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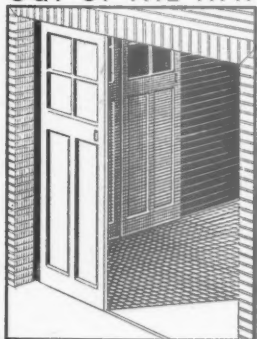
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TO SWING OR NOT TO SWING



THAT IS THE QUESTION and when it comes to planning doors it needs extra careful thought—because there are few things more precious than space when you are working in confined quarters. A door that's hinged is a door that needs a lot of room; but with a sliding door it's different. If it's fitted with King Door Gear a touch of the hand takes it out of the way, gliding easily and quickly to nestle snugly against the wall, completely and unobtrusively out of the way.

OUT OF THE WAY



It is true to say that in post-war building every inch of space will be of the utmost value; take advantage of every scrap of it—when you can, and how you can. This is where King Door Gear comes in—or to be more precise slides along. Doors that slide mean doorways that allow free passage all around them.

For ante rooms, cloak rooms, garages, lifts, etc., and places where space is limited or traffic congestion is likely to occur, sliding doors are the perfect application.

As specialists for over a quarter of a century we claim to satisfy the most exacting requirements for any type of sliding door gear. Write for fully illustrated booklet.

KING SLIDING DOOR GEAR

GEO. W. KING LTD HITCHIN · HERTS
TELEPHONE HITCHIN 960 (10 LINES)



The announcement of the Government's proposal to set up a Boundary Commission for Local Government areas is certain to provoke sharp discussion in and out of council chambers. Whatever the final decision, government by councils of elected citizens will remain a feature of British local administration. The importance of their work calls for careful consideration of the conditions in which it is to be carried out. Dull and dingy council chambers are not conducive to enlightened discussion. Decorative schemes should be architecturally 'quiet' and pleasing. For such work "Dulux" — used extensively before the war for municipal buildings — will, when raw materials are released, again offer architects, builders and decorators an excellent choice. "Dulux" is only one of the many high quality paints made by I.C.I., behind all of which are technical research and colour advisory services available to professional and practical men.

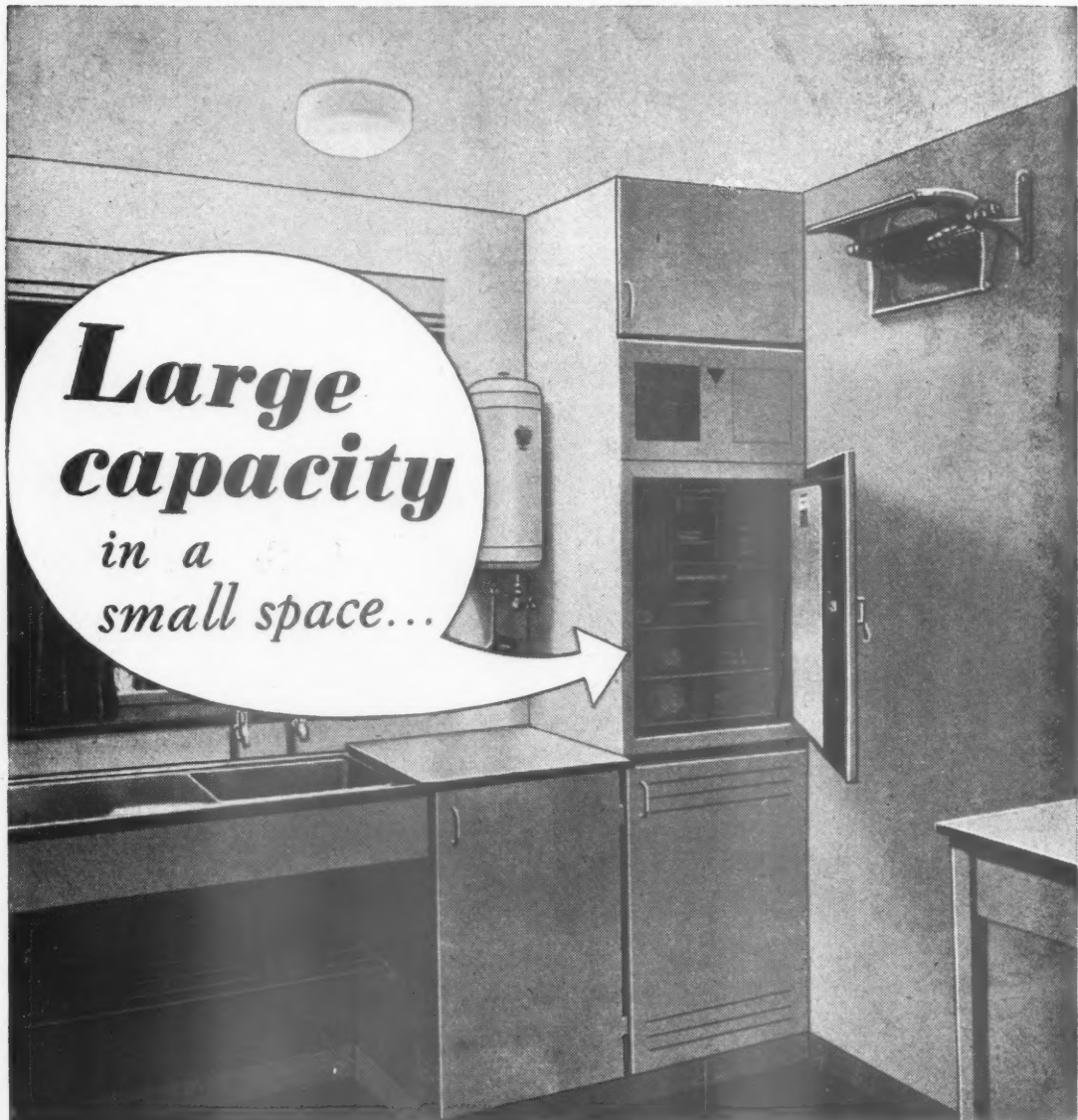
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D.D.703



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Larder space rendered unnecessary. Dry goods and non-perishable foodstuffs would be kept in kitchen cupboards.

Waist-high door, allowing access to interior without stooping. Height adaptable by varying position of supporting frames.

It can be built into kitchen fittings with cupboard space above and below it.

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Most important too, is the fact that this Prestcold refrigerator provides the food storage temperatures necessary for the proper safeguarding of perishable foods—for instance 35°F for fresh fish and poultry; 40°F for milk—and even the lower temperatures needed to store the frozen foods which will be available later on. In addition, it will be most economical in current consumption, using only one unit a day.

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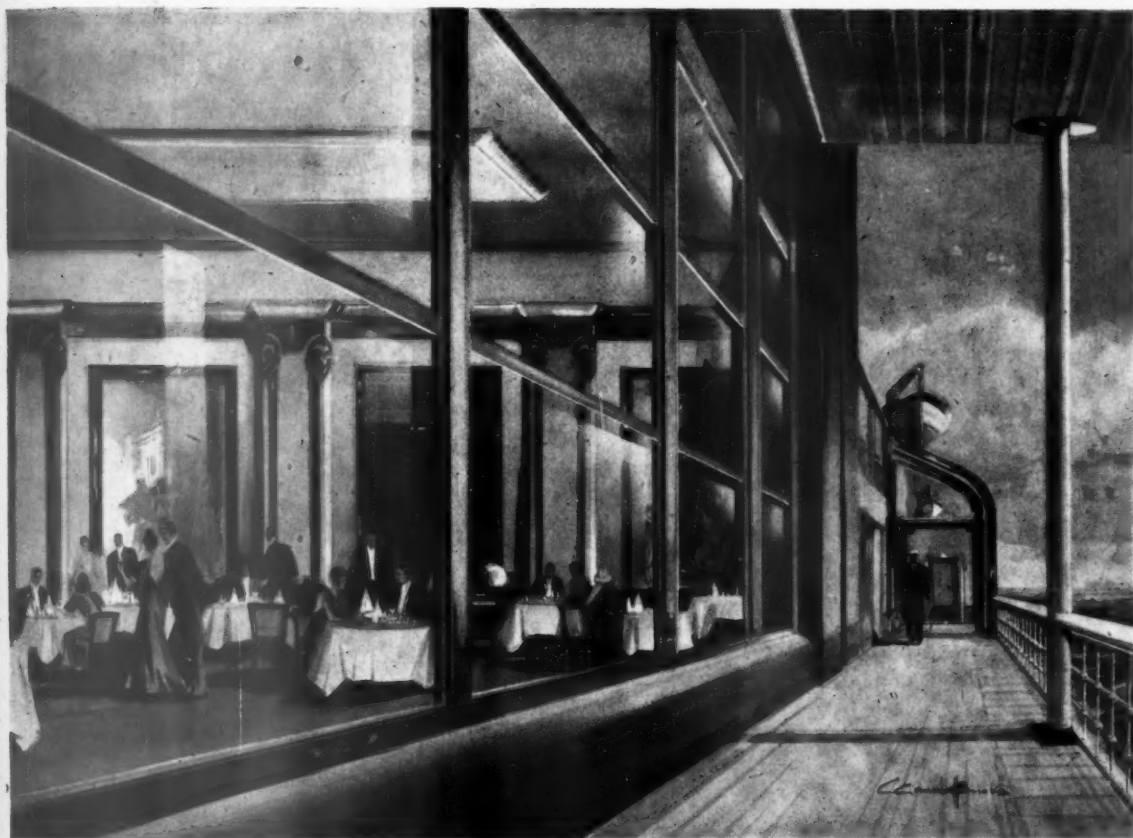


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ALUMINIUM *in Modern* MARINE ARCHITECTURE



Illustrated are B.A. Sections M601, M480, M772—three from the thousands for which the Company has standard dies.

The sea, of course, has moods other than the pleasant prospect pictured here, and aluminium—no newcomer aboard ship—has many marine applications, constructional and decorative. In the spacious dining saloon, apart from window glazing bars, there are numerous usages for which aluminium, available in sheets, extrusions, tubing and other forms, furnishes panelling, mouldings, door furniture and artistic details. For finish and appearance, aluminium presents a choice of anodising in silver, black or attractive colourings, and there is also the "Imprest" sheet for patterned panelling. Data and information available to marine architects from our Technical Service.

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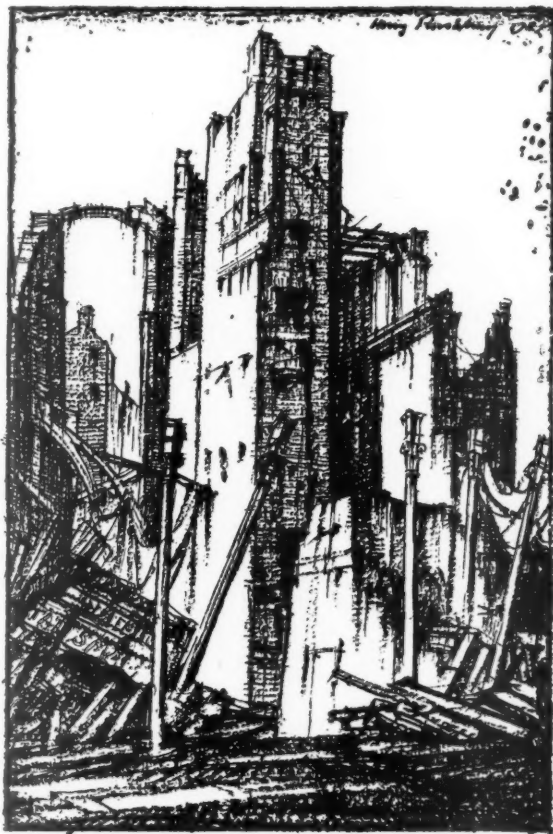
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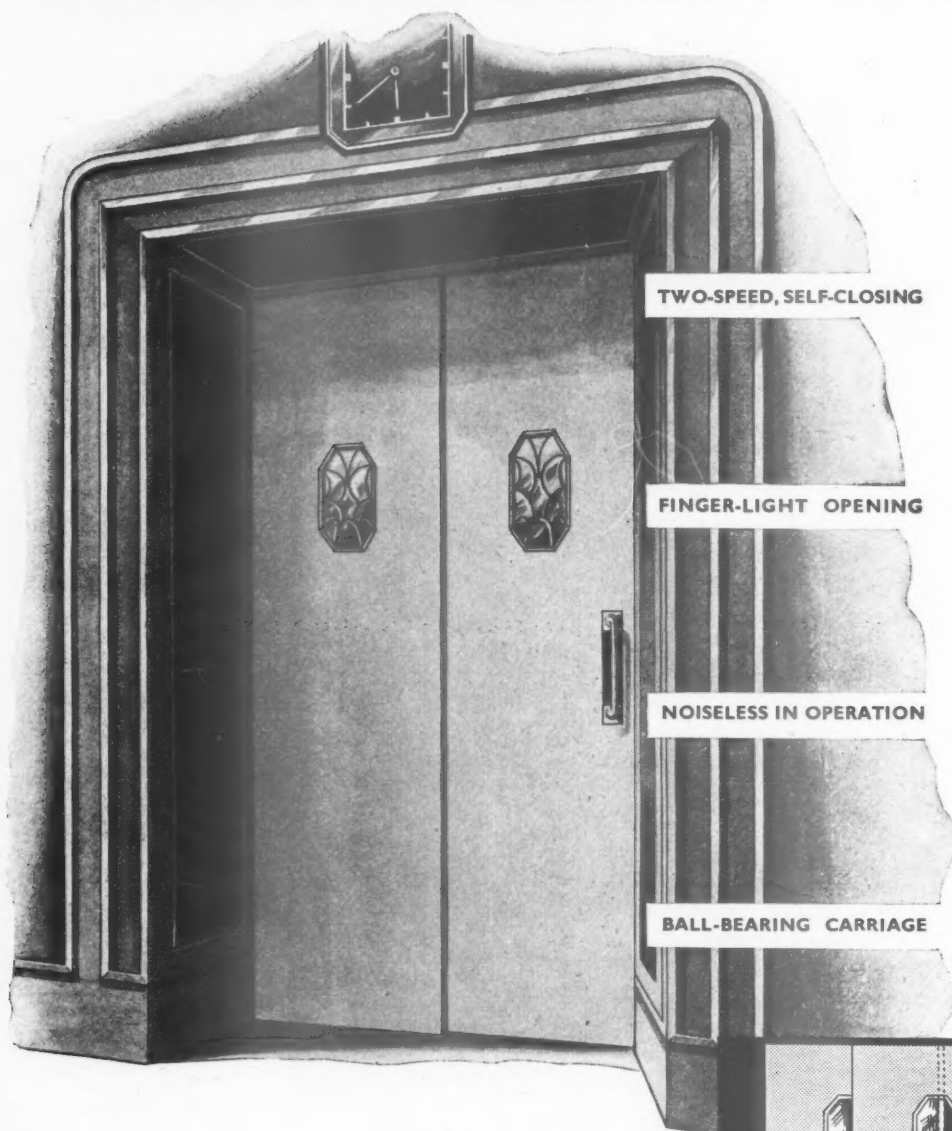


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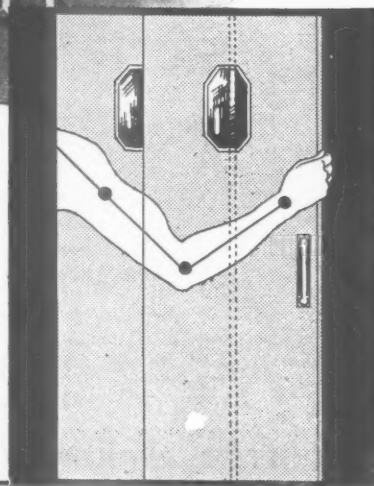
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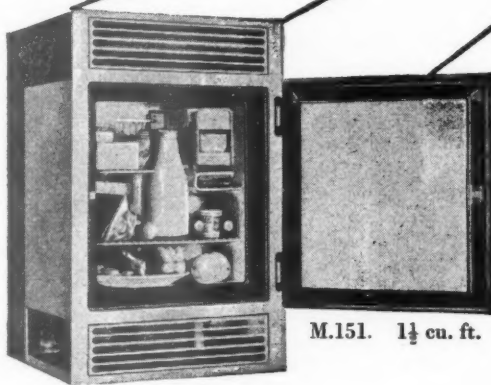
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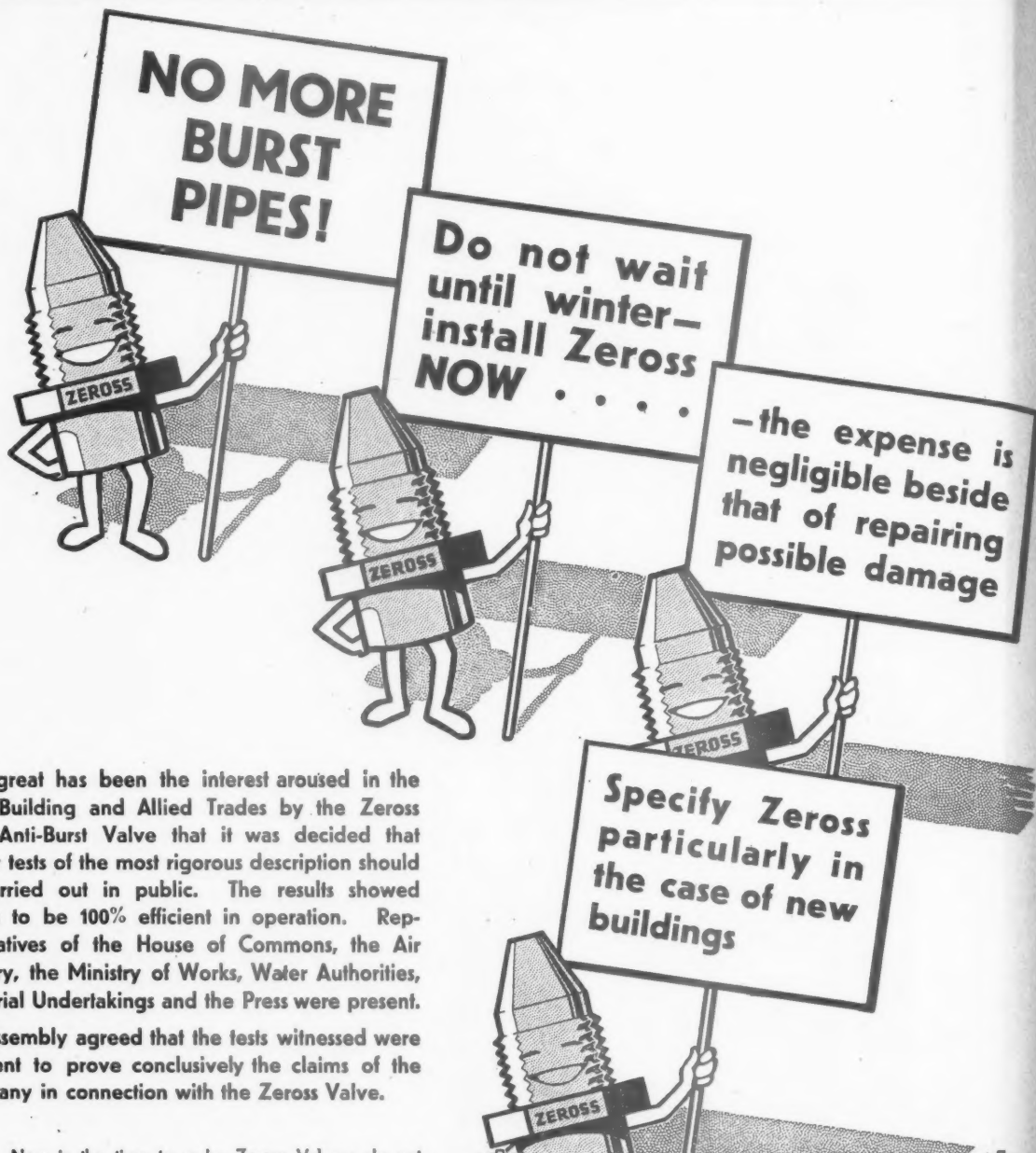
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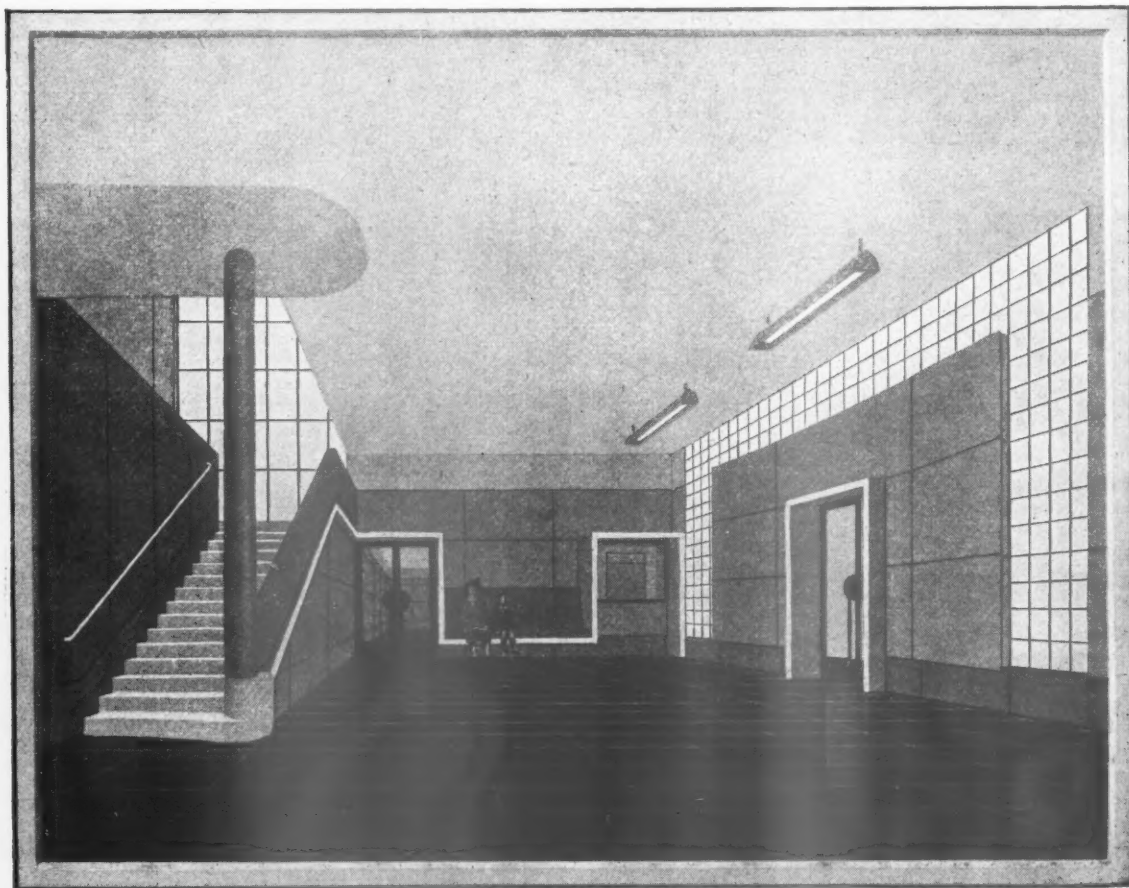
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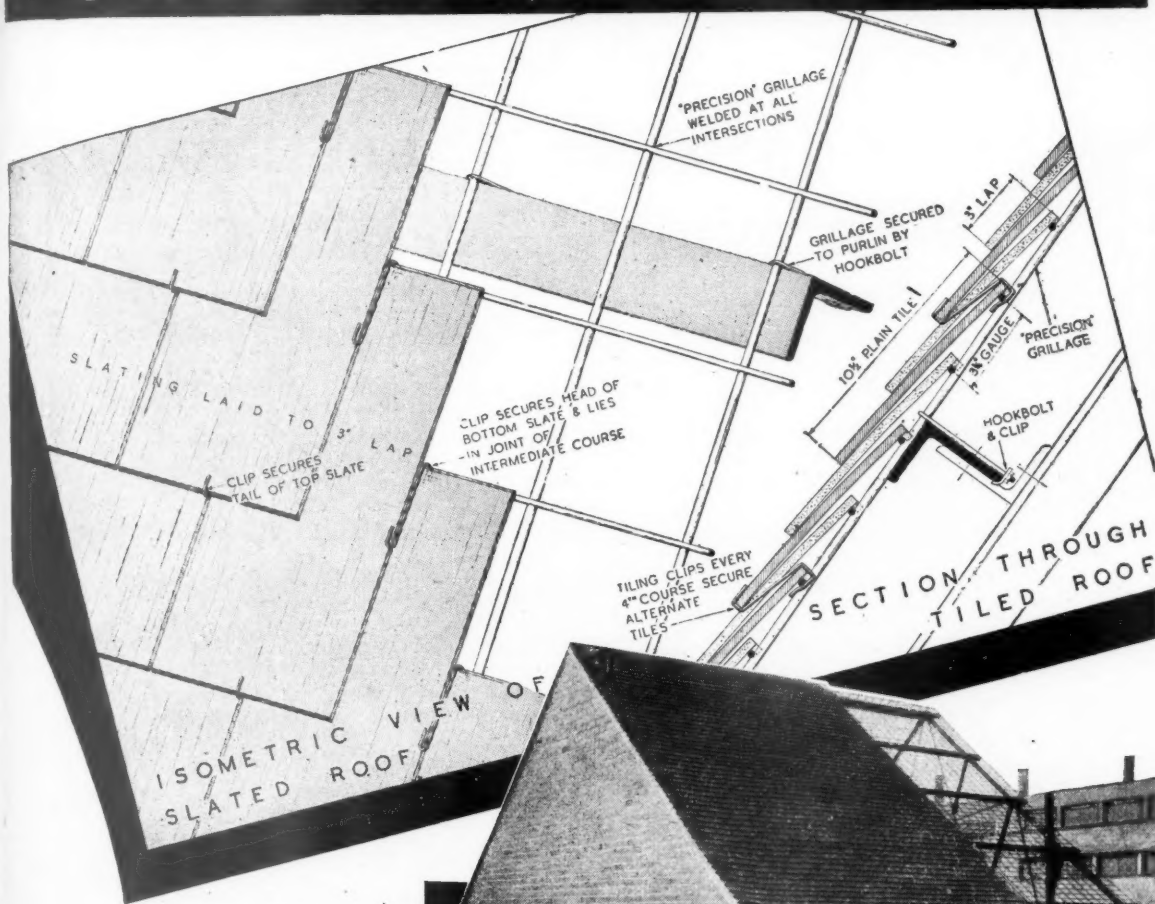
W20

