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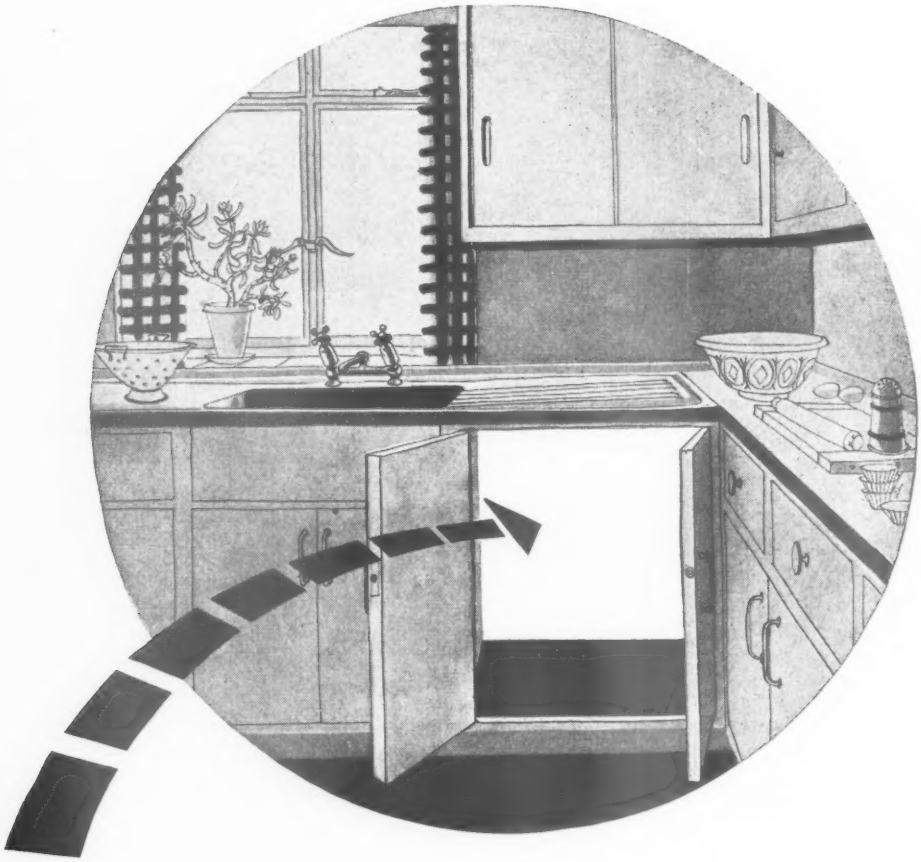
★ A glossary of abbreviations of Government Departments and Societies and Committees of all kinds, together with their full address and telephone numbers. The glossary is published in two parts—A to Ie one week, Ig to Z the next. In all cases where the town is not mentioned the word LONDON is implicit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

AA	Architectural Association, 34/6, Bedford Square, W.C.1.	Museum 0974
AAI	Association of Art Institutions. Secy.: W. Marlborough Whitehead, "Dyneley," Castle Hill Avenue, Berkhampstead, Herts.	
ABS	Architects' Benevolent Society. 66, Portland Place, W.1.	Langham 5721
ABT	Association of Building Technicians. 5, Ashley Place, S.W.1.	Victoria 0447-8
ACGB	Arts Council of Great Britain. 4, St. James' Square, S.W.1.	Whitehall 9737
ADA	Aluminium Development Association. 33, Grosvenor Street, W.1.	Mayfair 7501/8
APRR	Association for Planning and Regional Reconstruction. 34, Gordon Square, W.C.1.	Euston 2158-9
ArchSA	Architectural Students' Association. 34/36, Bedford Square, W.C.1.	
ARCUK	Architects' Registration Council. 68, Portland Place, W.1.	Langham 8738
AScW	Association of Scientific Workers. 15, Half Moon Street, Piccadilly, W.1.	Grosvenor 4761
BAE	Board of Architectural Education. 66, Portland Place, W.1.	Langham 5721
BATC	Building Apprenticeship and Training Council. Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.	Reliance 7611, Ext. 1706
BC	Building Centre. 26, Store Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1.	Museum 5400
BCC	British Colour Council. 13, Portman Square, W.1.	Welbeck 4185
BCCF	British Cast Concrete Federation. 17, Amherst Road, Ealing, W.13.	Perivale 6869
BCIRA	British Cast Iron Research Association. Alvechurch, Birmingham.	Redditch 716
BDA	British Door Association. 10, The Boltons, S.W.10.	Fremantle 8494
BEDA	British Electrical Development Association. 2, Savoy Hill, W.C.2.	Temple Bar 9434
BIA	British Ironfounders' Association. 145, Vincent Street, Glasgow, C.2.	Glasgow Central 2891
BIAE	British Institute of Adult Education. 29, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.	Euston 5385
BID	Building Industries Distributors. 52, High Holborn, W.C.1.	Chancery 7772
BINC	Building Industries National Council. 11, Weymouth Street, W.1.	Langham 2785
BOT	Board of Trade. Millbank, S.W.1.	Whitehall 5140
BRDB	British Rubber Development Board. Market Buildings, Mark Lane, E.C.3.	Mansion House 9383
BRS	Building Research Station. Bucknalls Lane, Watford.	Garston 2246
BSA	Building Societies Association. 14, Park Street, W.1.	Mayfair 0515
BSI	British Standards Institution. 28, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	Abbey 3333
BTE	Building Trades Exhibition. 4, Vernon Place, W.C.1.	Holborn 8146/7
CABAS	City and Borough Architects Society. C/o Johnson Blackett, F.R.I.B.A., Civic Centre, Newport, Mon.	Newport 5491
CAS	County Architects' Society. C/o F. R. Steele, F.R.I.B.A., County Hall, Chichester.	Chichester 3001
CCA	Cement and Concrete Association. 52, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.	Sloane 5255
CCP	Council for Codes of Practice. Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.	Reliance 7611
CDA	Copper Development Association. Kendals Hall, Radlett, Herts.	Radlett 5616
CIAM	Congrès Internationaux d'Architecture Moderne. Doldertal, 7, Zurich, Switzerland.	
COID	Council of Industrial Design. Tilbury House, Petty France, S.W.1.	Abbey 7080
CPRE	Council for the Preservation of Rural England. 4, Hobart Place, S.W.	Sloane 4280
CUC	Coal Utilization Council. 3, Upper Belgrave Street, S.W.1.	Sloane 9116
CVE	Council for Visual Education. 13, Suffolk Street, Haymarket, S.W.1.	Reading 72255
DGW	Directorate General of Works, Ministry of Works, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.	Reliance 7611
DIA	Design and Industries Association. 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1.	Whitehall 0540
DPT	Department of Overseas Trade. Horseguards Avenue, Whitehall, S.W.1	Trafalgar 8855
EJMA	English Joinery Manufacturers' Association (Incorporated). Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1.	Regent 4448
EPNS	English Place-Name Society. 7, Selwyn Gardens, Cambridge.	
FAS	Faculty of Architects and Surveyors. 8, Buckingham Palace Gdns, S.W.1.	Sloane 2837
FASSC	Federation of Association of Specialists and Sub-Contractors, 5, Arundel Street, Strand.	Temple Bar 6633
FBI	Federation of British Industries. 21, Tothill Street, S.W.1.	Whitehall 6711
FC	Forestry Commission. 25, Savile Row, W.1.	
FCMI	Federation of Coated Macadam Industries. 37, Chester Square, S.W.1.	Sloane 1002
FDMA	The Flush Door Manufacturers Association Ltd. Trowell, Nottingham.	Ilkeston 623
FLD	Friends of the Lake District. Pennington House, nr. Ulverston, Lancs.	Ulverston 201
FMB	Federation of Master Builders. 26, Great Ormond Street, Holborn, W.C.1.	Chancery 7583
FPC	The Federation of Painting Contractors, St. Stephen's House, S.W.1.	Whitehall 3902
FRHB	Federation of Registered House Builders. 82, New Cavendish Street, W.1.	Langham 4041
FS (Eng.)	Faculty of Surveyors of England. Buckingham Palace Gdns., S.W.1.	Sloane 2837
GC	Gas Council. 1, Grosvenor Place, S.W.1.	Sloane 4554
GG	Georgian Group. 27, Grosvenor Place, S.W.1.	Sloane 2844
HC	Housing Centre. 13, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, S.W.1.	Whitehall 2881
IAAS	Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors. 75, Eaton Place, S.W.1.	Sloane 5615
ICA	Institute of Contemporary Arts. 17-18, Dover Street, Piccadilly, W.1.	Grosvenor 6186
ICE	Institution of Civil Engineers. Great George Street, S.W.1.	Whitehall 4577
IEE	Institution of Electrical Engineers. Savoy Place, W.C.2.	Temple Bar 7676
IES	Illuminating Engineering Society. 32, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	Abbey 5215



The water heater designed to go under the draining board

for kitchens where every foot of space must serve a purpose

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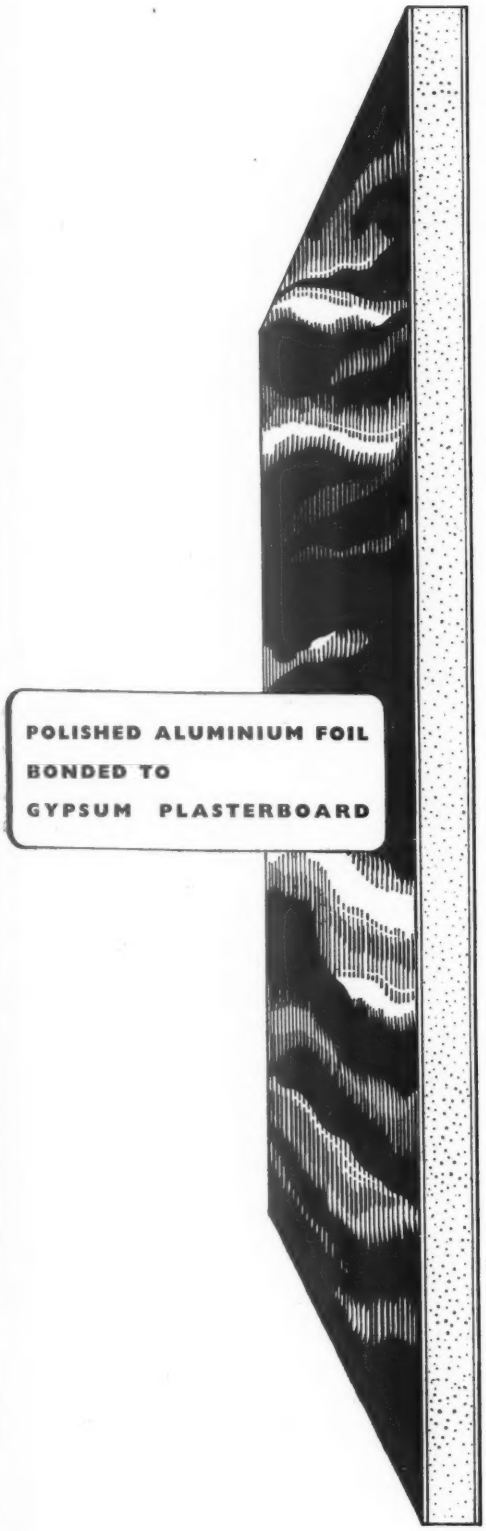
Sadia Works, Rowdell Road, Northolt, Middlesex. Scottish Agents: W. Brown & Co. (Engineers) Ltd., 89, Douglas St., Glasgow, C.2. Manufactured in South Africa by Sadia Water Heaters (Pty.) Ltd., 3-5 Newton St., Village Main, Johannesburg

SADIA
HOT WATER BY ELECTRICITY



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The unfoiled surface presents an excellent interior wall or surface finish for direct decoration.

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IWJ

Houses in Merton Village, Ford, Lancs. *Architect:* Felix Holt, A.R.I.B.A.

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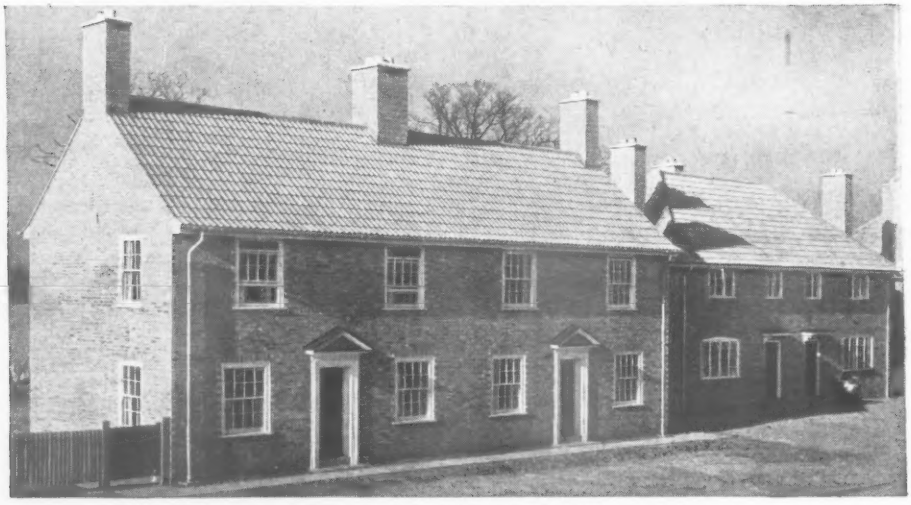

Houses at Bury St. Edmunds. *Architects:* Messrs. Mitchell & Weston, F/F.R.I.B.A.

Houses at Leeds. *City Architect:* R. A. H. Livett, O.B.E., A.R.I.B.A.

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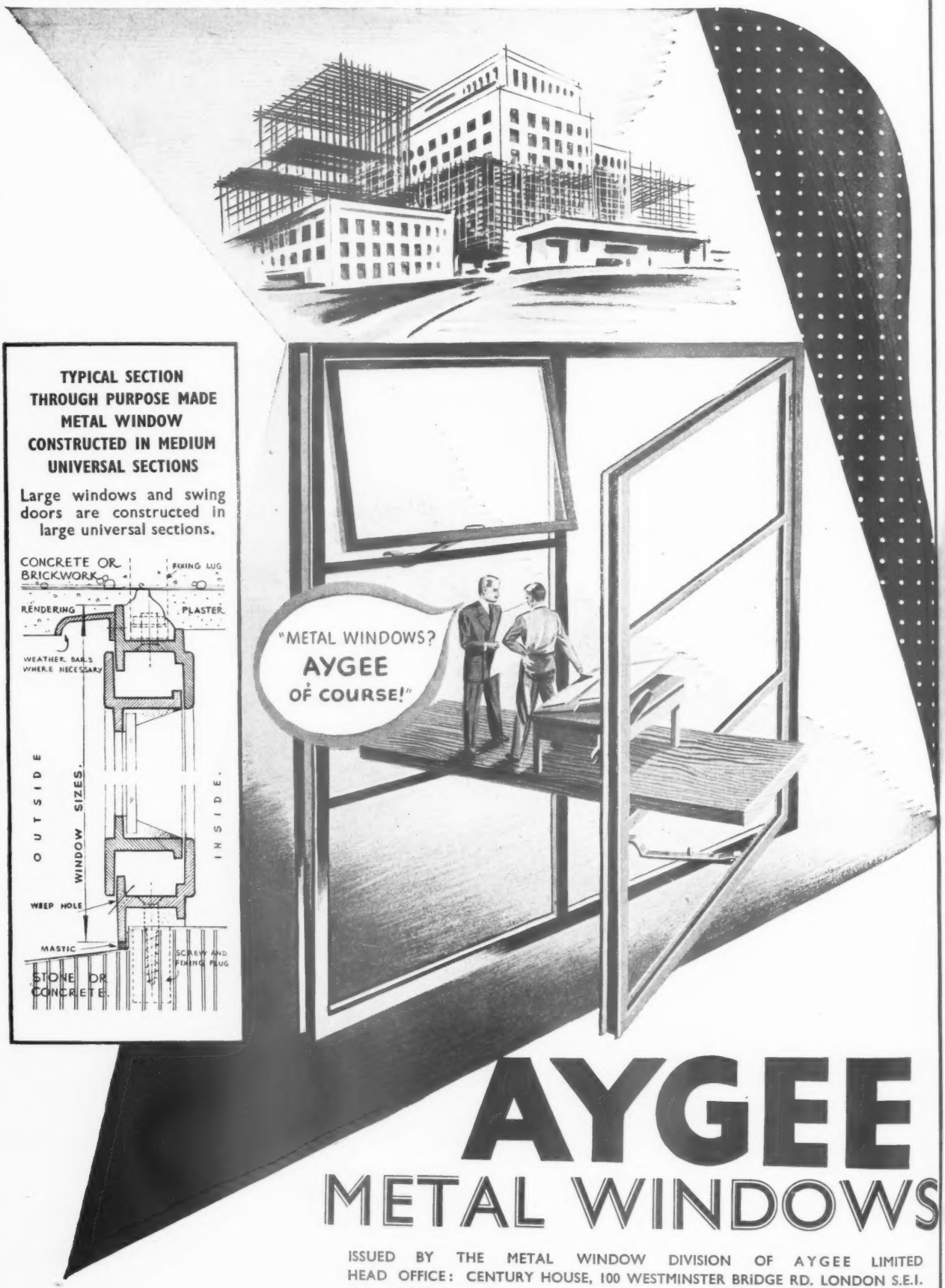

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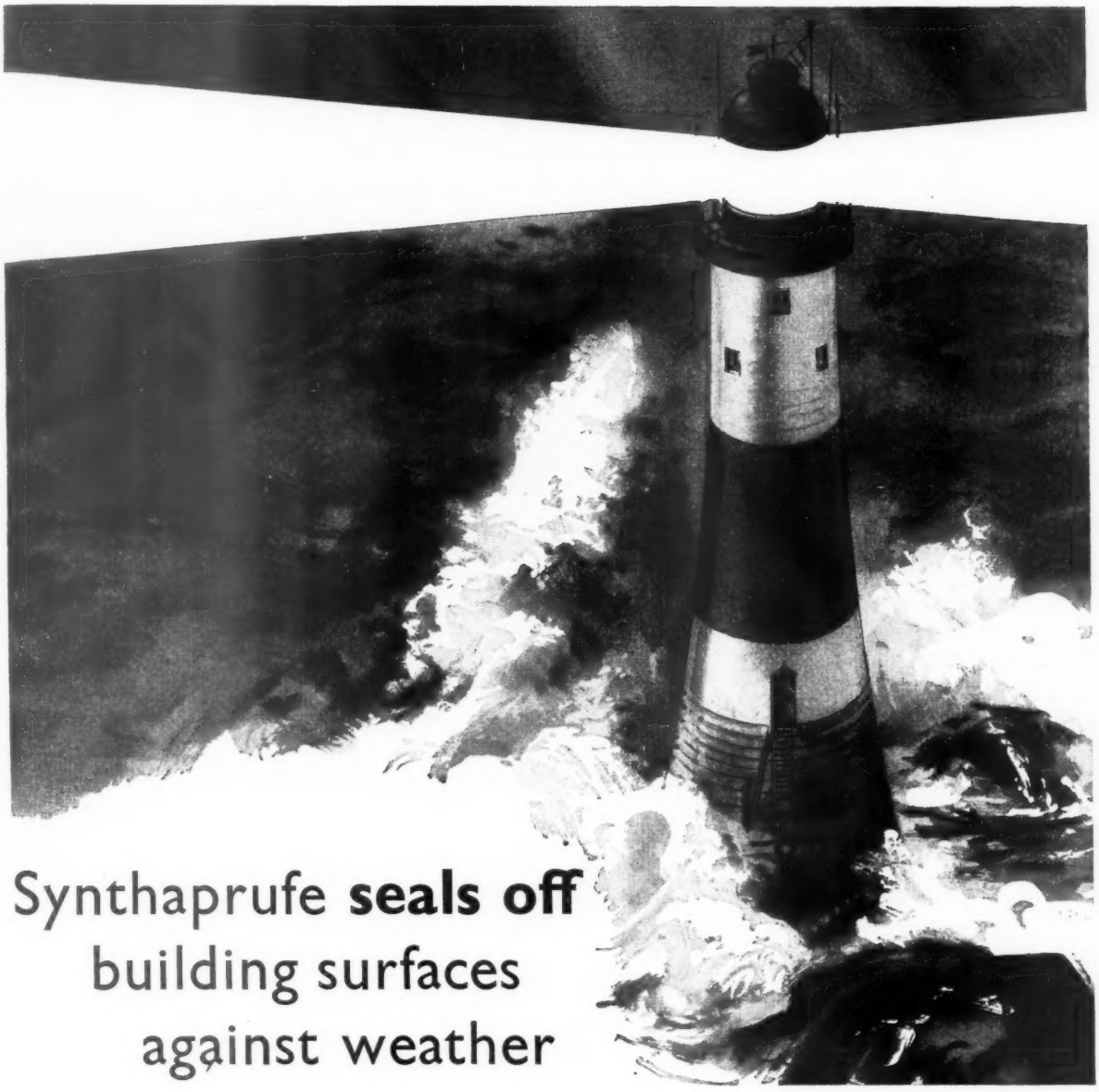

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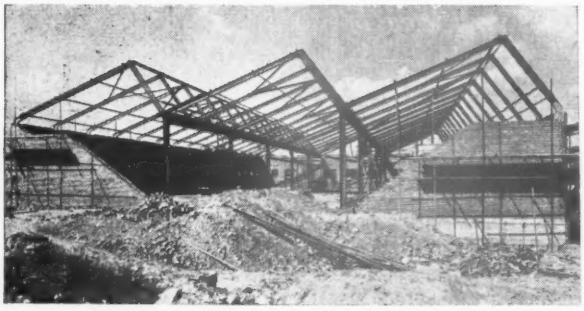
Welding in Progress.



Canteen at Barnsley for Brook Motors Ltd.

New Factory at Barnsley for Brook Motors Ltd.

Architect: Noel Heppenstall, L.R.I.B.A., Milnesbridge, Nr. Huddersfield

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2 **Polished Plate glass mezzanine windows.**
3 **Polished Plate glass lower windows.**
4 **Diffusing or refracting glass clerestory lighting.**
5 **¼" Polished Plate glazing.**
6 **"VITROLITE" panelling to first floor shop.**
7 **"ARMOURLIGHT" glass lenses in barrel vault roof.**
8 **Wall surfaced with Silvered Polished Plate glass.**

STRUCTURAL AND DECORATIVE USES OF THE MATERIAL

TERRACE SHOPS "B"

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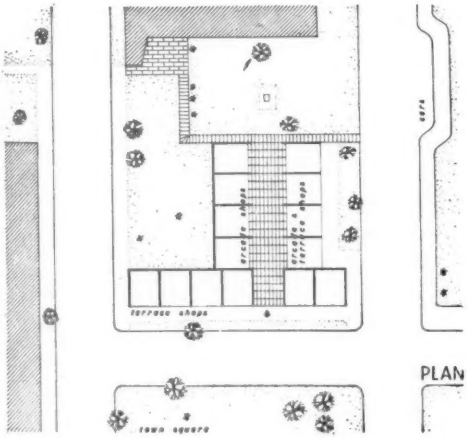
2. Polished Plate glass windows.
3. "INSULIGHT" Hollow Glass Block front to cosmetic shop.
4. "VITROLITE" fascia.
5. "VITROLITE" names panels.
6. Georgian Wired Cast glass in canopy.



