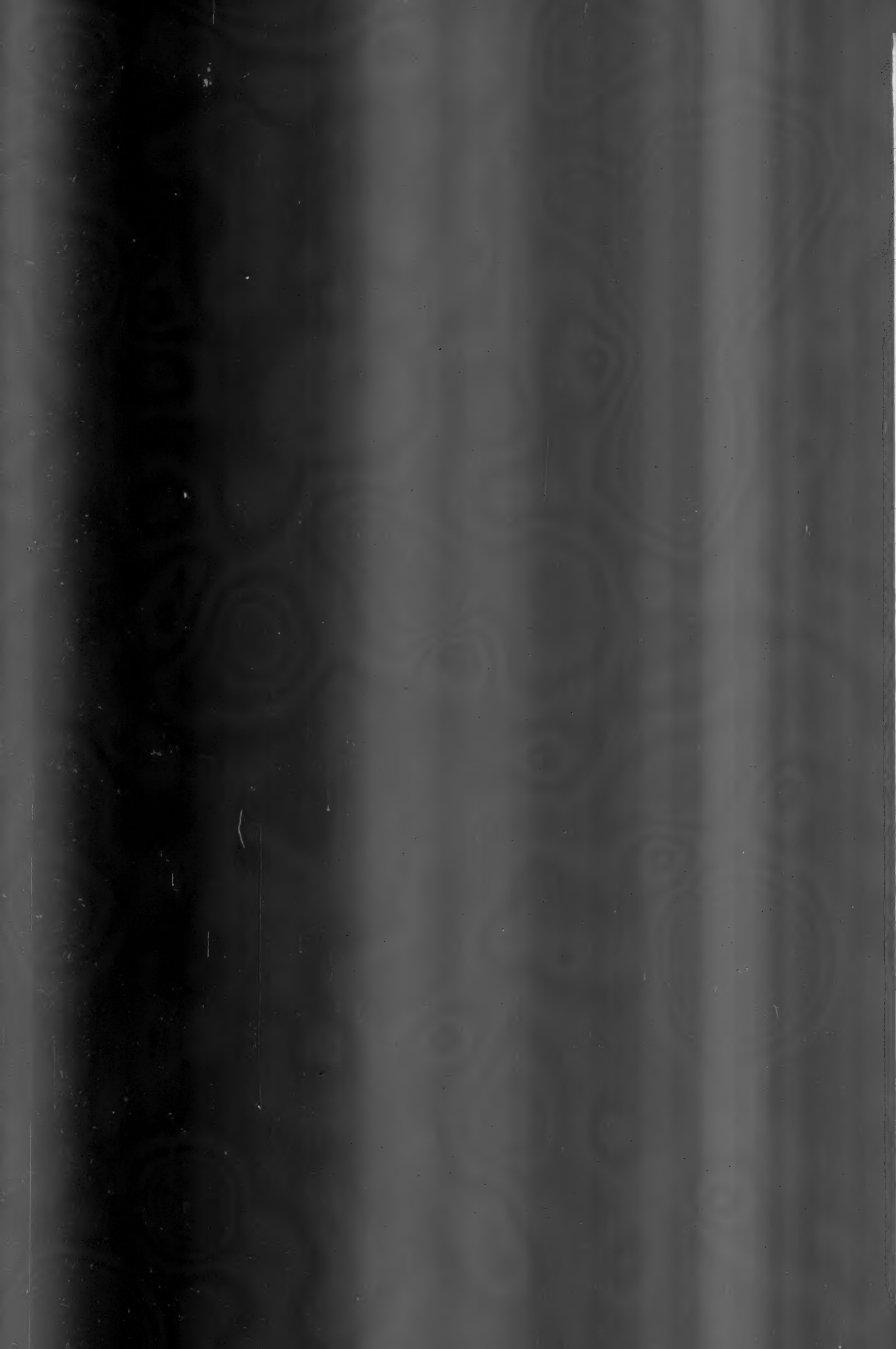
80' SPAN STRUCTURE

Previous sheets have dealt with the lighter type of structural steel assembly. For larger structures, of any dimension, welded tubular steel construction is equally flexible and adaptable, and has been shewn to effect a saving in steel tonnage of nearly 50 per cent.

