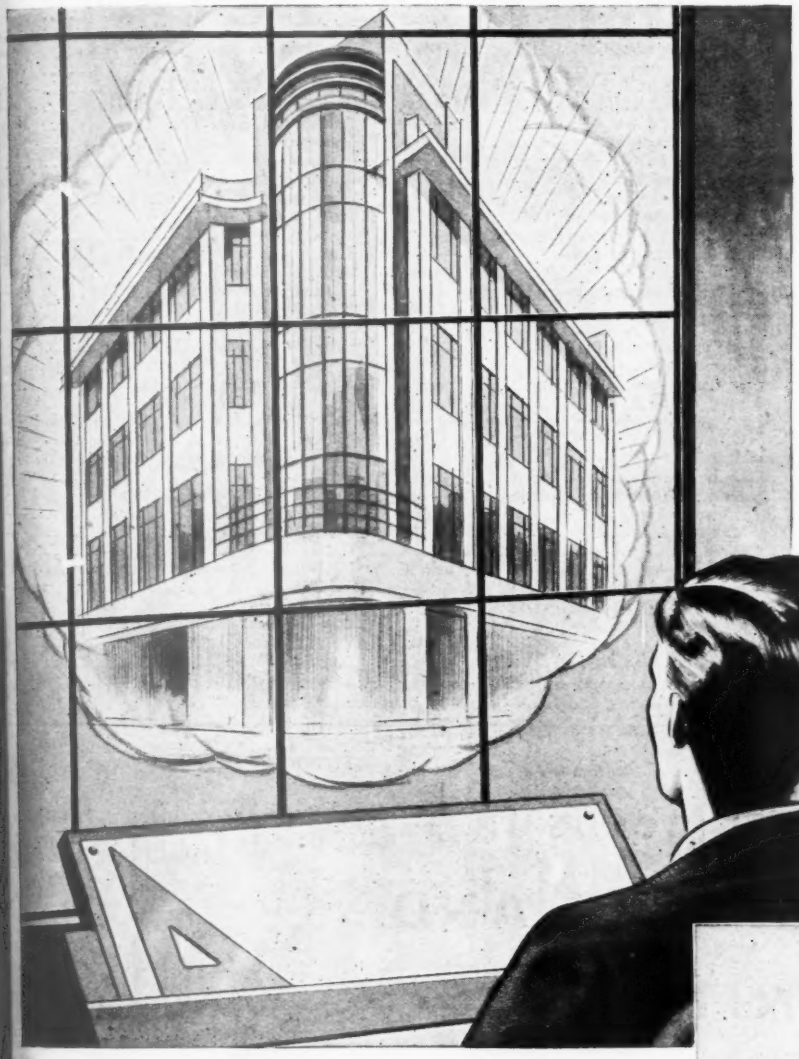
# *Whilst the building is still a vision . . .*



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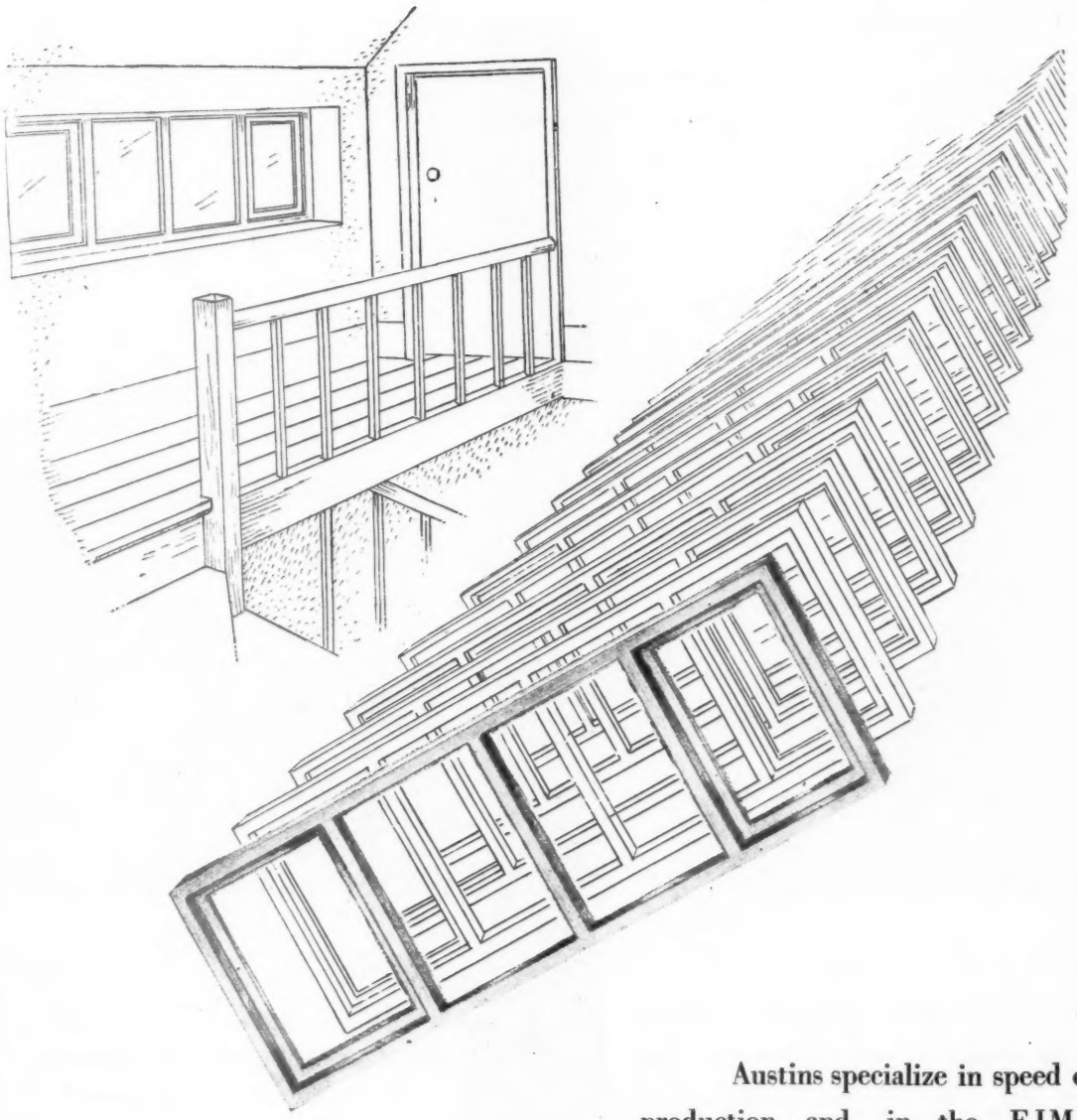
# Alphabetical Index to Advertisers



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



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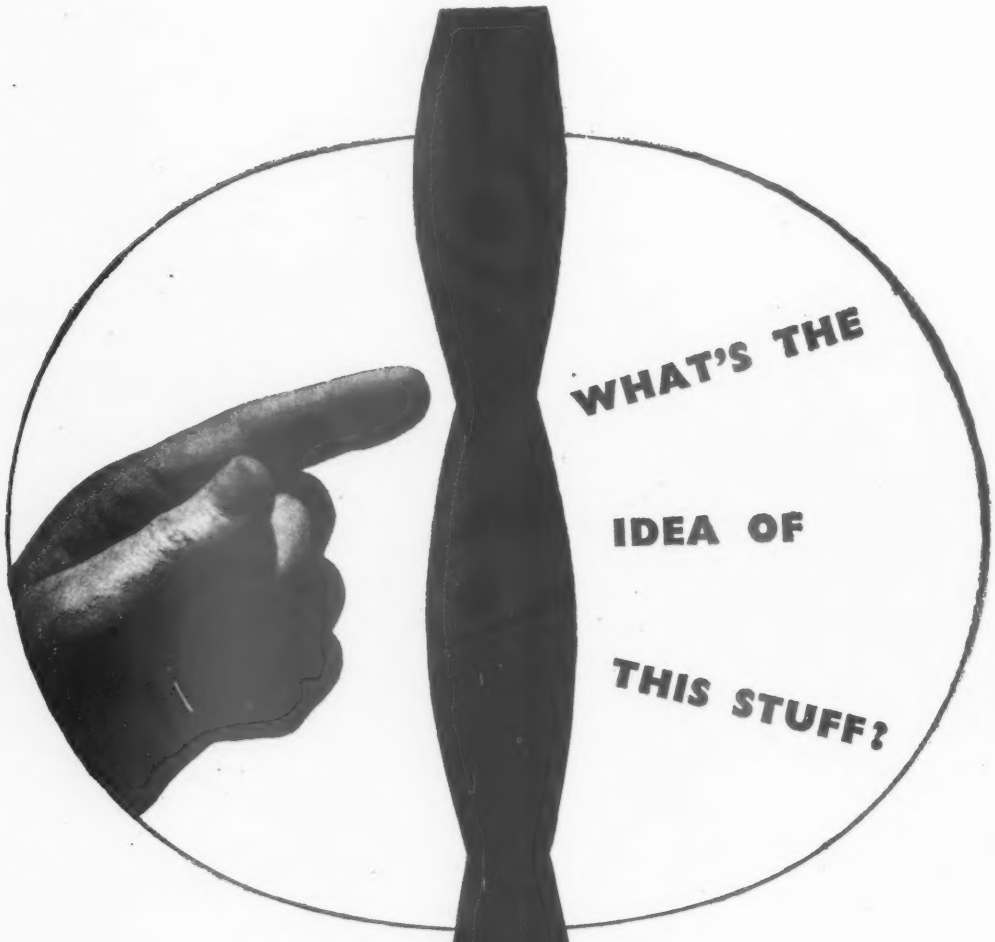


**In the old days, before 'Isteg' put the principle of cold working on the reinforcement map, people used to say, "What's the idea of this stuff?" Since then, of course, it's been used for so many important jobs, the first being the rebuilding of the Bank of England, that there's no longer any need to stress its structural advantages. But it's worth remembering that the 'Isteg' process of manufacture, which provides reinforcement of unequalled bond strength, also raises the permissible working stress to such an extent that much less steel is required and this makes possible a considerable saving in actual cost.**

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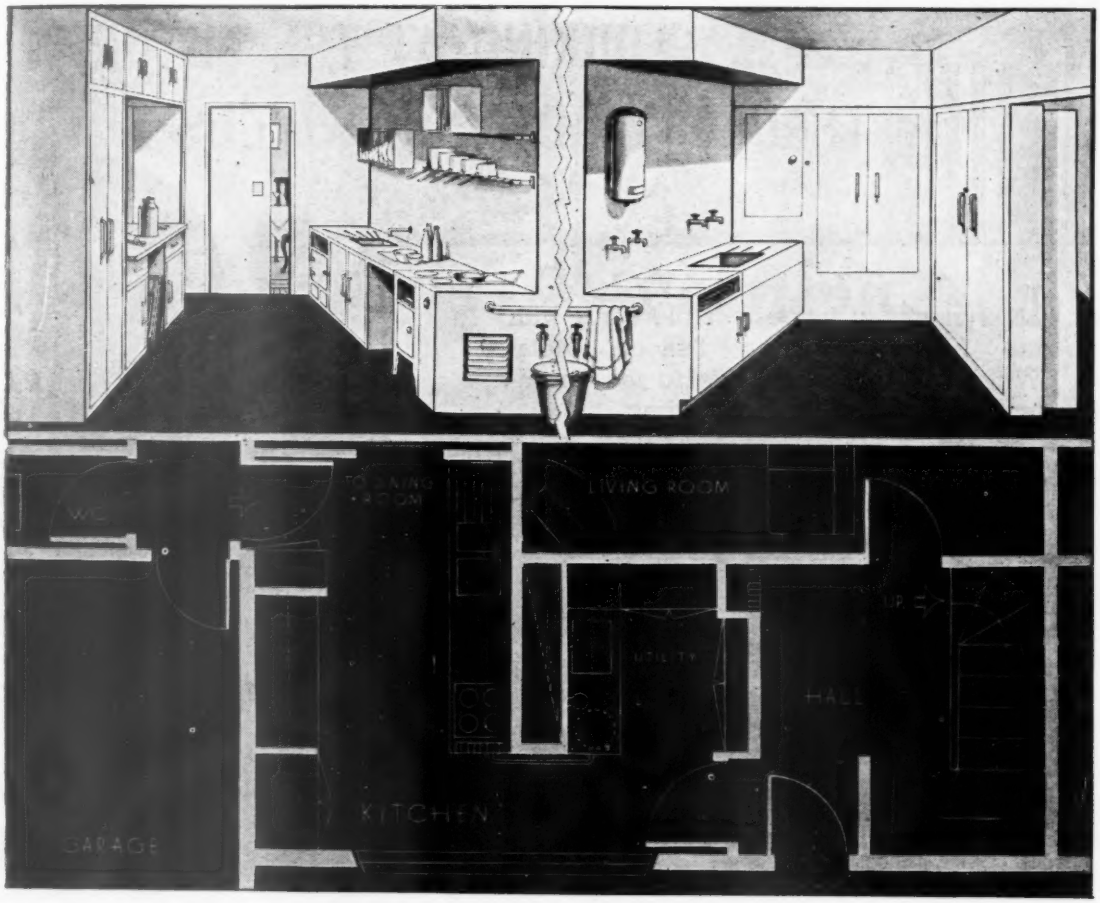


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The Kitchen layout shewn above provides for the separation of the two main activities of food preparation and laundry work; and the installation of labour-saving appliances for automatic cooking, water-heating, clothes boiling, drying cupboards, and a refrigerator; whilst warmth is furnished by an efficient radiator.

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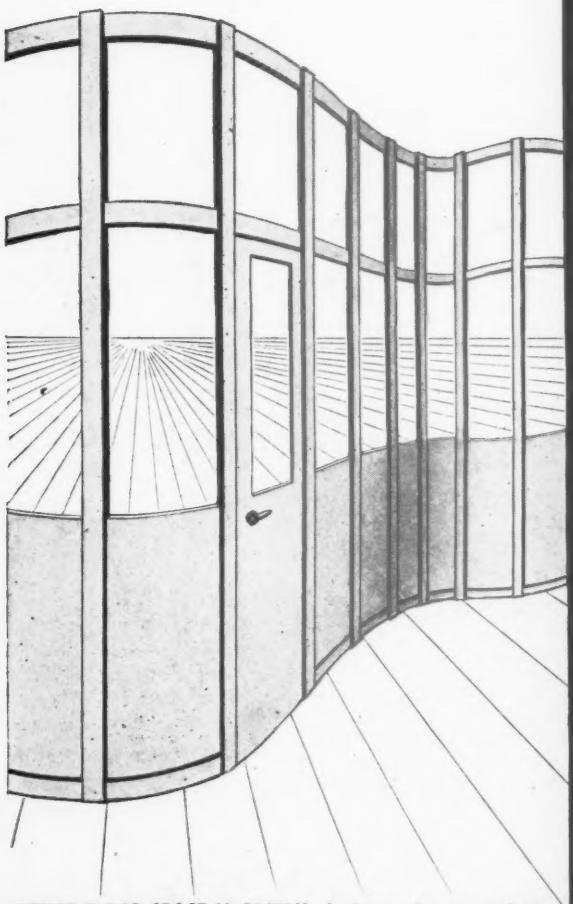

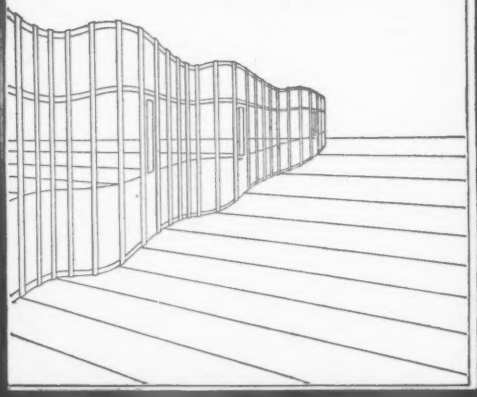

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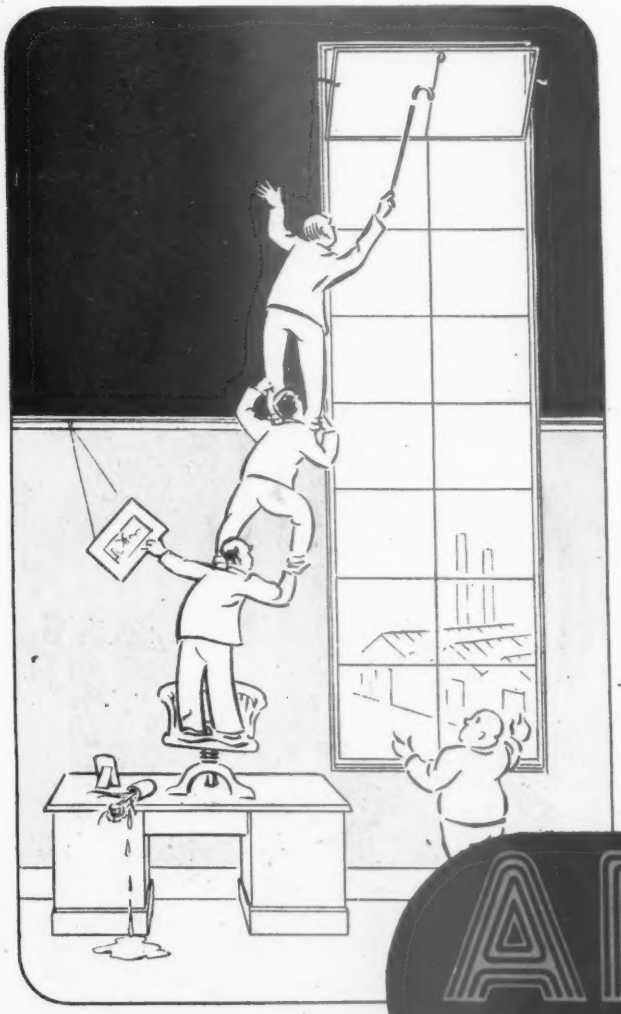

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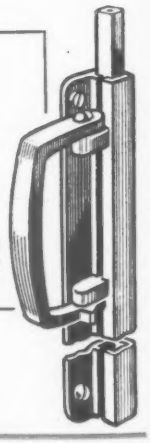

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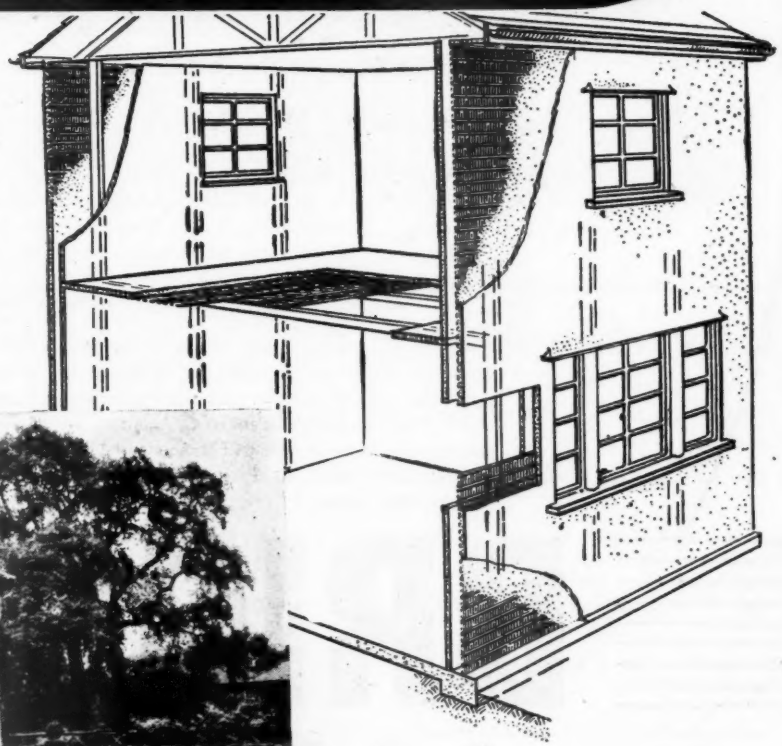
## *in* FRAMED HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

***Below:*** Illustration of framed house with external walls and first floor in Hy-Rib construction. This house is one of over 5,000 domestic dwellings constructed in the inter-war period in which the external walls were of cement rendering on Hy-Rib.

The photograph was taken in May 1944, when the house was 22 years old.



