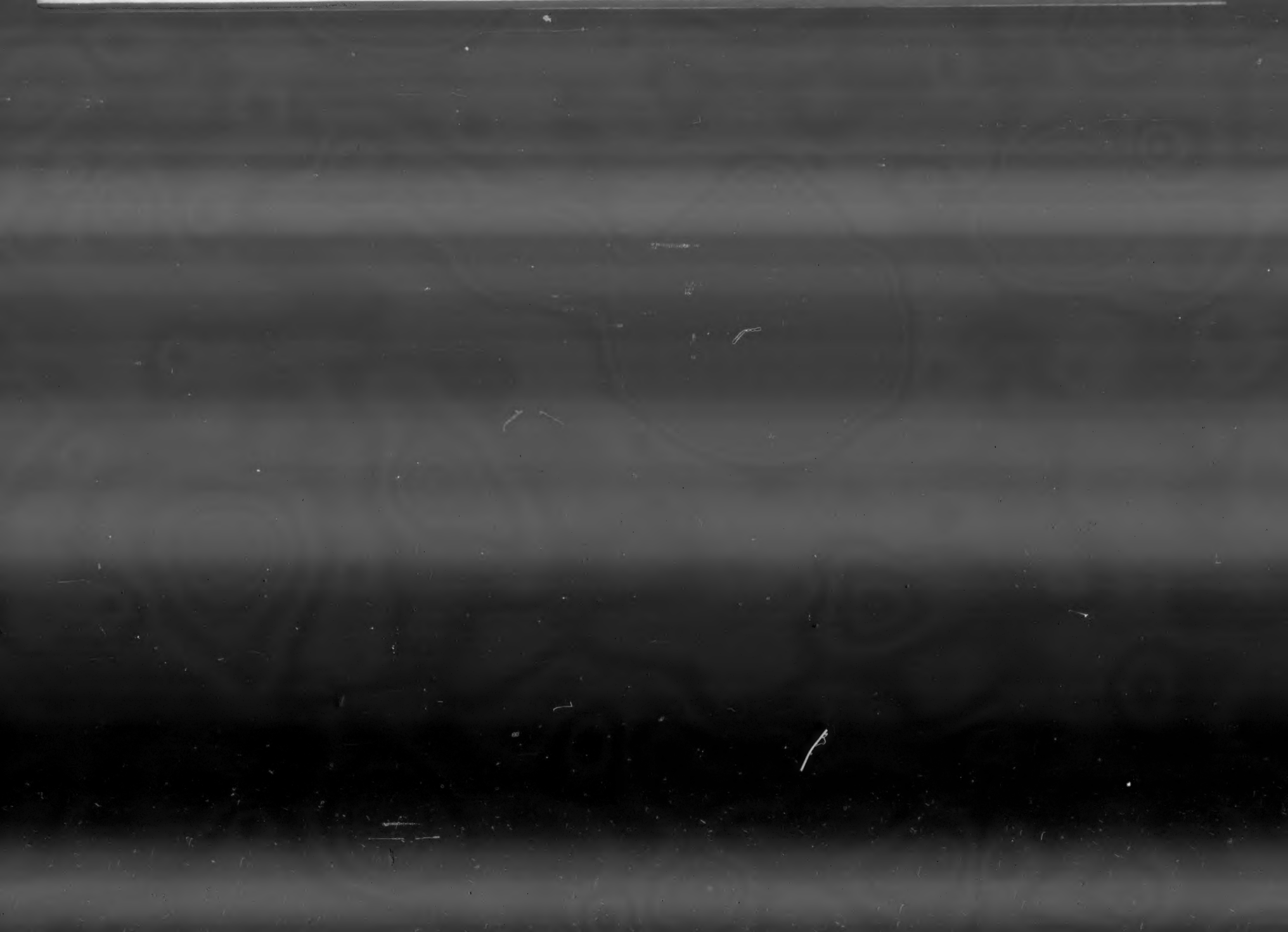
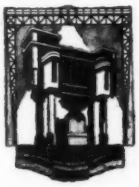
THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

THE ARCHITECTURAL PRESS, *WAR ADDRESS:* 45 THE AVENUE, CHEAM

NO. 2502] Price 6d. [VOL. 97

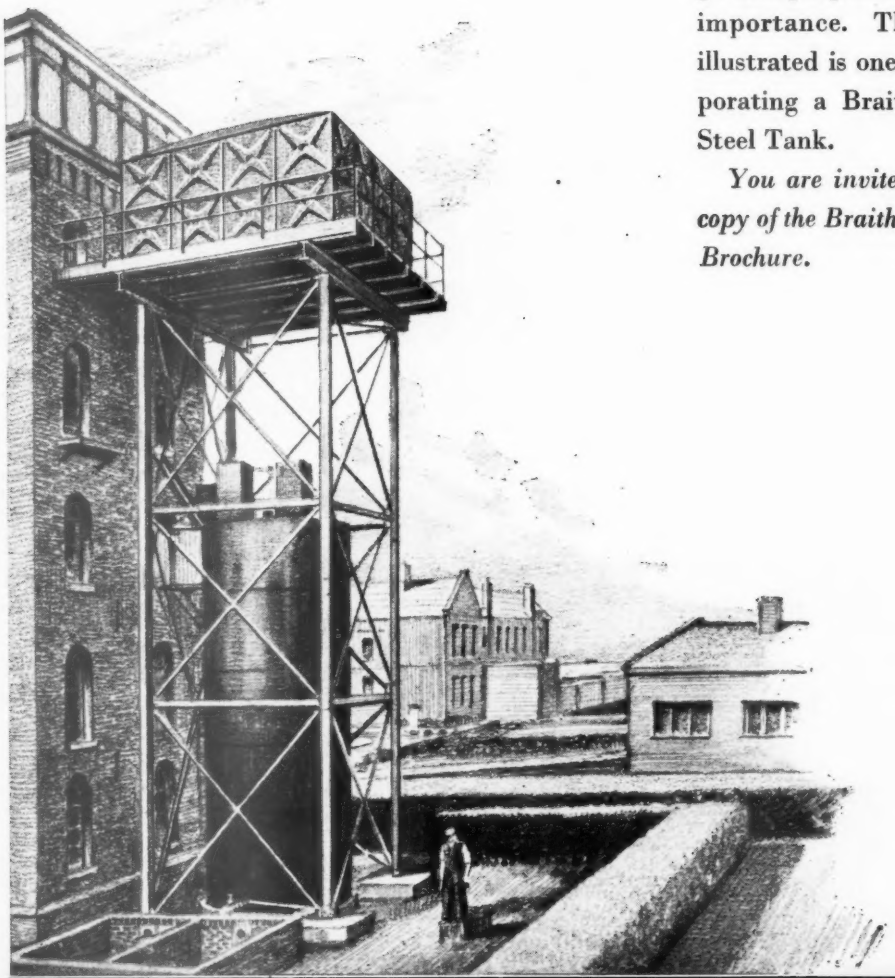
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER





In hospitals and institutions the maintaining of an adequate water supply both for fire-fighting and general purposes is of paramount importance. The installation illustrated is one of many incorporating a Braithwaite Pressed Steel Tank.

You are invited to apply for a copy of the Braithwaite P.S. Tank Brochure.



BRAITHWAITE

PRESSED STEEL TANKS

BRAITHWAITE & CO. ENGINEERS LTD. 35 KINGS HOUSE, 10 HAYMARKET, LONDON, S.W.1

Telephone: WHItehall 3993

Alphabetical Index to Advertisers

For Appointments (Wanted or Vacant), Competitions Open, Drawings, Tracings, etc., Educational Legal Notices, Miscellaneous, Property and Land Sales—*see* pages xxiv and xxvi.

A Perfected HYGIENIC PAINT with high Reflective Properties

"SNOWCEM" cement paint possesses many features which make it particularly suitable for use in public and private buildings and workshops, factories and A.R.P. shelters.

HYGIENIC: CAN BE WASHED OR SCRUBBED.

"SNOWCEM" can be applied direct to brick or concrete and gives a hard dustless surface. It is unaffected by humidity, rapid changes of temperature or condensation. It can be applied to newly completed work without being affected by the moisture and alkalies almost always present. It will not flake or peel. It can be washed or scrubbed when necessary. It is hygienic and is impervious to moisture.

EASY TO APPLY.

"SNOWCEM" cement paint is applied with a brush like ordinary paint, and is available in two shades only: white and broken white.

BRIGHT REFLECTIVE SURFACE.

It gives a clean pleasing finish which is strongly reflective and therefore in most cases actually increases the value of lighting by day and night. "SNOWCEM" is thus a definite asset in saving light and fuel.

ECONOMY.

1 lb. of "SNOWCEM" gives two coats to a superficial area of approximately 3-4 sq. yards. It is delivered in airtight metal containers at the following prices:—

112 lbs. 56/- 56 lbs. 32/6 28 lbs. 21/-
14 lbs. 14/- 7 lbs. 7/-

No permit is required for "SNOWCEM" and prompt delivery is assured. You are invited to write for leaflet (enclosing 1d. stamp):

"SNOWCEM"

THE NEW CEMENT PAINT FOR BRICK OR CONCRETE

A BLUE CIRCLE CMC PRODUCT

THE CEMENT MARKETING CO. LTD., THE CLUB HOUSE, COOMBE HILL, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES

FOR CONFINED SITES

Factory extensions in confined spaces are becoming frequent with the consequent problem of foundations. Normal pile-driving is out of the question when the surrounding structures are within a few feet of the proposed site. But this circumstance offers little or no difficulty to the Franki system because Franki piles are cast in-situ ; the hammer-blows being delivered inside the tube reduces surface vibration to the minimum, the force of each blow being taken on the foot of the pile.

Franki piles have been driven within a few feet of existing buildings without causing the slightest damage. Furthermore, Franki piles permit of a greater building height in the area available because they "carry more tons per pile."

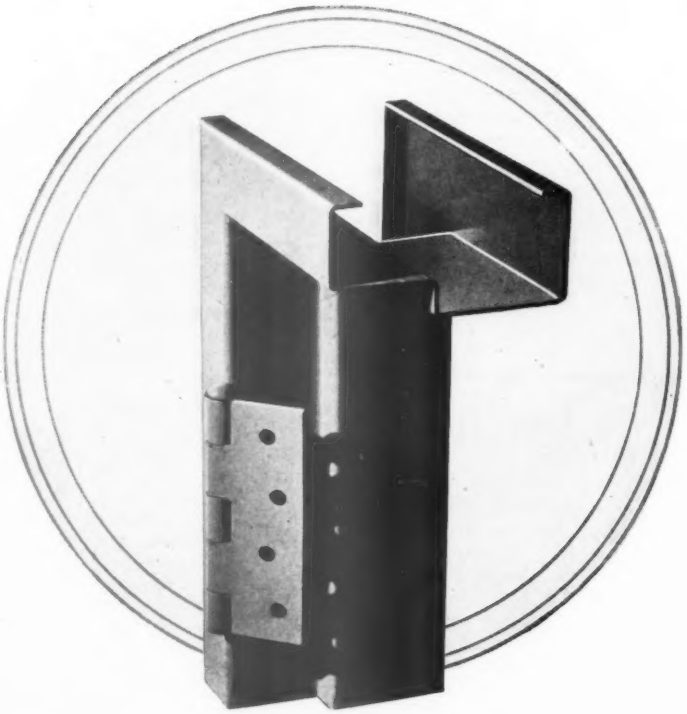
The Franki brochure tells you all about it. Send for a copy to-day.

THE FRANKI COMPRESSED PILE CO., LTD.

39, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

'Phone : ABBey 6006-9

'Grams : "Frankipile, Sowest, London."



SANKEY

METAL TRIM

DOOR FRAMES · WINDOW CILLS
PRESSED STEEL SKIRTING
PICTURE RAIL · CORNER BEAD
ETC., ETC.

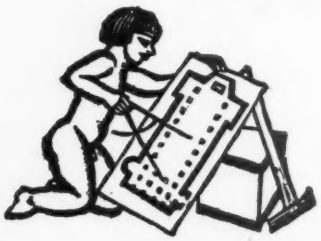
Metal Trim will undoubtedly play an important part in post war reconstruction, and those interested are welcome to a copy of our catalogue. For the time being, of course, we are only able to execute orders carrying Government permits.

JOSEPH SANKEY & SONS LTD.

Works : WELLINGTON, SHROPSHIRE.

LONDON OFFICE : 168 REGENT ST., W.1

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.*



Journal Abbreviations

A.A.	Architectural Association. 34/6, Bedford Square, W.C.1. Museum 0974.
B.C.	Building Centre. 23, Maddox Street, W.1. Mayfair 2128.
B.I.N.C.	Building Industries National Council. 110, Bickenhall Mansions, W.1. Welbeck 3335.
B.C.G.	British Commercial Gas. 1, Grosvenor Place, S.W.1. Sloane 4554.
B.E.D.A.	British Electrical Development Association. 2, Savoy Hill, W.C.2. Temple Bar 9434.
B.I.S.	British Industries Services Ltd. 90, Ebury Street, S.W.1. Sloane 9801.
B.R.S.	British Research Station. Bucknalls Lane, Watford. Garston 2246.
B.S.I.	British Standards Institution. 28, Victoria Street, S.W.1. Abbey 3333.
C.D.A.	Copper Development Association. Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, W.C.2. Abbey 2677.
C.P.R.E.	Council for the Preservation of Rural England. 4, Hobart Place, S.W.1. Sloane 4280.
D.O.T.	Department of Overseas Trade. Dolphin Square, S.W.1. Victoria 4477.
D.I.A.	Design and Industries Association. Central Institute of Art and Design, National Gallery, W.C.2. Whitehall 7618.
I.A.A.S.	Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors. 75, Eaton Place, S.W.1. Sloane 3158.
I.R.A.	Institute of Registered Architects. 59, Montagu Gardens, Wallington, Surrey. Wallington 3278.
L.M.B.A.	London Master Builders Association. 47, Bedford Square, W.C.1. Museum 3767.
M.A.R.S.	Modern Architectural Research Society. 8, Clarges Street, W.1. Grosvenor 2652.
M.O.I.	Ministry of Information. Malet Street, W.C.1. Euston 4321.
M.O.S.	Ministry of Supply. Shell Mex House, Victoria Embankment, W.C.2. Gerrard 6933.
M.O.W.P.	Ministry of Works and Planning. Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1. Reliance 7611.
N.F.B.T.E.	National Federation of Building Trades Employers. 82, New Cavendish Street, W.1. Langham 4041.
P.E.P.	Political and Economic Planning. 16, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1. Whitehall 7245.
P.W.B.	Post War Building, Directorate of. Ministry of Works and Planning, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1. Reliance 7611.
R.A.B.P.V.M.	Research Association of the British Paint and Varnish Manufacturers. Waldegrave Road, Teddington. Molesey 1063.
R.C.A.	Reinforced Concrete Association. 91, Petty France, S.W.1. Whitehall 9936.
R.I.B.A.	Royal Institute of British Architects. 66, Portland Place, W.1. Welbeck 6927.
R.S.A.	Royal Society of Arts. 6, John Adam Street, W.C.2. Temple Bar 8274.
S.P.A.B.	Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. 55, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1. Holborn 2646.
T.C.P.A	Town and Country Planning Association. 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. Whitehall 2881.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1943
No. 2502. VOL. 97

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

This page, given up in the past to the Journal Contents, has by re-arrangement of material been made to yield some of its space for news, so that the NEWS NOTES *which used to occupy the the page which follows will in future start here. This alteration is one of detail merely but it releases a few more columns of the Journal for practical use, and when every inch of space is valuable this is worth having. Nothing is lost in the process except some standing editorial notices.*

As a memorial to the late Mr. John Derry, DERWENT'S SEVENTEENTH CENTURY PACK HORSE BRIDGE REMOVED AND STORED *will be erected on another site. During the demolition work detailed drawings were made and every stone numbered.* Mr. Derry took a great interest in preserving the beauties of the Yorkshire and Derbyshire

from AN ARCHITECT'S *Commonplace Book*

On the main traffic arteries where it has hitherto been assumed that there must be fine frontages, the traffic specialist must ask for " backages " instead. Buildings should not only turn their backs upon the traffic arteries but should be securely walled away from them without direct access of any sort. Even the backs of buildings, however, can afford the architect excellent opportunities ; it is true that backs and back-yards are usually ugly, but there is no reason why they should continue to be so. The sole access to a main traffic artery should be (*a*) for vehicles, at major junctions at long intervals, and (*b*) for persons on foot, at bus stations which have platforms and bridges like railway stations. No pedestrian must set foot in the carriageway.