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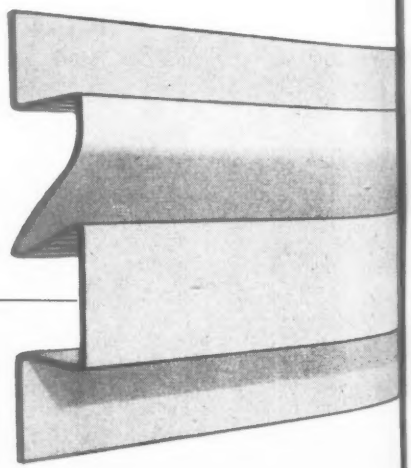

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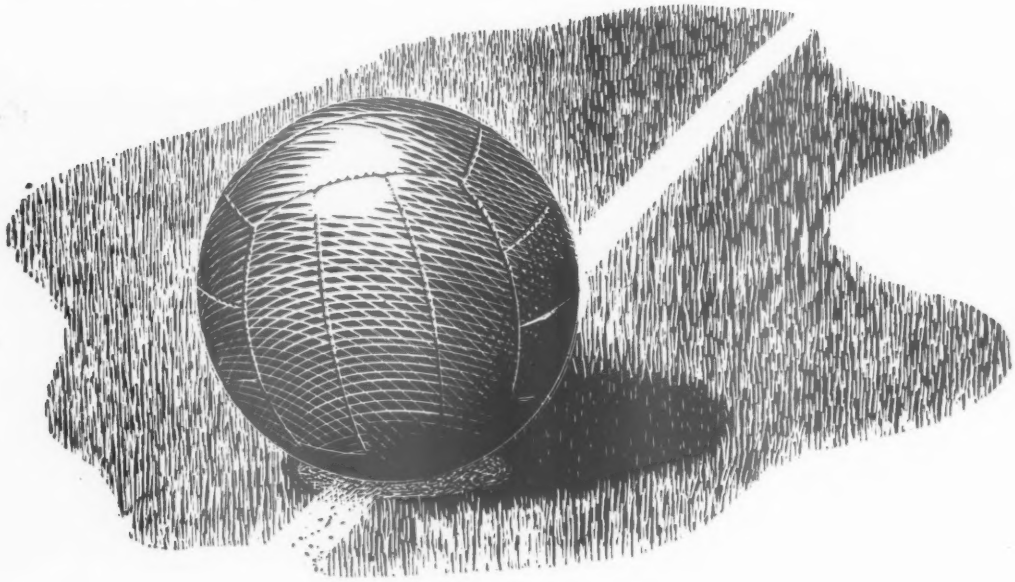

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The Builders : Messrs. Leslie & Co., Ltd.
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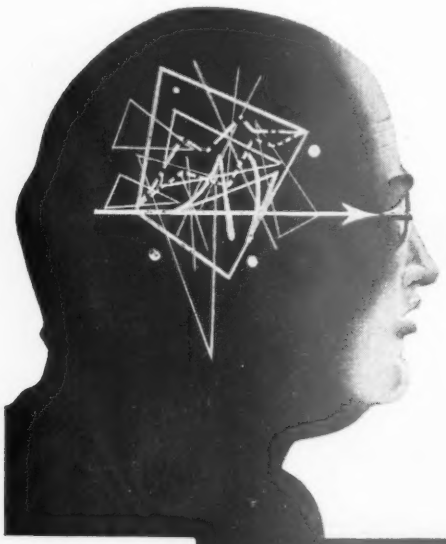

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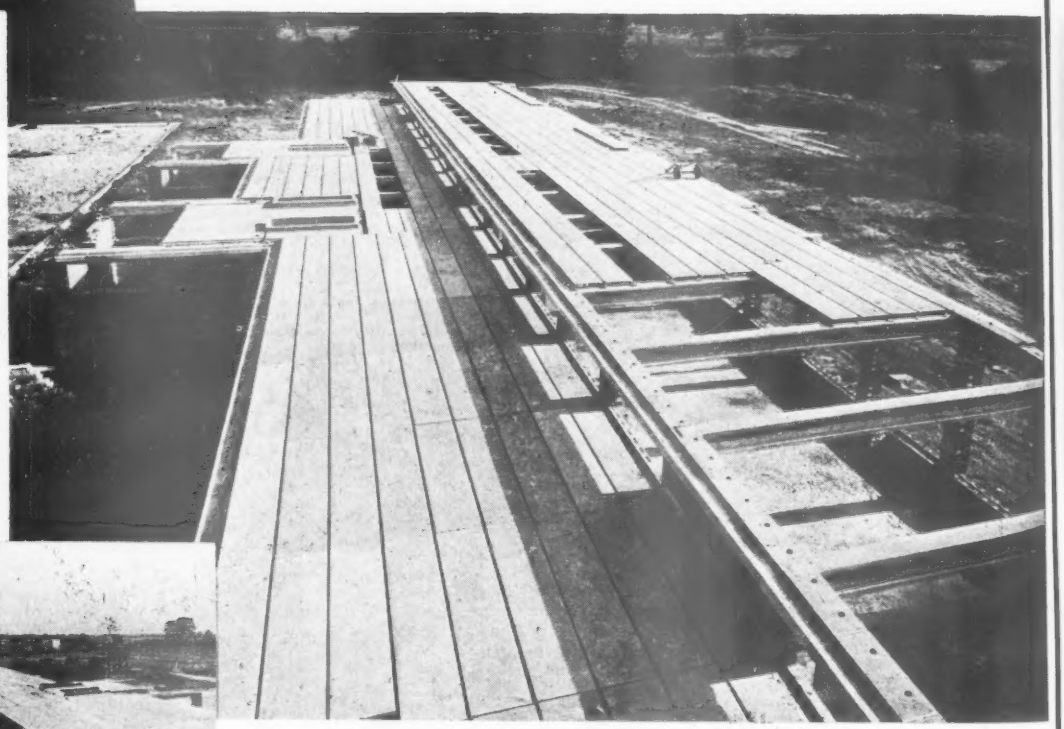

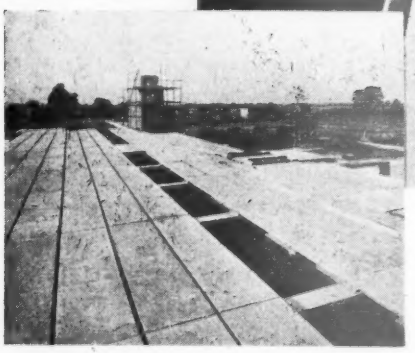

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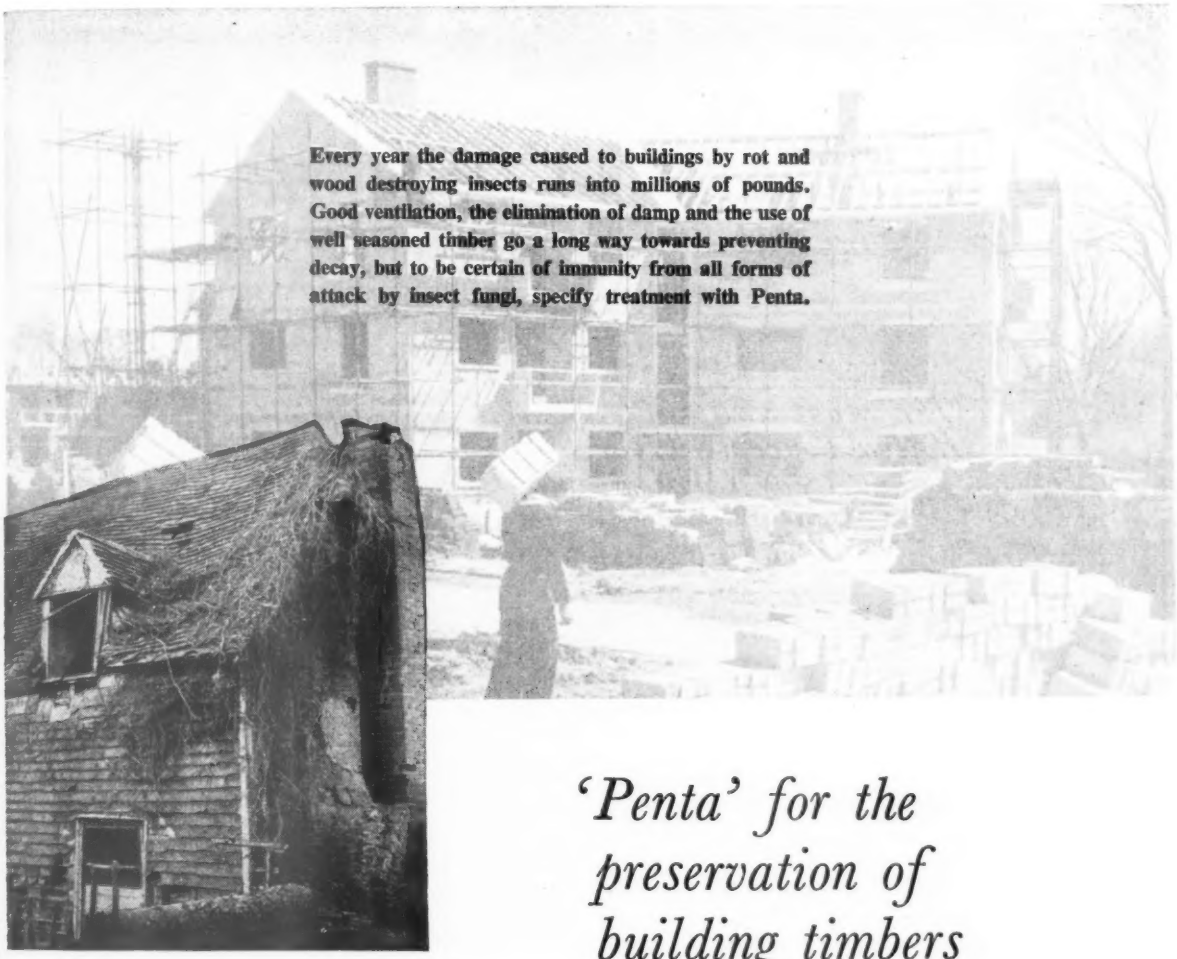

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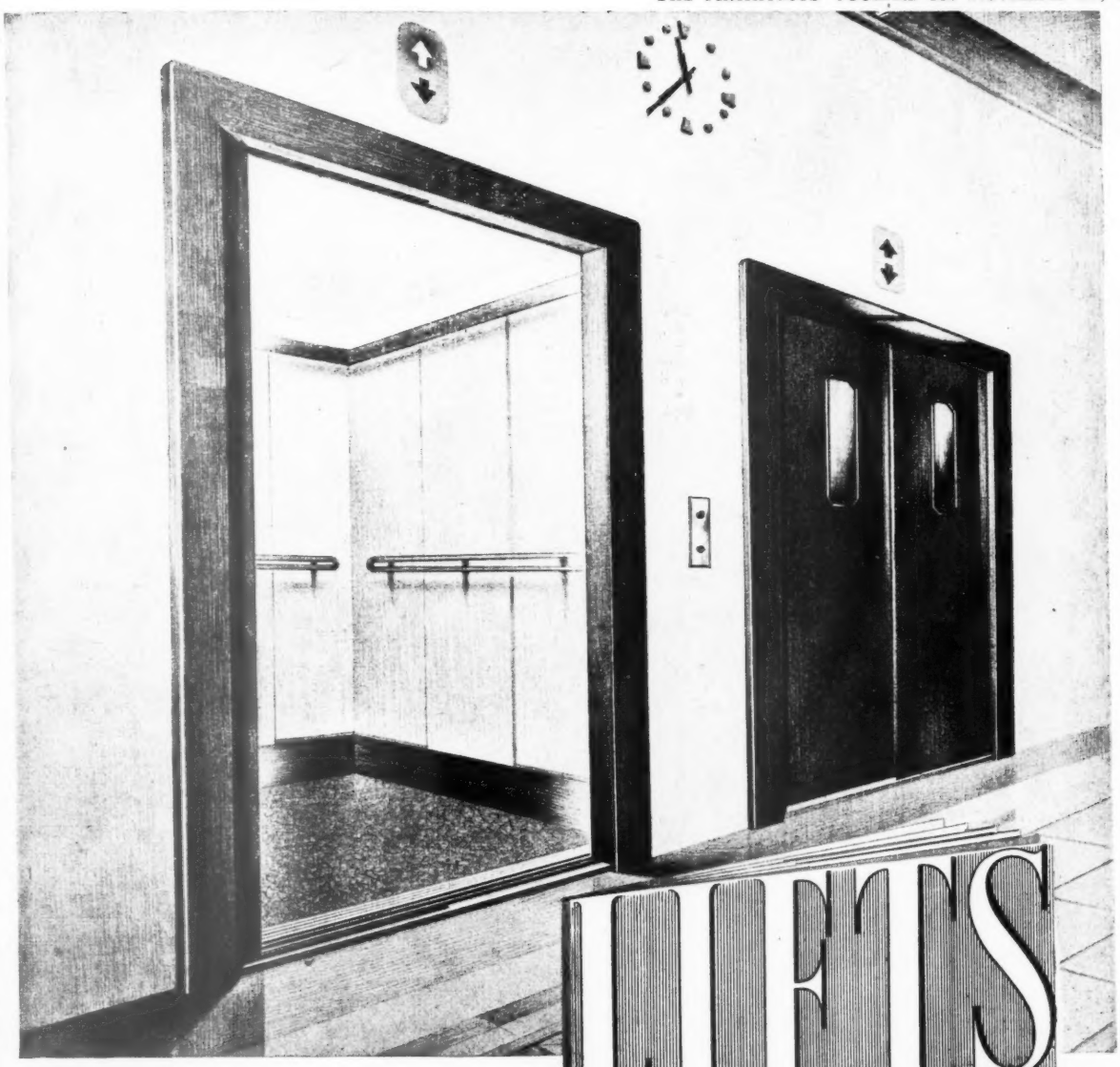

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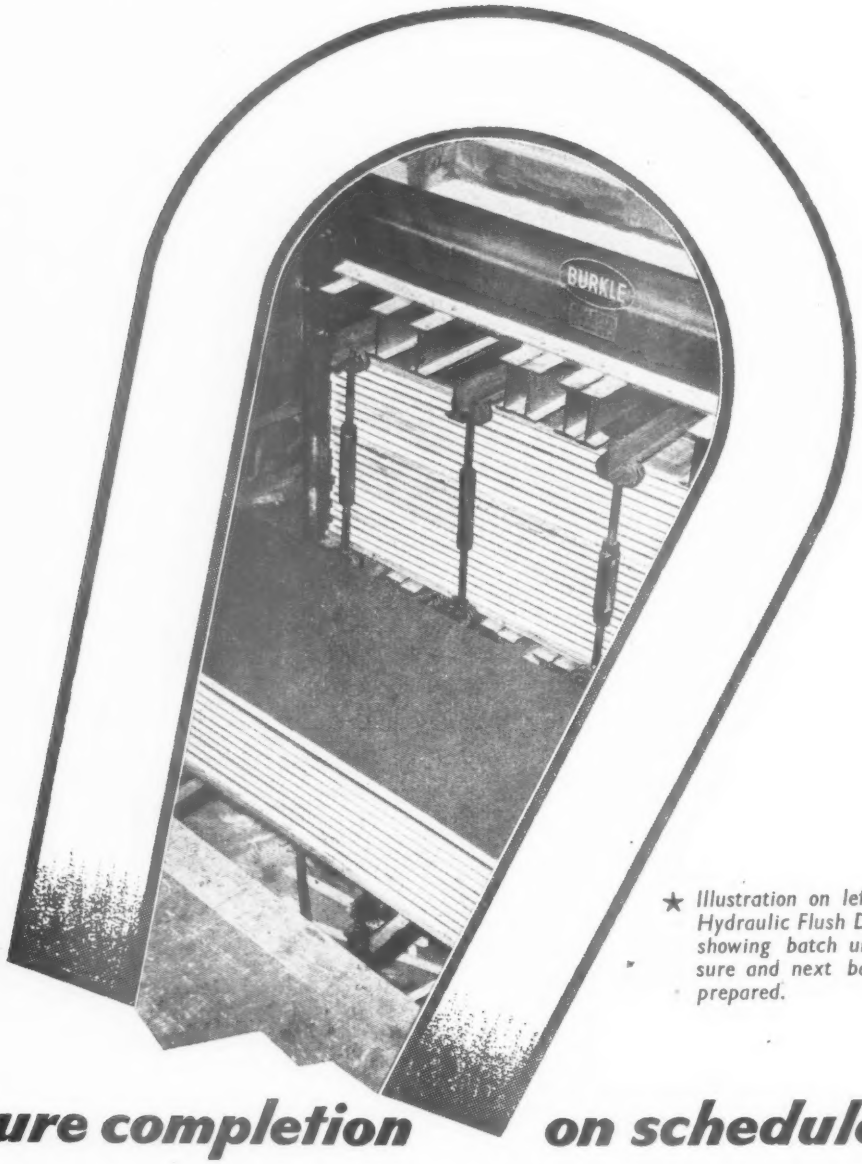

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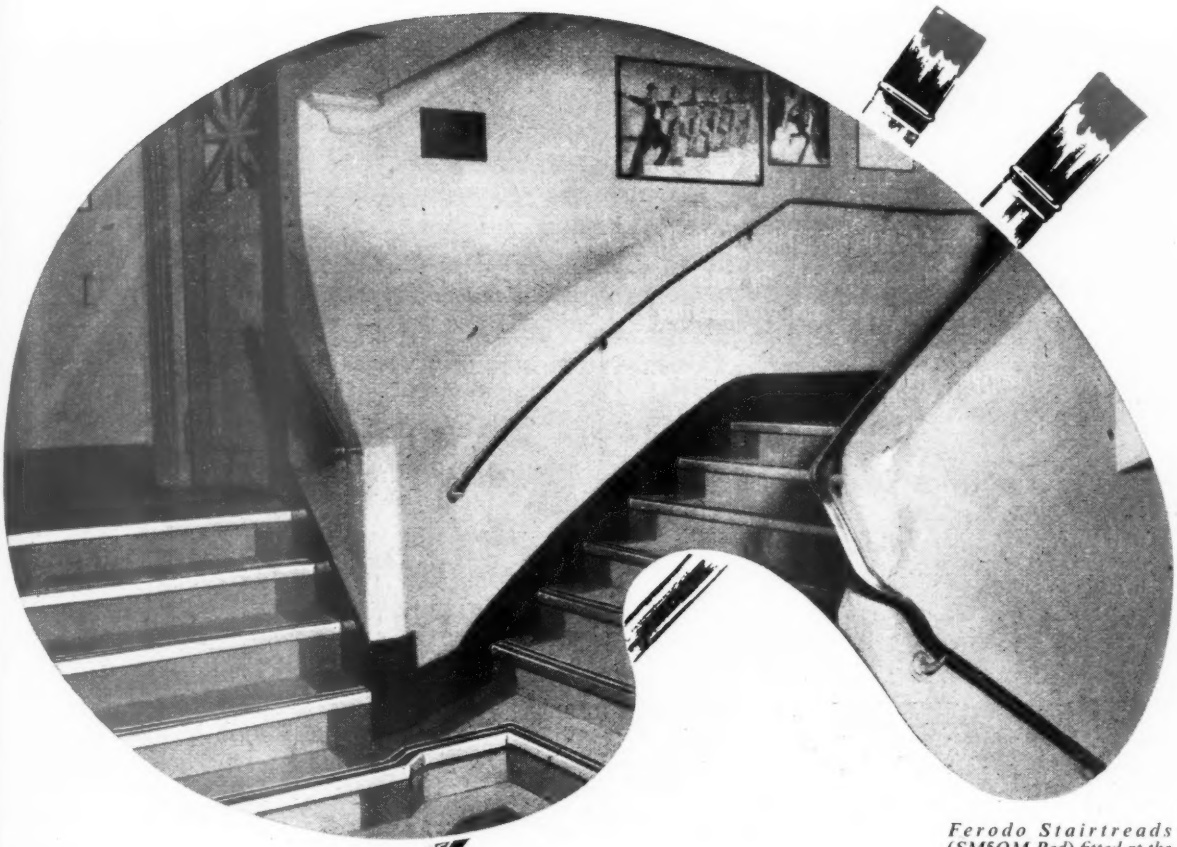

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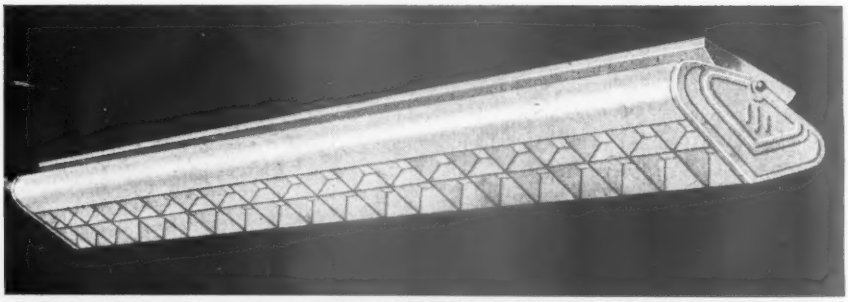
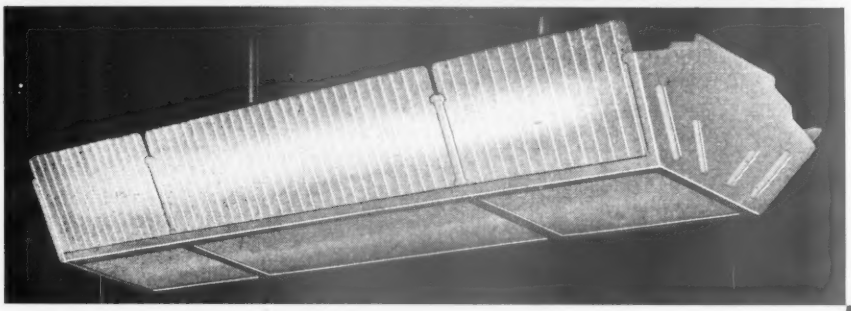


FF15/2/DLX Diffuser and metal louvre fitting for two 80w. 5 ft. lamps.
(Top left)



F1002 Semi-indirect diffusing glass panel fitting for two 80w. 5 ft. lamps.
(Bottom left)

DP876 Diffusing glass pendant fitting for tungsten lighting. Ball swing joint. Polished 3-ply opal glassware with metal louvre in base.
(Top right)

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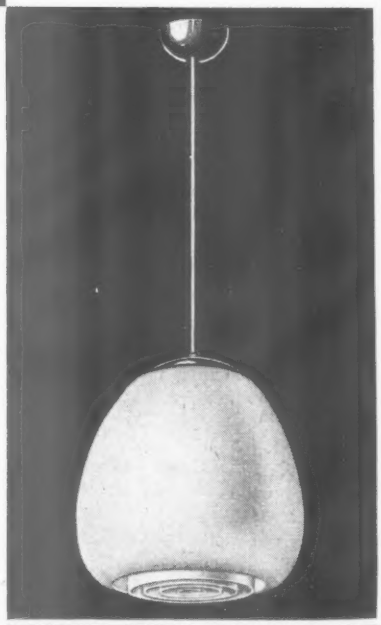

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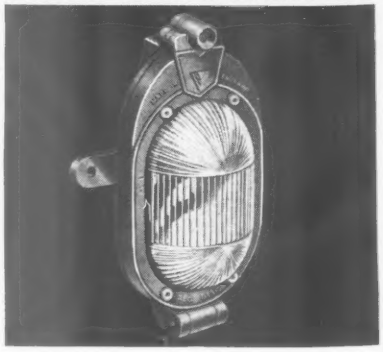

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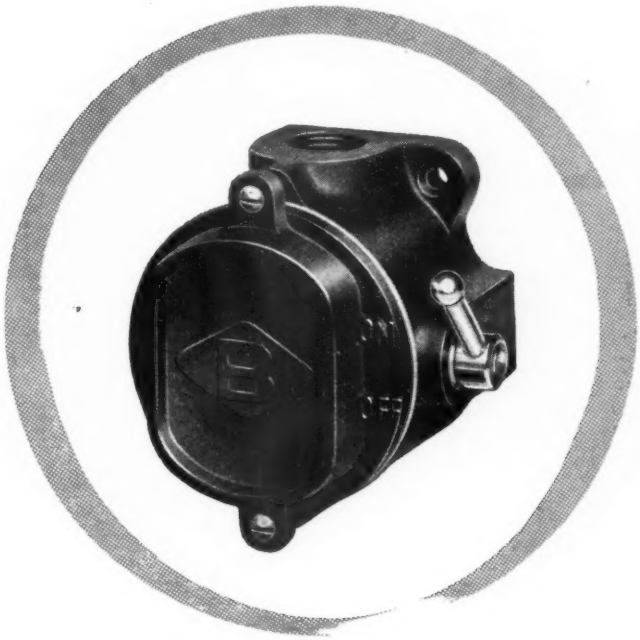

the points in favour . . .

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THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

9, 11 & 13, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, London, S.W.1 Whitehall 0611

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NO £300M

So my rather obvious guess of three weeks ago wasn't so very wrong; the £300 million compensation is *not* to be paid out, and although it was obvious that the development charge would be reduced, nobody seems to have assumed that it would disappear altogether. The changes in the Town and Country Planning Act will no doubt be thoroughly analysed elsewhere in the JOURNAL, so let me just call attention to one or two things. First, if you have paid *more* than existing use value and development charge on top of that, then you can get the excess back. Claims for *loss* by owners of land are more involved, but it seems that, if town planning permission is refused, then compensation *will* be paid, on the basis of the original claim, plus interest. In any event, these changes should encourage the people who have been returning private licences to go ahead and build.

UNO OR MGM?

On pages 633 and 634 are photographs of the new UN Assembly Hall, designed by Wallace K. Harrison. "Is this," says the current issue of *Architectural Forum*, "the bankruptcy of the international style or does it mean a turning point of modern architecture?" "Is it," asks *Life* magazine, "a kind of modern Noah's Ark for all species of men?"—or is it, as US architect Paul Rudolph suggests, "nothing but a background for a Grade B Movie with Rita Hayworth dancing up the main ramp?" Your guess is as good as mine, as we must all judge only from photographs, which is something no critic ought ever to do—but if you want my guess, my sympathies lie with Mr. Rudolph. The golden sloping walls of the main hall (p. 633), however acoustically ingenious they may be, look restless and minatory, succeeding only—as Rudolph says—in "symbolizing a world crashing in upon itself" within this gilded cage. The eye swims unhappily in search of rest and coherence like a fly round a lampshade, recoiling with understandable vehemence from Léger's over-dominant murals, the harshly emphasized horizontals of the gallery, or the BIF'ish display behind the rostrum. Taken individually, the units of which this room is composed are unexceptionable. Together they fail to build up into a composed and disciplined interior—a fault, incidentally, with which some critics have accused the Royal Festival Hall, and of which acoustic science may be the cause. No such excuse, however, can be lodged in defence of the entrance lobby (p. 634), with its vertical and horizontal elements locked in a fibrous plaster battle which is as phoney and theatrical as if Cedric Gibbons himself were in charge of the set.