A design by Mr. Julian Leathart, F.R.I.B.A., for a school entrance hall with Warerite wall panels graded in tones to help towards evenly balanced lighting.

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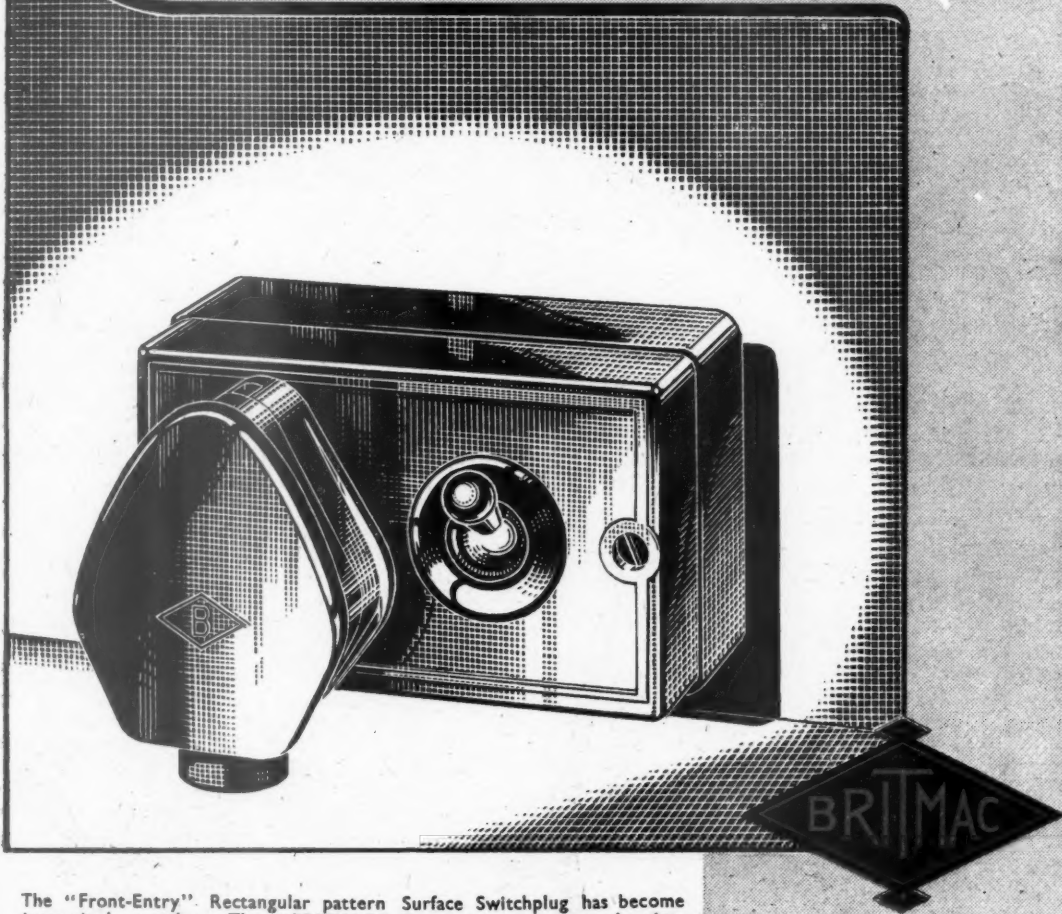
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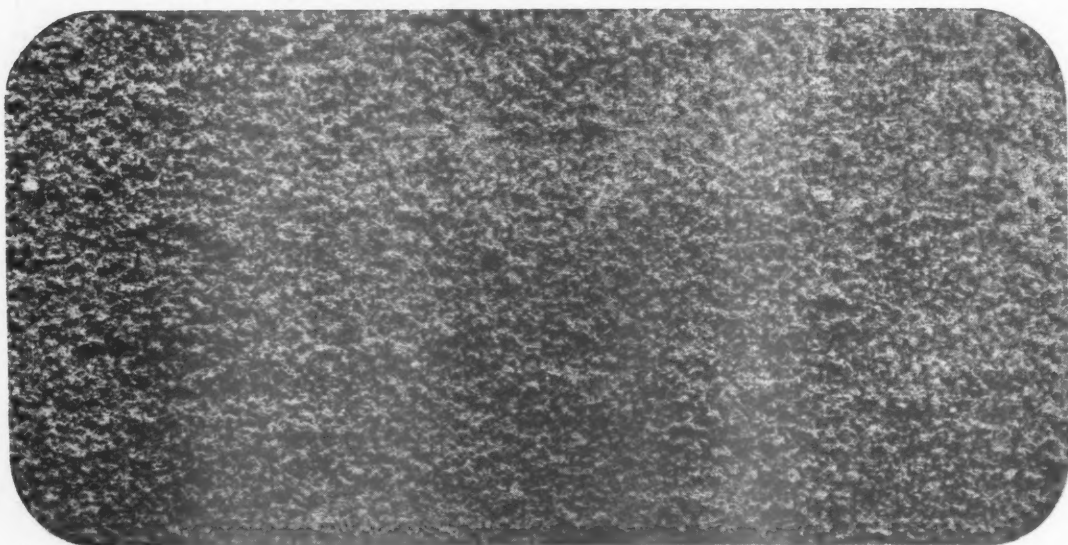
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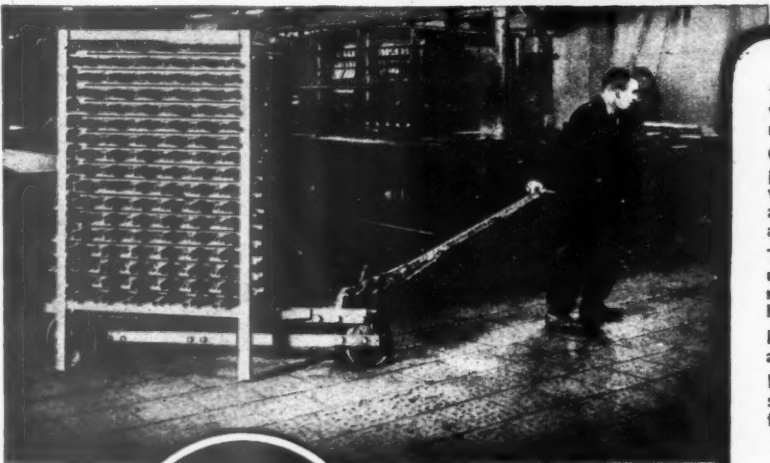
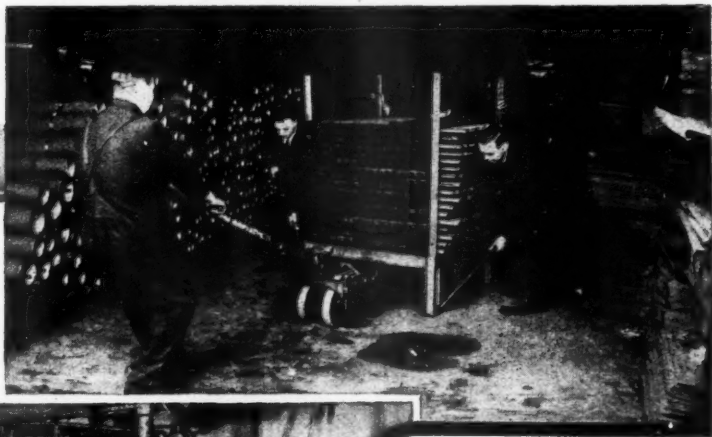
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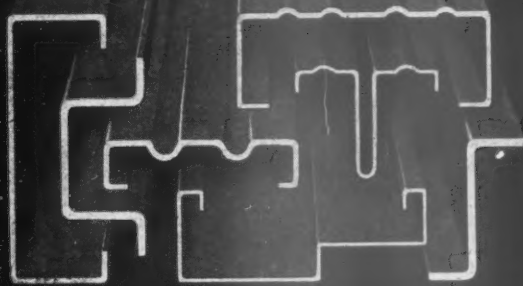
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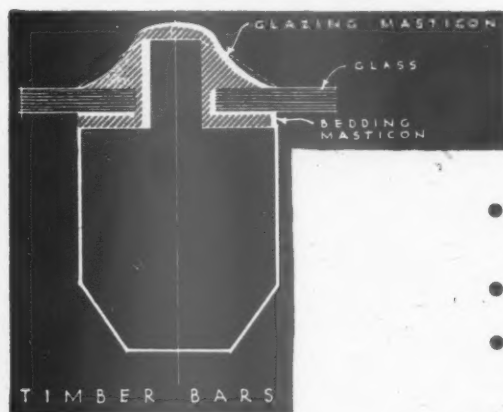
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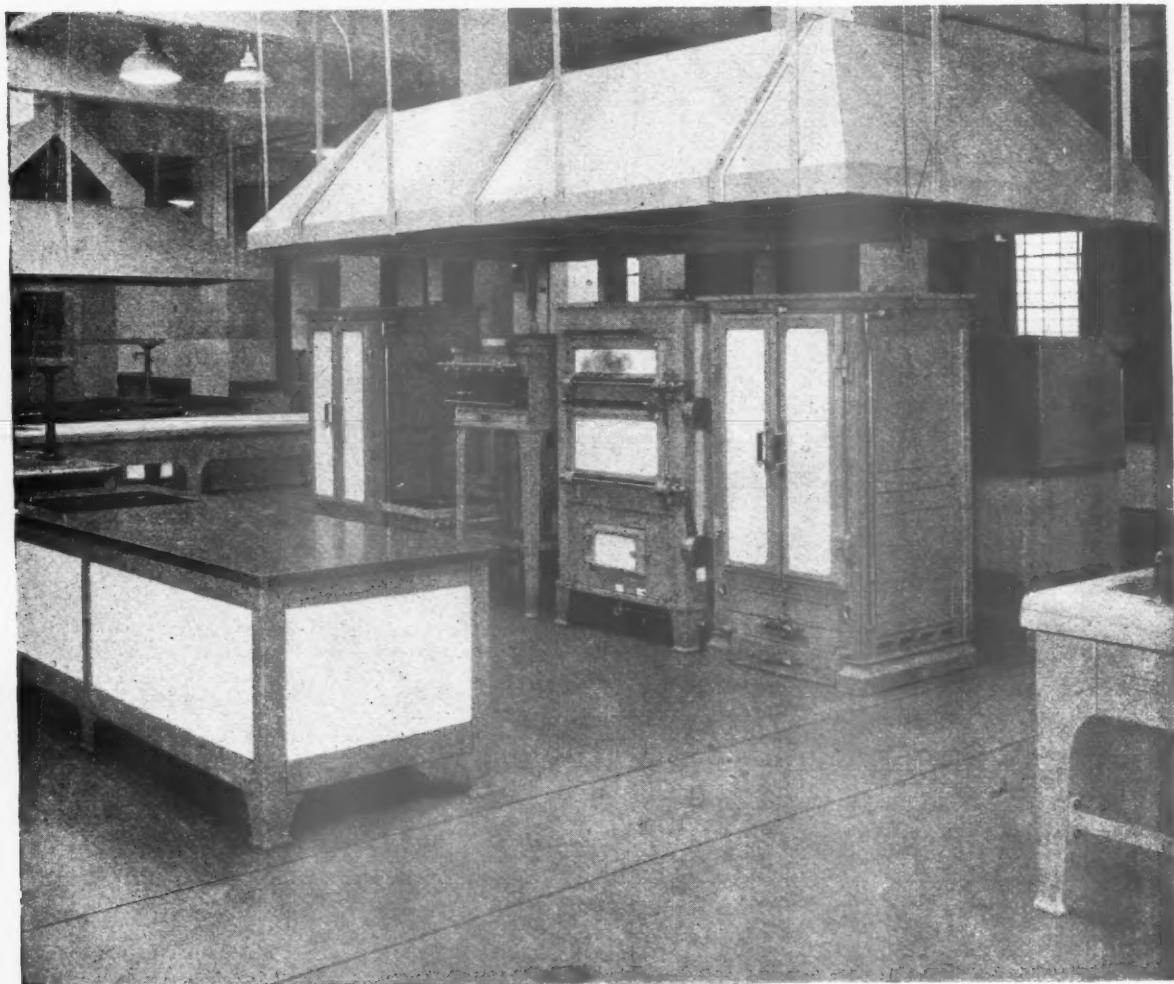
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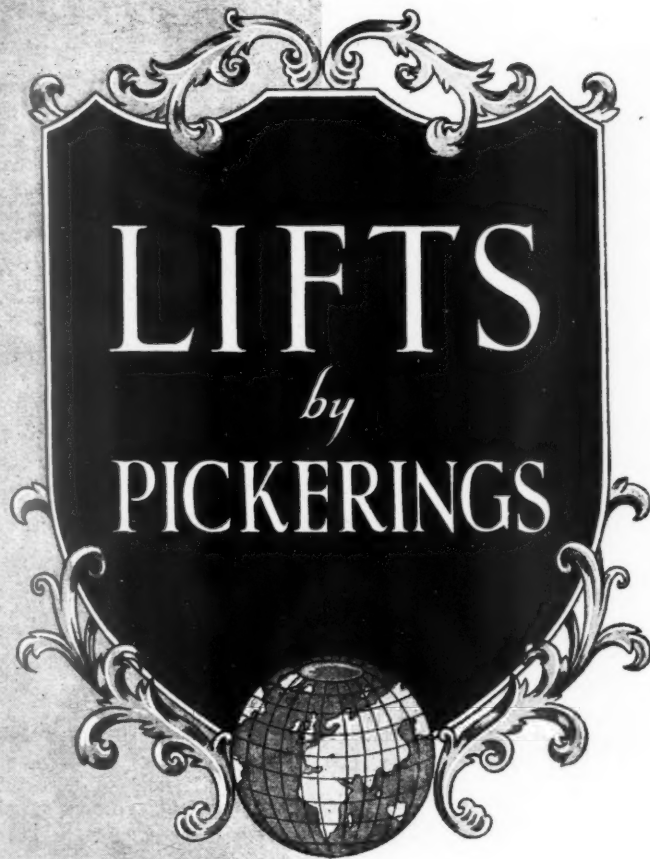


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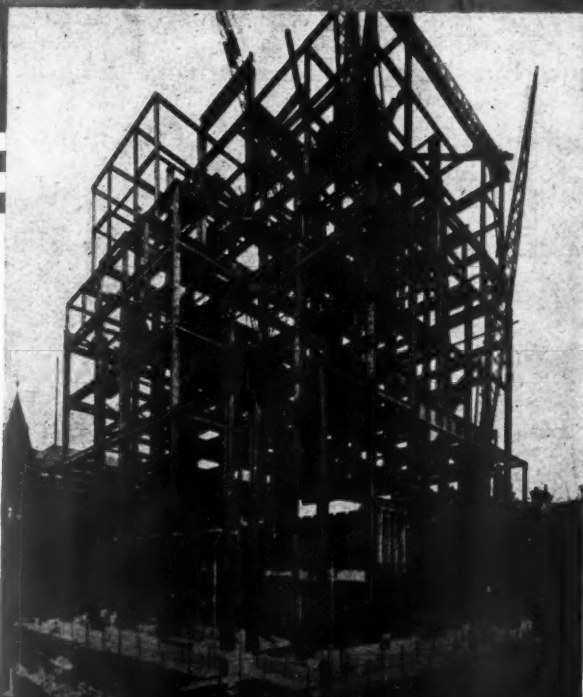
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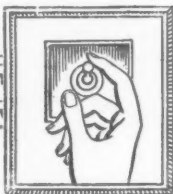
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The Electrical Section at the Building Centre, Maddox Street, London, W.1, provides interesting illustrations of electrical applications in domestic and industrial premises.



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In common with every other periodical this JOURNAL is rationed to a small part of its pre-war needs of paper. Thus a balance has to be struck between circulation and number of pages. We regret that unless a reader is a subscriber we cannot guarantee that he will get a copy of the JOURNAL. Newsagents now cannot supply the JOURNAL except to a "firm order." Subscription rates: by post in the U.K. or abroad, £1 15s. od. per annum. Single copies, 6d.; post free, 11d. Special numbers are included in subscription; single copies, 1s. 6d.; post free, 1s. 9d. 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 1s. extra. Goods advertised in the JOURNAL and made of raw materials now in short supply, are not necessarily available for export.



DIARY FOR NOVEMBER DECEMBER AND JANUARY

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.

DERBY. *The Englishman Builds.* Exhibition. At the County Branch Library, Matlock. (Sponsor, BIAE.)

EDINBURGH. M. Riley. *Design of Building and M/C Structures.* At the Heriot Watt College, Chambers Street, Edinburgh. (Sponsor, Institute of Welding, E. Scotland Branch.) 7.30 p.m.

