ARCHI



standard

contents

every issue does not necessarily contain all these contents, but they are the regular features which continually recur.

and COMMENT NEWS

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★ A glossary of abbreviations of Government Departments and Societies and Committees of all kinds, together with their full address and telephone numbers. The glossary is published in two parts—A to Ie one week, Ig to Z the next. In all cases where the town is not mentioned the word LONDON is implicit in the address.

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Sloane 3158/1604 IIBD

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NAMMC 94-98, Petty France, S.W.1. Abbey 1010 National Association of Shopfitters. 9, Victoria Street S.W.1.

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Kensington 8161

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Trafalgar 2366
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School Furniture Manufacturers' Association. 30, Cornhill, London, E.C.3. SCR SE

SFMA Mansion House 3921 Structural Insulation Association. 14, Moorgate, London, E.C.2. Society of Industrial Artists. 7, Woburn Square, W.C.1. Central 4444 Langham 1984 SIA

SIA Society of Industrial Artists. 7, Woburn Square, W.C.I.
SNHTPC Scottish National Housing. Town Planning Council.
Hon. Sec., Robert Pollock, Town Clerk, Rutherglen.
SPAB Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. 55, Great Ormond Street, W.C.I.
Holborn 2646

Holborn 2646 **TCPA** Town and Country Planning Association. 28, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.
Temple Bar 5006

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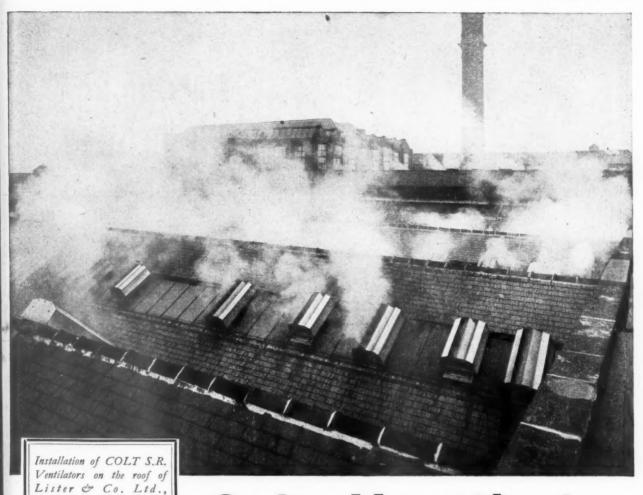
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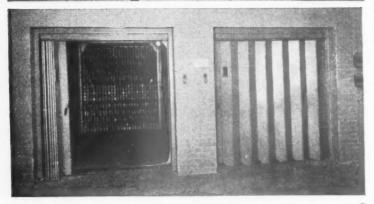
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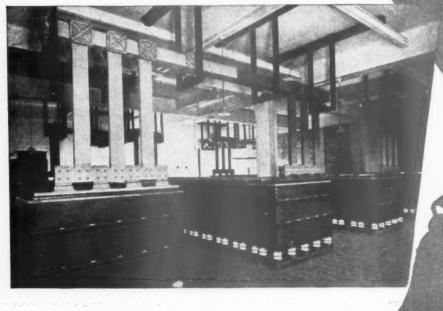
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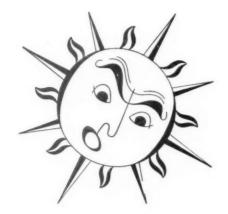
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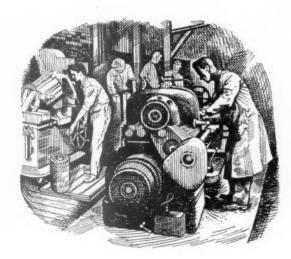
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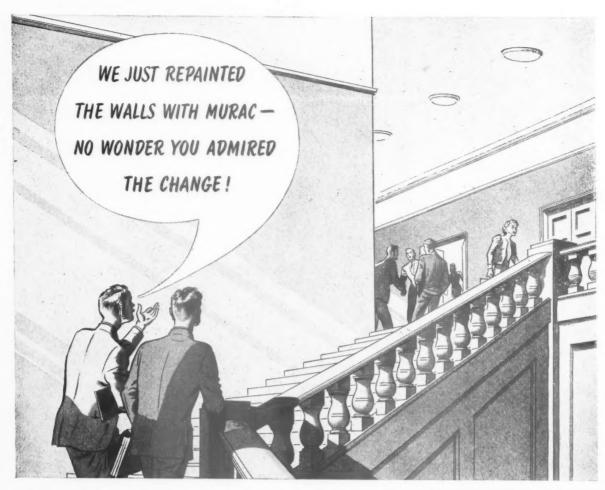
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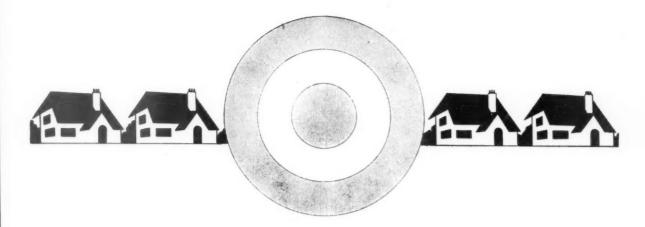
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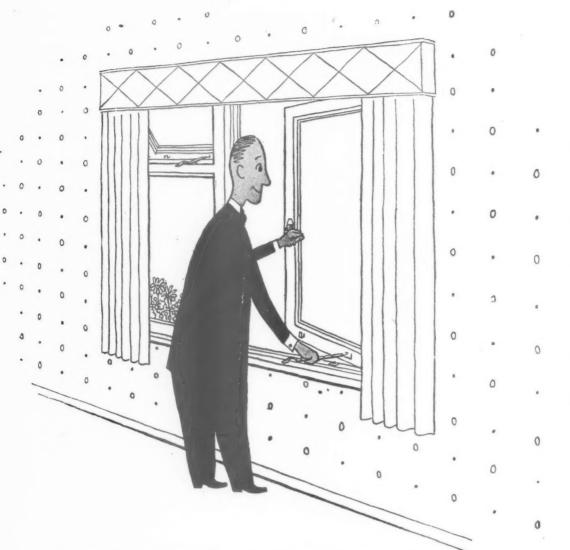
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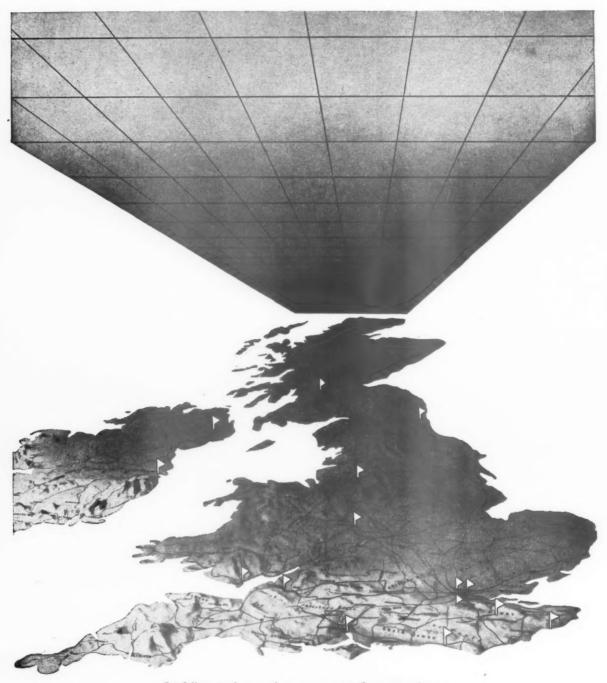
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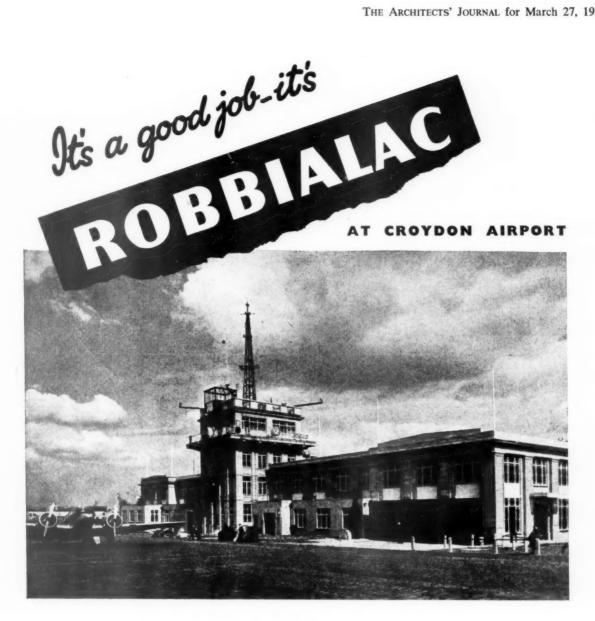
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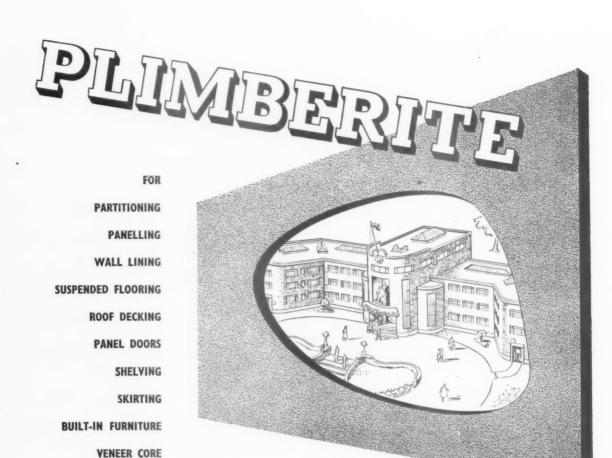
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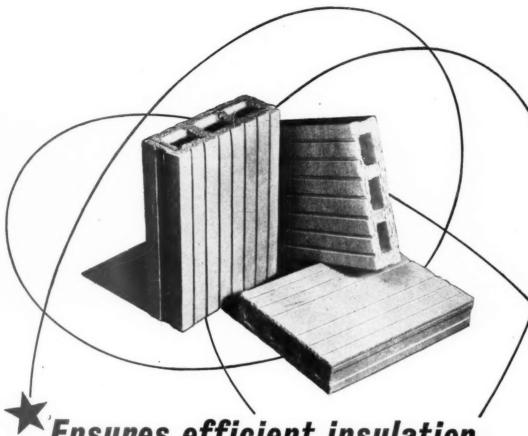
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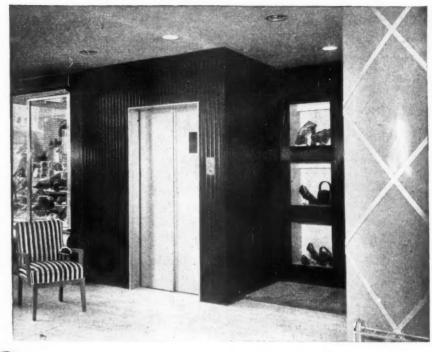
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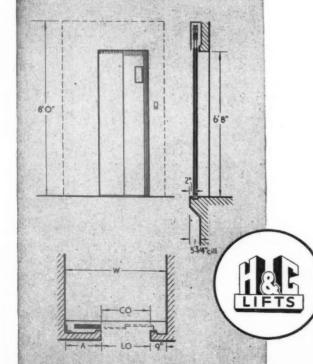


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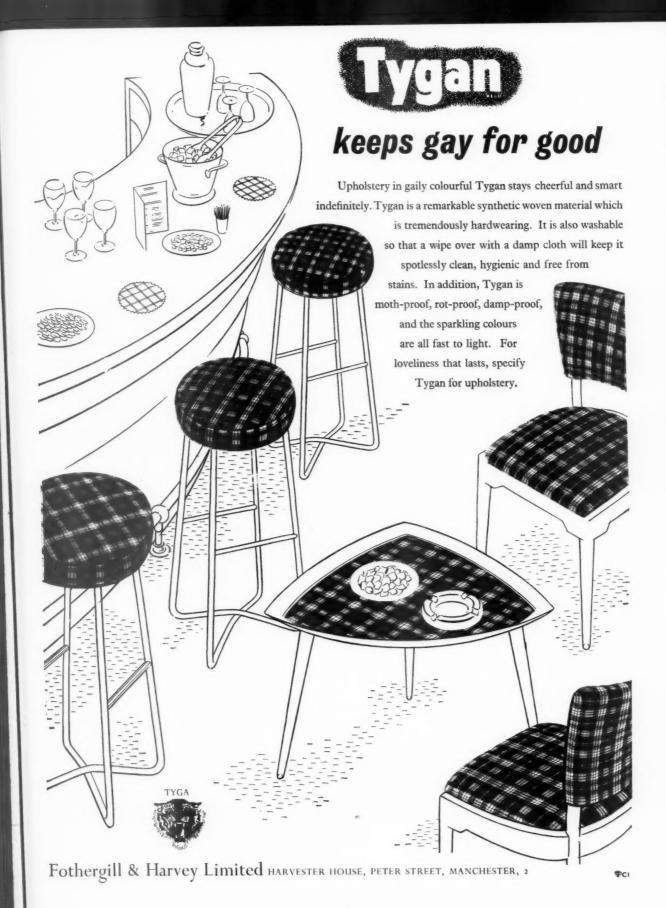
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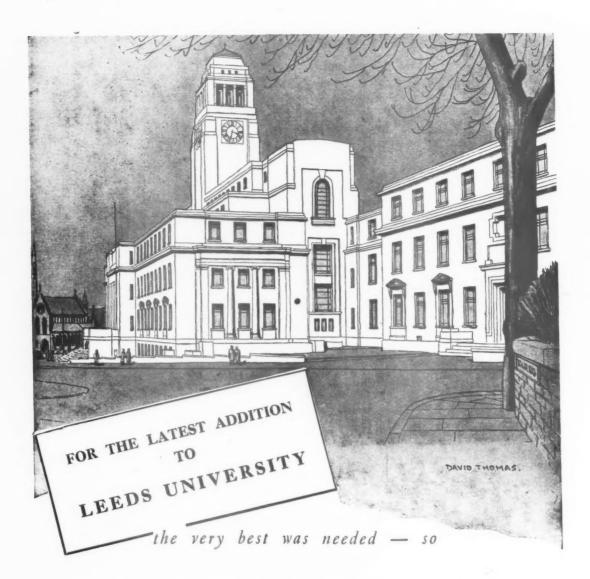
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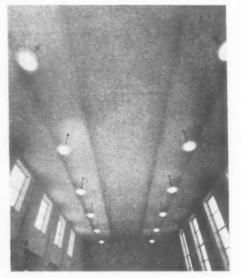
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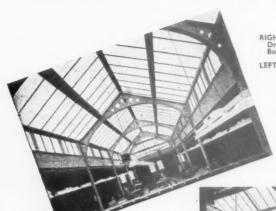
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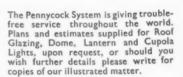
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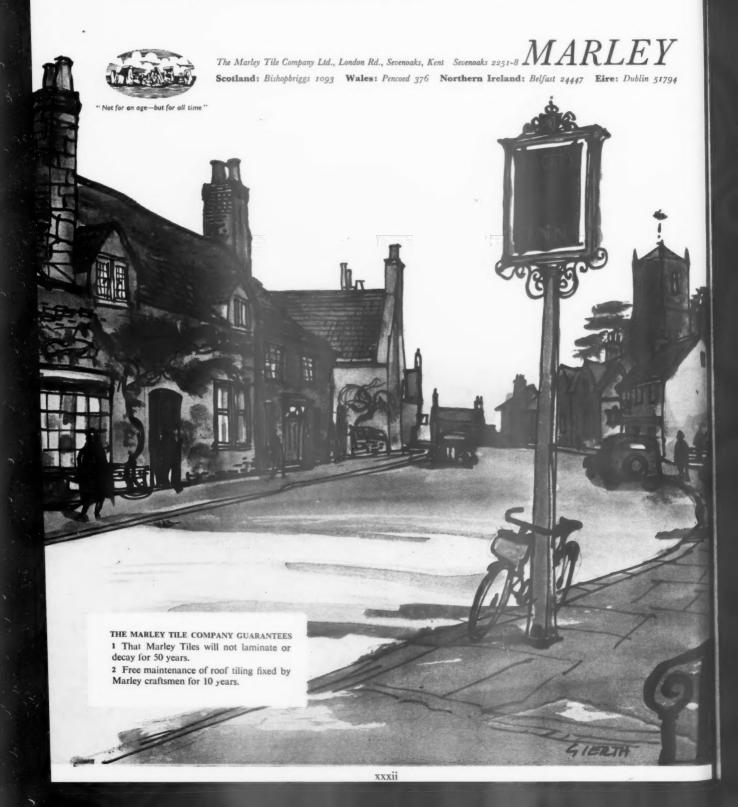