From Town Planning and Road Traffic, *by H. Alker Tripp.*

hills, and after his death it was felt that the most appropriate memorial to him would be the re-erection of the bridge which would otherwise have been submerged. A new site for the bridge was selected six miles higher up the river at Slippery Stones, and the Sheffield and Peak District branch of the C.P.R.E. appealed some time ago for £1,400 to meet the cost. Later it was felt that the present time was not opportune to press the appeal, and the money received was invested in Defence Bonds. The final appeal for £500 to complete the project will be made when the time is thought to be appropriate. The honorary treasurer of the committee is Mr. W. F. Northend, 49, West Street, Sheffield.

★★★

Minister-Designate for Town and Country Planning.

The King has approved the appointment of Mr. W. S. Morrison, M.C., K.C., M.P., as MINISTER-DESIGNATE FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ; *Mr. H. G. Strauss, M.P., as Parliamentary Secretary-Designate for Town and Country Planning ; Sir William Jowitt, K.C., M.P., as Minister without Portfolio ; and Mr. E. Duncan Sandys, M.P., as Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Supply.* Sir William Jowitt, on appointment as Minister without Portfolio, will continue his existing duties in regard to post-war reconstruction problems and will have access to the War Cabinet for the purposes of this work. This appointment and the appointment of Lord Cherwell, F.R.S., to succeed Sir William Jowitt as Paymaster-General will take effect forthwith. The remaining appointments will not take effect until the legislation setting up the new Ministry of Town and Country Planning, which will be introduced shortly, has received the Royal Assent. The Ministers concerned will continue, in the meantime, to hold their existing offices. Mr. W. S. Morrison, the new Minister-Designate of Town and Country Planning, has been Postmaster-General since 1940. He was called to the Bar, Inner Temple, in 1923, was Private Secretary to the Solicitor-General during the years 1922 to 1923 and from 1924 to 1927, and to the Attorney-General from 1927 to 1929, and from 1931 to 1935. From 1935 to 1936 he was Financial Secretary to the Treasury, and during the same period was Recorder of Walsall. He was Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries from 1936 to 1939 when he became Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister of Food, holding these positions until he was appointed Postmaster-General. During the last war he served in the R.F.A. in France, 1914 to 1918, won the M.C. and was thrice mentioned in despatches, resigning his commission in 1919 with the rank of captain. He was educated at George Watson's College, Edinburgh, and Edinburgh University.

★★

In preserving the beauties and amenities of town and countryside the new Ministry of Town and Country Planning will CO-OPERATE WITH THE FINE ARTS COMMISSION. *The Commission will be consulted on all questions of architectural taste. In the past three years there has been little that the Commission could do, and it is only now that a new chairman has been appointed to succeed the late Lord Crawford and Balcarres, who had presided over the Royal Commission from its establishment in* 1924 *until his death in* 1940. The new chairman is his son, the present peer. Lord Crawford is chairman of the National Gallery and a trustee of the British Museum. The Commission has been strengthened on the planning side by the addition to its membership of Mr. W. G. Holford and Mr. J. Hubert Worthington. Mr. Holford is Professor of Civic Design in the University of Liverpool —where he succeeded Professor Abercrombie —and he is at present employed in the Planning Division of the Ministry of Works and Planning. Mr. Worthington, a former Professor of Architecture at the Royal College of Art and afterwards Ferens Lecturer in Fine Art at University College, Hull, is well-known to all Architects. Mr. Geoffrey Webb, the other new member of the Commission, is the Slade Professor of Fine Art at Cambridge.

★

It will come as a shock to architects to learn that the authorities have decided to remove Bath's finest EIGHTEENTH CENTURY IRONWORK FOR SALVAGE. *Before embarking on such a monstrous action those responsible should have another look round. There is still any amount of ironwork in England that we should all be glad to see scrapped. Bath is the one museum piece of this country and to destroy its character would be an act of vandalism exactly on a par with the Baedeker raids. There have been two in Bath and residents of the city are said to be referring to this as the third blitz.*

MOWP has issued new directions for WINTER WORKING HOURS FOR BUILDERS. *The general rules for both the building and civil engineering industries are still that not more than 60 hours a week are to be worked on weekdays, and that Sunday work is not permitted ; but the exceptional circumstances in which Sunday work was previously permitted are now extended, with slight modifications,*

The late Sir Reginald Blomfield

During his eighty-six years of life Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., was the central figure of many controversies. He loved them and was willing to take as well as to give hard blows. He fought to save Waterloo Bridge and the City Churches, He fought to destroy Carlton House Terrace, and the Charing Cross Bridge scheme. He was the third son of the late Rev. G. J. Blomfield, formerly rector of Aldingham, Kent, and of Isabella, daughter of C. J. Blomfield one time Bishop of London and father of the ecclesiastical architect, Sir Arthur Blomfield. He was educated at Haileybury and Exeter College, Oxford, was articled to his uncle, studied at the R.A. Schools, where he was a prizeman, and began practice in 1884. He was President of the R.I.B.A. from 1912 to 1914, and was awarded the Royal Gold Medal in 1913, It has been said that as President of the R.I.B.A. he once timed the speakers with an ordinary egg timer, and stopped them when the sands had run out at the end of three minutes by banging the table with an auctioneer's hammer. In his younger days at Oxford he played rugger; later he took up hunting, and when he was well over eighty he enjoyed his after-lunch game of snooker at the Athenæum. He died at Frognal, Hampstead, on December 27.

to apply both to Sunday work and to work in excess of 60 hours a week on weekdays.

Sunday work may now be done, and more than 60 hours a week may be worked on weekdays, in the following circumstances :—

(*a*) (i) Repair of services, of war factories, and of essential houses damaged as a result of enemy action, during a period of fourteen days after the occurrence of such damage or during such longer period as the Minister may specially permit ;

(ii) Emergency repair work necessary in the interests of health or safety, or work requiring to be carried out without delay as a result of a serious mishap or emergency arising on an important construction job ;

(iii) Work of exceptional urgency in the war effort, generally or specifically authorized by the Minister of Works and Planning ;

(Application for such authorization must be made :—

(*a*) in the case of work being done by main contract or sub-contract direct for a Government Department, through that Department ;

(*b*) In all other cases direct to MOWP on Form B.C.E. 6 (obtainable from the address given below), which should, if possible, be returned not less than three clear days before the Sunday which is required to be worked, or before the beginning of the week in which over 60 hours are required to be worked on weekdays).

(iv) Preparatory work necessarily done during the week-end or before or after working hours to enable the hours worked by the general body of workers to be productive ;

(v) Railway work, where for traffic reasons week-end work or work for more than 60 hours a week on weekdays is necessary ; and tidal work ;

(vi) The unloading of railway wagons, when transport conditions require the release of wagons with a minimum of delay.

(*b*) Continuous shift work, not being work within one of the classes specified in paragraph (*a*) above, provided that in the case of such work the working week shall not exceed six days (including Sunday, if worked), nor shall the total number of hours worked exceed sixty.

The following Sundays should, however, be worked on all urgent Government construction works: *England and Wales*, January 17 and 31, February 14; *Scotland*, January 10 and 24, February 7 and 21.

On the Saturday *either* before *or* after each of these Sundays (but not on both), work should cease at midday; the Saturday to be arranged between employers and operatives on the site. On other Saturdays a full day of eight hours should be worked. These directions are contained in S.R. and O., 1942, Nos. 2293 and 2294, copies of which (price 1d. each) may be obtained from His Majesty's Stationery Office or through any bookseller.

★

Last week the WILL OF SIR EDWIN COOPER, R.A., *was published. He left £126,402, net personalty £122,985.*

Forms to be filled up by priority cases for PERMITS TO BUY UTILITY FURNITURE *are being issued by London Councils.* Those who get early permits may have to wait for furniture. It is being made by a limited number of firms, and for some time production is not likely to meet demands. Because the scarcity makes it impossible for shopkeepers to have stocks of utility furniture on show, it will have to be chosen from catalogues for the time.

Mr. A. P. Lay has been appointed ARCHITECT OF QUEEN ANNE'S BOUNTY *by the Governors in succession to Mr. Martin Skinner, who retired on Thursday last.*

Replies to the call of the Design of Dwellings Sub-Committee of the Ministry of Health made to women more than eight months ago for suggestions on post-war housing are still being sent in. Miss Judith Ledeboer, the FIRST WOMAN ARCHITECT *to be appointed by the Ministry, is secretary of the committee.* The Government is being urged by the Ministry to undertake a modest building programme before the end of the war. In view of the shortage of labour and raw materials the programme would merely provide essential accommodation until a better scheme can be carried out after the war.

SIR REGINALD BLOMFIELD

SIR REGINALD BLOMFIELD, who died last week, was a man whom everybody liked and with whom nearly everybody quarrelled—at least in print. He was a sportsman with the sportsman's love of a scrap. He liked fighting, knew he liked fighting, and said so. And he had pre-eminently the type of mind which provokes. Straightforward to the point of obstinacy, he despised second thoughts and stood every inch of his ground—which often seemed to most of us the wrong ground. In argument he was a gallant amateur, careless of sublety, not too well armed with wit; but he hit and hit as hard as he could and often came off exceedingly well. His batting average on the polemical wicket stood high.

Strange, perhaps, that one should remember first this side of a man who was one of the first English architects of his time; who changed the central London scene, designed a Thames bridge, Pall Mall clubs, and immense war memorials. But it is for his partisanship against ideas mostly now accepted that he will be remembered while his contemporaries survive him. The word he borrowed to hurl at the "new architecture" of the nineteen-thirties has stuck, though not perhaps exactly where it was meant to stick. *Modernismus* signifies Tory obloquy of modern art, and Sir Reginald was the Grand Tory of Art Now.

His architecture will be re-discovered the day after tomorrow. Not yet can it be estimated with justice. Some of it we know too well, much of it not well enough. The almost universal dislike of Piccadilly Circus, for instance, is rarely offset by any word of praise for the judicious facades of the United Universities Club. And criticism is ham-strung by our incompetence to see, dispassionately and as a whole, the Edwardian scene where Sir Reginald, as an artist, really belongs. Probably we shall discover, in due time, specific Edwardian virtues to envy and admire, and it is likely that these will be found neatly embodied in the works of Sir Reginald Blomfield.

Blomfield's career started fifty years ago, when Early French Gothic was still the consecrated style, cultivated as the germ of all conceivable modernity—a noble theory, not far off the mark, but too delicate to travel far. One day, Alfred

Waterhouse looked over young Blomfield's board at the R.A. school and hinted at sculpture in low relief. The hint let in the light of the Renaissance. The Gothic spell was broken. Blomfield, with many others of his age, soared out of the 13th century into the 16th, the 17th and, as his wings grew stronger, the 18th. Classical architecture was the thing—classical, but as free as you like, free in the sunshine of Henri IV, William & Mary and Anne, free to festoon casement windows with Grinling garlands, to make gables into pediments, to monumentalise the rustic and rusticate the monumental. This freedom Blomfield embraced with infinite enthusiasm, disciplined by scholarship of a type peculiarly his own, scholarship which comes out in his books as it does in his buildings. He was not a born historian; he was too positive, too little the analyst. He studied and wrote history as a practical architect, defining what he thought good and what bad in old work, by his own indomitable personal standards. His books are uncommonly able, clear-cut, vigorous, and the sketches in them reflect again a personality decisive and bold.

Blomfield liked to feel that there had been something rebellious in his advocacy of full-blooded classicism. In effect, there scarcely was. The real gangster of the Edwardian age was courteous, self-effacing Norman Shaw, who started true-blue Early French and arrived after many adventures at the Piccadilly Hotel. Blomfield was one of Shaw's 'family'—perhaps, in a way, the *enfant terrible*—loyal as a Cossack, carrying the Shaw revolution to the world's end. To-day we hardly notice that it was a revolution, because an upheaval infinitely larger has engulfed the whole escapade. In his latter years Sir Reginald seemed to be defending a strong-point in territory long since evacuated by all belligerents.

He died at Frognal, in the red-brick villa he built for himself three years before the outbreak of the Boer war. Other villas have been built at Frognal since, and not all of them are in perfect harmony with Sir Reginald's. The windows of some of them are very broad or very tall or both, their roofs perfectly flat, their walls white. In fact, *modernismus*. But the veteran architect of the Menin Gate and the Carlton Club was not sorry to have his opponents on his doorstep. For the truth is (and no one who knew him will deny it) that what he liked even better than giving them a punch on the nose was greeting them as friends.

The Architects' Journal

War Address: 45, The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey

Telephone: Vigilant 0087-9

NOTES & TOPICS

THE NEW MINISTRY . . .

The appointment of Mr. W. S. Morrison to be the future Minister of Town and Country Planning is further evidence of the Cabinet's apparent ruling that each step in preparation for reconstruction must be, first of all, uncontroversial. It also shows that the objection of many M.P.'s to any central planning authority which is empowered to co-ordinate the reconstruction policies of existing Ministries is still extremely real.

