



Wednesday, March 28, 1928

THE FOUNDLING

DORCHESTER HOUSE is gone. Let there be no doubts as to that. Whatever else we may be about to lose, or shall lose in the future, we shall have witnessed in the passing of this most magnificent piece of architecture what the fatalists among us might call a work of economic necessity, but what those who are citizens enough to feel the loss of something that we might yet hold can regard as nothing short of disaster. And if this is a disaster in the pleasant places of Mayfair, where lawns and trees and open spaces are an alleviation of loss, then in Bloomsbury, where these things are less prodigally bestowed, and are the more precious, how great would be the measure of calamity should the very heart of the place be wrenched away and the gap filled by a soaring Babylon of brick that destroyed all the quiet charm of a beautiful district and shut out the sunshine and the air in which it flourished.

May we state the facts again? Foundling Hospital site, comprising some nine acres of the best part of Bloomsbury, has been bought by a financial syndicate, who propose to level the hospital founded by Thomas Coram, and to build over most of the site ten-story flats, with a row of shops across the spacious courtyard. On the other hand, the Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre Committee have examined the site and found it admirably suited to the purposes of a National theatre. They have definitely stated their preference for this particular site; and not only this committee, but the Council of the British Drama League, a vast organization which has always in view the creation of a National theatre, has given the Memorial Theatre Committee its support, so that it might be said that a preponderating majority of the interested theatrical world distinctly favours the adoption of the site. Since it has been shown that the London University might combine with the National theatre supporters to preserve the aspect of the whole district by taking over the residential squares that form part of the Foundling Hospital layout, as hostels for the students of an enlarged university, the cause has been strengthened by new forces that seem to bring the salvation of Bloomsbury within the reasonably possible. Then, too, the L.C.C. are anxious to preserve the identity of the squares and gardens of London, and Colonel Levita, the chairman of housing, though himself the promoter of great housing blocks in other quarters, is on the side of preservation in this case. The unanimity among those who have the desire, and can surely procure the means, of saving Bloomsbury, might give us reason to hope; and yet we must tremble again when we hear on

good authority that the L.C.C., by granting an interim development order to the owners of the Foundling site, have not only given permission to start the demolition of the site, but have blessed provisionally the whole scheme of development, and placed the promoters of it within the law.

This they have done while still the whole question is under inquiry by the Ministry, and in face of a considerable volume of public criticism. We are not so much concerned with the legal complications attending such action, as with its alarming suggestion of action on the part of the owning company. So far, with commendable courtesy, they have delayed development when it seemed possible that the land might be bought for more national uses, and it is actually to their advantage to sell the open space to someone who will preserve it, for they own more than the Foundling Hospital itself. And yet they cannot wait for ever while committees ponder. It costs money to wait, and no doubt they are by now fully prepared to let contracts for the work. If the negotiations are not to fall through there must be some corresponding advance by the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre authorities, by the British Drama League, by the R.I.B.A., and by the general public at large. Even at this late hour the owners are still anxious to keep open the door to negotiations, and the action of the L.C.C. may be regarded as evidence of the rather unintelligent application of the machinery of local government, rather than a definite threat.

Is it not possible that the President of the R.I.B.A. might join forces with the defenders of the site with a public announcement carrying all the weight of the profession? It would be a welcome sign of a disinterested championing of a popular cause that might lay the ghost of recent unpopularity in other places. Bloomsbury may be saved by the generosity of private individuals, or by such bodies as the Shakespeare National Memorial Fund Committee, and in very few cases does the general public prove itself single-minded enough to do the job itself. What it can do, and we, as a quite weighty body of professional opinion, can do, is to create an atmosphere of support about the efforts of the more active participants that will make their task the easier, and perhaps even spur them on to more definite decisions. It should be known now that the R.I.B.A. are closely associated with the efforts to save Bloomsbury, for this is just the moment when the crowd either melts away or becomes of a sudden filled with the fine idea of the thing and presses forward.

NEWS AND TOPICS

"BALBUS BUILT A WALL"—A CURE FOR DAMP—THE
PALACE OF THE POPES—THE BROKEN BRIDGE

ARCHITECTS will find much to interest them in the lecture that is to be given next Friday night at the R.I.B.A. under the auspices of the Chadwick Trustees, by Dr. R. E. Stradling, the director of building research. Dr. Stradling has been conducting a number of interesting experiments into problems that are causing anxiety to the architectural profession today, and in his lecture he proposes to deal with such issues as weather protection, economy and cheapness in construction, and the prevention of accidents in the building industry. Although the State, largely on the wise initiative of Mr. Neville Chamberlain, is supporting extended research work, it is essential that builders themselves—and may we whisper architects, too?—should realize the value of more scientific education. This is the gospel of Dr. Stradling, and some of the illustrations he intends to show will prove clearly how many recent collapses of buildings are due to our crass ignorance.