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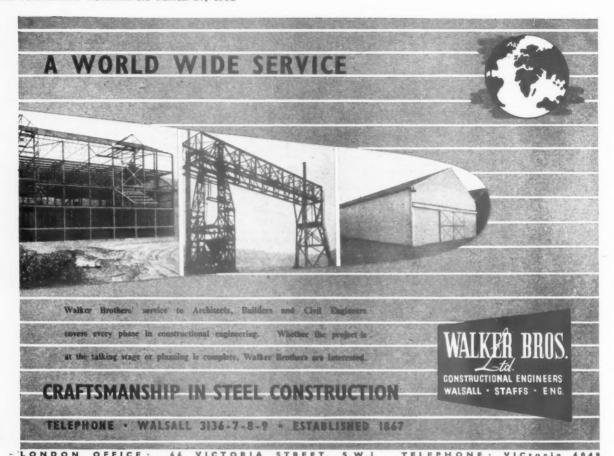
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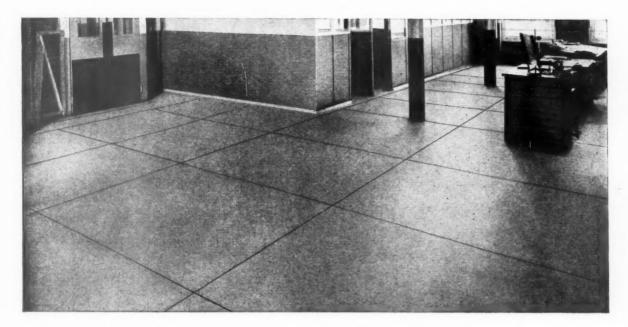
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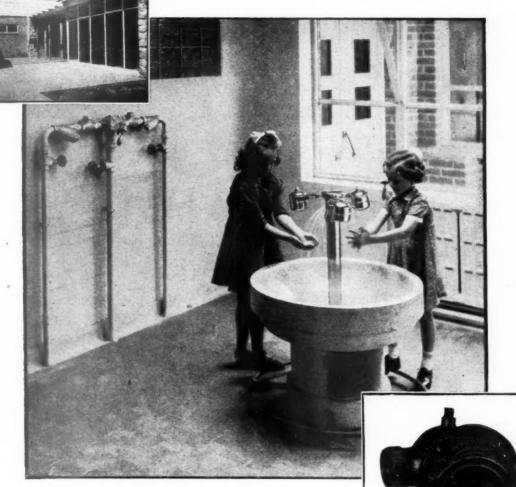
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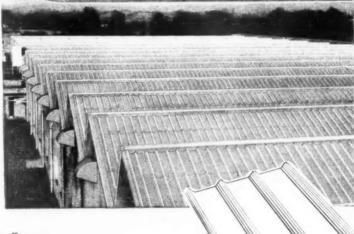
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No. 2978 MARCH 27, 1952 VOL 115



MANNERISM AND MANNERISMS

There can be very few aspects of life that are not affected by fashion. For the fourth time in a few weeks ASTRAGAL has heard of a friend laid up by a slipped disc in his spine. This ailment, most painful it is said, was only lately invented and is now prevalent. How people managed without it before is just one of those mysteries.

It might be said that the equivalent of the slipped disc in art and architecture is Mannerism—a phenomenon that we have heard a lot about since it was given a name. Here, too, we got along very well before we even knew it existed. The danger with an intriguing new conception like this is, of course, that, having come into fashion, it gets

applied so widely that it loses its real usefulness. That is what has impelled Eric Newton to write his new book* which sets out to prove that Tintoretto was not, as is often said, a mannerist.

Well, isn't he? Eric Newton's arguments are not wholly convincing. Tintoretto's painting represents a definite development away from the classical repose of the High Renaissance, but it is not yet Paroque. And mannerism is, by definition, a phase between the High Renaissance and the Baroque. Tintoretto, it is true, doesn't go in for those deliberate illogicalities that are associated with mannerism-the disc, that is to say, hasn't absolutely slipped -but these are special to mannerist architecture, as Anthony Blunt emphasized in his talk at the RIBA in February, 1949.

But it doesn't matter whether or not Eric Newton succeeds in converting the scholars, and rescuing Tintoretto from the mannerist pigeon-hole. The theme has given him an excuse for writing a brilliant book that will appeal to a great many besides the scholars. He is quite right in feeling that every now and then an artist, however well known, needs reassessment in the light of the changing vision and interests of a new generation. His appreciations of Tintoretto's paintings are masterly; a book to take to Venice with you and keep you rooted there for weeks.

Incidentally, the book has an appendix in which Stella Mary Pearce plays a most delightful new parlour game: exactly dating Tintoretto paintings by the clothes the figures are wearing,

after detailed and exhaustive research into the day by day changes of fashion that took place in renaissance Italy. It is surprising no one has attempted a similar investigation before.

MARSHALL AID AND MAJOR ASH

You may have noted the remark made in the Upper House about the skyscraper hotel which, with the approval of the Marylebone Council, is to be built on the vacant site at the north-west corner of Portman Square-a good site. I can say little about the project architecturally except that the architect is Major Ash and that it isn't to have all the earlier Ash traits.

The whole affair is rather a mystery. Civilian Marshall Aid has always been indirect or discreetly veiled in this country, and imported buildings-apart from Swedish houses—a novelty. analogy is, of course, the Milan block designed by Studio BBPR, but with its steelwork prefabricated in the US. As Ernesto Rogers will be here this week for the Italian Exhibition at the RIBA, I shall certainly ask him how this particular madness of the currency underworld is managed. If one hotel, why not six? If six hotels, why not six theatres? There is no end to the vistas opened up.

CHAMP DE MARS

Rogers will return to Italy by way of Paris to perform an important task as a member of the "jury" for the UNESCO building. If, to a simple mind like mine, the currency underworld is mad, then the political intrigue that is necessary in order to arrive at a design

* Tintoretto, by Eric Newton. Longmans, Green and Co., 1952. Price, 50s,



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for an international building is nothing more or less than a matted jungle. I forget how the Peace Palace at the Mayne came into being-not that anyone could ever forget the design-but the League of Nations Building at Geneva was the result of a competition, though not of the award! The UNO building had nominally fourteen architects and at least two claimants!

Now comes UNESCO. Beaudouin had been proclaimed architect. Why on earth couldn't the poor man have been left alone to get on with it? All the stars had to be brought in somehow. Howard Robertson and Saarinen are to be consultants. Designs produced with their advice will then be considered by a "jury" consisting of Rogers, Costa, Gropius, Corb, Old Uncle Tom CIAM and all. But Beaudouin, please note, is still the architect, whatever that may mean. It is, of course, the old, old game of trying to please everyone a little, and thus pleasing noone very

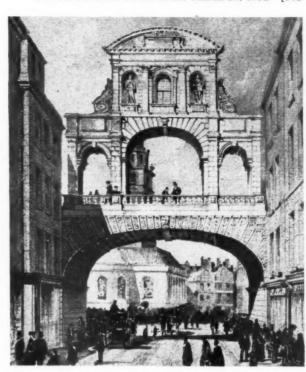
HULL'S DELIGHT

The students of Hull are to be congratulated on having staged a " question forum" on the new Ravenseft Building and, more important still, on getting their forum a four-column wide headline and an illustration in a local paper. The Ravenseft Building is, I take it, a shop. It is also Egypto-Doric. Lieutenant-Colonel Alec-Smith rather liked it and Mr. Vincent Galloway, Director of the Ferens Art Gallery and member of the Georgian Society, did too. The general conclusion of the forum was that "there is no such thing as a modern building in Hull." How true; but then Hull isn't unique; but then Hull wouldn't like to be.

LANTERN LECTURE

Spare a guinea, if you can, for the restoration of the octagonal lantern at Ely, whose timbers have been ravaged by death watch beetle. The surveyor's report makes astonishing reading, if only for the dimensions of the eight vertical angle posts, each of oak 63 ft. by (hold your hat on) 3 ft. 4 in. by 2 ft. 8 in. (In case you're interested, a double page opening of the Times is 3 ft. by 2 ft.) It is hard to imagine that there can be any larger oak timbers any-

This method of dealing with Temple Bar-an attempt to reconcile conflicting opinion that it was ugly, that it was an obstruction to traffic and that it should be bulled down was submitted to the RIBA by a Mr. Ernest Turner in 1869 and is now in the Institute's library. Astragal comments below.



where in the world. And it is something of a mystery that the 14th century builders managed to plumb them nearly 100 ft. above ground level.

JAMB YESTERDAY . . .

The illustration on this page again brings up the question of what to do with Temple Bar-the kind of question that is guaranteed to run for a week in any respectable newspaper's correspondence column, but one which I'm getting tired of. This idea of Mr. Turner's does, however, suggest the possibility of a competition for a design for a 'busthe upper deck to go through the upper arch, the lower deck through the lower

Historically I may be underestimating Temple Bar; on the day of the Duke of Wellington's funeral the crowd was such that Karl Marx and his two little daughters were almost crushed to death against the jamb of the central opening. And if you're thinking what I'm thinking, no more need be said.

. . . AND EVEN JAM TODAY

Tucked away at the tail end of the Budget speech, and so far scarcely noticed, is a reduction in stamp duty on conveyances for houses. It doesn't come into force until August, but it will be down to 1 per cent. (halved) on houses up to £3,000 and 1½ per cent.

from these up to £3,400. A comparatively small concession, but one which architects should know about. Another point is that we shall, presumably, have a rise in building industry wage rates, and also, presumably, in all other industries where wage earnings are linked to the cost of living index. Odd, isn't it, that the index takes no account of the income tax rate, which is, after all, the major influence on spending.

PUBLIC LINEN-WASHING

Fear, as we all know, is the most compelling of motives in all our activities, whether it is Air Supremacy we are after or just membership of the After-Shave club. Throughout our lives we are haunted by it-fear of our parent's hats on Speech Day, of the Yellow Peril, or shabby carpets, by Coco-Colonization or lack of personal daintiness, or whatever it may be.

But it would be wrong, I think, to suggest that these fears are but the creation of politicians week-ending in their constituencies and the ad. men in their silk-shirted and chandeliered conference rooms. For most of us, in fact, it begins in the nursery. How many of you, I wonder, remember the threat, which was always handed out to me with the Sunday pair of clean pants. "Suppose," it used to run, "you met

River Access or Traffic Axis?

This one surviving stretch of Chelsea's old river front is in danger of being sadly changed. A scheme for re-building the river wall (see page 390) envisages the extension of the wall for 171 feet over the foreshore. The scheme has been approved in principle by the Chelsea borough council, though it has met with much opposition from residents in the area as well as from the Chelsea Society, which has prepared an alternative plan (also published on page 390). If the council's £210,000 scheme is carried out more traffic will be attracted to the riverside, and the

little harbour, with its score of house boats, will be no more. No amount of provision of open spaces in the new scheme will compensate for such a loss of amenity in a unique, picturesque part of London that is known the world over. All who have a hatred for needless destruction will wait with anxiety to hear if Chelsea's council is prepared to ignore public opinion, modern planning principles (which certainly do not recommend the running of traffic arteries through recreation areas) and the obvious absurdity of spending so much money at the present time

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with an accident and were taken to hospital in grubby underclothes"! The obvious flaw in the argument—that the victim of an accident is always picked up covered with dust and blood anyway—was never perceived. The threat was unanswerable, the clean pants therefore unquestioned. But strangely enough this hypothetical accident has always remained faintly at the back of my mind ever since, and I was reminded of its presence last week when travelling to the country with a colleague.

He was an architect, who had reached what I can only call the New-Yorker-Story stage of life, i.e., fortyish, married, two children, Liberal, balding, reasonably well read, though liable at literary parties to confuse F. L. Green with Henry Green (or even Henry Reed), and wearing, presumably, clean underwear. "Suppose," I said, as the train rocked violently over the points, "you were actually in a train accident in a few minutes; how would you make out in the casualty ward-or for that matter on the slab?" A quick check-over and all seemed well. "But how," I pursued, " about what the police call 'the deceased's effects '?" He had to admit that this week-end case contained, besides a sponge bag, a gruesomely complete nurse's uniform for a child of five, bonnet, apron, wrap, stiff cuffs and all -not to mention a horrid little box of safety pins, bandages, etc. Here, then, were all the makings of a misunderstanding-if not more. Picture, if you can, the puzzled coroner's jury trying to discover what had happened to the midget nurse, who was presumably the weekend companion of the dead architect. Imagine, if you dare, the strange perversions which could be hinted at should no trace of the tiny victim be found.

Shaken and irresolute, the architect got out of the train at Winchester, wondering, I suspect, whether next time it wouldn't be safer to pack a small explanatory note in the case. And the moral? There is none—we all carry something difficult to explain away—a yellow newspaper cutting perhaps, or the pocket-smoothed insignia of some schoolboy society; and my advice is, keep right on carrying it (and wear clean pants, of course).

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ASTRAGAL

POINTS FROM THIS ISSUE

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The Editors

THE FUTURE OF DEVELOPMENT CHARGE

TS the present Government likely to abandon development charge and the compensation fund? In fifteen months' time it has to decide whether or not to amend the financial provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act. Under this Act the Treasury is obliged to produce, in July, 1953, a scheme for the allocation of the £300 m. compensation (This, as will be remembered, was set up to meet the losses of all whose development value in land had come to an end on July 1, 1948, when the Act came into force). According to Harold Macmillan, the Minister of Housing, the Government has not yet made up its mind what to do about the development charge and the compensation fund. The longer the Government takes to decide its policy, the less likely it is that the whole financial scheme will be abandoned. The owners of land with valid claims—the Central Land Board expects these claims to be between £345 and £350 must be feeling hopeful. What was once a forlorn hope is now much more of a vested interest. And if the compensation fund remains, so, too, it seems, will the development charge. But need the development charge retain its present form, which our Legal Editor describes on page 301? There are arguments now-and they may become more violent-that a 100 per cent. development charge, even if morally defensible, is socially bad in that it destroys initiative and enterprise, the spark in the engine of social improvement. But there are also arguments that the machinery needed to assess and collect the development charge under the existing regulations is not worth its cost. In three years the Central Land Board has collected (or set off against admitted claims) some £9 million in development charges. Nobody outside the civil service can estimate accurately the cost of assessing and collecting this f_{3} million a year, but it may well be that the cost is somewhere near 50 per cent. of the proceeds. However right in theory the impost may be, is there really any justification for a scheme of revenue collection which, from the aspect of net receipts, is so inefficient? Surely a more simple plan could be devised. If assessments for development charge were based on any increase in rateable value resulting from the development, all that the authors of the 1947 Act sought in their strivings for a perfection of social justice would be achieved.



Neil Martin-Kaye, F.R,I,B,A,

Donald Boyd Chief Assistant, BBC Talks

R. G. Hollis

Salaries of Local Authority Architects

SIR,—The letter signed by Messrs. Duncan Brown and Jack (AJ: March 13) does not, in my opinion, do full justice to the RIBA. To compare the RIBA with the BMA is to make a false analogy for the latter does not concern itself, so far as I am aware, with the academic standards and requirements of the medical profession.

A much truer comparison could be made between the BMA and one of the other architectural bodies; the Institute of Registered Architects for instance. This body is constituted to serve the architectural profession as the BMA does the medical. It is not at present an examining wody, is open to all registered persons and is primarily concerned with the day-to-day, bread-and-butter problems which confront the archi-tect seeking to make a livelihood from his profession.

In the province of maintenance and safe-guarding of the high academic standards for and within the profession—and all matters incidental thereto—the RIBA stands supreme, its prestige and dignity beyond dispute. If it appears less successful in dispute. If it appears less successiul in other spheres, may it not be because, in them, it is operating at variance with its basic and essential function which most of its members would prefer to see remain sacrosanct?

sacrosanct?

The Institute of Registered Architects by its constitution, is concerned solely with the practical affairs of professional life and work; it is not in conflict with, but is complementary to, the RIBA in whose natural field it does not presume to trespass.

I write as a member of both bodies.

NEIL MARTIN-KAYE.

London.

Pastry Cookery Aesthetics

SIR,-Does even ASTRAGAL, most humane of critics, become just a little high-toned when writing about criticism? He will only when a "final judgment" is attempted.

When a housewife says a sink is in the
wrong place and must be moved I dare say that is a final judgment; it may be a valid comment certainly. Why shouldn't we talk about the insides of any buildings whose uses we understand? Most of us spend the greater part of our lives actually in build-

ings, and should have a great deal more sense about their insides than we probably

sense about their insides than we probably have about the æsthetics of the outside. If ASTRAGAL says we mustn't talk about the insides we shall be driven back to the æsthetics of pastry cookery, from which he helped to convert us (along with W. R. Lethaby of course). That will not only be backsliding, it will also be insufficient. A building may be wholesome inside and still wear a nasty face. To judge it by its face alone would, I say, be unfair to the profession of architecture. It would most certainly be unfair to the architects. tainly be unfair to the architects.

DONALD BOYD.

Transport and Street Congestion

SIR.—I would appreciate the opportunity of replying to Mr. Sisley's rather frivolous and scornful comment upon my suggestions concerning the above subject, in his letter in the AJ on February 28.