*

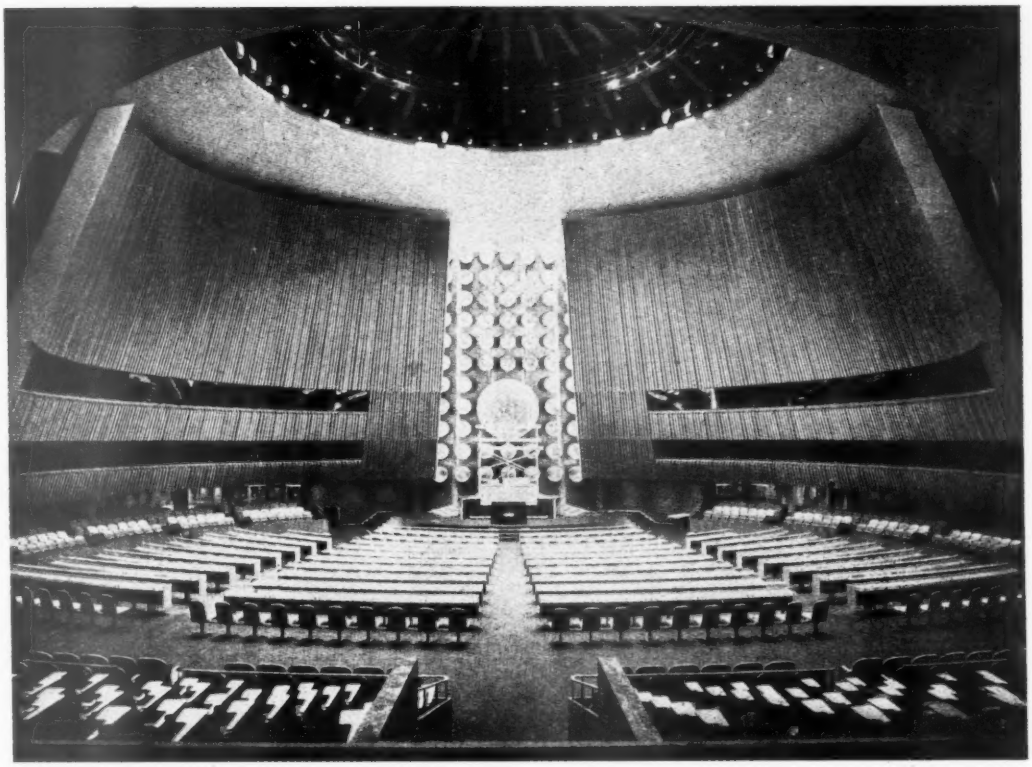
Now we all know Wallace K. Harrison to be an able and sensitive architect: we all know, too—and it's worth repeating—that it's impossible to judge from photographs. All the same, in ASTRAGAL'S view this interior is a major disappointment, and it's no comfort either to be reminded that Britain's contribution—an oak-panelled meeting room with some indescribably trivial carvings by John Skeaping—is a disappointment, too.

THE ARCHITECT IN FICTION

From drama—or shall we say melodrama?—in architecture ASTRAGAL turns more happily to the architect in drama. Last week's note on this subject has brought him a stern reminder that he forgot one of the few examples—perhaps the only one—of the architect's appearance in a play as both an inspiring and an inspired figure: Ibsen's *Master Builder*. This character's tower, you will remember, was not only designed to shatter the stars but was a rival in his love life. Ibsen may have had in mind nothing more dramatic than the (then) new tower of Copenhagen town-hall, but that was good enough in its day.

*

If the architect in drama cuts a poor figure, the architect in fiction is not much better. That he can be neither



Does the UN Assembly Hall in America symbolise, in the words of an American architect, " a world crashing in upon itself " ? ASTRAGAL'S *views on this building, which is also illustrated on pages 634 and 641, appears on page 631.*

the wicked big businessman nor the single minded artist is, one supposes, the explanation—a hybrid, by Plumber out of Archælogian. It is, with exceptions, only the man who has reason to know the architect who writes about him. W. J. Locke, as RIBA secretary, did make his *Beloved Vagabond* sketch out a superb Prix de Rome esquisse on the café table—but then secretaries of the RIBA no longer write romantic novels. And Thomas Hardy was being merely autobiographical when the heroine of *A Pair of Blue Eyes* stumbled upon the hero in the gloom of the village church, while he was "sketching Gothic detail."

*

Which leaves us only with Bosinney, the immortal architect of Robin Hill. What was he? The house, with its vistas and covered cortile has a smack of Clouds about it; the detail, however, so far as one can interpret Galsworthy's long and fascinating description, suggests Makintosh. Nevertheless, for purely private reasons ASTRAGAL'S own bet is on Godwin. None of the " pioneers " died Bosinney's tragic death anyway, and Robin Hill cannot really have been a very nice house. Which raises another point: if Bosinney was a real architect, is Robin Hill still a real house? Any suggestions.

*

If the architect gets a poor deal from the novelist, architecture itself gets a worse one. I can remember several cases of heroines (surely very tall girls) leaning against lintels. And now Dickson Carr—and surely the detective writer should be accurate, if no one else is—opens his latest effort, *The Nine Wrong Answers*, with a chapter in which the hero bumps into the jamb of an open door and then listens to a sinister conversation through an open transome. On the other hand, we should always be grateful to Miss Sayers for asking W. J. Redhead to sketch for us correctly and elegantly both the perspective and the plan of Fenchurch St. Paul—alias Walpole St. Peter.

*

And the Pecksniffs? Well, they're still around. You've only got to go to . . . well, never mind where.

ROYAL PATRONAGE

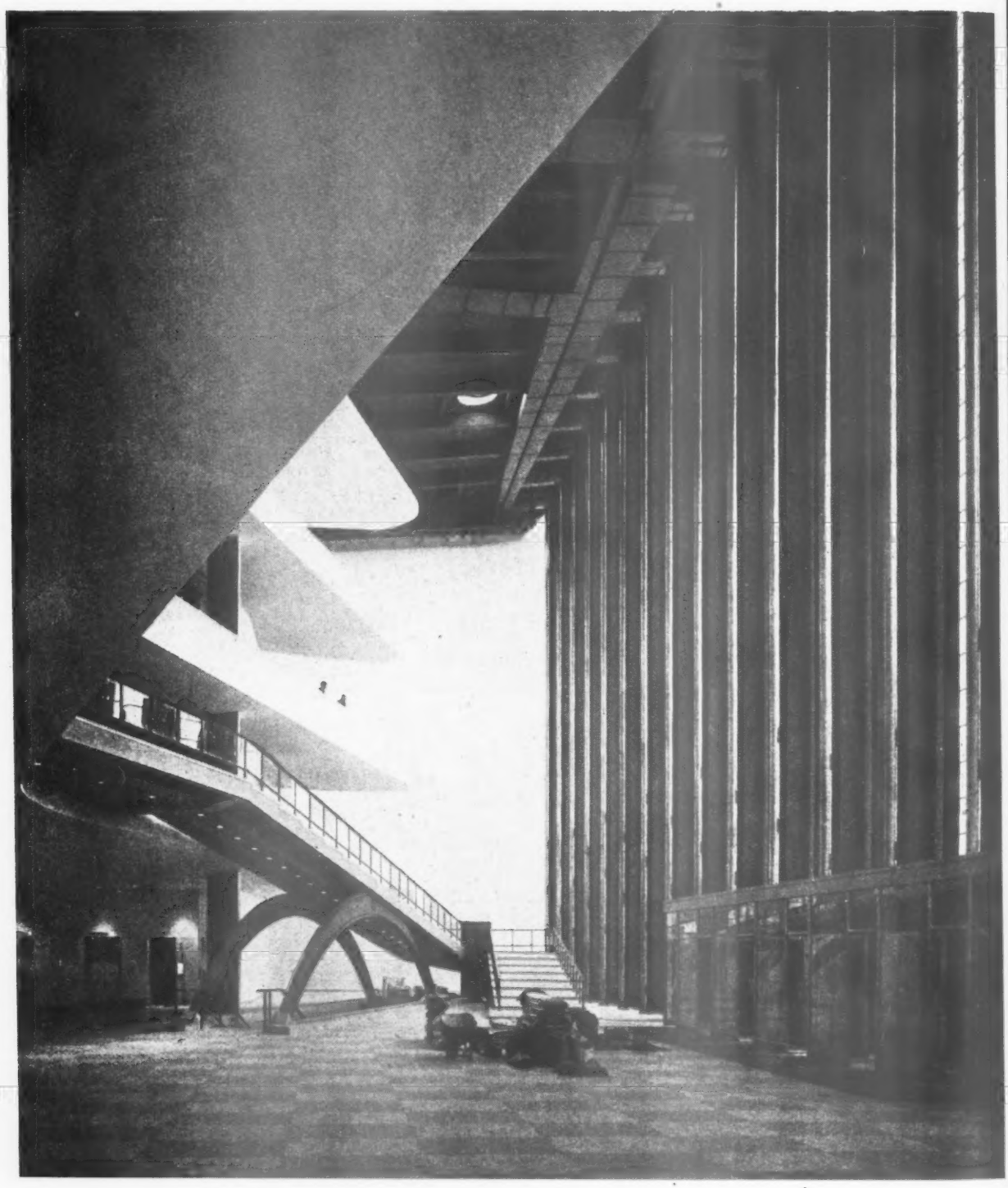
" Look well at it, my dear; for this, perhaps, is what modern architecture is going to be." Thus Albert to his wife as he showed her Paxton's sketches. In other words, a Prince Consort should have a line of his own. With Albert it was an earnest and romantic line—but emphatically his own. He might collect Primitives but he did not despise iron.

*

Soon we may have another Prince Consort, and in any case the Coronation Year must bring reflections on the subject of Royal Patronage of the Arts. Royalty can no longer afford to patronize directly and on a big scale—as Prinny did—but nevertheless this is the one field left where they can have a line of their own, and a Prince Consort especially, since he is neither inside nor outside the constitution, is in a good position.

*

In this matter of patronage Royalty has the difficult task of taking a line of its own and of being advised what developments are going on. King George V, you may remember, had his weekly



Shock!

This is the entrance hall that UN delegates in New York will pass through on their way to discuss peace in their new Assembly Hall. It will surely be no more reassuring to them than the poker-work plaque—"Don't Worry, It May Never Happen"—in the doctor's waiting room. Perhaps you may think that this geometrical war is a piece of applied psychology and that the hall itself presents a contrasting atmosphere of peace and harmony. But it does not, as is shown by the photograph on the previous page. There may, of course, be some excuse for the ugly blare of the hall's design, as ASTRAGAL points out elsewhere; it may be due to the requirements of acoustics science. In any case the probable effect on delegates' minds can be summed up in the word the *Architectural Forum* uses to describe the building's effect —"shock." And that word is surely an understatement for the reaction of architects to this extraordinary diversion from Wallace K. Harrison's more restrained work on the UN Secretariat and on the Conference Building.

dinners for distinguished men who kept him abreast of the world of art and science. That seems a good idea. "Official" bodies should be shunned. The Duke of Edinburgh will seek advice, but it is in where he seeks it that he can, and will, be himself.

THE ABBEY ANNEXE

There could hardly be a trickier architectural task than putting an annexe on to Westminster Abbey for the Coronation. Apart altogether from the perennial problem of what kind of structure makes the best contemporary addition to an ancient monument, the site is a very difficult one, complicated by trees that cannot be interfered with, and the design has to be approved by any number of authorities who impose decisions that have nothing to do with architecture. The MOW architects have ASTRAGAL'S sympathy.

*

No design pleases everyone, but everyone will agree that Eric Bedford and his colleagues have made a tremendous advance since previous Coronations; some of my readers will remember the 1911 structure in carefully imitated Gothic, even to the painted effect of discoloured stonework, and most of my readers will remember the modernistic affair of 1937, reminiscent of Wembley exhibition.

*

My own feeling is that more might have been learnt from the South Bank exhibition about the technique of making temporary structures *look* temporary. However light a tubular steel frame, when it is concealed by a complete cladding of wall-board, the result is as solid to look at as masonry, and it is difficult to give it the gaiety proper to an occasion like this one.

*

For gaiety the annexe will depend on the heraldic sculpture. There's to be plenty of this; so much so that the sculptor appointed, Mr. Woodford, will have his work cut out if he is really to carve it all himself. We sadly lack a *school* of carvers who can be relied on to produce sensitive and consistent work under the control of a master designer. We all know that the reason is the lack of demand for architectural sculpture. Perhaps the Coronation will stimulate a new demand for it.

ASTRAGAL

POINTS FROM THIS ISSUE

The Editors

IS THE TENDERING SYSTEM SATISFACTORY?

IN replying to a question about the working of the London Builders' Conference, the Minister of Works suggested that the "combined operations" of architect, quantity surveyor and contractor were unsatisfactory, and that, if they were to be improved, the lead should come from the RIBA. This may be true ; it is a question to which we will return later. But so far as the Conference is concerned, it is difficult to see how the RIBA could have done more than express its "strong disapproval" and suggest a form of declaration which all architects should ask tenderers to sign. As the president of the RIBA pointed out in a letter to *The Times* last week, the RIBA has taken the matter up both with the NFBTE and the MOW; it can hardly be blamed if neither of these bodies has responded very well.

If the London Builders' Conference is as pernicious an organization as its detractors think, the remedy has always lain in official hands. If the LCC, the MOW, the Service departments and the nationalized industries insisted on the signing of the RIBA form of declaration and disqualified builders who refused to sign, the Conference would come to an end forthwith. Building work for individual owners now forms such a small percentage of the whole that it can exert little influence on general building practice.

In the past, builders and contractors have justified their independent existence by claiming that free competition and open tendering ensured the lowest price for every job. If at the same time they organize a system whereby "open" tendering becomes a sort of caucus race in which every competitor receives a consolation prize, then private enterprise has ceased to be enterprising in its proper sense. Should open tendering be reconsidered? At least one very successful firm has for several years carried out large contracts on a management basis for an agreed fee. This, however, involves a major change in the usual methods and is perhaps not suitable for general use. There is a possible alternative which we put forward as a very tentative suggestion which should be worth further discussion. This is that tenders should be paid for. The idea may sound revolutionary but it is not so different from what, in effect, seems to happen under the system practised by the London Builders' Conference. Quoting *Hansard** again, to the "fair price" is added 2s. per £100 for jobs up to £50,000, and 1s. per £100 for work

* November 7, Volume 507, No. 4

over that amount. This is presumably intended to cover the tenderers' salaries and overheads for costing departments. Assume, as a basis for discussion, that this is a fair figure, then let the building owner pay, say, one half of that amount to each firm his architect invites to submit a tender. This would ensure that the architect would invite only those firms who were, first of all, suitable for the job in hand, and, secondly, only those who were anxious to obtain the work. This is what many builders would like and it might well make life simpler for the architect. It would have the added advantage of showing the client how much he is paying and what he is getting for his money.

A description of the workings of the London Builders' Conference appears on page 640.

PLANNING REVISIONS

The Town and Country Planning Act of 1947 was intended to stand firmly on two legs. One of these was a Development Plan—approved after survey and public inquiry—which would guide all development and changes of land use. The other was the purchase by the nation, in one enormous transaction, of all development values. By this it was hoped to remove, once and for all, the burden of claims for compensation which had prevented effective planning before the war.

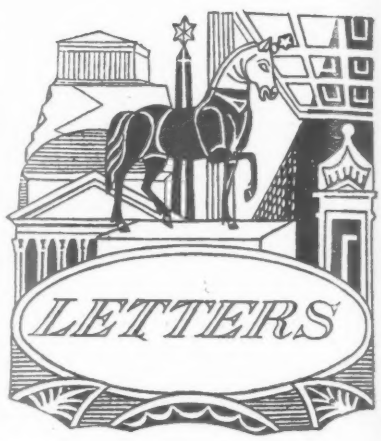
The government has announced its intention of amputating this second leg, and the White Paper* which gives its reasons is remarkable for its simplicity, its understanding of public feeling and the candour with which it lists problems that have to be solved.

The weight of the Act now rests on the remaining leg—the Development Plan. Up to now use zoning has been incorporated in every Plan carefully enough but without any great fear that the boundary of every zone would become a battlefield, and with reasonable hope that in time non-conforming uses could be removed without great cost. Things will be different now. For a decade, planning authorities may be besieged by applications to develop from people who can lay hands on compensation money if they are refused planning permission and only if this occurs.

Secondly, compensation for loss of development value when a planning application is refused will be paid by the Exchequer but Planning Authorities will be expected to act "with due regard to public economy." Here a red light begins to show. We know the Civil servant's passion for fairness and his itch for the rule of thumb; Stepneys, where most things may need changing, may receive the same treatment as Cheltenhams, where nothing much needs to be changed.

We welcome the White Paper, but we must point out that the Act now stands on one leg and that a good substitute for the lost limb has to be provided, otherwise the remaining leg—the Development Plan—will soon give way, and we shall all be back in a state which civilized Britons had thought to be gone for ever.

* Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, etc. *Amendment of Financial Provisions.* HMSO Price 6d.



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RIBA or ARCUK?

SIR,—In my first letter I expressed the hope that the RIBA would continue its policy of raising the standard of qualification for its Associate membership. Let me assure Mr. Martin-Kaye (see letter on November 6) that I am well aware of the apparent lapse in that policy during the past 21 years. Perhaps I should have made that more clear in my letter.

Mr. Ward's second letter (November 6) does not seem to advance his argument in any way. Of course registration is the essential condition for membership of any architectural institution, but the point Mr. Ward originally raised was that it should be the *only* condition, with especial reference to Associate membership of the RIBA. I disagree with him, and have briefly indicated reasons which he has not seen fit to refute.

The diplomas mentioned by Mr. Ward relate to courses in architecture which were designed long before the Registration Acts, with the sole object of qualifying students for Associateship RIBA. They now qualify students for registration. The significant affix is "ARIBA," or simply the word "Architect.". The diploma affix merely indicates which of the recognized schools—recognized in the first instance by the RIBA—provided the architect with his training; it is interesting only to those who know something of the schools concerned.

There will always be many students who wish to do something more than scrape into the profession with the least possible trouble. I submit that it is the duty of the profession to provide a higher qualification for these people. The obvious course is for one of the established institutions to reserve one of its classes of membership for those who pass some more stringent test of competence. If the RIBA does not do this no one else is likely to do so.

There are several architectural institutions and each has the right to form its own policy in this matter without interference. Whatever the majority of these institutions may decide to do—assuming they have any real option to exercise—is unlikely to have any noticeable effect on the future of the profession. The policy of the RIBA, however, in this and in most other matters, directly affects the future both of its own members and of architects generally.

We can only hope that the Council of the RIBA will consider this question thoroughly, if they have not already done so.

MICHAEL SECRETT.

Ealing.

SIR,—Mr. Martin-Kaye says that "there is obviously a strong case for a post-graduate qualification of a higher standard but to date it does not exist." Surely that is not true: it does exist, in the Fellowship.

The RIBA seems to have forgotten this, and has done its best to encourage other people to forget it by lumping Fellows and Associates together in the current edition of the *Kalendar*.

Why does not the RIBA demand that its own members may not practise *on their own account* unless they are Fellows? The standard would be raised immediately and the public would quickly realise it.

This would not mean hardship as, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, this is what happens today. The newly-qualified architect could become an associate and become head of a group in an official architect's department or junior to a Fellow. If he was lucky enough to win a competition early in life, he could do what is normally done today—namely, join forces with an elderly architect and carry on the job as his junior partner.

T. H. B. BURROUGH.

Bristol.

SIR,—I have long felt that there should be some higher or post-registration qualification of real value and distinction open to members of the profession. The Fellowship of the RIBA as constituted at present falls short of this need in that many members of that class have not even passed an examination of the Associateship standard.

There is, therefore, some considerable value in Mr. Martin-Kaye's suggestion.

CLAUDE W. KEMPTON.

London.

Adeyfield: "Not a Slum"

SIR,—I do not intend to discuss the very disputable contentions of your correspondent, Mr. Michael Collins (November 6) regarding the desirability or no of building New Towns. I must however make the readers of his letter aware of his gross misstatement of fact regarding the conditions of the Adeyfield Neighbourhood, Hemel Hempstead.

I am at present a resident of Adeyfield and see a considerable part of it every day. You will agree therefore that I am in a better position to observe the condition of the neighbourhood than your correspondent.

The behaviour of the new tenants on the whole is exemplary. Almost without exception the front and back gardens are kept in order. Grass verges, trees and hedges are well cared for and undamaged. I have seen no cases of broken windows (except perhaps in an unfinished building, and these breakages occur in any locality), and the only damage to woodwork is due to normal deterioration of paint on the first houses to be built.

In a word, the new Neighbourhood of Adeyfield is not, as Mr. Collins would have it, a broken down and derelict slum, but a pleasant and human environment lived in and enjoyed by ordinary reasonable folk.

D. A. H. RITCHIE.

Hemel Hempstead.

Misplaced Architecture

SIR,—Lloyd's of London—or Moscow? What a pity they've missed out the colossus; it's no show without Joe.

CECIL WRIGHT.

Liverpool.

High Paddington

SIR,—The exhibition at present showing at the Building Centre—"High Paddington"—calls for criticism because, amongst other things, it must lay open to some doubt the integrity of modern architects, at any rate from the layman's point-of-view. This scheme, to my mind, contains certain inexplicable features which add up to the worst possible propaganda for the contemporary approach to civic design and which should nonplus a large number of modern architects as well.

I should like to list a few of these points in the form of questions:

Why was this site, in particular, chosen for these skyscrapers in preference to, for instance, an open site at Putney?

What functions prompted the eccentric patterning of the façades which represent to me the most extreme, unrealistic and inhuman of this kind I have yet seen?

Do architects really believe (and one must assume that they do since this is a project) that this scheme for immensely tall, closely-knit blocks is the most pleasant and ideal solution to city redevelopment when it is remembered that people have to live in these buildings—that they are not purely colossal *objets d'arts*?

To be frank, my first impression of the scheme was that of a terra-cotta, spired, twentieth-century folly which appeared to have been designed regardless of its environment, unlike, for example, the Marseilles block by Le Corbusier, and from mainly unarchitectural motives.

Looking at the cleverly faked aerial shot of the model in its existing surroundings I felt I was gazing (and this is not an unusual reaction to the photographs of several post-war housing schemes) over the old nightmare on to the new nightmare.

However, I would like to add that I admire the architects for their courage in going through with this project, if not their building.

STEPHEN GARDINER.

Chelsea.

"Warped Decadency" at V and A

SIR,—Of the many reports on the V and A exhibition of Victorian and Edwardian Decorative Arts made by eminent critics, I find it extraordinary that they all agree that the modern movement in furniture and decorative design springs from this lamentable and utterly worthless period of art. An exception, of course, is the excellent unconscious industrial design of this era displayed recently by the Veteran Car Run, and in such diverse objects as early aeroplanes and pub fittings.

I think it very dangerous that the V and A should show this gross exhibition of warped decadency at a time when public taste is still so uncertain, without any indication that it is only a cul-de-sac that has had no good influence on British culture.

Is it not obvious that textile designers are influenced by illustrations of biological research rather than any free flowing foliage or chirping bluebirds by Morris and his associates. Similarly with furniture, is it not the pure Greek, the Georgian and the structure of an early aeroplane that has been the inspiration for much of the best modern work?

TERENCE CONRAN.

London.

House and Garden Colours

SIR,—I have no direct connection with your contemporary *House & Garden*, but—both as a consumer and a producer—I applaud their unique enterprise in sponsoring "House & Garden" colours. With all due respect, I therefore wish to challenge some of the criticisms recorded by ASTRAGAL in your issue of October 9. I maintain the order in which he raises them.

Firstly, as one with manufacturing interests, I believe that such a scheme was *very necessary*—even overdue. Experience gained since its inception not only supports this theory but brings to light the fact that the all-important consumer, and architects, progressive retail houses, and other manufacturers, are likewise appreciative of what has been, and is being, done by this companion magazine to *Vogue*.

True that the BCC issues a splendid Dictionary of Standard Colours, but how many consumers even know of its existence? And, excellent and invaluable as it is, who—except *House & Garden*—has had the initiative to bring wallpaper, paint, furnishing fabric, carpet, linoleum and other manufacturers together to present a *manageable* number of attractive toning colours for the approval of consumers and the trade?

Secondly, I would say that it has been *stimulating and healthy*—in direct contrast to irritating—to architects, consumers, and the trade to have colour-interest promoted in this way. As I see the position, there is no question of "taking over" a number of colours; they are, I understand, the result of the Rahr Colour Count in the USA, and I would like ASTRAGAL to point out the same colours in the BCC Dictionary, comprehensive though it is.

Thirdly, what is wrong with publicity when it is serving a useful purpose in the interests of all—and there are many—concerned? As this scheme has developed, it is neither more nor less than valuable collaboration between some of Britain's most reputable manufacturers, attractively presented to consumers under the capable wing of *House & Garden*. It is stimulating interest in furnishings to a degree hitherto unknown; it is of interest and value to the consumer to whom *House & Garden*, the retail trade, and manufacturers endeavour to give service.

Finally, why on earth should a hostess be annoyed upon hearing her guest exclaim: "Oh! I see you've got 'House & Garden Pink' curtains" if the result is pleasing? One must admit, of course, that such a possibility is far more likely than hearing the expression "Ah! I notice you have CC 298 Fluorite Violet."

I do hope that ASTRAGAL will go along to see the *House & Garden* range; it will be good for his poor old jaundiced eyes!