*

Mr. W. S. Morrison has been a very competent Postmaster-General and may be an admirable man for tackling the knotty details of setting up a new Ministry. But there can be no doubt that when he is announced as about to give a postscript to the B.B.C. News few M.P.'s will suffer from pre-Crippsian or pre-other-Morrisonian twinges of anxiety.

*

The transfer of Mr. H. G. Strauss to the new Ministry is very heartening. Mr. Strauss has been closely associated with the work of the Planning Division of MOWP and in creditably few speeches he has shown full understanding of what well-guided planning could do for post-war Britain and determination to bring it into being.

. . . AND ITS COLLABORATORS

It is expected that the legislation setting up the new Ministry will

provide for co-operation between it and the Royal Fine Art Commission in matters of æsthetics, and it is probably with that end in view that four new members have just been added to the Commission.

★

The most significant of these new appointments is that of Professor Holford, who has been an adviser in the Planning Division of MOWP for two years. He has also carried out very large war building schemes for the Ministry of Supply which involved planning and constructional methods, and a close collaboration between members of various building professions, which are likely to be of great importance in the post-war decade. He has thus special knowledge of the biggest problems which the Ministry and the Commission will have to tackle.

★

The other new members of the Commission are Lord Crawford and Balcarres, to whose father all architects are greatly indebted, Mr. J. Hubert Worthington and Mr. Geoffrey Webb, Slade Professor at Cambridge, authority on English Baroque., and our greatest living architectural historian.

SIR REGINALD BLOMFIELD

The death of Sir Reginald Blomfield ends an age, not of architecture, but of an outlook held by architects towards architecture. And it was a long age.

★

When Sir Reginald left Oxford to be an architect, over sixty years ago, architects and all persons of consequence were agreed upon what an architect was and had been ever since architects became distinguished from master masons. An architect was a man skilled in composing a very few materials according to certain traditional rules to form a building which would enhance the dignity of the patron and the architect's reputation for taste and scholarship. His services were requested only for a few types of building—for the houses of important people, for churches and a few public buildings. And architects of repute were content with this field of activity.

★

Sir Reginald prepared himself to be an architect of this kind. He was such an architect. He believed until he died that the only worth-while architect was an independent artist, learned in historical precedent, and able through his learning to continue a favoured tradition in the composition of each building with which he was entrusted.

★

Few men have been better able to do just what they wanted. Sir Reginald possessed a first-class intelligence, great powers of scholarship and immense vigour. For forty years his practice followed precedent. He designed country houses, schools and prominent buildings, the Quadrant, Piccadilly Circus, many works for the War Graves Commission. But simultaneously he carried on the studies which resulted in his classic books on British and French Renaissance architecture for which architects will be ever in his debt.

★

During those forty years Sir Reginald had found in the dispute over *Architecture: A Profession or an Art?* that many architects no longer fully shared his beliefs as to what an architect was, and by the late 1920's the ranks of his opponents were growing by leaps and bounds. Times had changed. A thousand materials instead of a dozen, a dozen services within a building in place of one or two, the principles of wall, beam and arch swept into limbo by reinforced concrete, the call to plan a whole building around the spacing of comptometers or fish-fryers—these and other things made it seem more and more absurd to think that architecture was indissolubly linked with historical stylistic patterns, and more and more architects said so and acted accordingly.

★

Sir Reginald never budged an inch. From Frognal, where he was forced in course of time to face at close quarters three of modern architecture's most distinctive works, he fought against changing ideas with all his influence and ability as a writer; and as this JOURNAL knows well, those who differed from him came in for some dreadful buffets. The list of *causes celebres* in which Sir Reginald took part is quite a long one and in each he laid about what he called *modernismus* very weightily but without malice, without lasting resentment and with suitably leonine humour.* Change, however, could not be stopped. Modern architecture could not be stopped; in a modest way it even began to flourish, its imitations became only too widespread; and by September, 1939, those few architects who still shared Sir Reginald's beliefs faced a world in which houses—whether architecture or not—were being built complete in 50 minutes.

★

In such a world the architect as a scholarly artist can have only a small place; and Sir Reginald, unused to a small place either as architect, scholar or author, would not have liked it. He probably would have liked to think that when he died he was one of the last of a long line of architects who had held fast to a particular belief about their work. No one could have have fought a rearguard action more stoutly than he did.

HOUSING THEORY IN 1943

Two voluntary associations held heart-searching meetings last week and girded themselves for bigger and better work during 1943. Main objects of the Housing Centre were said to be:

1. To house and let out exhibition materials and to organize film shows, exhibitions and competitions in order to publicise good housing.
2. To form a clearing house for all information relating to housing; to collect data, keep a comprehensive library and distribute information.
3. To act as a meeting place for the expert and the layman interested in housing questions.

★

At the Association for Planning and Regional Reconstruction Town planners listened to a list of last year's publications. These included "Groundplan of Britain," "The Hub of the House" (Part I), and eight Broadsheets.

ASTRAGAL

* Referring a few years ago to his period as an editor of the *Architectural Review* from 1902-1904, he wrote: "I do not know what has happened to this paper since. I believe it is still being published."

LETTERS

Country Builder
W. Henry
N. Brandon Jones, A.R.I.B.A.
B. A. Le Mare, 2/Lt., R.E.
D. H. Crompton
Max Lock
Robert R. Meadows } *AA.R.I.B.A.*

The Building Control

SIR,—Your paper may be all very well for architects, but seeing that they are running the "Building Control," can you tell me why I have to put up with answering all sorts of time-wasting letters before I am told whether jobs are to get a licence or not.

As a builder I have to get my living in a practical way, and unlike the architects I get no payment for my time if the work is not carried out. When this Government control started a number of architects were given jobs presumably to deal with applications fairly, but there has been far too much messing about and letter writing. Even when I have visited Reading, to save time, I have had to talk to a clerk who knew nothing about building.

All this is a puzzle to me because I thought architects were supposed to know everything about it, and they ought to be making a better job of it.

If this is the way they run their own affairs, no wonder the public ignores them when there is building to be done. Whether this is so or not these gentlemen are putting small builders out of business by their muddling.

It is time something is done about it, and I hope you will allow the matter to be raised in your paper.

COUNTRY BUILDER

Not Popular

SIR,—I have read with considerable interest and not without amusement, the contributions made by various correspondents to your Journal lauding and magnifying architects and their profession.

The letter under the nom de plume "Atreus," published in your issue for December 17, however, goes from what may have been considered as the sublime to the very ridiculous.

Why is it necessary for architects to claim to be something other than architects. They are not engineers and never will be. They are not builders or quantity surveyors. They are not planners or organisers but just plain architects whatever that may comprise.

Mr. Sydney Tatchell recently defined an architect as being "a practitioner who undertakes to render professional services," he omitted to say what those services are, but he went on to define the quantity surveyor as the architect's "guide, counsellor and friend," and this appears to be the architect's difficulty. He is quite incapable of doing anything practical or practicable unless he has somebody to hold his hand.

During the present war it has been my misfortune to be associated with a number of works which have been nominally under the control of architects at headquarters and in some cases also on the site. My experience has been that architects have very little knowledge of the materials used in construction, are quite unable to organise and incapable of making decisions on matters which arise during construction. The result is more or less chaos and general dissatisfaction on the site.

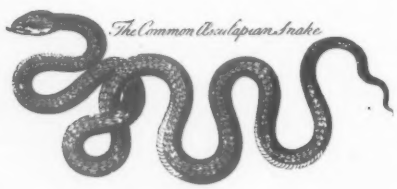
Where engineers have been in charge as resident engineer the opposite has usually been the case. They have definitely taken charge of the job. The contractor has known where to go for instructions and that when these have been given there will be no ambiguity or vacillation.

I might quote the case of an architect famous in professional circles who, having presented the contractor with drawings of the building was asked how a certain feature was to be constructed and replied that the construction was the contractor's job.

This appears to indicate the architect's function, to produce pretty drawings and let somebody else say how.

W. HENRY

Godalming.



After the War

SIR,—Mr. Charles Read probably speaks for quite a large number of architects when he suggests that all we shall need for the efficient carrying out of post-war work will be to have it spread over the whole profession.

Even if we grant that that is true, however, the question at once arises, how is this distribution to be effected. If architects insist on maintaining individual private practice it would seem that the only answer must be a monstrous bureaucracy which would allot each job to an architect, leaving the poor client no say in the matter at all.

On the other hand a scheme of group practice as put forward by Mr. Cotton in After the War—I could allow, within each region, a complete freedom for the client to choose his own architect and to establish that personal relationship which has been such a valuable feature of private practice. In other words, the best man in the region could do the lion's share of the designing, without cutting the throats of his colleagues.

N. BRANDON JONES

Bath.

SIR,—The focusing of attention on the post-war position of the architectural profession is timely, for it is likely that the demands made on architects will be unprecedented both in magnitude and in complexity. No realist can think in terms of reinstating the status quo, but equally facile and impracticable is any preconceived plan for the profession which is not based on a severe and dispassionate diagnosis of existing trends, related to all those factors of the post-war period which can be foreseen.

This approach we feel to be to a great extent lacking in Mr. Calvely Cotton's recent article, although we endorse some of his suggestions, notably that concerned with group working. We briefly outline below what we consider to be some of the key problems to be dealt with if the profession is to be made capable of responding to the post-war demands.

Rebuilding Programme.—Bearing in mind suggestions and proposals already put forward for post-war Housing, Schooling and Social Services as well as for the re-building of bombed areas, what will be the approximate scale and nature of the building programme? What numbers of architects, surveyors, assistants, etc., will be needed to carry out the programme, and in what stages could it be carried into effect in the post-war years?

Manpower.—How does the available number of architects, etc., compare with the likely requirements of the building programme, and how can the profession meet this vital need? What steps, in the nature of refresher training courses, should be taken to reabsorb and make fully effective the members of the profession now in the forces or other war work?

Changes in Building Technique.—The adaptation of war factories to large scale production of building materials after the war may permanently affect the building industry. To what extent will the use of new materials and methods, with their consequent increase in standardisation, prefabrication and general technical advance, affect the function of the architect in terms of (*a*) his administrative duties; (*b*) his building capacity; and (*c*) his office organisation?

Legislation.—To what extent is the anticipated planning legislation likely to influence the activities of the architect? If such legislation should stipulate that on all new work the services of a registered architect should be properly incorporated, the organisation and necessary increase in the manpower of the profession to deal with this situation would have to be faced. What effect would such legislation have on the profession as a whole?

Government Control.—To what extent will building be commissioned by government and local government departments and the architect become a salaried official? How will the control and limitation of all rebuilding work by a system of priority building and licensed allocation of all materials affect the position of the architect?

Co-ordination.—To what extent is reorganisation in the administration of the profession, with the pooling of resources and the equalised distribution of work, necessary or possible? Can group working and site organisation, such as have taken place in connection with war factories and hostels, be extended to advantage? How can the correlation between architects, town-planners, engineers, building technicians and organisers, etc., be made more effective?

Education.—The extent to which the present system of architectural education should be amended and a new system designed to meet post-war requirements, will depend largely on the function of the post-war architect.

Finally we would emphasise that the problems of post-war reconstruction are able to be solved only by the complete collaboration of all those concerned—architects, town-planners, surveyors, engineers, building technicians, etc. This collaboration, which is urgent, might well start by the formation of

(*a*) Committees from each of the allied professions to examine the position within each profession; and

(*b*) An inter-professional committee composed of one or two representatives from each of the professional committees.

No doubt many of the committees already convened by their various institutions have

The R.A. proposes to make its plan for London a feature of The Architectural Section of this year's Summer Exhibition, and has decided to welcome designs by other architects for the rebuilding of London. Its Interim Report is reviewed below by a well-known authority

The R.A. PLAN

[*BY A TOWN PLANNER**]

The Royal Academy Planning Committee timed the publication of its Interim Report† with the exhibition of its plans at Burlington House. The Report contains a lengthy statement of the Committee's intentions, as well as notes on its various detailed projects. For those who were not able to see the exhibition the Report will, to some extent, be a compensation, and for those who did go to Burlington House it will be useful in that it may be doing something to lessen their bewilderment.

The timing of the Report and the Exhibition was somewhat faulty. For the first fortnight visitors had no explanations or apologias to help them as they stood successively before groups of drawings that were obviously from various hands, and in various techniques, some brilliantly, some very indifferently and some quite horribly presented. In those first days some visitors were downright angry, others were superior and scornful, and nearly all were plainly baffled. Among all the younger architects with whom one talked, there was a feeling (often violently expressed) that the "older generation" were "at it" again. But now that the explanatory Report is out, a good deal of the anger must have melted even among the very young. For it is a most disarming document. There is no swashbuckling, no tone of high authority, no air of infallibility about it. On the contrary, it is singularly modest and tentative, considering the well-known and important names that are appended to it. Criticism is welcomed. "Our proposals are still in process of development, and are therefore incomplete," Sir Edwin Lutyens writes in his foreword. "But we feel that the time has come to show the work on which we have been engaged since January, 1940. . . . We do this now in the hope of clarifying and assisting ideas which are forming on the subject, and also of benefiting by the constructive criticism which we now invite." Again, the Report itself says: "The Committee wish it to be clearly understood that their plans are still in a tentative and provisional stage; they are continually under review and are subject to amendment at various points. They are put forward more with the idea of stimulating the imagination of those who will be responsible for the work of reconstruction than of laying down any fixed or rigid solution; it is for this reason that alternative treatments of some of the important centres have been shown; the plans indicate a standard which it is hoped will be realized in any plans for reconstruction."

In the face of such modesty it is difficult to be severely critical. For over two and a half years a considerable group of the senior architects of the country, helped by a few others who are equally distinguished in their own fields, have in a public-spirited way devoted their time and their energy to the biggest and most difficult problem of planning that there has ever been in the history of the world. And they advance the results of their work merely to stimulate the imagination of other workers. These facts make one feel—for a time—that it might be kinder, and that it might show more appreciation of the public spirit behind the work, if one withheld criticism. Yet criticism is asked for. And in any case, the matter of planning is infinitely more important than the personalities involved in it, distinguished though they may be. So, however one may admire the energy that the Committee has shown, one cannot but express disappointment with what it has produced.

If the invitation to constructive criticism means that a visitor to the exhibition should be helpful on details, should say, for example, that such and such a road would be better if it took a slightly different line at such and such a point, that this traffic junction would be better as a circus than a square, and that it would be better if this other road does not exist at all, then there are few people who can have anything constructive to contribute; for there are few of us who have had the opportunity of the long study which the Committee has been able to give to detail. In any case, successes or errors in detail (and the Committee has laid itself wide-open to *destructive* criticism in many detailed proposals) do not matter much if the general approach to a problem and the general conception of it is wrong.