The frame construction shewn in Fig. 20 (elevation in Fig. 21) was designed as the housing for a model stage at a film production centre. This structure has a clear span of 80 ft., is 120 ft. in length and the height to the eaves is 40 ft.; the roof trusses and the tubular columns are placed at 30 ft. centres. Along either side, and extending the whole length of the structure, is a gallery supported on tubular trusses. The whole of the exterior is covered with asbestos-cement sheeting.

The tonnage of this particular structure is 37.5, and cost details, inclusive of delivery and erection, but excluding floors and foundations, are available.

NOTE.—These data sheets are appearing weekly in THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL *—they are now available in complete Folder form and application for these Folders should be addressed to Scaffolding [Great Britain] Limited, 77, Easton Street, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.*



its shape should be square.

Space is necessary at the side of the hall for people not dancing. It has been found that chairs round a hall are not satisfactory, as they get in the way of dancers, therefore this sitting out space should be separated from the main floor by steps or columns. As the ceiling of the sitting out space would be lower than the main hall this would allow a balcony over and provide accommodation for watching displays, Morris Dancing, etc.

Refreshments for a dance would be served in the sitting out space and the balcony (with service lift from the kitchen) if the theatre was being used on the same night as the hall, otherwise the canteen may be used.

Provide alcove on side of hall for band, spot lights, etc., on the balcony front, and microphones. Facilities should be arranged for easy erection of decorations in several halls. This has been found a very difficult matter.

Canteen.—Should be a large room capable of catering for dances, dramatic shows, sports days, etc., light meals, tea and coffee obtained from self-service counters having hot plates, etc. Separate kitchen or preparation room which will also be used by members interested in cookery and helping in the preparation of refreshments. Separate wash-up. From here the crockery will be passed to the kitchen for storage. Special consideration to be given to design of these china cupboards which should not be too deep. Cupboards to have glass sliding doors.

Gymnasium.—Properly equipped gymnasium with boxing ring, etc. Dressing rooms with showers, etc., designed so that it will also serve the sports field. Artificial lighting to be of type not affected by footballs, etc.

It was suggested that the gymnasium might be utilized for table tennis, but not agreed, as it will be required most nights for gymnastics. Stores for equipment when not required as this round the walls is unsightly at displays, and also restricts the floor space.

Recreation Rooms.—Main recreation room with full size billiard table, two table tennis, darts board, etc. The table tennis tables should be across the room so that players do not have to chase length of room to retrieve the balls. Raised platform for watching games and also while waiting turn for game. Social room with easy chairs, etc., to be designed as recess off the main recreation room. Separate room for cards, chess, etc.

Library.—Provided with technical books, fiction not included, would be for reference only. An alcove off the library for study. The book shelves to be arranged on the alcove system with tables and chairs in between for reading.

Central Committee.—Provide near main entrance of centre an office with enquiries counter, and also office for permanent secretary.

Caretaker, etc.—There should be a flat for the caretaker near main entrance, office and store for caretaker, cleaners cloakroom, and cleaners stores fitted with sink, etc., at various points in building. Main vacuum plant with points around building. All windows to be pivot for cleaning from inside building. Access for refuse disposal.

Committee Rooms.—It was not considered necessary to have special accommodation. Any room not in use could be utilized.

Observatory.—As a tower was likely to be provided in the scheme as an architectural feature or tank room, it was suggested that an observatory should be placed on top of this, together with a workshop.

Cloakroom.—Cloakrooms for club members, separate cloakrooms for theatre, and cloakrooms fitted with shower baths and lockers for members coming straight to the centre from work. Lavatory basins to be in ranges fitted with press down taps, mirrors to be on opposite wall to basins.

Stores.—Apart from the stores already mentioned, it will be necessary as the centre will be used by a number of clubs for each to be provided with its own general store. Cycle store fitted with proper racks.

Rifle Range.—If possible to arrange in the scheme without a lot of cost, a rifle range should be provided in the basement.

Boiler Room.—To be in basement and fitted with oil fuel boilers for central heating and hot water.