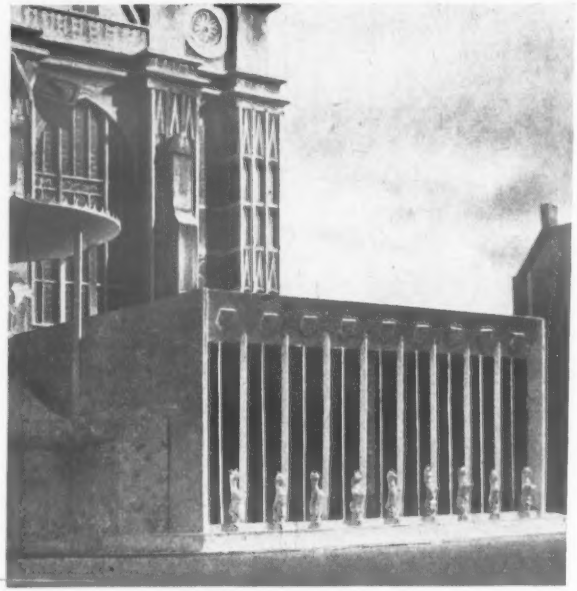
FRANK H. STOCKWELL.

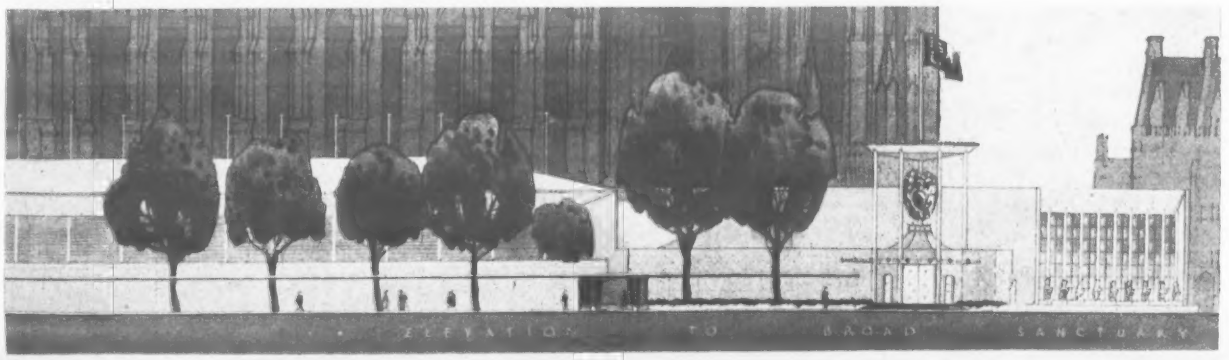
London.

ANNEXE TO WESTMINSTER ABBEY

DESIGNS BY MINISTRY OF WORKS

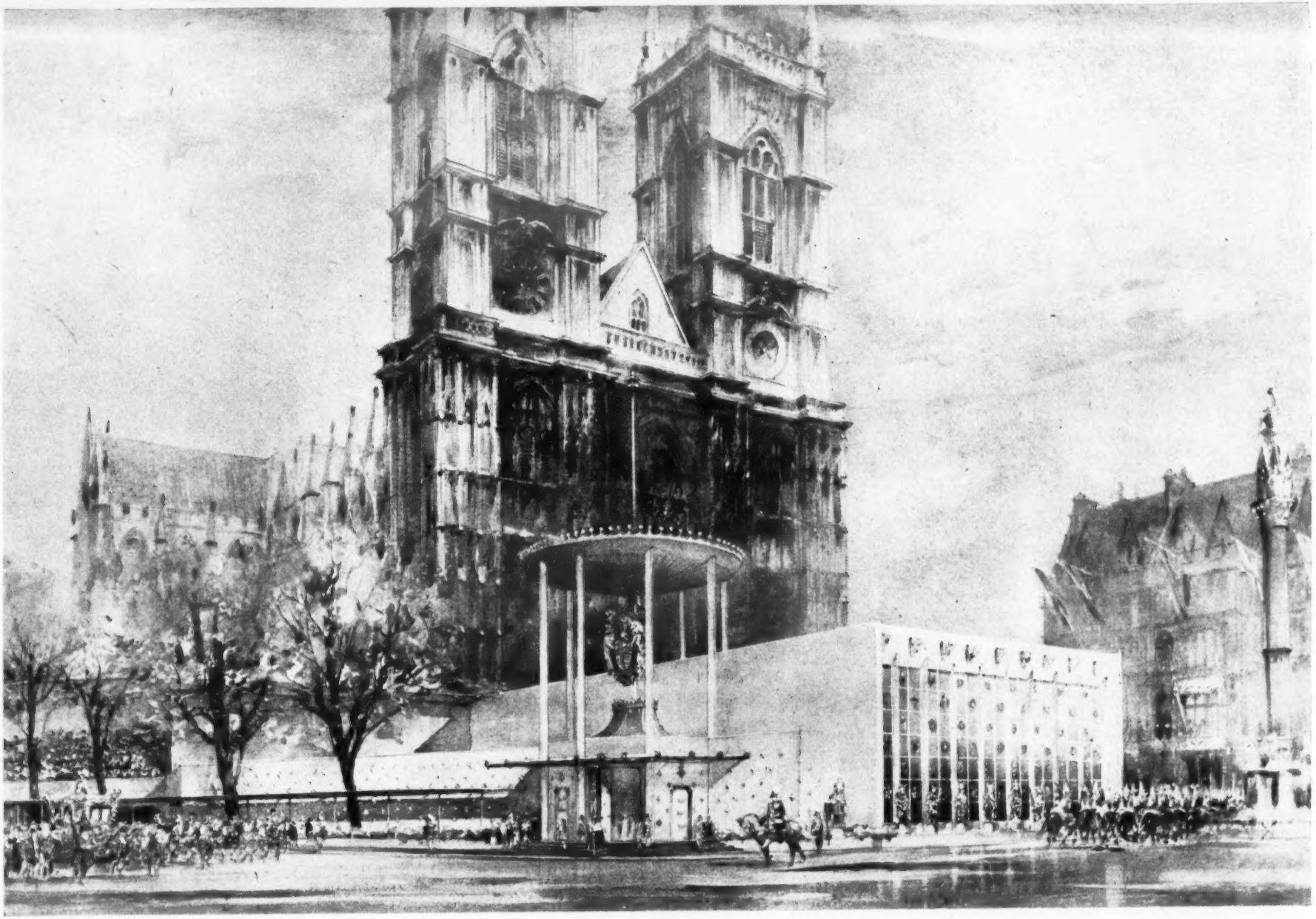
Last week Mr. Eccles, Minister of Works, held a second press conference concerning arrangements for the Coronation ; he outlined schedules for the erection of stands, the number of people that will be accommodated and the price of the seats to the public. The most important item was his proposal for the Annexe to Westminster Abbey. The Queen, on her arrival at the Abbey, will use the canopied entrance, which forms the focal point of the building. The procession will then assemble in the hall. The building will remain open to the public after the Coronation.





An annexe to Westminster Abbey is to be erected outside the west door to facilitate the Coronation ceremony. Its purpose is to provide a hall for the assembly of the grand procession and robing and retiring rooms for those taking part in the ceremony. Such a building has been found necessary since the coronation of William IV in 1831. The structure, which is temporary, has been designed by Eric Bedford, the chief architect, MOW. The senior architect in charge is William S. Bryant. Economy has been the main consideration as regards design and materials used. Construction is of a light tubular steel frame, asbestos and felt roof, timber and hardboard cladding to walls. Colours and sculpture are to play an important part in relieving the rather severe lines of building, which is divided into three elements, the entrance, hall and ancillary rooms. The entrance has a transparent canopy ; a coat of arms is suspended over the entrance, beneath a circular roof. The hall has large mullioned, semi-transparent windows decorated with national emblems. Ten heraldic sculptures decorate the base of the hall. The fascia is lined with the Commonwealth arms and emblems. Both sculptures and emblems will be executed by James Woodford, the sculptor. The cost of the whole work, including furnishings and decorations, is estimated at £50,000. Work on the annexe is to start before Christmas. Top left is the elevation facing north. Top right is the hall as seen from the grandstand on the new Colonial Office site. Left, elevation to Parliament Square. Below, an artist's general impression.

Colonial Office site. Left, elevation to Parliament Square. Below, an artist's general impression.



LONDON BUILDERS' CONFERENCE

"Fair-Price Scheme" Partially Suspended

In a letter to the Ministry of Works (issued also to the Press), Sir Alfred Hurst, chairman of the London Builders' Conference, writes that he has been authorized by his Council to state that they would welcome the fullest investigation of the objectives and method of operation of the Conference, either by the Monopolies Commission or by any other impartial body.*

In the meantime, the letter continues, while the matter was *sub judice*, they were suspending completely the operation of the "Fair-Price Scheme" *wherever discriminatory action was not being continued against members of the Conference.*

At a recent Press Conference, Sir Alfred Hurst defended the work of his organization. The "Fair-Price Scheme" had, he said, been operated since the war only in one case out of each 500, and then only if the lowest proposed tender was ridiculously low. Asked how the Conference knew that one of the tenders was going to be low, he did not go into details, but made it clear that firms voluntarily informed the Conference, not only of their intention to tender for a job, but of the figure they intended to submit. But, even without the Conference, Sir Alfred claimed that builders got to know their competitors for a particular contract.

The principal advantages which the builders got from membership of the Conference was information. They wanted to know, at a time when they could afford to pick and choose their jobs, who their competitors were and whether a job was really worth their while competing for. Later they wanted advance information as to whether or not they were likely to receive the contract so that they knew what their future commitments were going to be.

During the cut-throat competition of the 'thirties, the scheme had, Sir Alfred admitted, tended to raise the general level of tenders, and, if similar conditions returned, the scheme might again have this effect. Sir Alfred explained, however, that he thought this was justified because the nature of the building industry, with its flexible labour force, made some measure of protection for builders necessary during difficult periods.

Membership of the *London* Builders' Conference, said Sir Alfred, was under 300; of the Southern organization, also under 300; and the total membership of similar organizations in the whole country, about 1,000.

[The so-called "Fair-Price Scheme" is a scheme whereby members of the Conference submit to the Conference their proposed tenders for a job. The Conference then takes an average figure, which the lowest tenderer submits to the architect, each of the other firms raising their tender in proportion, so that the sequence of tenders is not affected. This scheme should not be confused with the Conference's "Tender Cost Scheme," which is a scheme to compensate unsuccessful tenderers for the cost of preparing their tenders. In this scheme all the tenders are "scaled-up" by a small percentage varying according to the size of the contract and depending on the number of firms who have been asked to tender. It thus penalises the building owner who asks an unnecessarily large number of firms to compete for a contract and eases the burden on the building owner who is content to ask only a small, carefully-selected list of firms to compete.]

* This was suggested in Parliament recently by the Minister of Works and other M P's.

ABT

The Role of the Technician in Society

The technician, said Kenneth Campbell at a Conference on November 15, is a new kind of man. He belongs to the 20th century, as the tradesman belonged to the 19th century and the craftsman to the pre-industrialized era. Mr. Campbell was chairman of the conference, which had been organized jointly by ABT, ASSET (the Association of Supervisory Staffs, Executives and Technicians) and AScW (the Association of Scientific Workers), to discuss the Role of the Scientist and the Technician in Society.

As industry became more and more complicated, said Mr. Campbell, the gap between the designer and the craftsman increased, the scientist getting further away from the everyday world. The technician had filled the gap, but he was not just a "passer-on" of ideas; he had a creative role and was a key figure in modern society.

We could measure the efficiency of an industry, continued Mr. Campbell, by the role, status and number of technicians in the industry. The building industry, he said, used more obsolete techniques than any other industry, not excepting agriculture. Technicians in the building industry hardly existed; there was one on the design side—the architect—but, in the industry itself, technicians were few, with low status, and with rewards that were exceptionally low—he was lucky if he got the salary of a skilled craftsman. The result was that new materials, new techniques, and new machines existed in embryo, but their application had fallen far behind any other industry.

As an example, Mr. Campbell quoted what he called the desperate and fundamental need for thin, impervious, economical, lightweight and long-lasting panels. There were, he said, many materials—metals, minerals, plastics—that were suitable, yet no panel existed; they were in the laboratory, but not on the site.

MOHLG

Need for Byelaws

Harold Macmillan, Minister of Housing and Local Government, has asked local authorities to make, at the earliest possible moment, building byelaws based upon the new model byelaws. See comment on page 653.

In a circular sent to all housing authorities in England and Wales Mr. Macmillan has stressed that building law ought not to vary from place to place without cogent reasons. Amendments of, or additions to, the provisions in the model will always require justification by reference to special local needs. The new model byelaws have been designed to avoid rigidity and thereby to encourage more efficient building techniques and the better use of materials.

With a view to the new byelaws becoming operative without delay, the Minister has asked local authorities to submit drafts as soon as possible. In the meantime, a further general order under Section 68 of the Public Health Act, 1936, will be issued. But it will not keep existing byelaws in force after June 30, 1953. Only in exceptional circumstances will a local authority's existing byelaws be continued in force after that date.

The circular also draws attention to various objectives of the model byelaws, particularly the need for the most effective use of building materials. The circular adds: "The Minister regrets to note that there is a number of local authorities who have not made building byelaws, and some whose byelaws are based on out-of-date practice. The absence of byelaws in a district not only means that building itself is uncontrolled; it also means that important provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 (such as those requiring satisfactory drainage and water supply) cannot be used."

Out-of-date byelaws, the circular points out, obstruct building and development and add to building costs, and until new byelaws are made, Mr. Macmillan has asked local authorities to have regard to the provisions in the new model. Where a building proposal would comply with these provisions but not with the existing byelaws, the Minister will be prepared to consent to a waiver of the byelaws, particularly if the proposal would save materials or allow the use of modern methods.

DIARY

Decoration and Maintenance of Council Houses. Miss M. Empson. At 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor: Housing Centre.) 1.15 p.m.

DECEMBER 2

Victorian Theatrical Design. James Laver. At V and A Museum, S.W.7. 6.15 p.m.

DECEMBER 3

School Heating Research. Dr. J. C. Weston. At the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, Storey's Gate, S.W.1. (Sponsor: DSIR.) 6 p.m.

DECEMBER 3

Kodachrome Slides, Greece and Turkey. Michael Ventris. At 34, Bedford Square, W.C.1. (Sponsor: AA.) 6 p.m.

DECEMBER 3

ABS Annual Ball. At Dorchester Hotel. Tickets £2 2s. obtainable from C. J. Epril, 55, Pall Mall, S.W.1. 8.30 p.m.

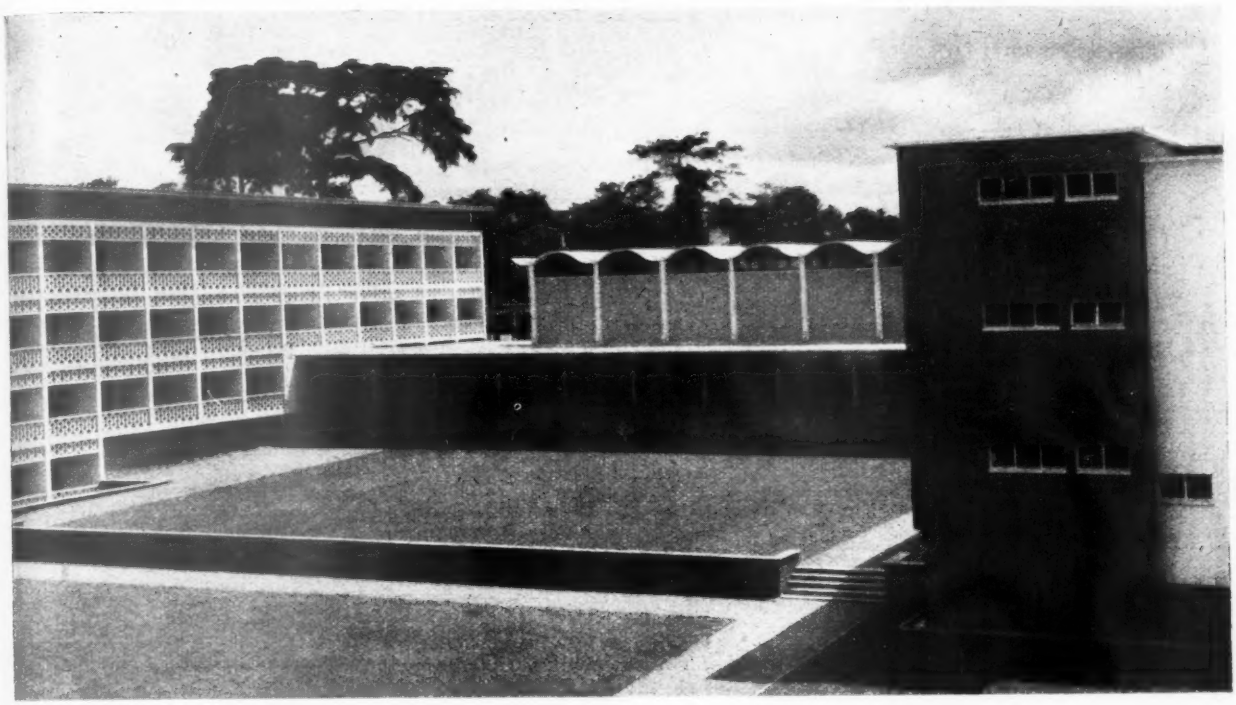
DECEMBER 10

Winter Flower Decoration. Designer, Betty Massingham. At Craftsman's Market, Heal & Son, 196, Tottenham Court Road, W.1.

UNTIL DECEMBER 24

Victorian and Edwardian Decorative Arts: Exhibition. At V and A Museum, Kensington. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays: 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

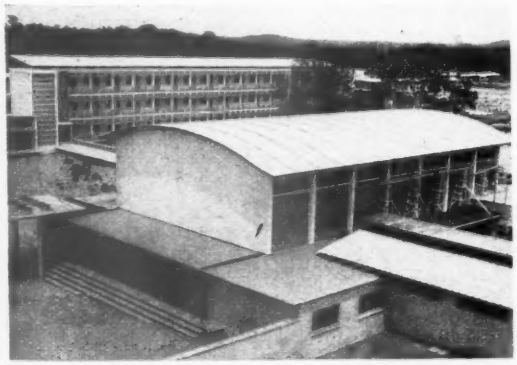
UNTIL JANUARY 18



BUILDINGS IN THE NEWS

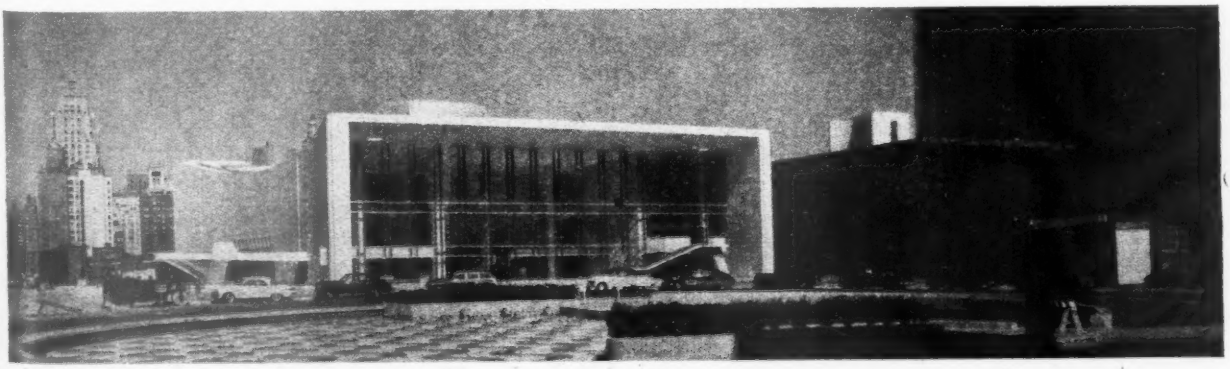
Ibadan University College, Nigeria

An administrative centre for Ibadan University College, Nigeria, is under construction to the design of Fry, Drew and Partners. Above: a quadrangle. Right: a hall of residence. Below: the gymnasium.



UN Assembly Hall, New York

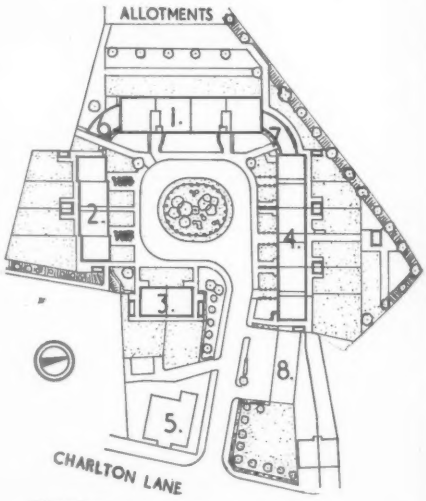
The exterior of the recently completed UN Assembly Hall, New York, seen below, gives no hint of the surprise hatched inside it (see pages 633 and 634).



HOUSING FOR COMPANY EMPLOYEES AT CHARLTON, LONDON, S.E.7

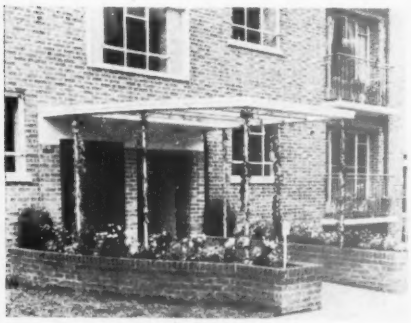
KEY

1. 16 flats
2. 4 houses
3. 2 houses
4. 4 flats and 6 maisonettes
5. LCC welfare centre
6. Pram shed
7. Laundry and pram shed
8. Lock-up garage



Site plan

The houses and flats illustrated on this page, form an extension to the Harvey Gardens Housing Estate, built by G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., for their employees. This scheme, known as Prentiss Court, was opened a few weeks ago by Harold Macmillan, M.P., the Minister of Housing and Local Government, and was designed by Howes and Jackman. The site, just over 1½ acres in extent, was purchased by the company in 1936, but it was not until 1950 that a licence was obtained. The photograph above shows the block of 16 two-bedroom flats; on the left are two-storey three-bedroom houses. Above, right, is a typical flat kitchen, and below are two entrances, that on the left to the flat block and; that on the right to the block on the north of the site, which contains 4 three-bedroom flats and 6 maisonettes. The house accommodation consists of a living room, dining room, kitchen, two double bedrooms and one single, separate bathroom and W.C. and an outside store. Domestic hot water for the houses is provided from inset boilers in the dining rooms; in the flats there are back boilers to living room fireplaces. The buildings are generally of normal brick construction, with metal windows and pantile roofs. The flats have reinforced concrete floors covered with asphalt composition tiles. The general contractors were Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons, Ltd. Sub-contractors on page 660.



This week Mr. Watkins discusses the White Paper on Town and Country Planning. An editorial on this subject appears on page 636.

ERNEST WATKINS

The Architect and Current Affairs

First thoughts on the government's Town and Country Planning White Paper are, inevitably, mixed. It is doubtful if there will be much argument, or protest, about the government's plans to change the character of the £300 million compensation fund (save from those who, optimistically, had counted their eggs, at the rate of sixteen shillings to the pound, anyway, before they were hatched. It is curious how that fund has seemed to change over the five years. At first, it looked no more than a sop from the socialists to the landowners—"That's what we think you should get for your rights; take it or leave it"—and surveyors up and down the country cried that £300 million would provide no more than a dividend of pence in the pound on the admissible claims. Now, it would seem that, under the vigorous scrutiny of the inland revenue valuers, the development values of all land in Great Britain were worth no more than £350 million. With that figure in evidence, the picture changed.

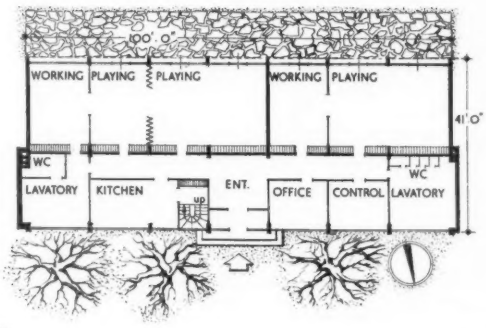
The fund is no longer a sop to conscience. It will become, in fact, if not in name, a source of real compensation for those claims which are real in themselves, and, as described in the White Paper, the government's plans for ensuring that this principle is followed are reasonably sound. The owner of land who sold it at full market value and who has an admitted claim for development value will not find it so easy to induce the Treasury to part with cash in compensation, for his real loss is nil. There will be cases of hardship, too; the man who paid full market value for a plot and then a development charge on top of that will find no one authorized to return the development charge. But the basis has a rough justice for the majority. After all, the man who bought a second-hand motor twelve months ago is, financially, no better off than the man who paid his development charge. There are gambles over Acts of Parliament as well as over cars.

GOVERNMENT'S LACK OF COURAGE

The real arguments will arise over the government's decision to abandon the development charge completely, for that is putting the clock back a long way. It is abandoning even the pretension to

KINDERGARTEN AT BREMEN, GERMANY

In the town of Bremen, which lost 60 per cent. of its buildings during the war, great emphasis is being laid on educational building, especially for young children, who have attended school in rooms scattered among the ruins until recently. The kindergarten illustrated here is designed by Commichau and Krajewski of the West German Federal Republic Board of Works. The photograph right shows the south facade seen from south-east; below right is the south terrace with a sculptured bear on the left; the bottom picture is from the north-west. Folding partitions enable rooms to serve several purposes, such as playing, eating or sleeping, as occasion demands, and furniture is made adaptable to several uses. Window frames are of wood with lintels 1½ bricks in height. Floors are wooden and windows can be fully curtained to give an atmosphere of comfort and security and there are built-in pelmets. In Bremen the number of school buildings, elementary, secondary and technical rose between 1945 and 1951 from 64, 9 and 10 to 78, 14 and 16 respectively. The increase in number of classrooms was 251, 50 and 111 to 900, 183 and 270. (Information supplied by Howard Frobisher and Ehrhard Reusche).