***Above:*** Diagrammatic drawing of framed house showing Hy-Rib in walls and floor.

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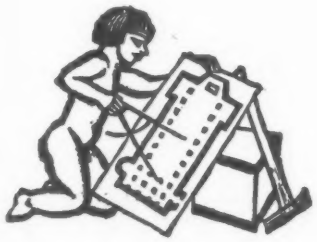
*In common with every other periodical this* JOURNAL *is rationed to a small part of its peacetime needs of paper. For this reason it is virtually impossible for Newsagents to accept new orders for the* JOURNAL *for the time being, and the Publishers are also now unable to enter new subscriptions. Intending subscribers should, however, send in their names either to their Newsagent or direct to the Publishers to be recorded on the "waiting list" when they would be advised as soon as a vacancy occurs. The annual post free subscription rate is £1 15s. 0d.. Single copies, 9d., postage 2d. Special numbers, price 1s. 6d. are included in the annual subscription. Back numbers more than 12 months old (when available), double price. Volumes can be bound complete with index, in cloth cases, for 15s. each; carriage extra. Goods advertised in the* JOURNAL, *and made of raw materials now in short supply, are not necessarily available for export.*



# DIARY FOR JULY AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

**Titles of exhibitions, lectures and papers are printed in italics. In the case of papers and lectures the authors' names come first. Sponsors are represented by their initials as given in the glossary of abbreviations on the front cover.**

CAMBRIDGE. *Rebuilding Britain Exhibition.* At Homerton College from July 13-17. At Newnham College, July 20-27. (Sponsor, BIAE.) JULY 13-27

CHELMSFORD. *The English Town: Its Continuity and Development*, Exhibition, and *When We Build Again*, Film. (Sponsor, TCPA.) SEPT. 1-9

DUDLEY. *Rebuilding Britain Exhibition.* At the Public Library. (Sponsor, BIAE.) JULY 13-29

GRANTHAM. *The English Town: Its Continuity and Development.* Exhibition. At the Guildhall. (Sponsor, TCPA.) JULY 13-26

LEEDS. *When We Build Again* and *Homes of To-morrow.* Exhibition and film. (Sponsor, TCPA.) JULY 13-22

LLANDYBIE, SOUTH WALES. *When We Build Again.* Exhibition and film. At the National Welsh Eisteddfodd. (Sponsor, TCPA in collaboration with Messrs. Cadbury Bros.) AUG. 7-11

LONDON. *RA Exhibition.* Weekdays 9.30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sundays 2 to 6 p.m. Admission: One Shilling. JULY 13-AUG. 7

*National Buildings Record Exhibition.* At the National Gallery. Photographs of buildings of architectural interest throughout the country taken during the past three years for record purposes. Most parts of England, from Northumberland to Cornwall, are represented and the subjects range from the Central Tower of Durham Cathedral to Georgian wallpaper in a house at Falmouth. (Sponsor, National Buildings Record.) 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., 2.15 p.m. to 6 p.m. JULY 13-15

*Town House Exhibition.* At 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor, Housing Centre.) JULY 13-31

Sir William Jowitt, K.C., M.P. *The Government's White Paper on the Control of Land Use.* At the Chartered Surveyors' Institution, 12, Great George Street, Westminster, S.W.1. 3 p.m. JULY 18

F. J. Osborn. *The Control of Land Use.* At 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor, Housing Centre.) 1.15 p.m. JULY 18

*American Housing in War and Peace Exhibition.* At the RIBA, 66, Portland Place, W.1. The exhibition, prepared by the Museum of Modern Art in New York, brought here by the US Office of War Information at the request of the Council of the RIBA, tells the story of American housing before and during the war. Photographs, diagrams and text show the work of the US Government Housing Agencies and private organizations in the various fields of housing in cities and in rural areas. The exhibition demonstrates the high quality of the dwellings erected, the new materials and new methods of construction that have been used in wartime building. Many of the solutions and experiments are relevant to British post-war problems of providing housing for temporary occupation while permanent houses are going up. Pictures of several large schemes of permanent town building completed before the war and largely inspired by legislation and planning in Britain are also included. The designer of the exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art is Mrs. Mary Cooke, who worked for government housing authorities in Washington after her return in 1935 from Britain, where she worked with the architectural firm Tecton. JULY 19—AUG. 26

Sir Albert Howard. *Fresh Food and Town Planning.* At 2, Savoy Hill, Strand, W.C.2. Chairman, Lord Portsmouth. (Sponsor, TCPA.) 1.15 p.m. JULY 20

Edward H. Newman. *Education for Householding.* At 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor, Housing Centre.) 1.15 p.m. JULY 25

*Reconditioning England Exhibition*, 1944. At St. Martin's School of Art, 109, Charing Cross Road, W.C.2 JULY 24—AUGUST 7

F. J. Osborn. *Preservation and Progress.* At a meeting to be held by TCPA in conjunction with *Reconditioning England* Exhibition at St. Martin's School of Art, Charing Cross Road, W.C.2. Chairman, Lord Harmsworth. 3 p.m. JULY 25

*London Master Builders' Association Half-Yearly Meeting.* At the Dorchester Hotel, Mr. H. C. Harland, President of the Association, will preside. Mr. Henry Willink, M.P., Minister of Health, is to be the guest of honour. JULY 27

NEW MALDEN, SURREY. *The English Town: Its Continuity and Development.* Exhibition. At the Public Library. (Sponsor, TCPA.) AUG. 19-26

NUNEATON. *Homes to Live In Exhibition.* At Riversley Park Art Gallery. Miss Ivor Jones, guide lecturer. (Sponsor, BIAE.) JULY 13-22

# NEWS

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1944
No. 2581. VOL. 100



*Though no feature in the* JOURNAL *is without value for someone, there are often good reasons why certain news calls for special emphasis. The* JOURNAL'S *starring system is designed to give this emphasis, but without prejudice to the unstarred items which are often no less important.*

★ *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 feature marked with more than two stars is very big building news indeed.*

## *If Oxford is to be preserved alive, the activity of the Oxford Preservation Trust in promoting change for the better must equal its resolution in OPPOSING CHANGE FOR THE WORSE, said Mr. H. G. Goodhart-Rendel.*

Addressing the annual meeting of the Trust at Oxford, Mr. Goodhart-Rendell said that Viennese psychologists might not yet have encountered any excessively fond mother who killed and stuffed her beloved children to perpetuate their innocence, but this is very much what excessively fond preservation societies are apt to do with beloved places. The famous village of Broadway seems absolutely airless under its glass case, and the aspect of ruined castles and abbeys, skilfully mummified by the Office of Works, often suggests to the sensitive the thrall of some sinister magician. In Oxford, the Old Clarendon building seems to demand protection as a masterpiece, and the buildings of Keble College as a successful work of high aim, whereas the only plea I can make for the retention of Rhodes House will be that of economy. It has cost a lot of money and is in good condition. Moreover, given time, it may acquire documentary value. If Oxford is to be preserved alive, their activity in promoting change for the better must equal their resolution in opposing change for the worse. Other things being equal, change is better than stagnation, and the aim of each generation of Oxford men must always be to leave Oxford better than they found it.

## *from* AN ARCHITECT'S *Commonplace Book*

CONTEMPORARY RHYTHM. [*From* Fine Building, *by Maxwell Fry* ((*Faber & Faber*)]. We have few opportunities of judging of the quality of the contemporary rhythm, the scale of the modern urban scene in its entirety. I felt it moving in the view through the open end of Cockfosters Station —looking along the platforms, with their elegant reinforced concrete furniture, towards the tracks, the signal box and the long low lines of the train-sheds beyond. What would utterly destroy the sweet strong rhythm is missing : there are as yet no jerry-built villas in the view, and if we are serious about our town building, there never will be. Again, in Stockholm on the way to the airport, there was a moment when the contemporary rhythm was most strongly established. On the left were sports fields surróunding a wide-spanned building housing tennis courts, and the setting for the whole was diversified by rocks, trees and occasional houses. It is hard to say in what way this pattern of natural and artificial structure evoked so marked a feeling of harmonious exhilaration, but something in the tempo of the swiftly moving highway set a long beat which was echoed in the smooth span of the sports building and carried on again in one after another smaller detail : of balustrade, lamp standard and the like : while the lines of the road and of the building were as completely congruous as though, to use McColl's simile, they had been cut in one pattern on ice by a single skater. I can remember vividly the impression it gave of belonging to me and my generation and how the truth of this filled me in the momentary glimpse that came as I passed over it in the plane a few minutes later. Remembering this scene, I remember also Alvar Aalto's advice, " Don't study town planning, it is all architecture."

*The Architects' Registration Council announces that MAINTENANCE SCHOLARSHIPS have been awarded to the following.*
Francis O. Brown, Sheffield ; Charles H. Cullum, Grimsby ; Derek B. Cottam, Blackburn ; Maurice C. Dakin, Ilkley ; Samuel Heaton, Rothwell ; Denis L. Mills, Romford ; Jack Ogden, Wyke, Bradford ; Charles H. C. Oates, Frinton-on-Sea ; Joseph R. Parker, Blackpool ; Donald A. Pate, Preston ; Fred Rogerson, Rochdale ; William G. Sellers, Kirkham, Lancs ; John H. Ward, London ; Ruth Wise, London ; Kenneth Wrigglesworth, Hull ; Bernard B. West, Bedford.

*It is announced that CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL is to be rebuilt on part of Northwick Park Golf Course, Wembley.*
Middlesex County Council proposes to buy the whole of the golf course from the trustees of Harrow School for £188,000. The total area is 192 acres, of which Charing Cross Hospital will have 20 acres. Another site in the area is allocated for a new technical college, and a third is to be occupied by a cemetery. Over 80 acres will be devoted to an open space for the public, perhaps as a golf course. An additional 20 acres each will be available for playing fields for Harrow County School and a school at Wembley.

*Post-war requirements of industry cannot fully be met unless there is an improvement in the STATUS of the DESIGNER.*
The following resolution to this effect was carried unanimously at a meeting of industrial and publicity designers convened by the Society of Industrial Artists and held recently at the RIBA : This open meeting of designers for industry and publicity believes that the post-war requirements of industry in both home and overseas markets cannot fully be met unless there is an improvement in the status of the designer. To this end effective professional organization is essential, and this meeting therefore endorses the policy and programme of the SIA as set forth in the prospectus here discussed. Speakers included Milner Gray (President, SIA), in the chair, Misha Black, Wells Coates, Lieut. Games, Warnett Kennedy and other well-known figures of the design world. The resolution was seconded by James Holland. The discussion brought out the importance of vocational education of designers and the Society's policy and plans were enthusiastically supported.

*Mr. R. A. Easdale has been elected President of the WEST YORKSHIRE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS.*
Other elected officers are : Vice-Presidents : C. Sunderland and Noel Pyman. Hon. Secretaries : Norval R. Paxton and J. R. Tolson. Hon. Treasurer : Wm. Broadbent. Council, Fellows : F. Abbey, J. S. Allen, W. S. Backhouse, P. Benson Haswell, C. Hickson, L. Holdsworth, C. E. Horsfall, H. Jackman, R. A. H. Livett, G. R. Oddy, H. F. Sharp, Wm. Tocher ; Associates : J. J. Birkinshaw, W. Clifford Brown, R. Thompson.

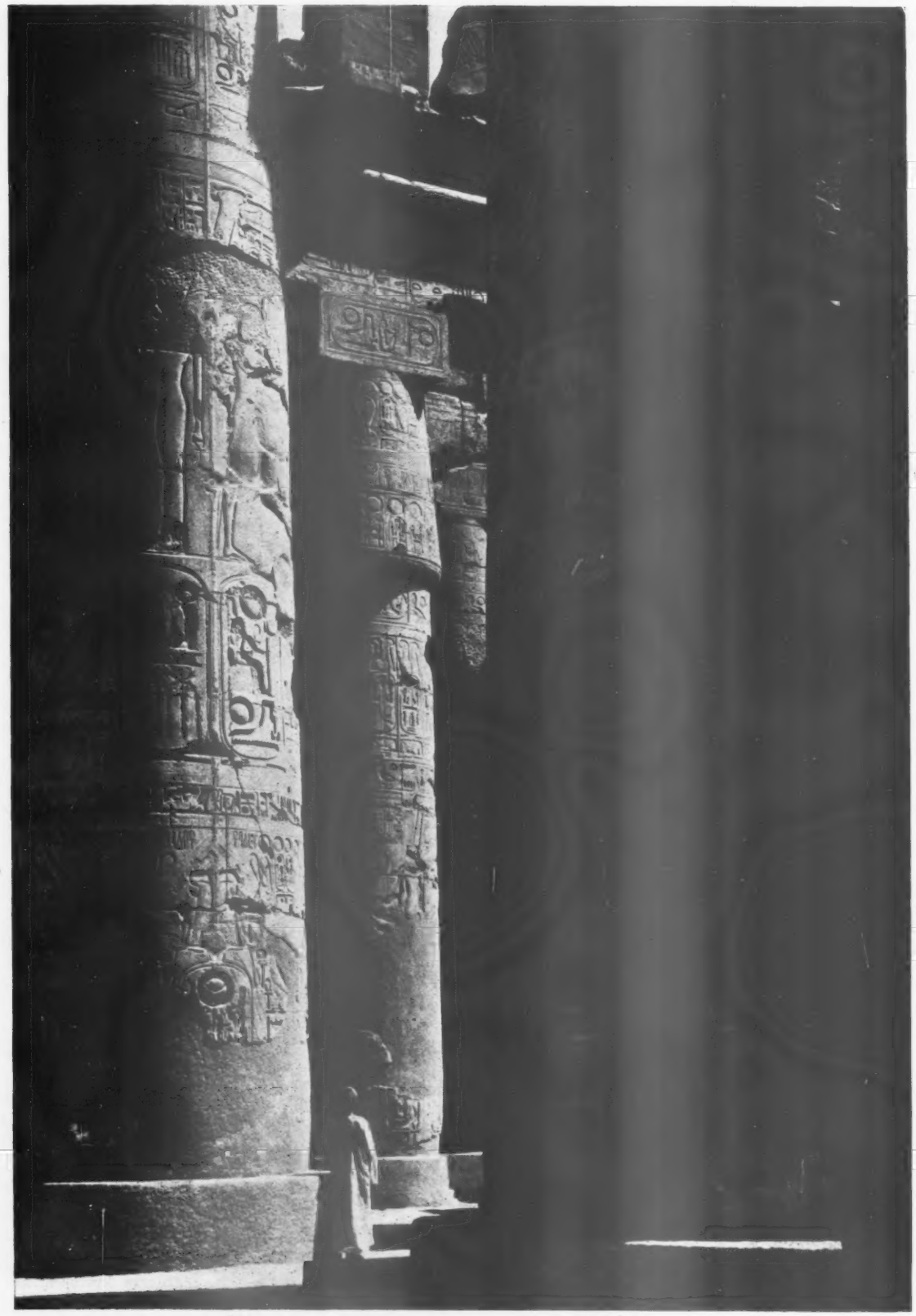
*Birmingham City Council is seeking powers to nominate TENANTS FOR REPAIRED BOMBED HOUSES.*
Lord Chesham, President of the National Federation of Property Owners, in a protest to Mr. Willink, Minister of Health, says that such powers would violate the present ruling that owners have the right to let. Although repairs are carried out by the local authority, the cost is borne by the War Damage Commission, the war damage contribution being paid by the owner.

*At Staines, Middlesex, work has begun on THE WORLD'S BIGGEST AIRPORT.*
It will have an area of 2,800 acres, 300 acres bigger than Idlewild, the New York airport. At present much of the work is concerned with draining the site, and the erection of steel and wooden huts for the accommodation of hundreds of workmen who will arrive shortly.

*Leicester City Council considered a plan by the Housing Committee for MUNICIPAL BEER PAVILIONS on the city's housing estates.*
The Housing Committee asked the City Council to consider whether the Corporation should manage and control premises used for the sale of intoxicants on housing estates. It was argued that the Corporation should retain a measure of control, instead of handing over sites, with enormous values, to brewers. The report was redrawn until a later date.

*An unnamed purchaser has bought THE ESTATE OF GARBOLDISHAM, Norfolk.*
The whole of the estate went to an unknown buyer for £48,000. The estate comprises nearly the whole of the village of Garboldisham, including the post office, butcher's, baker's and blacksmith's shops, about 70 cottages, nine farms and five small holdings. The actual annual rent roll was given as £1,904. Garboldisham has been in the possession of the Molineau-Montgomerie family for over two centuries, and was sold under the direction of Mrs. Rosemary H. B. Howard, the last member of her race.

*Mr. John R. Hill, who has been for TWENTY-FIVE YEARS COUNTY ARCHITECT, first with Dumfriesshire Education Authority and subsequently with Dumfriesshire County Council, has retired.*
Two solid silver entrée dishes and a sauceboat were presented to him by his associates in the building and works department and officials and friends in the Dumfries County Buildings, and he received a gold watch from the principal officers and deputies of Dumfriesshire County Council. Two of his best buildings in Dumfries are the new Dumfries Academy, with its spacious hall, and the police headquarters. Mr. J. D. Jack, senior assistant to Mr. Hill, and Mr. John Robson, C.B.E., county clerk, made the presentations.



## *Permanent Building*

A new view of an ancient building—the Great Hypostyle Hall in the Temple of Karnak, as seen by the brilliant eye of Mr. G. E. Kidder Smith's camera. To-day, by contrast, the weight, the indestructibility, the drama and the mystic timelessness of Egyptian architecture particularly impress us, to whom lightness, rationality and impermanence are now virtuous. Here is a refreshing foil to the Churchill House.

★

*Following are the WINNERS OF THE TARRAN COMPETITION*

The assessor was T. Cecil Howitt, D.S.O., F.R.I.B.A. Design type T/2/1, i.e. Bungalow with two bedrooms. First: Frederick Hill, A.R.I.B.A. (Sergt., R.A.F.). Second: Arthur M. Foyle, A.R.I.B.A., and Glyn Roberts, A.R.I.B.A. (London). Third: Arthur Pickles (Halifax). Commended: John H. McMorland (Lieut., R.E.). Design Type T/3/1, i.e. Bungalow with three bedrooms. First: Arthur M. Foyle, A.R.I.B.A., and Glyn Roberts, A.R.I.B.A. (London). Second: A. I. Richards, A.I.A.A. (Major, D.C.R.E.). Third: Eric S. W. Atherton, A.R.I.B.A. (Harrow - on - the - Hill, Middlesex), and Basil E. Brenchley, DIP.ARCH., A.R.I.B.A. (Banstead, Surrey). Design Type T/2/2 i.e. House with two bedrooms. First: George E. Salt, L.R.I.B.A. (Southport). Second: Shapley and Davison (Leeds). Third: John P. Tingay, A.R.I.B.A. (Eastcote, Middlesex). Design Type T/3/2, i.e. House with three bedrooms. First: George E. Salt, L.R.I.B.A. (Southport). Second: E. H. Lockton, A.R.I.B.A. (London). Third: Shapley and Davison (Leeds). Commended: Eric S. W. Atherton, A.R.I.B.A. (Harrow - on - the - Hill, Middlesex), and Basil E. Brenchley, A.R.I.B.A. (Banstead, Surrey).

*Langley Park, a Buckinghamshire Beauty Spot, has been ACQUIRED FOR THE PUBLIC.*

The park has been acquired for the public under the Green Belt scheme at a cost of £109,000—£100 an acre. Forty per cent. of the cost will be met by the LCC (£39,400), 10 per cent. by the Slough Borough Council (£10,800), 10 per cent. by the Eton Rural Council (£10,800), and the remainder by the Bucks County Council (£48,000). The estate is three miles from Burnham Beeches. It is proposed to use part of Langley Park for camping sites for young people and playing fields.

*Last week the following successful candidates taking part in the RIBA EXAMINATIONS FOR PRISONERS OF WAR were announced by the Royal Institute.*

At the RIBA Intermediate Examination for Prisoners of War, held at Stalag Luft 6 in the spring of 1943, F/Sgt. Douglas Pearcy passed in the History of Architecture. At the RIBA Final Examination for Prisoners of War, held at Oflag IX A/H in the autumn of 1943, Captain R. G. Bateson passed in the subjects for which he sat, as follows: B.I, General construction; C., Hygiene (including drainage, ventilation, heating, lighting and water supply); D., Specifications and the properties and uses of building materials; F., Thesis.

*To ensure that HISTORIC COTTAGES are not destroyed when sites for post-war housing are chosen, a survey is being made at Lavenham, Suffolk.*

The Rural District Council, the regional planning officer and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings are co-operating, and a public meeting is being held. Lavenham was once the centre of the hand-weaving industry.