GLASGOW. Exhibition of Plans submitted for "Set Piece" to the Town Planning Joint Examination Board of Great Britain. At the Scottish Building Centre, 425, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, C.2. (Sponsor, Scottish Building Centre). 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Saturdays 9.30 to 1 p.m.

LEICESTER. F. L. Brady. *Joints and Rendering.* At the College of Art, The Newark. Leicester. (Sponsor, Leicester and Leicestershire Society of Architects, in association with the Leicester School of Architecture.) 6.30 p.m.

LONDON. *Subject Matter in Liturgical Art.* by Miss Joan Morris. November 29, December 6 and 13. Fifteen shillings for a course of three lectures, or 7s. for a single lecture. All are at 5.30 p.m. (Sponsor, Church Artists' Agency.)

Nov. 29-Dec. 13 Alfred C. Bossom, M.P. *The Future of London's Ancient Churches.* At 20, Portman Square, W.1. Chairman, Viscount Esher. (Sponsor, The London Society.) 2.30 p.m.

Nov. 30 *Germany in Ruins.* Exhibition of Drawings and Water Colours. At Foyle's Gallery, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2. (Sponsors, South African Advisory Committee for War Art and the Central Institute of Art and Design.) Daily, except Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Nov. 29-30 *NALGO Exhibition.* At the Geffrey Museum, Kingsland Road, E. (Sponsor, BIAE.)

Dec. 3-15 John W. Laing, of John Laing & Son, Limited, building and engineering contractors. *Modern Methods of House Building.* At the Chartered Surveyors' Institution, 12, Great George Street, Westminster, S.W.1. (Sponsor, CSI.) 5.30 p.m.

Dec. 3 G. A. Maunsell. *Menai Bridge Reconstruction.* At the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor, ICE.) 5.30 p.m.

Dec. 4 Lord Horder. President of the Noise Abatement League. *The Provision of Sound Insulation in Architects' Plans for New Buildings.* At the IAAS, 75, Eaton Place, S.W.1. Admission Free by card from the Secretary of the IAAS. 6.30 p.m.

Dec. 5

A. F. Blunt. *French Art in the 16th Century.* At the Courtauld Institute of Art, 20, Portman Square, W.1. (Sponsor, Courtauld Institute of Art.) 5.30 p.m.

Dec. 5 G. L. E. Metz. *The Electrical Engineering Industry in After-War Economy.* At the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, Victoria Embankment, W.C.2. (Sponsor, IEE.) 5 p.m.

Dec. 6 Gillian Harrison. *Heating and the Family Home.* At the Planning Centre, 28, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2. (Sponsor, TCPA.) Buffet lunch 12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Talk and discussion 1.15 p.m. to 2.15 p.m.

Dec. 6 John Farleigh, President, Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society. *Design and Book Production.* At the London School of Hygiene, Gower Street, W.C.1. Chairman, Francis Meynell. (Sponsor, DIA.) 7 p.m.

Dec. 7 James Laurance. *Painting: An Exposition of the Ministry of Works Study Report No. 5.* Introduction by Dr. L. A. Jordan, of the Paint Research Station. At the RIBA, 66, Portland Place, W.1. (Sponsor, RIBA Architectural Science Board.) 5.45 p.m.

Dec. 7 *British Building Stones.* Small display of photographs and rock specimens, illustrating the main British building stones, their distribution and their uses. At the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, 32, St. James's Square. The display illustrates a single item in a survey of the national resources on which the Ministry's Research Division is engaged. It is an experiment in the presentation of research work in a form which would interest the public. (Sponsor, MOTCP.)

Nov. 29-Dec. 8 Arthur Ling. *Town Planning in Action: The Moscow Plan.* Fourth and last of a series of introductory lectures to the study of Soviet architecture. At the RIBA, 66, Portland Place, W.1. Tickets from SCR Architecture Group, 98, Gower Street, W.C.1. Admission free to members of the Group, non-members 1s. 6d. 6.30 p.m.

Dec. 11

NEWCASTLE. *News of the World Housing Exhibition.* Architect for the Exhibition, Frederick W. Hagvard.

Nov. 29-Dec. 5

OXFORD. *Permanent House Plans.* Exhibition at the Gas Showrooms. The plans were selected in a National Competition organized by The House Building Industries Standing Committee.

Nov. 29 and 30

SHEFFIELD. *NALGO Exhibition.* At the YWCA. (Sponsor, BIAE.)

Nov. 29-Dec. 3

NEWS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1945
No. 2653. VOL. 102

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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.

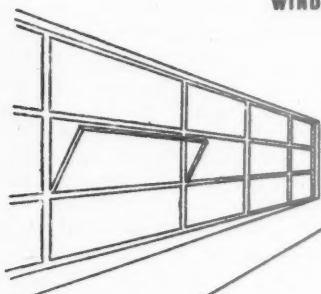
★ I.R. Aneurin Bevan is visiting as many as possible of the regions in England and Wales to discuss with local authorities ways of SPEEDING UP HOUSING PROGRESS.

The Minister of Health, Mr. Aneurin Bevan, is to visit as many as possible of the Regions in England and Wales during the next few months for conferences with local housing authorities. In this way he will meet representatives of local authorities in all parts of the country, and discuss the housing programme and ways of speeding up progress. The first of these Regional conferences has been held at Reading, where Mr. Bevan had discussions with the local authorities of Oxfordshire, Berkshire, and Buckinghamshire. Later in Cardiff he met representatives of authorities in the counties of Monmouth, Glamorgan, Carmarthen, Pembroke, Cardigan, Brecknock, and Radnor. The Minister will visit Birmingham on December 7 for a conference with about 500 representatives of the 121 housing authorities in Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, and Shropshire. This will be followed next day by a similar meeting at Nottingham, representing all authorities in the counties of Lincoln, Nottingham, Derby, Leicester, Rutland and Northampton.

The Minister of Works has appointed Mr. B. H. St. J. O'Neil, F.S.A., to be CHIEF INSPECTOR OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS, in succession to Mr. J. P. Bushe-Fox, C.B.E., F.S.A., F.R.S.A., who has retired.

ALUMINIUM can be used to rebuild and re-equip our Schools

WINDOW FRAMES

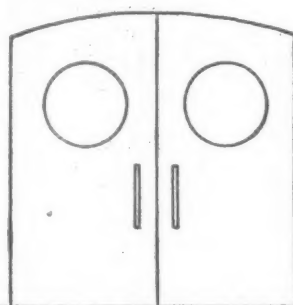


Standard casement and sliding sash windows are made in extruded aluminium. The pleasing appearance of aluminium is retained since its resistance to corrosion renders painting unnecessary, thereby substantially reducing maintenance costs. The manufacture of such standard units on a large scale is now resumed.

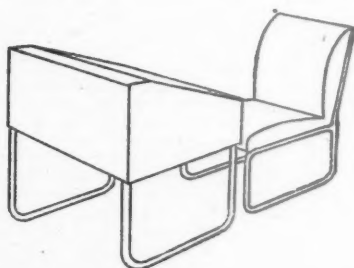
DOORS AND DOORHANDLES

Aluminium doorhandles and fingerplates have long contributed to office and domestic furnishings. Metallic and opaque finishes may be obtained by anodising. Standard doors of sheet aluminium built on the laminated principle would be of value, particularly as school doors receive hard treatment, and aluminium has great resistance to knocks and kicks. Door frames can be made of pressed sheet or extruded sections.

Faced with the urgent problem of restoring our present schools and building new ones, it is fortunate that one material — aluminium — is available in quantity. Aluminium and its alloys are versatile. They may be used by the architect and builder as structural material (50,000 pre-fabricated aluminium houses are now being built). Or, as indicated below, they may be employed very effectively for minor items of equipment.



DESKS AND CHAIRS



The legs and the entire framework of desks and chairs can be made of aluminium. These should be capable of stacking so that school-room space can be quickly cleared when required.

Above are a few of the possible uses for aluminium and its alloys. We do not supply the equipment shown, our illustrations being intended to indicate suitable applications for aluminium. It is our responsibility to provide you with information and advice and you are invited to write to our Technical Development Department.

LOCKERS

Made of sheet aluminium, with aluminium handles, lockers in unit sections of twos and threes would be exceptionally useful in the school. They would be strong yet light enough to be moved and rearranged whenever necessary.



We can give you facts about **Aluminium**

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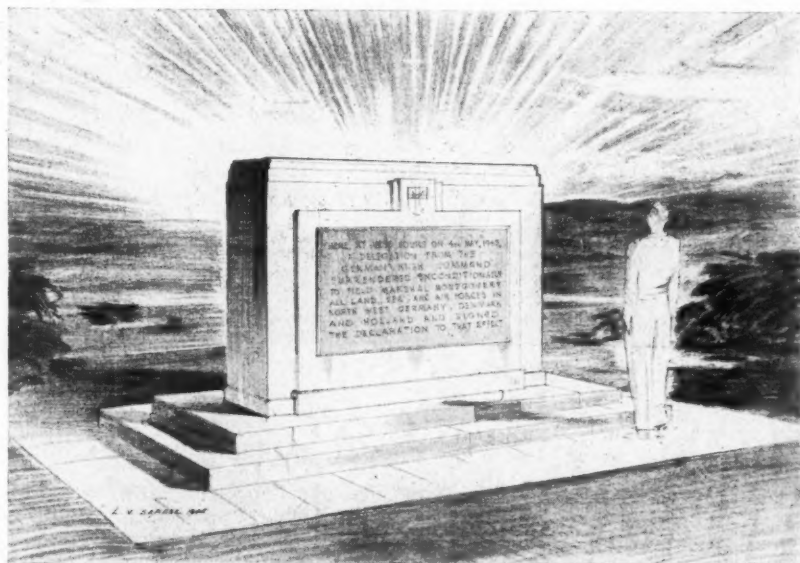
BATTLE OF THE STYLISTS. [*From The Houses of Parliament, by Hans Wild and James Pope-Hennessy (Batsford).*] Mud was slung in handfuls. The partisans of Pugin accused Barry of taking the credit for Pugin's designs, of underpaying him, of working him to death and of destroying incriminating documents. The Barry faction confined themselves to pointing out that Pugin could not have designed the Palace of Westminster and was merely an employee who finished off and elaborated Barry's drawings and ideas. It is an unsavoury controversy, and one reads the evidence with a steady and impartial dislike for both men growing in one's mind. It is clear that Barry was exacting and a little dishonourable; while Pugin was a quirky fanatic. In such cases it is salutary to turn from the clamour of controversy and listen to the statements of the two men principally concerned. Two clear and definite statements by Pugin are recorded. In one of them he is declared to have said to a friend: "I could not have made that plan; it was Barry's own; he was good at such work—excellent; but the various requirements conveyed by the plan, which were not of art, and above all the Fine Art Commissioners, would have been too much for me." A second comment, the implications of which are self-evident, is Pugin's verdict on the whole Palace of Westminster. Passing one day down the river, he pointed to the great limestone building then in process of construction, and turned to his companion, "All Grecian, sir," he said slowly, "Tudor details on a classic body." Spoken by anyone these words are scarcely complimentary. Spoken by Pugin they constitute a severe condemnation of the architecture of the new Palace of Westminster.

Mr. B. S. Townroe: Town Planning means **COMPULSORY REQUISITION OF LAND.**

Speaking on *The Rebuilding of France* at the French Institute, London, with Mr. Lewis Silkin, Minister of Town and Country Planning in the chair, Mr. B. S. Townroe, Director of the Franco-British Society, said that half of the plans for French towns damaged by the war have been completed. These plans are left very elastic so as to leave ample opportunities for revision. In certain urgent cases reconstruction of industrial control over design, method of construction, and materials, will bring the future building of France nearer to British standards. In France individualism in the past has often been allowed to run too wild. But, said Mr. Townroe, I think the British Ministry of Town and Country Planning can learn something from M. Dautry, the French Minister of Reconstruction. Town-planning means compulsory requisition of land. The French landed proprietors, including many thousands of small peasants, are being taught that, however much they might be attached to their own particular plot of French soil, in the long run they will gain by wise planning. We have not done enough in this country to explain to the man in the street in general, and particularly to business interests, that planning is not cranky and highbrow, but that it will directly help manufacture, trade and agriculture. The public still have little idea of the meaning of that awkward phrase "town and country planning." If Mr. Silkin follows the example of his French colleagues, he will make much more use of the newspapers of this country, and especially the Provincial Press, to enlist public interest and support.

by the industry, where policy is determined by a Council consisting essentially of leading industrialists, but working in the closest co-operation with the Government through the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. One of the functions of the DSIR, perhaps the most important, is to encourage industry to appreciate the value of research and, once having established the demand for it, to take all possible steps to ensure that the demand is fulfilled. This function is exercised through the Research Associations. They are assisted in their work by grants from the Government, which are in direct proportion to the income subscribed by the industry. Contact between the DSIR and the Research Associations is maintained by Officers of the

Department attending Research Associations Council meetings. The DSIR also appoints two or three independent scientists whose qualifications make them specially suited for membership on particular Councils. Government interference in the affairs of the Research Associations is reduced to a minimum. In fact, it is an excellent example of co-operation between State and Industry. Research Associations are of particular value to small firms because they enable them to participate in the results of research which otherwise they would not be able to afford. They are also of very great value to the larger firms, because there are certain types of long-range problems, often common to a whole industry, which can best be tackled on a co-operative basis.



Commemoration stone now being erected at Luneberg, Germany, on the spot where Germany surrendered to Field Marshal Montgomery. It was designed by Corporal S. H. Fisk, R.E., a partner in the firm of Walter W. Fisk, Burley and Fisk, Chartered Architects of London, and was selected by Field Marshal Montgomery in an informal competition open to designers in the Second Army and held in Germany. It was proposed to erect the memorial in an English stone, but transport difficulties made this impossible, and German stone is being used. The inscription on the commemoration stone reads: Here at 18.50 hours on 4th May, 1945, a delegation from the German High Command surrendered unconditionally to Field Marshal Montgomery all Land, Sea and Air Forces in North West Germany, Denmark, and Holland and signed the Declaration to that effect.

★ There are now twenty-eight **INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATIONS** and others are being formed.

This figure is given in a statement issued by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research which states: The Industrial Research Associations are co-operative associations, organised by industries to enquire into the particular problems of production in those industries. They are autonomous bodies controlled entirely



Chief Architect, Ministry of Health

The Minister of Health, Mr. Aneurin Bevan, has appointed Mr. J. H. Forshaw, M.C., F.R.I.B.A., as Chief Architect and Housing Consultant to the Ministry. Mr. Forshaw, who will take up his appointment on January 1, is fifty, and has been Architect to the London County Council and Superintending Architect of Metropolitan Buildings since 1941. During the war he was head of the London (Heavy) Rescue Service and Director of the War Débris Survey, London Civil Defence Region. From 1939 to 1941 he was Deputy Architect to the London County Council, and was joint author with Sir Patrick Abercrombie of the County of London Plan, published in 1943. Mr. Forshaw was educated at Ormskirk Grammar School and Liverpool University, is Master of Arts and Bachelor of Architecture, Liverpool, was awarded the Certificate in Civic Design and First Lever

Prize for Town Planning, and is a Fellow of the RIBA, Member of the Town Planning Institute, and Fellow of the Institute of Landscape Architects. He had experience in the offices of the late Myddleton Shallcross, Liverpool; Messrs. Chambers and Flagg, New York; Messrs. Harrison and Cox, Birmingham; and Liverpool City Corporation; and was Consultant to the Lancaster and District Regional Planning Committee. From 1926 to 1939, Mr. Forshaw was Chief Architect to the Miners' Welfare Committee, and was responsible for the development of the architectural work of the Committee, carrying out extensive building programmes for baths and other welfare and recreational buildings throughout the coalfields. Works for which he was responsible include Kells Community Centre in Cumberland, and the Modern Colliery at Comrie, Fifeshire.

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★ **The Minister of Town and Country Planning has issued the following warning on the BUYING OF BUILDING PLOTS.**

The Minister of Town and Country Planning has issued the following statement for the guidance of those who intend to buy plots of land:—Land is often offered for sale for building purposes on which, in fact, no building is likely to be allowed: If you buy such land with the intention of building on it, and then find that you cannot get planning permission, you may be left with it on your hands and be compelled to sell it again at a loss. You may, indeed, find that you cannot sell it at all. It is therefore wise to get advice. You should consult the local authority in order that they may tell you whether you would be likely to get permission to build on a particular site or whether you are taking a risk in buying the plot for building purposes. The Minister has informed local authorities throughout England and Wales of his intention to issue the above warning, and has asked them to ensure that inquiries arising from it are dealt with as simply and quickly as possible. He recommends that where more than one authority is concerned, or more than one department of an authority, arrangements should be made to deal with inquiries through a single agency, thus avoiding the need to refer the individual to more than one office.

Mr. A. Lakeman, architect to the Dunlop Rubber Company, has RETIRED AFTER TWENTY SEVEN YEARS' SERVICE

He designed many buildings both at home and abroad for the company, including a new factory at Derby for the Macintosh Cable Company, the commercial office block at Fort Dunlop, and sales depots throughout the country. On his recommendation Durban was chosen for Dunlop's South African factory and Buffalo for the American factory, which at a cost of more than £2,000,000, was up within twelve months. He also designed the Terminal and Headquarters for Imperial Airways—to whom he was loaned for a period—in London.



Mr. A. Lakeman, architect to the Dunlop Rubber Company who has retired after twenty-seven years' service. See news item.

WORDS AND MR. BEVAN

“MR. Aneurin Bevan carries no talisman against failure,” says an article in the Beaverbrook Press, “and he may go down in history as a more prolific producer of words than of houses.” Nevertheless, in the beginning was the Word. Ideas must come before action, and ideas must be expressed in words.

Mr. Bevan's words on housing have been bold and refreshing, and we wish to record our appreciation of them—to record also some of the salient remarks from his recent speeches.

On wages and costs: “Low wages and low output spell industrial stagnation; high wages and low output, industrial demoralization. What we have to look for are high wages and high output. Employers must look for their profits to smaller margins on more houses. . . . If we allow the normal principles of the laws of supply and demand to operate in existing circumstances, then you would have an inflation that would ruin us all. It is consequently necessary to set in motion principles entirely different from those of orthodox economics. . . . So long as there is scarcity, controls are necessary in order to secure that labour and materials go in the right direction to do the right things first. . . . Abolish controls, you have chaos; only the bigger beasts of prey will be able to get any share of what is going. . . . Cost plus systems are not very good for the health of the community. . . . I propose to seek a solution of high prices by forms of control, in proper costing of building materials and components, and in scientific building organization.”

On prefabrication: “If tenders for traditional building are too high then I shall welcome and encourage more and more other forms of building systems. . . . If prefabrication is to succeed, we have to find a system of prefabrication so flexible, so fluid, that the architect can co-operate with the productive engineer.”

On space standards: “I have determined that for the three-bedroom house there shall be no lower standard anywhere in Great Britain than 900 superficial feet, and that is a *minimum*.”

On houses versus flats: “Very large numbers of working-class people have had their attitude towards flats poisoned by tenement dwellings. . . . The arguments in favour of at least experimenting with high buildings in the countryside are overwhelming. It is essential to reduce domestic work to the minimum, but it is very difficult to do this in Garden Cities and urban sprawls.”

On the use of architects: “One of our difficulties has been to persuade local authorities to employ architects. I know that they employ officials.”

So far, excellent. But we now need *more* words if proper action is to lead to content on the Seventh Day. More words, for instance, on how that most unscientific of all activities, the building industry can be rationalized, and its works based on far greater and more co-ordinated scientific research, objective information and analysis. More words on how the present

sloth of bureaucracy can be compelled to move as swiftly and effectively as the TVA, or the organization that produced the Mulberry. More words, for instance, on modular co-ordination and the use of standards. More words on the extent to which private enterprise building is to be controlled, on how housing is to be related to physical planning, on how the status and salaries of official architects and technicians are to be increased in just proportion to the value of their work, and last but not least, since fundamental economic adjustment is vital to reconstruction generally and therefore to the housing programme, more words on what precisely Mr. Bevan means by Unorthodox Economics. "The house," he says, "is an expression of the kind of society in which it is found . . . the nerve centre of civilization." In fact, the term Nerve Centre of Civilization can more accurately be applied to the financial system. Can the kind of society in which Money mocks Reality produce fine houses, or develop "the splendours of the British People"? On how the new Government answers that question depends, not only Mr. Bevan's "talisman against failure," but the future of the Labour Party itself, and perhaps the future of the whole world.



The Architects' Journal

War Address: 45, The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey

Telephone: Vigilant 0087-9

NOTES & TOPICS

ARTS CENTRE

The nicest lesson learned from the wartime experience of CEMA in bringing the arts to the civilian population of Britain was the tremendous public response which was met with in all parts of the country. The nastiest lesson was that, outside the largest cities, hardly any building seemed to exist which was suitably designed and

equipped for the presentation of the arts—whether ballet or music, plays or pictures.

Bruised and irritable from their experiences in barns and army huts, in cinema cafés, auction rooms, and tents, the Arts Council (the new name for CEMA) has launched an admirable new project—*Plans for an Arts Centre*—beginning with a conference in its London H.Q. To an assembly of pressmen busily sinking whiskey and Swiss-rolls in the gilded salon of No. 9, Belgrave Square, Mr. Philip James—backed by Sir Kenneth Clarke and Lord Esher—explained the scheme, handed out booklets, plans and photographs, and unveiled the main exhibit—models and peepshows of a type centre contained in a richly upholstered showcase designed to tour the British Isles to gain public interest and support.