* * *

Recently, while at Villeneuve, the old and historic town on the other side of the river Rhone, near Avignon in Provence, I noticed in several of the ancient buildings small diamond-shaped tubes. These had been inserted into the old stone. This same method of curing dampness has proved to be particularly effective, so I am told by Dr. Stradling, in work at Versailles. These little clay tubes were invented by a French engineer called Knapen, and he discussed the advantages of this method in London two or three years ago. They supply a material which ventilates the interior of a wall, and has also a high capillary as compared with surrounding material. Mr. H. T. Searles-Wood, who first saw the Knapen method at the Brussels Exhibition in 1910, considers it is surprising that, following its success in France, more use is not being made of it in this country.

* * *

Although little has been heard of the activities of the Greater London Regional Planning Committee, the subcommittees have been hard at work. Both Dr. Raymond Unwin and Mr. Montague Harris, the secretary, who is also an official of the Ministry of Health, have been giving a good deal of attention to the question of moving certain industries out of London. Special visits are to be paid to Greenford, and to Letchworth, in order to study on the spot industrial developments. Mr. W. H. Gaunt, the transport director of Messrs. Lyons & Co., who had a great deal to do with the laying out of Trafford Park, Manchester, has been consulted. This subcommittee are likely to go outside the Greater London area in order to investigate whether certain country towns might not be developed, and some of London's industries be encouraged to emigrate.

The restoration of the Pope's Palace at Avignon—that magnificent example of fourteenth-century military architecture—is proceeding rapidly. As far as possible the original stones taken out of the ruins are being used over again. As visitors to Avignon know, this is more a fortress than a palace, and the walls are of a remarkable thickness. Fortunately, conversion into a prison and barracks saved it from complete destruction at the time of the Revolution. One interesting development at present is that prominent townfolk are giving historical relics to be preserved in the palace. Old doors dating from the Medieval Ages have been placed in some of the rooms. Pictures and engravings also do something to cheer up this gloomy building. From the architectural point of view the restoration that has been going on for the last four years presents many points of interest.

* * *

All who love rural England will welcome the proposed extension of the Petroleum (Amendment) Bill that was recently given a second reading in the House of Commons. It is proposed by Sir William Joynson-Hicks that under this Bill local authorities should be enabled to make by-laws so as to prevent the natural beauty of a landscape or the amenities of a village being spoilt by unsightly petrol pumps and garages. Although much has been done under the Advertisement Regulation Acts of 1907 and of 1925 to prevent the display of unsightly advertisements on our highways, the present violent competition between the foremost motor spirit firms is leading to the spoiling of thousands of country places by some of the ugliest buildings, painted in the most glaring colours that the malicious mind of man could devise. Some of these depots are positive nightmares, but the advertisements with which they are covered cannot be prevented if they refer to the business carried on within. It is to be hoped that our legislators will have the common sense to protect the roads that are maintained by public money from these horrors, and that the Home Secretary's proposal will meet with general support.

* * *

In the course of the next few years the leases of the Church House, Westminster, will fall in, and, accordingly, the Corporation, over which the Archbishop of Canterbury presides, are already considering schemes for the future. The original plan was a great quadrangle, two sides of which have already been built. On the one side is the Great Hall where the meetings of the National Assembly of the Church of England are held three times a year. This has proved to be very unsatisfactory from the acoustic point of view. On the side running parallel to Great Smith Street is the Hoare Memorial Hall, and a number of offices occupied by church societies. In time the old houses in Dean's Yard will be pulled down, and the original plan carried out in some form. But for the time being the recent floods have introduced a new factor into the problem. The water of the Thames forced upwards the drain traps and manholes, and displaced many of the wood blocks. For reasons of health it will be necessary to disinfect the concrete bed of the basement of the Great Hall block, and to lay down a number of new blocks.

* * *

I was interested in a point of view with regard to skyscrapers that was recently expressed by a well-known

architect. He took the view that we were often misled regarding skyscrapers by the delightful illustrations showing the sunshine pouring down upon these massive buildings. But he pointed out that we were never shown, or even told, of the hapless lot of those clerks and typists who had to occupy rooms at the back that could not be photographed because they were at the bottom of a deep light-well. In fact, it is said to be quite a common occurrence for American clerks to work all day in rooms and never to be able to see even an inch of sky. It is probable, however, that we can learn a lesson from the more recent architecture of our American friends. Are we not providing our new buildings in London and industrial centres with far too many light-wells which are costly to build and take up space? It is suggested that the modern American practice of making indentations in the outer walls so as to allow the inflow of light and air might well be more extensively adopted in this country, and that we should look with considerable suspicion upon any plans that include light-wells.