Sports Field.—One Association football pitch, one rugby football pitch, hockey, netball, tennis (four hardcourts), swimming—plunge bath, cricket table, and cinder running track (¼ mile). Cricket score box combined with accommodation for commentator acting on sports days, etc., and shed for groundsman and sports equipment.

After reading through this list of requirements it may be thought at first that the scheme is too ambitious, but consider the amenities that are provided for youth in the Soviet Union, and then it will be felt that the Centre as designed is even modest in its accommodation.

In the Soviet Union the comparable buildings are called Pioneer Palaces. This is not a misnomer, because in several cases it is the palaces of the former regime that have been given over to the use of youth, and even the new buildings are planned in an equally grand manner as will be seen from the following extracts of an article on Pioneer Palaces by B. L. King in the *Anglo Soviet Journal*, October, 1941.

"At the Leningrad Pioneer Palace the ballroom can accommodate 500 dancers, and has also over 300 rooms for the various activities, the lecture room seats 300."

"In Moscow the Palace has a staff of 150 for indoor and 100 for outdoor services, and has a membership of 8,000, in addition there are 17 Pioneer Houses in Moscow, and these with the Palace have a membership of 20,000."

"In Kharkov the Palace was visited by 10,000 children in 1938, and here the Library contains over 54,000 books."

I do not claim that the scheme is ideal from the architectural angle, or that it has been worked out to its final limit, but it is the first step in finding out from youth itself what should be provided in a centre, and let us trust that one day we shall see erected in our cities the Ideal Youth Centre.

WAR DAMAGE

The War Damage Commission has recently arranged a procedure with respect to payments under Section 8 (3) of the War Damage Act, 1941 (payments in what are now generally known as "hardship cases"). This is proving of considerable benefit to the owners of houses which have been destroyed and on which there is a mortgage (or, in Scotland, bond) outstanding.

The amount which can be advanced by the Commission under Section 8 (3) towards the purchase of alternative accommodation is limited (subject in each case to the maximum of £800) to such amount as can be paid without prejudice to the mortgagee (lender), to whom, under the terms of the Act, the value payment has to be paid. The lender then hands over to the borrower any balance remaining after the mortgage debt has been liquidated. The effect of this is that in an extremely large number of cases the sum of money which can be advanced to the borrower without prejudice to the lender would be entirely inadequate for the purpose of purchasing new accommodation in place of his destroyed home.

Under the new procedure, in which Building Societies and mortgagees generally are co-operating, arrangements are made by the Commission with the claimant and the mortgagee (in Scotland, bondholder) whereby the latter will accept whatever may be his share of the "hardship payment" towards the redemption of the old mortgage and grant a new mortgage to the claimant for a similar (or greater) amount, thus in effect making available towards the provision of alternative accommodation the full sum which the Commission is able to advance under the provisions of the Act.

The scheme is, of course, of especial benefit to the smaller house-owner, and many have already taken advantage of it. The Commission is itself reviewing all past applications for advances which could not be met; if it seems likely that the new procedure will enable an advance to be made, the applicant is being advised accordingly.

SPECIFICATIONS

UTILITY SERVICES

A standard code of practice for the provision of engineering and utility services in building, has been issued by the British Standards Institution. Compiled at the request of the R.I.B.A. by a committee of the Institution, it has been submitted to the Code of Practices Committee of MOWP. The new code covers the following subjects connected with services: advanced planning a schedule of procedure, designs and methods of distribution, proximity, fire risk, transmission of sound and quotas, and some of the principal building bye-laws which might have to be considered in relation to the installation of services. Copies can be obtained from the British Standards Institution, price 2s. 3d. post free.

MASTIC ASPHALT FOR FLOORING

A new British Standard for Mastic Asphalt for Flooring (B.S. 1076/42) has been issued by the British Standards Institution. The issue of this specification does not imply a new process, but is a stage in the standardization of recognized methods which have been practised for many years. The publication of a series of specifications is desirable in order to ensure a standard quality, particularly for those materials which are available at the present time.