The centre it recommends would contain an assembly hall seating about 600 persons, an exhibition room and a restaurant. (They did not forget that the National Gallery canteen cleared over £40,000 in the last few years.) As the photographs shown on page 392 demonstrate, the models show a high standard of contemporary architectural design, and are presented with great wit and ingenuity—none of them qualities usually associated with Govern-

ment departments. It is therefore encouraging to learn that the design, modelling and presentation are by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning—an indication that this ministry, or some section of it at any rate, is no court of Silkin dalliance but full of vitality and imagination.

ENTERTAIN YOURSELVES

Should any town, incidentally, be lucky enough to achieve an Arts Centre, those who are responsible for running it may welcome *Entertain Yourself*,* a useful and practical little book issued by the Combined Arts Group and backed by the National Council of Social Service. This is designed to advise amateurs in everything from copyright fees to stage lighting and is admirably clear and comprehensive.

POETS' CORNER

THE SPEC BUILDER SPEAKS—III†

"Well, Mr. Wren, I'll tell yer my idea: This 'ere's the hera of the Common man. (You've 'eard that b—— Priestley) so I say The Common man should 'ave a common 'ouse. The commoner the better. Let 'em 'ave The quality of hopportunity— If one man 'asn't room to swing 'is cat It's only fair 'e shouldn't 'ave to 'ear 'Is neighbour braggin' of 'ow 'e swung 'is. Yer foller me? So plan 'em all alike. Mind yer, I'm not for placin' 'em in rows. We got to be hartistic when we can. And wot I thought was, dot 'em all about, Promiskus-like; it sort o' fills the eye. A bit o' crazy-pavement by the door Won't do no 'arm, nor yet some coloured glass, Yer know, with red and yeller lozenges, It's pretty, and it's cheap. Lor, don't yer go And kill the goose wot lays the golden eggs By buildin' 'em too strong, eh, Mr. Wren?"

L. E.

A.R.I. BABU

Those interested in the far-flung influences of the international style may find much to study in the photographs in *The Modern House in India* (somebody got in ahead of Mr. F. R. S. Yorke that time), a booklet published by the Cement Marketing Board of India.

My advice to Mr. Chatterjee, who wrote *Magadha Architecture and Culture*, which I reviewed on November 8, is to push this around as propaganda in support of his campaign for a return to the Indian style. Whether, in fact, there is such a thing as a national style in any country is, of course, open to question

* National Council of Social Service, 2s. 6d.
† With acknowledgements to *The New Statesman and Nation*.

—as Mr. suggested SCR on R

In this b—delivered Tommy revealed th to Russia go by a clubbed to while to s of thanks, merson w might fin interest th Were ther like to st intention e to keep country. but we dr

DESIGN FO When 2 obituary "outside house," i Times' accuracy. a house v twenty-fiv and am ambition leaving h building v

A co Quisling's it is so

The cover The Moc India a bo by the Cen Board of tioned in urns this

—as Mr. Summerson so persuasively suggested in his recent lecture to the SCR on Russian Architecture.

*

In this brilliant and informative talk—delivered with a timing as precise as Tommy Handley's—Mr. Summerson revealed that James Wyatt was invited to Russia but was persuaded not to go by a band of gentlemen who clubbed together to make it worth his while to stay. Mr. Ling, in a speech of thanks, suggested that if Mr. Summerson were to re-visit Russia he might find so much of architectural interest that he would never return. Were there any risk of this I would like to state here and now my own intention of starting a subscription list to keep our Soane Director in this country. Lend-Lease is fair enough, but we draw the line at our Mr. S.

DESIGN FOR QUISLING

When *The Times*, in its recent obituary note on Quisling, said that "outside Oslo he built himself a house," it fell slightly short of *The Times'* usual high standard of accuracy. In fact, Quisling completed a house which had been begun about twenty-five years earlier by a wealthy and ambitious shipowner whose ambition outstripped his wealth, leaving him penniless before the great building was finished.

*

A correspondent who visited Quisling's house recently tells me that it is so full of pictures, ornaments,

carpets and clocks that it is as much like a museum as a private dwelling. "Clocks seem to have been a weakness of Quisling's," he says. "There are large numbers of them about the place, including several old English Grandfathers. The house is magnificently furnished—mostly with heavy and rather ornate stuff in antique styles, but everywhere there is such evidence of good taste that one imagines Quisling employed a professional decorator . . . not to mention the number of professional looters who must have been needed to get together such a collection of old pictures and other valuables."

*

Everything about Gimle has quality, from the cutlery and crested silver ashtrays on the dining-table to the artificial-sunlight lamps in the bathrooms (one for Quisling and one for Mrs. Quisling). Best of all, perhaps, is the woodwork.

*

"The Norwegians can't decide what use is to be made of Gimle in the future," says my correspondent. "One suggestion is that it should be used for the accommodation of visiting VIP's who, presumably, are expected to be accustomed to dwelling in marble halls. Nearly every room is large enough to hold a whole prefabricated house, but the atmosphere is so unhomely that personally I'd prefer a prefab."

ASTRAGAL



The cover illustration to *The Modern House in India* a booklet published by the Cement Marketing Board of India and mentioned in Astragal's columns this week.



LETTERS

Henry Fedeski,
A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.

An Official Architect

D. Dex Harrison

Permanent Prefabrication.

SIR.—I have given much thought to the subject of Permanent Prefabrication, and am perturbed about the use of the word Permanent and the resulting harm which may be caused to the building industry of the future.

One must admit that some of the designs for permanent prefabricated houses appear to be very good, but the test of time will decide their fitness for purpose.

One of the main features seems to be the lack of need for skilled labour in the manufacture and erection of such buildings. As a short term policy, the idea of using all available labour for the production and erection of much needed houses is very sound, but what of the future? Once the production belts are set in motion and buildings are mass produced the need for skilled craftsmen will lessen; and it is obvious that the manufacturers will be unwilling to stop production immediately the present Government requirements are fulfilled.

If the policy of the Government, therefore, is to use prefabrication as a stop-gap, here is at least one good case for State control so that manufacture will gradually cease as soon as the building industry is sufficiently stabilised to carry out the building needs of the country.

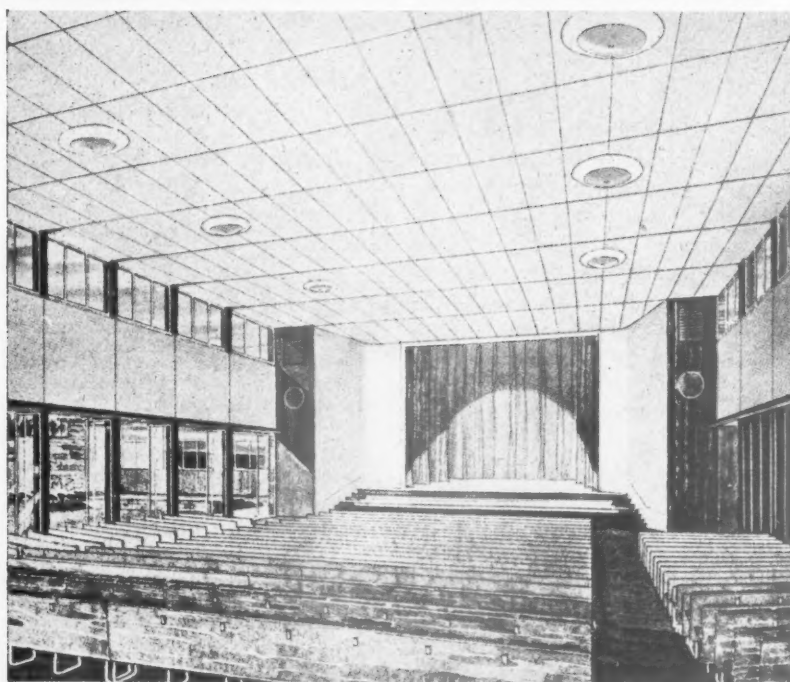
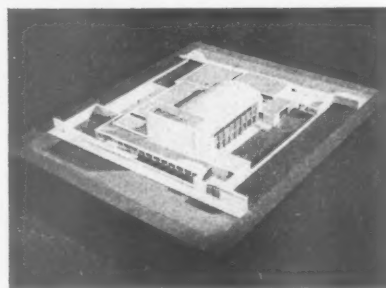
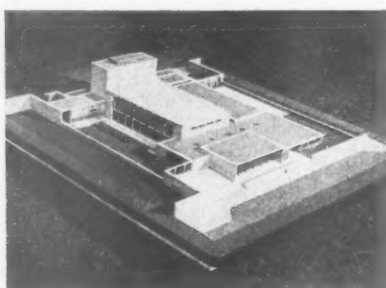
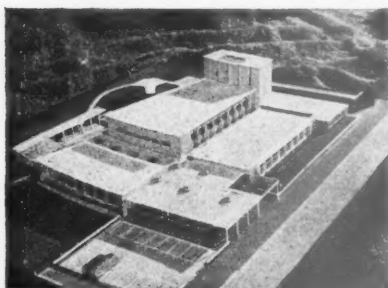
So far the systems are mainly applied to houses and flats, but I am sure that the units will be modified to suit many other types of buildings, and if so the monotony which must be a result of mass production will do irreparable harm to the countryside.

Such things as the coach-built car and individually made furniture are fast disappearing, and I for one do not wish to see this state of affairs prevailing in the building industry.

Leamington Spa

HENRY FEDESKI

PLANS FOR AN ARTS CENTRE



The above illustrations come from a booklet published for the Arts Council of Great Britain called *Plans for an Arts Centre* (Lund Humphries, 1s. 6d.). "The experience of the Arts Council of Great Britain when working under its wartime mandate as CEMA" says the booklet "showed that in all parts of the country there was a deplorable lack of suitable buildings . . . The arts should be honourably housed; but their accommodation must be properly related to the size of the community they serve . . ." The purpose of the booklet is to show how the arts can be accommodated in a medium-sized town with a population of between 15,000 and 30,000—a town where it is not economically possible to run a separate theatre, art gallery and hall for concerts, but where occasionally visiting companies, touring exhibitions, orchestras and concert artists have to be housed in a single multi-purpose hall, and where the local amateur can be accommodated as well as the visiting professional. The Modelling Unit of the Ministry of Town and Country Planning has given advice on designs and has prepared type models. Top, two views left, Model 1 for an open site with road access on one side only, the hall being fan-shaped. Top, two views right, Model 2 for a built-up site with access road in front and service road at the back, the hall being rectangular. Below, a multi-purpose hall to seat 600. Such Arts Centres would include a main hall, a restaurant, exhibition and lecture room, and a reading room (See Astragal's note this week).

Public Architectural Appointments

SIR.—The Secretary of the IAAS says that when public authorities restrict candidates for architectural appointments to members of the RIBA, it is as if they stipulated that their Medical Officer of Health should be a Guy's or a Bart's man.

The analogy would be more accurate if those authorities had stipulated that their architects must be graduates of particular Schools of Architecture.

As it is, they merely insist that their architects must not only be registered (they couldn't be architects if they weren't) but that, like their Medical Officer of Health, they should have passed a qualifying examination; excepting a tiny minority, this implies that they should be Associates or Fellows of the RIBA.

The ARCUK itself imposes the same examination test on all new entrants to the profession.

It may be retorted that the IAAS also holds a qualifying examination (which, however, is not a qualification for registration), but it would be interesting to know what proportion of the "incorporated architects" have passed it.

AN OFFICIAL ARCHITECT

Architectural Competitions

SIR.—Your leader unfortunately confused two separate and scarcely related issues—the full employment of architects and the competition system. The competition system, properly used, is a method of bringing out the best talent, and new talent, for important work, and we would not be without it. It is timeless, and universal art, as Mr. Cross points out, a first-rate post-graduate school of design.

Mr. Cross, however, takes up the opposing attitude, that all is well with the system, whereas there is a great deal of dissatisfaction among competitors, not at the competition system, but at the results it churns out. There is really only one basic criticism—poor assessing. Competition results are neither better nor worse than the ability of the assessor to judge merit, and we have unquestionably suffered in the past from assessors who, brought up in a narrow school of thought, have shown themselves incapable of taking a sufficiently broad view of merit. All criticism springs from this one fact, and when we get really competent and consistent assessors we shall begin to get good competition results.

The RIBA Competitions Committee is at present composed exclusively of men from the older ranks of the profession, who, it is true, have been prominent in the competition field in the past, but who one suspects to be a little out of touch with current trends of thought. Mr. Cross specifically mentions the returning ex-Service man, and how often have we been told that the post-war field is to be the prerogative of youth, but youth will view with suspicion a competition system run exclusively by the old school. The remedy is an easy one. The Competitions Committee, by whom one presumes the President is advised, should be immediately strengthened and broadened by a leavening of young blood, and by young blood we mean young in heart.

Other reforms, such as dual or two-stage competitions, single assessors or panels, and so on, can be thrashed out later without bringing the whole competition system into question.

As a footnote, in the Argentine they found it an excellent stimulus to good assessing to require from the assessors a written criticism on each scheme submitted, so that every competitor knew the grounds on which his offering had been refused.

London

D. DEX HARRISON

PHYSICAL PLANNING SUPPLEMENT**RECONSTRUCTION: PROFIT & LOSS**

The Town and Country Planning Summer School was held this year at Bristol. The following article is a report on one of the papers given during the course. It is distinguished, as was the paper by the same author on *Planning by Lease Control*, given during last year's course at St. Andrews (A.J. 26.10.44 pp. 307-310), by an unusually clear and detailed consideration of a subject which is of great topical interest to planners. It is, in fact, an outline answer for reconstruction authorities to the constantly reiterated question about planning "What will it cost us?" The author who is Chief Estate Officer to the Ministry of Town and Country Planning wishes to make it clear that the views expressed are his own and do not necessarily represent those of the department to which he is attached.

Henry W. Wells, F.S.I., F.A.I.

This article is not concerned with the interim period, during which, in the case of war damage reconstruction, the Local Authority may receive an Exchequer grant, but with the ultimate period when the reconstruction is complete and the Local Authority must stand on its own feet from the financial point of view. The suggestions put forward for consideration are in fact applicable to the ultimate period of either blitz or blight reconstruction under the 1944 Act. Although the suggestions made are based on the present law, I believe that whatever changes the new Parliament may decide to make, something very similar to my suggestions will continue to be necessary.

financial considerations

Financial considerations cannot be ignored by planners. Indeed it is an accepted principle of sound planning that such considerations should be properly taken into account but should not, of course, be allowed to ruin the plan. This principle, stated in this way, although sounding all right, appears to me to be vague and unconvincing, and some inquiry into what is really meant may be helpful. One of the proofs of a sound plan is surely that the profits or benefits to the community deriving from its execution are greater than the cost to the community of its execution; it should therefore be by estimating this as far as possible that the planner tests his proposals to see whether financial considerations have been accorded due weight. A good reconstruction or redevelopment proposal should show on its execution a gain or profit to the community which, for the purpose of this paper, I shall call benefits. This does not mean only money benefits, and it is because the benefits of planning are so often impossible to express in financial terms that the planner finds himself in difficulties when he has to illustrate his proposals to a public who for the most part think of benefits in terms of financial gain expressed in £ s. d. Furthermore, because the planner is so often groping for arguments in order to persuade the public that his proposals will show a profit he is tempted to fall back on devices to sell his proposals. He utilises survey statistics to show how bad existing conditions are; he demonstrates improvements by diagrams and models, pleads that the road layout should be altered to avert road accidents, and so on.

a planner's yardstick

This is very right and proper, and I should be the last to discourage salesmanship of this sort, but is not the planner really looking for some new and easily comprehended yardstick which would enable him to say "If these proposals are carried out, you, the citizens of this town, will be X times better off because you will earn more and you won't have to spend so much. Furthermore, the amount by which you will be better off is Y times the cost of executing the scheme"? Would not the task of the planner be greatly eased if it were possible to quantify planning proposals, not in the different standards of cost of execution, either in labour or money terms, but in standard units of value similar to the modern method of assessing food value in calories? Could such a standard be formulated, its application would show at a glance the relative merits of different planning proposals for the same area, one plan scoring, for example, 3,000, while another only scores 1,000 planning points. In these still early days of planning this suggestion can be no more than a hazy idea but one which I should not like to see too readily dismissed as impracticable; perhaps it will not be in course of time.

benefits and costs

The benefits of sound redevelopment or reconstruction are clearly of two kinds.

- (a) Intangible benefits which cannot be or may with considerable difficulty be assessable in money terms, such as prevention of road accidents, better health of citizens, the saving of time and fuel in transport; and amenities.
- (b) Tangible benefits which are assessable in money terms, such as increased rateable values and returns by way of rents.

The costs of redevelopment or reconstruction are unfortunately only too easily assessable in money terms, for they are the financial costs of land acquisition, labour and material, which are all comparatively easy to estimate.

In the absence of a common standard of value by which the two classes of benefits can be measured it becomes an impossible task to relate benefits and costs with any degree of accuracy. The above brief analysis of what constitutes benefits and costs of redevelopment proposals should, however, prevent the planner overlooking either the intangible or tangible benefits when presenting proposals to the public or discussing them with sectional interests of the public. Even if he cannot present a profit and loss account which allows for any or all of the intangible benefits he should try to do the best he can.

public interest in cost

Although the 1944 Act has been law for nearly a year, Planning Authorities have, as yet, used very little the powers of acquisition for reconstruction purposes. There are, I suppose, two main reasons for this:

- (a) lack of staff, labour and materials; and
 - (b) a feeling of uncertainty amongst Local Authorities and their citizens as to the financial implications of reconstruction proposals.
- (a) is outside the province of this article, but is a problem which time will eventually solve. Time will not solve (b) for it is natural and healthy that the ratepayers and more particularly the Finance Committees should be inquisitive about the cost of reconstruction or redevelopment proposals under contemplation, and it is more natural that the in-

dividual should be anxious to know how his own pocket will be affected. But it is my experience that the majority of citizens seldom think further than wondering rather vaguely by how much the rates will be increased, and they presume in the absence of evidence to the contrary that the increase will be great. It is surely part of the planner's job to provide that evidence. The ideal would, of course, be to be able to say to the ratepayers and the public at large—"The completion of these proposals will cost you a 2d. rate, but you will gain the equivalent of a 4d. rate because of the saving of travelling expenses and time together with better health, transport, etc.," and to say for example, to the shopkeeper, "You will save the equivalent of a 4d. rate because of reduced delivery costs."

To give the public and the ratepayers a reasonably accurate picture of the true net profit which will accrue to them as a result of the execution of reconstruction or redevelopment schemes is one of the Local Authorities' hardest tasks. But we can at least balance the costs against the tangible and financially estimatable benefits, and it may well be that we shall have to be satisfied with this for the time being. The remainder of this paper is therefore concerned for the most part with suggestions which might be considered for presenting to the public (or just for consideration by Local Authority Finance Committees), a profit and loss account of reconstruction or redevelopment proposals under the 1944 Act.

danger of unqualified publicity

Before I deal in detail with suggestions for the preparation of a profit and loss account I should like to issue a warning. It is misleading to the ratepayer (and unfortunately quite common) for publicity to be given to incomplete statements to the effect that the cost of executing a particular proposal is estimated at £X million. An unqualified statement of this sort is almost bound to be confusing, and in relation to Local Authority finance has little meaning. As we know, capital expenditure is mainly financed by Local Authorities by means of loans, the loan charges on which have to be met each year out of rate revenue. An estimate of the capital cost of executing a scheme does not therefore give any indication of the burden which will fall on the rates. Such an estimate should only be given general publicity at the same time as an estimate of those benefits of the scheme which are assessable in money terms and which will flow from the execution of the scheme. In other words the public should be given some indication of the financial return which can be expected from the expenditure.

estimates can be made

I am fully aware of the work which estimates of this nature mean to harassed Local Authority officials, and I also appreciate that because of the number of assumptions which of necessity have to be made during the process of estimating, the margin of error may be relatively large. But to my knowledge an estimate of this sort has been done in one town experimentally, and it is my conviction that all Local Authorities contemplating war damage reconstruction or blight redevelopment should form some estimate of the money profit or loss which will result from the execution of their proposals. In any case will not Finance Committees require this? The work involved may do no more than demonstrate that the ultimate burden may be no greater than the equivalent of a few pence on the rates, but even if the result shows no more than this the work is, in my view, worth while because it removes the instinctive fear which so many of us have of large capital expenditures.

Clearly the aim should be to produce a statement with financial benefits on one side and costs on the other, and the balance converted into an increase or decrease in rates. I have already suggested that such a statement cannot include the more important benefits of planning, that is, those which I call intangible benefits. The probability is therefore that the balance will express a loss. It is this loss which has to be converted into an increase in rates.

building up the estimate

In the case of war damage reconstruction there is a statutory obligation (under Section 7 of the 1944 Act) on Local Authorities to submit to the Minister a financial statement "to enable a comparison to be made between the annual return to the authority from the carrying out of the redevelopment and the annual equivalent of the cost." The form of financial statement which would seem to be necessary in order to make this comparison is a convenient starting point on which to build up a more comprehensive statement which will show the effect on the rate position. The suggested form of Profit and Loss Estimate shown in the Table on page 395 is based on the sort of financial statement which the Minister is likely to require for the purpose of Section 7. If the appropriate estimates in respect of each item as shown in the Appendix are filled in, a balance will result either on the profit or on the loss side, probably the latter, but the statement as now completed, while fulfilling the statutory obligation does not give a true picture of the profit or loss because—

- (a) It takes no account of any increase or decrease in rateable value. (You will notice, however, that I have added items in brackets at the end of each column to cover this point.)
- (b) It does not show the balance in terms of an increase or decrease of rate poundage which, as already pointed out, is the only proper yardstick in which to measure the loss or profit accruing to the ratepayer.
- (c) It leaves out of consideration what I called earlier "the intangible benefits of planning."