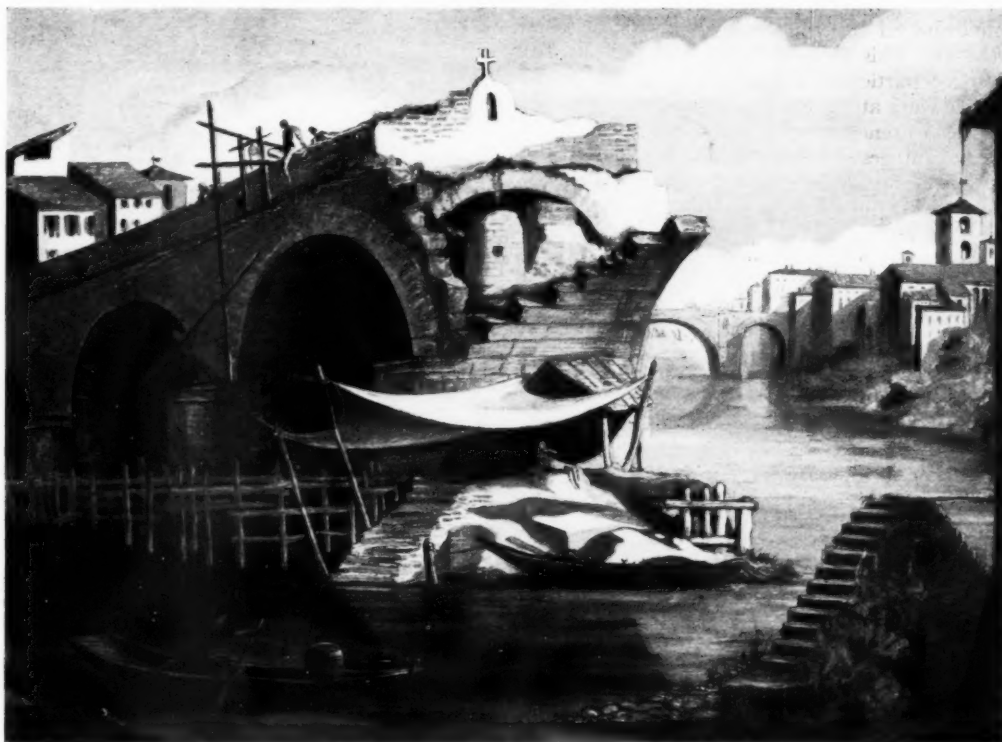
* * *

The Ponte Rotto, or Broken Bridge, of which today only one arch remains, is the oldest bridge in Rome. It was finished under the censorship of Scipio Africanus, the conqueror of Carthage, about the year 181 B.C. At that time it was called the Pons Æmilius. Its position exposed it to frequent inundation, and many Popes went to the expense of having it restored; but one night during the great flood of 1598 the two arches next the left bank of the Tiber were completely carried away, and Pope Clement VIII did not think it worth while making further attempts to restore it. Thenceforth it was known as il Ponte Rotto, and it

came to be used by the fishermen as a landing-place and for some as a home. In the eighteenth century a little altar was built at the end of the bridge, where a priest used to say Mass every morning for the men before they went fishing. Later on in the nineteenth century bit by bit the rest of the bridge crumbled away, leaving one isolated arch amid stream. The new iron bridge, called the Ponte Emilio, now crosses the Tiber just a few yards above the old one, and it is to be hoped that for the sake of beauty another flood will shortly carry that away. The picture I reproduce depicts the bridge as the artist thinks it must have looked at the beginning of the nineteenth century. In the background is the Isola Tiberiana showing the church of S. Bartolomeo, erected on the site of the ancient Temple of Æsculapius, about the year 1000, by the Emperor Otho III in honour of S. Adalbert of Guesen. The bridge in the distance is the Ponte S. Bartolomeo. This picture, together with many others, will shortly be exhibited at the Quo Vadis Restaurant, Soho, where a group of artists, including Edward Carrick, Laurence Bradshaw, Austin Spare, Grace Rogers, Stafford Leak, Gordon Godfrey, John Caedmon, Patrick Keel, Sidney Hunt, Berwick Tyrell, and R. Boyd Morrison, have collected together, calling themselves the Grubb Group. In an amusing prospectus issued by them they say:

The Grubb Group is not a society of entomologists, but a number of artists who have made a celebrated restaurant their headquarters. Here they will exhibit their paintings, engravings, and drawings, and forgather from time to time to eat, drink, and be gay and discuss food and art without prejudice.

The motto of the Grubb Group is "Ars Longa, Grub fugit."