The materials covered by this specification have been widely used for many years in mastic asphalt flooring under guarantee of performance, but exclude others which have been successfully used and which will be included in further specifications to be published in due course. As with B.S.988/1941 (Mastic Asphalt for Roofing), the Committee desires to emphasize the fact that this specification is not in itself a wartime formula, that it contains only technical provisions, but does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Copies may be obtained from the British Standards Institution, 28, Victoria Street, S.W.1. Price 2s. (2s. 3d. post free).

WROUGHT STEELS

The British Standards Institution has recently published a revised issue of B.S. 970 for Wrought Steels which was originally issued in July, 1941. It is composed of a series of 58 specifications for wrought and alloy steels, known as the "En Series," which, it is considered, are adequate to cover all the general engineering requirements of industry during the war emergency. This attempted rationalization of the steel industry was, in the early part of 1942, taken a step further, and a "Direction" was issued by the Iron

and Steel Control stating that for general engineering purposes all steels must comply with a reduced range of 44 steels selected from B.S. 970.

When B.S. 970 was first issued it was realized that an early review might be necessary as a result of experience gained in working to the En series. The revision has now been completed, and the principal modifications are listed below :—

(i) Six additional specifications which are sub-divisions of existing steels have been included for special purposes.

(ii) In one or two cases typical chemical compositions within close limits have been provided as alternative to the present specifications. In such cases, requirements for the mechanical properties have not been included.

(iii) Minor adjustments have been made to some of the figures for chemical composition and mechanical properties.

Copies of this revision may be obtained from the British Standards Institution, price 5s. (5s. 5d., post free).

RAILWAY ARCHITECTS CLAIM IMPROVED STATUS

Investigations are being carried out by the Railway Clerks Association into the possibilities of a National Agreement with the Railway Companies on behalf of its professional and technical members for whom no such general agreement exists. Four Drafting Sub-Committees, each consisting exclusively of P. and T. members, are now in being to the end of encompassing the special requirements of each of the several principal groups of P. and T. Staff in the service of the railways.

The architect members of the Drafting Sub-Committee for Architects, Quantity Surveyors and Rates and Taxes Staff have decided that the present is not a ripe moment for architects to enter upon any agreement as regards salaries, and that, therefore, the terms of any proposed agreement on behalf of architects should be confined to conditions of service. They have decided, however, to bring to the notice of the R.C.A. the general lines of the framework to which any possible future agreement affecting architects' salaries would best be related and draw special attention to the unsatisfactory and patchwork results which must ensue unless, at the same time, the current system of superannuation can be considerably remodelled.

The items discussed and agreed upon by the architect members of the sub-committee are the following :

Copyright.—In accordance with Section 5 (1)B of the Copyright Act, 1911, which admits of agreement to the contrary, agreement to the contrary is to be entered upon to the extent that each member of the staff is to retain the unconditional press copyright in his or her work, both architectural and literary.

Rubber Stamp.—Rubber stamps, as now applied to all issued drawings, provide spaces for the names of those who have done the drawing, tracing, colouring, checking. A similar space is to be provided for those who have done the designing. Where no such stamp is used, designers are to have the right to sign their drawings.

Rule Book.—The companies' rule book—a document that is implicitly insulting to any self-respecting professional man besides being contrary to the spirit of any possible agreement on behalf of the architects—is to be replaced by an approved form of contract. New entrants to be provided with copy thereof not less than forty-eight hours prior to engagement.

Designation.—All who are registered architects are to be designated and employed as such, e.g. chief architect, deputy architect, assistant architect. The term architectural assistant is to apply only to unregistered persons.

Separate Department. — The " Architects' Section " of to-day is to become a separate department entitled " Chief Architects' Department." (Not the least purpose of this condition is that of enabling architects more readily to pursue their own work and ways without interference from the companies' so-called staff or establishment personnel—namely, non-professional non-technical people who cannot, apparently, get beyond the idea that the creative life of the architect is to be most fitly measured, not in terms of skill, but in terms of time and hack routine).

Membership of Incorporated Society.—Resignation from membership of an incorporated society (such as the R.I.B.A.) is not to be permitted except on giving in writing to the company concerned not less than one month's notice of the impending resignation.

Hours of Work (not to apply during war).—Five-day week of thirty-five hours. National and Bank Holidays to remain unaffected.