At least defects (a) and (b) in the statement can, to a great extent, be made good. So far as (c) is concerned we cannot include in our formal statement any figures, but on the other hand intangible benefits must not be forgotten and should, in my view, be clearly set out as addenda to the statement.

estimating increase and decrease of rateable value

With regard to (a) the ultimate rateable value of the area when reconstructed can be estimated and the existing rateable value of the area is, of course, known. The difference between these two represents the increase or decrease in rateable value in that area which is a comparatively small part of the town; but an increase or decrease calculated in this way may be misleading because it may well be that a considerable part of either may in fact be a shift of rateable value to or from the reconstruction area from or to another part of the town and therefore not a profit or loss to the town. Furthermore no account has been taken of any effect on rateable value (resulting from the execution of the proposals) which is outside the actual reconstruction area. The true increase or decrease in rateable value can therefore only be calculated on the Local Authority area as a whole. I suggest, however, that in the case of war damaged towns the pre-damage rateable value should be compared with the estimated post-reconstruction value. The loss of rateable value due to damage is thus properly taken into account and the picture not distorted by the incidence of damage. This is a considerable problem and one to which intelligent guesswork is probably the only answer.

conversion into rate revenue or loss

Once an estimate of the increase or decrease in rateable value has been made it can be easily converted into rate revenue or loss by adopting the rate poundage current at the time of making the estimate. The adoption, for this purpose, of the current rate poundage is somewhat arbitrary, but, I suggest that in the absence of any evidence in any particular case against its adoption it is normally the soundest course to adopt. The account is now, subject to refinements, more or less complete. The profit or loss balance shown, however, requires to be converted into an increase or decrease in the rates; that is to say, defect (b) must be rectified.

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conversion of profit or loss into increase or decrease of rate poundage

Just as I suggested in the previous paragraph that the current rate poundage should normally be adopted, I also suggest that the current total rateable value (as affected, however, by the increase or decrease estimated to be likely to result from the redevelopment) should be adopted in order to convert the profit or loss appearing in the statement into an increase or decrease in the rates. But again an adjustment may be necessary if, for example, it is felt that because there has not been a quinquennial re-valuation for some years the present general level of assessments is unreliable. I do not doubt that many refinements on a statement prepared in this way will occur. It may, for example, be necessary to frame it in a different way if there is a major overspill problem.

looking into the future

The natural criticism of any attempt to form an opinion as to the effect of a reconstruction or redevelopment proposal, the completion of which may be deferred for 15 or 20 years, is that it is unreliable to judge results on the basis of existing conditions. In a sense this is a fair criticism, but as the human's power of clairvoyance is limited, assessments based broadly on present conditions are in my view the safest course to adopt. If, however, there are any major disturbing trends which are likely to have an effect on the future, proper allowance can be easily made for these during the process of building up the statement. I am, in any case, convinced that a statement based on present conditions is better than no statement at all.

cost of constructional work

It will be noted that the suggested form of Profit and Loss Estimate makes no allowance for constructional work by the Local Authority—such as housing, schools, hospitals and traffic roads. Apart from the impossibility or at least extreme complexity of making provision for costs under these headings (particularly bearing in mind the complicated grant aid formulæ which would have to be taken into account) they are not, I suggest, part of reconstruction and redevelopment costs in the sense in which those terms are normally used. We must assume, I think, that the deficiency of those services would be made good whether or not reconstruction

or redevelopment took place; but in so far as any of these services are destroyed in the process of redeveloping, the cost of the destruction is reflected in the statement, *i.e.*, under item 3 in the Cost column.

local authorities and the job

It may be suggested that the work postulated by my suggestions is likely to be too much for officials of a normal Local Authority, particularly under existing conditions. I can well believe that this may be so in some cases at the present time, but it has been done, as I pointed out earlier in the paper, in the case of one town, admittedly with the help of the Valuation Office on the question of land values. But the real answer to this criticism is that the normal Local Authority is not at the present time equipped to do a task of this sort. Indeed in the past there has been no reason why it should be so equipped. But for the future the responsibilities of land ownership and planning by lease control will make it, in my view, imperative that reconstruction or redevelopment Authorities should have on their staff an Estates Surveyor who, in conjunction with the Treasurer, should be able to prepare the necessary estimates, but whose main task will be to advise the Local Authority on Estate Management and Development problems.

conclusion

It may be suggested that what I have proposed is all very well, but more the concern of the Finance folk than the Planners. In this paper I have been concerned with reconstruction and redevelopment proposals involving comprehensive land acquisition under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1944. The preparation of such proposals takes place after and within the framework of an outline conception for the whole town. I am not in this paper suggesting that a profit and loss statement should be prepared in respect of the outline plan. We are now concerned with a comparatively small area which will be redeveloped as a whole within, say, a maximum period of 20 years. I submit that the planner should at least understand how a proper financial estimate should be prepared even if he does not do the estimating himself. If such an estimate is prepared with only an early draft proposal as a basis, the planner will at least know where he stands and so be helped as the proposals evolve.

SUGGESTED FORM OF PROFIT AND LOSS ESTIMATE**COSTS**

1. *Interest on loans incurred in respect of—*
 - (a) Compensation for land acquisition, including compensation payable for disturbance and injurious affection but excluding compensation to statutory undertakings;
 - (b) Compensation to statutory undertakings;
 - (c) "Clearing" of land (which includes the construction of service roads and sewers);
 - (d) Contributions under Sec. 6 (T. & C.P. Act, 1944);
 - (e) Other incidental costs of acquisition.
2. *Loan Redemption Charges.*
 - (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) as in 1.
3. *Annual Equivalent of value of land appropriated or transferred to reconstruction from (see (a) and (b) of 3 of Benefits Column).*
4. *Repairs and Maintenance Estate Management.*
5. *Land Tax and Tithe Redemption.*
- (6. *Decrease of rate revenue.*)

Total £

BENEFITS

1. *Ground Rents (including annual equivalent of premiums).*
2. *Rack rents.**
3. *Annual Equivalent of value of land appropriated or transferred.*
 - (a) To Authorities other than Reconstruction Authority, *e.g.*,
 - (i) Highway Authority.
 - (ii) Education Authority.
 - (iii) Government Departments;
 - (b) To other accounts of the Reconstruction Authority, *e.g.*,
 - (i) Housing.
 - (ii) Public Health.
 - (iii) Statutory Undertakings.
 - (iv) General.
- (4. *Increase of rate revenue.*)

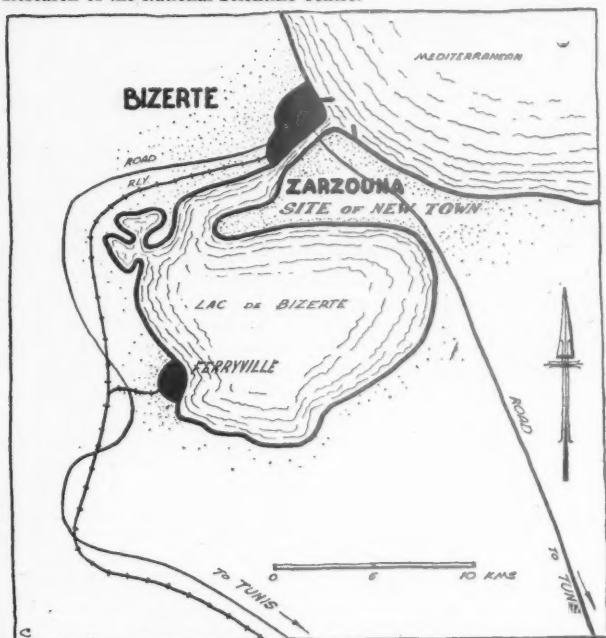
Total £

*Note.—In some cases land and buildings may be leased for a long term, subject to the payment of a premium. In these cases the annual equivalent of the premium, calculated in accordance with normal valuation practice, should be added to the rent reserved and the total figure included under the head "Rack Rents."

PLANNER'S SCRATCHBOOK

A NEW BIZERTE

Tunisia is of special interest in that, apart from the reconquered Russian territories, it was the first country at all comparable with certain regions in Europe to be cleared of Axis troops. As soon as possible after the liberation, the French authorities (National Defence, Transport, Public Health, Industries, Agriculture, Education, etc.) estimated their requirements for immediate needs, and with regard to town planning, an Architectural and Town Planning Service under direct control of the Government was substituted for the old Building Service. The Service was charged with drawing up comprehensive plans on a local and regional scale and their findings are important in that Tunisia has been regarded as a valuable experiment in planning and reconstruction as affecting the devastated regions in France itself. Accordingly studies have been undertaken in connection with administrative, legislative, research, war damage compensation questions, etc., in order not only that the reconstruction of Tunisia itself but the similar work to be undertaken in France, may be carried out efficiently. In particular a very comprehensive study has been made of Bizerte and the problem of its reconstruction and future plan. In the following article the author, K. S. CRADDOCK, M.T.P.I., is indebted to Mr. P. A. Emery, one of the principal authors of the plan, for the details of this important work, as reported to the Committee of Studies and Planning Research of the National Scientific Centre.



BIZERTE, old town

77 per cent. of the old town was destroyed by bombardment or very gravely damaged. The streets have now been cleared and partially restored for traffic. Clearing of ruined buildings and salvage of material is proceeding, and services are being restored. A number of the inhabitants, i.e., 2,000 Europeans, have returned and are living for the most part in precarious conditions. The civil administration is grappling with the difficult conditions but the health of the population is good.

BIZERTE ZARZOUNA, new town

It has been decided to rebuild Bizerte on an entirely new site on the opposite side of Lac de Bizerte. The Master Plan submitted to public inquiry and approved, determines the main outlines of the zoning of the town and essential traffic routes, embracing the old town as well as the future Zarzouna.

Particulars of the zoning are as follows:—

1. Bizerte.

- (a) Military zone.

- (b) Industrial zone.

- (c) Business area.

- (d) Port zone.

2. Zarzouna.

- (a) Naval Command.

- (b) Civil administration and commerce.

- (c) Residential (rehousing in temporary dwellings and later, industrial workers' homes).

- (d) Residential (single houses and villas).

- (e) Flats.

- (f) Railway area.

- (g) Port zone, under control of maritime command.

- (h) Industrial zone.

- (i) Recreational (beaches, woodland reserves and parks, etc.).

- (j) Public health and educational establishments, hospitals, etc.

- (k) Preservation and extension zones—Mohammedan agglomerations in suburban region.

- (l) Market gardens.

These zones are related to an appropriate road system, a ferry across the Channel establishing the link between the existing town and Zarzouna.

A main highway leads direct to Tunis from this ferry.

Up to June, 1944, the construction had been confined almost exclusively to residential zone "c" and works to be proceeded with immediately include the

roads and sewers in zone "d" and the erection of hatted dwellings for bombed-out persons.

FUNCTIONING OF THE NEW TOWN

For the study of a new town it will be convenient to class the different aspects of the problem as follows:—

1. Situation, Topography, Climate.

2. Programme.

(a) Immediate. Pre-war population of Bizerte was about 30,000 (of which 13,000 were Europeans). The raison d'être of the town is the naval base and its exceptional site between sea and lagoon. Three quarters of the buildings in the European town having been destroyed the programme consists in removing the administrative and residential areas to Zarzouna at the same time leaving at Bizerte most of the existing port and industrial installations.

The civil and military administrations are in favour of this transfer and therefore it is most probable that the portion of the population in daily contact with them will install itself at Zarzouna for reasons of convenience.

The commercial population will not move until later, for several reasons. A distinction is drawn between retail trade which relies on constant relations with the populace, and the commerce which is dependant on the port. Retail trade and light industry will establish themselves at Zarzouna as soon as there is a sufficient population to support it. This can be estimated as a minimum of 1,000, and will expand in proportion.

It is only when rapid communication is established that the commercial population of Bizerte will readily move to the new town. The first part of the programme may be summarised as follows:—

- I. Installation of civil and military administration, with requisite hotels and villas, etc.

- II. Provision for the settlement of, say, 5,000 inhabitants, distributed according to construction possibilities, i.e., in "minimum" dwellings in zone "C", in communal dwellings in zone "E", in detached houses in zone "D".

- III. Provision of communal services—clubs, schools, retail services, etc. These should be established at the outset, in the nature of community centres, even if at first the buildings have to be of a provisional nature.

(b) Long Term Programme.

This is dependant upon the development of the town and region of Bizerte and the role which the port will be called in to play in the whole Tunisian economy. If the port traffic remains at pre-war level, the population of Zarzouna ought not to exceed 15,000 persons, and the programme envisaged by the present master Plan is too large. If, on the other hand, the port develops as a result of industrial or agricultural development or for any other reason, Zarzouna is destined for rapid expansion, which may reach 50,000 inhabitants in the first 20 years.

In the latter case, the Master Plan, no matter how wide embracing, must be carefully examined, particularly in regard to zoning and population densities, siting and types of dwelling. In any case, Bizerte-Zarzouna,

with its slopes, pine forests and beach is indicated for the establishment of a holiday resort for Tunis and the region.

3. Zoning.

The zoning, so far as established, has been difficult in so much as the new town and the old will co-exist for many years to come. The existence of the port on the present site and the creation of a railroad and industrial zone at Zarzouna will cause a certain duality of function, which will not, however, be a disadvantage as the two sites are clearly separated by a channel 240 metres wide. Development will demand efficient means of communication. The siting of the other zones has been carefully chosen. It is unfortunate that the highest area has, for military reasons, been reserved for the Maritime Command, as this would have made an excellent residential site.

4. Communications.

The focal point of a town should be where social exchange and intercourse reach their culmination. As this centre only concerns the new town, its situation on the master plan appears rather eccentric. It is, however, difficult to site it further from the old town as it must be remembered that Bizerte will retain an exchange centre in the proximity of the business area of the old town for some time to come.

A neutral zone has been reserved between the centre of Zarzouna itself and the channel. This is an excellent procedure, for if Zarzouna expands as is hoped it is conceivable that the commercial and social centre will tend to develop towards the channel, to the west. The residential zones will expand more to the south and south-east and east of the town.

The preservation of the port poses the problem of rapid and easy communication from one side of the channel to the other.

The existing ferry is slow, and although a fleet of 30-40 seater launches would assure a fast service, there would still be the double break in the journey.

A tunnel is the best solution, such as has been constructed at Antwerp. M. Emery points out that the construction of a similar tunnel at Bizerte would be justified by reason of the fact that the important traffic route from Bizerte to Tunis would be shortened by 40 kilometres apart altogether from its importance to the development of Zarzouna.

5. Distribution of Population.

A planning project should embrace the study of the population distribution, i.e., the density provisions corresponding to the different zones. This involves a consideration of the different methods of housing.

At Bizerte these comprise:—

1. Zone for small habitations. Single storey, erected with material at present available. Plots of 700 sq. metres, density 45 persons per hectare. Proportion of site covered 9-11 per cent.

2. Villa area. Two storeys. Density 10 persons per hectare. Proportion of site covered 34 per cent.

3. Area for flats.



A view from the south-west, showing the office block and main entrance. The ingoing loading bay can be seen on the right.

F A C T O R Y

FOR PRODUCING STRUCTURAL LAMINATED PLASTIC BOARDS

DESIGNED BY DENES POGANY

GENERAL—This factory was built for Messrs. Holoplast Ltd., makers of a new type of structural laminated plastic boarding,* and was designed by the company's architect.

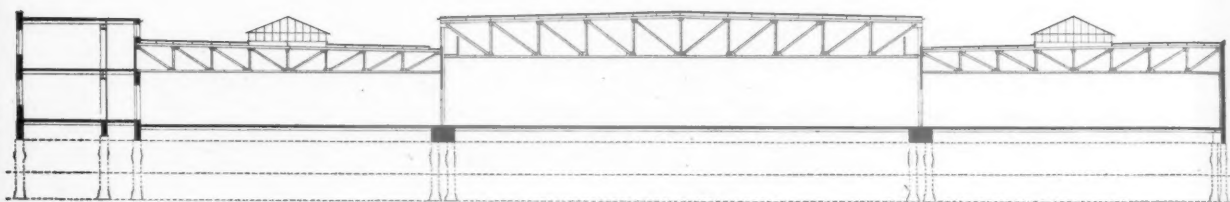
The swampy site of about 2½ acres is near the River Medway at New Hythe, Kent. The factory is approached by a private service road on the north of the site and by a railway siding on the south. The site to the north and east of the factory is occupied partly by open air equipment—accumulators, water cooling plant, dust

extraction plant and incinerator. **PLANNING**—The building is treated in three blocks—Office Block, rising to two storeys along the west side, the Workers' Accommodation as a single storey along the south side, and the Main Factory Block.

The Workers' Accommodation Block has separate entrances for male and female operatives. Each entrance is provided with entrance lobby from which open two foremen's offices and workers' cloak rooms and lavatories. Cloak rooms and foremen's rooms have access on the far side directly

into the factory. At one end of this block is the Calorifier Room and at the other end a Rest Room and Kitchenette. Flanking the block at either end are two loading bays. The factory itself is divided into three main parts. Fabrication and Assembly, Press, and Finishing. The Fabrication and Assembly Room comprises a raw materials store opening off the goods-in loading bay, prefabrication area and assembly area. The total floor area is 160 ft. by 58 ft., the whole being naturally lit from roof glazing. A conveyor system is installed for handling materials

*See No. 2230, p. 401.



CROSS SECTION

[Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$ " = 1' 0"]

from store to the machines and from assembly tables to the Press Room.

The Press Room occupies the central part of the factory and is 160 ft. by 90 ft. Being higher than the adjoining room it is lit by clerestory windows. The north-east corner of the Press Room is partitioned to form the Pump Room, outside which, on the north side, stand High and Low Pressure Accumulator Equipment and the Water Cooling Plant.

The Cutting and Finishing Room, together with Finished Goods Store, Tool Room, Switch Room and Transformer Room, form one unit equal in size and shape to the Fabrication and Assembly Room. This also is lit from roof lights. Canteen facilities are provided adjacent to the main site.

CONSTRUCTION—Foundations : These are of concrete piles and reinforced concrete foundation beams, spanning between piles at ground level.

Ground Floor : This is 3 ft. above ground level at loading bay height and is of a concrete slab construction with expansion joints. The finish in the factory is hardened and water-proofed granolithic, and in the offices, linoleum. The entrance hall and vestibule have an *in situ* tile finish, and the lavatories have quarry tiling.

Framework : This is of steel. The Factory Area is roofed with deep lattice girders giving clear spans in each department. The roofs

to the Loading Bays are of steel framed cantilever beams covered with asbestos cement troughing on steel purlins.

Floors and Roofs : Roofs to Workers' Accommodation and Office Block and floors to Office Block are of precast Myko beams and slabs with *in situ* structural cement screed. Intermediate steel columns and beams are in the partitions and there are no structural partition walls. The factory roofing is of wood-wool slabs for heat insulation spanning across purlins and jointed with light tee-section metal subframes. The roof surface is screeded in fine concrete and covered with two-ply roofing felt bedded in bitumastic cement. The Office Block and Workers' Accommodation has similar roof covering.

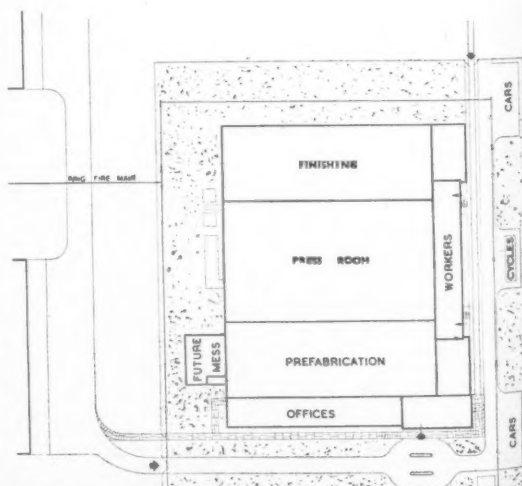
Walls : External walls are 11 in. cavity and 14 in. brickwork. Internal partitions are 4½ in. brick. The Office Block and Workers' Accommodation are faced in hand-made multi-coloured facing bricks. The Main Factory is in yellow stocks.