And the Committee's approach to this problem is surely wrong. It is wrong because it is so painfully restricted and circumscribed. One had thought that the time had passed when a town could be conceived as a simple mass of streets lined with *architecture*—as distinct from buildings where people live and work. Yet that is the way in which the Committee (not necessarily of choice but probably because of an inevitable limitation of its programme) has been forced to look at London.

The Exhibition did not show London replanned, but London streets replanned. It was, in fact, the Bressey plan replanned. The Bressey road plan, when it was published in 1938, was subjected to severe criticism because it was a traffic plan only*; a plan concerned with relieving traffic congestion rather than removing the major causes of it; a plan insufficiently related to the vast social organism to which it was to be applied. It was also criticized because the architectural implications of its suggestions were inadequately considered. The Royal Academy plan sets out to repair the second fault and ignores the first. Its plan is quite simply a traffic plan given architectural shape. Sir Edwin Lutyens says that "the Committee's main concern has been to present a plan for London's material, social and æsthetic requirements, as conceived by architects; to solve some of the major problems of design; and, in general, to state a case for an architectural approach to a great opportunity." But unfortunately, and inevitably, the Committee has never

---

considered such problems, but we know of no attempt at large scale co-ordination likely to meet the requirements. The issues which will emerge out of such deliberations must be most contentious and diverse. Which among the professions, however, would feel it incumbent upon itself to launch out into such a sea of controversy? We see no reason why the MOWP should not take the initiative by asking each of the allied professions to select its own committee to formulate a new policy for its post-war practice. At an appointed date, each committee could be invited to send delegates to serve on a central council convened by the Minister. The purpose of this council would be to work out a method of pooling professional services and to inter-relate practice, training and research to fulfil post-war building and planning needs. Upon the recommendations of this central council government action could be taken, implemented by appropriate legislation. Thus we might meet peace not unprepared.

B. A. LE MARE, 2/Lt., R.E.
D. H. CROMPTON.
MAX LOCK.
ROBERT R. MEADOWS.
} A/A.R.I.B.A.

* Certain circumstances beyond his control make it necessary for our contributor to write anonymously, but the Academy Committee at his request has been informed of his identity.

† London Replanned. 29 pp. 32 illustrations. Country Life, 2s. 6d.

* One does not criticize Sir Charles Bressey's work because one says that his terms of reference were too narrow.

got within hailing distance of that main concern. All that it has done is to display *one* kind of architectural approach to the problem of traffic: and an approach, at that, with which many architects will profoundly disagree.

The details of the Bressey plan were never sufficiently clear for us to be able to tell, now, the extent to which its traffic proposals suffer from, or have been strait-jacketed by, the architectural dressing they have been given in this exhibition. A comparison of the two schemes shows that some very considerable modifications have been made, and since Sir Charles Bressey is Vice-Chairman of the Committee, he must be in agreement with them even if he did not initiate them. But, judged merely as a traffic scheme, the Committee's plan has grave defects in principle. Detailed suggestions are shown for high-level arterial roads in suburban areas (though such roads are not actually sited on any map); but there are none in the central area. Now that is surely the wrong way about. Ground-level arterial roads of the parkway type, with a severe restriction on the number of minor roads entering them, are surely the natural form for speedways in suburban areas, because the necessary land can be obtained there with comparative ease. And while there may be some difference of opinion as to the *number* of high- (or low-) level speedways which are required across *central* London, few people doubt that *some*, if only one or two, will be necessary in any replanning worthy of the name. But the Committee's plans show none of these; the arterial traffic roads are mostly got by widening present streets (though there are a few new streets); and, along all these, all the innumerable intersections by side streets, which are among the principal causes of traffic congestion, are to continue to exist. Only one solitary new fly-over crossing is shown on the whole scheme (at the junction of Charing Cross Road and a new Piccadilly—Covent Garden road), and that one illustrates in a most depressing way just how fundamentally wrong "an architectural approach to a great new opportunity" may possibly be. Surely in the name of sanity and modern engineering a fly-over should leap clear over the underpassing road; after all, the prime intention is that it shall not interrupt that road. But the Committee stands its modern gesture of a fly-over on rows of Doric columns between whose ancient shapes underpassing buses, lorries and cars must be slowly and carefully steered for architecture's sake.

In spite, then, of many interesting and useful suggestions (such as the ring road, the moving of the railway termini and the markets, etc., etc.), the plan is very far from satisfactory, even as a traffic-improvement scheme. On the matter of the architecture that it is suggested should decorate the new road pattern, it is unnecessary (and it would probably be unfair) to pass judgment; for while Sir Charles Bressey, in his introduction, modestly says that a "new road in its pristine innocence, as it leaves the engineers' hands, is no more than a string on which the architect is invited to thread his choicest pearls," the Report itself says that "the Committee have not concerned themselves with the design of the buildings themselves, the plans having been prepared more to show the layout and grouping." But if the Committee really means that, it would surely have been far more sensible merely to have indicated the buildings by simple blocks, in the manner which is not uncommon in presenting planning projects. That would, at any rate, have avoided the hostile criticism which has been made of the architecture of the designs.

Even that, however, could not have overcome another, and a quite major, difficulty; which is that since buildings have a social function and are not merely scenery, their plan-forms and their shapes must be considered with regard to proper lighting, proper ventilation, fire protection and so on. Now for years the old form of building to the hollow-square plan, with undersized internal courtyards and gloomy light wells, has been condemned as wholly unsatisfactory to the modern conditions of high buildings which are almost inevitable in the centre of a great city. The most satisfactory form of building may not yet have been decided. The really scientific approach to the question is, indeed, still at a preliminary stage. No one can in the least blame the Royal Academy Committee because it has not offered a final solution of this problem. But one can, and should, voice some concern when the Committee in *all* its various schemes does not seem even to be aware that the problem exists, for almost every single project shows redevelopment on the hollow-square pattern.

There are other omissions of fundamental considerations which prevent the plan from being a real contribution to the problem of replanning London. Not only is building *form* (as distinct from architectural dressing) not considered: neither is building *use*. There is no attempt at zoning. Not all central London is occupied by public and commercial buildings: great parts of it are now, and are bound to remain, or should remain, domestic. There is no attempt to deal with these (though there is a half-hearted attempt to indicate suburban housing layout in association with the suggested high-level speedways; but that is deplorable in the extreme). Neither is there any serious attempt to deal with open space needs (for the super-monumental perfectly circular park proposed at Southwark cannot be taken very seriously). Nor is there any attempt at a score of other matters of organizational planning and physical redevelopment for social needs, which are fundamental to any genuine project for a London replanned.

It is impossible to blame the Royal Academy Committee for the omission of all these considerations. The Committee does not profess to have attempted them. For a dozen obvious reasons it could not have done so. Yet even while one admits that freely, and even while one acknowledges the public-spirited energy that has gone into the work that has been done, it is difficult to avoid questioning whether, if these fundamentals could not be considered, the job was really worth doing at all. Certainly it is at the best doubtful whether this exhibition (which was intended to show how the architect can, and *must* help in replanning) has done the cause of architecture any good: it is not improbable, indeed, that it has done it more than a little harm.

The plain fact is that the Academy Committee, gallant though its endeavour may have been, has attempted the impossible. No small body of men, however devoted, however distinguished, can tackle in its spare time, unbacked by a thorough survey, unsupported by research, unaided in a dozen strange fields of knowledge, lacking a definite concrete programme, without any kind of official recognition and all that that implies—no small body of men in such a situation can undertake, with any hope of success, the enormous, the almost frightening, problem of replanning London. Nor can any single man, however eminent, however capable, however well supported by an army of junior assistants. The task is a stupendous one: there has never been anything like it before. For its performance a great team of working experts (and some ordinary citizens) is required: experts not only from this country but from other countries as well; working, co-operatively with official backing, with the public's confidence; supplied with all the information it may require. Royal Academy plans, MARS plans, may be useful and interesting contributions. But sometimes one wonders if they do anything more than promote confusion in the public mind and provide government with reasons for inaction. Voluntary spare-time contributions to great problems, in however enthusiastic and public-spirited a manner they may be undertaken, may cometimes be a help, but they can also be a hindrance. It is time we got down in earnest to the sheer grinding hard work that must be faced before we can produce any real scheme for a London replanned.

002 THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL LIBRARY OF PLANNED INFORMATION

DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS OF DESIGN IN WELDED STEEL: 17

SPLICES IN COLUMNS (B).

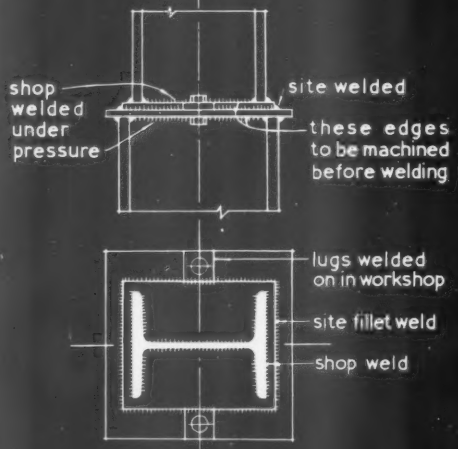


FIGURE 1a.
TYPICAL SPLICE
FOR CENTRAL LOADING.

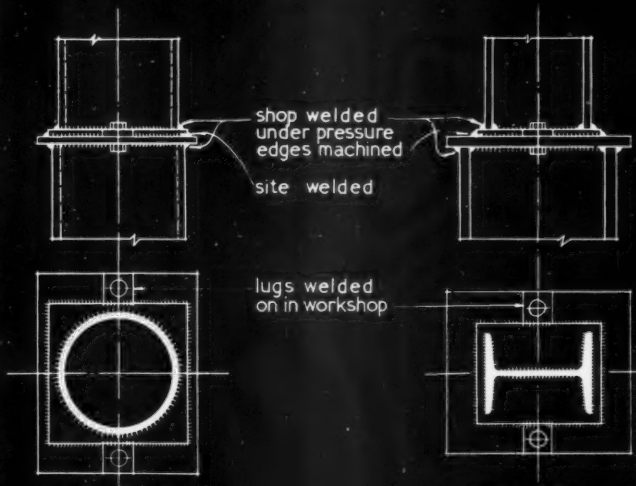


FIGURE 1b.
TYPICAL SPLICE
FOR CENTRAL LOADING.

FIGURE 2a.
INCREASED BOTTOM PLATE WHERE
SECTIONS VARY CONSIDERABLY IN SIZ

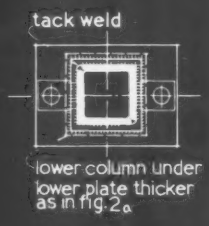


FIGURE 2b.
R.S. ANGLES TOE TO TOE.

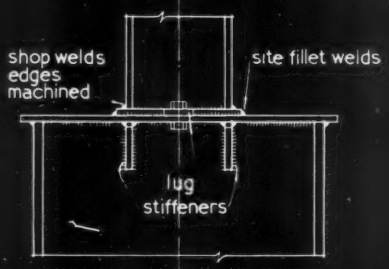


FIGURE 3.
GREAT DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN COLUMN SECTIONS.

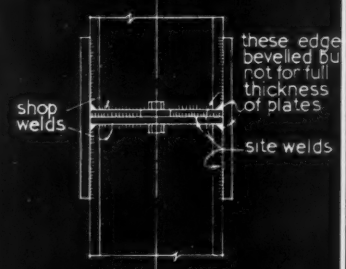
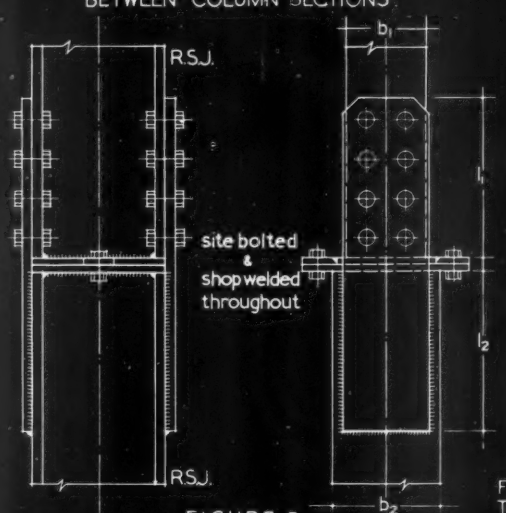


FIGURE 4.
BENDING MOMENTS
IN EITHER DIRECTION.



l_1 must not be less than b_1 or $12''$ whichever is the greater.

l_2 must not be less than b_2 or $12''$ whichever is the greater.

FIGURE 5.
SPLICE BOLTED AT SITE.

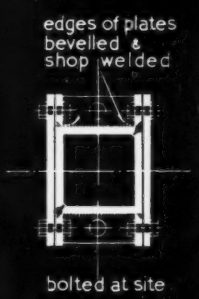


FIGURE 6.
FLANGE PLATES ARE ADDED
TO FACILITATE SITE BOLTING.

Issued by Braithwaite & Co. Engineers Ltd. Compiled by Samuely & Hamann Consulting Engineers

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL
LIBRARY OF PLANNED INFORMATION

INFORMATION SHEET

• 887 •

STRUCTURAL STEELWORK

Subject : Welding 44. Splices in Columns.

General :

This series of Sheets on welded steel construction is a continuation of a preceding group dealing with riveted and bolted construction, and is intended to serve a similar purpose—namely, to indicate the way in which economical design, as affected by general planning considerations, may be obtained.

Both the principles of design and the general and detailed application of welded steelwork are analysed in relation to the normal structural requirements of buildings. The economies in cover and dead weight, resulting from the use of lighter and smaller steel members and connections, are taken into consideration in the preliminary arrangement of the building components in order to obtain maximum economy in the design of the steel framing.

This sheet is the seventeenth of the section on detailed considerations of design in welded steel, and is the second of a series dealing with connections and splices—Splices in Columns.

Position and Strength of Splices :

The column section may be changed at every storey if the reduction in loading is sufficient to justify it, but it should be borne in mind that the additional labour cost involved in providing an additional splice may more than offset the saving in material resulting from the use of a lighter section. If the column section is not changed at every storey a splice is usually provided at every alternate storey to facilitate transport, whether the section is changed or not. In every case, the splice should be placed above floor level but as near to the floor as possible. A column splice should always have the same stiffness as the column itself if the column takes only central loading. If, however, the column has in addition to transmit large bending moments which produce tension on one side the splice must be specially designed.

Method of Splicing :

Where site welding is available, splices can be very simple and with large buildings this method is decidedly preferable. See Figures 1—4. Where site connections are carried out by means of bolts special arrangements must be made. See Figure 5.