# THE CONTROL OF LAND USE: BLIGHTED LEGISLATION

THE Government has now made known its policy in regard to the control of land for planning purposes, but it cannot be said that the proposals in the White Paper or the Town and Country Planning Bill will satisfy in certain vital respects the expectations of the general public, local authorities or professional planners.

The most important statement in the White Paper is the frank admission that "it is not proposed that a single master plan should be devised by the Government and imposed on the country, nor that the existing pattern of land ownership or land use should be swept away." This stand-put attitude is the keynote of the proposals and we can see from it how unwilling is the Government to accept fundamental change, however necessary it may be in the sphere of public administration or a transformation of the land system, in order to serve the purposes of town and country planning.

The need for positive national and regional planning of the basic factors of physical reconstruction is now generally recognised by professional planners, but neither in the White Paper nor the Bill is there the slightest appreciation of the principle. The initiative is throughout left to the local authorities without any attempt to provide a national and regional framework into which local plans can fit. The Ministry of Town and Country Planning and the other Departments concerned are brought in only in a supervisory or approving capacity.

The Uthwatt Committee recommended the State acquisition of all development rights in unbuilt land outside the towns on payment of a global sum; the compulsory purchase of all such land by the State at the time of its development; the purchase by the planning authority of any areas requiring redevelopment as a whole, at a price not exceeding that prevailing at March 31, 1939; and the imposition of a betterment levy of 75 per cent. on any future increase in the annual site value of developed land.

The Government has rejected the first two of these proposals completely and the remaining proposals in part. In doing so, we fear it has been more concerned with the interests of landowners than with the aims of planning. In place of the acquisition of all development rights, landowners are to be required in all instances to obtain the consent of the local planning authority to development or redevelopment. The slight degree of control which this is expected to produce is indicated by the statement in the White Paper that "over by far the greater area of the country owners will be able to go on using their land just as they do now without interference of any sort." If this prophecy is correct, the whole planning issue has been shelved.

The Bill substantially increases the powers of local planning authorities to acquire land compulsorily and by more expeditious procedures in specified circumstances: in particular when they are dealing with areas of extensive war damage which need laying out afresh and redeveloping as a whole, and areas of bad layout and obsolete development which require similar treatment. This is all to the good, but the extent to which these powers are exercised will be mainly determined by the financial provisions of the Bill. There are two aspects of these—the system of grants in aid, and the compensation and betterment proposals.

The provision for Exchequer grants is on an excessively mean scale. Local authorities in areas of extensive war damage are to receive money to defray the cost of acquiring and clearing land sufficient to meet the loan charges for a period of only two years. A proportion of the loan charges may attract grant for a further eight years if the Minister is satisfied that the damage has not been sufficiently repaired to enable the land to be brought into use for a substantial purpose. A further extension to thirteen years is permitted if special circumstances obtain. No assistance is available to enable the local planning authority to devote all or part of a blitzed area to non-revenue producing purposes, such as an open space or a civic centre. Nor does the Bill provide for central grants to assist the planning of areas of bad layout or obsolete development. All this is left entirely on the shoulders of the many small, poor and weak local authorities which possess planning powers. In our opinion the financial provisions of the Bill require redrafting on far more generous lines.

By contrast, the Government is relatively generous towards landowners. They are to receive, for land compulsorily acquired, the price current at March 31, 1939, even when the present price has fallen to a much lower figure. There is to be a betterment charge of 80 per cent. of the enhancement of value derived from permission to develop or redevelop. But from this is to be deducted the compensation which would have been payable if permission had been refused. Thus, compensation is allowed for an injury to the landowner which he has not suffered. The compensation provisions are described in the most nebulous fashion because the Government considers that they cannot at present decide upon the correct amount which should be paid. In consequence, only the right to compensation is to be determined in the near future, leaving the standard of payment to be settled at the end of a five-year period. Behind the delay, uncertain handling and weakness of the Government's compensation proposals there doubtless lies much political bickering, party strife and manœuvring for position. The resulting policy is narrow in outlook and offers little inspiration to those who eagerly await the Britain of tomorrow.

*The Architects' Journal*
*War Address: 45, The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey*
*Telephone: Vigilant 0087-9*

# NOTES & TOPICS

THE BRAITHWAITE HOUSES

At the Royal Academy a design for terrace houses of unit construction by F. R. S. Yorke is exhibited, and it was illustrated on page 348 of the JOURNAL for May 11. This is the design on which are based the two experimental houses now nearing completion on the LCC Watling Estate at Hendon sponsored by the Braithwaite engineering company.

★

The experiment is undoubtedly among the most important that have been, and are being, carried out on prefabricated methods, more especially as it relates to a flexible system of standard units with a wide range of possible variations and combinations applicable to detached, semi-detached and terrace houses, and to three-storey flats. Complete freedom of design is possible, as well as of choice of cladding materials.

★

As long ago as 1920 Braithwaites built the well-known Telford all-steel house to ease the housing shortage after the last war. Now after two years of research through the co-ordinated efforts of engineer, architect, builder and commercial organizer, the company has produced the Hendon job. Unlike the Telford house, it is not all of steel, for only the framework is metal. Other materials used include lightweight concrete, asbestos-cement, brick, plasterboard, plywood, aluminium foil and mineral wool.

A grid dimension of 38 in. is the modular basis for all plans. The whole job is precision built, and contains many interesting constructional details. It's a pretty rigid and solid affair with nothing temporary about it, and perhaps it cannot strictly be called prefabricated in the usual meaning of that rather vague word. It does, however, provide the important advantages of dry assembly, quick erection, precision building and the use of semi-skilled labour. Moreover, the plumbing and electric wiring are both factory produced.

★

The important problem of heat conservation, too rarely considered fully enough, has been worked out carefully, and it is claimed that the coal fire in the Hendon houses will save 50 per cent. of fuel as compared with the old type of fireplace. By a system of convection, heat from the ground floor flues is used to warm the air of the bedrooms above. As well as a far higher standard of both thermal and sound insulation, the houses will have much greater fire resistance than is to be found in the traditional brick house with timber floors and pitched roof.

★

Very few manufacturers of experimental houses will tell you anything about their systems before their type houses are complete. Even the Ministry of Works, with no trade secrets to keep, is carefully and rather strangely guarding from public gaze its type houses now being built at Northolt (ready very soon, I understand). How, then, have I learned all this about the Hendon experiment? The fact is that Braithwaites have magnanimously invited all who are interested to visit the Watling Estate site at any time they wish and to watch the whole process of building from the laying of the foundations (begun on June 16) to the final decoration, and to offer constructive criticism. This is a very sensible course, and sets a good example.

*The Braithwaite houses at Hendon under construction. Two sections of the steel frame are being bolted together. See Astragal's note.*

ARMY TYPOGRAPHY

Government publications to-day touch all levels of typographical merit, from the highest to the lowest. At the top of the scale you have the Army posters designed by Lieut. A. Games, R.E., and the various Ministry of Information booklets of which *There's Freedom in the Air* and the *Eighth Army* book are recent examples. Down at the bottom, where printing is just printing and *designed* printing has never been heard of, are many of the technical Army publications.

★

Recently there have been signs that someone is making an attempt to render some of them more readable—not, however, by printing them in a better type but by interspersing their text with ragged little sketches such as used to appear in the more gossipy columns of the motoring or motor-cycling magazines. Nobody will deny that the end — improved readability — is desirable, but is this the best means to attain that end?

★

As it happens, quite a number of commercial users of print, from publishers to jam manufacturers, have recently published Press advertisements consisting of type and type-set ornaments which prove (if any proof were needed) that good typography without illustration is more eye-compelling than bad typography with irrelevant jazzy sketches. Surely those who are responsible for the Army's printing are not too haughty to take a lesson in legibility from the jam-makers.

DECENTRALISED DRAMA

It is an unusual and pleasant experience to attend a public discussion in which those taking part speak audibly as well as intelligently. At the recent luncheon debate organised by TCPA to discuss the National Theatre and presided over by actor-manager Lewis Casson with the brisk precision of an experienced trades union official (he is president of Equity), the principal speakers were from the professional stage, and they were as clear about what they wanted to say as they were in saying it.

★

Miss Sonia Dresdel, a smoky, husky-voiced brunette with frighteningly efficient breath-control, who opened the discussion, made a plea for the decentralization of the theatre—or, as Mr. Casson put it, for a *national* theatre and not a National *Theatre*—and revealed some startling statistics. Thirty-five million people in this country, it appears, have never seen a play—and who knows how many have never seen a *good* play? Comparable figures could no doubt be given for the other arts.

★

The first answer would seem to be more theatres, combined with galleries, social centres, restaurants, perhaps—(Mr. James, of CEMA, revealed that the National Gallery has cleared over £20,000 from its canteen)—for our provincial towns and regional centres, which could provide not only temporary homes for those "dessiminating," as Dr. Herbert Read called it, "metropolitan culture," but could assist in the perhaps even more valuable work of building up a locally inspired and fostered culture in every region. It's no good, in fact, sending ballet companies and collections of contemporary paintings to a town unless it possesses some place in which to house them. Nor will any local repertory or art society flourish healthily when its only centre is a room over the local café. CEMA has proved that the public will support art, and it is up to the local authorities and planners and architects to provide homes for it in their post-war schemes.

ASTRAGAL

# LETTERS

*A. Wise, A.R.I.B.A.*

*S. Buzas*

*A. J. Price, A.M.I.C.E.*

*A. E. Phillips*

## The Churchill House

SIR,—Your leader writer has already pointed out that the MOW house is neither sufficiently permanent nor sufficiently temporary to be anything in particular. It is neither undemountable nor properly demountable. It is not entirely the child of the building industry, nor of the motor industry. He even likened it to the old horseless carriage.

The motor industry can produce a technically excellent but inhuman tank for inhuman purposes, or it can produce an equally efficient motor car, æsthetically satisfying, for human purposes. The MOW seems as far as externals are concerned to have produced a tank.

The Government of 1944 states that the life of the MOW house will be limited to ten years. Will the Government of 1954 necessarily agree? I, for one, would not be surprised to find well preserved examples still inhabited when Germany, under entirely new management, embarks on its third World War in 25 or 30 years' time. After all, it is only human nature to squeeze out the last drop of rent. Within limits it is more sensible.

Your correspondent Mr. Philip Cundall's mention of Caravan leads me to enclose (see facing page) as a matter of interest, a sketch scheme I prepared some two years ago when limited-life emergency housing first appeared in the offing. I believe that showmen's caravans in particular often have a life considerably in excess of ten years. The almost universal attraction of caravans must be admitted. Many people (a substantial number in America) live in caravans from choice. Others pay anything from 3 to 6 guineas a week for their use over short periods. Thousands would own them if they could afford it.

Consequently I suggest that it is much more sensible to offer the public something that is manifestly a sort of caravan but much better, than to offer it something that is manifestly a house, but much worse (in spite of the refrigerator—the sugar on the pill). Furthermore, I suggest that everything possible should be done to suggest that the temporary dwelling is NOT intended to be a house. For want of a better I suggest the name Caravilla—unless that happens to be a very rude word in Spanish or something. The kitchen might be referred to as the galley, the bedrooms as cabins.

Unless something like this is done, the public, like your correspondent Mr. Kelly, will certainly compare the insulation and spatial standards of the temporary dwelling with those of a permanent house, and since the former should do a lot towards paying for itself in a matter of only ten years, it seems rather too much to expect that they should compare altogether favourably.

With forms of construction that are necessarily somewhat unfamiliar, it is difficult to design for a definite predetermined life, and consequently it seems rather reckless to fasten on a period like ten years with anything more than a vague intention of sticking to it. The value of the MOW house would be limited except on its original site. It might be found to have some remaining life after the local need for it had passed. The value of a more demountable type would then be a good deal higher since its demountability would make its removal to another site a simple and economic proposition.

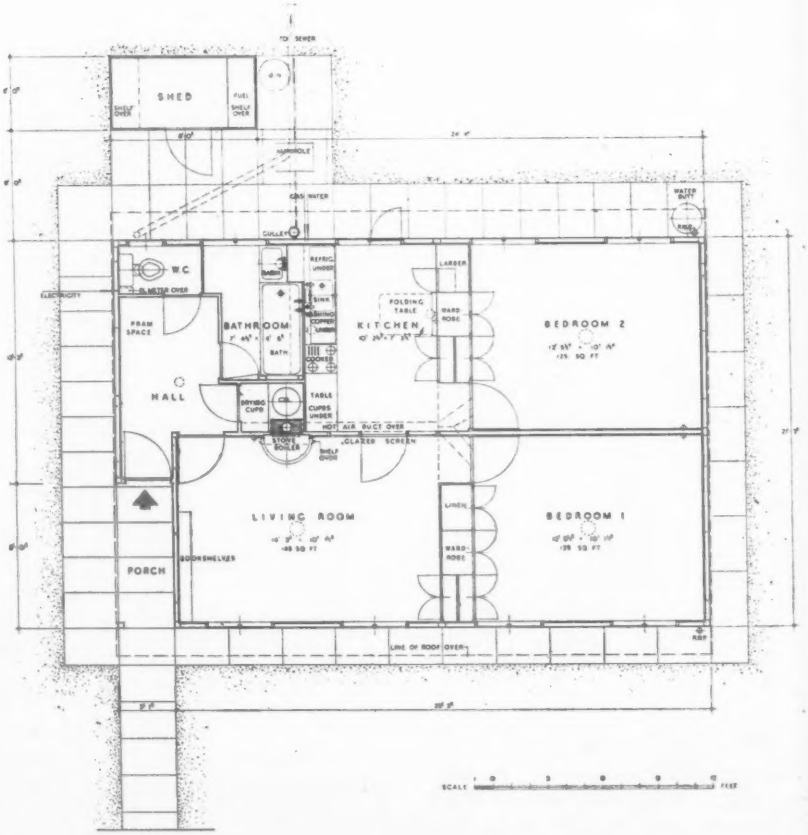
Such municipally owned dwellings could then have their remaining life assessed and certified, be sold to the highest bidder and re-erected elsewhere, say for holiday use during that period. They would have every opportunity of paying for themselves.

Recent inconclusive correspondence in your columns about the position of the farm worker's bathroom shows clearly that there is no single solution to such a problem. A competition such as the Northants probably produces fifty different designs all with a minimum number of bad points. In spite of the advantages of mass-production, I hope that the public, rapidly becoming glassy-eyed, will be allowed some choice, however little. I hope the country will not be flooded with temporary dwellings of one type, and one type only, however good it may be in its own way. In other words, I hope that "It ain't a-gonna rain no Mowhouses."

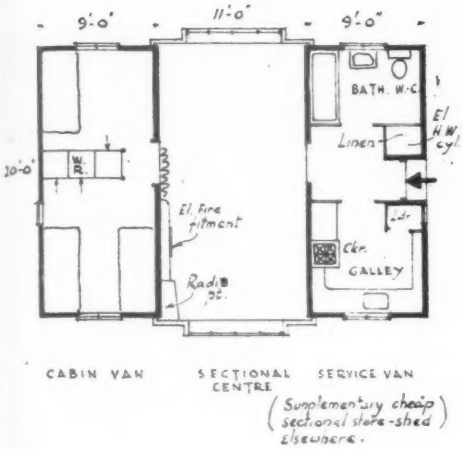
Launceston. A. WISE

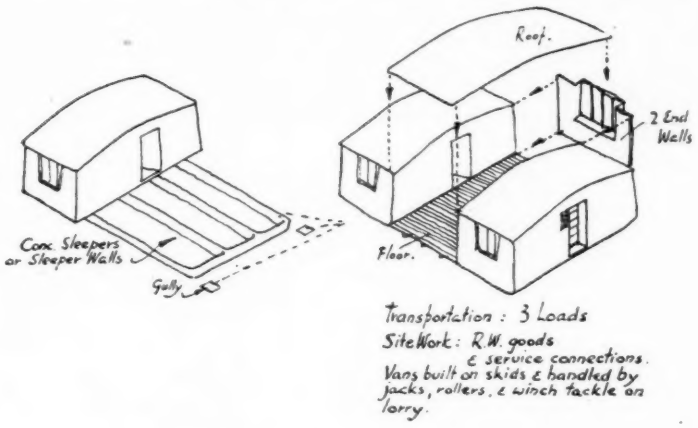
SIR,—Why is it necessary after the many lessons from America and the Continent for the Government to produce a single type of factory-made house, to be mass produced and delivered complete for erection anywhere and everywhere? This obviously is the wrong way to set about emergency housing, and it is clear from the many criticisms in the press from the ordinary man in the street and from the letters in this Journal, that one plan only (however good it is) can suit only one particular type of family. The right way would have been to have designed an efficient structural unit, together with cupboard, kitchen and bath units. This structural grid and the fitment sizes would then be the backbone for a large number of plan types, ranging from a one-room unit, for the single person, to the multi-celled dwelling, for a family with children.

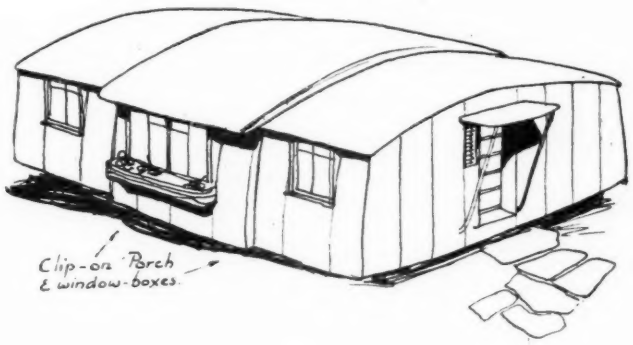
But to confine myself to the plan within the 600 odd sq. ft. of the MOW house, if we have to accept this factory-made house, the change over of the kitchen and bathroom (see




*The Churchill House. Revised plan of the Ministry of Works.*]




*A caravan scheme prepared two years ago by Mr. A. Wise who suggests that something similar should be done to meet the present emergency instead of erecting the Churchill House. See letter on facing page.*

plan) seems to me to improve the original (and amended) plan considerably. Bedroom 2 can, without disadvantage, be reduced in size and the hall made adequate for storage of pram and/or bicycle. The space used in the old plan for the passage in the kitchen is taken into the living room, making the width about 13 ft. A back door can be installed in the kitchen, but a fixed working table under the window would be more useful. The drying cupboard is in the bathroom (enlarged to 5 ft. 2 in.), where the washing unit is, and there is a fuel cupboard in the hall.

London. S. BUZAS.

SIR,—In common with many others, I am not attracted by the prospect of 500,000 or more Portal bungalows being erected all over the country as proposed by the Ministry of Works.

Nobody can claim that they will be anything but blots on the landscape and it is very doubtful that they will be removed at the end of ten years. I venture to predict that they will be in use for a much longer period, notwithstanding the Government's assurance to the contrary.

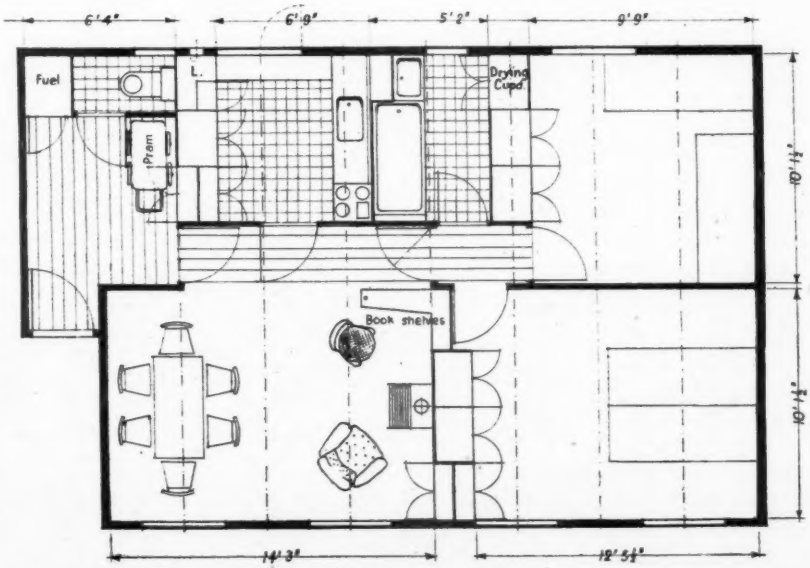
There can be no real objection to prefabrication, but what is open to much objection is the manner in which it is proposed to be adopted. 500,000 or more Portal bungalows, each with a floor area of approximately 700 sq. ft. (including the external store) and a frontage of 32 ft. 4 in. plus the openings between the pairs or blocks of 4, 6 or 8, will mean that the space occupied by these erections will be considerable. The occupiers of these bungalows will, therefore, have longer distances to travel between their dwellings and their places of work, amusements and shopping areas, and this will add to the cost of transport and living and mean wasted hours in travelling.