I do not in any way discount the veracity of the unqualified facts as he gives them; ob-viously the ground coverage of sixty-one cars greatly exceeds that of one bus, but I cars greatly exceeds that of one bus, but I do declare that it is just as foolish for Mr. Sisley to frighten himself by his so narrow interpretation of the idea, as it would be for him to become panic stricken by the equally truthful and similarly bald statement that the multiplication of insects in this country is of such proportions as to enable these insects to eat us literally out of existence within a year. existence within a year,

Of course, there are difficulties—since when has anything worthwhile been achieved without them? On the other hand, to enlarge them out of their proper proportion by misleading and over-simplified state-ments is to achieve nothing but a grossly deformed perspective, prejudicial to imagi-native and constructive thought.

The underlying principle of the idea of substituting the highly concentrated "omniforms of transport for more individual means, is that of dispersal or, more simply, the process of spreading load. This principle has proved itself of great practical value and significance in connection with many present day problems, and I think it is especially noteworthy that no less than £20 million have been saved this winter alone, as compared with the losses of the previous winter, solely due to the application of this fundamental to the notorious power shortage.

It may be said, in fact, that wherever

loss or damage may occur through excessive concentrations of forces or the overloading of limited facilities or resources, dispersal of such concentrations is as logical and beneficial, as it is eventually inevitable.

R. G. HOLLIS.

London.

DIARY

London: The Next Twenty Years. Exhibition explaining the 1951 County of London Plan. At County Hall, Westminster. (Sponsor: LCC.) 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. (except Sundays). Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. UNTIL MARCH 28

Modern Swedish Architecture. At the Building Centre, Store Street, Tottenham Court Road. (Sponsors: Swedish Society of Architects and the Swedish Institute.) 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays: 9.30 a.m. to UNTIL MARCH 29

Architectural Teachers' Conference. At RIBA, 66, Portland Place, W.1. 10.30 a.m. to 4.45 p.m. MARCH 29

Exhibition of Italian Contemporary Archi-Exhibition of Italian Contemporary Architecture. At 66, Portland Place, W.1. (Sponsor RIBA.) Closed from April 11 to 15 inclusive. Mondays to Fridays: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. UNTIL APRIL 30

Living in Flats. Discussion led by Henry Brooke. At 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.I. (Sponsor: HC.) 1 p.m. APRIL 1

Can the Standard Method of Measurement be Improved? Discussion to be opened by P. T. Walters, A. Prichard and E. S. Chalkley. At 12, Great George Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor, Publish of the RICS.) 6 p.m. APRIL 16

Survey and Plan for Woolwich Town Centre. Discussion led by Arthur Ling. At 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor: HC.) 6 p.m. APRIL 22 6 p.m.

CORBUSIER DESIGNS FLATS FOR HAMBURG



With an astonishing lack of publicity this and similar blocks of flats designed by Corbusier have been built in Hamburg. The block includes flats for single people as well as for families, children's playrooms, roof gardens and a covered shopping arcade with restaurants for residents.

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COLLEGE FOR LEEDS

F. R. S. Yorke, E. Rosenberg and C. S. Mardall designed this college building for Leeds in collaboration with R. A. H. Livett, the City Architect. The scheme, which comprises departments of technology, art, commerce and housecraft, has been designed with one concourse from which all common facilities, except the gymnasia and swimming pool, can be used. The greater part of the buildings will be constructed in reinforced concrete. If finances permit the large areas of wall without windows and the perimeter buildings will be clad in Portland stone slabs and certain lower walls forming the base and retaining walls will be of random York stone walling. There will be small areas of coloured glazed tiles and of rendering in colour.





LMBA

Past Chairman revives Tendering Custom

For some years the LMBA has been urging that builders' tenders should be opened in the presence of the firms submitting them. This pre-war custom was revived recently by the Holborn borough council. Its revival has been brought about by the chairman of

the council's housing and planning committee, W. E. Mullen, a former mayor of Holborn and a past chairman of the LMBA's Central Area No. 3.

Tenders had been invited from eight firms for a substantial contract for the Holborn borough council, and on March 12 representatives of the firms tendering were invited.

sentatives of the firms tendering were invited to be present when the tenders were opened.

NFBTE

" Experiments in Freedom Wanted" says President

J. Ian Robertson, president of the NFBTE, recently told a meeting of the LMBA council that he congratulated the Minister of Works that he congratulated the Minister of Works on his courage in removing price controls from a number of building materials. For far too long, he said, there had been experiments with controls. What we wanted now were more experiments in freedom and he hoped that the action taken by Mr. Eccles would soon be followed by a move to test the effect on the rate of house building of doing away with licences for houses built for sale or letting privately, at any rate for houses below a certain size. At the same time the definition of need should be widened the definition of need should be widened because in most cases the building of a new house released accommodation all the way down the line and so enabled several families to improve their living conditions. The speaker said he was confident not only that action on these lines would speed up

the rate of housebuilding but that, owing to the limited spending power of would-be owner-occupiers, the dislocation of the building programme which some of the planners thought would result from the starting of too many new houses if controls were lifted would not, in his opinion, materialize.

ABT

Resolution on School Cuts

The ABT has issued a statement expressing its concern about the "dangerous economies in the education service proposed by this present Government."

It is particularly perturbed at the fact that these economies will: (a) result not in a decrease (which is long overdue) in class sizes, a large proportion of which are already sizes, a large proportion of which are already 45 or over in primary schools, but in an increase in the number of classes of 50 or more; (b) involve the loss of nearly a complete year's programme of new school building at a time when new school places are urgently needed; (c) still further restrict the development of many branches of technical and further education in which this country is already falling behind and upon which its future in the world depends.

The above resolution was passed by delegates representing architects, surveyors, civil engineers, town planners, and clerks of works in all parts of the country at the Annual General Meeting of the ABT held recently. It goes on to say:—

It goes on to say:—
"Furthermore the meeting is of the opinion

that the threatened continuation of the present cost limits in a period of rapidly rising costs must, if it is maintained, result in a serious fall in building or planning standards, or both.

"Finally, this meeting points out that the achievement of even the revised programmes now to be authorized is entirely dependent on an adequate supply of building labour and materials, particularly steel, lack of which is bringing the civil building programme nearly to a standstill. This meeting, therefore, calls upon the Government to recognize the fundamental importance of education to the wealth and well being of this country and to withdraw the cuts now proposed and increase the amount spent on education to compensate for increased costs."

The meeting also passed a resolution "protesting strongly at the cuts in housing standards announced by the Government"; it also fully endorsed the action and recent statement of its executive committee on the same subject which had been sent to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

MOW

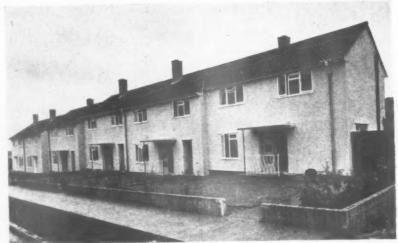
Minister Speaks on Controls

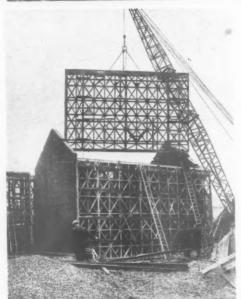
"People are beginning to ask whether the licensing system could now be removed," said David Eccles, Minister of Works, when he spoke recently at a dinner of the Wiltshire Federation of Building Trade Employees, at Chippenham. "It is always right," he said, "to re-examine this question because men so easily become accustomed to controls and after a time forget what freedom was like. Indeed the whole system of building licensing does more than slow up work; it puts temptations in our way and has strained human nature; it means that the Ministry has to employ building policemen in the form of licensing officers and inspectors. In short, while licences may be essential for Government policy, they are without doubt bad for the citizen's character. It is therefore a good thing constantly to study the possibilities of easing or removing these controls."

"I think you will want to know whether a Conservative Government is acting differently and on sounder principles than the Socialists. Take first, building on Government account; here we have a temporary demand from the defence programme—it is a large volume of work but we must do it. I would tell you this: that we found great opportunities to make economies in the work for defence which the Socialists had put down on paper as essential. Mr. Churchill brought out his famous comb and removed the extravagant and unnecessary frills in this programme. But in spite of this much essential work remains to be done for the Armed Services, and on civil account we must press on with power stations, building for coal and steel, factories and of course homes for the people. Our plan is therefore a stiff budget and increases in the interest rate to reduce some of the demands from private building owners. You will get a benefit from the high rate of money which I know is a matter of great concern to the building industry. It will, though it makes things more expensive and difficult, bring nearer the time when I can remove licensing.

"Our plan is to keep building on Government account to a figure which we know the industry can do and, as it were, to transfer housing into the sector which does not have a fixed ceiling and is not therefore kept down by Government controls. When we have done what the Government must get done on military and civil work, then the amount of houses that you build will depend on the resources that you find available and the use you make of them. This is really a challenge to the power of the industry to expand."

EIGHT "NO FINES" CONCRETE





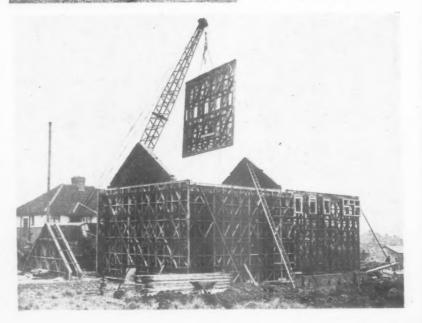
Eight demonstration houses at Eastcote, Middlesex, constructed by George Wimpey & Co. Ltd. by their "no fines" system, were opened on March 7 by the Minister of Housing and Local Government-less than two months after they were started. Six of the houses form a terrace and are based on MOHLG designs F1 and F2. (Plans on opposite page.) The other two houses are semi-detached. Shuttering for the "no fines" concrete (seen left and below)

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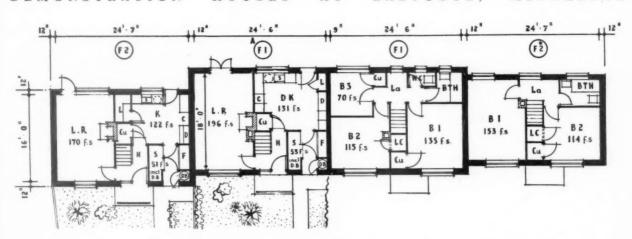
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DEMONSTRATION HOUSES

AT EASTCOTE,

MIDDLESEX



is full house height and consists of timber framing faced with metal mesh. External walls are 12 in. thick, the concrete being poured from a hopper at eaves level. The hopper is filled by crane. By this method a pair of houses can be poured in a day and the shuttering moved on to the next pair the following day. The roof is erected next so that tradesmen can work under cover. Built in lots of 100 or more, these houses would cost (in Eastcote): £1,320 for the 2-bedroom end house, £1,350 for the 3-bedroom intermediate house and £1,330 for the 3-bedroom semi-detached house. The furnishing of the demonstration houses, seen right and below, was carried out by Druce & Co. Ltd. See page 403 for the Technical Editor's comments on " no fines" concrete construction.

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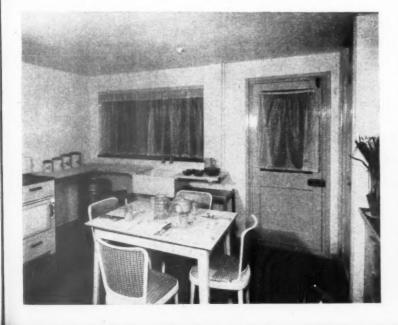
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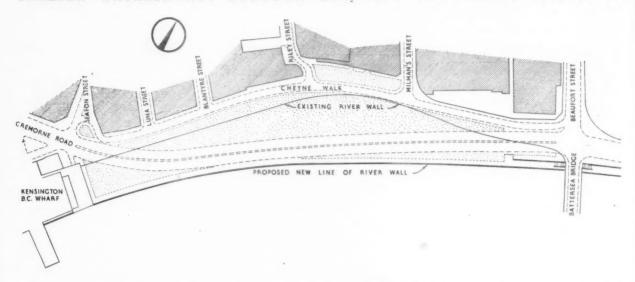
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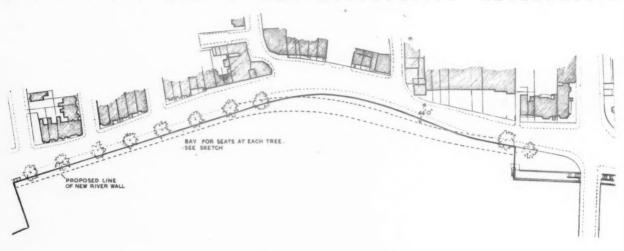




CHELSEA WATERFRONT: BOROUGH COUNCIL'S RE-BUILDING SCHEME ...



AND A NON-DESTRUCTIVE ALTERNATIVE











The scheme (top) to rebuild the riverside embankment at Cheyne Walk has been approved in principle by Chelsea BC. The alternative scheme (left and below), prepared for the Chelsea Society by James Ellis shows that the necessary rebuilding of the river wall can be carried out, together with road widening, without destroying the charm of this bay (picture, page 384). Extreme left: top and bottom, end of embankment west of Battersea Bridge as existing and as replanned with link to new wall. Left: top, section showing maximum height of new embankment above road; bottom, one of seat bays.



Now that private building is being encouraged many architects will be wondering how much money they will have to allow for development charge when preparing a budget for a group of houses. The author of this article tells how rough assessment can be made.

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Development Charges

There must be times, now, when the thoughts of every architect in private practice turn idly to the moment when a client will say: "I've a mind to build a dozen houses, for sale. What can we do it for?" It is no longer impossible. Not every local authority is determined to prevent the building of any house which saves the communty the cost of a subsidy. The Droitwich Council, to name but one, believes in encouraging private building and has been given permission to buy land which it intends to sell to people who wish to build their own houses. So, when the moment has come and when the first sketches are on the pad, the pencil must move on to a budget. One of the headings in that budget will be Development Charge. What should one allow for that?

There are, of course, a number of building operations which escape the development charge. It may not be necessary to obtain planning permission in the first place. The new building may be a replacement of a former one and of the same cubic content, plus the permitted tolerances. The operation may be specially exempt from development charge liability, as, for instance, fencing or agricultural building. The land may be dead-ripe and the owner hold the necessary certificate. But, let us assume that a client owns five acres of unbuilt-on land, on which no house ever stood before; that the land has a reasonable main road frontage, and that the services can be made available without too much difficulty. What is his position over the development charge?

First, let us make sure we know what

the development charge is. It arises only when planning permission is given; it is the element of additional value given to the land covered by the fact that the permission is now a reality, no longer a hope. To quote the words of Section 70 of the 1947 Act, the Central Land Board must determine "the amount by which the value of the land with the benefit of planning permission . . . exceeds the value it would have without the benefit of such permission." The crucial word is "value" and the valuation of land is an art, not a science. It is not entirely a matter of arithmetical calcu-

"CONSENT" AND "REFUSAL" VALUES

What is the "value" this section seems to contemplate? In effect, the building owner has to find two values, which, in Central Land Board parlance, are called the "consent" value and the "refusal" value, meaning the value with the permission and the value without the permission. But the use of the word "refusal" is misleading. It must be obvious that the value of land for which permission to develop has been given is likely to be greater than the value of that land when the question of permission is still open. But the Board is not entitled to start its initial valuation for development charge purposes on the assumption that permission has been refused. That would produce an unjustifiably low figure. The first value might better be called the "absence of consent "value and the later the "with consent" value. If they differ, and the "with consent" value is the higher, the gap between them is, roughly, the development charge figure. In our hypothetical case the "with consent" value is likely to be the higher.

A useful definition of the meaning of the word "value" comes from a In the words of the Scottish case. Scottish judge, "value," unadorned and unqualified, means exchangeable value, "the price which the subject will bring when exposed to the test of competition." That may be amplified by a quotation from a Privy Council decision, given by the Land Board itself in its Practice Notes (Para. 37): "The (computation) must be determined by reference to the price which a willing vendor might reasonably expect to get from a willing purchaser. . . . Neither must be considered as acting under compulsion." For development charge purposes this willing vendor is deemed to be selling a piece of freehold land with possession. He is willing to let it go to any purchaser who will pay what he regards as the market price. he cannot get that price, then, by assumption, he is content to keep the land and whatever benefit he gets from it under its existing use.

Equally, the purchaser is free from

compulsion. True, he is interested. He has obtained planning permission for his chosen scheme of development. But, while the grant of the permission binds the person to whom it is given to carry out the work in the one way when he starts, it does not compel him to make a start. If the price of the land is too high, he may decide that his expectation of benefit has become too remote and drop the project.