Plan

claim " betterment " for the community, and that claim has been part of the planning acts for a generation. No one is going to be happy over the government's plans, for the government has not had the courage to be logical—or, perhaps, it could not face such extravagance.

The White Paper expresses a wish to promote the private development of land, and claims that the abandonment of the development charge and the restoration of the free market in land will make it easier for the private developer to secure the land he wants. Yet, if he does, he will pay full market value for it. The White Paper suggests that to compel the public authority to do the same would cost too much. The public authority will be able to buy its land, compulsorily, at " existing use " value, plus liability to meet the unpaid balance of the 1948 development value attached to that land. The authority is then able—indeed, encouraged—to sell that land to the private developer, again at full market value.

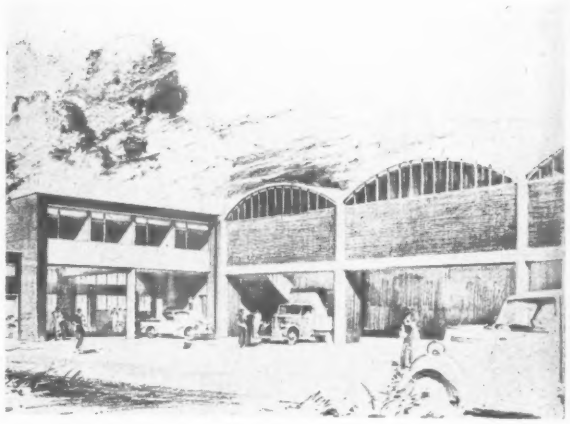
That may be one way of channelling betterment into a public purse, but, either way, it does not look too encouraging to the private developer, nor particularly fair to the owner of land. He can expect one price from the private developer, and another, probably substantially lower, from the local authority. He will undoubtedly hope to be away from home when the town clerk calls to announce that his land has been selected for next year's housing site.

LOGIC RUNS MAD

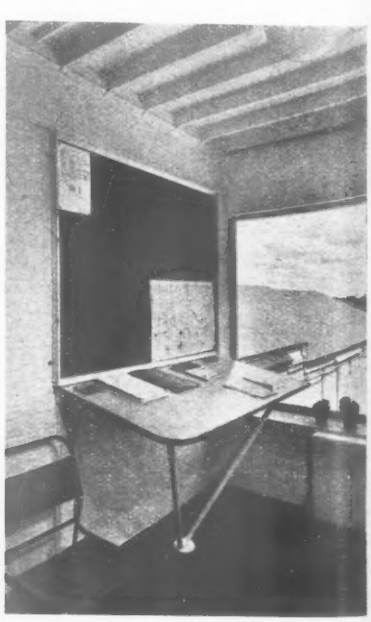
I think the government has been too easily defeated in its search for a substitute for a 100 per cent. development charge, payable on all and every planning permission that improved, even minutely, land values. That system was logic run mad; in the third year of its operations, the Central Land Board had to tell 41 per cent. of the applicants approaching it that they need have made no application at all, which meant that 41 per cent. of its officials were in fact wasting their time. But the public does create betterment, and surely there is some means of seeing that it is not given away to a few lucky individuals.

The example of the new towns still holds some lessons over the betterment issue. Each order setting up a new town does, incidentally, define the area in which the resulting betterment will be concentrated. Why shouldn't planning authorities have power to define an area in which public activities are likely to produce betterment, and be entitled to collect that betterment as and when it matures? Let the proceedings be open to objection, public enquiry, and so on, but at least let us not abandon without firing a shot the betterment that will still spring up as development plans take shape and form.

MEAT PROCESSING FACTORY AND

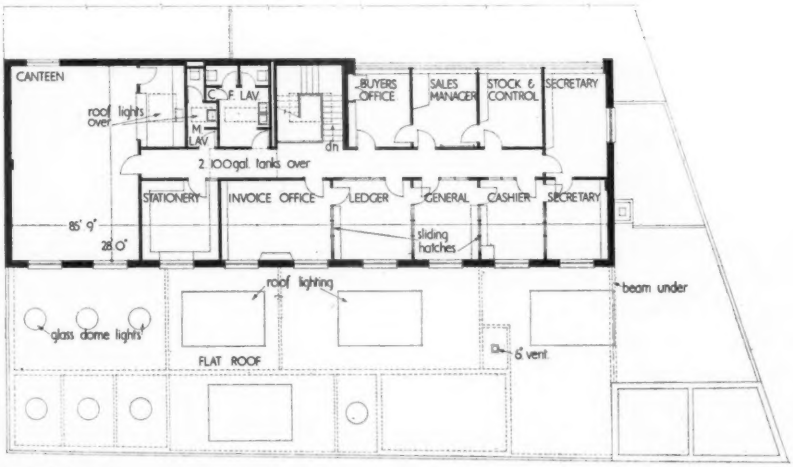


Eggdon House, Dorchester, consists of offices, stores and meat processing factory for G. Wright & Son (Dorchester), Ltd., and is designed by Cecil H. Elsom (assistant R. Nichols). There are three original corrugated iron buildings used as warehouses, seen on the right in the photograph top, which are shortly to be demolished and replaced, as shown in the perspective sketch above.

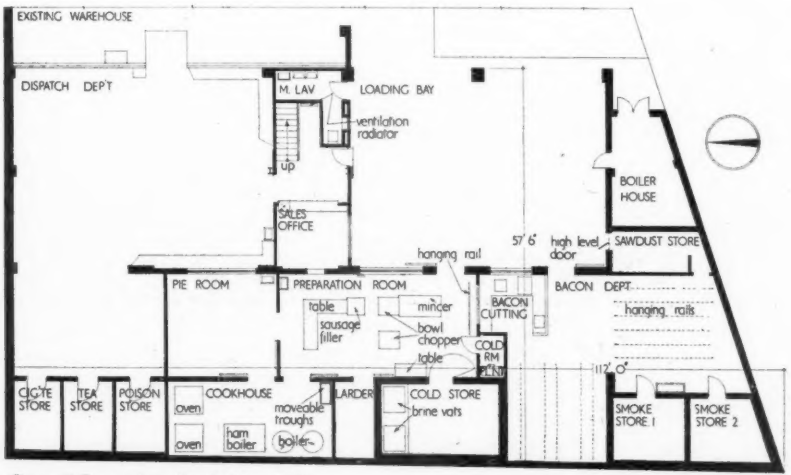


OFFICES IN ST. GEORGE'S ROAD, DORCHESTER, DORSET

In the centre of the top photograph opposite and right, on this page, are seen the first floor offices, above the despatch bays. The panels under the windows are red terrazzo slabs and the facing bricks are ginger brown sand faced. The site is restricted and surrounded by other properties, allowing no windows to the ground floor, which is lit by specially designed north lights. The photographs below left and right, opposite page, are of the main office entrance and the first floor sales manager's office; below is a view of the stairs to the first floor offices, which are roofed by a steel deck on steel beams. The cold room has 4-in. cork slabs set in cement, as insulation to all surfaces, and is equipped by a 2-h.p. air-cooled condensing unit. The contract price was approximately £18,000. The cost per sq. ft. was about 42s. 6d. The general contractors were Ricardo, Ltd. For sub-contractors, see page 660.



First floor plan



Ground floor plan [Scale $\frac{1}{24}$" = 1' 0"]

SHOP

at BEDFORD

designed by MAX LOCK and ASSOCIATES

co-ordinating architects : GERALD KING and LAURENCE PERLSTON

consultant engineer : H. GOTTFELDT

On June 5, a temporary shop was opened on the site (50 ft. frontage) where a multi-storied shop had been burned down on March 16. This shop, which has been set back to conform to the local authority's street widening scheme, provides a large exhibition area for the display and sale of furniture. There is also an area set aside for the sale of fabrics, as well as cloakrooms and offices for a staff of about ten.

The main shop window, framed in agba with Australian walnut glazing beads, is built on a low cavity wall, pierced at intervals, by louvred air vents that allow air to circulate to the basement. The eaves fascia, soffit and frames are white. The side wall is off white.

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FURNITURE GENERAL | VENETIAN BLINDS

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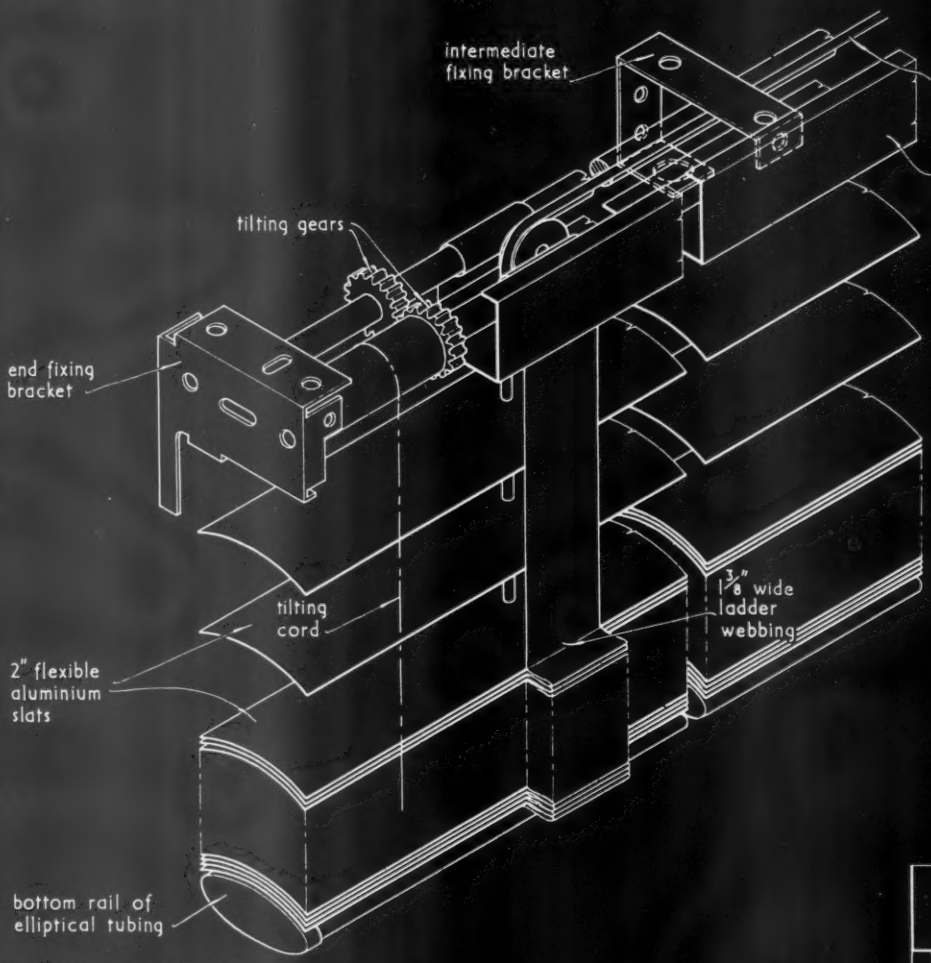
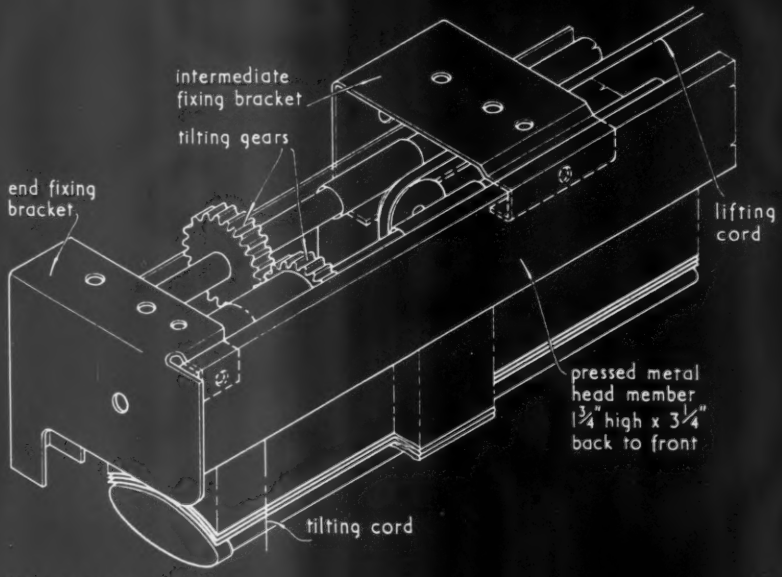


STANDARD MODEL.



HEAVY DUTY MODEL.


fixed at top


fixed at back


fixed at side

fitted in recess (or behind pelmet)

DIAGRAMS SHOWING ALTERNATIVE FIXINGS.

·SUNUMINIUM· FLEXIBLE ALUMINIUM VENETIAN BLIND. Manufacturer: J. Avery and Co. (Est. 1834) Ltd.

42.K1 · SUNUMINIUM · FLEXIBLE ALUMINIUM VENETIAN BLIND

This Sheet describes Sunuminium flexible aluminium Venetian blinds (patent nos. 683440 and 659487). Two models as shown, standard and heavy duty, are available, up to 12 ft. wide. The standard model is extremely robust and has large diameter pulleys, but the heavy duty model is for blinds of large area or those likely to receive rough usage. The heavy duty model is strongly recommended for widths over 7 ft.

Construction

Standard model: The blind consists of flexible aluminium alloy slats, curved in section, supported by means of ladder webbing. The webbing is in two vertical strips joined by cross tapes which are woven into the material at fixed intervals to ensure accurate spacing of the slats. When the blind is open 7 slats occupy a space of 1 ft.; when closed, 7 slats bundle to ½ in., i.e. for a 7-ft. drop 49 slats would be required which, when closed, would bundle to 3½ in. The slats are sufficiently flexible to permit the opening and closing of windows without raising the blind.

The head member consists of a single sheet metal pressing, supported by metal brackets, which completely conceals the operating mechanism: the latter incorporates two tilting shafts, the space between them allowing large diameter pulleys to be used for the lifting cords.

Heavy duty model: Of similar design to the standard model and having the same size slats and webbing, this model differs in that it has a larger head member of heavier gauge. The operating gears, pulleys and cords are also heavier than those in the standard model.

Operation

The blind is raised and lowered by means of stout cords at one side. The angle of the slats is similarly controlled by cords at the other side. An automatic cord-locking device holds the blind at any required level without the use of cleats.

Light control: Control of the angle of the slats enables wide variations of light ranging from direct sunlight to complete shade. The primary purpose of this type of blind is to diffuse the light entering the room.

Ventilation: Direct draughts are avoided by adjusting the angle of the slats to deflect air currents upwards.

Fixing

The head member is supported by rigid brackets, as shown, for fixing to the underside of a lintel or ceiling (top fixing) or on to a lintel face (back fixing). The brackets may also be fixed to the sides of piers or jambs (side fixing).

Finish

The head member and bottom rail (both of which are galvanised), and the slats, are stove-enamelled in various colours. The webbing is also obtainable in various colours and may be easily renewed if a change of decoration is contemplated.

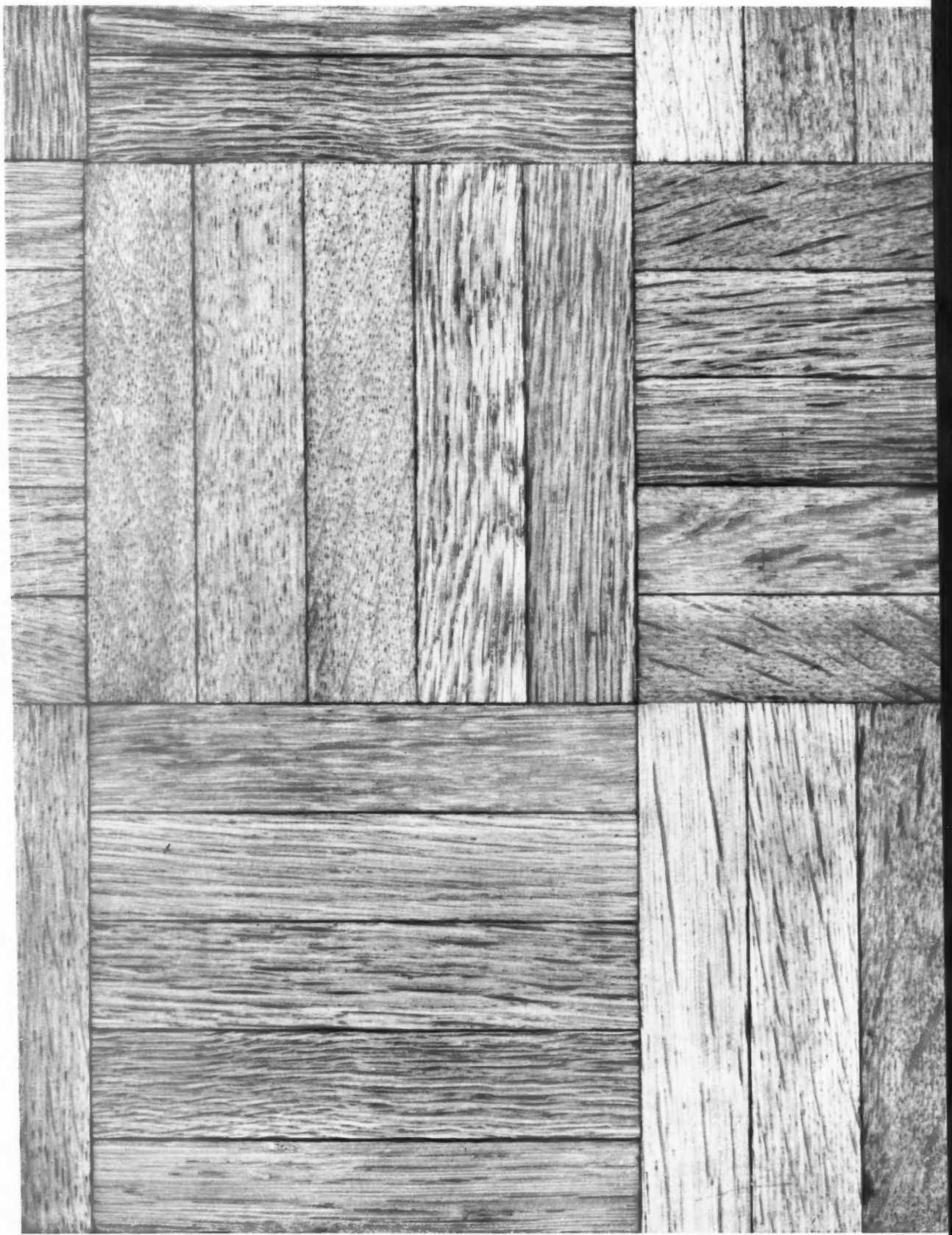
Compiled from information supplied by:

J. Avery & Co. (Est. 1834) Ltd.
Address: 81, Great Portland Street, London, W.1.
Telephone: Museum 9237.

The Architects' Journal Library of Information Sheets.
Editor: Cotterell Butler, A.R.I.B.A.

FLOOR FINISHES | TIMBER

The Architects' Journal Library of Information Sheets 392. Editor: Cotterell Butler, A.R.I.B.A.



SHERWOOD MINIATURE WOOD BLOCK FLOORING

19.J1 SHERWOOD MINIATURE WOOD BLOCK FLOORING

This Sheet deals with Sherwood Miniature Wood Block Flooring and its application to concrete and other sub-floors. The photograph on the face of the Sheet shows the actual size of the blocks.

Description

Narrow strips of kiln-dried hardwood, pre-assembled into basket pattern to form square panels, are held together on the surface by kraft paper. On the site the panels are laid, close-butted, with a special cold bitumen adhesive, and the paper stripped off; the panels form a continuous basket pattern over the whole area of the floor. At the time of publication the timber used for the blocks is oak.

The floor provides the same wearing thickness as that of a $\frac{3}{4}$-in. nominal tongued-and-grooved block and may be laid in any situation where a hardwood block floor would be suitable. The small size of the components minimises the effect of shrinkage.

Size

The blocks are $4\frac{3}{8}$ in. by $\frac{7}{8}$ in. by $\frac{3}{8}$ in. thick, arranged to form 1 ft. $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. sq. panels.

Fixing

Screeded concrete forms the most usual type of sub-floor for Sherwood floors, but they may be laid over other solid floors and timber. The preparation of the various types of sub-floor is described below.

The Sherwood fixing adhesive is damp-resisting, but should not be considered as a damp-proof course. Sub-floors in direct contact with the earth should be adequately waterproofed, preferably by means of a sandwich membrane of hot pitch laid in the concrete. Screeds must be quite dry before laying begins.

The thickness of the adhesive is negligible and an allowance of $\frac{3}{8}$ in. only need be made for the floor finish.

To new concrete: Concrete should be finished with a 3 : 1 sharp sand and cement screed with a smooth steel-trowelled finish. The sand should be clean-washed and well-graded, containing a high proportion of $\frac{1}{8}$ in. to $\frac{3}{16}$ in. particles.

To other solid sub-floors: The sub-floor should be smooth, even, with level joints and proofed against rising damp where in contact with the earth. When these conditions do not exist the defects can sometimes be remedied by the laying of a cement/latex levelling course. In all cases the manufacturer should be consulted.

To boarded floors: The boards should be covered with $\frac{1}{8}$-in. hardboard, nailed at 6-in. centres and the nail heads punched below the surface.

Skirtings: An expansion gap of up to 1 in. is left round all edges. Plastering should not be carried right down to the screed and a skirting board or moulding should be fixed to cover the gap after the floor is laid. If possible the skirting should not be painted until the sanding and polishing (see *Finish*) have been carried out.

Finish

The blocks are machine-sanded, after which they are sealed with shellac and wax-polished.

Maintenance

The moisture content of the blocks is adjusted to normal domestic requirements, i.e. 12-14 per cent., and the situation, therefore, in which the floor is laid should be kept warm and dry or damage from swelling may result.

The polished surface should be maintained with a good quality paste wax. Once a year it should be rubbed with fine steel wool and turpentine to remove old applications of wax and re-polished. Water must on no account be used for cleaning.

Fixing service

The manufacturer has a staff available for fixing Sherwood floors. Names of approved provincial contractors can be supplied on application.

Cost

For 100 sq. yd. the price in the London area is approximately 30s. per sq. yd., supplied and fixed complete, including polishing.

Compiled from information supplied by :

New Floor Installations, Ltd.

Address : 151, Battersea Park Road, London, S.W.8.
Telephone : Macaulay 5666/7.

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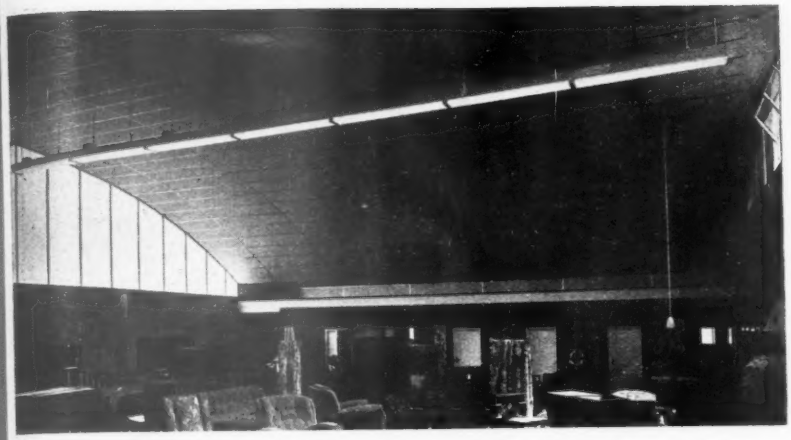
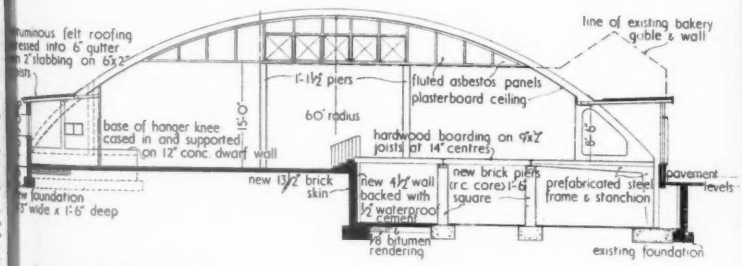


PLAN.—The main structure is a reconditioned blister hangar. (This was chosen to conform with licensing regulations and to assist in speed of building; there were only seventy building days after the site had been cleared.) This determined the plan form and depth of the building. The owner decided to increase floor space by extending the basement, but he did not wish to lower the basement floor, so the ground floor level of the shop is about 18 in. above the ground at the entrance.