*The Ponte Rotto, or Broken Bridge, Rome.
From an oil painting by Edward Carrick.*

The members of the Leeds and West Yorkshire Architectural Society met in debate last week for discussion as to whether or no Leeds had an individual style of architecture. For the affirmative, it was advanced that the building of the Town Hall in the fifties, by Cuthbert Brodrick, had stamped the city with an individual style which local architects had more or less followed. Sir Reginald Blomfield had also adhered to the Renaissance period in his designs for the elevations for the new East and West Streets. On the negative side, it was argued that Leeds for the most part had been developed during the industrial age, which was not a period which made for fine building or architecture such as obtained at Chester or Bath. On the question being put to the vote, the negative attitude was adopted by those present.

* * *

The peculiar applicability of wood-engraving to the delineation of buildings is well illustrated by the old-style prints of Gwendolen Raverat at St. George's Gallery. The peculiar inapplicability of the new style is quite as forcibly made manifest. Buildings require white line, but not white mass. Mrs. Raverat supplies both; but while her traditional style is full of expression, the broadly-cut plank work is only reminiscent of many another contemporary craftsman who aims at but misses the charm of the old Italian chiaroscuro. There is so much at stake in the present revival of wood-engraving that, granting the desirability of individual freedom of expression, it is even more important that the old principles should be maintained. They afford, moreover, just as good an opportunity for individuality. At Walker's Gallery, Ernest Chadwick acknowledges his debt to the old water-colour draughtsmen with, however, too much leaning towards the pretty as apart from the stern, but not necessarily unpleasant, facts of Nature. Included in his show there are at least half a dozen architectural subjects very well treated, including a pleasant study of St. John's Bridge, at Tewkesbury. At the Fine Art Society, an Associate of the Royal Hibernian Academy, J. H. Craig, places himself well on the side of tradition. With an admirable taste for oil-paint and its qualities and a good eye for the best in Nature, he has produced some pictures of delightful quality.

* * *

A new Shakespeare Memorial Museum and Library is being built at the Waseda University in Japan. The building is designed in a style that is said to be reminiscent of Elizabethan architecture, and will include various medieval features. Already the foundations have been started upon with full Shinto ceremonies. This is to be a joint memorial, both to Shakespeare and to Dr. Shoyo Tsubouchi, who has devoted his lifetime to the study of Shakespearean drama. Shakespeare is read universally by the Japanese, and his influence is greater than that of any other dramatist in Japan. The elevations of the new "Elizabethan" building are expected in this country shortly.

* * *

I suspect that the R.I.B.A.-Royal Gold Medal may be found, upon investigation, to have had as interesting a history as the Koh-i-noor. In eighteen-seventy-something Ruskin declined it. Exactly fifty years later Professor Lethaby declined it. In 1922 John Bentley, of Westminster Cathedral, died upon the very eve of its being presented to him.

During the week-end I have been attempting some orderly arrangement of my books. Bricklaying, probably, is easier work. For all bricks are of the same size, same colour, and on the same subject. Several shelves I have that are devoted to the crafts, but here pocket volumes are side by side with large folios. Some men might arrange books according to size—folios on one shelf, quartos on another; but my mind could not abide such mixed company.

* * *

It is a lengthy business, too, this book arranging. A brick one can ring with the trowel, spread with the mortar, and slip into place without meditating upon everything inside it. But you handle a book you have not taken from the shelf for years—and the day is lost. This in De Quincey's *Suspira de Profundis* I found: "God smote Savannah-la-mar, and in one night, by earthquake, removed her, with all her towers standing and population sleeping, from the steadfast foundations of the shore to the coral floors of ocean. And God said, 'Pompeii did I bury and conceal from men through seventeen centuries: this city I will bury, but not conceal. She shall be a monument to men of my mysterious anger, set in azure light through generations to come; for I will enshrine her in a crystal dome of my tropic seas.' This city, therefore, like a mighty galleon with all her apparel mounted, streamers flying and tackling perfect, seems floating along the noiseless depths of ocean; and oftentimes in glassy calms, through the translucent atmosphere of water that now stretches like an air-woven awning above the silent encampment, mariners from every clime look down into her courts and terraces, count her gates, and number the spires of her churches. She is one ample cemetery, and has been for many a year; but, in the mighty calms that brood for weeks over tropic latitudes, she fascinates the eye with a *Fata Morgana* revelation, as of human life still subsisting in submarine asylums sacred from the storms that torment our upper air." Architectural textbooks never give such pictures as that.

ASTRAGAL

ARRANGEMENTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

Institution of Civil Engineers. 6.30 p.m. "The Limitation of Concrete as a Material in Construction." Paper by R. F. Legget.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

R.I.B.A. 8.15 p.m. "Balbus Built a Wall." Paper by R. E. Stradling.

Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors. 7.0 p.m. "The Rise and Progress of Quantities, and a Plea for a British Empire Mode of Measurement." Paper by W. M. Baird.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Royal Society of Arts. 8.0 p.m. "American Architecture." Paper by Alfred C. Bossom.

MONDAY, APRIL 23

R.I.B.A. 8.0 p.m. "The Work of Temple Moore." Paper by H. S. Goodhart-Rendel.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

Architectural Association. 7.0 p.m. "Modern German Architecture." Paper by Werner Hegemann.

AN ARCHITECT'S STAGE-SETTING

[BY R. E. ENTHOVEN]

THE ability of the architect to design stage-settings is seldom tested. Like his brother artist, the painter, his qualifications are considerable, but in certain respects likely to be inadequate. His training gives him exceptional facility in the use of form in the abstract, a grasp of spatial relationships, backed by a sound knowledge of construction and electrical work. It is in his sense of the theatre that he may be lacking. The general function of the stage-designer is so to influence the emotions of the audience by form and colour as to emphasize and make more clear the significance of the play. His work need not even necessarily be consciously decorative; the settings of the constructivists in Russia have been definitely anti-decorative, their emotional appeal being derived from the stark expression of function alone. To acquire this sense of the theatre it is necessary to understand every aspect of theatrical technique, and for this reason we find that the artist-director, who can both produce and design the settings and costumes, is æsthetically the most successful. Such men are rare in this country, but M. Komisarjevsky has shown us in the Tchekov revivals, *Paul I* and other plays, how satisfying is the resulting unity of effect.

In the London commercial theatre, however, a considerable number of plays are produced which not only demand but actually depend for their effect upon realistic settings of interiors, as against abstractions in canvas screens and curtains. Character becomes the one important consideration. It is in such cases that the management is wise to obtain the services of an architect of imagination, for he of all people will have at his command the requisite mental notes to enable him to lay his finger on those precise points which will make or mar any desired effect. It is not easy to steer successfully between the Scylla of non-descript furnishing assemblages and the Charybdis of conventional period-decoration. His settings will be historically possible and at the same time expressive of those nuances of character which are so easily missed. In a recent revival of *Quality Street* the setting, which had great charm, was designed by Sir

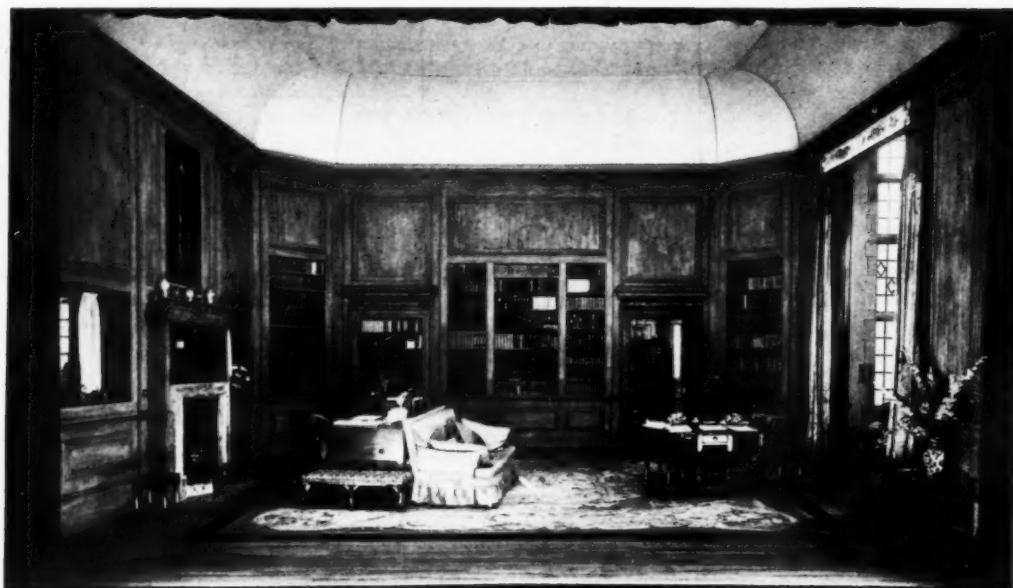
Edwin Lutyens. It is to Mr. S. H. Evans that we are indebted for the very successful mounting of Mr. A. A. Milne's new play at the Haymarket Theatre.