Figures 1a and 1b show a typical column splice for a centrally loaded column where site welding is used. The columns are machined and one plate welded to each part in the workshop. In this way the two plates will fit together properly and need only two bolts for fastening. The top plate should project about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 1 in. only beyond the edge of the upper column section, and special lugs are welded on to take the bolts. The necessary stiffness is obtained by welding the two plates together afterwards by means of fillet welds.

Stresses :

If the bottom column is considerably larger than the top one, the plates have to take bending moments and may have to be increased. See Figures 2a and 2b. If the difference in size between the columns is excessive, additional stiffeners should be arranged as shown in Figure 3. Figure 4 gives a variation: a column which has to take bending moments in each direction. The plates projecting from the bottom column are welded to the top one.

R.S.J. Columns :

Splices in R.S.J. columns which are to be bolted on the site do not differ to any extent from corresponding riveted splices. A splice of this kind is shown in Figure 5. There should still be a top and bottom plate bolted together in order to transmit directly all compressive stresses.

Other Sections :

If circular columns, or columns consisting of two angles or channels, toe to toe, are used, the connection cannot be effected by bolts in the ordinary way. Special plates to take the bolts have to be welded on at the site. See Figure 6. This arrangement, however, is not practicable for multi-storey buildings where the change in the size of the column sections is greatly increased. In such cases site welding should be used. Site welding reduces the length of the splice, so that it is contained in the floor slab.

Previous Sheets :

Previous Sheets of this series on structural steelwork are Nos. 729, 733, 736, 737, 741, 745, 751, 755, 759, 763, 765, 769, 770, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 780, 783, 785, 789, 790, 793, 796, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 816, 819, 821, 822, 823, 824, 826, 827, 828, 830, 832, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 842, 843, 845, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 855, 856, 857, 859, 860, 862, 863, 865 revised, 867, 869, 870, 871, 874, 875, 877, 880, 882, 883 and 886.

Issued by : Braithwaite & Co., Engineers, Limited.

London Office : Temporary Address :
King's House, Haymarket, London, S.W.1
Telephone : Whitehall 3993.

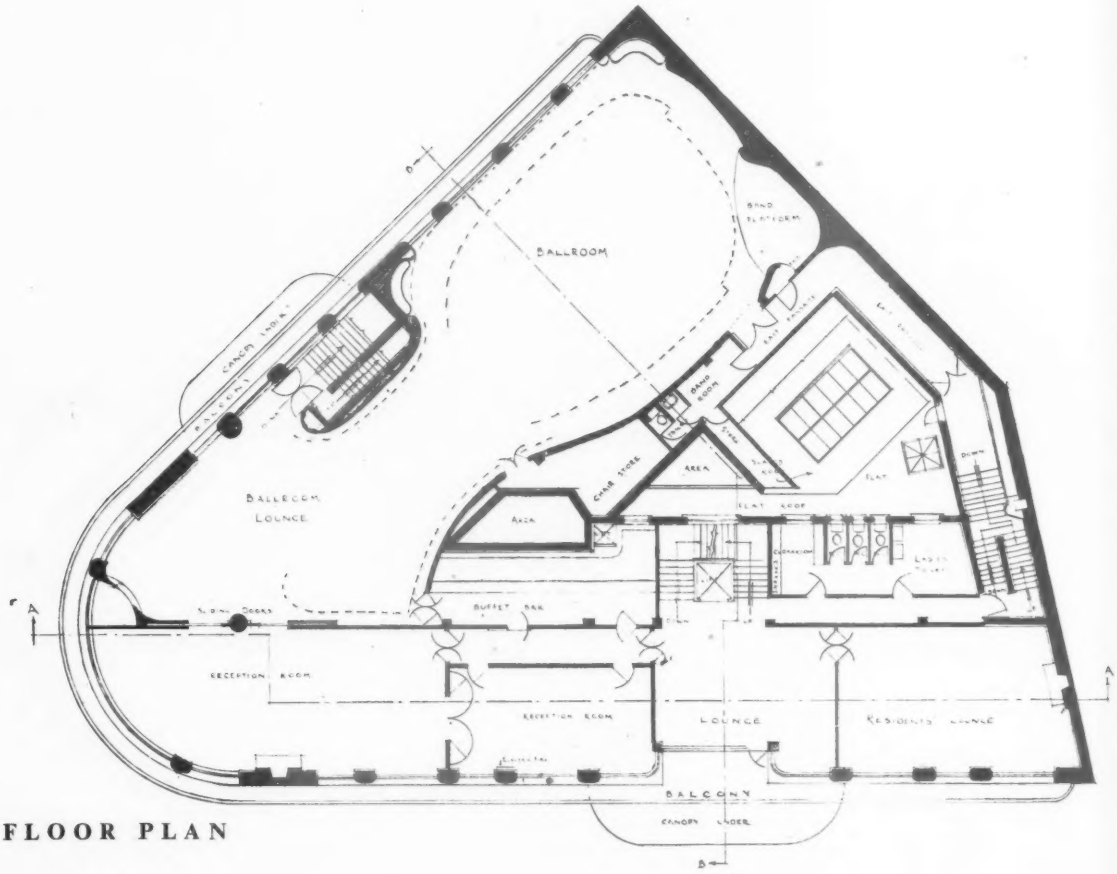
HOTEL AT KITTYBREWSTER

A. MARSHALL MACKENZIE AND SON

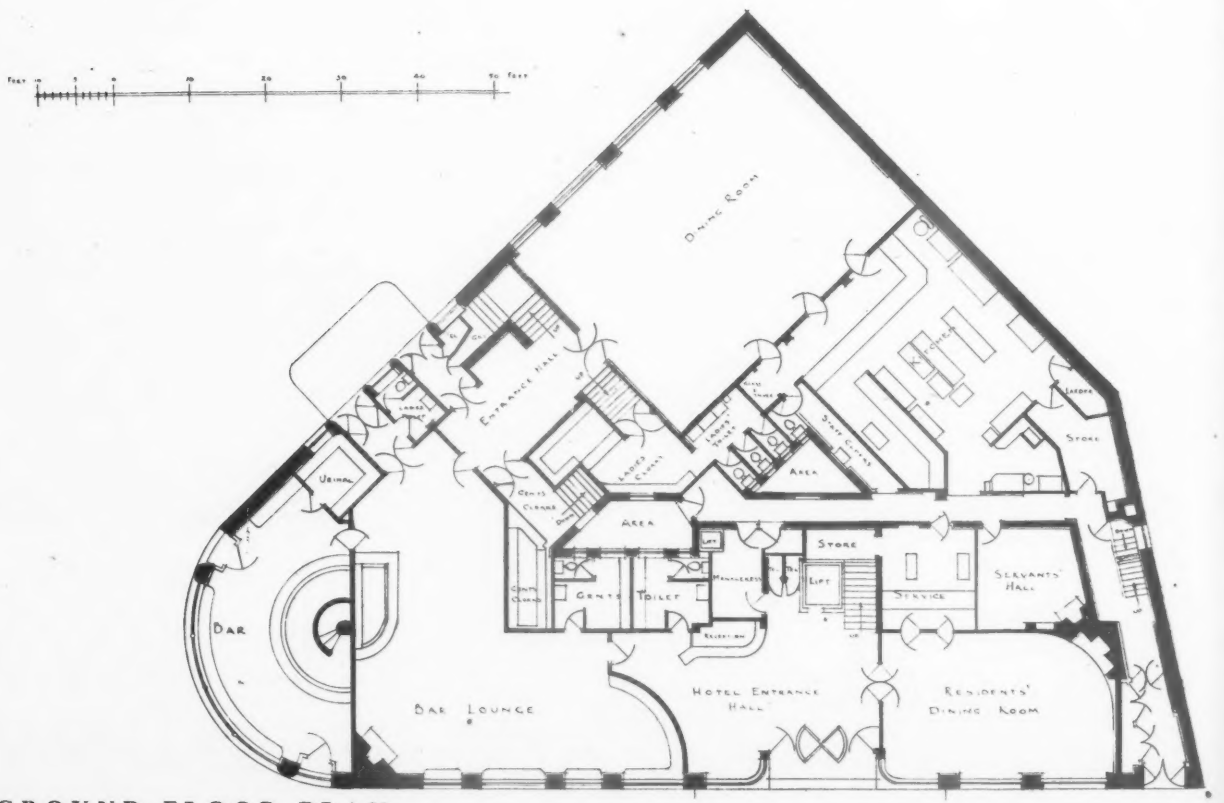
GENERAL—The hotel replaces an old one, destroyed by fire in 1938, much used by farmers and others attending the Kittybrewster cattle and sheep markets. The new hotel will serve the same purpose for the farmers and, being situated at the end of a main bye-pass road, is expected to derive a considerable trade from motorists. Many deals between farmers are signed and sealed in the northern lounge, which was kept open during rebuilding.

SITE—A corner site on the outskirts of Aberdeen. The upper stories of the hotel command fine sea views, and it is hoped to add a glazed roof garden lounge facing the sea in the near future. The architects were responsible for the building, decoration and furniture.

HOTEL AT KITTYBREWSTER, ABERDEEN:

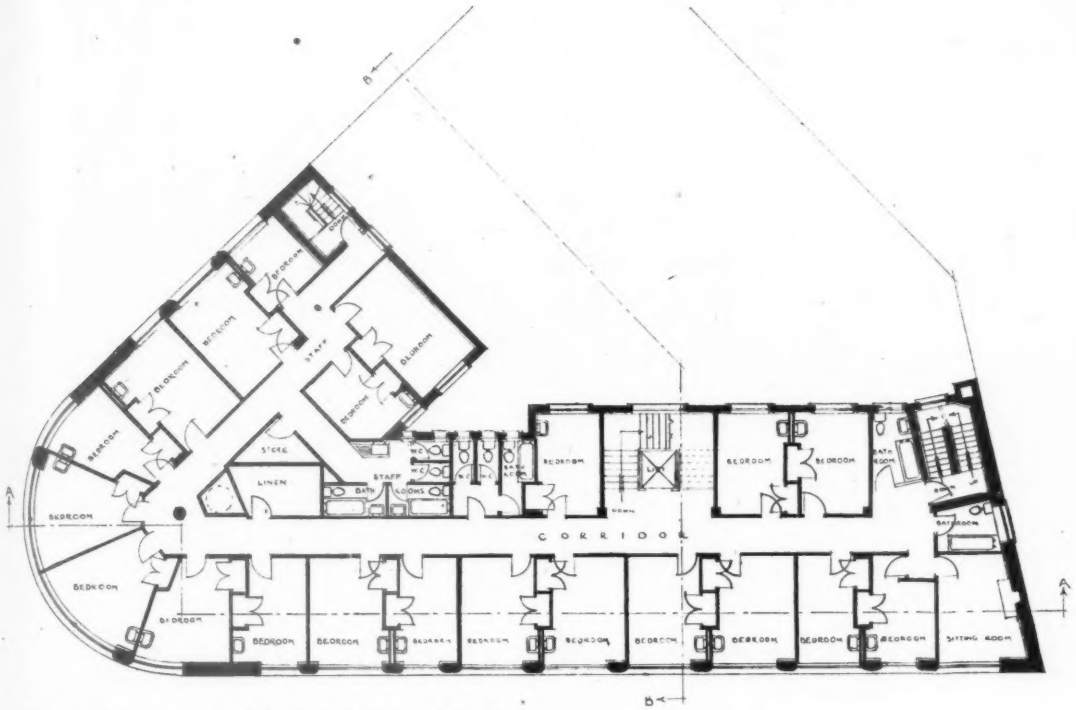


FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

DESIGNED BY A. MARSHALL MACKENZIE AND SON



TYPICAL UPPER FLOOR PLAN

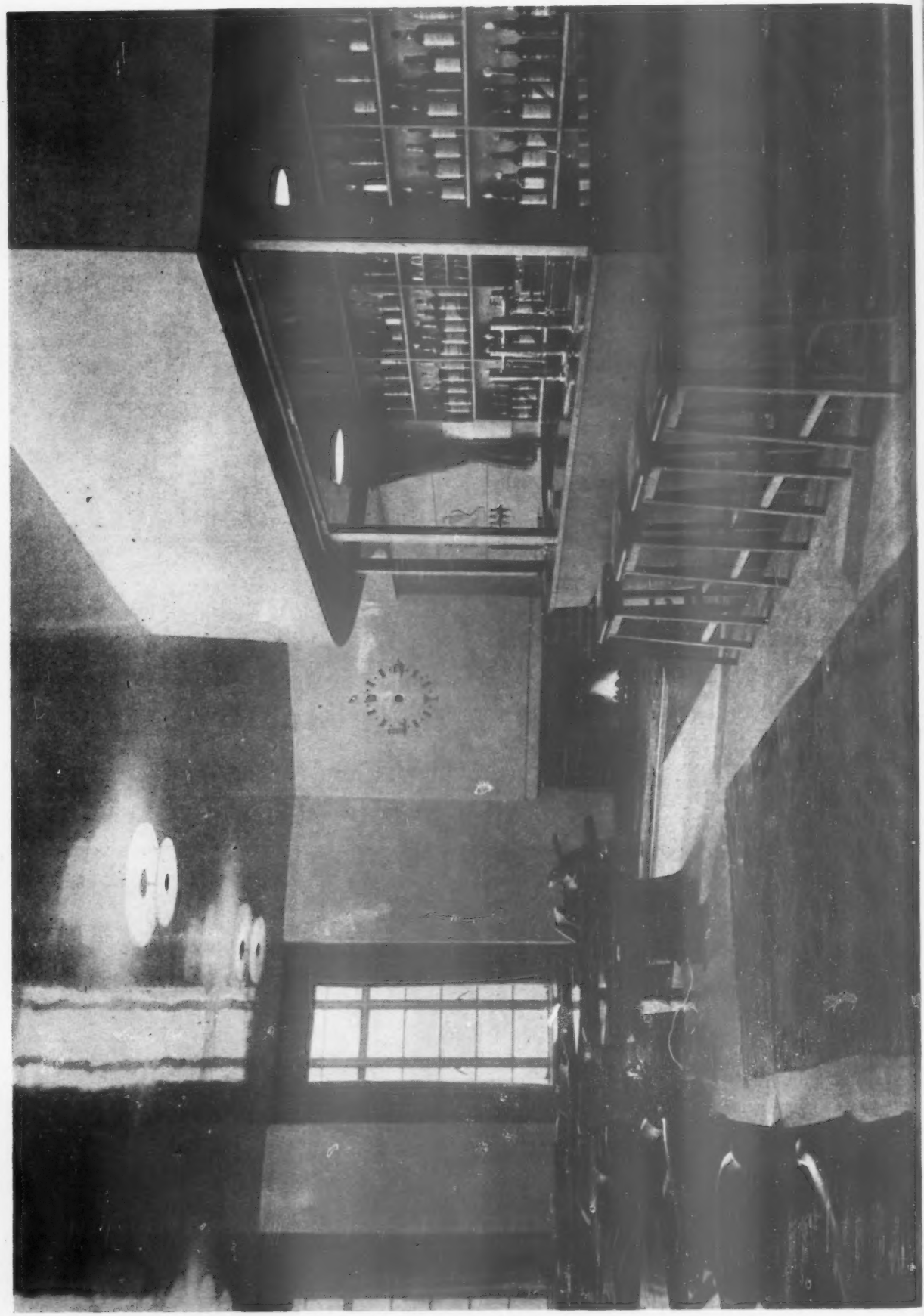
PLAN—Apart from the usual requirements of easy service from the kitchens to the dining rooms, the chief problem was to segregate the hotel proper, the bar, bar lounge and farmers' dining room, and the ballroom and reception rooms in an unobtrusive way, so that no one should feel confined to any particular section. The reception rooms are required chiefly for weddings and wedding receptions. The clients desired that these rooms should be planned so that they could be used either singly or together, or in conjunction with the ballroom, and that the farmers dining room should be usable as a ball and supper room. The fiddle shape of the ballroom was suggested, to some extent, by the available space.