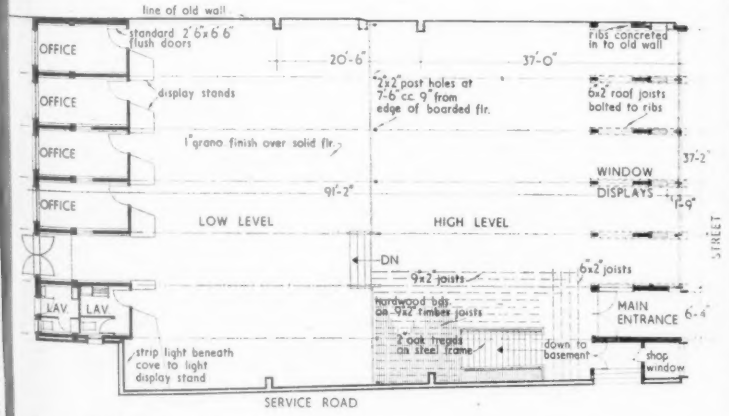
CONSTRUCTION.—The latticed steel framed ribs of the hangar at 8-ft. 6-in. centres span 91 ft. from front to back. The thrust from these members was transferred down to the ground by two methods: at the back of the shop it was done by solidly concreting the lower portions of the ribs, thus allowing the weight to counteract the outward thrust, and at the front it was done by welding them to fabricated steel frames which carry the thrust down to the basement. The function of these steel ribs at the front has been clearly expressed by setting them free from the basement wall. Byelaws necessitated the casing of the main ribs of the structure in concrete up to a distance of 12 ft. above the springing line. Various angle iron bracing members had to be welded into the structure for safety, and the whole welded down to the foundation members. The shop front is supported on an independent RC lintel, and its roof is held up on tubular steel supports. The

Above, left: the doors at the back of the shop lead to offices. Lighting and ventilation is provided by two bow string windows, the largest of which (seen here) has a base line of 65 ft. and is 11 ft. 9 in. to the top of the curve. Artificial lighting is provided by a bank of two-colour neon tubes, cove lighting at each end of the hall (fascia of perforated hardboard) and wall brackets below windows. Above: picture window of polished Australian walnut in surround of vertical English oak slats joined by ¼-in. walnut tonguing.

This 12-ft. long counter in the fabric selling area is of polished agba; its front is padded red leather with white plastic studs. The spot lamps are yellow; the shelving is white.



Longitudinal section



Ground floor plan [Scale: ¼" = 1' 0"]

SHOP

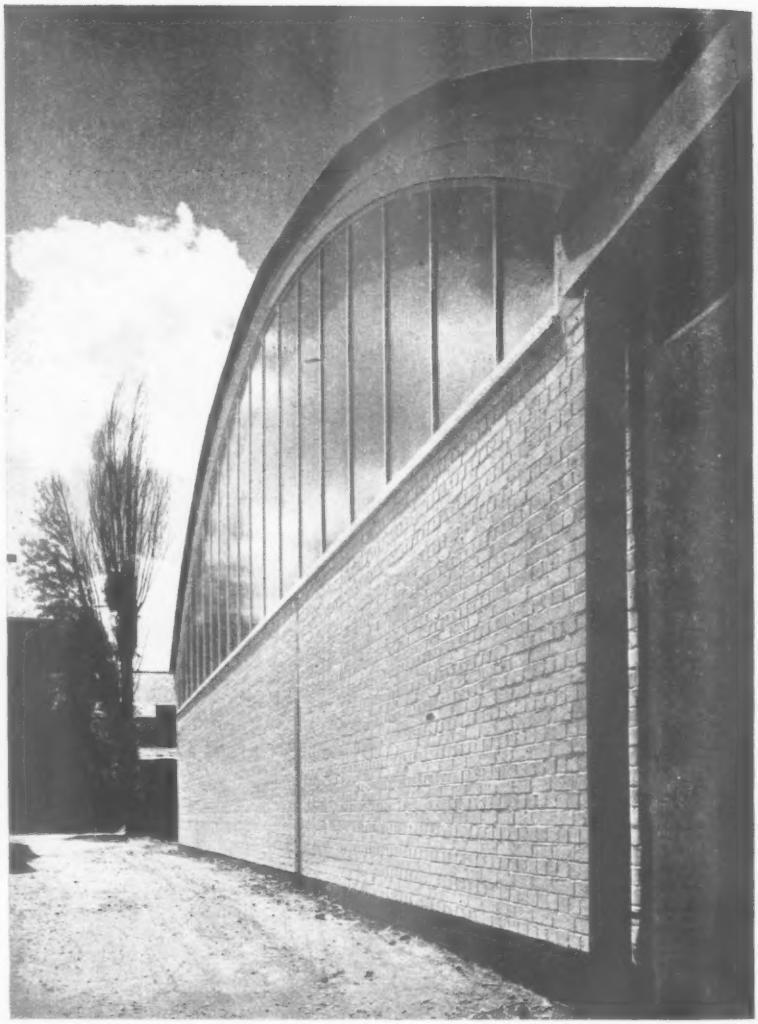
at BEDFORD

designed by MAX LOCK and ASSOCIATES

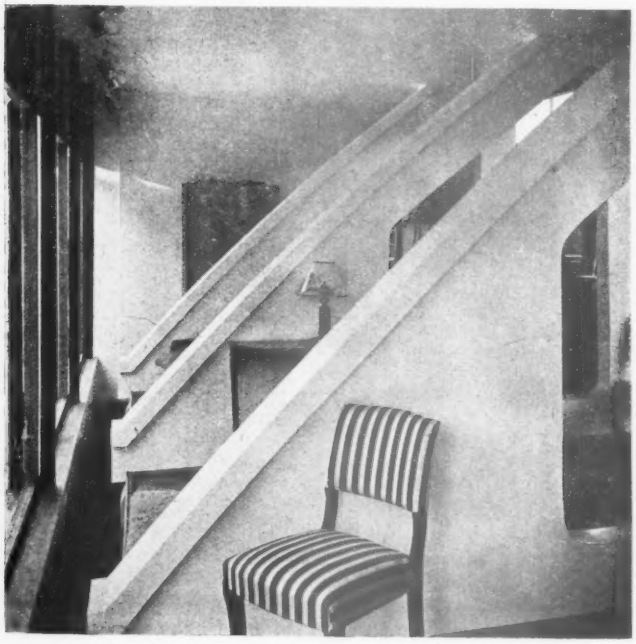
roofing of the offices and the shop front is of wood wool slabs on timber joists and is finished with built up roofing on cement screed. The smaller bow-topped window is hung from the structure, but the large window is supported on the 9-in. brick wall below. Foundations have been provided in the rear wall of the basement for the addition of another floor at a later date, which will cantilever free from the curtain walls. The basement walls are of engineering bricks with a vertical damp-proof course.

FINISHES.—Wall surfaces generally are treated with emulsion paint in blue grey or lemon white; the back display wall (surrounding the office doors on page 647, top left) has a wallpaper of white stars on a dark blue background. The floor over the basement is of wax polished oak; the rest of the floor area has a granolithic finish. Perforated hardboard has been used for the fascia of the lighting coves which extend the full width of the main hall both front and back (seen above office doors on page 647, top left). A staircase leading to the basement is of solid hardwood treads mounted on steel channel sections; the balusters are ⅝-in. reinforcing rod with a polished light oak handrail.

The contract price was £9,500. The general contractors were Lindum (Lincoln) Ltd. A list of subcontractors appears on page 660.



Above: the off white wall and bow string window at the south end of the shop. Below, left: the main structural supports are seen through the shop window. Below, right: in the entrance porch, which is plastered and painted blue-grey, is the name of the firm in black lettering. The entrance doors are of polished Australian walnut with carved light oak handles. Above the panels, suspended on MS straps, is a frame of polished agba slats with fluorescent tubes above.



HOUSES

at WELLESLEY, MASS., U.S.A.

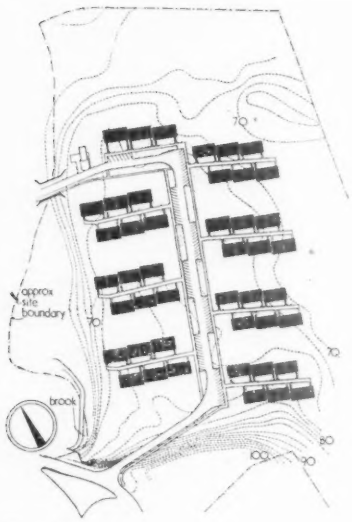
designed by HUGH STUBBINS, JR.

landscape architects, WALTER L. CHAMBERS, PAUL MAURICE

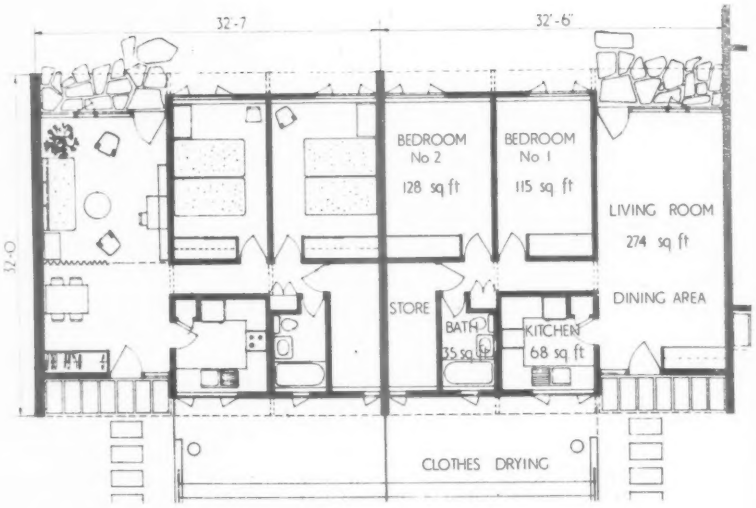
engineers, THOMAS WORCESTER INC.

These low cost houses for the Wellesley, Mass. Housing Authority, have been designed for occupation by war veterans. They are single storey houses placed in fifteen terraces of six, facing north-east and south-west. There are eight houses to the acre.

Three-bedroom houses.



Site plan

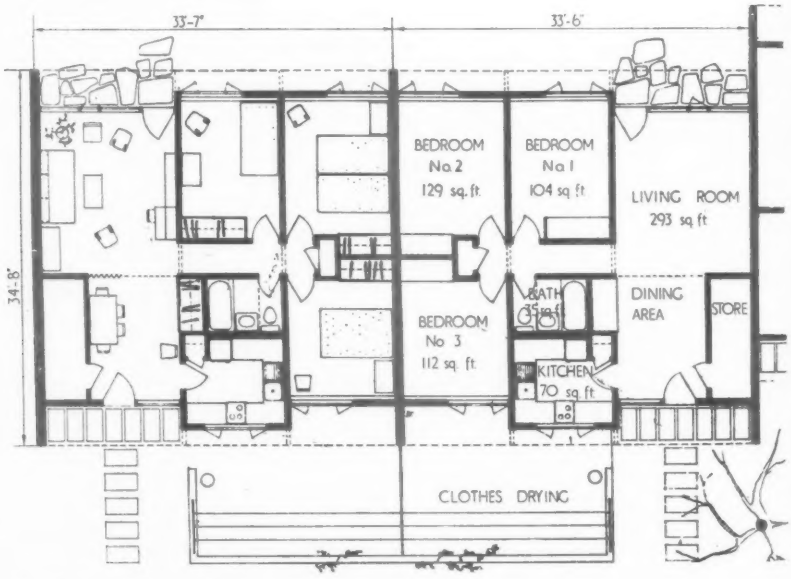


Plan of two-bedroom house

HOUSES

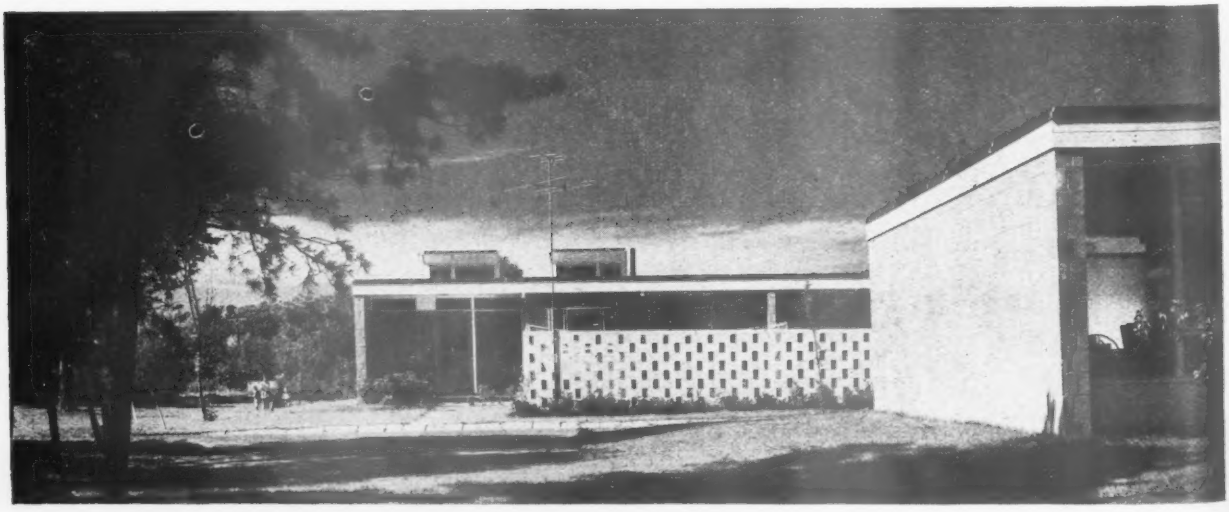
at WELLESLEY, MASS., U.S.A.

designed by HUGH STUBBINS, JR.



Plan of three-bedroom house [Scale : $\frac{1}{16}$" = 1' 0"]

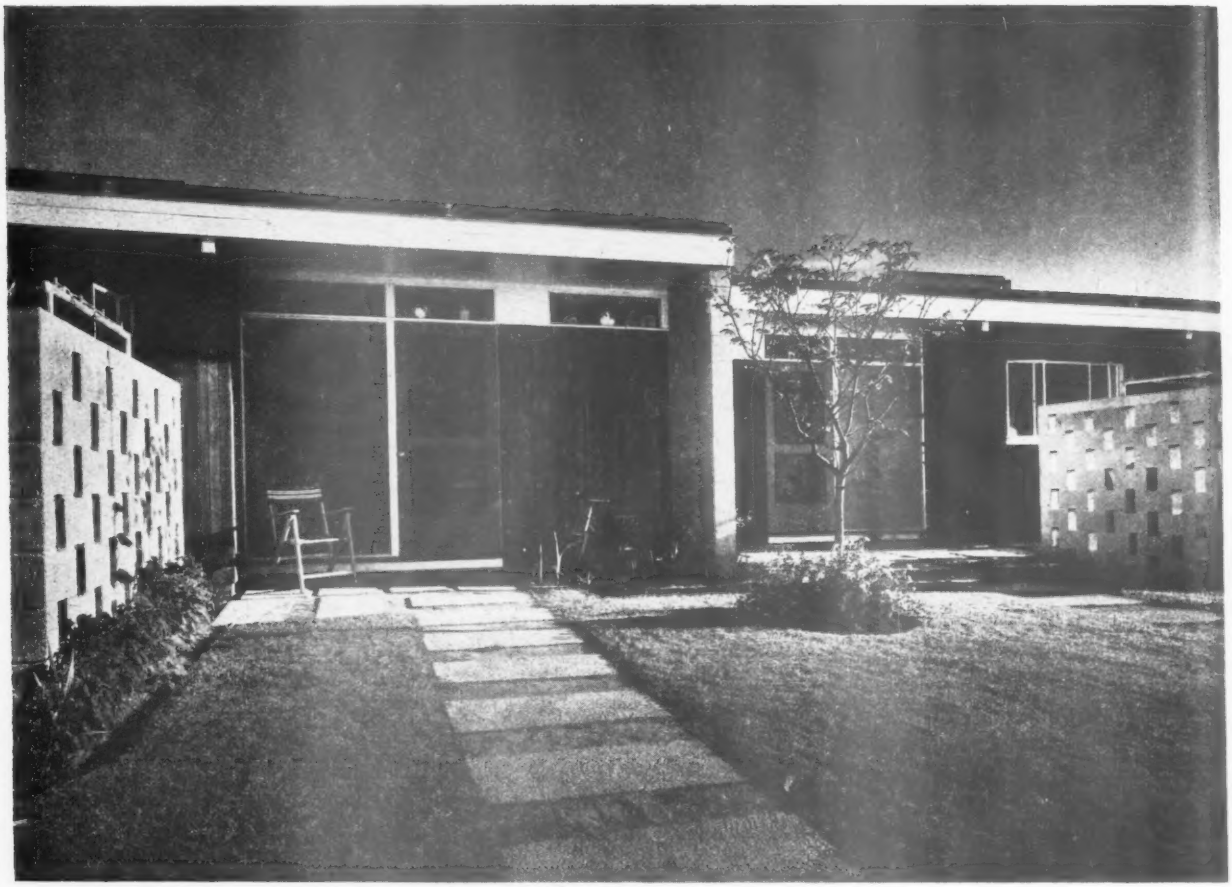
Street elevation of three-bedroom house.



PLAN.—There are two types of house; the larger, which has three bedrooms (with a bathroom lit from a skylight), has a floor area of 987 sq. ft.; the two-bedroom house has a floor area of 875 sq. ft. A lawn of 800 sq. ft. is provided for each house; also a screened clothes drying area.

Above right, the kitchen of the smaller house. Right, the living room of a two-bedroom house, looking towards the rear. Below, bedroom No. 2, similar for both plan types.

CONSTRUCTION.—Floors, concrete slab on gravel fill; cross walls and end walls, cinder block; fill-in walls, on 2-in. by 4-in. studs, have stained redwood facing on exterior; partitions, on 2-in. by 4-in. studs, faced with plaster; roof, 2-in. by 8-in. joists, insulating fill, 4-ply pitch and gravel finish; ceiling, lath and vermiculite plaster.



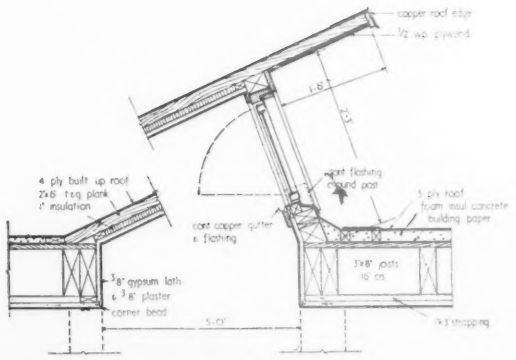
Street elevation of three-bedroom houses.

HOUSES

at WELLESLEY, MASS., U.S.A.
designed by HUGH STUBBINS, JR.

FINISHES.—Floors, asphalt tiles ; internal walls, painted cinder block or plastered.

SERVICES.—Cooking by electricity ; hot water supplied from a central boiler house through underground pipes ; heating by radiant floor panels.



Detail through skylight [Scale : ½" = 1' 0"]

TECHNICAL SECTION

The first revision of the model byelaws,* delayed 6 years by the war, was published last week, following by a month the publication of the revised LCC building byelaws. The former are intended to be revised at 10-yearly intervals; the latter, originally published in 1937, were due for revision in 1940.

Although, in both cases, the war was largely responsible for the delay, it is important to note the history of the revised LCC byelaws: preliminary drafts of the proposed revisions were prepared in 1946; these were modified, as a result of collaboration with DSIR and various technical committees set up by the MOW, and presented to the Council and approved in July, 1951; later in 1951 they were submitted to the Minister for his approval; not until October, 1952, were they published; and they come into operation on January 1, 1953—nearly seven years after the preparation of the original drafts.

They may be, therefore, in many respects, already out of date when they come into operation. However, the new byelaws are not so easily outmoded by technical developments as were the old, for in many cases, standards of performance are laid down, instead of detailed requirements as to how these standards should be achieved. This is a move in the right direction—a move we have advocated in the past and which we now welcome.

* *Model Byelaws. Series IV. Buildings.* MOHLG. (HMSO 1952, 2s.).

This week's special article

22 SOUND INSULATION & ACOUSTICS
church acoustics

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 earlier information can be found by referring to the index published free each year

The following article by Specialist Editor No. 14, a summary of an article by W. Fürrer in the Aug. 16, 1952 issue of Schweizerische Bauzeitung, *explains the acoustical problems which arise in contemporary churches, and their solution. The example illustrated is a recently completed church in Berne. The article is accompanied by an illustrated description of an unusual church dome recently erected in Karlsruhe, and followed by extracts from the DSIR acoustics report on the Royal Festival Hall.*

It is traditional for the functional aspect of church design to be subordinated to the religious or philosophical idea. Nevertheless, there is an increasing desire for churches which will be less a monument and more a building for religious purposes. The essential requirements of such a building are good hearing and good seeing. This attitude is still rare, however, and often acoustic consultants are called in at a late stage to endeavour to correct bad conditions which might have been avoided.

Historically, there is some evidence of the use of devices for improving hearing conditions, *e.g.*, the raised pulpit with a large canopy, but it was not until large cathedrals, some with volumes exceeding 1,000,000 cu. ft., were built that the problem became a serious one. Many old churches were

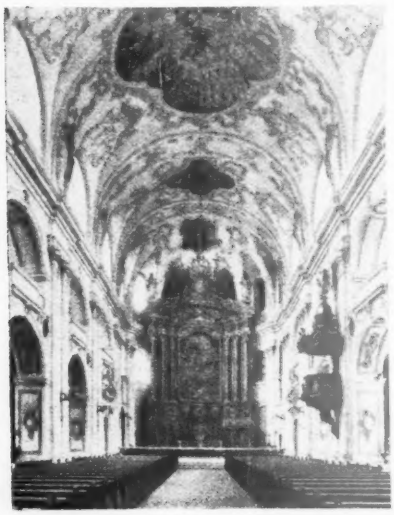


Fig. 1. Jesuit church in Lucerne; a Baroque church with excellent acoustics.

reasonably satisfactory, because details of a purely architectural nature, such as numerous finely moulded elements, which provided diffusion, and large windows, which provided low-frequency absorption, gave fortuitous acoustic advantages.

Reinforced concrete in plain flat or curved surfaces, as now often used in churches, though not bound to do so, is capable of producing very bad acoustic conditions. The principal factors in acoustic design are volume, shape and reverberation time. The maximum cubic capacity not to be exceeded if the preacher is to be heard without sound reinforcement is about 350,000 cu. ft.

The shape must be such that the maximum difference between the lengths of direct and indirect sound

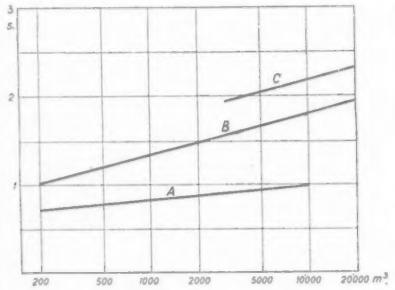


Fig. 4. Optimum reverberation times plotted against volume of hall, with audience. A—lecture rooms (speech); B—concert halls (symphony orchestras, soloists); C—churches (organ, choir).

paths does not exceed about 40 ft., and concave or large flat areas, particularly parallel to one another, must be avoided. These measures ensure adequate "diffusion," which is now recognized as being of great importance. Ancient Baroque churches were often the ideal embodiment of this principle.

OPTIMUM CONDITIONS

The study of published optimum reverberation times for rooms, depending on volume, reveals the particular difficulty that churches need to be adequate for speech but yet must satisfy the rather different requirements for organ music and singing. The problem is further complicated by the fact that the volume of a church usually far exceeds the specific volume (recommended on acoustic grounds) of, say, 280 cu. ft. per seat appropriate for a concert hall, or 140 cu. ft. per seat for a lecture theatre. There are also sharp variations in audience absorption as the average attendance often fails to exceed 60 per cent. of the capacity of the church.

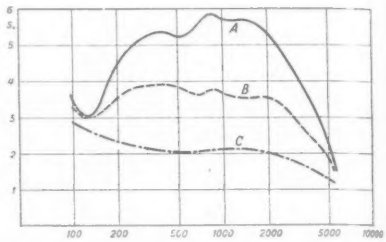
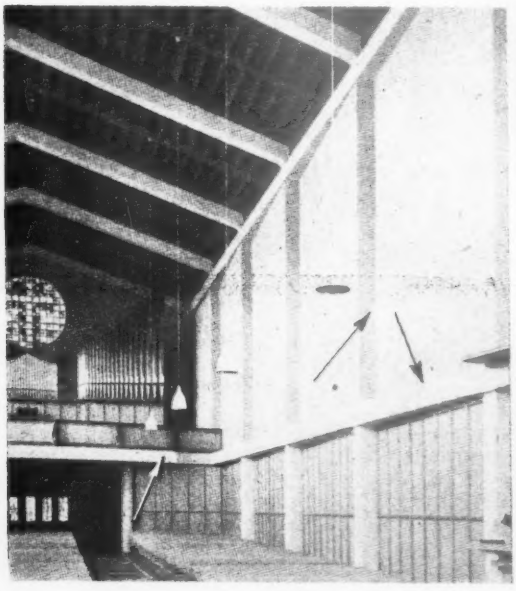


Fig. 5. Markuskirche, Berne (see Figs. 2 and 3). Measured reverberation times plotted against frequency of sound in c.p.s. A—without acoustic tiles, empty; B—with acoustic tiles, empty; C—with acoustic tiles and 450 occupants (75 per cent. full).

All too often the acoustic design is left to an organ expert, who endeavours to ensure those "bathroom" conditions which he knows will promote the emotional effects and great volume he delights in. Experience in such famous churches as the Thomaskircke, Leipzig, shows, however, that these extreme reverberation times are not necessary for good organ tone.

A RECENT EXAMPLE

The Markuskirche in Berne (see Figs. 2 and 3), completed in 1951 to the design of K. Müller and H. Daxelhofer, is cited by Herr Fürrer as an example of a church in which acoustic requirements have been met without adversely affecting æsthetic considerations. In its original state, this church had very good diffusion qualities, due to the use of a deeply ribbed ceiling, saw-tooth wall form and other diversities of shape in a modern idiom, but the reverberation time was over 5 secs. in the medium frequency range. An attempt to use the church in this condition showed that, although organ tone was good and particularly loud, not one of the three clergymen of the parish could be heard distinctly. It



The Markuskirche, Berne (designed by K. Müller and H. Doxelhofer). Extreme left, Fig. 2, looking towards the porch. Left, Fig. 3, looking towards the chancel. The arrows indicate the sound absorbent areas.