A better proposition would be to have two-storey houses constructed with a light steel framework and the wall and roof spaces filled in with prefabricated units of standard sizes. The partitions, cupboards, plumbing and heating arrangements could be prefabricated and be of the same materials as the Portal dwelling or of other suitable prefabricated materials. The roofs could be as now proposed, so that later on they could be made into permanent flat roofs or pitched timber roofs covered with tiles or slates. The foundations would be made wide and strong enough to enable the temporary walls to be encased later on by 4½ in. reinforced brickwork or concrete walls

The only disadvantage would be that it might take slightly longer to build a two-storey house than a bungalow, but the number of houses which could be constructed of prefabricated units could be made much larger (they could be encased and made into permanent buildings later on), so that at the end of the second year the output of houses could be larger than the temporary bungalows and permanent houses built with the usual materials and methods.

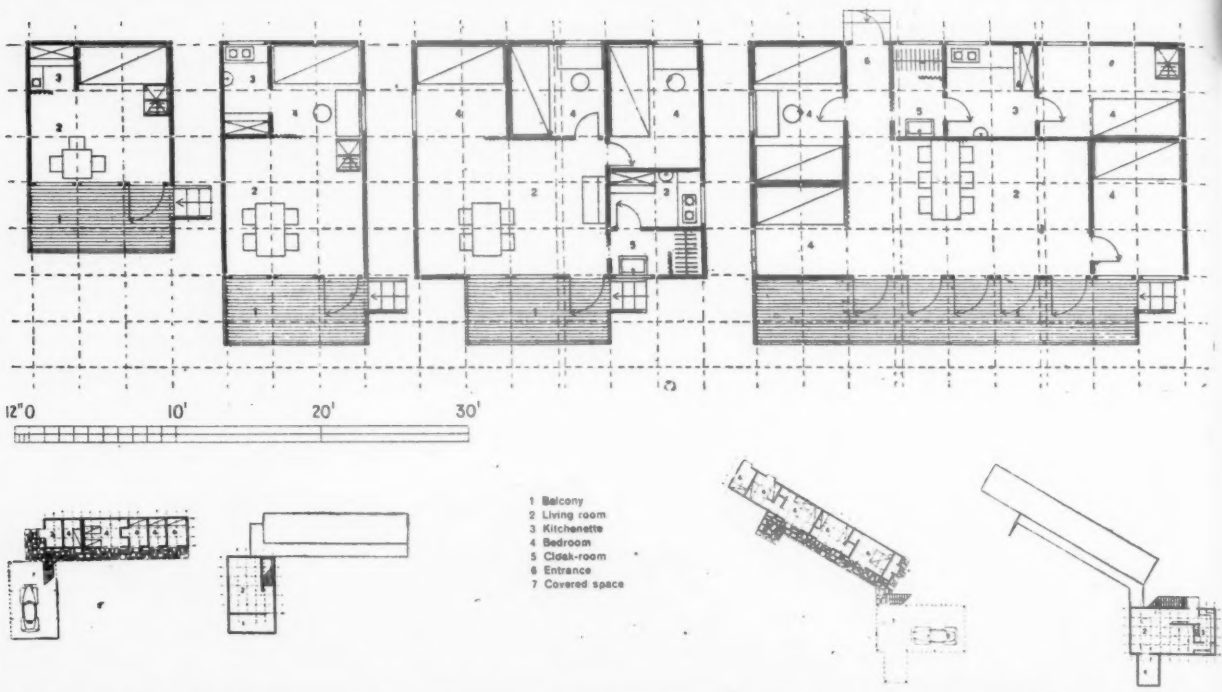
The advantages of the proposals are:

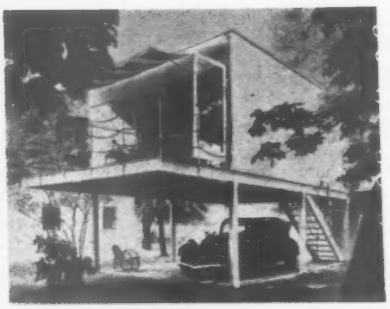
(1) The houses would have nearly as long a life as those constructed by normal methods and materials, as they would be protected by brick walls and permanent roofs against the weather soon after the temporary works had been constructed.

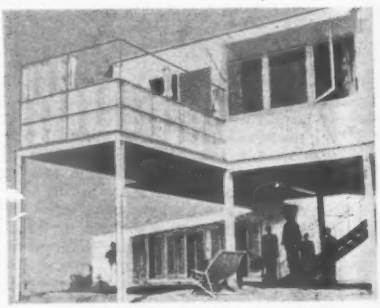



*The Churchill House. Suggested plan by S. Buzas.*

# STANDARDISATION PROVIDES VARIETY





*On pages 33 to 36 is illustrated a house of steel and timber built on a system of standard prefabricated units. Here are a few alternatives of the same system which provide an interesting example of how wide a variety of different arrangements is possible with the use of a few standard parts which, at the same time, maintain harmony of scale and character. Top, plans of four one-storey types. Centre, left, plan of an exhibition house. Centre, right, plan of a week-end house. Above, left, a row of the smallest of the one-storey types of which a plan is shown at the top. Above, centre, the exhibition house. Above, right, the week-end house.*

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(2) The demolition of the bungalows with the foundations, drains, water and other services which would not fit in for permanent dwellings will waste many millions of pounds. The salvaged value of the bungalows will be comparatively small.
(3) The houses would be erected more quickly han by the normal methods without the disadvantages of the temporary method of construction.
(4) When the bungalows are to be demolished the tenants will have to transfer to another site and will lose all the work they have put into the gardens and improvements in their houses. There will also be the cost of removal of their furniture and inconvenience of moving into another house, as well as having new neighbours. All these would be avoided.
(5) Houses with three bedrooms would be erected instead of two-bedroom bungalows, which soon become too small if a family is to be reared. It must be borne in mind that many service men have married during the war and already have one or two children.
(6) When encased with brick walls and tiled or slated roofs, the houses will be similar in appearance to those erected by normal methods and avoid the unalluring prospect of the unlovely Portal dwellings.
(7) The encasing of the walls and additions of permanent roofs would cause less inconvenience to the occupiers than having to leave for another house.
(8) As the brick walls and tiled or slated roofs are added they would not need highly skilled labour, and this would allow the more skilled labour to be available for the higher class of buildings, e.g. schools, churches, etc.

I realize as well as anyone that the men in the services will require a house as soon as possible after being demobilised. I was in a similar position after being demobilised after the last world war when no houses were available.

I feel, however, that most would prefer to wait a little longer to get something they want than be compelled to occupy a small bungalow which would soon not be to their requirements.

I do not know how far the Government is committed to the Portal dwellings, but hope it is not too late to consider the erection of two-storey buildings which can be converted into permanent buildings.

A. J. PRICE,
Yeovil. Borough Surveyor of Yeovil.

## Build in Slate

SIR,—The North Wales Slate Quarries Association have an inspiring advertisement in the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for May 4, 1944.

It encourages me to ask a question I have often wanted to ask. Why the stone refuse from the slate quarries could not be used for building houses? So far as my observation goes, it is of convenient size to handle, and it usually seems to have one straight edge.

In this neighbourhood alone there are huge dumps. There are also thousands of tons of gravel from the lead mines which have been in existence since the time of the Romans, and which could be turned into cement mortar and used for rough casting.

Slate slabs could be used for floors, shelves, sinks, rain water tanks as well as roofing. In fact the quarries could be kept busy and we should be using the natural gifts of the earth.

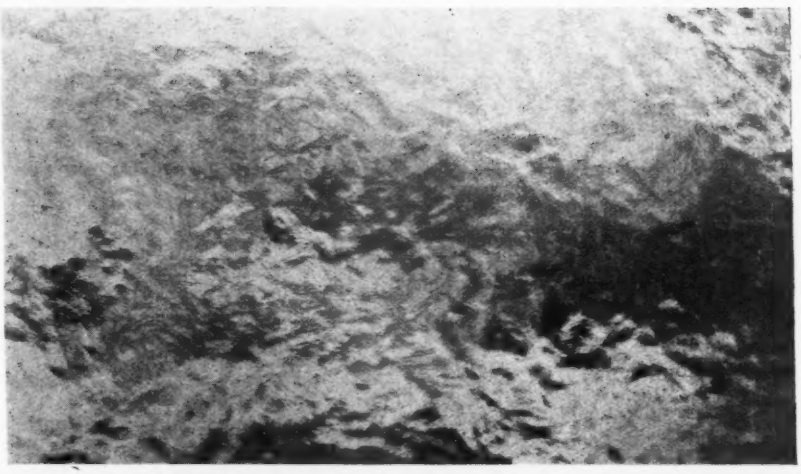
Wrexham. (MRS.) A. E. PHILLIPS

# THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL LIBRARY OF PLANNED INFORMATION

## ROLLED GLASSES

**Double Rolled Cathedral:**
Rolled :
Irregular texture on one surface.
Slight obscuration.
Translucent.

The accompanying photographs are full-sized illustrations of a typical section and elevation.

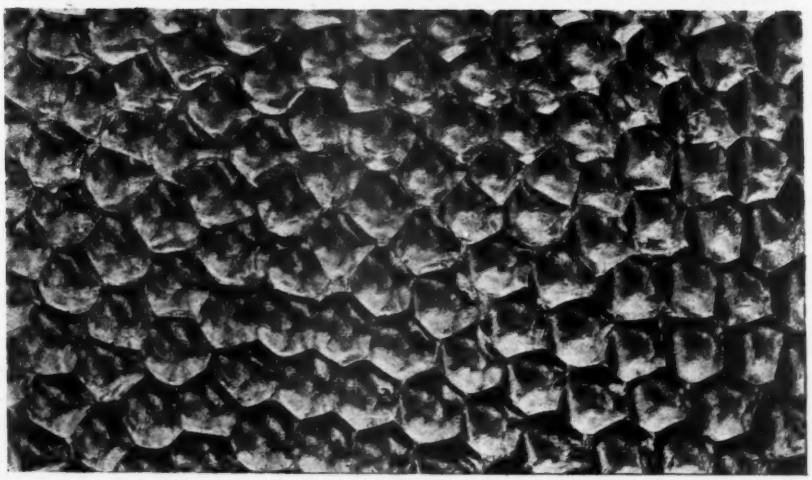


**Stippled Cathedral :**
Rolled :
Irregular texture on one surface.
Slight obscuration.
Translucent.

The accompanying photographs are full-sized illustrations of a typical section and elevation.

**No. 2 Hammered Cathedral :**
Rolled :
Irregular texture on one surface.
Medium obscuration.
Translucent.

The accompanying photographs are full-sized illustrations of a typical section and elevation.



*Information from Chance Brothers Ltd*

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# INFORMATION SHEET
## • 945 •

# GLASS: No. 13

**Subject:** Cathedral Glasses.

**General:**
This Sheet is the thirteenth of the series dealing with glass and glass products, and the fifth of the section on types of glass.

**Types:**
**Non-formal:**
Double Rolled,
Stippled,
Mottled,
Rough.

**Semi-formal:**
No. 2 Hammered,
Glasgow Hammered.

**Light Transmission:**
About 85 per cent. for all thicknesses.

**Maximum Standard Sizes:**
For all thicknesses:
White ... ... 100″×42″.
Tinted ... ... 100″×36″ or 90″×42″.

**Nominal Thicknesses and Weights:**
$\frac{1}{8}$″ ... ... 1 lb. 8 oz. per sq. ft.
$\frac{3}{16}$″ ... ... 2 lb. 8 oz. ,, ,,
$\frac{1}{4}$″ ... ... 3 lb. 8 oz. ,, ,,

**Quality:**
Made in one quality only.

**Colour:**
Available in a wide range of tints (for full information refer to Sheet No. 9 of this series).

**Standard Variations:**
None.

**Packing:**
Packed in crates containing full sheets of $\frac{1}{8}$″ up to 420 sq. ft.
Half-sheets of $\frac{1}{8}$″ up to 250 sq. ft., and full sheets of $\frac{1}{4}$″ up to 230 sq. ft.

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**Previous Sheets:**
Previous Sheets of this series on Glass are Nos. 914, 917, 919, 922, 925, 927, 929, 932, 937, 938 and 940.

**Issued by:** Chance Brothers Limited.
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*The Government's Town and Country Planning Bill* and White Paper† on the Control of Land Use, which have received such widespread criticism, are here reviewed by Regionaliter. He assesses the proposals alongside those of the Uthwatt Committee, and considers how far each succeeds in surmounting four obstacles—compensation, betterment, compulsory acquisition and finance — which have hitherto frustrated all efforts to achieve physical planning in Britain.*

# CONTROL of the USE of LAND

[*BY REGIONALITER*]

The Government has at last revealed its policy for dealing with land in connection with planning and reconstruction after the war. The White Paper on " The Control of Land Use " explains the principles which the Government considers should be applied, while the Town and Country Planning Bill embodies some of these principles, but by no means all, in a series of elaborate legislative provisions intended to facilitate the acquisition of land for planning purposes, for assessing the compensation payable in connection with land acquired for public use and for extending the powers of planning authorities.

* Town and Country Planning Bill. House of Commons Bill 31. 1943-4. H.M.S.O. 1s. 2d.
† The Control of Land Use. Cmd. 6537. H.M.S.O. 4d. post free.

## FOUR OBSTACLES

Before examining the proposals we may remind ourselves of the defects in the land system which have hitherto frustrated all efforts to achieve town and country planning in Britain. *First*, there is the difficulty of controlling the use to which land is put without paying compensation on a fabulous scale quite beyond the resources of most local authorities. This excessive scale of compensation is derived from the element of floating value. *Second*, there is the failure to recover betterment from the owners of land whose value has been enhanced by planning schemes or public improvements. *Third*, the absence, save in a few narrowly defined circumstances, of powers of compulsory acquisition of land for planning purposes. *Fourth*, the absence of any grant in aid from Exchequer funds to assist local authorities to meet the heavy cost resulting from the purchase of land or the regulation of its use.

## THE UTHWATT SOLUTION: FIRST OBSTACLE

The Uthwatt Committee recommended dealing with the first of these defects by means of the immediate vesting in the State of all development rights in unbuilt land outside the towns in exchange for a global sum representing the fair value of these rights to the State taken as a whole and distributed among owners in proportion to the estimated development value of their individual holdings at March 31, 1939. The State, moreover, was to purchase all undeveloped land at the time when it was about to be developed, and would lease the land to the developer for a term of years. As regards built-up land, the Committee advocated that planning authorities should be able to purchase whole areas requiring reconstruction, at prices not exceeding those obtaining at March 31, 1939.

The Uthwatt scheme was by no means perfect. It had, in fact, certain important disadvantages, not the least of which was that it removed from the owners of undeveloped land all incentive to develop. But nearly all professional planners and persons interested in planning had come to support the Uthwatt scheme because, although far less satisfactory than nationalization, it seemed also far less controversial politically and would have dealt once and for all on broad lines with the highly vulnerable rural and semi-rural areas, and would have gradually brought an increasing proportion of such land under public ownership.

## GOVERNMENT OBJECTIONS

The White Paper expressly rejects the Uthwatt scheme on the unconvincing ground that it would involve different treatment for owners of undeveloped land outside the towns, from that accorded to owners of similar land inside the towns and owners of developed land wherever situate. This differentiation, combined with the perennial difficulty of knowing where to draw the line between town and country areas would, it is alleged, " give rise to much controversy and dissatisfaction." But so, it is already evident, will the Government's own proposals.

## THE GOVERNMENT'S SOLUTION: FIRST OBSTACLE

In place of the Uthwatt scheme the White Paper proposes that although the landowner will remain in possession of his development rights as at present, he will not be able to exercise them without obtaining the approval of the planning authority. This will apply to all land, wherever it may be, and whether built up or not.

We shall thus have a system in which the responsibility for development or redevelopment will remain with the owner; in which the onus will be placed on local planning authorities of consenting or refusing consent to development; and in which the ownership of land will remain in private hands.

This closely resembles the system which has hitherto existed in areas where planning schemes were already in operation, with one important exception: namely, that financial questions are in future to be dealt with on a national scale. The White Paper recognizes the futility of expecting local planning authorities to absorb the many wide fluctuations in land values which must inevitably result from the vagaries of local government boundaries, from schemes for the dispersal of industry, the decongestion of urban aggregations, agricultural policy, the reclamation of derelict land, national parks and so forth. All these factors will lead to a redistribution of land values on a substantial scale, and in order to prevent the incidence of rising or falling values in any particular locality from exercising a determining influence on the attitude of the local planning authority in regard to land use, the Government proposes to transfer all the financial questions relating to compensation and betterment to a central Land Commission. The structure and functions of this body are not described. We are only told that it is to be independent, so far as possible, in the administrative sphere, but responsible to Ministers and through them to Parliament.

It is curious that the framers of the

White Paper should recognize the need for centralization of finance while rejecting completely the idea of national planning. This is especially odd when we find them declaring that a substantial redistribution of values will result from *national* policies. Surely it is reasonable that national policy in such matters as the location of industry, between different areas, for example, or the construction of garden cities, should be nationally planned and administered.

## THE UTHWATT SOLUTION: SECOND OBSTACLE

I come now to the second defect in the present system—the failure to recover betterment. The Uthwatt Committee advocated a levy of 75 per cent. on the increase of annual site value accruing to land not included in the State acquisition of development rights scheme. Here again its recommendation is rejected on the ground that it would be " extremely complicated " and " its efficacy, from the revenue-producing point of view, is open to doubt." Moreover, declares the White Paper, the levy will be imposed even on increases which have not been realized in cash by the owner, or for which he may already have paid when purchasing the land.

These arguments are scarcely more than debating points. Our system of land tenure is the most complicated in the world. It is, in fact, a public scandal except in those few places where the system of land registration is in force. The members of the Uthwatt Committee were the highest experts in the country on all aspects of that system; and their proposal seems plain sailing to the ordinary man. We are not even told why it is supposed to be impracticable except in terms so vague as to be meaningless.

## THE GOVERNMENT'S SOLUTION: SECOND OBSTACLE

Under the Government's proposals the landowner will be required, when permission is granted to develop or redevelop for a different use, to pay a betterment charge equal to 80 per cent. of the difference between the value of the land with the benefit of the permission and its value if permission had been refused. This proposal will bear far more lightly on the landowner than the Uthwatt recommendation, for the latter envisaged a recurring yearly payment based on the annual site values, whereas the Government contemplate a single payment based on capital value which would clear the owner's liability until such time as the land was again licensed for development or redevelopment. And from this once-over payment is to be deducted the compensation which would have been payable for the loss of development value existing at March 31, 1939, if permission had been refused. Will anything at all remain to be paid by way of betterment? Very little, we should expect. The Government's scheme was considered by the Uthwatt Committee and rejected for reasons which the White Paper does not attempt to answer.

The compensation provisions of the Government's scheme are based on the principle that where land is deprived of any development or redevelopment value attaching to it at March 31, 1939, " fair compensation " should be paid. But the framers of the White Paper consider that no one can at present say what this should be. So no compensation at all is to be payable until a period of five years has elapsed, when an expert committee will be appointed to report on the amount of compensation which should be paid. In the meantime, the land is to be classified in three categories and the right to compensation on an undetermined scale established. Anything more nebulous and unsatisfactory than this method it would be hard to imagine. It gives the impression that the landowning interest is simply playing for time.

Incidentally, the tripartite division called for by the White Paper requires the classification of land into " green," or rural land, " white " land (comprising all other unbuilt land) and built-up land. The complexities of drawing such distinctions in terms of hard and fast lines on a map are at least as great, if not much greater, than those involved in the Uthwatt scheme, which the Government rejected for that reason. This disposes of the idea that the Government scheme is simpler or more practicable.

## THIRD OBSTACLE: A SUBSTANTIAL ADVANCE

The third defect in the present situation is the absence of powers to acquire land compulsorily. Here the Bill certainly makes a substantial advance. It enables the Minister of Town and Country Planning, where he is satisfied on the application of a local planning authority that an area which has sustained substantial damage should be laid out afresh and redeveloped as a whole, to make an order declaring the land concerned to be subject to compulsory purchase. The local planning authority can then purchase such land compulsorily. The Minister can take similar action to enable a local authority to deal satisfactorily with conditions of bad layout and obsolete development in its area.