The Staircase in the Office Block is of artificial stone finished the same colour as the floor of the entrance hall which is paved in light brown terrazzo in large squares. **The Main Entrance** is approached through a recessed and canopied portico raised from the pavement by four steps. Dividing hall from portico is a glass brick wall containing an architrave of artificial stone and swing doors of polished

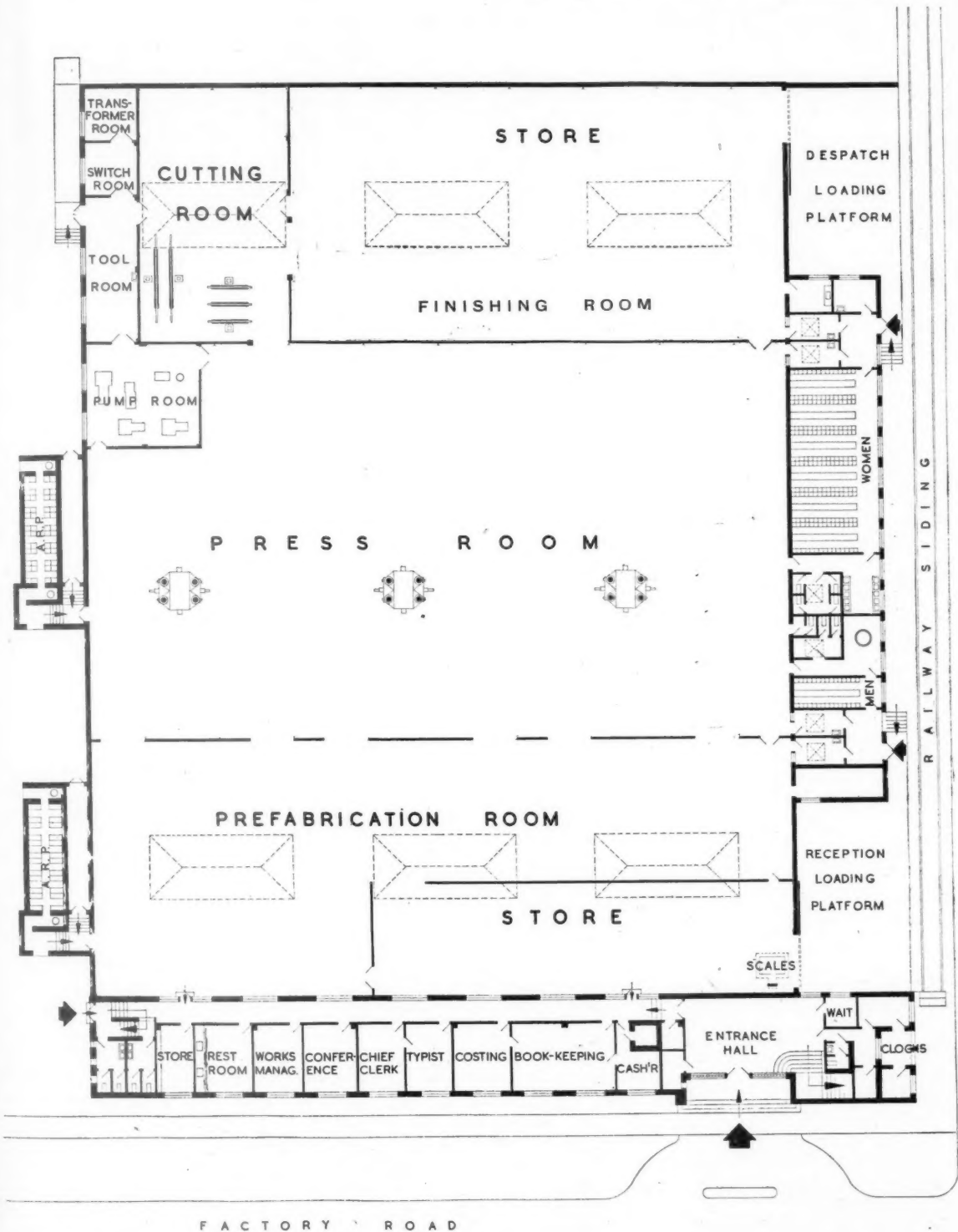
teak each glazed with one plate-glass light.

Finishes : The brick walls of the Office Block are painted with plastic paint which obscures the brick joints and gives a rough mottled cream finish. The brick walls of the Workers' Accommodation are finished with distemper. The factory walls have a finish of white sandlime brick. The factory ceiling has a cream distemper finish on the wood-wool slabs. All joinery is finished with cream matt oil paint.

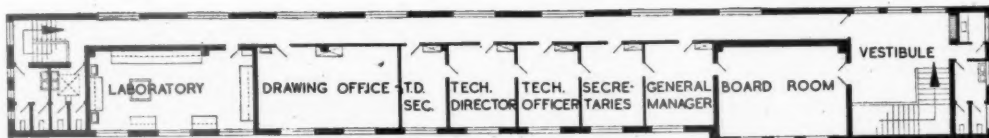
(Contractors : Messrs. Limpus and Son.)



Top, a general view from the west. Centre, a cross section through the office block and main factory. Above, site and layout plan.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN OF OFFICE BLOCK

[Scale: $\frac{1}{8}" = 1' 0"$]

EJECTOR HOUSE

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.

PHYSICAL PLANNING

2223 Plan for Bath

A PLAN FOR BATH. Reviewed by A. C. BOSSOM. (*Architects' Journal*, March 1, 1945, *Physical Planning Supplement*, pp. 169-172.) Review of new plan for Bath presented in an exhibition and in a report prepared by Sir Patrick Abercrombie, J. Owen and H. A. Mealand. Plan includes 14 neighbourhoods and 13 parishes or parts of parishes, covering 220,990 acres with combined present population of some 78,500 people, and allowing for future population of about 81,000.

The Report reviews Bath's historical background with its social and functional activities, and then examines in detail: provisions for transport; the Central Area and riverside strip; housing and density; communal, social and educational activities; industry; open spaces and agriculture.

Replanning proposals include: division of actual city area of slightly under 150 acres into ten self-contained precincts readily accessible to adjacent neighbourhoods. Provision of new houses together with restoration of a number of bombed architectural buildings. Conversion of some Georgian houses into up-to-date flats preserving outward architectural appearance. More adequate and even distribution of open spaces. Clearing of river banks to provide riverside walk. Through traffic is to be by-passed to north and south-west of the City, and a new east-west arterial road to be sunk under Lansdown Road. The inner circle is to serve local needs with radial approach roads, leaving the ancient City centre free from main traffic. Ample parking space is to be provided within the central area. Light industries are to be encouraged, heavy industries to be transferred to Locksbrook area and Weston Cut.

2224 Plan for Merseyside

MERSEYSIDE PLAN, 1944. F. Longstreth Thompson. (HMSO, 7s. 6d. Reviewed in *Architects' Journal*, July 5, 1945, *Physical Planning Supplement*, pp. 7-10.) Report prepared in consultation with Technical Committee of the Merseyside Joint Advisory Planning Committee at request of Minister of Town and Country Planning, reviewed by Professor S. D. Adshad.

The Report is described as very valuable in giving a first impression of the area and a detailed survey. Beyond drawing attention to obvious lines of development, no far-reaching prophecies are made.

The Plan includes districts of 24 local authorities covering a region of approxi-

mately 450 square miles. The review is illustrated by maps showing:

1. Essential features of Merseyside, such as Central Merseyside, manufacturing, residential and country towns.
2. Situation and boundaries of local authorities covered by plan.
3. Summary of proposals for whole region, showing urban, industrial, agricultural and rural zones, together with open spaces, existing and proposed arterial roads, main railways and reserve areas.
4. Classification of agricultural land of the region, indicating that all first-class and good land is to be preserved for agriculture.
5. Proposed principal roads in the region, namely, one-purpose motor road and arterial, sub-arterial, and major local traffic roads. Road classification based on function and existing or estimated future traffic values.

The Report includes a valuable section devoted to the improvement of urban and preservation of rural amenities in Merseyside, contributed by C. H. James.

2225 Plan for Durham

DURHAM REPLANNED. Thomas Sharp's Plan for Durham described by A. C. Bossom. (*Architects' Journal*, February 1, 1945, *Physical Planning Supplement*, pp. 97-100.) Review of Cathedral City, a Plan for Durham, by T. Sharp (*Architectural Press*, 5s.). Report described as positive and challenging document, which examines both possibilities and limitation of Durham. Replanning proposals based on review of existing conditions, with particular reference to historical and architectural quality.

The proposed Power Plant project is analysed and opposed. (Project has since been abandoned; see *ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL*, August 30, 1945, p. 147.) The town is to be extended and improved as a market, cultural, and tourist centre. Certain light and medium industries are to be introduced, and administrative, shopping, educational and residential centres to be developed. Existing amenities are to be preserved, and new ones to be sponsored. Through traffic is to be by-passed. An appropriate system of car parks is recommended. River pathways are to be provided, and the condition of the river is to be improved.

2226 Plan for Glasgow

FIRST PLANNING REPORT TO THE HIGHWAYS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE CORPORATION OF GLASGOW. Robert Bruce, City Engineer. Reviewed by J. A. Coia, H. J. Crone, and W. Linn. (*Architects' Journal*, July 26, 1945, *Physical Planning Supple-*

ment, pp. 63-66.) Report described as sincere attempt to solve city's problems, but shows considerable number of defects which might have been overcome if preparation and publication of complete statistical information had been undertaken before consideration of actual remedies.

Glasgow's basic difficulties are: central congestion, unorganized land-use, uncontrolled spread and cross-river communications. Of these the Report deals only with road and transport proposals, and with suggestions for the re-development of the inner core, covering housing, industry and allied matters in a very general way only.

Road and transport proposals: inner ring formed from existing streets to enclose and insulate central area; outer ring road; division of roads into arterial, sub-arterial and local roads; access to and from arterials mainly by elevated roundabouts; high speed arterial roads and underground system to bring suburban areas closer in time to central area. Some defects mentioned are: road and transport proposals will pre-empt precincts, thus breaking up areas of strong local identification; provision of roundabouts too numerous, rendering proposed arterial plan liable to serious congestion in vicinity of roundabouts.

Re-development of inner core: complete rebuilding over period of 50 years; opening up of area; establishment of definite use zones: residential, industrial, shopping, business, entertainment, civic and open spaces; two new stations by amalgamation of four existing stations.

MATERIALS

2227 Stains in Stonework

REPORT ON STAINS IN STONEWORK. Prepared by the Brickwork and Masonry Sectional Committee of the Institution of Structural Engineers. (*The Structural Engineer*, October, 1945, pp. 493-496.) Results of laboratory tests and site observations made since 1933.

The work of the committee was greatly handicapped by the war. Much of the data, the photographs and the draft report prepared by the Chairman were destroyed by enemy action. Nevertheless, the conclusions and recommendations published are valuable.

Many natural limestones and some sandstones contain a substance which stains the stone a light brown colour and is capable of doing so without extraneous staining material, i.e., the stone is self-staining. The staining substance is soluble in water and in organic solvents. Stains may disappear from one place and then appear in another, in accordance with the movement of the water in which the staining material is dissolved, moving in general to those parts of the stone where evaporation is greatest. The efflorescence frequently present on stone is caused by the crystallisation of certain soluble salts. These may have been contained in the stone when laid, they may be decomposition products, or they may enter the stone from backing, mortar or soil. Porous mortars will absorb staining material from the stone. This may be an advantage, for, if the efflorescence causes surface disintegration, it will be easier to repoint the joints than to replace the blocks of stone.

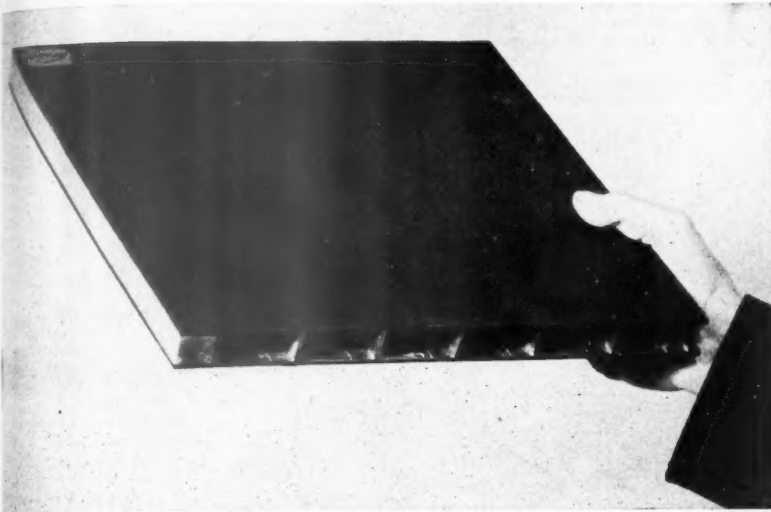
Uneven heating of walls such as is caused by hot water pipes, etc., may cause discolouration of the outside face by deposition of carbonaceous matter from the atmosphere.

A piece of

Stone used. It constructed a very fine dust obtained or cement are frequently from stone-fac should be and wire

2228

FIELD VINCOL (Journal Institute Results specimens extensively during with ha 2,000,000 cement. crete m cement as they strength placing The use crete exp advocated The exp taining V cussed in clusion th crete air more than 3 per cent stitutes a facture c construct plasticity reduced aggregate structure bility. bility of some sli practice is in eff ture—one and grav ventional (air) is in and ther full contr



A piece of Holoplast plastic cellular board. See No. 2230.

Stone of adequate thickness should be used. It may not be advisable to bed reconstructed stone in sand; cement mortar, a very fine mortar or putty made with stone dust obtained from the same stone and lime or cement is preferable. Unsightly stains are frequently produced by surface washings from metal or timber. In cleaning stone-faced buildings only clean water should be used, and the use of chemicals and wire brushes should not be permitted.

2228 Vinsol Resin Cement

FIELD USE OF CEMENT CONTAINING VINSOL RESIN. C. E. Wuerpel. (*Journal of the American Concrete Institute, September, 1945, pp. 49-82.*) Results obtained from 22,396 test specimens made in connection with extensive construction, principally during period 1941-1944. Experience with handling concrete containing over 2,000,000 barrels of Vinsol resin cement. Comparison between concrete made with plain cement and cement interground with Vinsol resin as they affect compressive and flexural strength, unit weight and mixing, placing and finishing. Bibliography.

The use of an air-entraining agent in concrete exposed to weather is more and more advocated in USA (see No. 1675: 16.11.44). The experience gained with concrete containing Vinsol resin in the construction discussed in this article had led to the conclusion that the entrainment of minute discrete air voids in concrete in amounts not more than 7 per cent. and not less than 3 per cent. (optimum 4 to 5 per cent.) constitutes a major improvement in the manufacture of concrete. The benefits during construction are:—(1) materially increased plasticity and placeability, and (2) materially reduced bleeding and segregation of coarse aggregate. The benefit to the finished structure is a material increase in durability. The disadvantages are the possibility of excessive entrainment of air and some slight reduction in strength. The practice of air-entrainment produces what is in effect a new type of concrete mixture—one with three aggregates (air, sand and gravel or stone) instead of the conventional two. If one of these aggregates (air) is inflexibly associated with the cement, and therefore non-regulable in the field, full control of the mix is not available to

the engineer. The author suggests that the air-entraining agent should be treated as an aggregate batched mechanically, by closely regulable means, in the field.

2229 Building Physics and Chemistry

ELEMENTS OF TECHNICAL SCIENCE. A. Spencer White. (J. M. Dent and Sons, 1945. 4s. 3d.) Elementary book on physics with some chemistry for building and other technical students.

2230 New Plastic Board

HOLOPLAST. *Technical Bulletin No. 1.* (Holoplast, Ltd., New Hythe, near Maidstone, Kent.) Physical properties of new type of laminated cellular plastic board of kraft paper having high load bearing capacity.

Holoplast is a laminated plastic board of cellular (box) section (see illustration). It is produced from impregnated kraft paper under high pressure (see No. 1372: 3.2.44) which acts both vertically and laterally. Standard boards are 8 ft. or 8 ft. 6 in. long and 4 ft. wide, the thickness of the flanges and webs is $\frac{1}{4}$ in. or $\frac{1}{8}$ in., the overall thickness of the boards is 1 in. or $\frac{3}{4}$ in. Along the longitudinal edges the boards are faced with timber fillets, densified during the manufacturing process. The distribution of the material in the cross section, with cells of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. depth between the flanges, results in a high load bearing capacity in bending, combined with low weight. The approximate weight of the boards is 2 lb./sq. ft. (1 in. material) and 1 lb./sq. ft. ($\frac{3}{4}$ in. material) respectively. The tensile strength in longitudinal direction is appr. 12 t/sq. in., in transverse direction 5.4 t/sq. in. The corresponding moduli of elasticity are 2.1×10^6 and 1.5×10^6 lb./sq. in. respectively.

Holoplast is not affected by water, oil, organic and mineral acids, etc.; it is impervious to vermin and does not support combustion or spread flame. It is easily machined and sawn. Although the boards are supplied in sheets of 4 ft. width they can be used in widths which are multiples of the spacing of the webs, i.e., 2 in. Thus the material has a high degree of dimensional flexibility. Its natural colour is brown and it can be provided with sprayed finish of various colours.

The most useful application of Holoplast boards in buildings is in partitions and in

inner linings of cavity walls. The cells of the boards are suitable for the accommodation of flexible steel braided cables. Fittings, like brackets, book shelves, etc., can easily be fixed to the $\frac{1}{4}$ in. flange of the 1 in. thick material with self-tapping screws.

The thermal conductivity of Holoplast boards is 0.95 B.T.U. per sq. ft. per hour for 1° F., which can be reduced to 0.80 by filling the cells with slag wool. Tests on the acoustic properties of the boards are being conducted at the Building Research Station. The results will be published at a later date.

HEATING and Ventilation

2231

Gas Flues

FLUES FOR GAS APPLIANCES. *Draft British Standard Code of Practice; General Series Code 34236.* (British Standards Institution, 2s. 0d.) Deals with flues as ventilators and for removal of products of combustion of gas appliances. Selection of materials and choice of appropriate size. Position of terminals. Details of connections. Built in flues. Existing flues adapted. Canopy ventilation. Ventilation for central heating boilers. Jointing.

2232

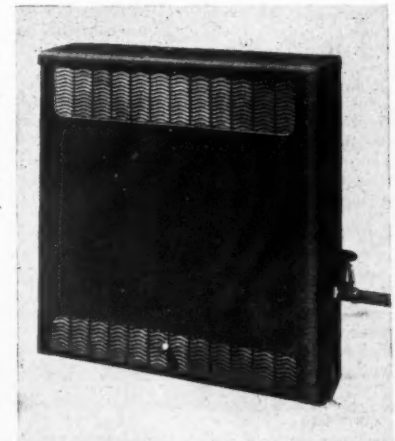
Hot Water Supply

HOT WATER SUPPLY BY GAS FOR SINGLE FAMILY DWELLINGS. *Draft British Standard Code of Practice.* (British Standards Institution, 2s. 0d.) General considerations in choice of method of heating. Instantaneous and storage types. Water connections, flues and insulation. Fixing of pipes. Tables giving storage capacity, gas input, initial heating time, type of flue, etc. Information on pressure losses in pipes. Diagrams of hot water systems with various types of apparatus and circulations.

2233

Cremation Furnaces

ELECTRIC CREMATION FURNACES. (*Trade Brochure of Birlec Ltd., Birmingham.*) Three installations in this country illustrated with description and some constructional notes.



The Copperad Convector. See No. 2234.

2234

New Convector

COPPERAD CONVECTOR. (*Trade literature; Messrs. Copperad.*) New Copperad convector adaptable for high pressure steam or high pressure hot water. Illustrated by photographs and diagrams.

Claims for this Copperad are good appearance, economy equal to any existing method due to efficiency of uniform heat, equally distributed, resulting in ultimate fuel saving. Combination of heating and ventilation with a butterfly damper to enable any proportion of fresh or re-circulated air to be used. Is tested up to 1,000 lbs. working pressure. Is fitted with independent supports to eliminate strain on the pipes and to facilitate grading of the battery for draining. For service and inspection the case is easily removable. Supplied coated with a primer or finished in colours to order.

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.

2235

Hand Drying Machines

Q Can you give me the names and addresses of any manufacturers who make electric hand drying machines for use in factory ablution rooms?

A In reply to your query we regret that we have had some considerable trouble in finding a manufacturer of the fittings which you require. All our usual sources of information maintained that these fittings had not been made since the outbreak of war, but we find that production is now being re-started by:—Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto, Upton Lane, Willesden. They inform us that they are in a position to give delivery in about twelve weeks.

2236

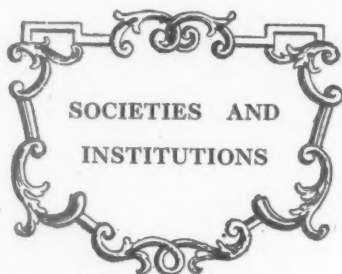
Fixing Glass

Q Can you recommend any method of fixing glass facings such as Vitrolite to external wall surfaces without the use of screws, etc.? It appears to be used successfully on certain shop fronts, and yet numerous failures occur. A trial using the special mastic provided by a well known firm of glass makers has resulted in total failure, also in a large town recently an accident occurred owing to large squares of glass facings falling from pilasters and beams over a shop front. Is there no material supplied which can be guaranteed to be safe?

A The special mastic provided for fixing Vitrolite is not suitable as the sole means of fixing for external use. You will appreciate that the mastic will make the panel adhere to the wall but that it is not intended to carry the weight of several courses in ashlar sizes, and that all the weight will gradually be transferred to the bottom course.

The only methods which can be guaranteed as safe are those put forward in the BSI code of practice No. 973 of 1941. If you will follow the methods put forward there

you will find that the fixing is satisfactory. That a safe fix is possible is shown by the *Daily Express* building in London, which has survived a considerable amount of bomb blast, and we believe that the Manchester building for the same owners is in equally good condition.



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 economize 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.

TPI

Thomas Sharp

November 15, at the Town Planning Institute. **PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS** by Thomas Sharp, published in full.

T. Sharp: "I am deeply sensible and proud of the honour which you have done me, through your Council, in electing me as your President for the present year. The office is one which at any time has important responsibilities. To-day, when the trials of war are over at last, and when the urgent tasks of reconstruction are already crowding in on us, the responsibilities of the Institute, and to some degree your President, are greatly increased. I hope that I shall not fail you in the work which you have entrusted to me. "In my address this evening, I think that perhaps it may be better to be specific in a limited field rather than general in a wide one. So I should like to limit what I have to say first to some reflections on the question of our relationship, as technicians, with the public whom we serve: and following that, to a brief consideration of how we can promote among that public a better understanding of our work.

"I must confess that I have not been able, in my own mind, to resolve entirely the difficulties that seem to me to be inherent in our relationship with the public. The whole matter is tied up with one's conception of democracy and the workings of

democratic government. Our job is to assist the public in creating an efficient and seemly environment for living. That in itself is a sufficient enough task. The working out of the ways and means by which that environment is created is an even greater one—and while, fortunately, the main burden of the responsibility for that is not ours, as technicians, but rather that of government, we nevertheless must inevitably have a considerable, and special, share in it.