The Housing Drive

NEW PERMANENT EXHIBITION

by Allied Ironfounders

ON OCTOBER 2nd the new Allied Ironfounders London Headquarters and Showrooms were officially opened. They house the directing and principal administrative offices of a group of twenty-two foundries which, between them, are the leading makers of light castings for the British building industry.

The two lower floors of the building provide a spacious, impressive, permanent setting for the display of Allied Ironfounders' wares. These fall into six main categories: rainwater and soil goods; baths; fitted goods (solid fuel, gas and electric domestic cooking, heating, and water-heating equipment); heavy duty cooking appliances; agricultural machinery, and general industrial castings.

The display itself is most attractive: each piece of equipment can be examined from several angles, and full descriptive information is given on a nearby panel. The staff is ready to explain things to you as one expert to another.

In the basement is an ingeniously equipped small private cinema-cum-lecture hall. Altogether, this is one of the best contrived and most quickly informative private exhibitions in London.

* * * * *

Nothing is for sale at these new Showrooms. Allied Ironfounders are a Merchant Trading Organisation, and stocks are held for sale by every leading Builders' Merchant in the country. The Showrooms, placed by design in the heart of business and professional London, are exclusively an Exhibition and Information Centre. They exist to be of service to the Architect, the Municipal Official, the Builder and the Builders' Merchant, and that great host of others who have business with ' Men of Iron '.

MEN OF IRON. *From the brick mural sculpture by Trevor Tennant, in the main reception hall.*

In 1709, having taken out a Patent for ' a new Invention for Casting Iron-bellied Pots in Sand without Loam or Clay ', Abraham Darby established the first ironfoundry that corresponds to any modern definition of the term.

Within the framework of Allied Ironfounders Ltd., the descendant of that foundry is still making the best contemporary goods by the best contemporary methods.

These are the goods you can see in the Showrooms.

The Showrooms are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

TRADE MARK

ALLIED IRONFOUNDERS LTD

New HQ and Showrooms are at 28 Brook Street, London, W.1. Telephone GROsvenor 8941

was decided, therefore, to reduce the reverberation. This was done by applying some 2,000 sq. ft. of acoustic tiles which have their greatest efficiency in the middle and high-frequency ranges to the parts of the church which were most reverberant. These tiles were distributed in patches as evenly as possible over the whole available area. Lining the entire ceiling, as is often done to reduce noise, would almost certainly have resulted in bad acoustics.

After treatment, the reverberation time was found to be about 3·5 secs. without a congregation and 2·0 secs. with 75 per cent. capacity congregation. Compared with the optimum values (the volume of the church is 235,000 cu. ft.), these times show that organ and choral music is more favoured than speech; nevertheless, the sermon can now be heard without difficulty anywhere in the church, while choral and organ music is still excellent.

The DSIR report on the acoustics of the Royal Festival Hall confirms the opinion of most laymen that the hall is an excellent one from this point of view. The report contains the comments of many eminent musicians and conductors, and only one modification, the raising of the platform, is to be made to the hall.

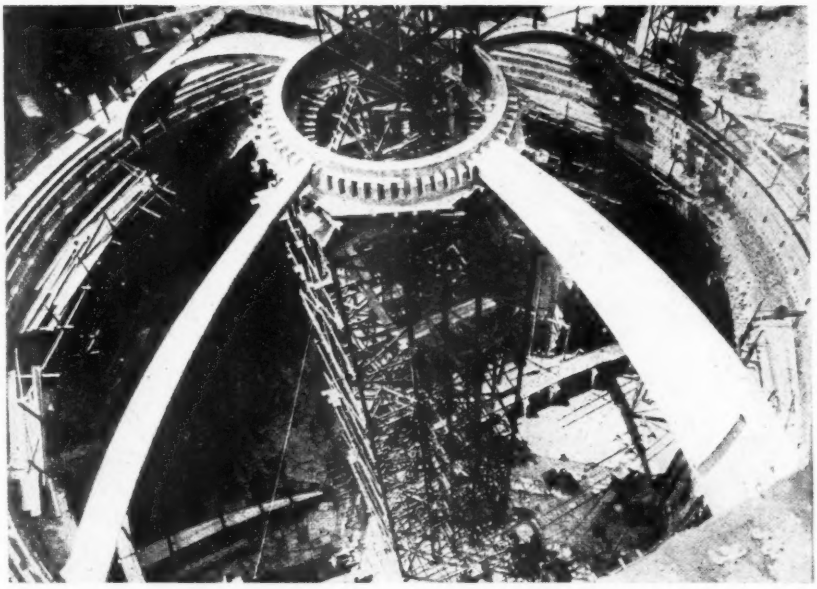
DSIR REPORT ON ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Several eminent musicians have described the Royal Festival Hall as the finest in the world, and an American scientist of no small distinction has written "I hold it to be impossible to build an ideal concert hall of a volume exceeding 300,000 to 400,000 cu. ft. However, if one *has* to build a hall of 750,000 cu. ft., it is hardly possible to conceive of a better solution than the one arrived at in the Royal Festival Hall." These comments were reported by the LCC's General Purpose Committee when it presented to the Council recently the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research's report on the acoustics of the RFH auditorium.

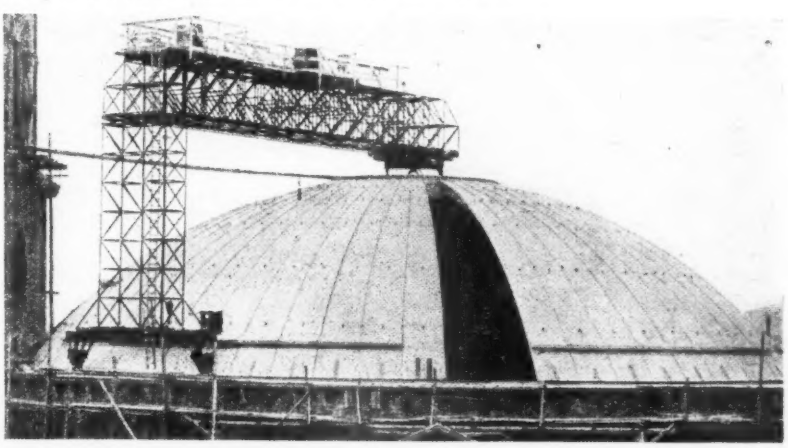
The report, says the General Purposes Committee, is based on extensive tests and on a large amount of empiric and scientific comment from a wide range of sources. There were three principal occasions on which informed opinion was collated:—

(i) A concert on June 9, 1951, conducted by Leopold Stokowski (who showed considerable interest in the possibilities afforded by the unique qualities of the auditorium) and attended by seven of the music critics who had assisted at test concerts. In general the comments of these critics were highly favourable; one of them thought the resonance and tone far better than he had heard in any other concert hall.

CHURCH DOME OF PRECAST CONCRETE UNITS



A church dome constructed in Karlsruhe out of precast concrete units weighs less than the original wooden structure. The dome is 100 *ft. in diameter and is composed of* 64 *identical segments. These are T-shaped, with a flange thickness of* 2 *in., increasing to* 4 *in. at the abutting edges. The ribs are* 16 *in. deep and taper from a width of* 4 *in. at the bottom to* 7 *in. at the flange. The radius of the segments is about* 61 *ft. The segments were cast in three moulds, on the ground floor of the church. A central timber scaffold tower was erected on which the top thrust ring was constructed. This tower acted as the centre pivot of a rotating gantry crane, the travelling bogie being on the lower tension ring. The crane erected the segments in pairs opposite each other, to avoid unbalanced thrusts and, on completion, the joints at the thrust and tension rings were filled up with* in situ *concrete. The abutting edges of the segments were covered by semi-circular concrete tiles but the segments, being of a dense concrete, are considered to be watertight. The photograph above shows the scaffolding tower, the top thrust ring and the first four segments in position. The photograph below shows the dome almost complete and the rotating gantry crane. (For further details, see* Concrete and Constructional Engineering, *July,* 1952, *pp.* 212-213, *from which these photographs are reproduced.)*



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(ii) A concert on Sept. 16, 1951, attended by a party of 18 foreign scientists engaged in acoustic research. The scientists were divided into three groups, and sat successively in different parts of the auditorium. The general conclusion of their reports reaffirmed the marked degree of uniformity noted previously. Eleven of them recommended no change at all, six thought that there should be more fullness of tone, and one more definition. To a question whether the hall was better than others of which they had experience, five answered non-committally and several had reservations of one kind or another; nine, however, said definitely that they did not know of a better hall. A general analysis of the conclusions showed that 13 classed the hall as excellent to good, five as good, and none as fair to poor.

(iii) A meeting of the Royal Physical Society on Nov. 23, 1951, which was attended by eminent conductors, performers, and listeners (including three professional music critics and three representatives of London orchestras) and which provided the most authoritative musical review of the acoustics of the hall that has yet taken place. Three of the conductors (Sir Thomas Beecham, Harry Blech and Sir Adrian Boult) were on the whole well pleased with the acoustics, and three others (Josef Krips, Sir Malcolm Sargent and Leopold Stokowski) considered the hall the best they knew. The conductors generally thought that a little more resonance at the lower frequencies would be desirable, though one did not support this view. A singer (Miss Joan Hammond) and a pianist (Denis Matthews) were both satisfied with the acoustics, and a violinist (Jascha Heifetz) said by proxy that he considered the hall the finest in the world—an opinion also expressed on another occasion by another eminent violinist, Yehudi Menuhin. Of the listeners, two thought that some sections of the orchestra were not always fully heard, though this was denied by one of them, a music critic. There was general agreement that definition was outstandingly good.

CONCLUSIONS

The general conclusion of the report is that there is no need for any adjustment in the definition, which is widely accepted as being an outstanding characteristic of this auditorium. Opinions on other characteristics are less uniform, but there is some indication that a small increase in fullness of tone may well be desirable, and also that blending might perhaps be slightly improved. The principal method of obtaining greater fullness would be to increase the period of reverberation, particularly at the lower frequencies, and this can probably best be done by reducing the acoustic absorption of the ceiling. Tests have been undertaken with a very simple method of achieving this result, and if they are successful the treatment, which can be carried out at no great cost, will be continued. Blend could be improved by bringing reflecting surfaces closer to the orchestra, and this raises the question whether the overhanging canopy should be lowered.

DECISION

The General Purposes Committee does not consider that such a modification would be desirable, in view of the very general nature of the criticism, and bearing in mind also that the Council's organ consultant attaches great importance to an unobstructed organ aperture. Blending may, however, be assisted by raising part of the orchestra platform, which it is now clear can be done without any sacrifice of definition, and which would have the additional advantage of greatly improving the sight lines from seats at the back of the auditorium. With these considerations in mind, it has been decided to raise the front part of the platform by about 18 in., at an estimated cost of £2,000.

The acoustic qualities of the auditorium have now been assessed under conditions of performance by large numbers of musicians and others whose opinions are entitled to respect, and the DSIR report indicates a remarkable degree of unanimity in their conclusions, which, in general, are highly favourable. This suggests that, except for the relatively small works described in this report, it is unlikely that any further adjustment will be necessary.

The results of these extended tests, which authoritatively confirm widespread public appreciation of the hall's acoustic qualities, are extremely gratifying, concludes the Committee, they reflect great credit on the Council's architect (Robert Matthew), the acoustics advisers (Hope Bagenal and BRS staff) and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

RECENT INFORMATION CENTRE ITEMS ON ACOUSTICS

Geometrical acoustics (in German)	22.57:	4.9.52
Sound reinforcement in St. Paul's Cathedral ...	22.56:	4.9.52
Sound distribution systems (BS C of P)	22.55:	7.8.52
Sound insulation and room acoustics (text book) ...	22.54:	24.7.52
Acoustics of auditoria ...	22.53:	29.5.52

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. Headings below.

1.15 sociology
BUILDING INDUSTRY

Works and Buildings—History of the Second World War. C. M. Kohan. (HM Stationery Office. 1952. 32s. 6d.)

Official and fairly full history of the way building organisation was developed from about 1936 through the war.

As a record of what happened at the MOW, and of some of the difficulties which arose from the existence of construction organisations in other departments, this history forms a permanent record which may interest future generations. It does not provide such exciting reading as many other war histories, but a careful study of it provides many lessons—especially on the difficulties which occurred because of the lack of adequate data about the building industry.

7.37 practice:
ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE

The Architect in Practice. Arthur J. Willis and W. N. B. George. (Crosby Lockwood & Son Ltd. 1952. 18s.)

This book should be of great assistance to architectural students and newly-qualified architects. 230 pp. 2 appendices, index.

One of the most instructive chapters of this book is the one in which is described the information the quantity surveyor needs before he can prepare the bill of quantities. It is suggested that this information should be extensive, and the reasons given are convincing. The architect must, however, be given time to do his work properly and the client should be made to understand that to start building before the design is complete and the "quantities" have been taken out can only result in delays during building and in extra costs. The RIBA scale of charges provides for the architect's supplying detailed information to the quantity surveyor and, if a scheme is abandoned before a building contract is entered into, an architect would not qualify for the appropriate fee at that stage if the drawings and descriptions were incomplete. The case of Thomas *v.* Hammersmith Borough Council, quoted in the book, illustrates this point.

Other chapters deal with office organization, finance, and partnership in architectural practice. The chapters on the law relating to the architect and to building contracts contain reports of decided cases. The decisions in such cases depend invariably on the facts of the case, and it would be unwise for an architect ever to attempt to give advice based on these cases. An architect is not, in fact, qualified to give legal advice.

The importance of making the RIBA scale of charges the basis of architects' employment cannot be over-emphasized, and it is very properly referred to by the authors. It is stated that the architect must adhere to the Code of Professional Conduct of ARCUK, and that the Code governs the remuneration he may receive for his professional services, based on a recognized scale. It is too much to hope that this could be construed as meaning that, in the absence of any agreement on fees, an architect could recover his fees on the strength of the Code. The Registration Council has no power to make a statutory scale of fees, though much trouble and misunderstanding would be saved if the registration acts were amended in this respect. Incidentally, the Code appears to allow an architect's name and affix to appear on the notepaper of a company of which he is authorized by the Code to be a director. This is contrary to what is said on page 3 of this book. There is no reference to the RIBA Code of Professional Conduct which prohibits the use of the professional affix in such a case.

The chapters dealing with contracts, specifications, approvals and controls are an adequate guide to these subjects, and the notes on writing specifications when quantities do not form part of the contract should be carefully noted by students.

8.31 surveying and specification
ESTIMATING

Spon's Architects' and Builders' Price Book. Edited by Davis, Belfield & Everest. (Spon. 78th Edition. 1952. 21s.)

This book, with almost 600 pages, is so well known that new editions are almost taken for granted. This latest edition is not only brought up to date to February, 1952, but in a "Stop Press" section the latest increase in prices to mid-June are given as

1 Sociology. 2 Planning: General. 3 Planning: Regional and National. 4 Planning: Urban and Rural. 5 Planning: Public Utilities. 6 Planning: Social and Recreational. 7 Practice. 8 Surveying, Specification. 9 Design: General. 10 Design: Building Types. 11 Materials: General. 12 Materials: Metal. 13 Materials: Timber. 14 Materials: Concrete. 15 Materials: Applied Finishes, Treatments. 16 Materials: Miscellaneous. 17 Construction: General. 18 Construction: Theory. 19 Construction: Details. 20 Construction: Complete Structures. 21 Construction: Miscellaneous. 22 Sound Insulation-Acoustics. 23 Heating Ventilation. 24 Lighting. 25 Water Supply, Sanitation. 26 Services Equipment: Miscellaneous. 27 Furniture, Fittings, Miscellaneous.

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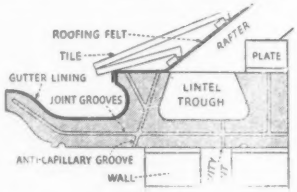

This sectional drawing shows the system in detail and illustrates the ways in which FINLOCK saves approx. 5 yards of brickwork, 80 ft. of rafter, 40 ft. of normal guttering, 40 ft. of fascia, 40 ft. of soffit and 80 ft. super of roof tiling per single house. Painting is eliminated and a reduction in down pipes and drainage is obtained. The complete eaves for a building, with all fittings, can be fixed in one day. Some typical FINLOCK units are shown on the right :—

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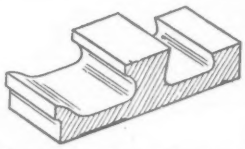
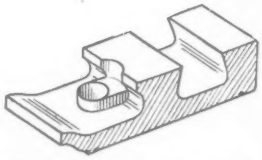
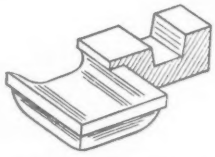


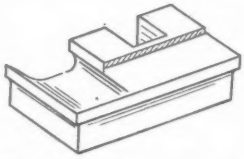
Finlock "N" Type Gutter block enabling lintels to be cast *in situ* if required.



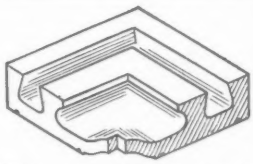
Finlock "G" Type Gutter block enabling lintels to be cast *in situ* if required, but illustrating soil vent.



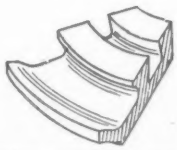
A typical standard stopped end for use on gable end walls, available for all type Gutters.



Illustrating a flush stopped end where this is also made with moulded return, available for all type Gutters.



Illustrates the typical internal angle for use with all Gutters. External angles also available.



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To anyone not already familiar with this book the amount of information given will be surprising. It covers wage rates in all areas, market prices of materials, cost of plant hire and measures items with constants of labour and material. There are also notes on the preparation of approximate estimates, daywork rates, and fees for professional services.

A valuable office companion for architects and an essential reference for estimators.

9.31 design : general

HOUSING

Housing Costs Today. J. L. Womersley. (The Municipal Journal. 1952. 2s.)

Thoughtful and interesting survey of difficult subject. The author has built houses cheaply and, on that account, his conclusions cannot lightly be put on one side. Most of the contents of his book should be familiar to all engaged on housing work.

10.98 design : building types

CINEMAS

The Influence of the Cinema on Contemporary Auditoria Design. Clifford Worthington. (Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons Ltd. 1952. 25s.)

A general book on history, design and construction of cinemas, with chapters on acoustics, heating and other technical aspects.

This book was written with enthusiasm, but its title is somewhat misleading for it is really a general book about the design of cinemas including the technical aspects of construction and equipment. While it contains a good deal of information which might be difficult to find elsewhere, it gives this in a rather disjointed way. After some historical notes, there are chapters on plan, structure, acoustics, visual conditions and various aspects of equipment, including organ, projector and heating. All readers may not agree with the author's views on the æsthetic side of cinema design and some of the illustrations seem irrelevant. The most useful sections of the book are those dealing with sight lines, seating and other technical information.

11.29 materials : general

CEMENT ECONOMY

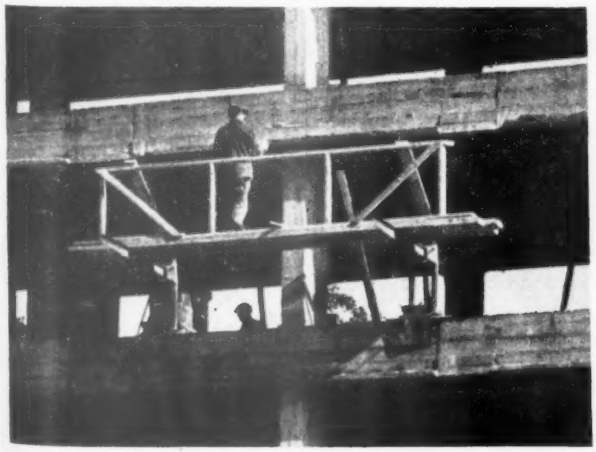
No. 1. Cement for Housing and Small Scale Building.
No. 2. Cement for Engineering and Large Scale Building. (Ministry of Works Economy Memoranda. New Series. Oct., 1952.)

These are the first two of a series of memoranda to be issued on economy in the use of materials.

In both of these documents is stressed the advantages and economies of ready-mixed concrete and of bulk delivery of cement. Whether either of these is suited to the requirement of small builders—or indeed available to them in many cases—is doubtful, but the memoranda on Houses and Small Buildings also includes many other common-sense suggestions for the prevention of waste, and gives recommended mixes for more than 20 operations. In some cases the suggested mixes would not only prevent waste of cement but would also give other advantages over some of the rich cement mixes still so often and so needlessly specified. The remarks about quality control of concrete are not new, but this seems to be a subject about which the man on the job is especially stubborn and only by repeated instructions *and proper supervision* will this particular battle for economy and quality be won. Among other points, the recommendation to use rounded aggregate for concrete may come as a surprise to those who have been in the habit of praising, if not demanding, angular material.

CANTILEVERED SCAFFOLDING IN USE ON MULTI-STOREY FLATS

These photographs show the cantilevered scaffolding system invented and patented by F. R. Henderson in use on an eight-storey block of flats in Glasgow. This is a development of Mr. Henderson's scaffolding system described and illustrated in the JOURNAL *for November 1, 1951. The man seen at work is cleaning up the reinforced-concrete frame. In-filling panels of brickwork will be laid over-hand; hence, no other scaffolding will be required. The cantilevered scaffold is completely rigid, and a man can, therefore, work from it much more rapidly than from a hanging cradle.*



14.55 materials : concrete

HEAT-RESISTANT CONCRETE

Heat Resistant Concrete for Jet Test Cells. (Engineering News Record [USA]. June 12, 1952. pp. 48-49.)

Investigations by General Electric Co., USA, into the use of cements to resist temperatures up to 1,200° F.

Temperatures as high as 1,200° F. will be reached in the concrete exhaust stacks of the jet engine test cells being built for GEC at Ohio. Tests were, therefore, carried out to determine what type of concrete would retain its structural integrity under cyclical attack of intense heat and erosive air blasts. It was found that a good heat-resistant concrete requires a cement of 30-40 per cent. alumina content, a 38 per cent. lime content, no free lime and a high iron content. Fineness should be about 1,500 sq. cm. of surface area per gm. High-alumina concretes have higher heat-resistant properties than those made with ordinary Portland cement and can withstand temperatures of over 2,000° F.

Tests were made on concrete with a mix by volume of one part high-alumina cement: 2·4 parts fine expanded shale: 3 parts ¾-in. expanded shale. The net water/cement ratio was 8·5 gals. per sack of cement. This concrete weighs 110-120 lb./cu. ft., with a compressive strength of between 3,000 and 5,500 lb./sq. in. after 24 hours. Research indicates that cyclical temperature attack might reduce the compressive strength to 2,500 lb./sq. in., so a design stress of 1,700 lb./sq. in. was adopted. Test cubes 1 year old had strengths of 2,600 lb./sq. in. after being subjected to high air temperatures.

Cold weather conditions (17-35° F.) resulted in the strongest concrete, as the heat due to the hydration of the cement was kept down. As the air temperature increased the strengths dropped to as low as 2,500 lb./sq. in. For concreting in hot weather the following procedure was adopted:—

i. Aggregates sprayed with water, so that evaporation cools them.
ii. Aggregates and cement kept in shade.
iii. Mixer pre-cooled, cool water used for mixing, ice cubes added. Refrigeration considered but proved too expensive.
iv. Concrete not mixed or placed during the hours of sunlight.
v. All construction equipment, formwork, etc., cooled.
vi. Great care taken during curing by cool water.
vii. In important thin wall sections, small tubes were cast in and during the setting and hardening processes, cool water was pumped up through them; thence trickling out and down the forms.

19.158 construction : details

WELDED REINFORCEMENTS

Welded Reinforcing Bars Cut Hospital Project Cost. (Engineering News-Record [USA]. May 22, 1952. p. 92.)

Interesting method of saving steel in column splices.

The welding of reinforcing bars is not by any means a new procedure and, following the recent MOW bulletin on steel economy, careful consideration should be given to this means of saving reinforcement. In a Californian Hospital, 7,100 splices had to be made; by welding them a saving of 70 tons of steel was effected, nearly a 1½-per cent. saving. There was also a large saving in cost, on this building, but to achieve this, a job must be large enough to keep the welders continuously employed, otherwise with the very high rates that have been quoted in this country recently for site welding work, it is doubtful whether financial savings, as well as steel economy would result.

19.159 construction : details

CONCRETE SPIRAL STAIRCASES

Helicoidal Staircases have Interesting History. (Civil Engineering [USA]. May, 1952. pp. 56 and 58.)

Reader's letter, arising out of article by Prof. Magnel on prestressed concrete spiral staircase. Several helicoidal staircases in timber and ordinary reinforced concrete described and some illustrated.

The staircase described by Prof. Magnel in the Sept., 1951, issue of *Civil Engineering*, was described and illustrated in the JOURNAL for March 20, 1952, p. 377. His article caused considerable comment in America and several letters have been published in *Civil Engineering* putting forward rival claims and suggesting that the prestress was unnecessary. Staircases of a similar type built in ordinary reinforced concrete in Israel and Denmark are illustrated.

The total turn of the staircase in Israel (in the Sharon Hotel, Herzlia) is 432 deg. with an intermediate support at 315 deg., introduced to eliminate high torsional stresses. The thickness of the slab, measured normal to the surface, varies from 7 in. at the outside edge to 2 in. at the inner edge of the stairs.