The nature of *The Fourth Wall* is suggested by the title itself. This fourth wall is emphatically a transparent one across the plane of the proscenium-opening, not at the back of the auditorium, as that, for example, of the American piece now playing at the Queen's Theatre. The scene of the whole play is a room in the Sussex home of a typical well-to-do country gentleman. The writing demands as near an approach to realism as possible, for it relies upon giving the audience the impression of actually witnessing what is happening in this room. Mr. Evans has pictured a house of Elizabethan origin. The windows, a small one on either side of the fireplace and an oriel opposite, have stone mullions cleverly imitated in timber framing and plywood. It is to be regretted that part of the centre mullion of the oriel should have been removed to enlarge the opening; but murderers are not all slim. The side walls being kept square instead of splayed with the back wall, much of this important window is unfortunately invisible to most of the audience. As to decoration, it is assumed that the room was panelled out early in the eighteenth century in unpolished wood, perhaps pine. The raised panels are executed in

plywood; the mouldings, of excellent design, are worked on the solid, the effect of carved enrichments being painted on in such a manner as to deceive all but the actors. The door, being of solid construction, can be slammed without disaster. The fireplace, with its marbled bolection surround and Adam grate, is surmounted by an overmantel which is in keeping, but presumably of modern design. The considerable slope of the stage is taken up in the height of the skirting. The ceiling, which replaces stop-drops, is plain and coved. The furniture, well disposed over an attractive Aubusson



Stage setting for *The Fourth Wall*, by A. A. Milne, at the Haymarket Theatre, London. Designed by S. H. Evans.



carpet, is of the type likely to be accumulated by a family with certain natural taste but no particular artistic leanings. The properties are chosen and arranged with great skill, even down to the Carter's seed list on the writing-table.

It would obviously be impossible either to "fly" or to erect rapidly so solid a set, although with a sliding stage it would be an easy matter to move it. The question of

mobility, however, did not here arise, and Mr. Evans tackled his problem accordingly. With Mr. Nicholas Hannen, the producer, he has succeeded in giving a visual expression to the characters of the piece which has no flaw. In contributing so much to the illusion of solid reality he has shown that the choice of an architect as scene-designer for this type of play is undoubtedly justified.



Stage setting for The Fourth Wall, by A. A. Milne, at the Haymarket Theatre, London. Designed by S. H. Evans.

THE A.A. RECONSTRUCTED

[BY M. L. ANDERSON]

BEFORE long a very definite charge will have to be made against the Architectural Association of overcrowding the profession! For some considerable time there have been so many students in the school that the problem of their accommodation has been an acute one; now, after a wide extension and enlargement of the premises, there seems to be comfortable room for all the students, of whom there are 250 at present in the school.

It was in 1920 that the alteration of Nos. 34 and 35 Bedford Square, and the building of the new studio block at the back, were completed, to the designs of Mr. Robert Atkinson. Now the next house (No. 36) has become definitely a part of the Association, and Messrs. Easton and Robertson have been responsible for the alterations and additions. The plans illustrated herewith show quite clearly what work has been done; the original buildings,

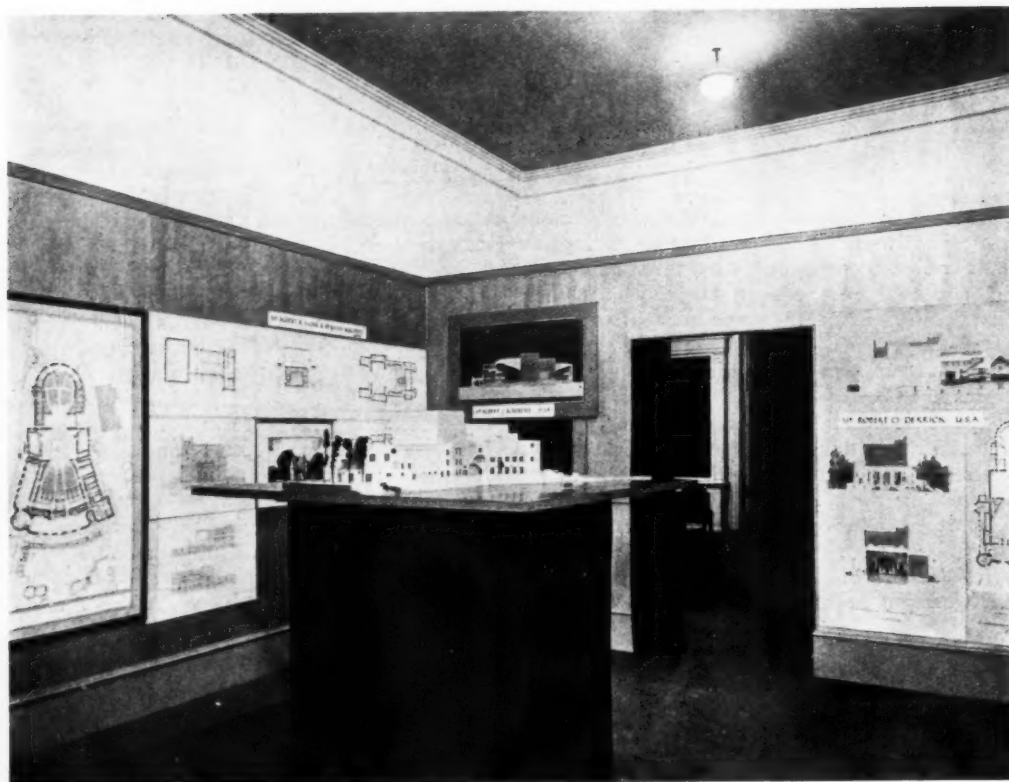
as Mr. Atkinson left them, are blacked-in solid, while the new walls and partitions are left white.