"Few activities affect people's lives so intimately, and at the same time so profoundly and so widely, as do those that we engage in as planners. Town and country planning controls, moulds, guides, determines, in one way or another, all the physical conditions under which men live. It determines where, and to some degree under what conditions, they work, play, buy and sell, go to school, entertain themselves or are entertained: where they spend their holidays: even where they can be buried. In addition to trying to arrange for a satisfactory environment for men living their individual lives, planning tries to secure an environment in which collective living will function smoothly and well. It tries to arrange the best use of the collective resources and utilities for collective purposes. And in doing these things, it does, or should do, far more than secure conditions which facilitate health, prosperity, good organisation, and so forth. It tries also to preserve beauty and seemliness where they exist, and to create them where they do not. All this you know as well as I do. I enumerate it in this brief, bald form only to remind you how far everything we do in our work affects the lives of vast numbers of people, most of whom we have never heard of or seen. That is a condition which applies in some degree to the work of other professions. But in no other work, I think, does the influence extend in anything like so intense a degree over anything like so wide a field.

"Since the work that we do so deeply affects people's lives, it is proper, and indeed most necessary, that the people should take a keen interest in our activities, and that if they do not do so spontaneously they should by various means be induced to. The people have the inalienable right to know fully what is being planned for them: the right to comment on the plans, to require alterations in them, and, if necessary, to reject them. All that is inherent in our democratic conception of society.

"Historically, planning has, of course, mostly been associated with autocratic



Mr. Thomas Sharp, President of the Town Planning Institute, whose Presidential Address is reported here in full

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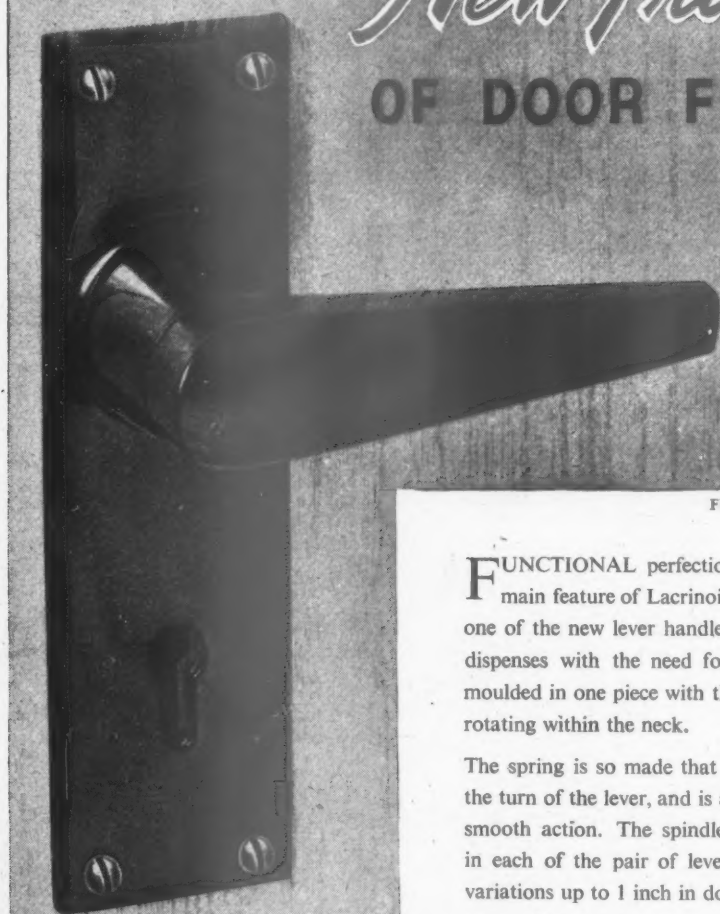
With a EWART Geyser—a Multi-point—Bath—or a Sink Geyser—you can obtain INSTANTANEOUS hot water—cheaply—without waste of fuel—at any time of the day or night. EWART specialist service in water heating is at the disposal of all interested—architects, builders and users.

EWART GEYSERS



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New Principles OF DOOR FURNITURE



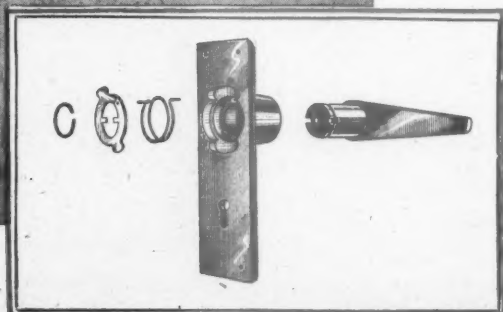
FULLY PATENTED • DESIGNS REGISTERED

FUNCTIONAL perfection allied to comeliness of design is the main feature of Lacrinoid door furniture. This illustration shows one of the new lever handle designs. The "roller" principle, which dispenses with the need for grub screws, is used, the neck being moulded in one piece with the back plate, and the shank of the lever rotating within the neck.

The spring is so made that an even pressure is exerted throughout the turn of the lever, and is at just sufficient tension to ensure a firm, smooth action. The spindle "floats", engaging in a square socket in each of the pair of levers. This automatically compensates for variations up to 1 inch in door thickness.

Though made primarily for its mechanical purpose, Lacrinoid door furniture is a delight to the eye; the shapes are simple yet are subtly curved to make the best use of reflected light. The colours are fast and practically unlimited in range.

On the left is an "exploded" picture showing the various components of the lever handle.



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forms of government. Most of the examples of the planned towns of the past which illustrate our text-books were created under systems of absolute monarchy, which were precisely what we mean to-day when we speak of dictatorship. The many German towns that were planned and built in the 18th century are outstanding examples. Paris and other capital cities show such planning at its most spectacular. The great continental examples of landscape and garden design, such as Versailles, are of the same kind. On the other hand, there are practically no historical examples of any striking planning that has been carried out under a democratic, or even a near-democratic, form of government. Even in recent times the most spectacular (or at any rate the most publicised), planning has been carried out under dictatorships—the German autobahnen, the Italian reclamation of the Pontine marshes, the Russian town-building, for example.

"All this led some people, before the war, towards the contention that democracy is incapable of really vital planning. And the spectacular planning of the autocratic forms of government is not the only influence towards the belief: the horrors of unplanning in the 19th century period of industrial expansion, particularly in England, have been used to support the contention. This, of course, is wrong; for though towards the end of last century British government began to approach something like a democratic form, the worst of the horror was committed under conditions which were far removed from true democracy. But wrong or not, it was the kind of argument that was much in vogue in some quarters: and it is, one suspects, by no means dead to-day, though it is kept tactfully in the background. I think it is to our credit as planners in England that, in face of such arguments, and in face of the temptations to which our profession lays us open, we never in the least swerved from our loyalty to the democratic ideal. And, indeed, in spite of the publicity that used to be given to the planning works of the two defeated dictators, there was no reason why we should swerve; for there have been far finer, though less publicized, works done under non-dictatorial regimes than any modern dictator has achieved—as in the Tennessee Valley and other parts of the USA, for example: in the reclamation of the Zuyder Zee in Holland, and in the fine housing of Sweden and Denmark. We have muddled a good deal in England during the last hundred years; but even we can show, in our 18th century towns and countryside, some of the finest examples in the world of planning that was carried through in the absence of autocratic power, though not, of course, under conditions of true democracy.

"I have touched at some length on the question of whether vital planning is possible under democratic forms of government because it is really the root of the whole matter. The fundamental difference between autocratic and democratic government lies in proper consultation between the governing and the governed, and in action based on that consultation. Autocratic planning need not, in theory, be altogether evil. It too, like democratic planning, may be directed wholly towards the creation of good for the enjoyment of the people as a whole. The difference between that and democratic planning is that in democratic planning the people have the right to criticize, amend and reject the plans that have been prepared by others for their individual and collective good. I think that we all agree that consultation with the people for whom we plan is a *sine qua non* of our planning. The question is—what form should that consultation take?

"Our work is not, thank goodness, an obscure science. We do not deal in mysteries, in complicated and ordinarily unintelligible formulæ. We have our jargon, I am sorry to say; but even that,

except when it is of the special kind used by Mr. Lewis Mumford, can be understood by most people who have ever been at school. All that we do, at our best, is to bring to bear trained minds, a sense of design, and (I hope) reasonably mature judgment, in an attempt to co-ordinate in an orderly fashion the broad bases of building, constructional work and land use in town and countryside. We need a working knowledge of mysteries—mysteries like law, civil engineering, building, surveying, and so on—but our particular work, and our essential contribution to the general welfare, has no mystery about it at all. It not only concerns the man in the street, or the man in the field: it can be understood by him without a great deal of trouble—and misunderstood with no trouble at all.

"The unmysterious merely-commonsensual character of our work has its penalties as well as its rewards—sometimes after dealing with a committee one is apt to think that, indeed, it has only the former. For most people tend to trust another's judgment only on matters which they cannot themselves understand. The medical man, for example, has everything his own way. What he says goes. Few patients ever dare to argue with their doctor—even over the amount of the bill. The lawyer's mysteries quite confound his client. The architect, even, bedevilled though he may be by women who say that no man can ever know anything about a kitchen, can generally take refuge in a ventilation duct or a forest of plumbing. Most professions can indulge in the good old dodge of blinding with science. Not so our profession. We must stand up in the clear light of day, speaking only of things which every man thinks he knows about, unable to put up a smoke-screen of science or mystification to shield us from the brick-bats of criticism that is only partially informed. With what bitterness has many a planner, in front of a committee, or reading an editorial in a local newspaper, thought of Pope's generally misquoted line—"a little learning is a dangerous thing."

"Heaven knows we do not set ourselves above criticism. I think I can say truly that, knowing how intimately our work affects people's lives, we try to—I cannot honestly say welcome criticism, because that is asking too much of human nature, but we genuinely try to accept it and to meet its demands. All the same, it does become a little difficult to repress a shade of (shall I say?) impatience when, for example, some anonymous scribbler writes to a local paper claiming that the ordinary man's ideas of planning are as good as ours, the only difference being that we get paid for it.

"There has been a tendency on the part of some professional planners to encourage this attitude—and more than a tendency, a definite policy, on the part of amateur planners, especially those who centre round Covent Garden. There is a suggestion that the planner is lacking a sense of responsibility, is setting himself up as a little dictator, if he doesn't encourage every organisation, every individual citizen, every schoolchild even, to design his own plan for the future of his town, and to advance it as a serious contribution to the work of drawing up the official plan. Some Corporations have gone so far as to put out notices in their local newspapers inviting organisations and individuals to make suggestions for incorporation in the plan for the town. Frankly, I regard this kind of thing as sheer demagoguery, rather than a manifestation of the working of a true democracy. In so far as a people may indicate general wishes and requirements—say that they want an open-air swimming bath—that has its usefulness, though even here the planner will have to weigh all manner of considerations which have never occurred to the men in the street who have made the suggestion. But when people are asked,

or indirectly encouraged, as they sometimes are, to produce actual plans, then it seems to me to be sheer nonsense. And it is dangerous nonsense; for if the ideas which have been advanced are not incorporated in the final plan, then the organizations or individuals who made them are apt to be piqued, or even affronted, and the plan may be subject to criticism and opposition of a personal or political kind which will render its acceptance more difficult than it would otherwise be. It may not be a popular thing to say, but for myself I have not yet come across any single idea advanced in this manner that has been really useful. The best of them deal in an elementary way with principles which we would naturally apply in any case; the average are at least rather silly; and the worst are just plain crazy. And, after all, that is what one would expect! If I were to try to tell an accountant or a chemist how to do his job, my advice would be fatuous. Such usefulness to the community as we may have comes from our having learned a particular, specialist job of work and from having developed our judgment through experience in it. To suggest that we are merely draughtsmen who give form to other people's ideas is to put us in a position which is not only unacceptable to us as a profession, but which largely nullifies our possible usefulness.

"There is a world of difference, of course, between issuing demagogic invitations to every man to be his own town-planner, and inviting collaboration in gathering the information on which every proper plan must be founded. Here organizations of all kinds, such as Chambers of Trade, for example, and individuals, too, can render valuable service in considering the requirements of their particular interest within the town plan; and all of us are glad to have that kind of assistance, and, indeed, would welcome more of it.

"I said earlier that, in my view, the essential difference between autocratic and democratic planning lies in the fact that in democratic planning there is consultation between the planner and those for whom the plans are made. I believe that consultation (other than those information-seeking consultations which I have just mentioned) will most profitably take place *after* draft plans have been drawn up by the man whose job it is to draw them up. In fact, the consultation should take the form of an opportunity for criticism, for requiring attention or for wholesale rejection. It is that opportunity for criticism, rather than actual participation in the act of planning, which, in this age of the specialist, secures the democratic character of the plan.

"There is much wisdom on this matter contained in an article which I have just been reading in the *Cornhill Magazine*—an article by Sir Kenneth Clark on the subject of *Art and Democracy*. Sir Kenneth Clark puts the position so much better than I can, and with so much more authority, that I should like to quote him at some length.

"'We all agree,' he says, 'that if democracy is to survive, people must make an effort. The electorate must give to the chief problems which their representatives have to decide almost as much thought as they do to horse-racing and football pools. These problems are sometimes of great complexity, but ultimately most of them depend on quite simple questions of principle, and are capable of far more comprehensible statement than they receive, and when the Government makes no attempt to put them into comprehensible form, people fall victims to the false simplifications of the Press. A few slogans in words short enough to fit into a headline and a few generalities which allow of variable interpretation take the place of solid information; and readers become intolerant of any matter which makes more than a

very little demand on their attention. What is true of politics is equally true of the arts; but, of course, the public is infinitely less well informed about art than about politics. There are fewer sources of information which are both reliable and comprehensible; and critical or historical writings are only a background to direct experience of the works themselves. This informed experience requires effort, and unless some such effort has been made, people have no more right to an opinion on art than they would have to an opinion on foreign affairs if they had never read a newspaper or opened an atlas. The old catchword of democracy, that rights and duties are complementary, is too vague and negative, and is generally interpreted as the right to abuse a picture in a public collection if you have paid a fraction of a farthing a year towards the upkeep of the gallery. For rights and duties we must substitute rewards and efforts—which are not, alas, complementary in everyday life and are not always commensurate in the understanding of art; but which cannot exist without one another.

"That thought brings me to the second matter which I said I should like to consider briefly: the problem of how we can promote, among the public whom we serve, a better understanding of what it is we are trying to do.

New education in any subject must precede the passing of any worthwhile judgment within the subject. That is to say, the people's right to consultation before a plan is officially adopted cannot properly be exercised unless the public knows something about the general principles of planning. Sometimes nowadays we try to use the occasion of consultation, that is, the exhibition of the plans, as the means of education. Circumstances force us to do so. And perhaps sometimes some good may come of it. But it is obviously quite the wrong way round: one only does that kind of thing when faced with a crisis. In itself it indicates how wretchedly the opportunities for education in the past have been wasted.

"What are the instruments of education that are available to us? Well, they are the usual ones: books, lectures, films, exhibitions—and the school. Some of us have been doing what we could by way of books during the last twenty years or so; and we may perhaps have contributed something, though the extent of the influence of books is difficult to measure. Lectures are also a useful instrument; but it is not easy to do very much more than touch the very edge of the matter in an hour's talk. Films are much the same—they are a kind of illuminated lecture. As to exhibitions, I must confess that I am profoundly distrustful. They are perhaps the best way of establishing the idea that planning is necessary; but it really is time now that we had got beyond that point. The exhibition technique is the slogan technique: it is full of the dangers of false simplifications; it imparts a few vague generalities in place of solid information; it is practically incapable of dealing in argument; it is too cheap and easy in itself, and its results are cheap and half-baked. So it seems to me that in the end we come back to that old and basic institution for education, the school. It may be said that education through the school is a vague counsel of perfection in a desperate situation: a long-term policy in a time when immediate results are necessary. Well, the answer to that is clear: if education had been pursued during the last two decades, the situation would not now be so desperate. There are few things that make one more despair of human progress than the recurrent necessity to whip up interest in fundamental subjects by means of slogan drives and catchword appeals.

"I know that it will be said that there are a thousand claims to the exposition of

special subjects in the schools, and that the school curriculum is already badly overcrowded. But if it is argued that town and country planning is an activity which so profoundly and intimately affects the life of the community, and the individual lives of all members of the community, that it must be subject to a very special degree of democratic control, then some understanding of it is surely a fundamental part of all education in a democratic society. And, besides, I am not advancing any claim that it should be taught as a special subject. The idea that it is a special subject, a 'fancy' new-fangled subject, tacked on to the ordinary school curriculum, is the very idea that should be avoided at all costs. It is true that the possibility of planning our environment seems generally to be regarded as a revelation newly made to 20th century man. It is new in the sense that it is newly realized. But that it has ever been forgotten is in itself a serious criticism of our educational system and on the scale of values on which that system has been built. If history and geography had been reasonably well taught in the past, the possibility of man's conscious planning of his environment, and the inevitability of his adaptation of it in some form or other, would long ago have been part of the common stock of everyday knowledge. Every school child would have known it. Instead of which hardly anyone seems to realize it. To-day it comes as something of a surprise to even a fourth-year university student to whose special subject it is closely related, as anyone who has taught planning in a University School of Architecture knows. When children know, as they should know, that everywhere civilized man, for good or ill, must inevitably create, or at least adapt, his own environment for his own purposes in civilized living; when they know that simple fact as well as they know that Great Britain is an island, and that the Battle of Hastings was fought in 1066 and all that; when they know it as basic common everyday knowledge, then an understanding of the general principles of town and country planning is assured. An appreciation of some of the intricacies of planning, and of the quality of plans, will come later, though that, too, should come into the teaching of modern history and geography. But the basic idea should be part of elementary knowledge. Nothing special or precious or advanced: just one of the simple and fundamental facts of human life itself. Just to know that civilized man has been, is, and must continue to be, the creator and director of his own environment means that town and country planning is the most natural and sensible thing in the world.

"Well, there are my few simple reflections on the matters that I have set out to speak about. I cannot claim that there is anything in the least original in what I have said. But, then, originality is a quality which perhaps is not expected in a presidential address. Thank you again for the honour you have done me in electing me as your President. And thank you for coming to listen to me to-night."

RIBA

Release of Architects

The following statement on the release of architects and architectural assistants from the Forces has been issued by the RIBA.

"At a recent conference between representatives of the Ministry of Works, the Ministry of Labour and National Service, the Ministry of Health, the RIBA, the Architectural Association, and the Association of Building Technicians, the following information was given in relation to the

Government's new plans for the accelerated release of men and women serving in the Forces.

(a) The Government have agreed to increase the number of architectural assistants' releases under Class B in the period ending June, 1946, to a target figure of 3,500. These will be 'bloc' releases, i.e., the men will be identified from the Service Records of pre-enlistment occupation and will be selected for the offer of Class B in order of age and service.

(b) Men included in 'bloc' releases under Class 'B' will be required to undertake employment as assistants and will be directed to specific posts, although in practice they will usually be allowed to choose from two or three appointments carefully selected in relation to their previous training and experience.

(c) Employers, both public bodies and architects in private practice, who desire to employ assistants drawn from the 'bloc' release pool must apply to the Central (Technical and Scientific) Register of the Ministry of Labour and National Service stating their requirements.

(d) Architects on Service who wish to return to private practice and not take salaried appointments will not normally be included in the 'bloc' releases under Class 'B'. Those desiring to make individual applications for release to resume or take up private practice will be required to produce evidence that there is work awaiting them which falls within the definition laid down in the Government's White Paper, namely, housing or similar work of urgent national importance. Applications for release under this head must be submitted to the Ministry of Works, who may consult the professional institutions concerned and, if satisfied of the reasonableness of the application, will recommend the Ministry of Labour and National Service to grant release.

(e) The scheme does not at present apply to students who wish to return to full-time study at Schools of Architecture. A certain number of architectural students have been released under the recent scheme for the demobilisation of 3,000 art students at Universities in age and service groups 1 to 49 and the question of the release of other architectural students is at present under consideration.

(f) A man released under the 'bloc' scheme who is directed to a post can be dismissed by his employer subject to the approval of the National Service Officer and, subject to a similar approval, he would be free to leave the post to which he was directed and take another approved architectural appointment.

(g) In addition to the 'bloc' releases described above, employers may still apply for the release of individual employees serving in the Forces, but it must be realized that the numbers will be strictly limited.

(h) Individuals who are applied for by their previous employers are not bound to accept release in order to take up the employment offered, but may instead accept release under the 'bloc' release scheme if they are selected, or await their normal turn for release in Class 'A'.

(i) The improved conditions relating to demobilization under Class 'B' have been fully described in recent Government announcements. Briefly these are that men released in this class will receive their war gratuity, post-war credit and overseas service payment as soon as possible after release and they will be free from special control at the time when they would have been released if they had waited for their normal turn in Class 'A', subject to control for a minimum period of six months from the date of their release.

Note.—Individuals who are applied for by their previous employers are advised to agree matters of salary and other conditions of employment before accepting release under Class 'B'."

TWO AGES OF TIMBER



*By courtesy of
Victoria and Albert Museum*

THE TEST OF TIME

THE artistry of the craftsman and the beauty of fine wood have combined to give a Tudor room its undying charm. Fine wood is still to be had; and craftsmen, working with modern methods, can produce today's interpretation of such an interior.