There are certain other purposes for which the Bill authorizes compulsory acquisition. Thus, land may be acquired for highways in connection with areas of extensive war damage; and also for the public service where the Minister of Works and the Minister of Town and Country Planning consider it necessary, or for the Post Office where the Postmaster-General and the Minister of Town and Country Planning are of the same mind. These are welcome additions to the powers of the local and central planning authorities. The Bill also introduces new procedures for acquiring land for planning purposes, but although these methods are an improvement on the existing procedures, they do not give an impression of being imbued with any sense of real urgency or need for speed.

## FOURTH OBSTACLE: INADEQUATE PROVISION

Fourth and last, we come to the question of grants-in-aid. The payment of compensation to landowners in respect of restrictions imposed on their land by planning schemes will be taken care of by the Land Commission. There will remain the financial burden of acquiring land for planning purposes, open spaces, etc. Hitherto there has been no grant-in-aid available for expenditure of this kind, except in the matter of highways.

The Bill introduces a limited and by no means generous system of grants to meet the cost of acquiring and clearing land in blitzed areas. There are three stages contemplated for these grants. The first and most general stage will cover the payment of loan charges for a period of two years from the date of borrowing. This period is certain to be grossly inadequate to get blitzed areas on to a self-supporting basis. A second stage provides for payments to meet the loan charges in whole or part for a further period not exceeding eight years. They would be payable where the Minister is satisfied that the area of extensive war damage remains, and the land is in consequence incapable of being brought into use for any substantial purpose. A third and final stage provides for an extension of grant for a further five years, making fifteen years in all, but this comes into operation only where there are special circumstances preventing the rapid redevelopment of a blitzed area.

There is no provision of grants to assist local authorities to devote land acquired for planning to open spaces and similar purposes, nor to enable them to meet the loan charges on the capital cost of buildings. The whole question of financing the construction of new buildings both in areas of extensive war damage and those requiring development or redevelopment is left completely untouched. It is scarcely surprising that local authorities are viewing the Government's proposals with misgiving.

# PRICES

## SEVENTEENTH WARTIME LIST

Rates of Wages have not risen since April 2, 1943, and are now as follows :—

| *LONDON DISTRICT* | *Craftsmen.* | *Labourers.* |
|---|---|---|
| Within 12 miles radius .. .. .. .. .. | 2s. 1½d. | 1s. 8d. |
| From 12-15 „ „ .. .. .. .. .. | 2s. 1d. | 1s. 7¾d. |

*GRADE CLASSIFICATIONS*

| | A | A¹ | A² | A³ | B | B¹ | B² | B³ | C |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Craftsmen .. | 2s. 0d. | 1s. 11½d. | 1s. 11d. | 1s. 10½d. | 1s. 10d. | 1s. 9½d. | 1s. 9d. | 1s. 8½d. | 1s. 8d. |
| Labourers .. | 1s. 7d. | 1s. 6½d. | 1s. 6¼d. | 1s. 5¾d. | 1s. 5½d. | 1s. 5d. | 1s. 4¾d. | 1s. 4¼d. | 1s. 4d. |

*F.S.I.*

# CURRENT MARKET PRICES OF MATERIALS

### BY DAVIS, BELFIELD AND EVEREST, Chartered Quantity Surveyors.

**Prices vary according to quality and the quantity ordered.**

**Those given below are average market prices and include delivery in the London area, except where otherwise stated, but do not include overhead charges and profit for the General Contractor.**

## CONCRETOR

*Cements*

† All delivered in paper bags (20 to the ton) free.

* Paper bags charged at 7/– extra per ton; jute sacks charged at 35/6 per ton and credited on return at 1/6 each, when received in good condition within two weeks.

| | | 6 Tons and over | In 80-ton freights F.A.S. Safe Wharf in River Thames, London Area. |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Portland ... ... | per ton | 51/– | 48/6 |
| *"417" Ultra rapid hardening ... ... | per ton | 71/– | — |
| *Rapid hardening ... | per ton | 57/– | 54/6 |
| *Water repellent ... | per ton | 81/– | — |
| Atlas White (1 barrel 376 lb.) ... ... | | | per barrel — 6 ton upwards |
| *Colorcrete rapid hardening, buff and red | per ton | | 91/– |
| *Colorcrete rapid hardening khaki ... | per ton | | 91/– |
| †Colorcrete rapid hardening dark ... | per ton | | — |
| †Colorcrete non-rapid hardening ... | per ton from 175/– to 399/– | | |
| †Snowcrete (paper bags free)... ... | per ton | | 225/– |
| | | 1–9 cwts. | 10–19 cwts. 1 ton and upwards |
| *Ciment Fondu, delivered Central London area ... ... | per cwt. | 15/3 | 14/9 12/8 |

*Aggregate and Sands (Full Loads)*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2" Unscreened ballast ... ... ... ... | per yard cube | 12/– |
| ¾"(Down) Washed, crushed and graded shingle ... ... ... ... ... | per yard cube | 12/9 |
| ¾" (Down) Ditto ... ... ... ... | per yard cube | 13/9 |
| 2" Broken brick ... ... ... ... | per yard cube | 14/6 |
| ¾" Ditto ... ... ... ... ... | per yard cube | 16/– |
| Washed pan breeze ... ... ... ... | per yard cube | 9/6 |
| Coke breeze 1" to dust ... ... ... | per yard cube | — |
| ⅛" Sharp washed sand ... ... ... | per yard cube | 14/6 |
| White Silver Sand for white cement (one ton lots) | per yard | 40/– |

(For Sands for Bricklaying and Plastering *see* respective trades)

*Pavings*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Brick hardcore ... ... ... ... ... | per yard cube | 8/– |
| Concrete ditto ... ... ... ... ... | per yard cube | 8/6 |
| Clean furnace clinker and boiler ashes ... | per yard cube | 4/6 |
| Coarse gravel for paths ... ... ... | per yard cube | — |
| Fine ditto ... ... ... ... | per yard cube | — |
| Clean granite chippings ... ... ... | per ton | 38/2 |

## CONCRETOR—(*continued*)

*Pavings—continued*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Red quarry tiles, 6" × 6" × ¾" ... ... | per yard super | 8/1 |
| Ditto 6" × 6" × ½" ... ... | per yard super | 6/9 |
| Buff ditto 6" × 6" × ¾" ... ... | per yard super | 8/10 |
| Ditto 6" × 6" × ½" ... ... | per yard super | 7/5 |
| Hard red paving bricks, 2" ... ... | per 1,000 | 235/3 |
| Ditto 1½" ... ... | per 1,000 | 213/3 |

*Reinforcement*

| | |
|---|---|
| Home trade maximum basis price for mild steel rods, ⅜" diameter and upwards, ex mills delivered to station or siding ... ... | per ton £16 19 6 |
| Extras for :— | |
| ⅛" and ¼" diameter... ... ... ... ... | per ton 10/– |
| 7/16" diameter ... ... ... ... ... | per ton 15/– |
| ½" diameter ... ... ... ... ... | per ton 20/– |
| 9/16" diameter ... ... ... ... ... | per ton 30/– |
| ⅝" diameter ... ... ... ... ... | per ton 40/– |
| ¾" diameter ... ... ... ... ... | per ton 60/– |
| Lengths of 40 ft. to 45 ft. ... ... ... ... | per ton 10/– |
| Lengths of 45 ft. to 50 ft. ... ... ... ... | per ton 15/– |

*Sundries*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Retarding liquid, in 5-gallon drums (for exposing aggregate) | per gallon 21/– | Ex Warehouse, Southwark Bridge. Drums chargeable and credited, if returned. |
| Ditto (for obtaining a bond) | per gallon 13/1¼ | |

## BRICKLAYER

*Common Bricks*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| †Rough stocks ... ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | — |
| †Third stocks ... ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | — |
| †Mild stocks ... ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | — |
| Sand limes ... ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | — |
| ‡Phorpres pressed Flettons ... ... ... | per 1,000 | 61/3 |
| ‡Phorpres keyed Flettons ... ... ... | per 1,000 | 63/3 |
| Blue Staffordshire wirecuts ... ... ... | per 1,000 | 287/– |
| †Lingfield engineering wirecuts ... ... | per 1,000 | 98/– |
| Firebricks, best Stourbridge 2½" ... ... | per 1,000 | 425/– |
| Firebricks, best Stourbridge 3" ... ... | per 1,000 | 542/6 |

*Facing and Engineering Bricks*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sand Limes, No. 1 ... ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | — |
| Sand Limes, No. 2 ... ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | — |
| ‡Phorpres rustic Flettons ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | 81/3 |

‡ At King's Cross (Maiden Lane) Stn. For delivery in W.C. district add 10/- per 1,000. † Price ex works, delivery extra.

## BRICKLAYER—(*continued*)

*Facing and Engineering Bricks—continued*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Midhurst Whites ... ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | — |
| †Hard stocks, firsts ... ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | — |
| †Hard stocks, seconds ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | — |
| Sand-faced, hand-made reds ... ... | per 1,000 from | 185/6 |
| Sand-faced, machine-made reds ... ... | per 1,000 from | — |
| Red rubbers (9½-in.) ... ... ... ... .. | per 1,000 | — |
| Uxbridge Flints (white) ... ... ... | from per 1,000 | 86/– |
| Uxbridge Flints (creams, light greys, etc.) per 1,000 ... ... ... ... ... ... | from | 113/– |
| Dunbriks (concrete), greys or Commons, ex works | per 1,000 | 66/– |
| Dunbriks (concrete), various colours, ex works ... | per 1,000 | — |
| †Southwater engineering No. 1 (first quality red pressed) ... ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | 148/– |
| †Southwater engineering No. 2 (second quality red pressed) ... ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | 128/– |
| Blue pressed ... ... ... ... ... ... | per 1,000 | 314/6 |

† Price ex works, delivery extra.

*Limes and Sand*

| | | 1-ton lots | 6-ton lots |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lime, greystone ... ... ... | per ton | 61/– | — |
| Lime, chalk ... ... ... ... | per ton | 61/– | — |
| Lime, blue Lias (including paper bags) | per ton | — | — |
| Lime, hydrated (including paper bags) | per ton | 70/6 | — |
| Washed pit sand ... ... ... ... | per yard cube | | 13/6 |

(For cements, *see* "Concretor.")

Hire of jute sacks charged at 1/6 and credited at 1/6. If left charged at 1/9.

*Sundries*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Wall ties, self coloured ... ... ... | per cwt. | — |
| Wall ties, galvanized... ... ... ... | per cwt. | — |
| D.P.C. slates, size 18″ × 9″ ... ... ... | per 100 | 44/9 |
| D.P.C. slates, size 14″ × 9″ ... ... ... | per 100 | 38/3 |
| D.P.C. slates, size 14″ × 4½″ ... ... | per 100 | 11/6 |
| ‡Ledkore D.P.C. Grade A ... ... | per foot super | 8½d. |
| ‡Ledkore D.P.C. Grade B ... ... | per foot super | 10½d. |
| ‡Ledkore D.P.C. Grade C ... ... | per foot super | 1/– |

‡ Trade discount 5 per cent. and cash discount 5 per cent. Prices include delivery on minimum of £5 orders.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Airbricks: | 9″×3″ | 9″×6″ | 9″×9″ | 12″×9″ | 14″×9″ |
| Red and buff terra cotta ... ... each | 1/– | 2/1 | 4/7 | — | 12/7 |
| Black cast iron, School Board pattern airbricks per doz. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Galvanized ditto per doz. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Black hit and miss cast iron ventilators per doz. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Galvanized ditto per doz. | — | — | — | — | — |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Buff terra cotta chimney pots ... ... each | 1′ 0″ 3/8 | 1′ 6″ 4/4 | 2′ 0″ 6/4 | 2′ 6″ 8/4 | 3′ 6″ 19/– | 5′ 0″ 32/5 |
| Fireclay ... per ton | 67/6 | | | | | |

Wall reinforcement supplied in standard rolls containing 25 yards lin.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *2″ wide black japanned ... | per roll | 2/5 |
| *2″ wide galvanized ... | per roll | — |
| *2½″ wide black japanned... | per roll | 3/– |
| *2½″ wide galvanized ... | per roll | — |

Greater widths pro rata 2½″ price carriage paid on orders of £5. Discounts for quantities

*Partitions, etc.*

| | | 2″ | 2½″ | 3″ | 4″ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Breeze ... | per yard super | 2/4 | 2/9 | 3/4 | 4/4 |
| Pumice ... | per yard super | 4/– | 5/– | 6/– | 7/– |
| Hollow Block | per yard super | 2/9 | 3/– | 3/7 | 4/1 |
| Plaster ... | per yard super | 5/– | 5/8 | 6/11 | 7/3 |
| †1″ Wood-wool Slabs ... | per yard super | from 4/2 to 4/10 | | | |
| †2″ Wood-wool Slabs ... | per yard super | from 6/7 to 7/6½ | | | |
| †3″ Wood-wool Slabs ... | per yard super | from 8/6 to 9/8½ | | | |

† Prices according to quantity ordered. 2½% Cash Discount.

*Gas Flue Blocks*

| | | Single Flues | Double Flues |
|---|---|---|---|
| Straight blocks ... ... ... | each | 1/4 | 2/5 |
| Backing Block... ... ... | per set of 3 | 3/3 | 5/8 |
| Cover blocks ... ... ... ... | each | 1/8 | 3/6 |
| Raking blocks 45° ... ... ... | each | 3/2 | 4/11 |
| Raking blocks 60° ... ... ... | each | 2/2 | 3/5 |
| Offset blocks ... ... ... | each | 3/10 | 5/4 |
| Closer blocks ... ... ... ... | each | 1/4 | 2/5 |
| Closer flashing blocks ... ... | each | 1/1 | 1/10 |
| Straight flashing blocks ... ... | each | 1/1 | 1/10 |
| Terminal and cap ... ... | per set | 7/3 | 12/3 |
| Middle terminal and cap ... | per set | 6/9 | 11/6 |
| End terminal and cap ... | per set | 7/– | 12/– |
| Corbel block ... ... ... ... | each | 5/4 | 10/9 |
| Gathering block ... ... ... | each | — | 3/7 |

## DRAINLAYER

*Agricultural Pipes*

| | | 2″ | 3″ | 4″ | 6″ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pipes in 12″ lengths ... | per 1,000 | 77/6 | 110/– | 147/6 | 285/– |

(Delivered in full loads Central London Area.)

*Salt Glazed Stoneware Pipes and Fittings*

| | | 4″ | 6″ | 9″ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pipes (2′ lengths) ... ... ... | each | 1/8 | 2/6 | 4/6 |
| Bends, ordinary ... ... ... | each | 2/6 | 3/9 | 6/9 |
| Single Junction, 2′ long ... ... | each | 3/4 | 5/– | 9/– |
| Yard Gulley, without grating ... | each | 6/3 | 6/10½ | 11/3 |
| Ordinary round or square Grating, painted ... ... ... ... | each | –/7½ | 1/3 | 2/6 |
| Ordinary round or square Grating, galvanized ... ... ... ... | each | 1/0½ | 2/1 | 4/4½ |
| Extra for Inlets, horizontal ... ... | each | 1/6 | 1/6 | 1/6 |
| Extra for Inlets, vertical ... ... | each | 2/3 | 2/3 | 2/3 |
| Intercepting Trap with Stanford Stopper ... ... ... ... | each | 17/6 | 22/6 | 37/6 |
| Grease and mud interceptor with bucket for removing silt and grease for 6″, 9″ and 12″ drains, with iron grating, painted ... ... ... ... ... | each | 20/– | | |
| Ditto, with iron grating galvanized ... ... ... | each | 21/10½ | | |

The above prices to be varied by the following percentages for the different qualities given. All subject to 2½ per cent. cash discount.

| | British Standard | British Standard Tested |
|---|---|---|
| Orders for 2 tons and over ... ... | Plus 15% | Plus 40% |
| Orders under 2 tons, 100 pieces upwards | Plus 32½% | Plus 57½% |
| Orders under 2 tons, less than 100 pieces | Plus 42½% | Plus 67½% |

| | Best | Seconds |
|---|---|---|
| Orders for 2 tons and over ... ... | Plus 7½% | Subject to 15% |
| Orders under 2 tons, 100 pieces upwards | Plus 25% | off the price of |
| Orders under 2 tons, less than 100 pieces | Plus 35% | best quality for all sizes |

*Cast Iron Drain Pipes and Fittings*

Socket and Spigot Pipes :—

| Weight (per 9 ft.) | Size | 9 fts. | 6 fts. | 4 fts. each | 3 fts. each |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 . 1 . 8 | 4″ per yard ... | 8/3 | 9/3 | 14/9 | 11/2 |
| 1 . 1 . 20 | 4″ per yard ... | 8/7 | 9/6 | 15/1 | 11/6 |
| 2 . 0 . 6 | 6″ per yard ... | 12/9 | 15/2 | 24/5 | 19/6 |
| 4 . 0 . 2 | 9″ per yard ... | 23/1 | 30/3 | 52/6 | 40/– |

| | | 2 fts. | 18 ins. | 12 ins. | 9 ins. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 . 1 . 8 | 4″ each ... ... | 9/3 | 7/10 | 7/3 | 6/6 |
| 1 . 1 . 20 | 4″ each ... ... | 9/5 | — | — | — |
| 2 . 0 . 6 | 6″ each ... ... | 14/8 | — | — | — |
| 4 . 0 . 2 | 9″ each ... ... | — | — | — | — |

Tonnage Allowances :—

Orders up to 2 tons nett.
Orders 2 to 4 tons less 2½%
Orders 4 tons or over less 5%

| | | 4″ | 6″ | 9″ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bends ... ... ... ... | each | 8/2½ | 17/1 | 52/9 |
| Single junctions ... ... ... | each | 14/6 | 30/– | 91/3 |
| Intercepting traps ... ... | each | 39/7 | 66/– | 162/3 |
| Gulleys ordinary trapped ... | each | 19/2 | — | — |
| Extra for inlet 4″... ... ... | each | 5/3 | — | — |
| Grease Gulley trap ... ... | each | 152/6 | — | — |
| H.M.O.W. large socket gulley trap with 9″ gulley top and heavy grating and one back inlet | each | 33/3 | 61/8 | — |

*Channels in Brown Glazed Ware*

| | | 4″ | 6″ | 9″ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Half round straight channels 24″ long | each | 1/3 | 1/10½ | 3/4½ |
| Half round straight channels 30″ long | each | — | — | 4/2½ |
| Ditto, short lengths ... ... ... | each | 1/3 | 1/10½ | — |
| Half round ordinary channel bends ... | | 1/10½ | 2/9½ | 5/0½ |
| Ditto, short ... ... ... ... | each | 1/10½ | 2/9½ | — |
| Ditto, long ... ... ... ... | each | 3/9 | 5/7½ | 10/1½ |
| Three-quarter round branch bends | each | 5/– | 7/6 | — |

| | | 6″×4″ | 9″×6″ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Half round taper channels 24″ long ... | each | 3/9 | 6/9 |
| Half round taper channel bends ... | each | 4/8½ | 8/5½ |

The above prices are subject to the same discounts as those given for "Best" quality salt glazed stoneware pipes.

*Manhole Covers, etc.*

| | Black | Galvanized |
|---|---|---|
| 24″ × 18″ single seal for foot traffic. (Weight 0.0.3 in lots of 24) ... ... ... each | 19/3 | 30/– |
| 24″ × 18″ single seal for light car traffic. (Weight 2 cwts. in lots of 24) ... each | 49/7 | 88/2 |
| 24″ × 18″ Wood Block pattern. For road traffic. (Weight 3 cwts.) ... ... each | Coated 79/3 | |

## DRAINLAYER—(*continued*)

*Manhole Covers, etc.—(continued)*

| | Fine Cast | Galv. |
|---|---|---|
| Cast iron steps, 13½″ long, 6″ wide, 9″ in wall, approximate weight 5½ lb. each per dozen | 17/4 | 28/11 |
| Galvanized fresh air inlets with cast brass fronts (L.C.C. pattern) ... ... each | 4″ 7/7 | 6″ 31/- |

## MASON

*Yorkstone*

| | |
|---|---|
| Building quality Robin Hood and Woodkirk Blue Stone. | |
| Blocks scrappled, random sizes... ... per foot cube | 6/1 |
| Add for blocks to dimension sizes ... per foot cube | 8d. (each dimension) |
| Templates with sawn beds, edges rough (up to 4 ft. super and not over 2′ 6″ long) ... per foot cube | 6/9 |
| Templates with sawn beds, sawn one edge, per foot cube | 8/1½ |
| Templates with sawn beds, sawn two edges, per foot cube | 9/5½ |
| Prices f.o.r. Yorkshire, railway rate to London Station per ton. (Minimum 4-ton loads.) | 29/1 |

*Artificial Stone*

| | |
|---|---|
| 6″ × 3″ Copings and sills ... ... per foot run | 2/1 |
| 6″ × 6″ Copings and sills ... ... per foot run | 3/2 |
| 9″ × 3″ Copings and sills ... ... per foot run | 2/6 |
| 9″ × 6″ Copings and sills ... ... per foot run | 4/6 |
| 12″ × 3″ Copings and sills ... ... per foot run | 3/3 |
| 12″ × 6″ Copings and sills ... ... per foot run | 5/2 |
| Cornices according to detail, per foot cube (from) | 9/3 |

## SLATER, TILER AND ROOFER

*Best Bangor Slates*

| | £ s. d. |
|---|---|
| 24″ × 12″ ... ... ... ... ... per 1,000 actual | — |
| 20″ × 10″ ... ... ... ... ... per 1,000 actual | — |

Prices include for delivery to site in lots of 1,000 and upwards.