Overtime (not to apply during war).—Overtime to be limited to seventy hours during any one year. Time occupied in travelling on company's service beyond normal working hours not to be reckoned as overtime.

Optional Leave (not to apply during war).—Overtime to be compensated *in principle* by optional leave. Assuming a five-day week of thirty-five hours, optional leave to be limited to 10 days (70 hours) in any one year. Time absent on optional leave to be deducted from pay at normal rate or overtime rate, whichever is the lower. All the usual privileges are to apply.

Annual Leave (not to apply during war).—Assuming a five-day week, annual leave to be the same for all—namely, twenty working days. The maximum flexibility is to apply. the whole amount to be available at one time or parts to be available at different times—one day at a time if desired. Staff who have to consider school holidays to be given priority of choice of time. Leave in first year of service to be *pro rata.*

Expenses on Company's Service.—Expenses allowance when travelling on company's service is to be the same for all.

Travelling on Company's Service.—Class of travel to be the same for all.

Staff Committees.—R.I.B.A. to be consulted. The companies are to recognize the right of the staffs of chief architects' departments to a reasonable share in deciding from time to time what shape and course their own working organization is to take.

W.D.C. REGIONAL OFFICES

Owing to the transfer of Mr. V. P. O'Connor, hitherto Regional Manager at the War Damage Commission's London, South-East, Regional Office (Euston Road), to headquarters for temporary duty, Mr. A. R. Farlam, Regional Manager at the London, South-West, Regional Office (Kingston), is being transferred to Euston Road in place of Mr. O'Connor. Mr. C. E. Cook succeeds Mr. Farlam at the Kingston office. The address of the London, North-East, Regional Office is : Bankside House, 107-112, Leadenhall Street, E.C.3. Telephone No. Avenue 5691.

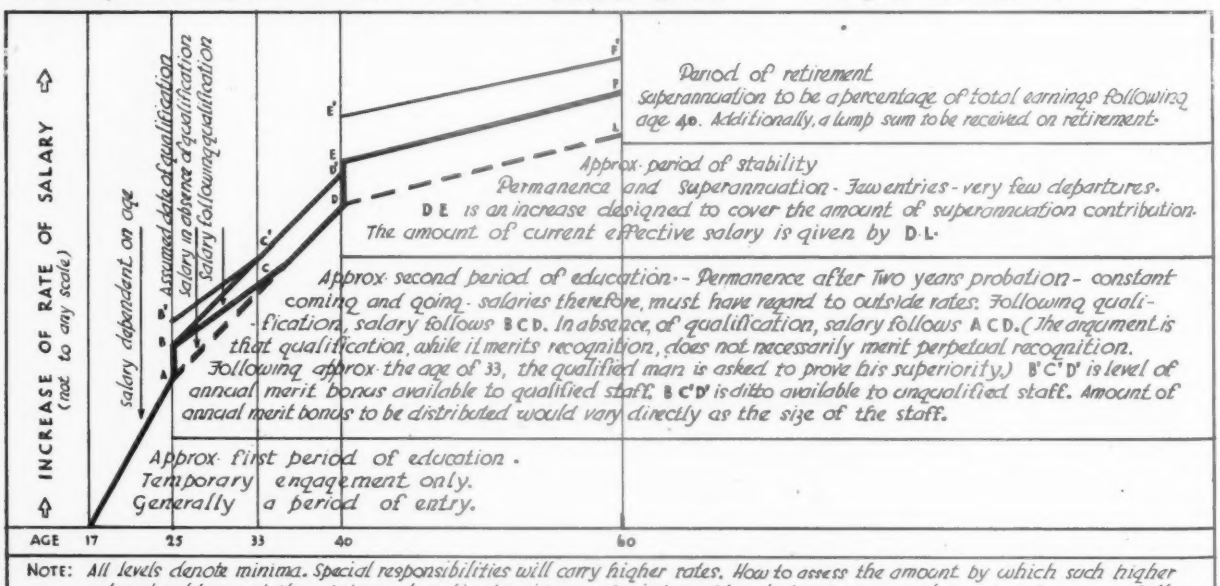


Chart showing salaries (which are dependent on age) and conditions of employment of railway architects.