That is the theory and it must be stated in that way because it must be applied to each actual case on the merits and circumstances of that case. For the purposes of valuation, each parcel of land is unique. It may have similarities to other land. It is bound to have differences, if only in its map reference (which affects its accessibility, if nothing else). In short, there are not, nor can there be, any set of tables giving the development charges for the Counties of X, Y or Z. The only possible test is that of the "exchangeability" of the land, the market value, and that inevitably lets in a whole range of factors, from the Government's monetary policy to the state of the Korean war, that have no

direct connection with land at all. But, it may be argued, the District Valuers who assess the development charge are at this moment engaged on valuations for alleged losses of de-velopment rights. Surely the two sets of valuations could be married? Our imaginary client may have bought the five acres of land before 1948, when the 1947 Act came into operation. In that case he has probably lodged a claim for compensation from the Fund for the rights he lost on July 1, 1948. If he bought the land since then, he was probably told what the claim was when his purchase went through and he may well have taken an assignment of the former owner's rights on the Fund. He may well be able to say what the District Valuer thinks the lost development rights are worth.

PRESENT DAY VALUES

It is true that this figure may provide a clue to the development charge, but it can do no more, for these reasons. The development value calculations must be made on the basis of the land, and its attendant circumstances, as they were on the date fixed by the Act for the assessment, January 7, 1947. Then, the prospects for private development were remote, certainly more remote than now. During the five years since then there may have been development in the area of this land, which will inevitably (in the opinion of the District Valuer, that is) have advanced the chance of development for your client's land. It is that which the District Valuer must assess in fixing the development charge. the situation as it stands today.

Yet it must also be remembered that the District Valuer, the antagonist over

assessments, will be well armed with figures. In his official capacity, he receives (a) details of all sales and purchases of land in his district (these come to him because this information must be given to the Inland Revenue when conveyances of land are stamped); (b) details of all land passing on death, for he is required to advise the Inland Revenue on the value of the property for death duty purposes; (c) details of all holdings and occupancies, under the 1948 Act provisions for the new rating assessments and (d) details of all the claims for loss of development rights, for he is the valuer to the Central Land Board in that. Further, he will be aware that, while his determinations of values for loss of development rights are subject to appeal to the Land Tribunals, there is no appeal to any independent tribunal in respect of his determination of the development charge.

ROUGH ASSESSMENT OF DE-VELOPMENT CHARGE

All these seem to lead back to the centre of the maze. Is there no way in which an architect, not primarily a valuer, can arrive even at an approximate figure for the development charge entry in his draft list of costs? There are ways, provided they are accepted as no more than rule-of-thumb methods.

First, there is a comparison of the totals of development charge levied during the year with the total of those cases where an assessment was made, based on the annual reports of the Central Land Board. In 1949, the Board collected £2,084,616 from 16,511 cases, an average of £126 per case. In 1950, the figures were £3,159,492 and 14,992, but, so the Board said, two exceptional cases produced more than £250,000 between Making an adjustment, therefore, the 1950 average was £193 per case. That is one guide. A guide to the range of "absence of consent" values can be found in the reports of the cases coming before the Land Tribunals, mainly cases of dispute over compensation on compulsory purchase or the assessment of development rights. The following come from reports over the second half of last year: - " Arable land at Oakley, Beds (described as good market land in the Ouse valley), £150 per acre. Agricultural land at Haltwhistle, Northumberland, £40 per acre. Pasture land at Chew Magna, Somerset, £165 per acre. Site of war-demolished houses in suburban Middlesex, £15 per foot frontage, £7 10s. per foot for adjoining land suitable for garden space.

A well-tried method of valuation is the residual method, which has the advantage, from the non-professional point of view, of starting from the assumed value of the land when the development is complete. From this estimated figure, deductions are made for the total cost of the development, fees, loss of interest

PROPOSED SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOL

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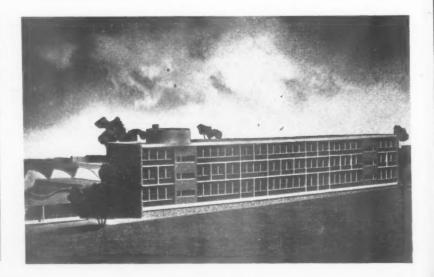
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The four-form entry secondary modern school illustrated on this and the following two pages has been designed by Gollins, Melvin and Partners in association with W. G. Davies, the City Architect of Sheffield. The site, which is approximately square, lies on high ground to the south and some two miles from the centre of the city and is developed at present as a playing field area. The siting of the school near the East Bank Road ensures an uninterrupted outlook to the south over its own playing fields and a reasonably short approach road. The south aspect of the main teaching rooms allows a wide view over the surrounding country. In planning the school the architects had to make provision for adequate modern workshops, a dining room which could be divided into three classrooms, a changing room centrally placed for the gymnasium and assembly hall, both of which will be used for gymnastics, a library planned en suite with the division room and one large classroom, a science laboratory, also adjoining one of the larger classrooms, and art and craft rooms planned adjacent to a workroom. In order to ensure that the cost will be within the MOE ceiling figure a closely knit plan with minimum circulation space was chosen and all the classrooms, together with the laboratory, library and art and craft rooms will be in a three-storey block served by two staircases. There is no corridor on the first floor as access to



AT HURLFIELD, SHEFFIELD BY GOLLINS, MELVIN AND PARTNERS

the practical rooms can be gained direct from the staircases. All teaching rooms will have cross ventilation and cross lighting, either by clerestory or top-lights. It will be possible to increase the seating capacity of the large assembly hall at ground floor level by adding the area of the main entrance hall and corridor on the north, and at first floor

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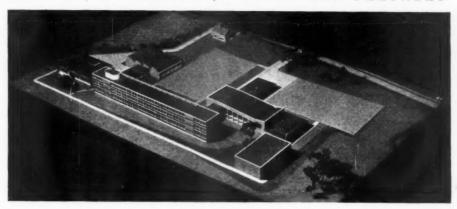
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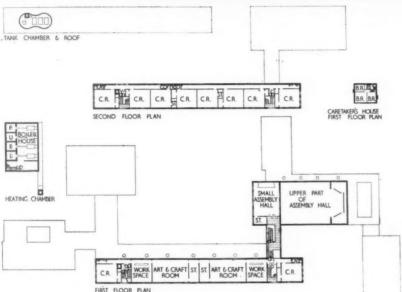
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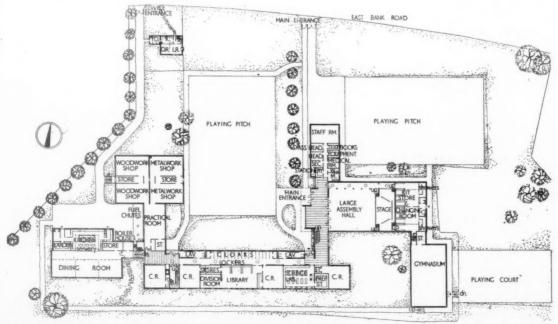
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level by using the small hall as a gallery. The wood and metal workshops, which are planned as a light factory structure, share the same service yard as the kitchen and boiler house, as they will also require approach by vehicles. It was required that the school should be designed in a traditional form of construction and the facing material is, therefore, generally brick and the large and small assembly halls, entrance hall and three-storey teaching block will have a steel

Upper floors and basement plans

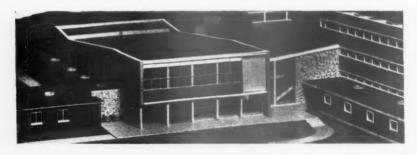


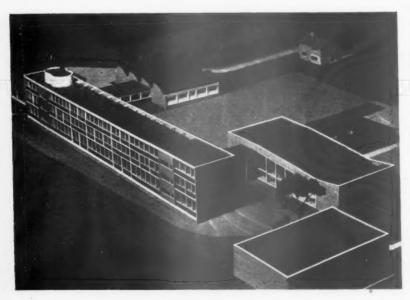
Ground floor plan [Scale: 46" = 1'0"]

PROPOSED SCHOOL AT SHEFFIELD (continued)



framework of standard sections. The photographs of the model show a view from the south-east (top) and the classroom wing looking north-east (bottom) on page 392, a view looking north-west on page 393, a night view looking north-east, above, a close-up of the assembly hall and main entrance, below, and another view looking north-west, bottom, with the main teaching block on the left.





and an allowance for risk and profit. The resulting figure, when compared with the "absence of consent" value of the land, gives an approximation of what the development charge should be. It has the advantage that it is directed to obtain the very figure that the development charge is intended to represent, which is the residual value accruing to the land after the cost, and profit, arising from the development operations themselves, the building, are eliminated.

METHOD OF DEVELOPMENT

Naturally, something will depend on the method by which the architect and his client plan to develop the site. It is obvious that permission to build ten houses to an acre of land will attract a higher development charge than would permission for no more than two to the acre. As a rule, the Central Land Board (according to its Practice Notes, para. 65) does not take the size of the projected garden into account when assessing the development charge on the building operations themselves. Where only two houses to the acre are being built, it would be possible to argue that a part of each "curtilage" remained agricultural land and therefore not changed in use.

Development charge can be thought of as a net figure, having a relationship to the balance remaining after the cost of the whole operation plus the original value of the land when undeveloped is deducted from the value of the completed project. While the cost of site operations needed for two houses to the acre might not be very high, the cost of those operations for a five-house project on that land might be almost as much as those required for a ten-house project. As the cost of the works per house rises, so the development charge per house tends to fall, and, in any case, the charge would be borne by each of ten houses, not by each of five. Subject to this consideration, in general the development charge will be related to a product of the number of individual house plots, not to the total acreage involved.

If you are content with a rough guess at the development charge likely to be levied on each plot of land in a normal suburban housing project (say, of 50-ft. frontage and 200-ft. depth) take the average figures from the Central Land Board's reports, strike a mean between 1949 and 1950 (to allow for the probability that there was a greater weighting of industrial development in 1950). which gives a starting figure of £160. Add £10 for a possible improvement in market values for building land generally on the prospect of greater freedom for private house building, and another £5 to cover contingencies and to make some allowance for the depreciation in the value of money. The result is £175, which at least provides a figure for the first pencilled budget. Th aw

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SCHOOL PRIMARY

at WELWYN GARDEN CITY, HERTFORDSHIRE

County Architect, C. H. ASLIN

Deputy County Architects, W. E. TATTON BROWN and G. C. FARDELL Architect-in-charge, A. W. C. BARR Principal Assistant Architect, J. T. REDPATH.

The Templewood junior mixed and infants' school in Pentley Park, Welwyn Garden City has just been awarded the bronze medal of the Essex, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Society of Architects as the best building in these counties to be completed during the period 1949-1951. This one-form entry school (to accommodate 200 juniors and 120 infants), a typical example of work designed in 1949, is to be followed next week by an illustrated article showing the latest developments in the planning and construction of primary schools in Hertfordshire.

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Looking north at the junior teaching wing.





SITE.—The site has a steep fall towards the north. About one-third of it consisted of woods, mainly birch and hornbeam. The school is sited along the contours, with kitchen, dining room and boiler house at a lower level. Infants' classrooms are in the woods, facing south-east. Junior classrooms face south-west but have south-east corner windows. All important rooms are away from the road and

the most has been made of views of the woods. The junior hard play-pitch is placed against existing woods, above eye-level from the school, with distant views to the north over the school. The infants' play areas are in clearings between birch trees. The exact location of the school was determined by two large oaks and a fir which have been retained within a few feet of the building.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

at WELWYN GARDEN CITY,
HERTS
County Architect, C. H. ASLIN

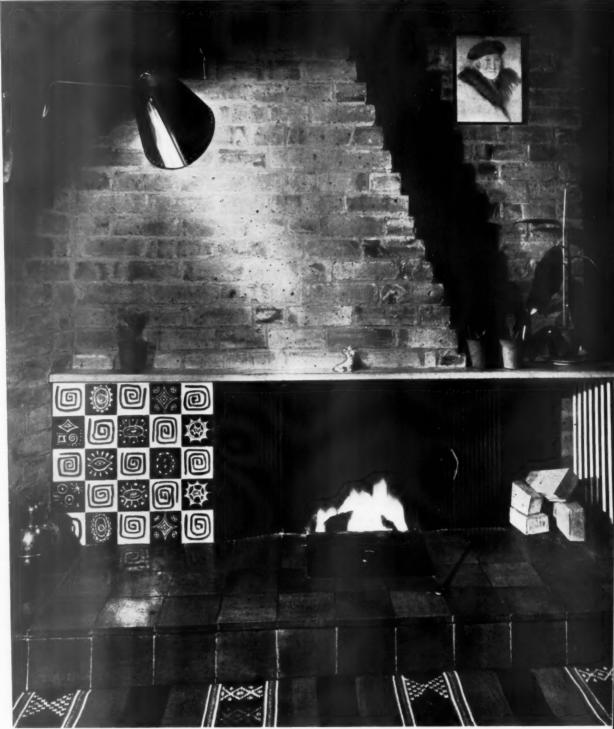


Above, infants' classrooms and assembly hall behind, with dining room on the right. Right, junior classrooms seen from the assembly hall, looking to the north.

WORKING DETAIL

FIREPLACE: HOUSE AT WELWYN GARDEN CITY

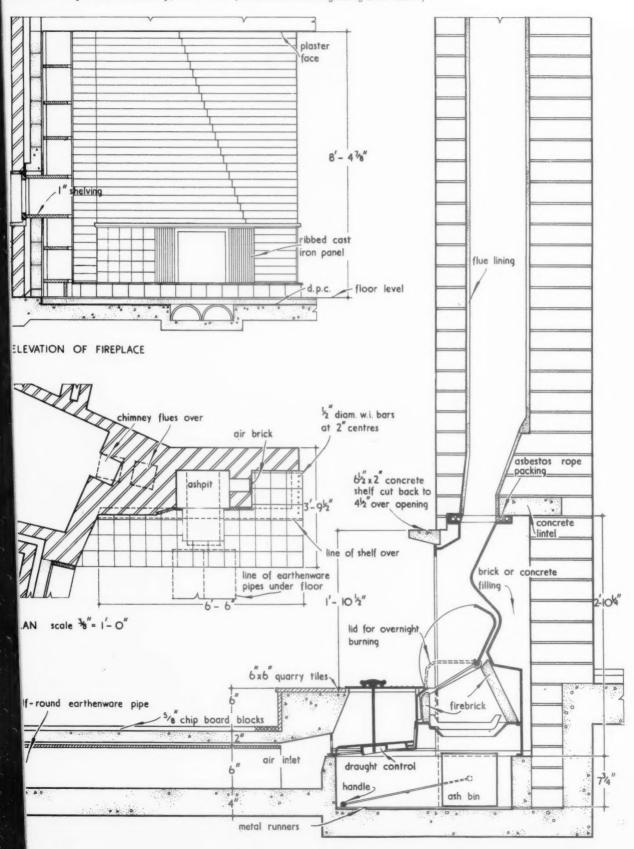
Architects' Cc-operative Partnership, architects. (Decorative tiles designed by Fred Mille')



In addition to radiant heat the fire provides heat by convection, the hot air passing into the living room through an air brick under the mantelshelf.

FIREPLACE: HOUSE AT WELWYN GARDEN CITY

Architects' Co-operative Partnership, architects. (Decorative tiles designed by Fred Millet)



WORKING DETAIL

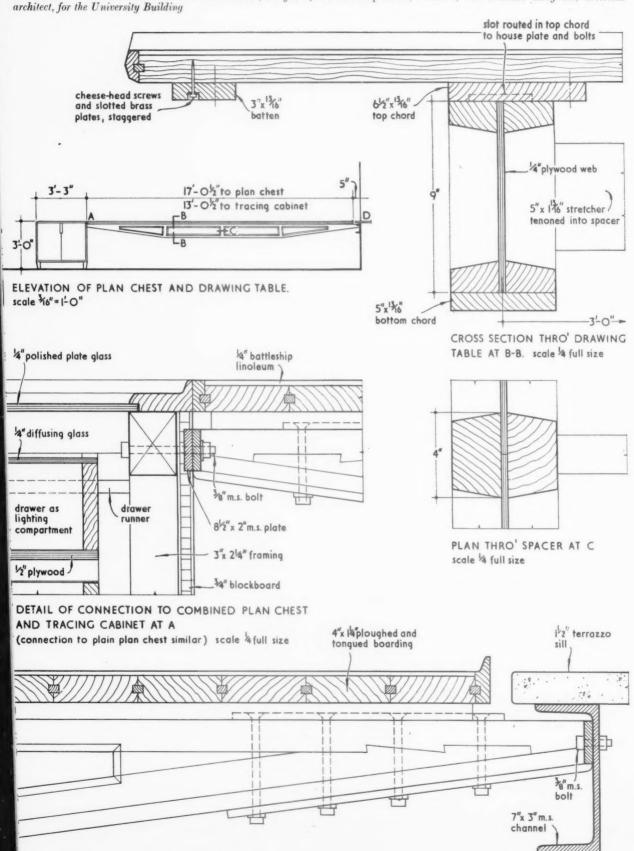
DRAWING TABLES: DEPARTMENT OF CIVIC DESIGN, UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL R. D. Russell in collaboration with John Broadbent, designers; Gordon Stephenson, architect, and Norman Kingham, assistant architect, for the University Building



have been designed to carry a load of 70 lb./sq. ft.