CONSTRUCTION—Steel frame structure, with stone walls, and felt and asphalt roof. In the interior there are studded partitions, except on the third floor, where they are breeze. The floors are reinforced concrete.

EXTERNAL TREATMENT—Granite walls with reconstructed granite dressings, and steel windows. Virginia creeper has been planted in boxes along the balconies.

INTERNAL FINISH—The ballroom relies for effect upon its fiddle shape and its changing coloured lighting. The walls are dull white, the curtains silver, to reflect the coloured lighting, and the chairs silver gilt with multi-coloured coverings. The remainder of the interior of the hotel is enamelled in various pastel shades,

Below, the resident's dining room



HOTEL AT KITTYBREWSTER, ABERDEEN

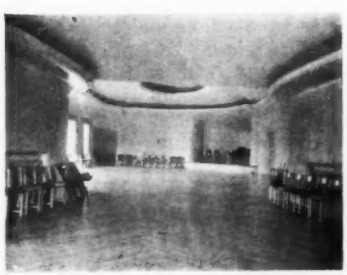
Facing page, the bar lounge, above, looking from ballroom lounge through sliding doors into reception room. Below, the ballroom

coral and yellow predominating. Joinery is oak and mahogany, finished with invisible varnish. On the walls of the reception rooms and the lounges are tin-lined plaster brackets for flowers. In the bar lounge the walls are in Gyprock lath finished with plastic paint. There are also gaily painted plywood frets, and harlequin coloured furniture, and a red, black, grey and white linoleum floor. In the bar lounge, large reception room and writing room there are well fires set in surrounds of rough grey granite walling, pointed in white cement, with wide joints. Bathrooms have white fittings, walls finished partly with black tiles and with yellow enamel above, and grey linoleum floors.

SERVICES—Press-button electric lift operating the gates as well as the lift, and cage of glass bricks. Heating is by low pressure hot water steel radiators. Ventilation by extract fans.

COST—£46,000 (price per bedroom £1,150), made up as follows: building and decoration £41,000; furniture, £5,000, exclusive of linen, crockery and kitchen utensils.

The constructional engineer was Mr. Alexander Cruickshank and the sculptor Mr. T. B. Huxley-Jones. For list of sub-contractors see page 15.



BY A. MARSHALL MACKENZIE AND SON

BOOKS

Front Line: 1940-41: Issued for the Ministry of Home Security by the Ministry of Information. Price 2s. 0d.

Nothing has so far been published that can approach this narrative as a dramatic chronicle of human courage and suffering. From beginning to end it is of absorbing interest, and one is filled with admiration for the dignity and quality of the whole production. The small cost bears no relation at all to its value, both as a record and as a moving picture of a people's courage in time of trial.

The book is arranged in three main sections: The Onslaught on London; The Ordeal of the Provinces; and The Army of Civil Defence, with a prefatory chapter entitled The Approach to the Battle. The paper cover bears a magnificent portrait of a steel-helmeted member of the "regulars" of the original London Fire Brigade, whose features and wide open, unflinching eyes are lit up by the raging fires of the blitz; a picture which has the permanent and timeless quality of the coloured portrait sculptures of Egypt.

The photographs are used in a way which tells the story step by step in line with the text: an achievement which has not always been so well managed. They are set out with the greatest skill and have obviously been subjected to the closest scrutiny and careful cutting, to bring out to the full their value both as story-tellers and as compositions. "Bleeding-off" is not done to excess, but is used effectively and always sympathetically, and with an eye to the lay-out of the whole page. The strict economy in paper (no end-papers or other introductory blanks) makes the most of space and fills the book with incident literally from cover to cover. The photographs, indeed, form a most impressive contribution. With terse and pointed sub-titles, they carry one through the story by their so obvious closeness to reality. Except in the scarred minds of those who were present, I suppose that never before has the war tragedy of men, women, buildings and earth been recorded so exactly at the very moment of suffering.

It is with this type of chronicle that descriptive writing has reached the point where it must find a new direction. As photography finished realism in painting, it now seems that photography allied to pointed sub-titling may well have finished descriptive journalism and, perhaps, literary realism itself. The pictorial story of Front Line is not told by the use of masterpieces of the photographer's art, but is the result of an extremely discriminating selection from thousands of news pictures, brilliantly strung together and described. Stories of rubble, homeless and injured people and A.R.P. services in action, however well written, cannot stand up to unlimited repetition in words, but photographs, arranged as these are, can and do sustain concentrated interest.

Front Line will hold its honoured place as a book long after the horrors depicted with such truth in its pages have become blurred in the memories of those who suffered.

H. A. N. BROCKMAN.

Village and Town: A Puffin Picture Book, by S. R. Badmin. Price 9d. net.

Village and Town is one of the Puffin Picture Books, that charming series which revolutionised the conception of children's books. Here is an example of what mass production can do when properly used. Most of these books are designed by the best illustrators, who not only made the illustrations but also the lithographic plates. By careful planning Noel Carrington, the editor, and Penguin Books, the publishers, succeeded in putting on the market first-rate books for 6d. (now 9d.) each. The social significance of this cannot be over-rated.

This book, like most of the other "Puffins," is charming. Unfortunately although the drawings are competent in the matter of draughtsmanship (perhaps a little dull) they betray a certain indifference to the technical details they portray. It is intended for children and sets out to show building in town and country. The author goes out of his way to introduce a number of constructional drawings (on the whole not quite relevant) which instead of being instructive seem to me misleading. Mr. Badmin seems to ignore the most elementary principles of construction. This by itself is no crime, but when a book is to provide, besides its general purpose of entertainment, some sort of information the least we can expect from this is that it should be correct, especially if it is to be broadcast in 50,000 to 100,000 copies. These inaccuracies are to say the least regrettable. For instance, the illustration showing The Roof and The Arch. The roof truss shown without ties pushing against pinnacles is a very personal and novel conception of a roof construction, the practicability of which will have to be demonstrated by the author. The master builder of medieval times, although daring, would never have dreamt of using this sort of structure. The flying buttresses on this same drawing are also wrongly placed and if built could support neither the lateral thrusts of the vaulting nor that of the roof as shown. But perhaps the drawing is meant to illustrate those structures which, in the words of the author "were too daring, and towers and roofs fell down." If this was the intention it should have been stated.

On the whole practically all the structural drawings are too complicated and do not show the simple principles of construction which would have been interesting for children who like to know how things are made, as in the drawing showing the construction of a "crutch" structure which is perhaps the only one of this kind.

The other shortcoming of this book is its lack of cohesion. Flying buttresses are described before barrel vaulting. The evolution of the ogival window is described at length and then no more mention of windows. After all the manor houses, castles, village churches and cathedrals of the past, it seems odd to devote a whole page to a penguin pool as typifying the use of modern materials, however pleasant the structure may be. The choice of the other illustrations of modern buildings is good.

The shortcomings of the book can be forgiven for the dessemination of such healthy ideas as "The English style of building does not mean using brick or stone or thatched roofs, but buildings which are solid, suitable and not fussy in appearance." Or "this new way of building has given us a way of preventing the towns spreading and creeping over the countryside."

ERNO GOLDFINGER

WAR DAMAGE REPAIRS

The War Damage Commission issued in the *London Gazette* on January 1 a notice which affects the following area:—

COUNTY BOROUGH OF EXETER: An area comprising the following Wards: St. Petrock, St. John, St. Paul, St. Sidwell, that part of St. Matthew Ward north of Clifton Road including the frontages on both sides of Clifton Road, and those parts of St. James, St. David and Rougemont Wards south of the Southern Railway main line.

The notice is issued under Section 7 (2) of the War Damage Act, 1941, whereby provision is made for securing that the making of payments by the Commission in respect of war damage shall have regard to the public interest.

The effect of the notice is that any person proposing to execute works for the repair of war damage, other than temporary works, in the Wards named where the total ultimate cost will be more than £100, or ten times the net annual value (whichever is the less), on any one hereditament, must first inform the Commission. That body in its turn will consult the appropriate local and planning authorities to ascertain whether the carrying out of the proposed works would conform with their intentions regarding re-planning and other public interests.

A DRY AND SAFE AIR RAID SHELTER

A HOUSE AT CAMBRIDGE.

ARCHITECTS:
SIR GUY DAWBER, R.A., WILSON & FOX

CONTRACTORS:
MESSRS. EKINS & CO., LTD., HERTFORD.

THE use of waterproofed, reinforced concrete in forming this basement was decided, upon its merits, as compared with the more cumbersome, and often more costly alternatives. The choice was fortunate because it has also provided an excellent air raid shelter, giving a high degree of safety, at no added expense beyond the provision of an escape hatch, ventilation apparatus, and bunks. The concrete was formed in accordance with our standard specification 5a.—ask for a copy, post free

'PUDLO'
BRAND
CEMENT WATERPROOFER

KERNER-GREENWOOD & COMPANY, LIMITED

ANN'S PLACE KING'S LYNN

Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers

The word 'PUDLO' is the Registered Trade Brand of Kerner-Greenwood & Co., Ltd., by whom all articles bearing that Brand are manufactured or guaranteed.

PATENT WELDED TUBULAR CONSTRUCTION

Data Sheet No. 10

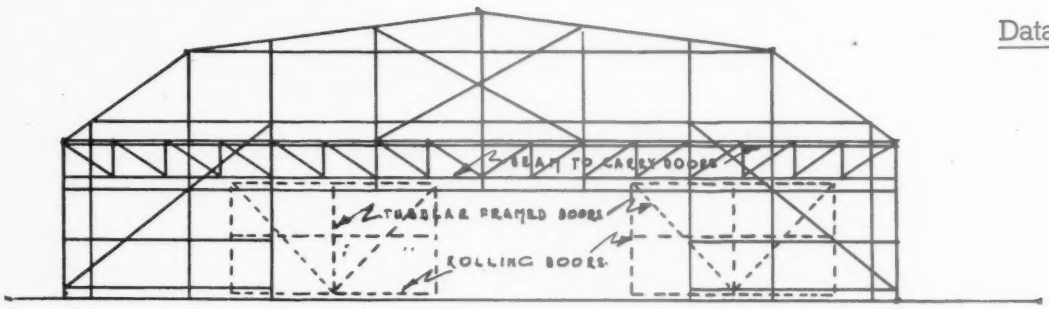


Fig. 25. 80' span tubular frame construction.

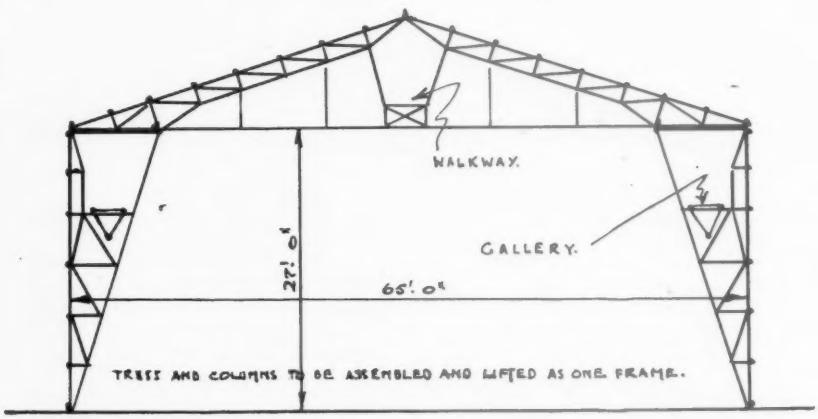


Fig. 26.

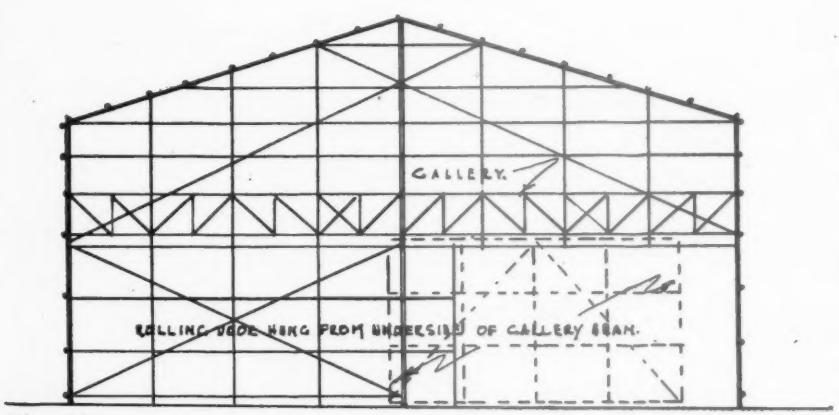


Fig. 27.

ALL-TUBULAR CONSTRUCTION

The type of tubular frame construction shown in Fig. 25 is similar to that dealt with in our Data Sheet No. 9. The building dimensions are 120 ft. by 80 ft. by 15 ft. to the eaves, and at one gable end a pair of 20 ft. tubular framed rolling doors is incorporated. The total steel tonnage employed is 20.0, and cost details (inclusive of delivery, erection and all external asbestos-cement covering, but exclusive of foundations and floors) are available.

Figs. 26 and 27 show section and gable end of a tubular framed building designed for a Film Production Centre. Building dimensions are 80 ft. by 65 ft. by 27 ft. to the eaves, and a central walk-way through the roof is provided in addition to a gallery extending continuously along one side and round one gable end. The rolling doors are of tubular frame construction asbestos-cement faced, and are suspended from the underside of the gallery beam. In designing the roof allowance had to be made for the suspension, from any of the roof principles, of machinery or equipment weighing up to half a ton.

The total steel tonnage employed is 22.8, and cost details (including delivery, erection and all external asbestos-cement sheeting, but excluding foundations and floors) 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.*

HEATING AND COOKING IN THE POST WAR HOME

REPORT TO THE M.O.H.