FACTS ABOUT GLASS FOR ARCHITECTURAL STUDENTS

USES — No. 5 Cathedral Glass

The apparatus used to demonstrate the properties of these Glasses consists of a white opal tube lamp 4¼" behind Clear Glass, and a ½" wood strip, painted black on a white background. Each type of glass in turn is placed in front of this, so that its properties may be illustrated.

USES

Cathedral Glasses are used for internal partitions, windows of rooms where partial privacy is desired, and also in factory glazing where direct vision is not essential.

★

SPECIFICATION

The groups of glasses described here possess a varying and progressive degree of light diffusion and privacy, and the photographs demonstrating these properties indicate the most suitable type for any specific purpose.

Non-formal Textures :

The surface, textured on one side, just gives sufficient obscurity to prevent clear vision through the glass.

Semi-formal Patterns :

A slight, semi-formal pattern on one surface gives a brightness to the appearance of the glass and partly obscures vision

The patterns shown are approximately ¼ actual size.

TRADE NOTES

Leonard-Thermostatic Water Mixers.

All modern large industrial establishments, as well as buildings such as schools, universities, clubs, hotels and restaurants, are provided with a complete equipment of wash basins and other lavatory accommodation. often including showers and baths, which require a large amount of warm water. During the past few years great advances have been made in this field, and especially for dealing with conditions of hundreds of people wanting to wash more or less at the same time.

The old method of running cold and very hot water out of two taps into a wash basin not only represents a considerable waste of time, but is also very inefficient because of the loss of water. A much more efficient method is to supply warm water at the necessary temperature, such as 105-110°F., through a single tap to each basin or washtrough, also in the form of a spray instead of a solid jet.

There is much to be said for the use of washing troughs of fire-clay, porcelain, cast iron or steel, or zinc-lined wood, instead of small separate basins. Still more efficient are the new designs of very large circular wash basins at which half a dozen people can wash at one time, and in all cases in running clean water.

For the supply of the large amount of warm water necessary of great interest are the Leonard-Thermostatic Mixers, available in three standard types, T, R and D, made by Walker, Crosweller and Co., Ltd., Whaddon Works, Cheltenham, Glos. By the use of these mixers very hot water at any desired temperature can, it is stated, be mixed continuously and blended water discharged at the desired temperature which is maintained automatically at a constant figure irrespective of fluctuations in the temperature and the pressure at the cold and the hot inlets. The temperature required is adjusted merely by operating an indicating handle.

Incidentally, for showers and baths the usual temperature is 105°F., but for special cases, such as de-contamination and first-aid centres for dealing with gas poisoning cases, the best temperature is approximately 95°F., which often applies also in hospitals.

In general these types of mixers, available in a considerable range of sizes, are on the same principle, that is the use of a powerful thermostatic bi-metal strip coil which, while being very powerful, is extremely sensitive in movement to slight change in temperature.

Accordingly, the desired figure for the blended warm water is maintained automatically because the thermostatic bi-metal coil operates inlet valves for the hot water and the cold water and adjusts these almost instantaneously, opening or closing accordingly one or the other to keep the temperature constant. The two metals used in making the bi-metal coil are non-corrodible, and the whole apparatus is small and compact in size, and is easily fixed on a wall or in any other convenient position, whilst the whole design is extremely simple in spite of its sensitiveness and accuracy, characteristic of thermostatic coil control in general.

ENGLISH TOWN EXHIBITION

Ten Societies are collaborating to promote an exhibition of photographs and other illustrations to be held in the Spring of 1943. The intention is to illustrate by appropriate English examples our national tradition as shown in the growth of typical towns and villages which have become famous for their architectural value, together with the interest of their civic or domestic environment. Active preparatory work is in progress, and promises of much material and financial help are forthcoming. The following societies are combining to produce and finance this exhibition :—

Council for the Preservation of Rural England, Ecclesiological Society, Georgian Group, London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, London Society, Metropolitan Public Gardens Association, National Trust, Scapa Society, Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, Town and Country Planning Association.

Offers of individual assistance will be welcomed by the Honorary Secretary, Mr. J. Dudley Daymond, 4, Grange Court, 31, Christchurch Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.2 (Tulse Hill 6263), on behalf of the Exhibition Committee.