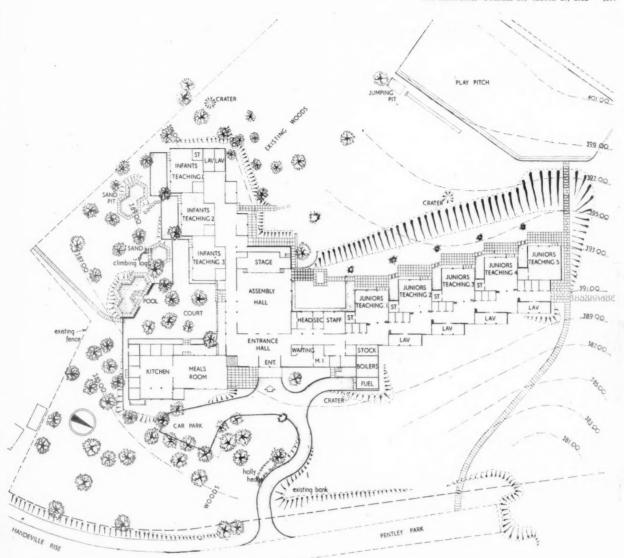
DRAWING TABLES: DEPARTMENT OF CIVIC DESIGN, UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

R. D. Russell in collaboration with John Broadbent, designers; Gordon Stephenson, architect, and Norman Kingham, assistant architect, for the University Building

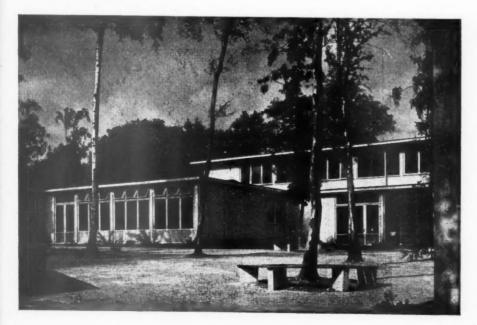






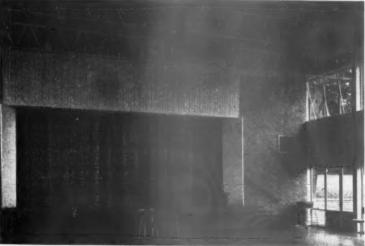


Site and ground floor plan [Scale: 10]



Left, infants' play court and classroom 3 with the assembly hall behind.





high with clerestory windows on three sides and have exposed wood-wool ceilings to reduce sound reverberation. Infant classrooms are only 8 ft. high with top lights in the recessed back area.

CONSTRUCTION.—Light galvanized steel frame with only three sizes of columns and four sizes of beams, on 3-ft. 3-in. two-way grid. Pre-cast concrete vertical wall cladding with *in situ* wood-wool wall-linings and partitions pre-cast concrete roof slabs, with vermiculite screed and bituminous felt covering. Thermoplastic tiled floor on screed on 4½-in. site slab.

FINISHES .- In situ plaster on wood-wool partitions, fibrous plaster casings to stanchions and beams (where not exposed). Ceilings: fibre-board up to 8 ft. 4 in. level, wood-wool in higher rooms. Ceilings distempered, walls painted. Walls of strong primary colours (eggshell glaze) have been used throughout the building, contrasting with the predominant white walls, white ceilings and neutral floors Columns and beams, grey (gloss); windows, white. Contrary to previous Hertford practice strong colours have also been used in some classrooms (on the sliding partitions, up to door head level) in order to provide the strongest visual link between these rooms and their associated "extension-space," the cross-walls of which are painted in the same colours. (These five classrooms are respectively yellow, red,

PRIMARY SCHOOL

at WELWYN GARDEN CITY, HERTS
County Architect, C. H. ASLIN

PLAN.-The entrance hall forms a focal link between assembly hall, dining room and waiting space (used as library). This was the first Hertford school to use the corridor for teaching purposes. The corridor serving the junior wing is planned, as a series of "extension-spaces" (containing sinks, work benches, etc.) to the classrooms, which are divided from these spaces by folding and sliding partitions. Further sets of sliding partitions subdivide the corridor laterally. The Headmaster says that this idea works well in practice, and that it is not difficult to arrange time-tables so that there is no cross-traffic down the corridor during periods when the "extension-spaces" are in use (in spite of the fact that the hall itself is used for every period every day of the week). Junior classrooms are 12 ft.

Top left, mural (showing scenes from the life of St. Nicholas) on the north wall of the dining hall. Above, left, the assembly hall stage. Below, cloaks and classroom extension space in the junior wing.



Abov junios assen entra mura beyon

Above right, south-west corner window of junior classroom 3, looking towards the assembly hall. Below, view from the entrance hall, showing the assembly hall, mural, staff rooms and junior corridor beyond recessed aquarium.

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green, blue and violet-and a pleasant view along the junior corridor, through these "extensionspaces," is achieved.) Central area colours: based on the dominant colours in the assembly hall stage curtain-vermilion (used for wood-wool ceiling) and bottle-green (for lower wall panels). The hall has a honey-coloured wood floor of Swedish "built-up" boards. Two large murals in the entrance hall and one in the dining room are by Pat Tew.

Bright colour (synthetic emulsion paint) was used on concrete cladding blocks on the return faces of the elevation facing the road.

COST.-Price per cu. ft.: 4s. 3ld. Estimated final cost: £65,000, including abnormal site works. The general contractors were C. Miskin & Sons, Ltd. For sub-contractors, see page 410.

SHOP

in OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.I designed by ELLIS E. SOMAKE

The architect was asked to design a high-grade ladies' shoe salon with an atmosphere of richness and elegance. A study was made of other stores and their frontages in Old Bond Street, and the strictly contemporary design of the shoe salon was intended to relate to their mood without being in any way imitative of their general style.

The show window and display area seen from Bond Street.





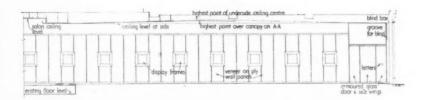


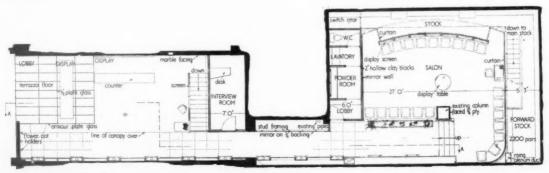
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Above, the salon, looking towards the mirror wall. Top left, the connecting link looking towards the display area. Above, left, the salon, with existing column on the left.

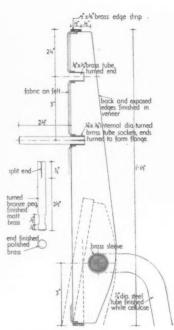




Ground floor plan [Scale: #"= 1'0"]

Section A-A

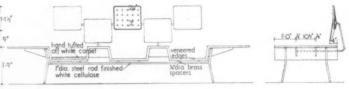




Part section of display unit [Scale: 3"= 1'0"]

SHOP

in OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.I designed by ELLIS E. SOMAKE



Elevation and cross section of display unit [Scale: \(\frac{1}{2}'' = \frac{1}{2}'' \)

SITE.—The property, which is situated close to the Burlington Arcade, has a ground floor divided into two almost equal parts by a staircase and lift, leaving a connecting link 20 ft. long, 5 ft. wide and 13 ft. high. In addition, there is a drop of about 2 ft. in the rear portion, which is used as the main sales area, and the increased height is used to give a vertical emphasis to the design.

FINISHES.—Verd antique marble slabs are used as a facing for the vertical fascia on which is incised the company's new insignia designed by Reynolds Stone. The same marble is used for the entire length of the left hand wall of the lobby and display area. The lobby has a floor of travertine terrazzo and a false ceiling which contains an aluminium venetian blind. In order to correct the proportions of the narrow link an open grid is suspended overhead and one wall is completely covered with mirror glass. Mirror glass is also used for one wall of the rear salon and on the wall opposite are hung curtains from ceiling to floor. Chairs, footstools, carpets and curtains have been specially designed and manufactured and also the light fittings, which are of polished and lacquered brass.

SERVICES.—The shop is heated and ventilated by means of a system designed on the balanced inlet and extract basis, giving six air changes per hour throughout. The air is warmed by two 12-kW heater batteries and is filtered. Heat is collected from the void above the false-ceilings by a recirculating duct. The lighting layout is planned to give a subdued level of illumination with emphasis on display areas.

The general contractors were Courtney Pope, Ltd. For sub-contractors see page 410.

Above left, looking towards Bond Street from the display area. Below, the display area and link.



TECHNICAL SECTION

Air is the only material which costs nothing. It is, moreover, the best insulator we have. In the article below is described one method (the use of chemicals) of introducing air into concrete. An alternative is the "no fines" method (eight houses of "no fines" concrete are described on pages 388 to 389), for the fine aggregate is replaced not with mortar, but with air; and the cement is used only to stick the large pieces of aggregate together.

One of the advantages of "no fines" concrete is that, although it is porous and must be protected externally by a non-porous skin, it contains no capillary Hence, if the external skin cracks (as renderings often do), water that penetrates does not pass through the wall; it simply trickles down the inside of the skin and finds its way out again.

Now under consideration is a development—the use of prefabricated inner linings as permanent shuttering for one side of the "no fines" concrete—which may make "no fines" the cheapest method of wall construction yet devised.

R. FITZMAURICE

aimed at producing maximum density

by means of specially-graded aggre-

gate, lowest possible water-cement

compaction.

and thorough

This week's special article

14 MATERIALS: CONCRETE aerated concrete

The number preceding the week's special article or survey indicates the appropriate subject heading of the Information Centre to which the article or survey belongs. The complete list of these headings is printed from time-to-time. To each survey is appended a list of recently-published and relevant Information Centre items. Further and earliet information can be found by referring to the index published free each year

Over 80 per cent. of all the concrete now used in the United States is aerated. The use of "plastifiers" to reduce the proportion of mixing water required has resulted in aerated concrete which is strong, as well as weather-resistant and insulating. The following article* explains why aerated concrete has these properties.

The chance discovery in America some 20 years ago that air bubbles in concrete increase its resistance to frost resulted in the development of aerated concrete, i.e., normal concrete in which air bubbles, of a diameter not exceeding 0.5 mm. and from 3-5 per cent. by volume, are evenly distributed throughout the mortar.

QUALITY AND DENSITY

Until recently, established practice in making durable, frost-resistant concrete

Quality was equated with density. The production of frost-resistant concrete by the entrainment of a specific quantity of air, with a consequent lowering of its density, appears to contradict accepted principles, but this is not the case if the air is considered as a constituent of the mix, proportioned and distributed in the same way as the aggregate. Ten years' experience with aerated concrete in Sweden and the USA, where it is estimated that 80 per

ratio

^{*} This is a summary of an article by Dr. Alfons Ammann which appeared in Schweizerische Bauzeitung (Switzerland), Jan. 5, 1952, pp. 7-11 and Jøn. 12, 1952, pp. 21-24, from which the illustrations are reproduced.

TABLE I
VOLUME OF CAPILLARIES, ASSUMING HYDRATION OF
20 PER CENT. BY WEIGHT OF THE CEMENT, FOR VARIOUS
MIXES (CONSTANT WATER CONTENT)

A	В	C	D	E.	F	G
21	30-25	1.20	4.9	12.94	25.4	1.9
21/3	30.25	0.90	6.5	17.25	23.8	1 - 3
34	30.25	0.72	8.2	21.56	22 · 1	1.0
41	30.25	0.60	9.8	25.88	20.5	0.8
4½ 5¼ 6	30.25	0.51	11.4	30 - 19	18.9	0.6
6	30.25	0.45	13.0	34 · 50	17.3	0.5
63	30.25	0-4	14.7	38 - 81	15.6	0.4
73	30 - 25	0.36	16.3	43 - 12	14.0	0.3

- A Cement content in cwt. per cu. yd.

 B Mixing water in galls, per cu. yd.
 C Water/cement ratio.
 D Water chemically combined with cement in galls.
 per cu. yd.
 E Volume of hardened mortar in galls. per cu. yd.
 F Free, capillary-forming water in galls. per cu. yd.
 G Ratio of capillary volume to hardened mortar

cent. of all concrete now made is aerated, has demonstrated its weatherresisting properties and its workability.

THE NATURE OF ORDINARY CONCRETE

Hardened concrete consists of the largely non-porous mass of aggregate, fine and coarse, embedded in cement, in which three types of voids can be distinguished, capillaries, air bubbles and water pockets. The most numerous are the capillaries; invisible to the naked eye, they form a network in which all movement of water within the concrete take place. Air bubbles are always formed in concrete during mixing but they disappear during working. Normal concrete in the plastic state contains from 1-3 per cent. of these air bubbles, usually from 6-10 mm, in diameter, i.e., much larger than those in aerated concrete. Water pockets which tend to form under large flat particles if segregation occurs, have an adverse effect on the frost resistance of the concrete. The systematic entrainment of air changes the structure of the hardened concrete. The water required for the mix is from 40-80 per cent. by weight of the cement, but only 20 per cent. is required for hydration. The rest remains in the concrete, where it forms a fine system of capillaries, which, once the water has evaporated, immediately re-absorbs any water with which it comes into contact. Thus the waterabsorbent and repellent properties of concrete depend on this system. It will be seen from Table I that the volume of capillaries thus formed amounts to

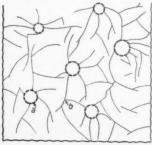


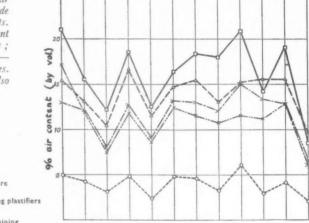
Fig. 1; a, air bubbles; capillaries.

between 14-25 gallons per cu. yd.; in lean mixes (below 3½ cwt. of cement per cu. yd.) the volume of capillaries is 1.3 to 1.9 times greater than in average mixes, which explains why lean mixes are relatively permeable and easily affected by frost. These considerations help to explain Abram's law concerning the relationship between watercement ratio and strength. The fall in strength with the increase in watercement ratio is due to the increase in porosity of the hardened concrete: thus increased strength is obtained when plastifiers are used because the volume of capillaries is smaller and the structure denser.

AERATED CONCRETE

In aerated concrete the fine system of capillaries is interspersed with air bubbles (see Fig. 1), introduced into the concrete by the formation of an air emulsion in the mortar and occupying about 10-15 per cent. of its volume. Being an ideal lubricant, they take the in any mixer merely by the addition of a foaming agent. A number of these are now available both in the USA and in Europe. Some of them contain plastifiers, but these have to be used in greater quantities than ordinary air-entraining agents: 3-10 per cent. instead of 0.3-1 per cent. Air-entraining cements in which the admixtures are interground are sold in the USA. However, since air entrainment depends on such factors as grading of aggregates (especially sand), mortar content, proportioning, plasticity, method of mixing, temperature and brand of cement, products which can be added during mixing are preferable. The quantity necessary to produce 3-5 per cent. air by volume is first ascertained by tests. Sand, if not already at the minimum, is proportionately reduced, permitting a further reduction in the mixing water. Once the mix is determined only an occasional control test is required.

Fig. 2. Formation of air bubbles in mortars made with various cements. curve—cement Lower admixtures; without upper four curvescements with admixtures. Key below applies also to Figs. 3 and 4.



brand of cement

Key without admixture 0 0 agents containing plastifiers 13 × agents not containing plastifiers

improved and less water is required for mixing. In fresh concrete the air makes the material more cohesive and reduces the segregation of water; in hardened concrete the bubbles both reduce absorptivity and, being compressible, provide room for an expansion of 9 per cent. in the water absorbed by the capillaries in case of freezing. introduction of air in these quantities into the concrete naturally has its disadvantages; for example, it reduces bond strength. The fall in strength can, in rich mixes, be as much as 20 per cent., because the possible reduc-

place of an equal quantity of sand of

similar sized particles. Workability is

tion in the amount of mixing water is too small to compensate for the effect of air entrainment. Investigations both in Switzerland and the USA have shown that in lean mixes, however, air entrainment can actually increase strength.

MAKING AIR-ENTRAINED CONCRETE

Air entrained concrete can be made

AIR CONTENT AND AGGREGATE SIZE

Since the air bubbles are only in the mortar, the air content depends on the mortar content. (See Fig. 3.) Experience shows that 3-4 times less air is entrained in concrete than in mortar. As the mortar content of concrete with a small maximum is entrained in concrete than in concrete with a large maximum aggregate size, the air content in the former is correspondingly lower. Table 2 may be used to determine the amount of air required in proportion to the maximum size of aggregate.

AIR ENTRAINMENT AND SAND CONTENT

The formation of air bubbles depends largely on the sand content and the proportion of aggregate of 0.3-1 mm. diameter. They cease to be formed if the quantity of sand of less than 0.3 mm. is increased.

AIR ENTRAINMENT AND BRAND OF CEMENT

Fig. 2 shows the results of tests with different cements. The variation in air

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Leonard Reeves, Assoc. M.Inst.C.E., F.S.I., Borough Engineer and Surveyor. Messrs. E. Taylor & Co. Ltd., Littleborough, General Contractors.