The spiral staircase in the American Tobacco Co. factory in Copenhagen is nearer the size of the staircase which Prof. Magnel designed for General Motors, but it turns only through 180 deg. The staircase slab has a thickness of 7½ in. at the inner edge and 10 in. at the outer edge of the stairs.

20.214 construction : complete structures

FABRIC ROOF STRUCTURE

Large Test Roof Held Up on Air. (Engineering News-Record [USA]. Aug. 7, 1952, p. 61.)

Inexpensive, quickly constructed shelter of varied uses supported by air pressure.

American engineers propose the use of air-supported roofs over baseball stadiums and other outdoor arenas during inclement weather. Any solution of this kind would be of even greater importance in this country.

In Madison, Wisconsin, a 75-ft. dia. dome-shaped structure has been erected by pumping air into a structure consisting of a plastic-impregnated fabric tied to a circular plywood wall. The roof is impervious to water and air and weighs as much as canvas. It hung limply until a blower fan on the perimeter began sucking in air from the outside. In 30 mins. the diaphragm became taut and was kept up by continued operation of the fan at a reduced speed. The pressure required inside the building to support the roof need be only slightly higher than atmospheric pressure and is not apparent to the occupants.

The experimental structure was built as follows: a 2-ft. deep trench was cut around the circumference and an 8-ft. high wall of ¼-in. plywood dropped into it. Battens 3-in. × 1-in. were used to seal the plywood joints and the trench was backfilled. The roof fabric was fitted and the edges sealed by a sponge rubber gasket.

Buildings Illustrated

Prentiss Court, Charlton Lane, Greenwich, S.E.7, for G. A. Harvey & Co. (London) Ltd. (Page 642.) Architects: Howes & Jackman, F./F.R.I.B.A. Mural in launderette designed by Ronald G. S. Gill, executed by W. A. Singer. Quantity surveyors: E. C. Harris & Partners. General contractors: Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons Ltd. Sub-contractors: reinforced concrete, West's Piling & Construction Co. Ltd.; garden layout, F. C. Courten & Co. Ltd.; screens and fencing, Harefield Development Co. Ltd.; metal windows, Ideal Casements (Reading) Ltd.; roofing, d.p.c's and road surfacing, Neuchatel Asphalte Co. Ltd.; floor tiles, Marley Tile Co. Ltd.; roof tiles, London & Sussex Merchants Ltd.; plastering and granolithic finishes, D. T. Capper & Son; painting and decorating, C. & T. Painters Ltd., supplied by Hadfields (Merton) Ltd; plumbing, R. G. Witney (Plumbers) Ltd.; asbestos reinforced troughing, Boddy Roofing Co. Ltd.; electrical installation, E. V. Bullen & Son, in conjunction with the London Electricity Board; gas services, South Eastern Gas Board; launderette fittings, Ewart & Son Ltd.; tiles to entrances, The Standard Pavements Co. Ltd.; tile panels, Alan & Cairns (Tilers) Ltd.; tiling (kitchens and bathrooms), Carter & Sons (London) Ltd.; glazing, James Clark & Eaton Ltd.; bricks, Erith & Co. Ltd. multi-sandfaced flettons); bathroom fittings, tiled fireplace surrounds, J. S. & F. Folkard Ltd.; joinery, E. & H. Grace, Ltd., and J. R. Welch & Co. Ltd.; reinforced concrete, "Twisteel" Reinforcement Ltd.; roof trusses, Timber Development Association; garden furniture, Stuarts Granolithic Co. Ltd.; ironmongery, Clark Hunt & Co. Ltd., George Wright (London) Ltd. (wrought ironwork); sanitary fittings, Broad's Manufacturing Co. Ltd.; coal hopper door, The Stopper Manufacturing Co. Ltd.; boilers, Alfred Goslett & Co. Ltd.; white plastic numerals, Adrian Stokes Ltd.; street lighting, G.E.C.; chairs, Sebel Products Ltd.

Eggdon House (offices, stores and meat processing factory), St. George's Road, Dorchester, Dorset, for G. Wright & Son (Dorchester) Ltd. (Pages 644-645.) Architect: Cecil H. Elsom, A.R.I.B.A. Assistant: R. Nichols. Consulting engineers: S. H. & D. E. White. Quantity surveyors: Veale & Sanders. General contractor: Ricardo Ltd. Sub-contractors: reinforced concrete, Helical Bar & Engineering Co. Ltd.; bricks, London & Sussex Merchants Ltd., and W. E. Masters Ltd.; terrazzo, Art Pavements & Decorations Ltd.; structural steel, Measures Bros. (1911) Ltd.; special roofings, Ruberoid Co. Ltd.; roofing felt, Ruberoid Co. Ltd., and General Asphalt Co. Ltd.; partitions, Roneo Ltd.; patent glazing, casements, window furniture, Aygee Ltd.; patent flooring, General Asphalte Co. Ltd.; central heating, boilers, water softening plant, J. H. Nicholson & Co. Ltd.; electric wiring, Southern Electricity Board; electric light fixtures, Designed Lighting Ltd.; sanitary fittings, Stitson's Sanitary Fittings Ltd.; stairtreads, Safety Tread Syndicate Ltd.; door furniture, Comyn Ching & Co. Ltd.

Temporary Furniture Shop at 12, Lime Street, Bedford. For James Turner & Sons Ltd. (Pages 646-648.) Architect: Max Lock & Associates, F./A.R.I.B.A. Co-ordinating Architects: Gerald King, A.R.I.B.A., Laurence Perlston, A.R.I.B.A. Consultant engineer: H. Gottfeldt, M.I.STRUCT.E., M.I.WELD. Quantity surveyor: Cyril Sweett, F.R.I.C.S. General contractor: Lindum (Lincoln) Ltd. Sub-contractors: demolition, Goss & Shaw (Luton); excavation, foundations, dampcourses, reinforced concrete, plumbing, plaster, Lindum (Lincoln) Ltd.; asphalt, Cambridge Asphalt Co.; concrete blocks, "Lignacite," bricks, London Brick Co.; structural steel, J. Thorn & Sons Ltd. and C. A. E. C. Howard; roofing felt, Cambridge Asphalt Co.; partitions, "Lignacite"; glass, Frederic Gale Ltd.; oak flooring, Jewson & Sons Ltd.; electric wiring, Modern Electric Co.; electric light fixtures, Merchant Adventurers of London Ltd. and Courtney Pope Ltd.; sanitary fittings, Gibbs & Dandy; staircase and stairtreads, metalwork, C. A. E. C. Howard; door furniture, Dryad Metal Works; casements, Crittall Manufacturing Co. Ltd.; telephones, G.P.O.; joinery, J. P. White & Sons Ltd.; wallpapers, John Line & Sons Ltd.; shop fitting, J. P. White & Sons Ltd. and P. Howe; signs, A. Gough.

Announcements

Messrs. Cyril Sweett & Partner have taken into partnership Mr. William S. Kirkby, A.R.I.C.S. The practice will continue at 48, Bedford Row, W.C.1, under the style of Cyril Sweett & Partners, chartered quantity surveyors.

The new telephone number of Mr. J. Kennedy Hawkes, A.R.I.B.A., 27, Emperor's Gate, South Kensington, S.W.7, is Fremantle 4401-2.

Messrs. Murray, Delves, Murray & Atkins, architects and surveyors, formerly of 13, Red Lion Square, W.C.1, have a new London office, 14, Chantrey House, Buckingham Palace Road, Westminster, S.W.1.

Messrs. George E. Clay & Partners, A./A.R.I.B.A., of Parrock Street, Gravesend, Kent, have opened a branch office at 10, New Road, Rochester, Kent (Tel. Chatham 45266), where they will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc.

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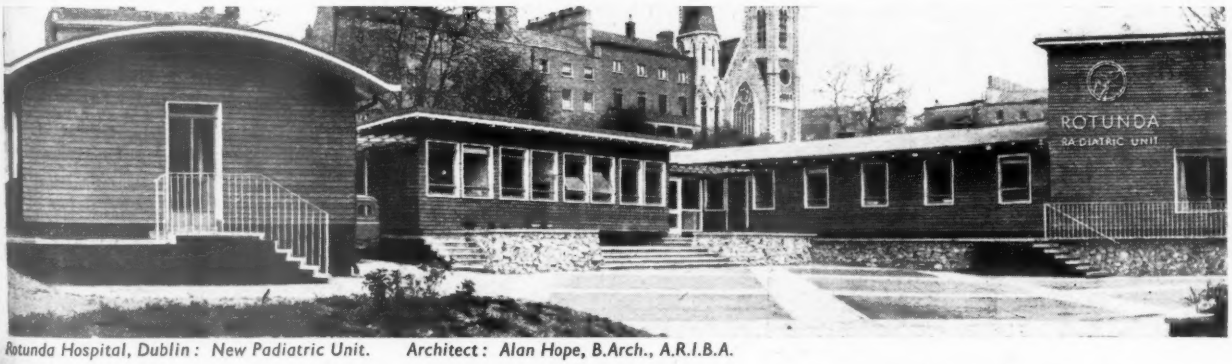
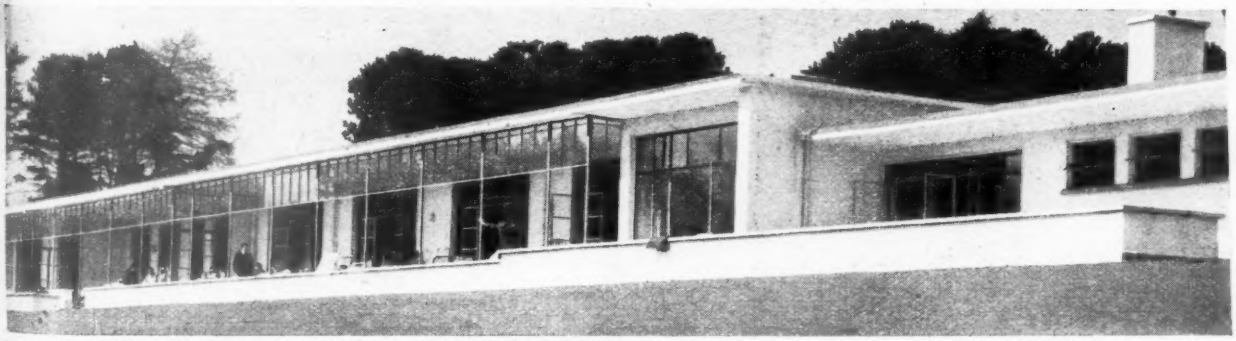


Rotunda Hospital, Dublin: New Padiatric Unit. Architect: Alan Hope, B.Arch., A.R.I.B.A.



Newcastle Sanatorium, Co. Wicklow. Architect: Alfred Phillips, M.R.I.A.I.

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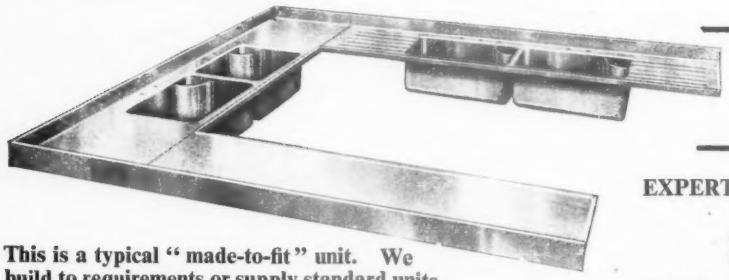

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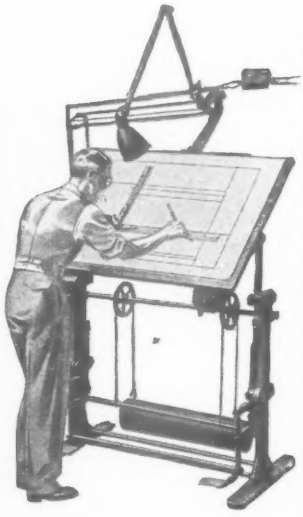

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements should be addressed to the Advt. Manager, "The Architects' Journal," 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 paper.

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

Public and Official 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.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BARNSLEY.
BOROUGH ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR AND PLANNING OFFICER'S DEPARTMENT.
APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR PLANNING ASSISTANT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of a Senior Planning Assistant, in accordance with the A.P.T., Grade VII, commencing salary £710 per annum. A car allowance will be paid in accordance with the prevailing scheme for essential users. The appointment 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 Acts.

The successful applicant will be required to pass a medical examination, and the appointment will be subject to one month's notice on either side.

Candidates must have had extensive experience in Town Planning and must be Corporate Members of the Town Planning Institute or hold an equivalent qualification.

Applications, stating age, present and previous appointments, experience, qualifications, etc., together with the names of three referees, should be addressed to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor and Planning Officer, Town Hall, Barnsley, to reach him not later than Monday, 8th December, 1952.

Canvassing will disqualify, and applicants should disclose in their application whether or not to their knowledge they are related to any senior official or member of the Council.

A. E. GILFILLAN,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Barnsley.
November, 1952. 7724

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

Vacancies for ARCHITECTS (A.R.I.B.A.), in Housing Division.

(*a*) Grade II, £837 10s.-£1,002; (*b*) Grade III, up to £837 10s.; (*c*) Technical Assistants, up to £696.

Application forms and particulars from Architect, County Hall, S.E.1, quoting AR/EK/H/2. (1203) 7737

BOROUGH OF WALTHAMSTOW.
BOROUGH ARCHITECT, ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.
ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR.

Applications are invited for the above appointment on Grades I/V, A.P.T. Division (£495-£675, inclusive of London weighting), commencing salary according to qualifications and experience.

Applications, with names of two persons for references, should be received by the undersigned not later than Monday, 8th December, 1952.

G. A. BLAKELEY,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Walthamstow, E.17. 7761

BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL.

Applications are invited for the appointment of an ASSISTANT HEATING ENGINEER, Grade VI, £670-£735 p.a., on the staff of the County Architect.

Applicants should be Graduate or Associate Members of the Institute of Heating and Ventilating Engineers or equivalent. They must be experienced in the design of schemes for heating and hot water supply installations, capable draughtsmen, and able to prepare specifications, etc. A sound knowledge of electrical installations will be an advantage.

This appointment is superannuable and subject to medical examination.

A weekly allowance of 25s. and refurn fare home once every two months may be paid for six months to newly appointed married officers of the Council unable to find accommodation.

Further particulars and form of application may be obtained from the County Architect, County Offices, Aylesbury, to whom applications must be delivered by 22nd December, 1952. 7760

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

Vacancy for ARCHITECT, Grade I (£1,002-£1,143). Theatres Section (safety regulations, etc.). A.R.I.B.A. Particulars and application form from Architect, County Hall, S.E.1, quoting AR/EK/T/3. (1230) 7747

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

Vacancies for PLANNING OFFICERS, Grade III (up to £837 10s.). Prof. quals.: A.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.C.S. and/or A.M.T.P.I. required. Application forms and particulars from Architect, County Hall, S.E.1, quoting AR/EK/P.3/4. (1235) 7746

BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL.

Applications are invited from qualified ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS for posts in the undermentioned grades on the staff of the County Architect:—

Special, Grade II (£950-£1,150 p.a.)
A.P.T., Grade VII (£710-£785 p.a.).
A.P.T., Grade V (£595-£645 p.a.).

The posts offer scope for initiative and enthusiasm. Applicants should preferably have been trained at a recognised School of Architecture.

The appointments are superannuable and subject to medical examination.

A weekly allowance of 25s. and return fare home once every two months may be paid for six months to newly appointed married officers of the Council unable to find accommodation.

Further particulars and form of application may be obtained from the County Architect, County Offices, Aylesbury, to whom applications must be delivered by 22nd December, 1952. 7759

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Principal: H. W. WEBB, O.B.E., D.Sc.
SENIOR LECTURER IN BUILDING DEPARTMENT.

A Senior Lecturer is required as soon as possible in the Building Department of the above College. (Salary on the Burnham Technical Scale: £1,040×£25—£1,190.)

Applicants should preferably have had previous Technical College experience and possess a professional qualification in either Architecture, Structural and Civil Engineering, or Quantity Surveying. They should be able to teach Theory of Structures, and must state in their application the other subjects they can offer.

Applications, giving details of training, qualifications and experience, should be sent to the Principal immediately.

H. DIBDEN,
Clerk to the Governors.

7753

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ABERCARN.
APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECT.

Applications are invited for the permanent appointment of Architect. The person appointed must have had experience in a Municipal Office and be a qualified Architect and Surveyor. The successful applicant will be required to take charge of all the Council's housing schemes.

Housing accommodation will be offered the successful applicant if required. The appointment is superannuable, and will be terminable by three months' notice on either side. The person appointed must devote the whole of his time to the duties of the Office.

The salary payable will be in accordance with Grade A.P.T., VII, VIII, IX of the National Scales of Salaries (£710-£815), according to experience.

Applications, stating age, qualifications, present and previous appointments, and giving names of three persons to whom reference can be made, to be sent to the undersigned not later than Monday, the 8th December.

Canvassing in any form will disqualify, and applicants must disclose whether they are related to any member or senior officer of the Council.

LEON KING,
Clerk of the Council.

Council Offices, Abercarn, Mon.
20th November, 1952. 7754

BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM.
SECOND ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

Applications are invited for the above appointment in the department of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, at a salary in accordance with Grade V (£595-£645), A.P.T., of the National Scheme of Conditions of Service.

Applicants should have had good general experience, especially with regard to housing, and previous service with a local authority is desirable.

The appointment is subject to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and the National Scheme of Conditions of Service, and will be terminable by one month's notice on either side.

Housing accommodation will be made available if required.

Applications, stating age, qualifications, present and past employment and experience, together with the names of three persons to whom reference can be made, should be sent to Trevor J. Livesey A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.Struct.E., A.M.I.Mun.E., Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Guildhall, Grantham, to arrive not later than 10th December, 1952.

JOHN F. GUILE,
Town Clerk

Guildhall, Grantham, Lincs. 7768

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF TYLDESLEY.
HOUSING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT.

There is a vacancy for a fully qualified and experienced BUILDING INSPECTOR, at a salary in accordance with Grade III of the A.P.T. Division, namely £525×£15—£570. The person appointed will be required to pass a medical examination and contribute to the Superannuation Scheme.

Housing accommodation will be provided if necessary.

Forms of application can be obtained from the undersigned and must be returned not later than 20th December, 1952.

Dated this 28th day of November, 1952.

RICHARD F. WILSON,
Clerk of the Council.

Town Hall, Tyldesley. 7773

CITY OF WAKEFIELD.
ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT—GRADE Va.

Applications are invited for the above superannuable appointment on Grade Va (£625×£20—£685).

Applicants should have good knowledge of adaptations and maintenance repairs as well as general architectural practice.

Applications, endorsed "Architectural Assistant," stating full particulars, with names of two referees, to be sent to me not later than 3rd December, 1952.

W. S. DES FORGES, *Town Clerk.*

Town Hall, Wakefield.
14th November, 1952. 7741

COUNTY OF LINCOLN—PARTS OF KESTEVEN.
COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of TWO ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS. Salary on A.P.T., Grades II to IV (£495-£600).

Forms of application and further particulars may be obtained from the undersigned, to whom applications should be sent by the 17th December, 1952.

J. E. BLOW,
Clerk of the County Council.

County Offices, Sleaford, Lincs.
20th November, 1952. 7767

CITY AND COUNTY OF KINGSTON UPON HULL.
APPOINTMENT OF TOWN PLANNING OFFICER.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the appointment of Town Planning Officer to the Council, at a salary in accordance with Grade G of the Salary Scales set out in the Memorandum of Recommendations of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Officers of Local Autnorities (£1,500×£50 to £1,750). The person appointed will be responsible to the Council, through the Town Planning Committee, for the organisation, supervision, control and administration of the Town Planning Department and the direction of the business of such Department.

The appointment will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and to three months' notice in writing, on either side, at any time.

The successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications, on a form which may be obtained at my office, must be delivered to the undersigned on or before the 1st January, 1953.

E. H. BULLOCK,
Town Clerk

Guildhall, Kingston upon Hull.
22nd November, 1952. 7774

CITY OF COVENTRY.

Applications invited for Grade A.P.T., III, and A.P.T., VII, vacancies on Architectural Staff (Housing). Full particulars on application to undersigned. Closing date for preliminary enquiry 6th December, 1952.

D. E. E. GIBSON,
City Architect and Planning Officer.

Bull Yard, Coventry.
21st November, 1952. 7769

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF ABERDEEN.
COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the post of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT from persons holding the qualification A.R.I.B.A., and who have had considerable architectural experience, preferably with a Local Authority. The salary scale for the appointment is £550 to £690 per annum.

The appointment is subject to the Local Government Superannuation (Scotland) Act, 1937, and the successful candidate will require to pass a medical examination.

Conditions of appointment and forms of application are obtainable from the undersigned, and should be returned not later than 11th December, 1952.

Canvassing of members of the Council, directly or indirectly, in connection with this appointment shall disqualify the candidate.

CHAS. HORNAL,
County Clerk.

County Buildings, 22, Union Terrace,
Aberdeen.
20th November, 1952. 7771

BEESTON AND STAPLEFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
SURVEYOR AND HOUSING ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the following appointments:—

(*a*) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, Grade A.P.T., V (£595-£645 per annum).

Applicants should be Associates of the R.I.B.A. or hold a similar qualification, and have had considerable experience in the design and construction of dwelling houses.

(*b*) JUNIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, Grade A.P.T., II (£495-£540 per annum).

Both the appointments will be in accordance with the National Scheme of Conditions of Service.

Applications, together with the names of two persons to whom reference may be made, should be sent to the Surveyor and Housing Architect, Town Hall, Beeston, Nottingham, not later than Saturday, 13th December, 1952.

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

H. D. JEFFRIES,
Clerk of the Council.

Town Hall, Beeston, Nottingham. 7770

NORWICH EDUCATION COMMITTEE.
Applications are invited for the post of full-time MANAGER of the Stores and Works Department.
Salary: A.P.T., Grade V, £595, by annual increments of £15, £15, £20 to £645 per annum, together with a car allowance.
Candidates should have had suitable previous experience.
A general statement of duties and conditions of appointment, together with a form of application, may be obtained from the Director of Education, Education Office, City Hall, Norwich. Applications must be received not later than a fortnight after the appearance of this notice. 7772

Architectural Appointments Vacant

4 lines or under, 7s. 6d.; 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.

ARCHITECT'S ASSISTANT, with at least 5 years' experience Housing, Industrial and Schools. Apply in writing, Raymond C. White, 4, Temple Square, Aylesbury. 7731

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, up to Inter. R.I.B.A. standard, required for busy country practice. Sound knowledge of Building Construction essential. Write, stating age, training, experience and salary required, to Edwin H. Earp & Badger, L./A.R.I.B.A., Scholars Lane, Stratford-on-Avon. 7715

LONDON Architects require SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS, fully experienced in design and constructional details of Multi-storey Buildings, including Flats, Hospitals, Office Buildings, etc. Salaries from £1,000 to £1,500 per annum. Write, giving full particulars, to Box 7531.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required in London, with knowledge of Housing and Hospital work. Reply, stating experience and salary required, to Box 7763.

POSITIONS available for Intermediate and Final Grade ASSISTANTS. Also SENIOR ASSISTANT. Interesting University and similar work offering scope and opportunity. Write, giving full particulars, to: John MacGeagh, A.R.I.B.A., 142, Scottish Provident Building, 7, Donegall Square West, Belfast. 7749

QUALIFIED ASSISTANT required for industrial work. Applicants must have had considerable recent experience in factory buildings, including full responsibility for site supervision. Also required, a JUNIOR SURVEYING ASSISTANT, for preparing specifications and supervising war damage and other repairs to Churches. Applications in writing, giving age, training experience and salary required, to Llewellyn Smith & Waters, F./F.R.I.B.A., 103, Old Brompton Road, S.W.7. 7742

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required, South Bucks. Salary £5 to £6 per week. Box 7751.

EXPERIENCED SENIOR ASSISTANT required for small, busy, general country practice in South. Reply, with full particulars and salary required, to Box 7752.

SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required by progressive Midlands Brewery Company. Must have experience in licensed house work. Permanency for suitable applicant. Pension scheme in operation. 5-day week. State age, experience and salary required to Box 7775.

Architectural Appointments Wanted

LADY ARCHITECT, D.A. (Edin.), two years' experience, seeks position with Architect. Contemporary outlook. Midlands, London or South. Box 600.

RETIRED ARCHITECT, ex-Fellow, seeks part- or whole-time employment with firm wishing shed some of its load. Varied private practice and Civil Service experience. Must be in or near to London. Preliminary interview gladly arranged. Box 608.

DIPL.ARCH., A.R.I.B.A. (23), single, released National Service September, urgently requires position in London. One year's general experience. Offers of help gratefully received. Keen, energetic and available immediately. Tel.: TOT. 4736, or Box 609.

ASSOCIATE, school trained, 40, at present earning £1,150 in a Nationalised Organisation with a wide experience of heavy industrial building, including chemical engineering, seeks a post in an industrial organisation or with a private office, where administrative capacity and initiative are required. Box 7633.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (21), released H.M. Forces, 2 years' office training, requires position, London-Guildford area. Good references. Keen worker. Available immediately. Box 614.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT desires London position. Capable draughtsman. All working drawings, details, etc. Varied experience. Box 7757.

Other Appointments Vacant

4 lines or under, 7s. 6d.; 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.

EXPERIENCED and reliable SECRETARY required by progressive firm of Architects; technical knowledge is not essential; shorthand, typing required, but above everything tact, ability, and firmness of character; permanent progressive post offered. Box 7766.

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