*Tiles*

| | £ s. d. |
|---|---|
| Hand-made sandfaced 10½″ × 6½″ red roofing tiles per 1,000 | — |
| Machine-made sandfaced 10½″ × 6½″ red roofing tiles per 1,000 | — |
| Berkshire rustic pantiles... ... ... per 1,000 | — |

*Asbestos-cement*

| | |
|---|---|
| †6″ corrugated sheets, grey ... ... per yard super | 3/0¾ |
| †Standard 3″ corrugated sheets, grey ... per yard super | 2/9½ |

Slates (*Manufacture temporarily suspended*) :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| * 15¾″ × 7¾″ grey ... ... ... per 1,000 | £6 15 | 9 |
| * 15¾″ × 15¾″ diagonal, grey ... per 1,000 | £13 11 | 6 |
| * 15¾″ × 15¾″ diagonal, russet or brindled per 1,000 | £21 19 | 6 |

Pantiles (*Manufacture temporarily suspended*).

| | |
|---|---|
| * Large russet brown ... ... ... per 1,000 | — |

* Prices are for minimum two-ton loads, and are subject to 5% trade discount.

† Do., but 3¾% advance and 5% trade discount.

## JOINER

*Asbestos-cement and Asbestos Products*

| | |
|---|---|
| †1/16″ Semi-compressed flat building sheets, grey per yard super | 1/3½ |
| †⅛″ Ditto ... ... ... ... ... per yard super | 1/4 |
| †¼″ Ditto ... ... ... ... ... per yard super | 1/11 |

†Prices are for orders of two tons and over and are subject to 10% advance and 5% trade discount.

| | |
|---|---|
| ¼″ Asbestos wallboard (in sheets 8′ 0″ × 4′ 0″), per foot super | -/4½ |
| ⅛″ Ditto ... ... ... ... ... per foot super | -/3¾ |
| *⅛″ Asbestos wood (in sheets 8′ 0″ × 4′ 0″) per yard super | 2/2¾ |

*Prices are for orders of 2 tons and over and are subject to 5% advance.

The following asbestos prices are subject to 10 per cent. trade discount :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Asbestos-cement stipple glazed sheets (in sheets 8′ 0″ × 4′ 0″ and 4′ 0″ × 4′ 0″) ... per yard super | 8/- |
| Marble glazed sheets (in sheets 8′ 0″ × 4′ 0″ and 4′ 0″ × 4′ 0″) ... per yard super | 8/- |
| ¼″ Asbestos Insulating Board ... ... per foot super | — |

| | 25–75 yards | 150–300 yards | Over 600 yards |
|---|---|---|---|
| ¼″ Fireproof plaster board per yard super | 2/8½ | 2/4½ | 2/0½ |
| ½″ Ditto ... ... per yard super | 2/6½ | 2/2½ | 1/10½ |
| Joint tape (approx. 250 feet run) per roll | — | — | 1/6 |
| Joint filler ... ... ... ... per lb. | — | — | -/4 |

*Sundries*

| | |
|---|---|
| Slaters or sarking felt ... ... ... per yard run | -/9 |
| Roofing felt (1-ply bitumen) ... ... per yard sup | 1/- |
| Bituminous hair felt ... ... ... ... per roll | 58/- |

All rolls 25 yards long by 32″ wide.

## JOINER—(*continued*)

*Sundries—(continued)*

| | |
|---|---|
| Building paper, 50″ wide (B.I. 20) ... ... per yard run | 1/1 |
| ,, (K. 40) ... ... ... per yard run | -/5½ |
| "Cabots" Quilt :—(Ex Works) Twenty roll lots delivered carr. free. | |
| Double ply ... ... per roll — per half-roll | — |

All rolls 28 yards long by 36″ wide. Special terms for quantities.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cut steel clasp nails | 1″ | per cwt. | 40/3 | 4″ per cwt. | 31/3 |
| ,, ,, floor brads | 2″ | ,, | 30/9 | 3″ ,, | 29/6 |
| Bright oval wire nails | 1″ | ,, | 43/4 | 4″ ,, | 31/3 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Galvanized wire staples with slice cut points ... ... ... ... 1″ × 12 gauge per cwt. | 52/- |
| Scotch glue ... ... ... ... ... ... per cwt. | — |

## STEEL AND IRONWORKER

*Steelwork*

| | £ s. d. |
|---|---|
| Basis price for rolled steel joists sections 5″ × 3″ to 16″ × 6″, in 10 ft. to 50 ft. lengths ex mills per ton | 15 10 6 |

## PLASTERER

*Plaster and Cement*

| | 1-ton loads | |
|---|---|---|
| Sirapite (coarse) ... ... per ton | 91/6 | |
| ,, (fine) ... ... per ton | 99/6 | |
| Victorite No. 1 ... ... per ton | 113/- | |
| ,, No. 2 or non-sweat per ton | 96/6 | |
| Thistle (browning) ... per ton | 91/6 | |
| Thistle (haired) ... ... per ton | — | |
| Pink plaster ... ... per ton | 91/6 | |
| White plaster ... ... per ton | 94/6 | |
| Keene's pink ... .... per ton | 138/- | |
| Gypstone ... ... ... per ton | 70/6 | ex Works, Kent |
| Glastone ... ... ... per ton | 73/- | ex Works, Kent |
| Paristone (haired) ... ... per ton | 70/6 | ex Works, Kent |
| Snowcrete (Tyrolean Finish) 1 ton lots and upwards | | per ton 149/- |

*Sundries*

| | |
|---|---|
| Sharp washed sand ... ... ... ... per yard cube | 14/6 |
| Cow hair ... ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 64/- |
| Goat's hair ... ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 93/- |
| Expanded metal lathing, 9′ 0″ × 2′ 0″ ⅜″ mesh × 26 gauge ... ... ... per sheet | 2/9 |
| Wire Slate nails (galvanized) 1½″ × 15 gauge per cwt. | 62/5 |
| ,, ,, ,, (bright wire) ,, ,, per cwt. | — |

| | 25–150 yards | 150–300 yards | Over 600 yards |
|---|---|---|---|
| ½″ Plaster board (plaster base) per yard super | 2/3½ | 1/11½ | 1/9½ |
| 1½″ Galvanized nails ... per cwt. | 58/3 | | |
| Scrim cloth in 100-yard rolls per roll | 3/10 | | |

*Wall Tiles*

The following prices are subject to 75 per cent. addition :

Commercial quality.

| | |
|---|---|
| Ivory, white, etc., glazed 6″ × 6″ × ¼″ ... per yard super | 10/1 |
| Angle beads (1½″ wide) ... ... ... per yard run | 1/2½ |
| ,, ,, (1″ ,, ) ... ... ... per yard run | -/10 |
| Rounded edge tiles ... ... ... per yard run | 2/6½ |
| Coloured enamelled bright glazed, 6″ × 6″ × ¼″ ... ... ... per yard super | 14/3 |
| Angle beads (1½″ wide) ... ... ... per yard run | 1/4½ |
| ,, ,, (1″ ,, ) ... ... ... per yard run | -/11½ |
| Rounded edge tiles ... ... ... per yard run | 2/7 |
| Eggshell gloss enamelled, 6″ × 6″ × ¼″ ... per yard super | 15/- |
| Angle beads (1½″ wide) ... ... ... per yard run | 1/7½ |
| ,, ,, (1″ ,, ) ... ... ... per yard run | 1/0½ |
| Rounded edge tiles ... ... ... per yard run | 2/8½ |

Special rates for quantities

## PLUMBER

*Lead*

| | |
|---|---|
| 3½ lb. and upwards milled sheet lead in quantities of 5 cwts. and upwards ... ... per cwt. | 40/- |
| Add if cut to sizes ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 3/- |
| Lead ternary alloy, No. 2 quality extra over sheet lead ... ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 14/- |
| Allowance for old lead delivered to merchant per cwt. | 18/- |

## PLUMBER—(*continued*)

*Cast Iron Goods*

| | Percentage Adjustment on List No. 3100 A.B, 1/2/40 |
|---|---|
| Rainwater Goods (painted or unpainted) ... | *Plus* 17½% |
| Soil goods (coated or uncoated) ... ... | *Plus* 17½% |

*Mild Steel Rainwater Goods*

The following prices are subject to 2½ per cent. trade discount and 40 per cent. advance.
24 gauge rainwater slip jointed pipes.

| | 2″ | 2½″ | 3″ | 3½″ | 4″ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Galvanized round pipes with ears ... ... per 6′ 0″ | 2/7½ | 3/1½ | 3/9 | 4/3 | 4/9 |
| Painted round pipes with ears per 6′ 0″ | 2/4½ | 2/9 | 3/1½ | 3/7½ | 4/– |
| Painted or galvanized short lengths with ears, extra each | –/6 | –/6 | –/6 | –/6 | –/6 |

| 18 Gauge gutters. | 3″ | 3½″ | 4″ | 4½″ | 5″ | 6″ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Galvanized half round gutters per 6′ 0″ | 2/– | 2/3 | 2/4½ | 2/9 | 3/– | 3/7½ |
| Painted half round gutters ... per 6′ 0″ | 1/6 | 1/9 | 2/– | 2/3 | 2/6 | 3/– |
| Painted or galvanized short lengths extra each | –/3 | –/3 | –/3 | –/3 | –/3 | –/3 |

*Asbestos-Cement Rainwater Goods*

The following prices are subject to 15 per cent. advance and 12½ per cent. trade discount.

Orders over £30 are subject to 17½ per cent. trade discount.

*Rainwater pipes.*

Prices are for 6′ 0″ lengths, and 10′ 0″ lengths in 2″, 2½″ and 3″ diameters. Short lengths up to 2′ 0″ are charged as one yard. From 2′ 0″ to 4′ 0″ charged as 1½ yards. From 4′ 0″ to 6′ 0″ charged as 2 yards. Over 6′ 0″ charged as 10′ 0″.

*Round pipes.*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2″ ... ... ... ... ... ... | per yard run | 1/10 |
| 2½″ ... ... ... ... ... ... | per yard run | 2/0½ |
| 3″ ... ... ... ... ... ... | per yard run | 2/5½ |
| 3½″ ... ... ... ... ... ... | per yard run | 2/11½ |
| 4″ ... ... ... ... ... ... | per yard run | 3/4½ |
| 4½″ ... ... ... ... ... ... | per yard run | 4/10½ |
| 5″ ... ... ... ... ... ... | per yard run | 5/9½ |
| 6″ ... ... ... ... ... ... | per yard run | 7/1½ |

*Gutters.*

Short lengths of gutter up to 2′ 0″ charged as 1 yard; from 2′ 0″ to 4′ 0″ as 1½ yards, and over 4′ 0″ as 2 yards.

| | 3″ | 4″ | 4½″ | 5″ | 6″ | 8″ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Half round gutters per yard run | 1/3½ | 1/6½ | 1/7½ | 1/11 | 2/8 | 3/3½ |
| Ogee gutters per yard run | — | 1/11 | 2/0½ | 2/5½ | 3/0½ | 3/11½ |

## INTERNAL PLUMBER

| | |
|---|---|
| Lead pipe in coils, 5 cwts. and upwards ... per cwt. | 40/3 |
| Lead soil pipe ... ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 44/3 |
| Add if ribbon marked ... ... ... per cwt. | –/6 |
| Lead ternary alloy, No. 2 quality extra over lead pipe per cwt. | 14/– |
| Plumber's solder ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 155/– |
| Tinman's solder ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 210/– |

Drawn lead traps with brass screw eye, 6 lb.

| | 1″ | 1½″ | 1½″ | 2″ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S. trap ... ... ... each | 2/9 | 3/2 | 3/11 | 5/8 |
| P. trap ... ... ... each | 2/5 | 2/7 | 3/3 | 4/7 |
| Extra for 3″ deep seal ... each | –/8 | –/8 | –/8 | –/8 |

*Screwed and Socketed Steel Tubes and Fittings for Gas, Water and Steam, etc.*

| Tubes. | ⅜″ | ½″ | ¾″ | 1″ | 1¼″ | 1½″ | 2″ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tubes 2 ft. long and over per ft. | –/5½ | –/6½ | –/9½ | 1/1 | 1/4½ | | 1/10 |
| Pieces 12″ to 23½″ long each | 1/1 | 1/5 | 1/11 | 2/8 | 3/4 | | 4/9 |
| Bends ... ... each | –/11 | 1/2 | 1/7½ | 2/7½ | 3/2 | | 5/2 |
| Fittings. | | | | | | | |
| Elbows, square ... each | 1/1 | 1/3 | 1/6 | 2/2 | 2/7 | | 4/3 |
| Elbows, round ... each | 1/2 | 1/5 | 1/8 | 2/4 | 2/10 | | 4/8 |
| Tees ... ... ... each | 1/3 | 1/7 | 1/10 | 2/6 | 3/1 | | 5/1 |
| Crosses ... ... each | 2/9 | 3/3 | 4/1 | 5/6 | 6/7 | | 10/6 |
| Sockets, plain ... each | –/4 | –/5 | –/6 | –/8 | –/10½ | | 1/3 |
| Sockets, diminished each | –/6 | –/7 | –/9 | 1/– | 1/4 | | 2/– |
| Flanges ... ... each | 1/– | 1/2 | 1/4 | 1/9 | 2/– | | 2/9 |
| Caps ... ... each | –/5 | –/6 | –/8 | 1/– | 1/3 | | 2/– |
| Plugs ... ... each | –/4 | –/5 | –/6 | –/8 | –/10 | | 1/3 |

## INTERNAL PLUMBER—(*continued*)

*Screwed and Socketed Steel Tubes and Fittings for Gas, Water and Steam, etc. (continued)*

Fittings and flanges and tubes ordered in long random lengths are subject to the following trade discounts:—

| | Tubes | Fittings | Flanges |
|---|---|---|---|
| "Light Weight" ... | 51½% | 47½% | 28% |
| "Heavy Weight" ... | 44% | 39½% | 15½% |

## COPPERSMITH AND ZINC WORKER

*Copper*

| | |
|---|---|
| Hot rolled copper sheeting in 1 cwt. lots, all gauges to 24 wire gauge ... ... ... per lb. | 1/1½ |
| Light gauge copper tube, solid drawn ... ... per lb. | 1/3½ |
| Copper tube, solid drawn screwing sizes ... per lb. | 1/2½ |
| Copper wire, 10 and 12 gauge ... ... ... per lb. | 1/2 |
| Copper nails, 1″ and up ... ... ... ... per lb. | — |

## GLAZIER

*Sheet Glass cut to size (ordinary glazing quality)*

| | |
|---|---|
| 18 oz. clear sheet ... ... ... per foot super | 3½d. |
| 24 oz. ditto or "R" quality ... ... ... ,, ,, ,, | 5d. |
| 26 oz. ditto ... ... ... ... ,, ,, ,, | 6½d. |
| 32 oz. ditto ... ... ... ... ,, ,, ,, | 8½d. |
| ⅛″ figured rolled and cathedral glass (white) ,, ,, ,, | 6½d. |
| ⅛″ ditto, approved tints ... ... ... ,, ,, ,, | 9½d. |

*British Polished Plate Glass cut to size*

| Ordinary ¼″ Substance In Plates not exceeding | Glazing for Glazing Purposes | Selected Glazing Quality | Silvering Quality |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 ft. super ... per foot super | 2/2 | 2/4 | 2/10 |
| 3 ,, ... per foot super | 2/9 | 3/– | 3/9 |
| 5 ,, ... per foot super | 3/– | 3/6 | 4/3 |
| *45 ,, ... per foot super | 3/6 | 4/– | 5/5 |
| *100 ,, ... per foot super | 4/6 | 5/7 | 7/2 |

*Plates exceeding 100 ft. super or 160 in. long or 100 in. wide at higher prices.

Special quotations should be obtained for other qualities and thicker substances.

*Wired Glass Cut to Sizes*

| | |
|---|---|
| ¼″ Wired cast ... ... ... ... per ft. super | 9½d. |
| ‡¼″ Georgian wired cast ... ... ... per ft. super | 10d. |
| ‡¼″ Polished Georgian wired glass ... ... per ft. super | 3/2 |

‡ For cutting to allow for wires in adjacent pieces to be "lined up," add 4d. per foot super.

Supplied in sizes up to 110 in. long and up to 36 in. wide.

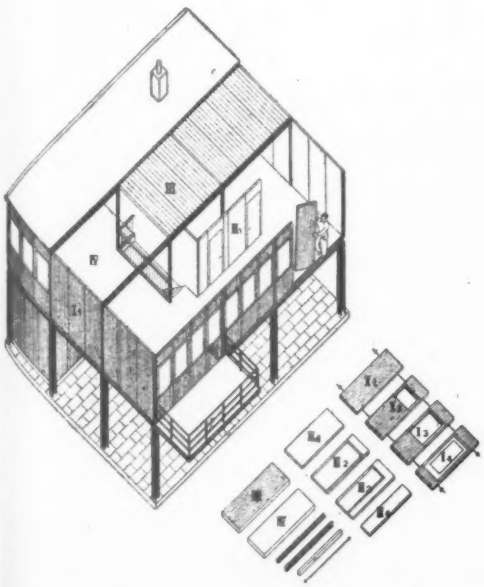
## PAINTER

| | |
|---|---|
| Snowcem paint ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 56/– |
| White ceiling distemper ... ... ... per cwt. | 22/– |
| Washable distemper ... ... ... per cwt. from 44/– to | 66/– |
| Ready mixed white lead paint (best), 5 cwt. lots, 14 lb. tins ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 96/6 |
| Aluminium paint ... ... ... ... per gallon | — |
| White enamel ... ... ... ... per gallon | — |
| White enamel paint ... ... ... ... per gallon | 27/– |
| Stiff white lead (genuine English stack process, 1 ton lots, 1 cwt. kegs) ... ... per cwt. | 74/6 |
| Liquid driers ... ... ... ... ... per gallon | 23/– |
| Linseed oil raw (5 gallon drums) ... ... per gallon | 6/11 |
| ,, ,, boiled (5-gallon drums) ... ... per gallon | 7/2 |
| French polish ... ... ... ... ... per gallon | 15/6 |
| Knotting ... ... ... ... ... per gallon | 24/– |
| Oil stain (scumble) ... ... ... ... per lb. | 3/– |
| ,, ,, red oxide ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 72/– |
| ,, ,, middle Brunswick green ... ... per cwt. | 95/– |
| ,, ,, dark umber ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 105/– |
| ,, ,, golden ochre ... ... ... per cwt. | 82/– |
| Varnish (outside quality) oak ... ... per gallon | 22/– |
| ,, ,, ,, copal ... ... per gallon | 24/– |
| ,, ,, ,, flatting ... ... per gallon | 26/– |
| Turpentine, genuine American 5 gallon lots per gallon | — |
| ,, substitute ... ... ... per gallon | 4/– |
| Creosote, 1 gallon lots ... ... ... per gallon | 1/9 |
| Putty ... ... ... ... ... per cwt. | 23/6 |
| Utility Glazing Putty ... ... ... per cwt. | 21/3 |
| Size ... ... ... ... ... ... per ½ cwt. | 30/– |
| Best quality English gold leaf, 23 carat ... per book | 3/6 |
| Extra thick, ditto ... ... ... ... per book | 4/2 |

Top, balco

# SWEDISH STEEL AND TIMBER PREFABRICATED HOUSE

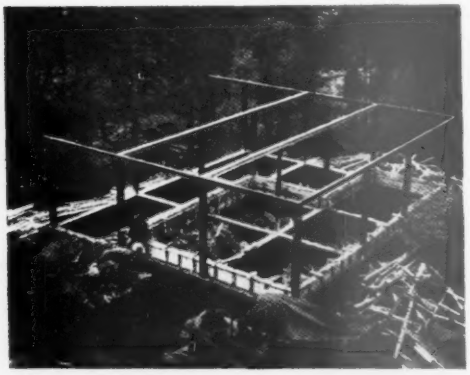
## *DESIGNED BY ERIC FRIBERGER*

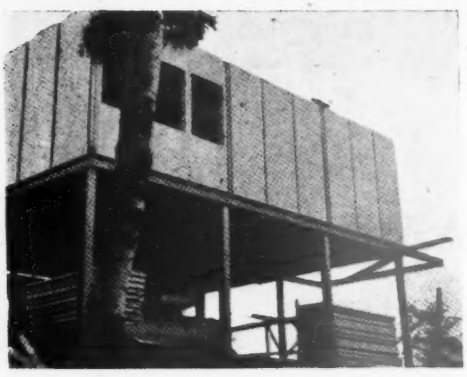


*Top, south-east elevation with its cantilevered balcony. Above, axonometric showing standard units.*

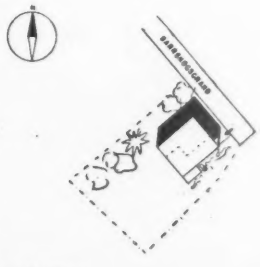
GENERAL—A modern development of the centuries-old traditional Swedish timber house, it lies on the slope of a hill overlooking Gothenburg to the south-east. It is based on a system of a limited number of mass-produced standardized parts capable of a great variety of combinations, a few examples of which are shown on page 26. As with most unit systems, an advantage is that new elements can be added to an existing house of the same construction as and when new rooms are required. In this example the covered space on the ground floor will eventually be transformed into rooms. Other advantages are demountability and speed of erection with unskilled labour.