THIS use of 'PUDLO' Brand cement waterproofer is typical of its employment in the construction of many swimming pools—including that in the Cunard White Star Liner "Queen Mary." Mortars and concrete made with ordinary Portland Cement with the addition of 'PUDLO' Brand waterproofer are impenetrable by water even under severe pressure, and its use permits the best results from other materials. In this case, the faience slabs made and fixed by Messrs. Shaw's Glazed Brick Co., Ltd., Darwen, are of a large size which minimises the area of the joints, and the inclusion of 'PUDLO' Brand waterproofer in the cement mortar used for these joints and the bedding of the slabs, ensured a thoroughly impervious and hygienic lining.

'PUDLO'

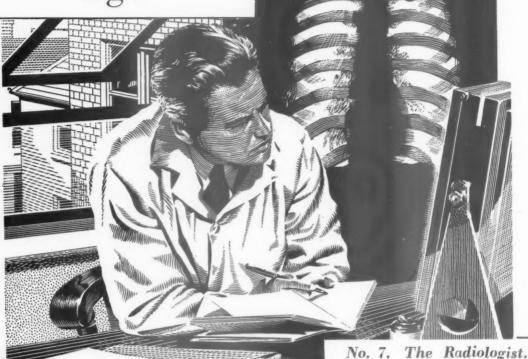
BRAND CEMENT WATERPROOFER

KERNER-GREENWOOD & COMPANY, LIMITED KING'S LYNN NORFOLK

Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers

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





This is the age of specialization. With the advance of modern knowledge, no one man is able to excel in everything and in the field of human endeavour the final product is inevitably the

Helping doctors and surgeons to diagnose and cure a multitude of human ailments is the radiologist to whose specialist knowledge and valuable training many people undoubtedly owe their lives. centrocco fine mer

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result of co-operation by specialists. So it is with architectural planning. Working under the captaincy of the architect, the team of specialists all play their part and take responsibility for different sections of the project. Over the years, Lockhart Equipment Ltd., have gained a reputation as specialists in the planning and equipping of Industrial Canteens, Hotels and Restaurants. Experienced technicians are at all times available to provide specialist service to the architects, which includes the preparation of layout plans and the submission of appropriate quotations, whether it be for a completely new installation or the reorganisation of existing facilities. Lockhart Equipment Ltd., offer a fully comprehensive service whereby every item of catering equipment from the largest refrigerator down to the smallest piece of crockery, cutlery, furniture, linen, etc., is planned for and supplied so that the whole unit can be handed over complete and ready for operation.

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TABLE II

AIR CONTENT IN RELATIO	
Maximum size of aggregate	Percentage of air bubbles
1 Å in. 1 Å in. 3 in. 6 in.	4·5 4·0 3·5 2·5

entrainment due to the brand of cement used can amount to 100 per cent. The minimum air entrainment occurred with blastfurnace and other finely-ground cements. Air entrainment also decreases as the temperature of the mix rises and it is influenced by the type of mixer used (it should always be mixed by machine; if possible for 2 minutes) and by the consistency of the mix, those of normal plasticity giving the best results.

REDUCING MIXING WATER WITH AIR ENTRAINMENT

In order to minimize the reduction in strength resulting from air entrainment, the water content is reduced with the aid of products which, in addition to entraining air, have the effect of dispersing the fine constituents. They are mostly organic compounds which are absorbed by the cement or aggregate particles and reduce friction between them. Products for entraining air permit a reduction in mixing water of from 5-12 per cent., and with those containing plastifiers a reduction of 12-18 per cent. is possible. (See Fig. 4.) With lean mixes strength is maintained with a reduction in mixing water of from 8-12 per cent.; with concrete of cement content above 3½ cwt. per cu. yd., there is an invariable fall in strength because the possible reduction in mixing water is less. This is not surprising in view of the fact that, with a reduction of water content from 5-8

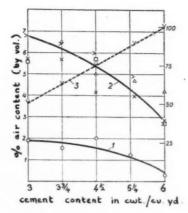


Fig. 3. Air entrainment by four different admixtures in concretes variously proportioned but of similar consistency.

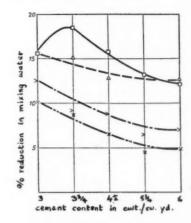


Fig. 4. Percentage reduction possible in mixing water in concretes variously proportioned but of similar consistency.

per cent., 1-2 galls. per cu. yd. are saved and 3½-5 galls. of air added.

The extensive use of aerated concrete in the USA is due to the use of mechanization in working, for which a soft concrete is essential. Standard tests of concrete are used for the assessment of admixtures; compression, bending and bond strength must not fall below 85 per cent. of that of concrete without admixtures; the change in volume must not exceed 110 per cent.; water segregation, 65 per cent., and the relative factor of resistance to freezing and thawing must be at least 80 per cent.

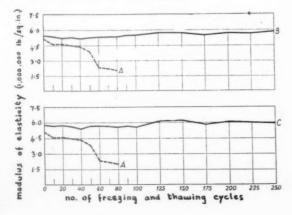
WEATHER RESISTANCE OF AIR ENTRAINED CEMENT

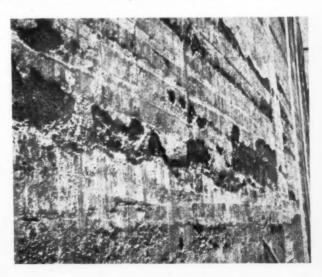
The frost and weather resistant properties of hardened aerated concrete are usually determined by its resistance to alternate freezing and thawing in water. Natural influences are not so consistent. Soft or aggressive waters, changes in volume due to freezing and temperature changes can all damage concrete. French tests showed a fall

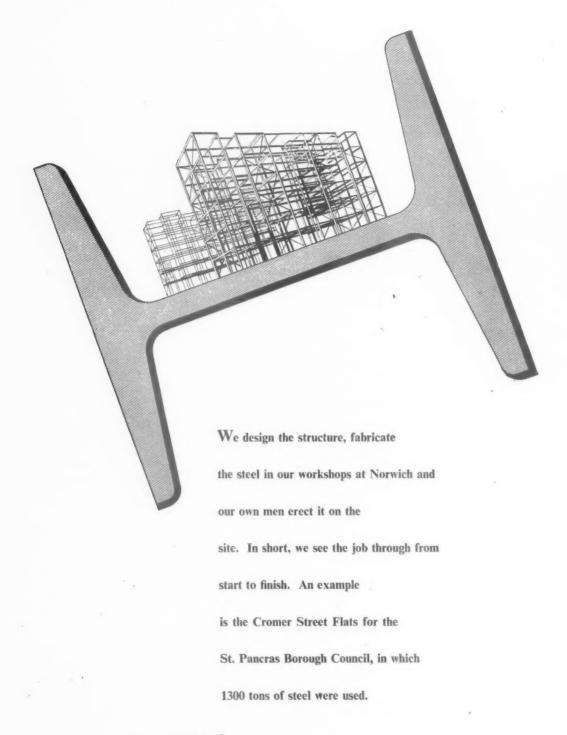
in compressive strength in concrete cubes exposed to temperatures alternating between 15° C. and -15° C. after 25 cycles. Frost damage usually takes place when the concrete is saturated with water at temperatures below 0° C. Only a certain area is involved as a result of intermittent freezing and thawing and scaling is the result (see Fig. 5). Fig. 6 shows the improvement in frost resistance as a result of air entrainment indicated by tests made at the Swiss Federal Materials Testing Institute.

Aerated concrete has been used in Europe only since 1947 (with the exception of a dam built in Sweden in 1937). It has been used in Switzerland, Portugal, Austria, France and Italy. It is particularly suited for use on large sites where the uniformity of the constituents can be ensured and where suitable supervising personnel is available. It will without doubt be used more extensively in Europe now that it has been improved by the use of plastifiers.

Right, Fig. 5, frost damage on the water side of a dam wall. Below, Fig. 6, frost resistance of three different concretes; A, without admixture; B, with admixture; C, with admixture and reduction in sand content.







WHEN THE STRUCTURAL STEEL IS BY



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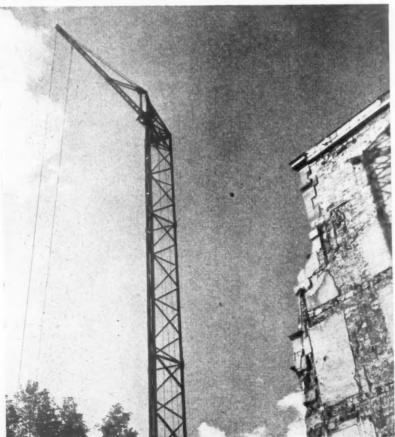
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TOWER CRANES IN FRANCE AND ENGLAND



On the left is shown a 100ft. high French tower crane being used in the construction of a block of offices in Paris. As seen in this photograph, it is fitted with a 52ft. 6-in. jib, at which radius it can lift 113 cwt. A similar crane in use in England is shown on page Below, 407. a typical "sapine"—atall crane with a short jib, used widely France to replace hoists.



INFORMATION CENTRE

A digest of current information prepared by independent specialists; printed so that readers may cut out items for filing and paste them up in classified order.

5.46 planning: public utilities

LONDON'S TRANSPORT

Engineering Aspects of the Transport Prob-lems of London. R. B. Hounsfield (The Euston Press. Published privately, 1951.) Important for the calculated estimates of road and parking needs it contains. A useful contribution to the subject. States fundamental principles upon which the solution of London's street traffic problem could be based. 103 pp. Tables, diagrams and 5 folding plans in separate case.

This book has been published in commemoration of the late R. B. Hounsfield, whose research work into traffic problems at University College, London, is well known. Apart from estimating the requirements of road transport in the London area, the author outlines the new works that would be necessary to meet these requirements. He makes an analysis of past and present road traffic

an analysis of past and present road traffic and parking statistics and an estimate of future demand.

In the author's view, the research proves that the combined traffic problem of all branches of transport in London (moving and parking) has at least one practicable solution, and that the work involved is only

solution, and that the work involved is only a fraction of what was done in a mere 60 years by our Victorian ancestors.

The author is mainly concerned with central London. The most interesting feature of his proposals is a grid scheme of 8 uniform relief highways—4 north/south and 4 east/west. Most of the junctions would be three-decker counterbased. decker roundabouts

There is a great difference between these proposals and those in the London Development Plan.

7.33 practice WELDING SYMBOLS

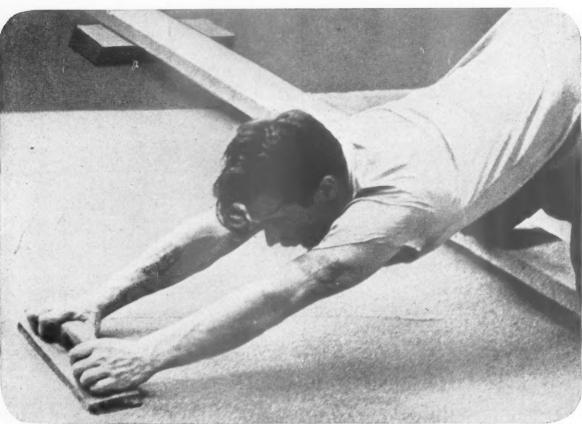
Scheme of Symbols for Welding. BS 499: 1952. (British Standards Institution. 6s.) Useful standardization of symbols. value chiefly to engineers but architects should be aware of it and may well be surprised to find the number of different types of welding in use.

9.25 design: general

DURABILITY

Exposure, Durability and Maintenance in Modern Design. P. Hope Bagenal. (The Architectural Association Journal. Feb.,

Report of lecture. Wide in scope and full of interesting and stimulating detailed thoughts. The result of keen observation of buildings by a man whose outlook contains a good mixture of art and science.



Photograph: Courtesy Highways Construction Ltd.

CRA

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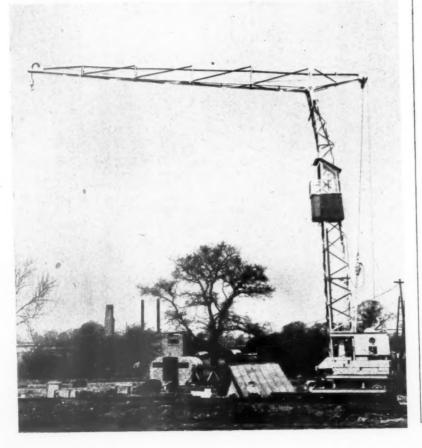
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CRANESTIN FRANCE AND ENGLAND (continued)



Left, a railmounted, electrically - operated French tower crane in use by Wates, Ltd., on a housing site at Denmark Hill. Height, 65 ft.; reach, 52 ft. 6 in.; capacity, II czet. The cabin rises inside the mast. Below, a light, mobile (but not self - propelled) tower crane used by BRS in their experiments prove how savings could be effected by the use of cranes of this type for the construction of traditional houses.



12.56 materials: metal

MECHANICAL TESTS

Mechanical Tests for Metals. British Standards Handbook No. 13. (British Standards Institution. 1951. 17s. 6d.)

This handbook quotes in full the British Standards for the tests and continues with relevant extracts from other Standards. where they exist. Tensile, hardness, impact, ductility and creep tests are specified. Thin metals (not exceeding 10 gauge) are covered separately. A section is devoted to conversion factors. The handbook forms a comprehensive testing manual and is of value both for those in the industry and all interested in the strength of materials.

13.85 materials : timber

TROPICAL TIMBERS

Tropical Hardwoods for Building. Nicholas Clifford. (The Builder, Feb. 29, 1952.)

Notes on properties of some available light hardwoods: freijo, idigbo, red meranti, yellow meranti, chumprak, menkulang, nyankom and agba. No information on prices.

16.83 materials: miscellaneous

ALUMINIUM

Aluminium and Aluminium Alloys in Building. Part I. BRS Digest No. 39. (HMSO. Feb., 1952. 3d.)

Types of aluminium and alloys. Standard method of nomenclature by letters and numbers. General properties of wrought and cast products. Corrosion and protection. A useful guide to types and general properties. The next Digest will describe uses.

16.84 materials: miscellaneous

CHIP BOARDS

Methods of Test for Wood Chip Boards, Wood Waste Boards and Similar Boards. BS 1811:1952. (British Standards Institution. 2s.)

Although of comparatively little direct use to architects this is an important standard. It should lead to a specification dealing with standards of performance for this new class of material.

17.86 construction: general

SAFETY REGULATIONS

A Complete Guide to the Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations. (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. 1951. 15s.)

Easy for reference and well indexed. A valuable guide for builders and useful to architects for occasional reference. Information well grouped in sections under headings, such as scaffolds, excavation, hoists, etc. 104 pp.

17.87 construction: general

ANCIENT BUILDINGS

Repair of Timber Structures. D. G. Martin. (The Builder, February 29, 1952.)

General notes on repair of old timber buildings. Some diagrams. From lecture given to Society for Protection of Ancient Buildings. Useful.

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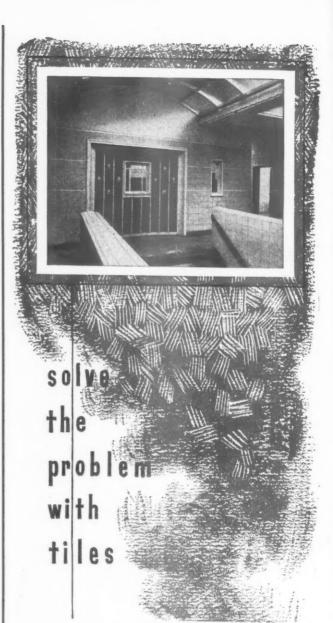
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THE INDUSTRY

From the Industry this week, Brian Grant reports on a rapiddrying primer, some equipment exhibited at the Ideal Home Exhibition and a new method of painting widely used in the United States.

PRIMING PAINTS

The value of ordinary red lead as an anti-corrosive, rust-inhibiting primer is well known, but where it is intended to protect constructions exposed to sea water with bituminous solutions it is necessary to wait for months on end until the primer coat dries and hardens completely, a delay which rules it out for repair and maintenance work and limits its use on new work. Furthermore, it cannot be used as an undercoat for chlorinated rubber paints because the solvents in the latter act like paint stripper. Evode Ltd. are now producing under the brand-name "Evo-Led" an entirely new type of red-lead primer suitable for application to damp or, even wet surfaces which, they claim, is non-lifting or bleeding after 24-48 hours, even when overpainted with paints containing searching solvents. The primer displaces moisture on any surface, absorbs it, and allows it to evaporate together with the solvents during the drying processes. One gallon of the primer will cover between '35 and 50 square yards. (Evode, Ltd., Stafford.)