MOWP LICENCES

MOWP has issued the following notice concerning the Control of Whiting, Chalk and Chalk Lime Order (S.R. & O. 1942, No. 2296). Many persons who have not received written notice have applied to MOWP for licences. Much time and paper will be saved if producers, distributors and users of the specified materials will note that they do not require a licence unless they receive notice (which may be given to them by the Minister at any time) in accordance with Article I of the Order.

BOOKS ON DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE

SMALL HOUSES, £500-£2,500
Edited by H. Myles Wright, A.R.I.B.A.

This book contains photographs and plans of a large number of houses of widely different types. A selection of interior views is also included, and to every house is appended a descriptive note giving particulars of the site, plan, construction, services, equipment, cost, etc. Price 7s. 6d. Postage 7d.

THE MODERN HOUSE
By F. R. S. Yorke, A.R.I.B.A.

This book is divided into six sections: Introduction—Plan—Walls and Windows—Roof—Experimental Houses—General Illustrations. This last section contains over 140 pages of photographs, plans, constructional details and descriptions of English, American and Continental houses. Price 21s. Postage 8d.

THE MODERN HOUSE IN ENGLAND
Edited by F. R. S. Yorke, A.R.I.B.A.

Comprising the contents of the December, 1936, *Architectural Review*, with a number of additional examples of modern English houses built since then. The illustrations are accompanied by notes on the construction and materials. 144 pages, including 350 photographs, plans and drawings. Price 15s. Postage 7d.

WEEK-END HOUSES, COTTAGES & BUNGALOWS
Edited by Alan Hastings

The first part deals with houses and cottages in England, the second with week-end houses abroad, and the third with bungalows. 112 pages, including photographs, plans and full particulars including cost. Price 7s. 6d. Postage 7d.

THE MODERN FLAT
By F. R. S. Yorke, A.R.I.B.A., and F. Gibberd, A.I.A.A.

Following 32 pages of illustrated introduction and 168 pages of exterior and interior views, scale plans, details, diagrams and tabular information about blocks of flats built in recent years in England, Europe and the U.S.A. Price £1 10s. Postage 8d. inland.

ECONOMY IN HOUSE DESIGN
By Edwin Gunn, A.R.I.B.A.

Containing about 100 pages the book is essentially practical throughout and is fully illustrated by clear and self-explanatory drawings made by the author. Price 7s. 6d. Postage 7d.

A HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH HOUSE
By Nathaniel Lloyd, O.B.E., F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.

This is the most authoritative history of the English house which has ever been published and contains, in addition to text, nearly nine hundred illustrations. Price £3 3s. net. Postage 1s. inland.

The Publisher's complete catalogue will be sent on application to:

THE ARCHITECTURAL PRESS . *War Address:* 45 The Avenue . Cheam . Surrey

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements should be addressed to the Advt. Manager, "The Architects' Journal." War Address: 45 The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey, and should reach there by first post on Monday morning for inclusion in the following week's paper.

Replies to Box Numbers should be addressed care of "The Architects' Journal." War Address: 45 The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey.

Public and Official Announcements

Six lines or under, 8s.; each additional line, 1s.

The Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors maintains a register of qualified architects and surveyors (including assistants) requiring posts, and invites applications from public authorities and private practitioners having staff vacancies. Address: **75 Eaton Place, London, S.W.1. Tel.: Sloane 5615** 991

THE NORTHERN POLYTECHNIC.

The Governing Body of the Northern Polytechnic will shortly consider applications for appointment as full-time or part-time teachers of
ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN,
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND WORKING DRAWINGS.
Intending applicants are invited to communicate immediately with the Head of the Department of Architecture, Surveying & Building, Northern Polytechnic, Holloway, London, N.7. 842

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER.