CONSTRUCTION — Steel frame and standard timber panels. The external ground floor walls are non-weight-bearing but those on the first floor take the weight of the roof panels. Units are bolted together for rigidity, the standard bay being 10 ft. by 10 ft. A structural advantage of the system is that the timber has space to move. In types as small as 10 ft. by 10 ft. walls and roof are not reinforced with steel sections. One storey buildings with steelwork are similar to the first floor of the Gothenburg example and have a steel angle at each corner, all steelwork being enclosed. The fall of the roof is obtained by building the whole house on a 1 : 100 slope. Ground floor walls

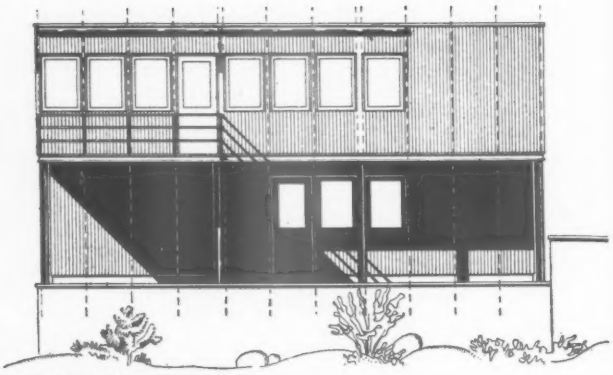




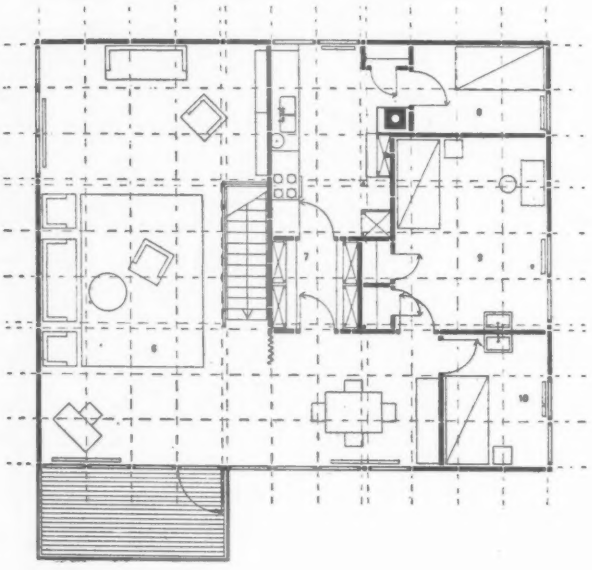
*Above, three progress photographs of the construction. Right, south-east elevation and ground and first-floor plans. (1, entrance hall; 2, guest room; 3, heating chamber; 4, food store; 5, store; 6, living-room; 7, service pantry; 8, maid's room; 9, owner's bedroom; 10, guest room.)*



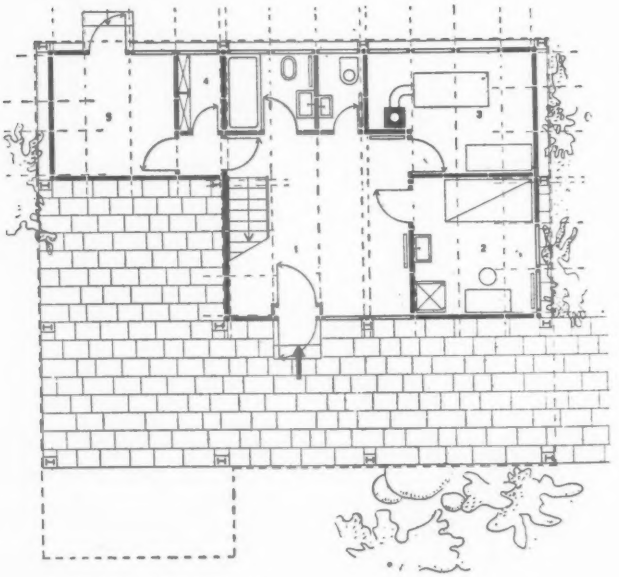
LAY-OUT



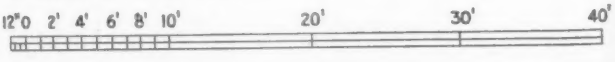
SOUTH EAST ELEVATION



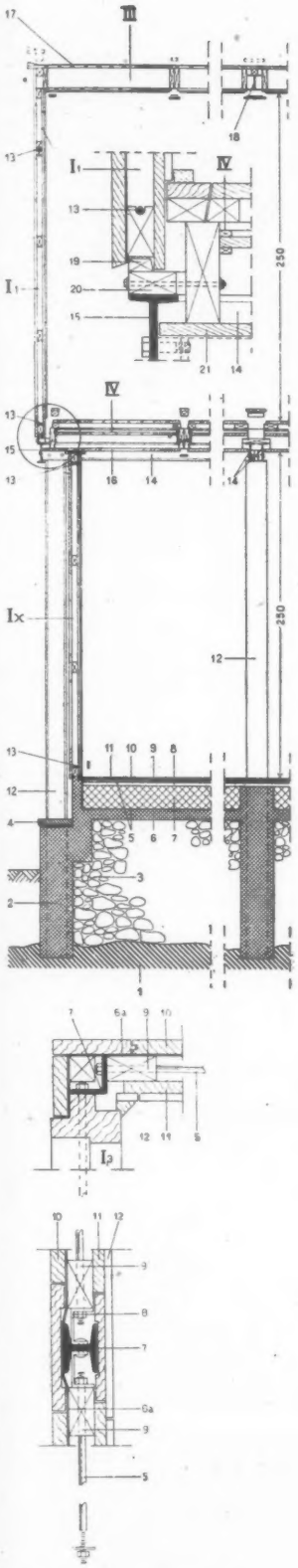
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



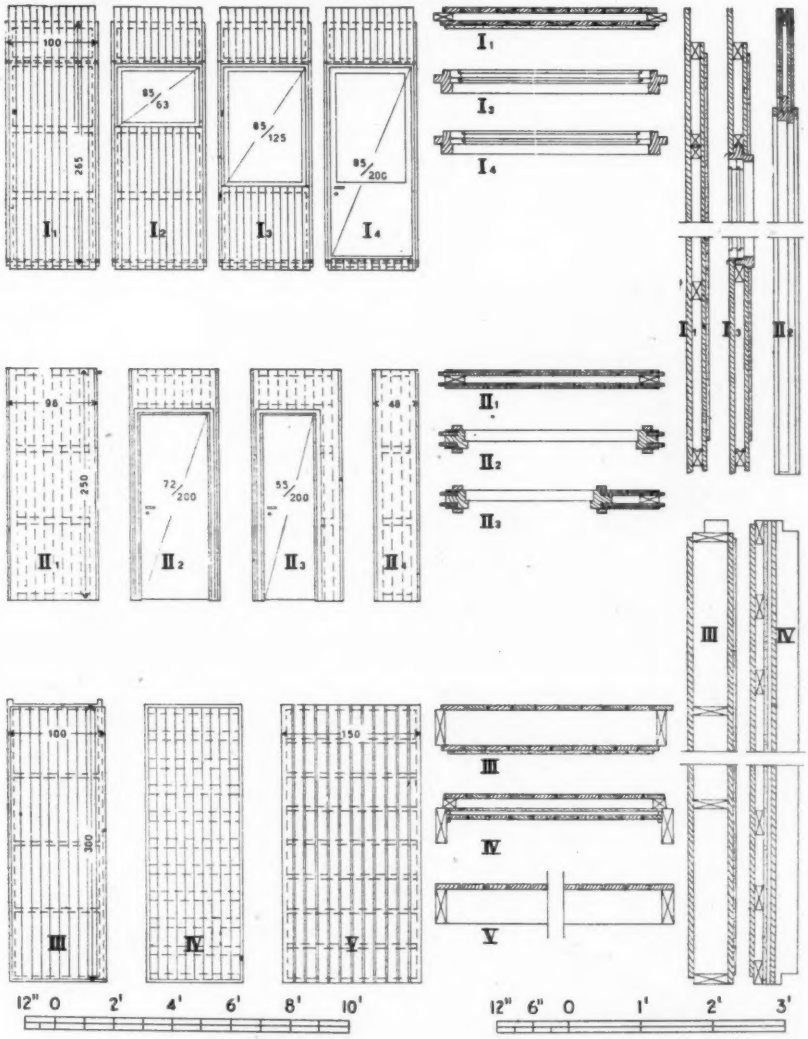
GROUND FLOOR PLAN




# SWEDISH PREFABRICATED HOUSE

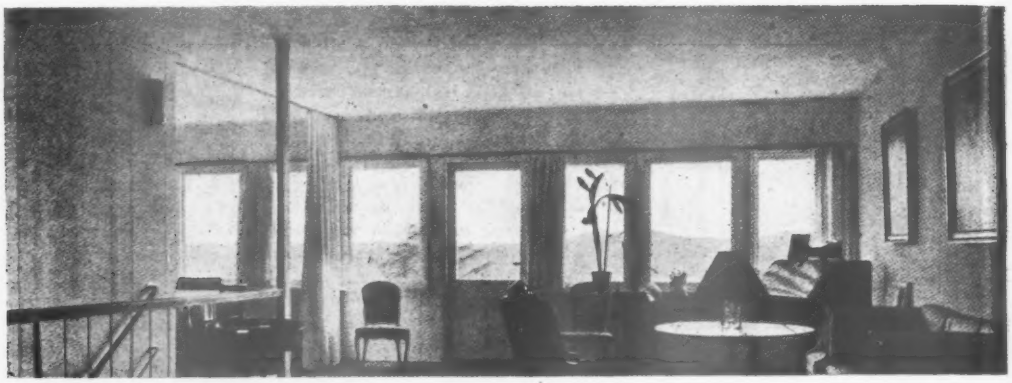


*Left, section through the external wall with sectional detail (1, rock; 2, reinforced concrete foundation walls; 3, stone hardcore; 4, 2½ in. limestone slabs set in cement mortar; 5, asphalte D.P.C.; 6, 3 in. reinforced concrete; 7, 7 in. slag concrete; 8, cement screed; 9, soft building board; 10, hard building board; 11, linoleum; 12, 6 in. by 6 in. R.S.S.; 13, ½ in. steel rods clamping wall panels; 14, two 5½ in. by 2¾ in. internal R.S.J.'s; 15, 6 in. by 3 in. external R.S.J.; 16, T and G wood ceiling; 17, patent roofing felt; 18, 5 in. by 5 in. roof R.S.J.; 19, normal wood fixing fillet; 20, special wood plate screwed to R.S.J.; 21, special wood soffit.) Left below, details in plan through first floor of Gothenburg house, which is the same as for other one-storey types. (5, ½ in. steel rods clamping wall panels; 6a, building paper; 7, steel stanchions; 8, angles riveted to vertical steel; 9, frame of wall panel; 10, outer T and G wood sheathing of panel; 11, inner T and G wood sheathing; 12, porous Masonite wall-board.) Below, the standard units, elevations and sections; I, external wall panels; II, internal partition panels; III, roof panel; IV, floor panel; V, balcony floor panel.*

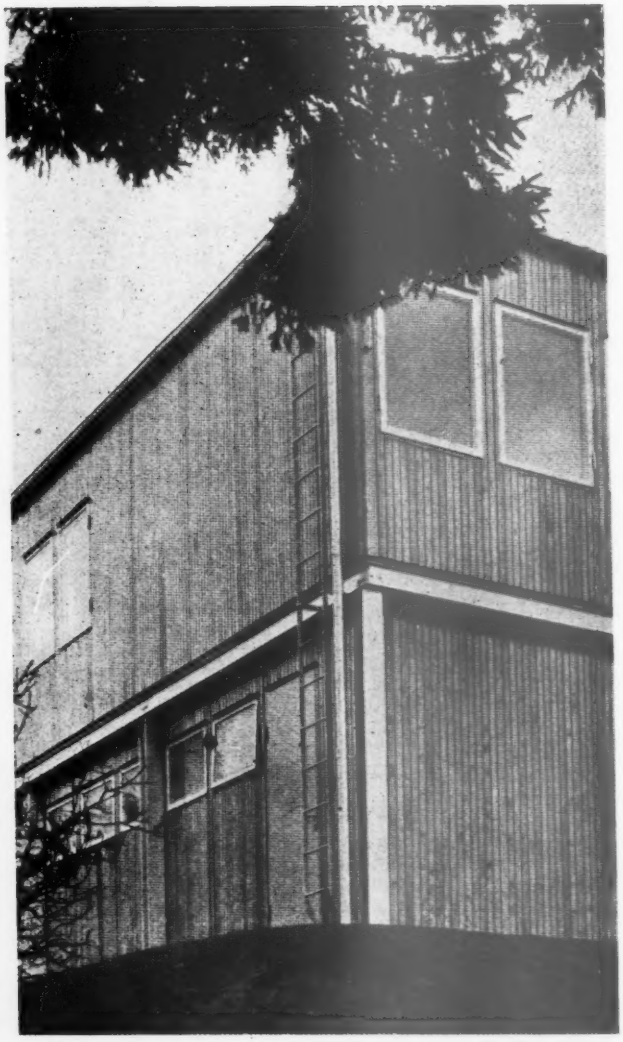


are slightly recessed and leave the steel frame visible. Substratum is granite, foundations being concrete. In this case the ground floor is solid concrete but normally it would be of the standard wood sections laid between sleeper walls. Floors: heating chamber and store, cement screed; entrance hall and guest room, linoleum on asphalted fibre board; bathroom, tiles set in asphalt on a subfloor of cork with concrete beneath; first floor throughout, normal surfaces of the standard timber floor units. Wall finish, internal: porous Masonite on external walls and ceilings, hard Masonite on partitions; heating chamber, lined throughout with asbestos sheeting.

*DESIGNED BY ERIC FRIBERGER*



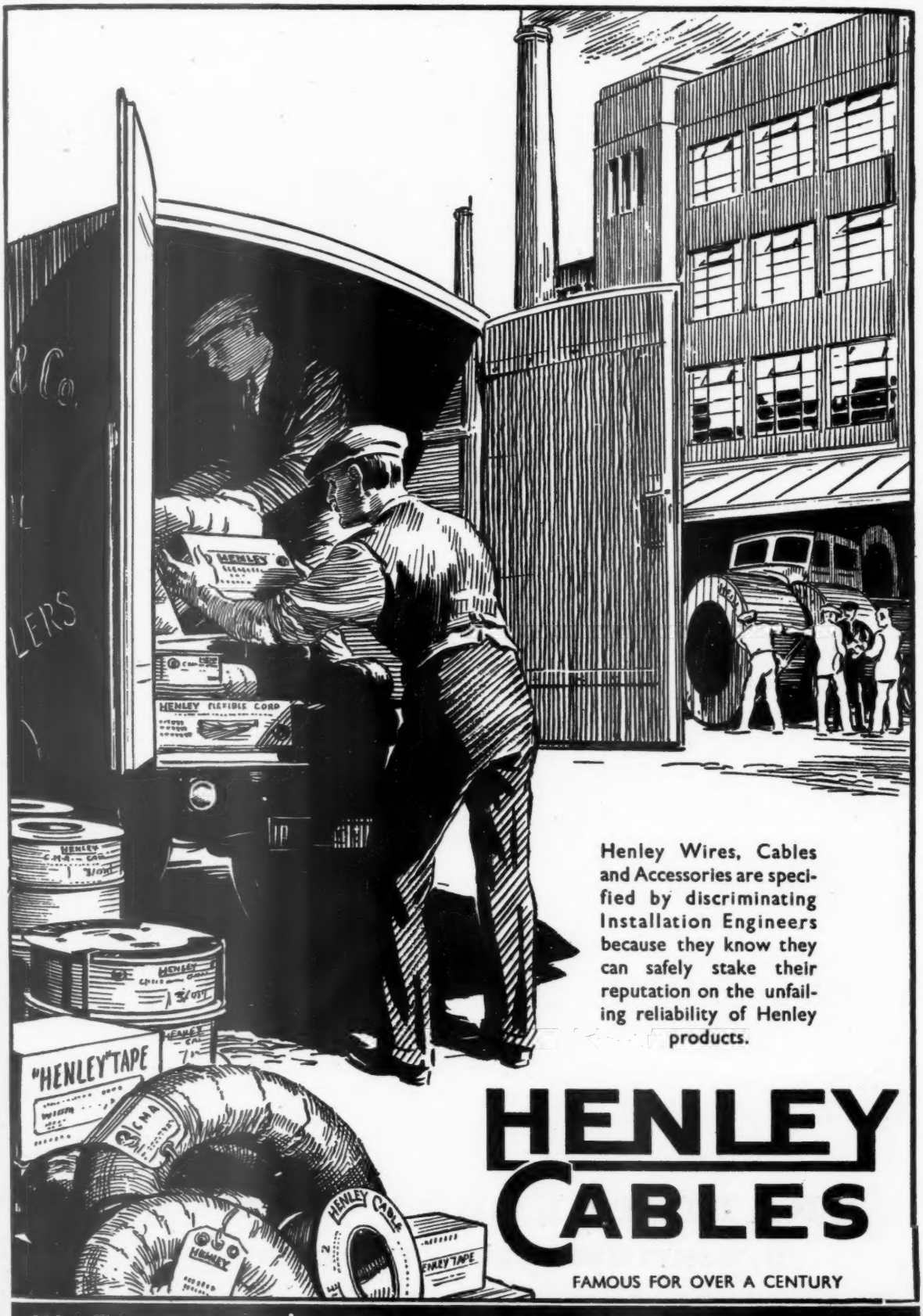
*Above, living-room. Below left, west corner. Below right, south-east elevation after planting has developed, and the covered space on the ground floor.*



All interior joinery painted, Masonite surfaces being treated with a wax base paint. Wall finish, external: boarding of panels, one coat of Cuprinol as used for ships diluted by 50 per cent. turpentine and final coat of pure varnish, thus preserving the natural colour of the wood; steel frame, painted aluminium; external joinery and concrete walls, painted light neutral colours. Roof finish: two layers of bituminized felt.

STANDARD UNITS—The normal external wall type, I, is of tongued and grooved boarding both sides on framing, with an inside finish of porous Masonite, size 8 ft. 8 in. by 3 ft. 4 in. Internal partition type, II, is similar but has thin close boarding faced both sides with hard Masonite, size 8 ft. 2 in. by 3 ft. 0 in., except for $II_4$ which is 1 ft. 6 in. wide. Roof type, III, is of similar but heavier construction, the ceiling side being faced with porous Masonite. Floor type, IV, has two thicknesses of boarding and a sheet of insulating fibre board. Balcony type, V, has battens openly spaced on a timber frame. Standard cover strips finish the joints between panels.