METAL WINDOW DETAILS

Hopes have just issued a monumental window catalogue for drawing office use, containing useful information on design, fixing and glazing, and also specifications and full size sections of bars, couplings and mullions. The catalogue contains over 150 pages, nine inches by fourteen, and gives fixing details for every conceivable type of window, with notes on the maximum sizes produced and drawings to show the appropriate type of

sub-frame, where used, and methods of fixing. The illustration reproduced below shows flyscreens applied to a large composite window of a type suitable for classrooms or hospital wards. Pivoted ventilators cannot be screened and hinged, top-hung ventilators are unsatisfactory, except in very small sizes, as the normal fittings, whether cam openers or peg stays, almost always damage the wire mesh. Hopes recommend a small hinged wicket so that the special flattened bronze handle can be easily reached.

This book makes a most useful piece of drawing office equipment and the draughts-manship is up to the very high standard which Hopes have always set in publications designed for architects. (Henry Hope & Sons Ltd., Halford Works, Smethwick, Birmingham)

IDEAL HOMES

The "Cannon" cooker with the high level grill has already been illustrated in the JOURNAL (March 13, p. 332), but there were one or two other pieces of equipment on show at Olympia which seem worth a mention. The "Radiation Type 3518" cooker is designed for what the manufacturers describe as "the larger family and the more spacious kitchen." The hot plate has four burners with a single simmering or griddle plate. There is a large high-temperature oven, a large grill and a further oven which can be used for low-temperature cooking or plate warming, while below the main oven is a storage drawer. The flue outlets from the two ovens and griller are both built in, and the flue gases escape through the grill at the top of the splash-back, so that the cooker can be mounted flush to the wall and high wall temperatures are avoided. Dimensions are 36½ in. by 25½ in., with an overall height of 44½ in.

The same firm is also showing a gasoperated hot water circulator arranged for use with an insulated storage tank, which is intended for fitting underneath the draining board. Two hot water heating circuits are provided, one maintaining four or five gallons of hot water at the top of the tank and one which allows the circulator to heat the full 20 gallons in the tank when the bath is needed. There is a small changeover valve. This, in fact, provides equivalent service to the electric u.d.b. water heaters which normally have a ½-kW. element in the top and a 2½-kW. element at the bottom. It is intended that, in due course, this assembly shall be produced as a complete unit, combining circulator and storage tank with all the



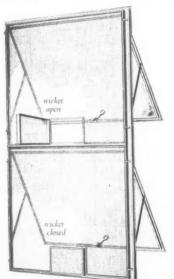
The new "Radiation Type 3518" gas cooker on show at the Ideal Home Exhibition.

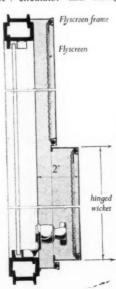
necessary connections and valves. It is not, however, possible to give any date when this will be available. (Radiation Ltd.. Essex Works, Aston, Birmingham, 6.)

NEW PAINTING METHOD

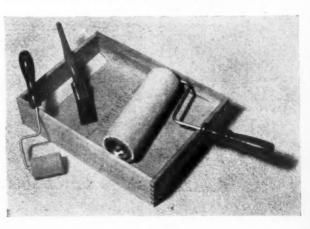
Quite an interesting development is the "Rolakoton" painting outfit, which can be used for applying paint with a roller instead of by brush. The standard equipment consists of one large roller 7½ in. wide for use on large surfaces, and a 2-in. wide roller for dealing with narrower strips. (It is still necessary to use an ordinary paint brush for dealing with awkward corners and mouldings.) The paint is poured from the tin into the tray as far as the paint line (see illustration below). The bottom of the tray slopes from back to front and the roller is run across the bottom a few times to pick up the paint supply. Application is quite simple, and satisfactory work can be done without any previous training. For home use, devices of this kind have become almost standard practice in America. The outfit, as illustrated, costs £2 15s. 6d. (Stephenson Bros. Ltd., Listerhills Road, Bradford.)

BRIAN GRANT,





Left, an illustration from Hope's new window catalogue, showing the recommended method of applying flyscreens to a large composite window. Note the small hinged wicket and special flattened bronze handle. Below, the "Rolakoton" painting outfit, described above.



Readers requiring up-to-date information on building products and services may complete and post this form to The Architects' Journal, 9, 11 and 13, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1

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I am interested in the following advertisement appearing in this issue of "The Architects' Journal." (BLOCK LETTERS, and list in alphabetical order of manufacturers names

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AJ. 27.3 52

Buildings Illustrated

"Templewood" Junior Mixed & Infants School at Pentley Park, Welwyn Garden City, Herts. (Pages 395-399). County architect, C. H. Aslin, F.R.I.B.A.; deputy county architects, W. E. Tatton Brown, A.R.I.B.A.; principal assistant architect, J. T. Redneth, M.B.E., A.R.I.B.A.; principal assistant architect, J. T. Redneth, M.B.E., A.R.I.B.A.; principal assistant architect, J. T. Redpath, M.B.E., A.R.I.B.A.; architect-in-charge, A. W. C. Barr, A.R.I.B.A. General contractors, C. Miskin & Sons Ltd.; clerk of works, W. H. Meeks. Sub-contractors: ot works, W. H. Meeks. Sub-contractors: dampcourses, roofing felt, Ruberoid Co. Ltd.; concrete roof blocks, Dow-Mac (Products) Ltd.; concrete wall slabs, Orlit Ltd.; bricks, Dunbrik Ltd.; structural steel, casements, window furniture, folding gates, Hills (West Bromwich) Ltd.; floor tiles, LC Edwards (Rushon) Ltd.; roortitions Proad gates, Hills (West Bromwich) Ltd.; floor tiles, J. C. Edwards (Ruabon) Ltd.; partitions, Broad & Co. Ltd.; glass and glazed tiles, Pilkington Bros. Ltd.; patent glazing, Williams & Williams Ltd.; patent flooring, Hollis Bros. Ltd.; R. W. Brooke Ltd.; central heating & ventilation, Weatherfoil Heating Systems Ltd.; electric wiring, Hartley Electromotives Ltd.; plumbing, Econa Modern Products Ltd.; sanitary fittings, Adamsez Ltd.; door furniture, N. F. Ramsey & Co. Ltd.; doors Rurniture, N. F. Ramsey & Co. Ltd.; doors & joinery, Geo. M. Hammer & Co. Ltd.; sunblinds, J. Avery & Co.; fibrous plaster, H. H. Martyn & Co.; textiles, Gerald Holtom; wallpapers, Arthur Sanderson & Sons Ltd.; furniture, The Educational Supply Association Ltd; shrubs & trees. Digswell Nurseries.

Shop for Dolcis Shoe Co. Ltd. at 22, Old Bond Street, London, W.1. (Pages 400-402.) Architect: Ellis E. Somake, F.R.I.B.A., staff architect to the Dolcis Shoe Co. Ltd. Chairs and footstools designed by Roger

& Robert Nicholson, A./A.R.C.A. General contractors: Courtney Pope Ltd. Sub-contractors: electrical wiring and fittings. Courtney Pope (Electrical) Ltd.; heating and ventilation, Rosser & Russell Ltd.; marble work, J. Whitehead & Sons Ltd.; granite, Shakleton; terrazzo, Marriott & Price Ltd.; fibrous plaster, Tomei & Sons Ltd.; blind, Adam Ltd.; sanitary ware, W. N. Froy & Sons Ltd.; paints, Thomas Parasons & Sons Ltd.; blind, Department of the programme of the Ltd.; pneumatic cash tubes, Lamson Paragon Supply Co. Ltd.; carpets, G. A. Sawyer Ltd.; hide and display frames, Woolnough Ltd.; display fabrics, Minter (Decorations) Ltd.; chairs and footstools, Russell Bros.; drapes, Miss A. N. R. D. Loosely; planting. West End Flower House.

Announcements

The city architect and planning officer of Coventry would welcome information on building materials and products, and building products, especially new ideas, to be used in conjunction with the large building programme now being undertaken and for the departmental library. Will firms send information and samples to Mr. Donald Gibson in the first instance: interviews will be arranged by appointment.

Mr. Gerald Stanley, F.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.C.S., has

moved his office to 65, Cowbridge Road, Cardiff. (Tel: Cardiff 22073.) F. J. Meekins & Partners, quantity surveyors, have opened a branch office at The Building Leeds, 2. Centre, Brunswick Terrace,

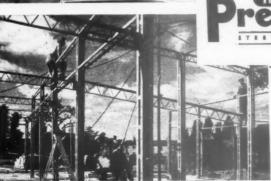
Messrs. Worthington & Protheree George, of 14, Albion Place, Maidstone, have dis-solved partnership by mutual agreement and the practice will be continued by Clifford Worthington, A.R.I.B.A., chartered architect, at St. Anne's, Boxley Road, Maidstone (Tel.: Maidstone 51238), where trade literature will be welcomed.

HILLS STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS PRESWELD



are suitable for most types of buildings, and in addition, offer considerable economies in material, and man-hour erection time. The flexibility of this system is particularly evident in modern school construction where Presweld Components are extensively used. Based on the 8ft. 3 in. square grid, as recommended by the Ministry of Education, and from its inception, the system was conceived as a range of elements-columns, beams, wall panels, etc.,-rather than as a building of a definite shape. This idea gives complete freedom to the Designer, while allowing standardisation and factory produced components.





Hills Presweld Standard Components were used in the erection of Templewood Junior Mixed and Infants School, as reviewed in this issue.

Products of Hills include :- Patent Glazing (Lead clothed, Aluminium and Galvanised Steel Bars), Ventilating Shutters, Lantern Lights, Accordo Blinds, etc.

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the National Housebuilders Registered
Council. Four of them, conforming exactly
to Ministry plans, are built as one block,
while the remaining pair are a modification in
semi-detached style, designed by Wimpeys.
All these houses were built in "No-Fines"
concrete in order to shorten building time
and to reduce costs. Wimpeys cordially invite
Local Housing Authorities to examine these six
"People's Houses" which have been built at
Newnham Avenue, Eastcote, Midddlesex.

The Wimpey technique and knowledge, which has produced such outstanding results in house-building could be turned to good account in the execution of your own housing requirements. We will be pleased to furnish any information you may require.



FULL DAYLIGHT FOR FACTORY OPERATIVES

In both the designs featured — the Coras Iompair Eireann factory in Inchicore, Dublin, and the new steel furniture warehouse for Joseph Sankey & Sons in Wellington, Shropshire — the architects faced the problem of providing ceiling to floor daylight without impairing structural strength and graceful design. Each architect specified Aluminex Patent Glazing and the results have proved how completely successful Aluminex is in this kind of construction. Its slim bars and horizontal weathering members give the buildings clean simple lines and reduce light obstructions to an absolute minimum, giving the factory operatives full daylight for working.

Aluminex at Inchicore The architect, Michael Scott, wished to provide full daylight within this factory, and at the same time to protect

concrete cased structural members from the effects of weather. This was achieved by an Aluminex glass wall 254ft. long × 22ft. high holding ‡ rough cast glass and attached to the outer faces of the stanchions. In addition to the advantages of daylight

and weather protection, this glass wall reveals the simple and impressive structural framework of the building.

Continuous
Opening
Lights with
Positive
Action

An interesting aspect of Howard's Crane's 1,000 foot glass wall in Joseph Sankey & Sons' factory at Wellington is the use of opening tights

100 feet long (Aluminex continuous opening lights can be made of indefinite length

but are generally limited to 200 feet both for convenience and by gear limitations). The moving frame is hung on a continuous hinge running the full length of the light that cannot bind or warp (see diagram). The full 100 feet rises like a single pane. The lights are operated from a few remote control points by Teleflex gearing. This threaded cable system exerts a steady even pressure all along the light so that the hundredth foot gets the same pressure as the first foot. The light will stay steadily open at any desired position from 1" to 18" so that ventilation can be quickly and accurately controlled.

Coras Iompair — Eireann, Inchicore, Dublin. Architect: MICHAEL SCOTT F.R.I.A.I. Engineers: OVE ARUP & PARTNERS. Contractors: MESSRS. G. & T. CRAMPTON LTD, Dublin.

The Aluminex Patent Glazing System

A word about the Aluminex Patent Glazing system (see diagram). The glazing bar is an example of good functional de-

sign. Its main web consists of a strengthening ridge at the top, with ribs on each side

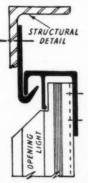
This Aluminex patent glazing bar is of extruded aluminium alloy of special composition. Here is seen one glazing cover strip holding a pane of glass in position on the bar.

to hold a continuous cover strip. Internal condensation is carried outside the building by the integrated channels in the bar.

The continuous aluminium cover strip is scientifically profiled to fit between the rib of the glazing bar and the surface of the glass. It fits tightly but gives sufficiently in response to thermal movements to make a firm and safe glass grip in all conditions.

Economy is a strong factor in the ever increasing popularity of Aluminex.





This drawing shows the design of the continuous hinge used on the Aluminex opening lights. The head weathering makes flashings unnecessary.

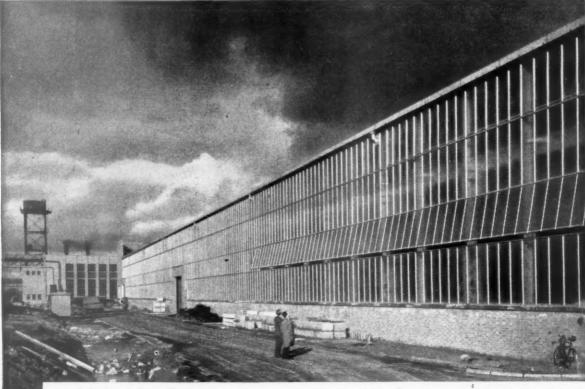
Weathering produces a permanent protective patina on the surface of the aluminium alloy. Thus it does not rust or corrode. It needs neither initial painting, or subsequent repainting. Broken glass can

be replaced quickly and without difficulty.

The architect who turns to Aluminex Patent Glazing has at his service a method of architectural cladding capable of versatile applications. It is an accepted system yet remains susceptible to imaginative development. The company extends its fullest co-operation to all architects who wish to discuss new applications of Aluminex.

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A FEW COPIES ONLY of some of the books in our current list were found, at recent stocktaking, to be soiled: apart from the fact that they are consequently not saleable as 'mint' copies these are, however, word- and picture-perfect. We offer them, as long as stocks last, at the following prices, post free.

Heating and Air Conditioning of Build- ings, by Oscar Faber and J. R. Kell (45s.)	35s.	0d.	The Castles on the Ground, by J. M. Richards (8s. 6d.)	6s.	рq
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Concerning Town Planning, by Le Corbusier (10s. 6d.)	7s.	6d.	The Planner's Notebook, edited by H. Myles Wright (30s.)	22s.	6d.
The Planning and Equipment of Public Houses, by F. W. B. Yorke (21s.)		0d.	Windmills in England: a study of their origin, development and future, by Rex Wailes (12s. 6d.)	95.	0d.
A History of the English House, by Nathaniel Lloyd (73s. 6d.)	60s.	0d.	The Modern Flat, by F. R. S. Yorke and Frederick Gibberd (35s.)	26s.	6d.
Buildings and Prospects, by John Piper (18s.)	13s.	6d.	The Modern House in England, by F. R. S. Yorke (21s.)	15s.	0d.
English Architecture at a Glance, by Frederick Chatterton (2s. 6d.)	1s.	10d.	Parliament House: The Chambers of the House of Commons, by Maurice	9s.	0d.
Town and Country Planning Textbook, edited by APRR (42s.)	30s.	Od.	Hastings (12s. 6d.) English Panorama, by Thomas Sharp	9s.	0d.
Small Houses—£500-£2,500 (pre-war prices), edited by H. Myles Wright (15s.)	11s.	6d.	(12s. 6d.) A Miniature History of the English	3s.	6d.
Estimating Housing Needs, by Alexander Block (10s. 6d.)	7s.	6d.	House, by J. M. Richards (4s. 6d.) The Architecture of England, by	5s.	6d.
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English History at a Glance, by H. A. Vetter (8s. 6d.)	5s.	6d.	The Home of Man, by Le Corbusier and François de Pierrefeu (10s. 6d.)	7s.	6d.
The City of London: a record of destruction and survival, with a report by	18s.	6d.	Towards a New Architecture, by Le Corbusier (15s.)	11s.	
Dr. C. H. Holden and Professor W. G. Holford (25s.)			The Architecture of Denmark, by seven contributors (12s. 6d.)	9s.	Od.
Gardens in the Modern Landscape, by Christopher Tunnard (18s. 6d.)	14s.	od.	The Adventure of Building, by Glough Williams-Ellis (10s. 6d.)	7s.	6d.