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PRICES

BY DAVIS, BELFIELD AND EVEREST, CHARTERED QUANTITY SURVEYORS

BASIC MATERIALS	Increase over pre-war prices at end of									
	Jan., 1945	Feb., 1945	Mar., 1945	Apr., 1945	May, 1945	June, 1945	July, 1945	Aug., 1945	Sept., 1945	Oct., 1945
Portland cement	per cent. 41.46	per cent. 41.46	per cent. 56.10	per cent. 56.10	per cent. 56.10	per cent. 56.10	per cent. 56.10	per cent. 56.10	per cent. 56.10	per cent. 56.10
2-in. Unscreened ballast	108.70	108.70	108.70	108.70	108.7	108.7	108.7	114.49	114.49	114.49
Fletton bricks (at station)	34.59	34.59	34.59	34.59	34.59	34.59	34.59	34.59	36.22	36.22
Stoneware drainpipes (British standard 2 tons and over)	43.75	43.75	43.75	43.75	43.75	43.75	43.75	43.75	43.75	43.75
Roofing tiles	65	65	75.31	75.31	75.31	75.31	75.31	75.31	75.31	75.31
Steel joists (basis sections ex milia)	47.5	47.5	47.5	47.5	47.5	47.5	47.5	47.5	47.5	47.5
Lime greystone	43.53	43.53	43.53	43.53	43.53	37.65	37.65	37.65	37.65	37.65
Sheet lead	73.91	65.22	65.22	65.22	65.22	84.79	84.79	84.79	84.79	84.79
Iron rainwater goods and soil pipes	40.5	40.5	45.5	45.5	45.5	45.5	45.5	45.5	45.5	45.5
White lead paint	38.38	38.38	38.38	38.38	38.38	42.93	42.93	42.93	46.21	46.21
RATES OF WAGES (Central London Area)										
Labourers	31.75	34.92	34.92	34.92	34.92	34.92	39.68	39.68	39.68	39.68
Craftsmen	26.19	26.19	26.19	26.19	26.19	26.19	30.95	30.95	30.95	30.95

LABOUR—Rates of Wages since July 1, 1945

LONDON DISTRICT	Craftsmen	Labourers	N.B.—Prices of materials include for delivery to site in the Central London Area unless otherwise stated.
Within 12 miles radius	2s. 3½d.	1s. 10d.	
From 12-15 " " " "	2s. 3d.	1s. 9½d.	

GRADE CLASSIFICATIONS

	A	A ¹	A ²	A ³	B	B ¹	B ²
Craftsmen	2/2	2/1½	2/1	2/0½	2/0	1/11½	1/11
Labourers	1/9	1/8½	1/8	1/7½	1/7½	1/7	1/6½

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Enquiries should be addressed to

**The Building Uses Department, British Cast Iron Research Association,
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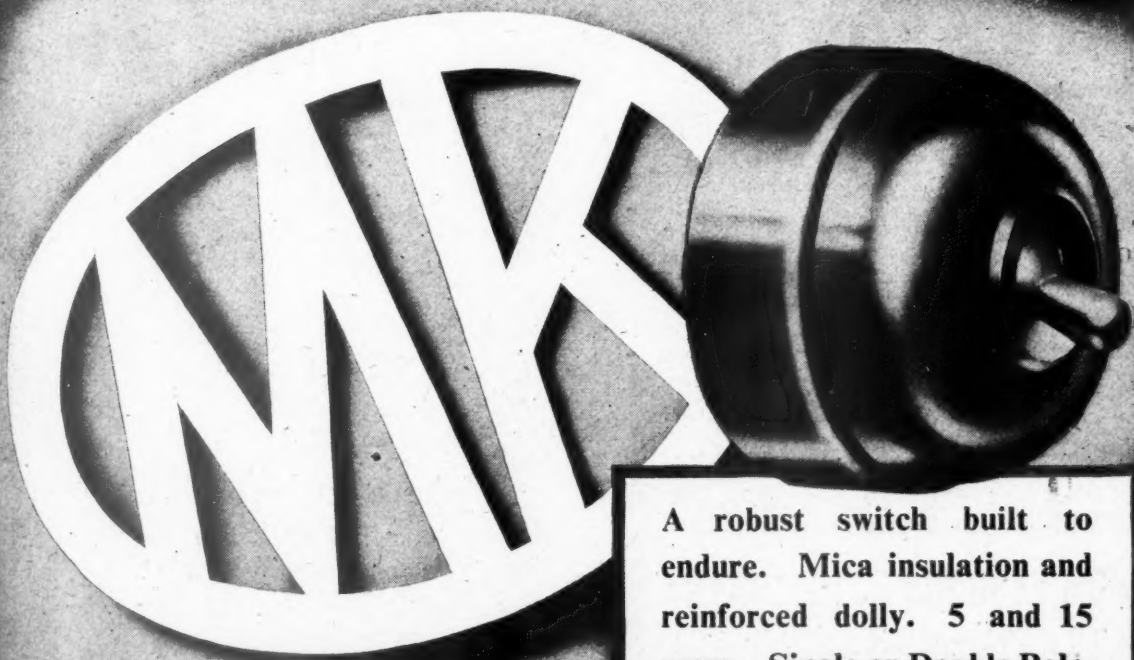


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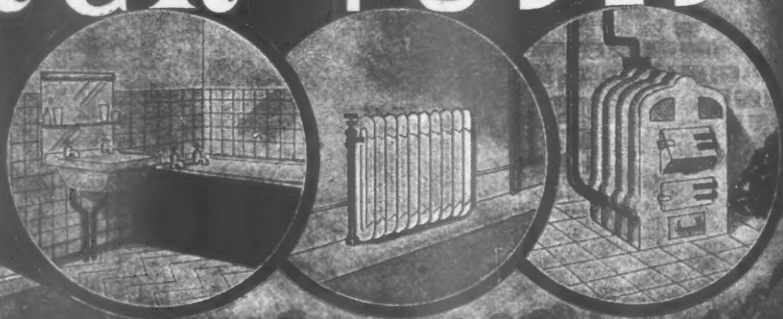
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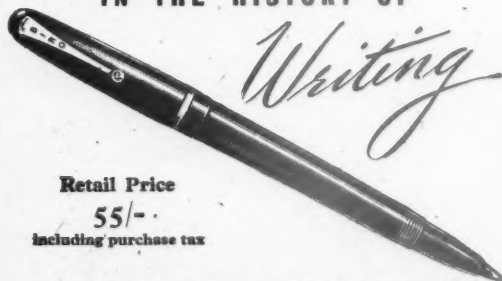
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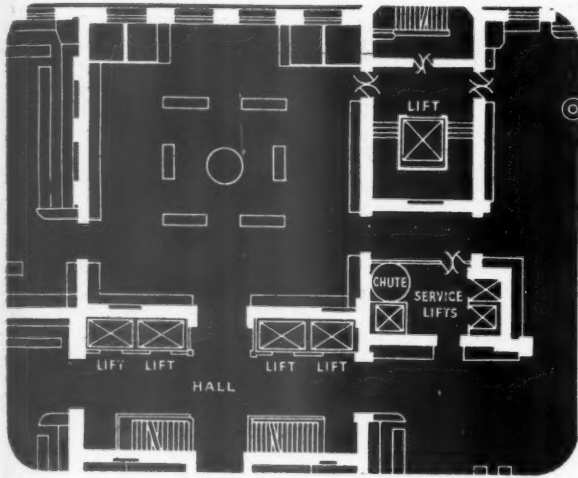
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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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 Friday 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.

Public and Official Announcements

Six lines or under, 8s.; each additional line, 1s. THE INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS AND SURVEYORS maintains a register of qualified architects and surveyors (including assistants) requiring posts and invites applications from public authorities and private practitioners having staff vacancies. ADDRESS: 75, HATON PLACE, LONDON, S.W.1. TEL.: SCham 5615. 991

COUNTY BOROUGH OF NEWPORT, MON.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY BOROUGH ARCHITECT.

Applications are invited from properly qualified Architects for the appointment, at a salary commencing at £650 per annum, and rising by annual increments of £50 and £100 to £900 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus of £59 16s.

The appointment, which will be held during the pleasure of the Council, will be subject to the appropriate Local Government Superannuation Act, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications, stating age, qualifications, and experience, and of present and previous appointments, together with two recent testimonials and the names and addresses of two responsible persons of standing to whom reference may be made, must be delivered to the undersigned, endorsed "Deputy Borough Architect," on or before Monday, 3rd December, 1945.

JOHNSON BLACKETT, F.R.I.B.A.,
Borough Architect.

Town Hall, Newport, Mon.
12th November, 1945. 892

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY ARCHITECT.

Applications are invited from Fellow or Associate Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects for the whole-time appointment of County Architect, at a salary of £1,400 per annum, rising by annual increments of £100 to £1,700 per annum, plus bonus, travelling, and subsistence allowances in accordance with the Council's scales for the time being in force. The appointment may be made at a commencing salary higher than the minimum of the scale should the qualifications, age, and capability of the successful applicant justify it.

The appointment will be terminable by three months' notice on either side, and will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and to a medical examination. Canvassing will disqualify.

Forms of application, together with particulars of duties and terms and conditions of appointment, may be obtained from the undersigned, to whom applications should be sent not later than the 31st December, 1945.

T. C. HAYWARD,

Clerk of the County Council.

County Hall, Chichester.

November, 1945. 891

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GREAT YARMOUTH.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (PERMANENT).

Applications are invited for the appointment of a General Architectural Assistant in the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department, at a salary in accordance with Grade C, commencing at £365 per annum, rising by annual increments of £16 to a maximum of £410 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus (at present £59 16s. per annum). Applicants must have had experience in design and construction, particularly in relation to housing, schools and public buildings, and should be Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects. The successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination, and must contribute to the Corporation's Superannuation Fund. Applications, stating age, qualifications and previous experience, together with copies of three testimonials, should be enclosed in an envelope endorsed "Architectural Assistant," and must reach the undersigned not later than 10th December, 1945.

Canvassing, directly or indirectly, will be deemed a disqualification, and candidates must disclose in writing whether to their knowledge they are related to any member of, or holder of, any senior office under the Council. A candidate who fails to do so will be disqualified, and, if appointed, will be liable to dismissal without notice.

FARRA CONWAY,

Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Great Yarmouth.

17th November, 1945. 901

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SWANSEA.

BOROUGH ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

QUANTITY SURVEYING ASSISTANTS.

Applications are invited for the appointment of Three Assistant Quantity Surveyors, at the following salaries:-

(a) One at £330 × £12 10s. annual increments to £360 per annum.

(b) One at £250 × £10 annual increments to £290 per annum.

(c) One at £210 × £10 annual increments to £240 per annum.

Plus cost-of-living war bonus, as determined by the Council (current rate 23s. per week).

Candidates for (a) and (b) must have passed the Intermediate Examination in Quantities of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution, and have been trained in a quantity surveyor's office.

The appointments will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Candidates must be under 45 years of age. The appointments may be terminated by one month's notice on either side.

Applications, stating age, training, qualifications, and details of experience, together with copies of three recent testimonials, to be delivered to the undersigned not later than 8th December, 1945.

Candidates must state clearly the position they desire to apply for, and must also endorse the envelope externally, "Assistant Quantity Surveyor."

Canvassing will disqualify.

(Sgd.) T. B. BOWEN,

Town Clerk.

Guildhall, Swansea.

14th November, 1945. 896

CITY OF WAKEFIELD.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS.

Applications are invited for the appointment of two Architectural Assistants in the City Engineer, Surveyor and Architect's Department, at a commencing salary of £400, rising by two annual increments of £25 to a maximum of £450 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum.

Candidates should preferably be Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and in the case of one appointment have had experience in the design and construction of schools and in general architectural work, and in the case of the other appointment have had experience in the design and construction of houses and flats and in general architectural work.

The appointments will be subject to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications, endorsed "Architectural Assistants," stating age, qualifications, present and previous appointments and experience, and accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, should reach the undersigned not later than Friday, 7th December, 1945.

W. S. DES FORGES,

Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Wakefield.

20th November, 1945. 912

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT.

APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING ASSISTANT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of a Planning Assistant in the County Planning Department of the County Council. Salary, according to experience, will be within Grade C of the Council's scale, which commences at £380 per annum, rising by annual increments of £15 to £435.

Applicants should have had a good general experience of all aspects of statutory planning, and particularly the control of interim development, the carrying out of basic surveys for planning purposes, and the preparation of statutory planning schemes; they should also be accurate and efficient surveyors.

Subject to suitable experience, preference will be given to candidates who have passed the final examination of the Town Planning Institute, and other professional qualifications, will be additional recommendation.

The post will be supernumerary, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination. He will also be required to provide a car for use in connection with his official duties, for which travelling expenses on the Council's scale will be allowed.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and details of experience, accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, should be forwarded to the County Planning Officer, County Hall, Oxford, not later than Saturday, 15th December, 1945.

F. G. SCOTT,

Clerk of the Council.

County Hall, Oxford.

November, 1945. 904

CITY OF GLOUCESTER.

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

Applications are invited for the post of Temporary Architectural Assistant in the City Architect's Department, at a salary in accordance with Scale "B" of the South-Western Provincial Council, commencing at £315 per annum, rising by annual increments of £15 to £360 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum.

Preference will be given to candidates who have passed the intermediate or final of the Associate R.I.B.A., examination, and experienced in school work.

Applications, stating age, qualifications, and experience, and accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, must be submitted to the undersigned not later than Thursday, the 6th December, 1945.

A. MORGAN, L.R.I.B.A.,

City Architect.

Suffolk House, Greyfriars, Gloucester. 906

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BIRKENHEAD.

Applications are invited for the following Temporary Appointments:-

(a) One SENIOR TOWN PLANNING ASSISTANT; salary £450 per annum, plus bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum.

(b) One TOWN PLANNING ASSISTANT; salary £375 per annum, plus bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum.

Candidates for the posts should be A.M.T.P.I. and must have had considerable experience in the preparation and administration of Town Planning Schemes.

The above posts are subject to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and the persons appointed will be required to contribute the appropriate percentage of their salaries to the Corporation's Superannuation Scheme.

The appointments will be subject to one month's notice on either side, and to the successful candidates passing a medical examination.

Applications, which must be made in accordance with particulars to be obtained from the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall, Birkenhead, to be sent with copies of three recent testimonials to the undersigned not later than the 10th December, 1945.

E. W. TAME,

Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Birkenhead.

15th November, 1945. 908

COUNTY OF WARWICK.

ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required immediately. Applicants should be members of the R.I.B.A. and be experienced in the design and layout of buildings. Experience in relation to School Buildings an advantage. Salary at the rate of £350 per annum, plus 10 per cent. plus cost of living bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum, and plus 64 per cent. per annum for temporary increase in office hours.

In accordance with the present policy of the Council, the appointment will be, for the moment, on a temporary basis.

Application, in applicant's handwriting, stating present employment, age, and experience, together with copies of not more than three testimonials, to be sent to C. H. Elkins, L.R.I.B.A., County Architect, Shire Hall, Warwick, on or before 11th December, 1945.

L. EDGAR STEPHENS,

Clerk of the Council.

Shire Hall, Warwick.

COUNTY OF WARWICK.

ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

CLERK OF WORKS required immediately. In accordance with the policy of the County Council, the appointment will, for the moment, be on a temporary basis. Salary at the rate of £312 per annum, plus 10 per cent. (£343 4s.), plus 6 per cent. for temporary increase in office hours, and plus cost of living bonus (at present £59 16s. per annum). Application, in applicant's own handwriting, giving full particulars as to age, experience, and present employment, and accompanied by copies of not more than three testimonials, be sent to C. H. Elkins, L.R.I.B.A., County Architect, Shire Hall, Warwick, on or before the 11th December, 1945.

L. EDGAR STEPHENS.

Clerk of the Council.

Shire Hall, Warwick. 914
EAST BARNET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the following permanent appointments:—

(a) A CHIEF ARCHITECTURAL AND TOWN PLANNING ASSISTANT, at a commencing salary of £465 per annum, rising by annual increments of £20 to a maximum of £505 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum. Applicants must have Architectural and/or Town Planning Certificate by examination, with previous experience in Local Authority work.

(b) A SENIOR ENGINEERING ASSISTANT, at a commencing salary of £405 per annum, rising by annual increments at £15 to a maximum of £450 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum. Applicants must have had considerable general experience of Municipal Engineering, and should be corporate members of the Institute of Civil Engineers or hold the Testamur of the Institute of Municipal and County Engineers.

(c) AN ENGINEERING ASSISTANT, at a commencing salary of £345 per annum, rising by annual increments of £15 per annum to a maximum of £390 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum. Applicants must have had good general experience of Municipal Engineering, and should be corporate members of the Institute of Civil Engineers or hold the Testamur of the Institute of Municipal and County Engineers.

The appointments will be subject to one month's notice on either side, and to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. Each of the successful applicants will be required to pass a medical examination.

Application, endorsed "Chief Architectural and Town Planning Assistant," "Senior Engineering Assistant," or "Engineering Assistant," as the case may be, stating age, qualifications, present and past employment, experience, and position in relation to National Service, and accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, must be delivered to the undersigned by not later than Friday, 14th December, 1945.

Canvassing, directly or indirectly, will be a disqualification, and applicants must disclose whether to their knowledge they are related to any member or senior officer of the Council.

This advertisement is published by permission of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, under the Control of Employment Order, 1945.

C. M. BARNES, M.Inst.M. & C.E.,

Engineer and Surveyor.

Town Hall, Station Road, New Barnet. 911
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the appointments of QUANTITY SURVEYORS, at salaries of £350 to £400 per annum, according to experience, plus cost-of-living bonus, which at present amounts to £59 16s. per annum.

The posts will be subject to the Local Government Superannuation Acts, 1937 and 1939, and will be terminable upon one month's notice on either side at any time. The successful candidates will be required to pass a medical examination. In accordance with the general decision of the County Council, all appointments made during the present emergency are of a temporary character in the first instance.

Forms of application may be obtained from the County Architect, Shire Hall, Nottingham.

K. TWEEDALE MEABY,

Clerk of the County Council.

Shire Hall, Nottingham. 925
16th November, 1945.

BOROUGH OF SOUTHALE.

BOROUGH ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the appointment (Temporary) of a JUNIOR ASSISTANT in the Architect's section of the above Department. Applicants should have had some previous experience in an architect's office, and the salary will be fixed in relation thereto.

Applications, stating age and experience to be addressed to the Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Southall, Middlesex. 920
22nd November, 1945.

COUNTY OF SOUTHAMPTON.

COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the following appointments:—

(a) ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS. Salary £390—£435. Candidates to be Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

(b) ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS. Salary £255—£315. Candidates to have passed the Intermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A.

(c) ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR. Salary £390—£435. Candidates to have qualification P.A.S.I.

(d) ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR. Salary £330—£375. Candidates to have passed the Intermediate Examination of the Surveyors' Institution.

The appointments will be pensionable, and successful applicants will be required to pass a medical examination.

Application, on form to be obtained from the County Architect, The Castle, Winchester, should reach the undersigned not later than Wednesday, the 12th December, 1945.

F. V. BARBER,

Clerk of the County Council.

The Castle, Winchester. 907
16th November, 1945.

IRLAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

Applications are invited for the temporary appointment of an Architectural Assistant in the Engineer and Surveyor's Department. Salary, £350 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus (at present £59 16s. per annum).

Candidates should have had a good general knowledge of the preparation of plans, specifications and quantities; experience of Local Authorities Housing Schemes; and the design of municipal buildings will be an advantage, and preference will be given to those holding a recognized architectural qualification.

The appointment will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Further particulars regarding the appointment may be obtained from Mr. Hendry Nurse, F.R.I.B.A., Engineer and Surveyor to the Council.

Applications, stating age, qualifications, and experience, and accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, should be endorsed "Architectural Assistant," and be received by the undersigned not later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 4th December, 1945.

Canvassing directly or indirectly will disqualify.

EDWIN JONES,

Clerk of the Council.

Council Offices, Irlam. 924
20th November, 1945.

Tenders

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

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GLOUCESTER.

HOUSING PROGRAMME.

ERECTION OF 24 HOUSES.

Tenders are invited for the building of the following houses on the sites mentioned, viz.:—

Brockworth	10 houses.
Longford	10 houses.
Eastington	2 houses.
Tirley	2 houses.

Contractors may tender for all or any of the above-mentioned sites.

Specifications, bill of quantities, drawings, forms of tender and conditions of contract may be obtained on application, in writing, to the Architect, Mr. C. D. Carus-Wilson, F.R.I.B.A., Hardwicke, Glos.

Applications must be accompanied by a deposit of £3 3s., which will be returned upon receipt of a bona fide tender, together with the whole of the documents mentioned above. Cheques are to be made payable to the Rural District Council of Gloucester.

Sealed tenders, on the forms and in the envelopes supplied, endorsed "Tender for Erection of Houses," must be delivered to the undersigned by 31st December, 1945.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender or tenders.

W. J. KNIGHT,

Clerk to the Council.

Berkeley Chambers, Gloucester. 923
21st November, 1945.

Partnership

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

A R.I.B.A. (38), just released from Forces, desires Partnership, or would accept salaried position with view to partnership; good general experience, including flats, industrial buildings, housing and town planning. Box 918.

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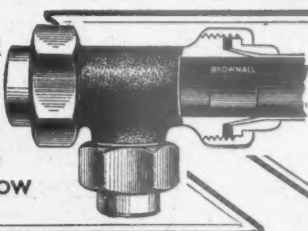
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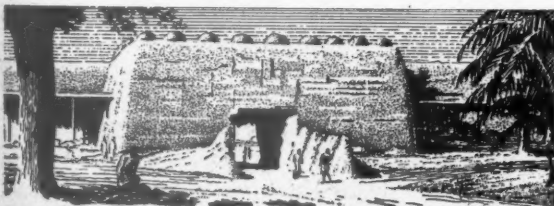
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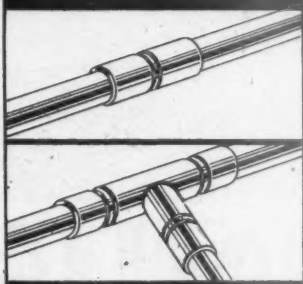
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