The British Gas Federation has submitted a report to the Design of Dwellings Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Health upon the contribution the gas industry is preparing to make to the improvement of housing conditions after the war. The report states that careful planning of the services and appliances intended for fuel supply is of major importance in building design and that the industry believes that every home built after this war can be provided with smokeless heating, hot water on tap, thermostatically controlled cooking and refrigeration for food storage, and that these services can be provided without disproportionate increase in initial costs and at running costs favourable to the tenants. Here is a summary of the report :

IMPROVEMENTS NECESSARY.

(1) *Availability*.—Gas or electricity can provide for heating the living-room, cooking and water heating at will and, furthermore, provide means of heating at least one bedroom essential for illness. However, it is a costly matter to carry out alterations and additions once a house is built. A well-equipped house should give all normal services without the necessity to hire or purchase additional apparatus.

(2) *Flexibility*.—The degree of cleanliness and comfort required by different families varies so much that an average total fuel requirement cannot be assessed, but since there is normally a limited amount of money available for heat purposes, it is important to see that ample service is obtainable so that it may be used in any direction as desired by each family.

(3) *Cleanliness*.—If the educative value of re-housing is to be utilized to the full it is necessary for each new home to be easy to maintain. In this respect the kitchen is the most important room since it is the workroom of the housewife and sets the standard of cleanliness, in addition to being the place where food is prepared and cooked. Gas appliances have improved kitchen conditions chiefly by making possible the separation of the working kitchen from the living-room. Cleaner fuels make the cleanliness of the other parts of the house both possible and easy.

(4) *Atmospheric pollution*.—It is unnecessary to reiterate the evils of atmospheric pollution.

SERVICES REQUIRED

The services of fuel in the home must be considered separately.

(*a*) *Lighting*.—Generally speaking electricity will be used for lighting in future housing, also for small power purposes.

(*b*) *Cooking*.—A fuel of high flexibility is required and it is estimated that there are now nine million gas cookers and one million electric cookers in Great Britain. In London 90 per cent. of families use gas. Experience has shown that gas cookers are used for many purposes such as water heating, iron heating, etc., and it is therefore suggested that appliances of ample capacity should be provided in future.

(*c*) *Hot Water*.—This has been neglected in the past. Hot water is needed for personal ablutions, washing dishes, laundry and house cleaning. The usage varies so much that equipment should be provided to give ample supplies, yet not involve the small user in expenditure for hot water that is not required. Water heating demands are best met by gas since it is peculiarly suited to provide large quantities of heat at a high rate of liberation for as long or short a period as desired. To supply irregular intermittent demands in large or small quantities the instantaneous type gas water heater is preferable either in the form of a multi-point heater to serve all taps or separate single-point heaters. Where demands for hot water are less intermittent a gas-heated circulator, thermostatically controlled and combined with a lagged storage tank, offers advantages. In some cases a low consumption storage heater may be most appropriate. In larger households where some degree of central heating is desired, an independent coke-fired boiler compares favourably with a gas-fired system, but it is then desirable that an alternative gas-heated system be installed for use in summer months.

(*d*) *Laundry*.—Gas-fired water boiler in modern housing. Provision is also needed for drying and ironing. Some opinions advocate a clothes-drying room or closet as part of the structure of a house, but in the lowest income groups the additional fuel required would not be justified and a garden or balcony for outdoor drying or a clothes airer in kitchen or bathroom is sufficient.

(*e*) *Living-room Space Heating*.—The preference in this country is for a glowing radiant fire for heating the living-room. Attention has been given in recent years to the design of gas fires for continuous heating of rooms, as contrasted with types suitable for occasional use. But for the war designs would have been on the market which reproduced all the essentials and appearance of a coal fire. It is advisable that a normal chimney breast be provided so that an open coke fire (with gas ignition) can be used as an alternative to a gas fire. It would be necessary to provide storage which could be used as cupboard space if solid fuel is not used.

(*f*) *Occasional Space Heating*.—This is admirably met by gas. It is unnecessary to provide normal brick chimney breasts as 12 in. by 2½ in. flues will suffice. In bedrooms the usual position of the fire-place in one wall is often inconvenient being apt to scorch the bed in small rooms—a position across one corner is preferable. Flueless (portable) heaters are a suitable means of heating halls, bathrooms, etc.

(*g*) *Refrigeration*.—Before the war the cost of running a refrigerator was not high, but to most families the capital cost was the difficulty. If the appliance were installed as part of the house equipment, this cost could be considerably reduced.

(*h*) *Ventilation*.—Ventilation is influenced by the method of fuel used. A flue above an open fire is good. A degree of ventilation less than 600 to 700 cu. ft. per person per hour is not recommended. A room of 1,000 cu. ft. capacity requires 1.5 to 2.0 per hour air change for normal occupation. The normal gas fires perform this function. More attention must be given to kitchen ventilation.

CENTRALIZED COMBUSTION OF FUEL

Central heating is more likely to be successful in blocks of flats than district heating in housing estates, but fixed charge systems like central or district heating may be less popular than flexible systems which the user can regulate to suit his own pocket.

PROVISION OF APPLIANCES

Up to the present tenants have borne the cost of appliances using modern labour-saving fuels, mainly because the cost of installing them in premises not designed for their reception is excessive.

Future houses should have them included as an integral part of the structure.

Recommendations concerning all aspects of installation are being prepared by the Gas Installations Committee and by other Study Committees in collaboration with the Directorate of Post-War Building of the Ministry of Works and Planning. A gas supply should be available to each room from where heating may be required. If the landlord were to accept responsibility for full fuel equipment, important advantages would accrue. Kitchen appliances could be constructed on a unit system so that, whatever choice of fuel was made by the incoming tenant, the appliances would be interchangeable.

TRADE NOTES

THIRD TIME CHAIRMAN OF C.C.A.

Mr. Halford W. L. Reddish, Chairman and Managing Director of The Rugby Portland Cement Co., Ltd., has, at the unanimous wish of all the Portland Cement Manufacturers in this country, accepted the Chairmanship of the Cement and Concrete Association for the third successive year.

NEW OFFICES FOR THOS. W. WARD

Owing to the increased activities of Thos. W. Ward, Ltd. of Sheffield, in the London area the staffs of the Grays Wharf, Titan & Silvertown Works have been centralized with the London Office at Brettenham House, Strand, and the co-ordination of affairs is in the hands of Mr. Arnold Carr, director. The new offices were formally opened by the Chairman of the company, Mr. Ashley S. Ward, supported by Messrs. George Wood, F. R. Stagg and other directors, who referred to the improved facilities the new arrangements would offer and already a number of leading industrialists have visited the new premises. Mr. Ward disclosed that Mr. H. W. Secker, director, had been appointed by the Ministry of Supply to be Director of Scrap Supplies to the Ministry.

MRS. LOVAT FRASER JOINS PRITCHARD WOOD & PARTNERS

On January 1, Mrs. Grace Lovat Fraser will join the Research and Industrial Design Advisory Departments of Pritchard, Wood & Partners, Limited. She has for some time been working under the direction of Mr. John Gloag, on the Industrial Design Advisory work carried on by the firm for their various clients, and her appointment is the outcome of an already close association. Mrs. Lovat Fraser has recently returned from the United States, where she conducted a six months' investigation into the work of the American Plastics industry for Halex Limited, one of P.W.P.'s clients. Her wide knowledge of industrial design, of women's fashions and of design in relation to the materials used in packaging has a great background of practical experience. In 1939 she made a packaging investigation in the U.S.A., with particular reference to the use of foil wrappings, for at that time she was the director of design of the foil department of Venesta Limited. She was, before she left for America in the autumn of 1941, joint editor of *Art and Industry*, and was joint editor of *Modern Publicity in War* (1941).

BUILDINGS ILLUSTRATED

THE NORTHERN HOTEL, KITTY-BREWSTER, ABERDEEN (pages 9-13). Architects: A. Marshall Mackenzie & Son, FF.R.I.B.A. Sub-contractors: Trustees of the late George Hall, mason; Clark & Donaldson, carpenter and joiner; G. Currie & Co., slater; Jas. Scott & Son (Aberdeen), Ltd., plaster, concrete and tiling; R. V. Pirie, plumber; J. F. Anderson, Ltd., heating; Aberdeen Electrical Engineering Co., Ltd., electrical; Kenneth Mackintosh, painter; Wm. Briggs & Sons, Ltd., roofing; George Bissett & Son, steel; Express Lift Co., Ltd., lift; J. A. King & Co., Ltd., glass bricks; Helliwell & Co., Ltd., steel casements; Geo. W. Bruse, synthetic slab work; Chas. Crockett & Sons, demolition; T. B. Colman & Sons, Ltd., revolving door; T. B. Huxley-Jones, Sculptor, sculpture for decorative plaster motifs and plywood frets; J. & A. Oglivie, furniture generally; James L. Archibald & Sons, furniture, carpets and dining-room; Wylie & Lochhead, furniture, carpets and writing-room; Holophane, Ltd., coloured lighting for ballroom; Pilkington Bros., Ltd., glass; George Nelson & Sons, chronium plated lettering; J. Kelly & Son, kitchen equipment.

THE Information Centre answers any question about architecture, building, or the professions and trades within the building industry. It does so free of charge, and its help is available to any member of the industry.

Answers are sent direct to enquirers as soon as they have been prepared. The service is confidential ; and in no case is the identity of an enquirer disclosed to a third party.

Questions should be sent to—

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

War Address :

45 THE AVENUE, CHEAM, SURREY.

Telephone : VIGILANT 0087

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

INFORMATION CENTRE

Q 1015

ARCHITECTS, LONDON. — *A flat roof erected about four years ago has become ATTACKED BY DRY ROT. The construction consists of Columbian pine joists covered with deal boarding upon which is laid ¾-in. asphalte on felt. Beneath the felt and on top of the boarding is a layer of fibre board for insulation purposes. The ceiling beneath is plastered. The dry rot has practically destroyed the whole of the boarding, but apparently has not yet obtained a hold upon the wooden joists. Ventilation of the joists was provided by a course of brickwork laid with open joints to ventilate between each joist, but the distance from end to end, 100 feet, may have proved too great. It is difficult to understand why the boarding only has been attacked.* 1. *Would the fibre board insulation have been a contributory cause?* 2. *What are the prospects of avoiding a recurrence if the boarding and asphalte are renewed, leaving the existing joists in position.* 3. *What type of preservative should be applied to any timber left in position and from whom can this be obtained?*

1. The fact that the boarding was sealed on top was a contributory cause, but the result would have been the same if the fibre board had been omitted and the felt had been laid immediately upon the boarding. It is possible to have a rot-free floor or roof covered with lino, or felt and asphalte, but particular care should be paid to ventilation underneath. The chief cause is no doubt inadequate ventilation and it is possible that the boards were wet before being covered in.

2. A recurrence is likely unless steps are taken to increase ventilation. Also there will be a definite risk if the same joists remain—a risk which should be minimized by leaving them exposed to the air, and also by seeing that they are thoroughly dry before the new boarding is laid. We should advise you to coat the joists and new boarding with magnesium silicafluoride solution (½ lb. of the acid salts to one gallon of water). The main thing is to allow plenty of ventilation in the new design. A magnesium silicafluoride solution will attack metal and glass but not brick, stone, plaster, and the like.

Q 1016

ARCHITECT, LONDON.—*I am designing a detached house to be constructed on a SITE WITH A CONSIDERABLE FALL.* 1. *As the site is being purchased by the acre, is it correct to take the actual measurements of the site for the acreage, or should I project the sloping dimensions on to a horizontal plane and calculate the acreage on these reduced dimensions?* 2. *Can you suggest a book dealing with retaining walls and foundations?*

Land surveyors invariably take their measurements along a horizontal plane as opposed to following the natural contours of the ground, and buyers and sellers of land normally adopt the measurements so taken. The acreage shown on Ordnance Maps which often forms the basis of sale is, of course, calculated in this way.

The librarian of the R.I.B.A. recommends the following books :—

" Foundations," by W. Simpson, published by Constable & Co., Ltd. 1928.

" Foundations and Earth Pressures," by C. Hyde Wallaston, published by Hutchinson's Scientific and Technical Publications, 1939. Price 21s. 0d.

" Soil Mechanics—its Principles and Structural Appliances," by D. P. Krynine, published by McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 1941.

" Soil Mechanics and Foundations," by F. L. Plummer and Stanley M. Dore, published by Pitmans. Price 22s. 6d.

"Notes on Soil Mechanics and Foundations," by F. L. Plummer, obtainable from H. K. Lewis, of 136, Gower Street, London, W.C.1. Price 9s. 0d.

There is an interesting record of a lecture on foundations called " Some Principles of Foundation Behaviour," published in the *R.I.B.A. Journal*, November, 1942.

Q 1017

STUDENT, LONDON.—*I wish to obtain information on Industrial First Aid and Medical Welfare Centres, particularly their planning and equipment.*

The following should be useful. If you want further information you should write to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, Queen Anne's Chambers, London, S.W.1, marking your enquiry Factory Welfare Dept.

Welfare Pamphlet No. 4, issued by the Ministry of Labour and National Service, entitled First Aid—Ambulance at Factories, contains a fair amount of the information that you require. It is obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, Kingsway, London, W.C.1, price 1s. 0d.

A section entitled First Aid and Medical Welfare in Factories, is contained in the book Planning, by E. & O. E., published by *The Architect and Building News*. This section covers half a page of written information and a lay-out plan. (This can be seen at the Library of the Royal Institute of British Architects, 66, Portland Place, London, W.1.).

Q 1018

ARCHITECT, YORKS.—*Can you recommend a book showing HOW TO SET UP AXONOMETRIC DRAWINGS?*

The Library of the R.I.B.A. has a paper explaining axonometric drawing, and is as follows :—

" The term axonometric is used to designate a geometrical method of drawing solid objects so that all the three dimensions scale correctly.

" When applied to architectural representation, the method of procedure is as follows :—

" Draw a plan of the building marking the positions of roof, ridges, chimneys, etc., at any chosen scale (determined by the required size of the finished axonometric). The plan should then be pinned down on the drawing board at any chosen angle to the T-square. (This need not be 45° or 60°-30°, although these are commonly used). Place a sheet of tracing paper over the plan and proceed to project up verticals to the same scale as the plan. Following this general method of procedure, it will be found quite easy to set up the most complicated building."

Other information may be obtained from the following :—

Building Geometry—edited by R. Greenhalgh—pp. 108-110.

Illustrated Carpenter and Builder—February 21, 1941, p. 20—an article by N. W. Kay.