An illustrated catalogue giving full descriptions of these books will be sent post free. It should, however, be borne in mind that only a few soiled copies of each title are available and that orders will be dealt with in strict rotation. Readers are therefore urged to send their orders at once

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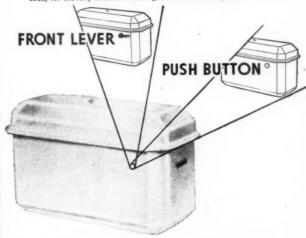
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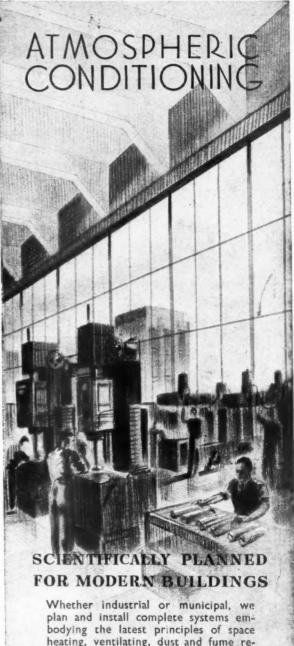
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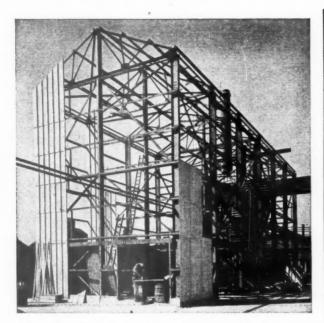
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THIS BOOK presents the story of the development of the City of London from Roman Times to the present day.

In it you can see the first known picture of London, made in A.D. 296, and follow the story through the growth of the mediaeval precincts, the Great Fire, Wren's plans for the City, and the Victorian improvements. A series of brilliant and previously unpublished photographs provide

the first comprehensive record of the 1940-45 bomb damage when a third of the City was destroyed, when twenty of Wren's City churches were ruined and dramatic new views of St. Paul's were revealed over the wastes of rubble. The proposals for reconstruction prepared for the Corporation of London by the consultants, Dr. C. H. Holden and Professor W. G. Holford, are shown in full detail.

Here also an attempt is made to portray that complicated and diverse character which is peculiar to the City, that strange agglomeration of the monumental and intimate, tall business houses overlooking the intricacy of narrow alleys and quiet churchyards, the river, and the concentration of commercial and trade centres—banking, insurance, furs, shipping, textiles, wine, printing, markets and exchanges, all compressed into a few acres, an area so small that a pedestrian can comfortably encompass it in an hour or two. What he is likely to see after reconstruction is completed and new buildings are woven in amongst the ancient landmarks is visualized in a series of drawings by Gordon Cullen.

Bound in heavy buckram boards, gold blocked. Size 9\frac{1}{2}in. by 7\frac{1}{2}in.; 341 pages; over 360 photographs, engravings and maps, 40 of which are in colour. Price 25s. net, postage 10d.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements should be addressed to the Advt. Manager, "The Architects' Journal," 9, 11 and 13, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, S.W.1, and should reach there by first post on Friday morning for inclusion in the following Thursday's namer.

paper.
Replies to Box Numbers should be addressed care of "The Architects' Journal," at the address given above.

Public and Official Announcements

Tublic and Umcial Announcements 25s. per inch; each additional line, 2s.

The engagement of persons answering these advertisements must be made through a Local Office of the Ministry of Labour or a Scheduled Employment Agency if the applicant is a man aged 18-64 inclusive or a woman aged 18-59 inclusive unless he or she, or the employment, is excepted from the provisions of the Notification of Vacancies Order, 1952.

AIR MINISTRY WORKS DEPT.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNER/DRAUGHTS-MEN required in Designs Branch by Air Ministry Works Department. Applicants should have had several years' experience in the preparation of working drawings, details and layouts for permanent and semi-permanent buildings. Vacancies are mainly in London, but there are some in the provinces. Salaries are on ranges up to £675 per annum, with starting pay dependent upon age, qualifications and experience. Applications, stating age, qualifications, previous appointments (with dates), should be sent to the nearest local Employment Exchange.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BARNSLEY.
BOROUGH ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR AND
PLANNING OFFICER'S DEPARTMENT.
APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL STAFF.
Applications are invited for the following

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL STAFF.
Applications are invited for the following appointments:—
(a) GENERAL ASSISTANT ARCHITECT,
A.P.T., Grade V (£570-£620).
(b) JUNIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT,
A.P.T., Grade II (£470-£515).
Applicants for post (a) should have good general experience in design and the carrying through of Building Contracts. Preference will be given to candidates who are A.R.I.B.A. If necessary, housing accommodation may be affered to the successful candidate.
Applicants for post (b) should be good draughtsmen and have experience in the layout of housing estates and the design of houses. Preference will be given to candidates who are in the course of becoming qualified.
The Council have a large programme of Housing and Public Buildings in hand, and the positions offer wide scope to persons with initiative.
The appointments will be subject to the Scheme of Conditions for A.P.T.C. Services, to the General Conditions of Service within the Corporation as varied from time to time, and to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937.
The successful candidates will be required to

1957.

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

side. Applications, stating age, present and previous appointments, experience and qualifications, etc., together with the names of two referees, should be addressed to the Borough Engineer and Planning Officer, Town Hall, Barnsley to reach him not later than the 12th April, 1952. Canvassing will disqualify, and applicants should disclose whether or not to their knowledge they are related to any member or senior officer of the Council.

they are relate of the Council.

(Sgd.) A. E. GILFILLAN, Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Barnsley. March, 1952.

ORKNEY COUNTY COUNCIL.
COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.
Applications are invited for the post of
ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT in the County
Architect and Planning Officer's Office. Applicants
should be fully qualified Architects holding the
Certificate A.R.I.B.A., or equivalent qualification,
and have had experience in an Architect's Office.
The salary attached to the post, which is subject
to the Local Government Superannuation (Scot-land) Act. 1937, will be between £570 and £660
per annum, i.e., Grades V and Va, according to
the qualifications and experience of the successful
applicant.

the qualifications applicant.

Applications, together with copies of three recent testimonials, should be lodged with the undersigned on or before 5th April. 1952.

DOUGLAS M. WOOD.

County Clerk.

County Offices, Kirkwall. 12th March, 1952.

BOROUGH OF CHATHAM.
APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF ASSISTANT
ARCHITECT.
Applications are invited for the appointment of hief Assistant Architect, within Grade VII 6685-2760.
Housing accommodation will be made available required.

Housing accommodation will be made available if required.
Conditions of appointment and form of application may be obtained from Mr. H. D. Peake, M.Sc. (Eng.), Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall, Chatham. to whom completed application forms should be returned not later than Friday, 4th April, 1952.

METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD.

APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR ASSISTANT

The Metropolitan Water Board invite applications from Associate members of the Royal Institute of British Architects who have had experience in the design, preparation of plans and working drawings, specifications and quantities for the erection of houses and offices, for appointment to the permanent staff as a Senior Assistant Architect in the Surveyor's Department; salary scale £280×£50-£1,040 per annum.

The selected candidate will be required to pass a medical examination by the Board's Chief Medical Officer, and to undertake in writing to join the Board's Superannuation and Provident Fund.

Fund.

The appointment will be held during the pleasure of the Board, and will be subject to the Board's regulations and conditions of service which may from time to time be in force and appropriate. A form of application may be obtained from the undersigned on receipt of a stamped addressed foolscap envelope, quoting reference (A).

Canvassing directly or indirectly will be held to be a disqualification.

W. S. CHEVALIER.

W. S. CHEVALIER, Clerk of the Board.

Offices of the Board, New River Head, Rosebery Avenue, E.C.1.

Offices of the Board,
New River Head,
Rosebery Avenue, E.C.1.

GLENROTHES DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons under 45 years of age, for the appointment of ASSISTANT ARCHITECT. Salary £490-£620, with placing according to qualifications and experience. Applicants should be Corporate members of R.I.B.A. and have general architectural experience. The Corporation will give every assistance in securing housing accommodation. Hospital and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination. Applications with details of age, qualifications and experience, together with names of three referees must reach the Secretary, Glenrothes Development Corporation, Woodside. Glenrothes, by Markinch, Fife, not later than 9th April, 1952.

ESTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL. ASSISTANT—GRADE III, IV or V. Applications are invited for the appointment of Architectural Assistant, at a salary in accordance with Grade A.P.T. III, IV or V, of the National Scales, namely £500 to £545. £530 to £575, or £570 to £620 according to qualifications and experience.

Applicants should have had good general training, with experience in housing work, and preference will be given to candidates who have passed the Intermediate Examination of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

The conditions of service are those formulated by the National Joint Council, and the appointment is subject to the passing of a medical examination and the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. Housing accommodation will be made available to the successful candidate if required.

Applications, experience and copies of two recent testimonials, should be sent to me by the first post on Wednesday, 2nd April, 1952.

N.C. HARRISON

AM.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., Equipeer and Surveyor* Department, Normanby Road. South Bank, Middlesbrough.

14th March, 1952.

C. HARRISON

Applications are invited for appointment of

ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY.

Applications are invited for appointment of ENGINEERING ASSISTANT in the Burgh Engineer's Department. Salary will be A.P.T., Grade III or IV (£490 to £555), with placing according to qualifications and experience. The appointment will be subject to the Corporation's Conditions of Service and Superannuation Scheme, and the successful applicant will be required to pass a medical examination. Applicants should preferably have some experience in Civil and Municipal Engineering and have at least part qualification in appropriate professional institution.

Full details of experience, qualifications, etc., accompanied by copies of testimonials, should be sent to the Burgh Engineer, Osborne House, East Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy, on or before 7th April. 1952.

BOROUGH OF STRATFORD-UPON-AVON.
APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT.
Applications are invited for the above appointment at a salary in accordance with A.P.T.
Grade Va (£600-£660 per annum) of the National
Scale of Salaries.
Applicants should be Registered Architects or
hold equivalent qualifications and preference will
be given to those experienced in the design of
housing schemes and in the maintenance and
adaptation of Local Authority buildings.
The Council will be prepared to provide housing
accommodation for the successful applicant, if
married.

married.
Conditions of the appointment and forms of application may be obtained from the undersigned to whom completed forms should be returned not later than Thursday. 10th April. 1952.
P. C. SMART, A.M.I.C.E..
Borough Engineer.

Municipal Offices, Stratferd-upon-Avon.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GREAT YARMOUTH. APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL ASSISTANT ARCHITECT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of a permanent General Assistant Architect at a salary within Grades A.P.T. II and IV (£470-£530) according to experience and ability. Preference will be given to applicants who have passed the Intermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A. The appointment will be terminable by one month's notice on either side and subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and to the passing of a medical examination.

The Council are unable to offer housing accommodation. Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience together with the manes of three persons to whom reference may be made, should be enclosed in an envelope endorsed "General Assistant Architect" and must be received by me not later than Friday, 4th April, 1952. Candidates must disclose in writing whether they are related to any member or officer of the Council. Canvassing directly or indirectly will disqualify.

FARRA CONWAY,
Town Hall, Great Yarmouth.

12th March, 1952.

Town Hall, Great Yarmouth. 12th March, 1952.

22th March, 1952. 6565

CITY OF LEICESTER EDUCATION
COMMITTEE.
LEICESTER COLLEGE OF ART.
Principal: Kenneth Holmes, O.B.E., A.R.C.A.
Applications are invited for the post of HEAD
of the Building Department. Candidates should
hold professional qualifications in either Architecture, Building or Allied Professions, have had
experience in industry, and preferably some
teaching.

experience in industry; and preceasing teaching.

The Department is Grade II in accordance with the Burnham Further Education Report, salary £1.000 × £25-£1.150 per annum.

Applications giving full particulars of training and experience should be sent to the Registrar, College of Art. The Newarke, Leicester, not later than 24th April, 1952.

ELFED THOMAS.

Director of Education.

6574

MIDDLESEX COUNTY COUNCIL.
COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT.
PLANNING ASSISTANT (A.P.T. IV. £560
rising to £605 p.a. if 26 years or over), with Town
Planning experience. T.P.I. Inter. desirable but
other appropriate examinations considered. Established, pensionable, subject to medical assessment
and prescribed conditions. Applications. stating
age, experience, qualifications, etc., to the undersigned with copies of two recent testimonials by
4th April (quoting K.591, AJ). Canvassing disqualifies. 4th April qualifies.

C. W. RADCLIFFE, Clerk of the County Council. Middlesex Guildhall. Westminster, S.W.1.

Westminster, S.W.1. 6578

BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (GRADE
APPLICATION APPLICATI

B. A. FRANCIS, Town Clerk. Municipal Offices. Chelmsford. 19th March, 1952.

Municipal Offices. Chelmsford.

19th March, 1952.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF WANDSWORTH.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS.

Applications are invited for the under-mentioned established male appointments in the Borough Engineer. Surveyor and Architect's Department:—

(a) SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

Salary according to qualifications and experience, within A.P.T.. Grades VI-VII (£715-£840).

(b) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Salary A.P.T.. Grades VI-VII (£715-£840).

A.D.T.. Grades VI-VII (£715-£840).

A.D.T.. Grades VI-VII (£715-£840).

A.D.T.. Grades VI-VII (£715-£840).

And in the case of (a) must have had considerable experience in the design and planning of multi-storey blocks of flats and framed structures, and in the case of (b) should have had experience in the design and planning of small housing estates incorporating load bearing brickwork. All applicants should have had experience in the supervision of works under construction.

Application forms, obtainable from the Borough Engineer. Surveyor and Architect at the undermentioned address, must be returned to me, sealed in an envelope endorsed "Architectural Assistant," by 2nd April, 1952.

R. H. JERMAN.

Town Clerk.

Municipal Buildings, Wandsworth, S.W.18. 6567

BOROUGH OF DOVER.

SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.
Applications are invited for this appointment in the Borough Engineer's Department. Salary: A.P.T., Grade V, of the National Scales (£570-£620 per annum).

Applicants should hold a recognised architectural qualification, and have had practical experience with a Local Authority on housing work.
Applications, stating age, experience and qualifications, together with the names and addresses of three persons to whom reference may be made, must be delivered to the Borough Engineer. Brook House, Dover, not later than the 10th April, 1992.
JAMES A. JOHNSON,
New Bridge House, Dover.

New Bridge House, Dover. 19th March, 1952.

BOROUGH OF WATFORD.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT.

Applications are invited for the above appointment, at a salary within Grade A.P.T., VI. with commencing salary according to qualifications and

commencing salary according to qualifications and experience.

Application forms may be obtained from the undersigned, to whom they must be returned by 15th April, 1952.

Consideration will be given to the provision of housing accommodation if required.

Borough Engineer, Surveyor and Architect.
Town Hall, Watford.

March. 1952.

6585

March, 1952.

HARLOW DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.
Applications are invited for the appointment of
a JUNIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, Grade
V(b), salary £500 by £25 to £600 in the Architect
Planner's Department (F. Gibberd, F.R.I.B.A.,
M.T.P.I.) to work under the direction of the
Executive Architect (Victor Hamnett, B.Sc.,
A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., A.R.I.C.S.). Candidates
must have had experience in the preparation of
working drawings for large-scale housing contracts and possess a minimum qualification of
Inter. Examination of the R.I.B.A.

The appointment will be made under the terms
of the Corporation's Conditions of Service which
are similar to those of the Professional and Technical Grades of Local Authorities Staffs and will
in particular involve a contribution to an approved
superannuation fund. Housing accommodation
may be made available in due course to the successful candidate.

Applications giving full details of experience
and qualifications together with the names of
two referees should be addressed to the undersigned to reach him not later than 17th April,
1952,

W. ERIC ADAMS ESQ., C.B.E.

W. ERIC ADAMS ESQ., C.B.E., General Manager.

"Terlings," Gilston, Harlow, Essex.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF RENFREW.
Applications are invited for the following populations in the County Engineer's Depart-

applications are in the County Engineer's Department:

(a) SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

Salary scale A.P.T. V/VI (£570-£710 p.a.).

(b) IN TERM E DIATE ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Salary scale A.P.T. I/II/III (£430-535 p.a.).

535 p.a.).

Applicants should have wide experience of Local Authority Housing and Public Buildings. Preference will be given to members of the R.I.B.A. and the R.I.A.S.

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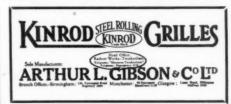
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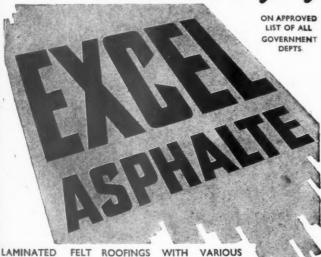
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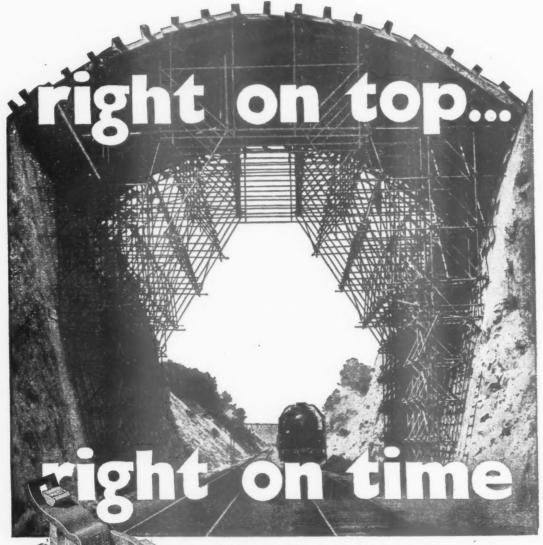
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