Applications are invited for the post of Temporary Assistant in the Department of Architecture, for a period of one year, from January, 1943. Stipend £400—£500, according to qualifications. Applications to be sent **not later than December 29th, 1942,** to the Registrar, the University, Manchester, 13, from whom further particulars may be obtained.
NORMAN SMITH,
Registrar.
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GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for FOUR Temporary Planning Assistants; two with special experience in Architecture, one with experience in Valuations and Forestry and one with experience in Engineering Works. Salary in each case will be between £312 and £364 per annum, plus war bonus (now £33 16s. 0d. per annum) and travelling allowances according to County Council scale. Higher salary will be paid to applicants who have passed examination of Joint Planning Board and are Associate Members of Town Planning Institute. Successful applicants will be required to pass a medical examination and to contribute to Superannuation Fund. Applicants must be above military age or exempt from service. Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience should reach the County Planning Officer, St. John's Lane, Gloucester, on or before December 23.
RICHARD L. MOON,
Clerk of the County Council
843

Architectural Appointments Vacant

Advertisements from Architects requiring Assistants or Draughtsmen, and from Assistants and Draughtsmen seeking positions in Architects' offices will be printed in "The Architects' Journal" free of charge until further notice. Other "Appointments Vacant" and "Wanted" will be found under later headings, and are subject to the charges given under each heading.

Wherever possible prospective employers are urged to give in their advertisement full information about the duty and responsibilities involved, the location of the office, and the salary offered. The inclusion of the Advertiser's name in lieu of a box number is welcomed.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (temporary) required in office of Local Authority (London area). Salary £300–£350. Must be exempt from military service. Box 848.

Architectural Appointments Wanted

ARCHITECT'S ASSISTANT, 23 years, exempt military service. Studying for R.I.B.A. Final. Able to carry out all forms of Architectural drawings from ¼-in. scale working drawings to full-size details. A. J. S. Brown, 39, Watling Avenue, Edgware. 26

YOUNG CHARTERED ARCHITECT offers part-time services. Experienced war damage surveys, working drawings, perspectives, etc. Please write Box 27.

JUNIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT seeks progressive position in architect's office; London area. Knowledge of architectural draughtsmanship and building construction. Previous office experience. At present taking course at Polytechnic, Regent Street. Box 28.

A.R.I.B.A., Dip. Manchester, desires responsible appointment; north-west or northern area preferred, but not essential if good prospects. Own practice for five years before war and recent experience as senior architect on large Government factories. Age 33, married, and medically exempt from Forces. "R.," 410, Devonshire Road, Blackpool, Lancs. 29

SENIOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANT (34), experienced in prefabrication and scientific construction methods, hostels and labour camps, factory layouts, road construction, field surveys, quantities, supervision, seeks position of national importance, interest and responsibility. Box 30.

CHARTERED ARCHITECT, A.R.I.B.A., Dipl. Arch. Lond., experienced in all branches of the profession, including architectural education, desires part-time teaching appointment (architectural subjects) in London or Home Counties. Box 34.

ARCHITECTURAL AND SURVEYING ASSISTANT requires position, preferably Manchester, Birmingham or London areas. Experienced in domestic and industrial work. Salary required, £250 to £300 per annum. Box No. 35.

A.C.I.B.A., age 37, Exempt Military Services, requires work in London. Salary £450 per annum or by arrangement. Box 37.

PROBATION R.I.B.A., age 22½ years. Exempt Military Service, seeks progressive position of Architectural Assistant in Birmingham area. Five years office experience of all types of work. Box 36.

ARCHITECT, experienced carrying through works complete, requires post in London area as manager. Please state approximate salary and prospects. Box 38.

YOUTH just turned 17, seeks position in drawing office, preferably architect's, in London area. Had 6 months' varied training in Provincial Civil Engineering Drawing Office. Willing to submit testimonials. Box 40.

Classified Advertisements continued on page xxx.

Other Appointments Vacant

Four lines or under, 4s.; each additional line, 1s.

EDITOR AND ASSISTANT EDITOR wanted for Architectural Paper. Write, with full particulars of qualifications, salary required, &c., to Box 31.

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY-STENOGRAPHER (under 18, or over 30), required for West-end Architects' office engaged upon essential works. Prospect of permanency. Write, giving full details and salary required, to Box 32.

SURVEYOR'S ASSISTANT required for measured works on site, Final Accounts, on large Aerodrome Contract. State salary, experience, to Box 837

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