Q 1019

MORE DAYLIGHT.—*An estate of 100 acres purchased 25 years ago for £10,000 is rented at £120 p.a. (its agricultural value) and was valued at £50,000 about five years ago on account of its suitabilities for building development. Approximately WHAT PRICE WOULD THE PROPERTY REALIZE should the Uthwatt recommendations become law?*

It is not possible to state the exact figure at which a particular property could be realized if and when the Uthwatt Committee's recommendations became law, but briefly the intention is that existing property should be realizable at its full value, in two distinct stages. (1) Full compensation for the immediate and compulsory prohibition of development rights ; (2) sale of the property without development rights.

The following extract from the Report (see ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for September 10, 1942, page 170) appears to sum up the position :—

" Shortly the scheme we recommend involves four points :—

" (*a*) The placing of a general prohibition against development on all undeveloped

FACTS ABOUT GLASS FOR ARCHITECTURAL STUDENTS

No. 11—Preparing Specifications for Glazing

More wastage occurs through out-of-date specifications being used, where glass is concerned, than in any other way. There are a good many accepted phrases which creep into specifications, which are honoured by time but not by sense.

To specify a glass as "the best of its respective kind" is a typical example. What does this mean? It means that it gives an opportunity to people who are perhaps not as conscientious as they might be, to interpret this in their own way, and supply a glass *they* consider suitable. There have been instances of architects interpreting their own specifications as calling for best glass, whereas the contractor's interpretation is that ordinary glazing quality is required, and this has been supplied. The only safe, sound and commonsense way of preparing a specification for glazing is to specify the recognised description and terms as shown in the examples given below for Sheet Glass, Polished Plate Glass and Cathedral and Figured Rolled Glass.

GLAZING SPECIFICATION

General:

All glass to be of the type, quality and substance specified, and to be of British manufacture.

The glazier must be prepared to produce at the completion of the job invoice or voucher from the manufacturer to show that the glass supplied is in accordance with the specification.

Sheet Glass:

"All windows . . . . . shall be glazed with SHEET GLASS 26 oz. (*) S.Q. (*) (Selected Glazing Quality)."

Sheet Glass is made in the following thicknesses and qualities :—

Thickness :	18 oz	approx.	1/12"
	24 oz.	,,	1/10"
	26 oz.	,,	1/8"
	32 oz.	,,	5/32"

Qualities :

Each thickness is supplied in two recognised glazing qualities, i.e.

Ordinary Glazing Quality . . . Suitable for general glazing purposes. (Referred to as O.Q.)

Selected Glazing Quality . . . For glazing work requiring a selected glass above the ordinary glazing quality. (Referred to as S.Q.)

Polished Plate Glass:

"All windows . . . . . shall be glazed with ¼" POLISHED PLATE GLASS, G.G. (*) (Ordinary Glazing Quality)."

The normal substance of British Polished Plate Glass supplied, unless otherwise stated, is approximately ¼", and is available in qualities as stated below :—

G.G. . . . *For ordinary glazing.*
S.G. . . . *For selected glazing.*

If a substance other than ¼" is required, it must be specified.

(*) The substance and quality specified is determined by the size of pane and type of job for which the glass is required.

(See Information Sheets Nos. 1 and 2 for additional information.)

Cathedral and Figured Rolled Glass:

"The windows of . . . . . shall be glazed with PINHEAD MOROCCO GLASS (*) ⅛" thick."

CATHEDRAL and FIGURED ROLLED GLASS is made in a variety of patterns and textures and classified as follows :—

Non-Formal Textures : The textural surface just gives sufficient obscurity to prevent clear vision through the glass. CLEAR, PLAIN, RIMPLED, DOUBLE ROLLED, WATERWITE, CLOUDED.

Semi-Formal Textures : On one surface a slight semi-formal pattern is impressed, giving a certain amount of brightness to the appearance of the glass. Direct vision is partly obscured. HAMMERED.

Formal Patterns : A deeply impressed formal pattern gives a high degree of brightness to the glass. Direct vision through the glass is almost obscured. ARCTIC, ARCTIC (Small), JAPANESE, KALEIDOSCOPE (Large), MAJESTIC, RIPPLED, MURANESE.

Diffusion Patterns : A deeply impressed pattern giving a high degree of brightness to the glass. Direct vision is completely obscured, with very little loss of light. MOROCCO (Pinhead), MOROCCO (Small), MOROCCO (Large), AMAZON.

Complete Diffusion and Obscuration Patterns : A deep geometric pattern is impressed, giving a high degree of brightness to the appearance of the glass and complete obscuration with very little loss of light. KALEIDOSCOPE.

(*) The type of glass used will depend upon the purpose for which it is required, *i.e.*, privacy, diffusion, etc. and should be described by name.

Other Forms of Glass: WIRED GLASS, ROUGH CAST DOUBLE ROLLED GLASS, PRISMATIC GLASS, TOUGHENED GLASS, "ARMOUR-PLATE" GLASS, GLASS BRICKS, GLASS LENSES, "VITROLITE," Etc.

These should be fully described by their trade name.

British Standard Institution Specifications:

B.S.I. No. 952/1941 — British Standards for Glass for Glazing including Definitions and Terminology of work on Glass.

B.S.I. No. 973/1941 — British Standard Code of Practice for the Glazing and Fixing of Glass for Buildings.

* *This is published by Pilkington Brothers, Limited, of St. Helens, Lancashire, whose Technical Department is always available for consultation regarding the properties and uses of glass in architecture.*

LONDON OFFICE AND SHOWROOMS AT 63 PICCADILLY, W.1. • TELEPHONE: REGENT 4281

Where architectural students may get advice and information on all questions relating to the properties of glass and its use in building.

land outside built-up areas and immediate payment to owners of the land affected of compensation for the loss of development value.

"(*b*) Unfettered determination through planning machinery of the areas in which public or private development is to take place, the amount and type of development being determined as regards development for public purposes by national needs and, as regards private development by private demands.

"(*c*) Purchase by the State of the land itself if and when required for approved development whether for public purposes or for private purposes.

"(*d*) In the case of approved development for private purposes the leasing of such land by the State to the person or body undertaking the development."

It will be seen from the above that the owner of farm land ripe for development would immediately receive from the State compensation for the loss of expected profit he has sustained through the prohibition of development. He could then sell the land as farm land, or if development was in the national interest, the State might exercise its right to purchase it at the value of farm land. In the latter case, if the owner wanted to develop the land himself, he might acquire a lease from the State.

Q 1020

ENQUIRER, NORTHUMBERLAND. — *Where can I obtain a booklet giving the CURRENT VALUES OF STEEL JOISTS and girders, light railway materials and other types of scrap metal?*

The maximum prices for scrap metals are contained in the Control of Iron and Steel Order No. 14 (Scrap), obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, Kingsway, London, W.C.1. Prices for metal vary according to the district they are sent to but this is set out in the Order.

Q 1021

ENQUIRER, BUCKS.—*I wish to obtain particulars of the patent WALL RENDERING TO HOSTELS as described in the December issue of* THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW. *The rendering was applied by brush to the brickwork, stippled and then distempered.*

The rendering is Pioneer Fire Resistant Finish (Decorative wall finish). Full particulars can be obtained from Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., The Ridge, Beechfield Road, Alderley Edge, Manchester.

Q 1022

STUDENT, LANCS.—*Where can I obtain a BOOK ON FLOOR DESIGN in composition materials, such as rubber, cork and lintile.*

There are practically no limitations as regards designs for rubber and cork flooring, though obviously a bold design is more suitable than an intricate one. We have not been able to trace any publications dealing specifically with design in relation to such floors.

There are the following books in the Library of the R.I.B.A. which deal more with the materials than the design :—

"Floors and Flooring," by A. M. J. Davidson. Published by Crosby, Lockwood & Son, Ltd., Stationers Hall Court, London, E.C.4. Price 3s. 6d. (which includes rubber, linoleum, cork, asphalte, terrazzo and marble mosaics).

"Composition Flooring and Floor Laying," by A. W. Comber. Published by Chas. Griffen & Co., Ltd., 42, Drury Lane, London, W.C.2. Price 4s. 0d.

There was also an interesting section on Modern Floor Finishes in the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for November 4, 1931.

You should get in touch with manufacturers or floor layers who may still have brochures showing examples of their materials and who may be able to give a list of buildings in which interesting examples occur. This would make it easier for you to find publications, through libraries, dealing with the buildings in question.

Q 1023

ENQUIRER, WORCESTERSHIRE.—*Who are the manufacturers of ANTI-CONDENSATION PAINTS containing a mixture with granulated cork?*

The Fairfield Paint Co., White Horse Lane, London, E.1.

Messrs. Thos. Parsons & Sons, 315, Oxford Street, London, W.1.

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

CITY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT, PLYMOUTH.

Applications are invited for Temporary Architectural Assistant. Salary £350 per annum, plus War Bonus (now £33 16s. per annum). Applicants must be exempt from military service. Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience should reach the City Architect, Compton Park House, Plymouth, on or before January 19th. 854

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.

A large firm of Architects and Surveyors practising in the Midlands has vacancies for the following:—

SENIOR ASSISTANT. Qualifications required: A.R.I.B.A. or better; excellent designer and draughtsman essential; capable of preparing coloured perspective drawings.

SENIOR ASSISTANT. Qualifications required: A.R.I.B.A. or better; first-class experience in modern cinematograph theatre design and construction essential.

SURVEYOR (LAND). Qualifications required: F.S.I., A.M.T.P.I. or better; Experience in the preparation of lay-out and management of large estates essential.

QUANTITY SURVEYOR. Qualifications required: F.S.I. or better. Able to take control of section.

Applicants should indicate clearly which post they are applying for, and state age, details of previous employment and salary required. Box No. 44.

Architectural Appointments Wanted

ARCHITECT AND SURVEYOR, A.R.I.B.A., seeks position or work in own office which will allow him a day per week to attend to his own practice. Box 45.

ARCHITECT AND SURVEYOR with own office in Gloucester, offers assistance in all branches of the Profession. Box 46.

JUNIOR ASSISTANT requires a progressive position in an Architect's office. London area. Have knowledge of draughtsmanship and building construction. Studying second year at Regent Street Polytechnic. Excellent references. Pupilage is possible. Box 47.

ARCHITECT'S ASSISTANT, A.R.I.B.A., T.P.I. Final Exam.; 31 years (woman); all round experience; present salary £355 per annum; seeks position in Sheffield. Box No. 48.

Classified Advertisements continued on page xxvi.

Other Appointments Vacant

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

REQUIRED by Civil Engineering Contractors in S. Wales engaged on Works Expansion under high priority, **ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR,** able to deal with Interim Applications, preparation and pricing of quantities, etc.

DAYWORKS SURVEYOR for charge of preparation and submission of Daysheets and Daywork Invoicing. Apply with full references, stating salary required to Box No. 851.

Other Appointments Wanted

Four lines or under, 2s. 6d.; each additional line, 6d.

LADY SECRETARY requires post in London. Good record of architectural experience. Excellent references. Box No. 43.

Miscellaneous

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

A. J. BINNS, LTD., specialists in the supply and fixing of all types of fencing, tubular guard rail, factory partitions and gates. 53, Great Marlborough Street, W.1. Gerrard 4223-4224-4225.

SPECIFICATIONS AND BILLS OF QUANTITIES, etc., expeditiously and accurately typed or duplicated. Translations and Facsimile, Typewriting. All work treated confidentially. Miss G. Saunders, Typewriting Bureau, 17, Dacre Street, Westminster, S.W.1. Telephone: Whitehall 2605.

FURNISHED WORKING SPACE for One required in Architects of similar office, W.1 or W.C.1. Use of 'phone not necessary. Berner, 416m, Fulham Road, S.W.6. 852

WANTED TO PURCHASE. Copies of *Architectural Record* (N.Y.) for July and August, 1942. Box 853.

Educational Announcements

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

EDINBURGH COLLEGE OF ART.

ANDREW GRANT SCHOLARSHIPS.

The Board of Management may award in March, 1943, four Scholarships of £45 to £80 per annum for three to five years for admission in October, 1943. Candidates must be under the age of 19 on October 1, 1943, and must show evidence of exceptional artistic ability. One Scholarship of £120 per annum for three years may also be awarded to a student who has already reached an advanced stage of training and is under the age of 22 on October 1, 1943. The College incorporates Schools of Architecture and Town Planning, Design, Painting and Sculpture, and is well endowed with Travelling Scholarships and Fellowships.

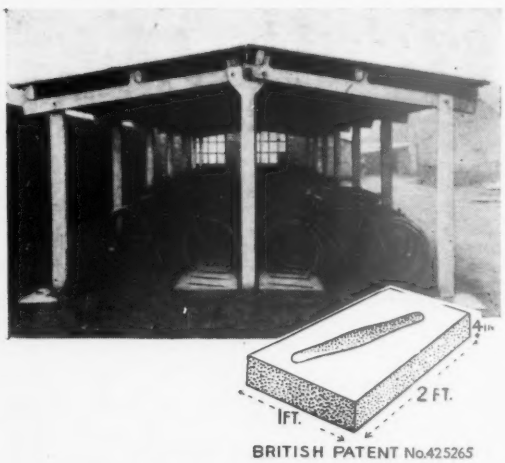
Application Forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, College of Art, Lauriston Place, Edinburgh, 3.

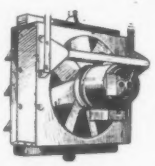
The last day for receiving applications is January 30, 1943. 840

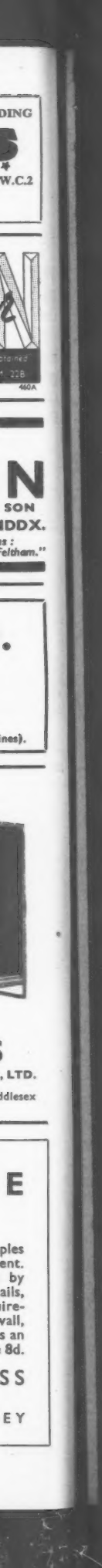
CORRESPONDENCE COURSE for Planning Examinations. Particulars from G. E. Payne, F.R.G.S., P.S.I., M.T.P.I., "Marchfield," Taynton, Glos. 844

R.I.B.A. QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS
Mr. C. W. Box, F.R.I.B.A., M.R.San.I.
Short Term Wartime Tuition Arranged.
Courses by Correspondence and Personal in Studio.
115, Gower St., London, W.C.1. Telephone . Euston 3906

R.I.B.A. AND T.P. INST. EXAMS. Private Courses of tuition by correspondence arranged by Mr. L. Stuart Stanley, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I. Tutor, St. Catherine's College, Cambridge. 231







Printed in Great Britain for the Proprietors of "THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL"
(The Architectural Press, Ltd.) War Address: 45 The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey
by KNAPP, DREWETT & SONS LTD. Kingston-on-Thames and London.

burn

ms

.6