The front of the buildings—namely, the original part, as designed by Thomas Leverton in 1770—has been left substantially as it was in 1921, the chief change lying in the formation of the exhibition room on the first floor of No. 35, in the place which used to be the reference library; this has involved the introduction of a partition between the exhibition room and the library to provide a passage between the service and the members' rooms. In point of fact, the segmental back wall of No. 36 has been rebuilt from its foundations for structural reasons, but it retains, as far as possible, its original form, the only deviations from this having been dictated by the planning of the new portions at the back of the site.

The studio block built by Mr. Atkinson to the full width



The Architectural Association, Nos. 36, 35, 34 Bedford Square. By Thomas Leverton (1770).



The Architectural Association. Reconstructed by Easton and Robertson. The exhibition room on the first floor.

of the two original houses has been extended two more bays behind the new house. Messrs. Easton and Robertson have followed exactly the lines of the original design, and now the block runs, with a more pleasing continuity, the whole width of the site. The basement floor of this block has also been extended, and is retained as a greatly enlarged lecture room; the party-wall, beyond which the extension has been made, has been pierced, and fitted with folding doors; when these are thrown open, the result is as fine a ballroom as anybody could desire.

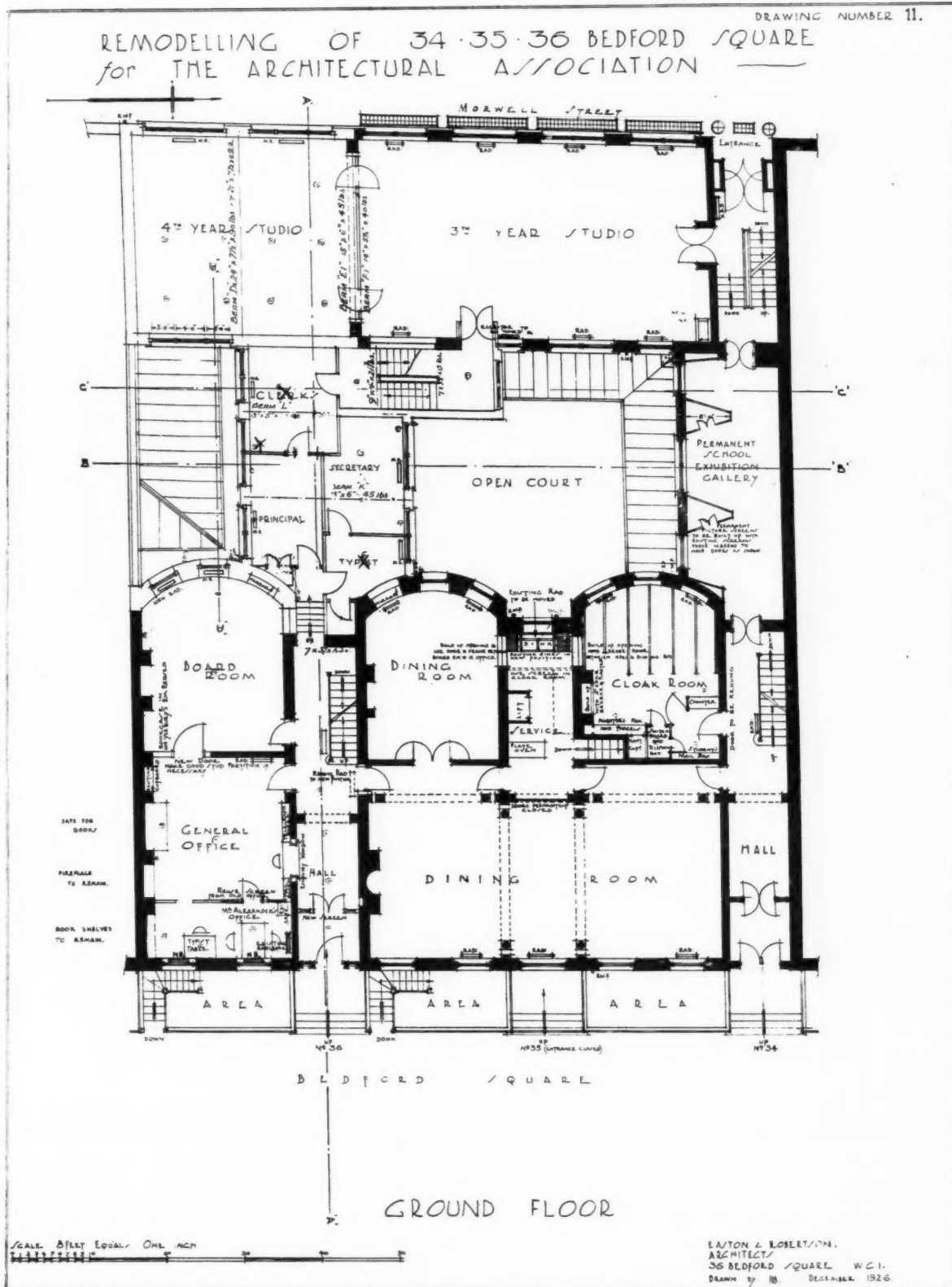
The general planning has been exceedingly well thought out; one is only too familiar with the ordinary "alterations and additions" job, more particularly in London, and the Architectural Association stands remarkable for its extreme orderliness and the efficiency of its circulation. There are now two entrances from Bedford Square: the old one in No. 34 and the new one in No. 36; the former is the one used by students, and leads directly into the school; the latter is for use by members (not students). The ground floor of the new house, as will be seen from the plans, is given up to offices, the council room, and so forth, and connects with the school through the dining-room; the first floor is a club for members, where coffee and refreshments may be had; here there is also a connection with the original building through the library; the second and third floors contain office accommodation, masters' rooms, life studio, and a flat for the caretaker.