# SWEDISH PREFABRICATED HOUSE

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# INFORMATION CENTRE

*The function of this feature is to supply an index and a digest of all current developments in planning and building technique throughout the world as recorded in technical publications and statements of every kind whether official, private or commercial. Items are written by specialists of the highest authority who are not on the permanent staff of the Journal and views expressed are disinterested and objective. The Editors welcome information on all developments from any source, including manufacturers and contractors.*

## STRUCTURE

### 1527 *Building in USA*

METHODS OF BUILDING IN THE USA. *The Report of a Mission appointed by the Minister of Works.* (*HMSO*, 1944, 4*d*. *Extract in A.J., Feb.* 10, 1944, *pp.* 121-3). Design of Buildings. Building Procedure. Construction and Costs. Factory Produced Building. Summary of Recommendations.

The purpose of the Mission was to survey American practice in the design and construction of buildings, in equipment and finishing, and in the use of materials, with a view to securing in Great Britain in the post-war period :

(*a*) Increased speed and output.
(*b*) Reduced building cost.
(*c*) Improved standards of equipment and finish.
(*d*) Improved conditions for operatives.

The mission visited a great number of American cities in the Eastern states, the Middle West and the Pacific Coast areas, and is preparing detailed appendices to the Report. These will be published later. The present Report is a brief survey of American building practice, particularly on questions of organisation and control, standardisation, research and information services, costs, finance, the use of old and new materials, factory production, temporary housing.

In American design great attention is paid to simplification of workmanship and to the maximum of mechanisation in constructional work. Great use is made of factory produced parts with a tendency to job standardisation and restriction of wet processes. There is a general desire to dispense with surface finishes. The manufacturing industries are experimenting with composite materials each combining the function of two or more existing materials.

The consumption of electricity, gas and water is much higher than in this country ; the consumption of water per head of population is more than double the British rate. Spaciousness and economy of planning of large buildings is made possible by extensive use of artificial lighting and mechanical ventilation. In schools, offices, shops, etc., ceilings are treated with sound absorbent materials. Central heating systems are installed in practically all buildings. The trend is towards district heating, using a central plant to supply heat and hot water to communities which may number anything up to 40,000 persons.

A considerable volume of scientific research is regularly undertaken by a large variety of interests. An important branch of research is that which deals with statistics. The knowledge gained by research workers is efficiently disseminated through trade publications and the daily press, broadcasting, exhibitions, technical and scientific meetings held in great numbers throughout the USA.

A building is fully designed before it is put to tender. Before the architect starts to prepare his plans, the building owner is expected to supply him with the fullest instructions which are seldom altered once the work has begun. The contractors are supplied with complete working drawings and specifications before tendering and are able to plan their operations well in advance of work on the site. Difficulties are anticipated so that there is a minimum of variations. The contractor is obliged to take off his own quantities and since remeasurement is eliminated, it is practically impossible for an unscrupulous contractor to recoup himself on the adjustment of accounts in the event of his having submitted an uneconomic tender. The American method of taking off quantities is simpler than the British standard method.

The Report compares the cost of a building in USA and in this country, and analyses the cost of labour and materials. The building operative's interest in his work is ensured in USA so that good output is secured. On large buildings the best craftsman in each trade is selected by a committee of award specially appointed for each building. Individual awards are also made to recommended craftsmen irrespective of the buildings on which they are employed.

The co-operation among all concerned with a job is closer in USA than in this country. The general contractor sees that all conform to a master time and progress schedule. Since construction is more rapid, less money is absorbed by interest charges on construction finance.

The development and use of lightweight aggregates has gone further in USA than it has in this country. A process known as Vacuum Concrete is sometimes used for maturing concrete floors and slabs. The excess water is removed from the concrete by suction and the final strength of the concrete may be as much as 30 per cent. greater than that of similar concrete not treated by this method. Its resistance to frost is increased. The cement gun process has been used extensively for repairing buildings damaged by earthquake. Various agents for soil stabilisation are successfully used. The thermal insulation of windows is increased by the use of double glass. There is a rapidly extending use of plywoods bonded with new synthetic resins and glues. The preparation of good quality concrete surfaces is well understood.

Factory production of complicated units such as plumbing, kitchen and heating assemblies is regarded as more promising than the production of entire houses. It is claimed, however, that under conditions of full production factory produced houses should cost less than those constructed by customary methods. Architectural design and amenity need not suffer from the factory production of houses, provided there is a sufficient variety of types suitable for use in attractive combinations, and great attention is paid to the quality of design.

The Report ends with a summary of recommendations.

### 1528 *Fire Precaution Code*

INTERIM CODE OF FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS. (CLASSIFICATION CODE). CHAPTER IV, PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FIRE (for Dwellings and Non-residential Schools of not more than two storeys in either case). *Codes of Practice Committee of the Ministry of Works.* (*British Standards Institution*, 2*s*.). Draft for comment, subject to revision. General requirements : safety of occupants, restriction of external spread. Recommended standards for surface finishes, walls, structural framework, floors, roof coverings, chimneys, flues and hearths. Method of testing the flame-propagating properties of the surfaces of materials. Classification of the surfaces of materials in terms of flame-propagating properties.

The degree of fire resistance is considered from the point of view of personal hazard and exposure hazard. (See Inf. Centre No. 1516.) Structural hazard is left to the option of the building owner.

The safety of the occupants is determined by (*a*) the ease with which materials ignite and the rate at which fire develops, and (*b*) the period during which the main structural elements resist the effect of fire. In order to attain the desired standard of safety in regard to (*a*), it is necessary that none of the materials used in construction and exposed to accidental ignition should readily ignite or propagate flame. The details of a suitable test, which is not yet a British Standard, are set out. The materials are graded in four classes and a list of the materials, whose surfaces fall within each class, is given. Regarding (*b*), it is considered that at least half an hour should be allowed for occupants to escape and the structural elements should therefore resist the fire in the house at least half an hour from the time of the outbreak. It is suggested that the development of a fire in a house after burning for half an hour is roughly equivalent to a quarter of an hour of the standard test according to B.S.476, and that if the elements of the structure are such as to resist the standard test conditions for a quarter of an hour, they may be expected to permit the occupants to escape before the structure is in danger of collapse. (The possibility of the adaptation of the fire test set out in B.S.476, to provide for this condition, is under consideration ; at present the lowest grade of fire resistance specified is half an hour of the standard test).

Safety against spread of fire into a house may also be provided by the above requirements, but also by spacing of houses and by fire fighting. On the assumption that the ratio of window to wall area will remain substantially as hitherto, no special requirements for the fire resistance of windows are included.

In the subsequent clauses standards for various parts of buildings are set out (surface finishes, walls, floors, etc.).

A solid 9 in. brick wall or 11 in. cavity brick wall affords a degree of fire resistance in excess of what is actually required. On the other hand, the usual timber floor of 7 in. by 2 in. joists with nominal 1 in. plain boarding and a wooden lath and plaster ceiling, does not resist even half an hour of the B.S.476 test (see Inf. Centre No. 1516). This type of floor is accepted as the minimum standard in houses of not more than two storeys, but for floors separating occupancies a fire resistance of not less than half an hour is suggested.

## LIGHTING

### 1529 *Sunlight Code*

INTERIM CODE OF FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DWELLINGS AND SCHOOLS (CLASSIFICATION CODE). CHAPTER I (*b*), SUNLIGHT. *Codes of Practice Committee of the Ministry of Works.* (*British Standards Institution*, 6*d*.) Draft for comment, subject to revision. Winter sunlight. Methods of analysis.

This short Code outlines the factors requiring

consideration if winter sunlight is to enter into rooms and recommends that not less than one hour of sunshine should be able to enter the principal living room in dwellings and classrooms in schools towards the end of the mid-winter sun day. A recommendation is also made that where possible kitchens should receive one hour of sunlight at the beginning of the day, and that sunlighting of the ground around buildings should also be considered.

Part II of the Code refers to methods of analysis which are recommended. These are the Burnett diagrams and the Heliodon. This Code directly affects planning and will, therefore, be of considerable importance to architects, who should take the opportunity now offered to comment on this draft.

## *ACOUSTICS and Sound Insulation*

***1530*** ***Noise Code***

INTERIM CODE OF FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DWELLINGS AND SCHOOLS (CLASSIFICATION CODE). CHAPTER III, PRECAUTION AGAINST NOISE. *Codes of Practice Committee of the Ministry of Works.* (*British Standards Institution*, 2*s.*) Draft for comment, subject to revision. Desirable standards and methods of obtaining them.

Part I deals with *Desirable Standards of Sound Insulation.* This commences with certain definitions wherein it is stated that for the purpose of the Code the phon and the decibel can be equated. (This is a most welcome simplification.) Two tables are given: one shows maximum permissible values of the intrusion of outdoor noises and the other gives recommended standards of sound insulation between rooms.

Part II outlines methods of obtaining the standards set out in Part I, dealing in turn with assessment of outside noise, siting and lay-out of buildings and treatment of windows from the point of view of excluding external noise. Then internal noise is dealt with in terms of: noises to be guarded against, resistance of structures to air-borne and impact sounds, continuous construction, discontinuous construction, sound insulation values, impact sound, equipment noises. This part contains a number of valuable tables. Considerable emphasis is given to the importance of good initial planning to prevent noise nuisance arising. This Code should be a valuable asset to all architects, and although stated to be for dwellings and schools, the principles outlined will hold good for other types of building.

## *HEATING and Ventilation*

***1531*** ***Ventilation Code***

INTERIM CODE OF FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DWELLINGS (CLASSIFICATION CODE). CHAPTER I (*c*), VENTILATION. *Codes of Practice Committee of the Ministry of Works.* (*British Standards Institution*, 6*d.*) Draft for comment, subject to revision. Recommendations for controllable openings. Minimum air-changes, flues and shafts.

This Code is in three parts:

Part I. Recommendations for controllable windows or other openings and access of air to them to ensure adequate air-change in dwellings at times when the demand is for relatively large volumes of air for cooling the occupants. The suggestion in this part of the Code appears to follow present bye-law practice although it is a little curious that in two paragraphs at the end the ventilation of larders is required to be by openings to the external air *or* by mechanical means, whereas ventilation to bathrooms and water-closets by mechanical means is not mentioned.

Part II. Recommendations for the minimum rate of air-change during cold weather when windows are normally kept closed. A table of recommended rates of air-change is given.

Part III. Methods whereby the recommendations set out in Part II can be obtained. Certain minimum standards of flues and ventilating shafts are recommended, together with suitably disposed inlets, but it is pointed out that alternative methods could often be devised which would give equal or better performance.

***1532*** ***Reference Back***

DOMESTIC RING MAIN. *E. Jacobi.* (*Reference back to No.* 1488, *May* 18, 1944.) Need for local fusing was referred to. Statement that this would involve use of two sizes of *plug* should have read "two sizes of fuse," since one of advantages of ring main system is use of one standard size of plug and socket throughout the house for all purposes.

## *QUESTIONS and Answers*

*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, 45, *The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey.*

***1533***

Q *How can one obtain posters and photographs from the various Ministries concerning Army and Air Force activities for exhibition purposes?*

A We understand that if you write to Mr. G. E. Paterson, Ministry of Information, Room S.O.S., 013, Malet Street, London, W.C.1, he will be able to help you.

***1534***

Q *We are proposing to manufacture prefabricated wall units for housing, consisting of a thin steel plate, wallboard and wadding covered with Rexine, the idea being that the constructional unit and final finish can be erected at one and the same time. We are, however, disturbed at the possibility of bug infestation either through the pests finding their way into the crevices at the joints or into the body of the unit if the surface is damaged or torn. Can you tell us whether there is any substance which can be incorporated into the unit, such as a paste which can be spread on to the steel plate or a powder or liquid for impregnating the wadding, which would definitely act as a reliable preventive agent?*

A There is no known method of preventing infestation. There are, however, a number of deterents.

If you are requiring large quantities we should advise you to get in touch with a good manufacturing chemist who would be able to supply you with suitable insecticides. Alternatively, you could get in touch with specialist firms. We suggest the three mentioned below.

British Insecticides, 13, Moscow Road, London, W.2.

Ozonal Laboratories (1930), New Wharf Road, King's Cross, London, N.1.

Haller Laboratories, 325, Borough High Street, London, S.E.1.

## SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTIONS

*Speeches and lectures delivered before societies, as well as reports of their activities, are dealt with under this title, which includes trade associations, Government departments, Parliament and professional societies. To economise space the bodies concerned are represented by their initials, but a glossary of abbreviations will be found on the front cover. Except where inverted commas are used, the reports are summaries, and not verbatim.*

## MOTCP

# New Order

The draft of a new Order defining and regulating the powers of control over development to be exercised by local authorities during the period between the date of coming into force of a resolution to prepare a planning scheme and the coming into operation of that scheme, has been published by the Stationery Office on behalf of the Minister of Town and Country Planning

Interim development control has hitherto been exercised through an Order made in 1933 under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932. The necessity for a new Order, states MOTCP, rises mainly from two causes: first, the war and the changed outlook on planning have materially altered the requirements to be met in the exercise of planning control; and, secondly, the Town and Country Planning (Interim Development) Act of 1943 has given local authorities wider powers of interim development control, the practical application of which needs to be more precisely defined.

In view of the abnormality of war-time conditions, it is proposed that the new Order shall remain in force for the duration of hostilities only, at the end of which time a further Order will be made.

The draft Order defines the degree of control to be exercised by setting out five categories of development which are ordinarily to be permitted.

These are:

(1) Development carried out by a body

exercising statutory powers on land specifically designated by Parliament (e.g. the construction of a new waterworks). This class is limited to development authorised by statute before the date of the new Order. In the case of future statutes, the Minister proposes to secure any necessary planning control during the passage of the enactment.

(2) Development by a local authority or by a statutory undertaker which has been sanctioned by a Government Department before the coming into effect of the Order.

(3) The restoration of war-damaged property, except in cases where it involves an increase in size or a material alteration of the exterior of buildings.

(4) Alterations to, and the maintenance of, existing buildings, provided the alterations do not affect the exterior and are not connected with a change of use.

(5) Certain specified categories of development carried out by statutory undertakers, mining undertakers and certain other authorities. These are set out in detail in the Schedule to the draft Order, and include a variety of constructional and other work by railway companies and by undertakers responsible for docks, harbours, canals, electricity, gas and water supplies, mining, land drainage, sewerage and lighthouses.

In certain special circumstances, however, as, for instance, where there are proposals for the redevelopment of an area, control may be exercised even in the case of development falling within one of the above permitted categories.

These special circumstances, whether in relation to areas or particular cases, are fully set out in the Order. In the case of development in category 5, Part II of the Schedule specifies the kinds of development (including maintenance) which remain permitted in all circumstances.

Among other changes in procedure the draft Order also introduces special machinery for dealing with development by a local authority or statutory undertaker where sanction by a Government Department is required, and with development required for war purposes, so as to secure that in the more important and difficult cases the application for planning permission can be decided by the Minister of Town and Country Planning in consultation with the sanctioning department.

## BSA

# R. B. Wycherley

June 22, R. Bruce Wycherley, Chairman of the Building Societies Association, issued a BUILDING SOCIETIES REVIEW, extracts from which are given below.

*R. B. Wycherley:* Suggestions that some official pressure either by a Government department or by the Bank of England has been exercised in favour of an active amalgamation policy for building societies are totally unfounded. I should like to put on record that I am quite unaware of any such pressure whether direct or indirect. As matters stand there are large and small, local and national, societies, and I hope we shall all fit ourselves to accept the responsibilities which will fall upon us after the war.

I welcome every well-conceived and administratively practicable improvement in planning, for this will give building societies better securities upon which they can lend money, and in the long run improve the stability of the personal covenants of their borrowers. After all, we should not think much of a general who entered into battle without a plan, nor of a builder who laid out his foundations without one. So long as our planners keep their feet on the ground and do not enter the realms of fantasy in their visions of new towns, building societies have nothing to fear from this new and wide conception of the duties of Government and local government bodies in relation to housing and town planning.

The acceptance of new conceptions regarding the functions of the authorities in relation to housing does not mean the end of private enterprise development in this country. It merely means that private enterprise will co-ordinate its activities in relation to a master plan.

The provision of houses for letting will occupy an important place in the post-war housing effort. It is clear that the authorities intend that there should be, as far as possible, an adequate choice as between houses for renting and houses for purchase. The building societies have always been prepared to advance money to owners of property for letting and they have every hope of being able to render an eminently useful service in this field in regard to new houses after the war.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. B. A. P. Winton Lewis, DIPL.ARCH., A.R.I.B.A., A.I.A.A.S., has taken over the practice of the late William F. Andrews, A.R.I.B.A., F.S.I., Bostel House, West Street, Brighton, Sussex. The practice will be continued in all respects as heretofore from the same address under the style of William F. Andrews, architects and surveyors. Mr. Winton Lewis will continue to practise in London from 8, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1, as heretofore.

The Directors of Ragusa Asphalte Paving Company, Limited, announce that Major Owen Hart, D.S.O., has been elected to the board of directors of the Company and will take up an executive position.

## 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 Thursday's paper.*

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

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*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

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A knowledge of architecture may be an additional qualification.

The successful applicant may also be appointed Local Fuel Overseer at an honorarium of £50 per annum.

The post is a whole time one and is subject to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. The successful candidate must submit to a medical examination, if not already a contributor, and must reside within the area of the Council.

Applications, stating age, experience, qualifications and position in regard to Military Service, endorsed "Engineer and Surveyor," and accompanied by copies of two recent testimonials, must reach the undersigned not later than Wednesday the 19th July, 1944.

JAMES JONES,
*Clerk to the Council.*

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Architectural or Town Planning experience or the possession of a recognised professional qualification will be an advantage.

Applications, accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, should be submitted to the undersigned by first post on Saturday, the 15th July, 1944.

M. W. COUPE,
*Clerk of the Council.*

Town Hall,
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### Architectural Appointments Vacant

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

*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.*

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*Architectural Assistants and Students seeking positions in Architects' offices will be printed in "The Architects' Journal" free of charge until further notice.*

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**CHARTERED ARCHITECT,** 35 (school trained), on deferred service with RAFVR, seeks position in Yorkshire. Specialist in school design and quantities. Salary by arrangement. Box 315.

*Classified Advertisements continued on page xl.*

**TWO COMPETENT DRAUGHTSWOMEN,** third year students Regent Street Polytechnic School of Architecture, want office experience with architect or town planner, during summer vacation, starting July 31, London. Box 316.

**DRAUGHTSMAN TRAINEE.** 16 years. 2 years Civil Service. Seeks position in South Yorkshire. Good Tracer. References. Carnley, 41, The Crescent, Bolton-on-Dearne. 318

**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT,** 22, desires post in Architect's Office; Intermediate R.I.B.A., four years' architectural training and varied office experience since 1939; exempt. Box 319.

**ARCHITECTS' ASSISTANT** (Junior) requires a situation in London Area in Architect's Office. Box 320

**ARCHITECT'S ASSISTANT** (25), ex army officer invalided present emergency with over 4 years' experience, requires permanent progressive post with N. Wales architect. All scale and F.S. working drawings, surveying (chain and theodolite), levelling, etc. Slight knowledge quantities and specification compiling. Box 321.

**ARCHITECT,** fully qualified, with wide experience, T.P. qualification, would accept temporary post from August 1st to September 15th. Box 322.

**ARCHITECT (Chartered),** experienced carrying through works in London and Provinces, requires position in London or Home Counties with first class practice with view to partnership. Willing to bring own connection. Box 323.

**SURVEYOR, HOUSING MANAGER, CLERK OF WORKS, Etc.,** with over 25 years' theoretical and practical experience in all branches of the profession, etc., seeks permanent and responsible position in the Midlands, etc. Experience includes War Damage Repairs, Property Management, and General Property Maintenance. Exempt from Military and National Services. Rendered War Service during 1914-18. Box 324.

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**BUILDING SURVEYOR, INSPECTOR, DRAUGHTSMAN.** Age 51. Have served many local and County Authorities. Seeks responsible position under local authority. At present under superannuation, and hold the highest credentials. Have also served as Clerk of Works on important works. Experienced of Dilapidations, War Damage, Builders Quantities, and have a very thorough experience in all types of Building operations. Shortly disengaged. S.W. England. Box 326.

## Other Appointments Vacant

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

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**WANTED IMMEDIATELY** a copy of Stratton's Elements and Form of Design in Classic Architecture. Box 700.

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