The very extensive additions to the Association have been admirably supported by the decorations and furnishing.

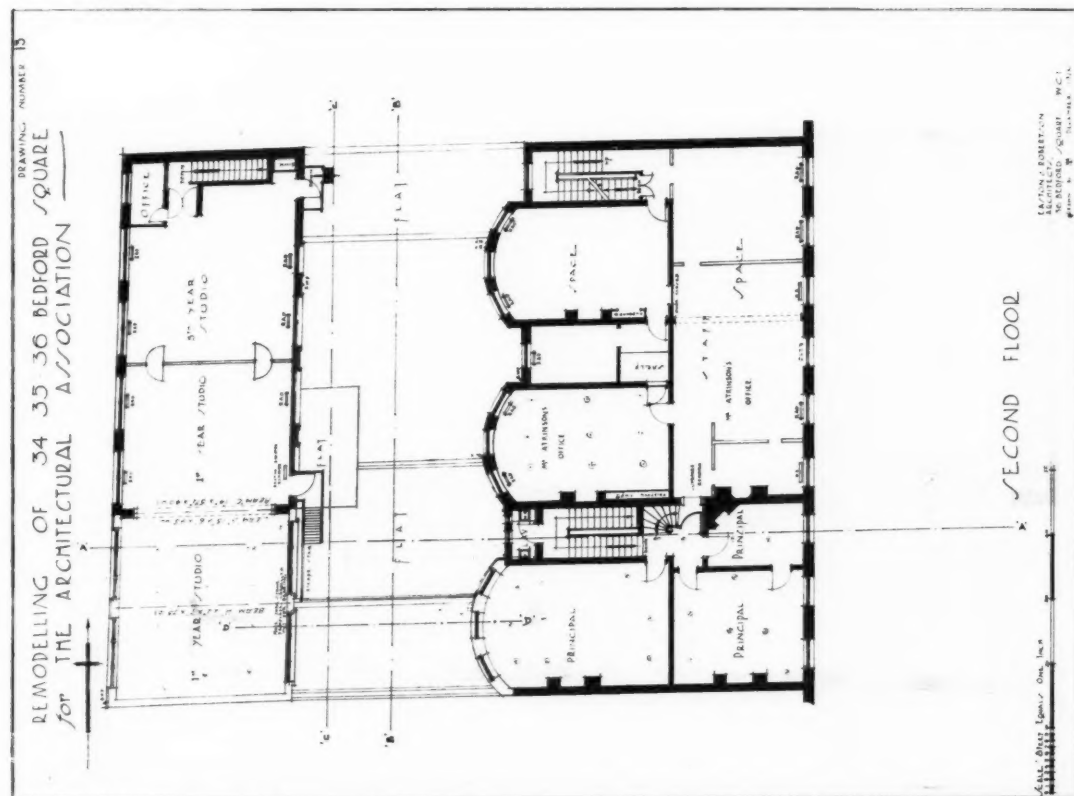
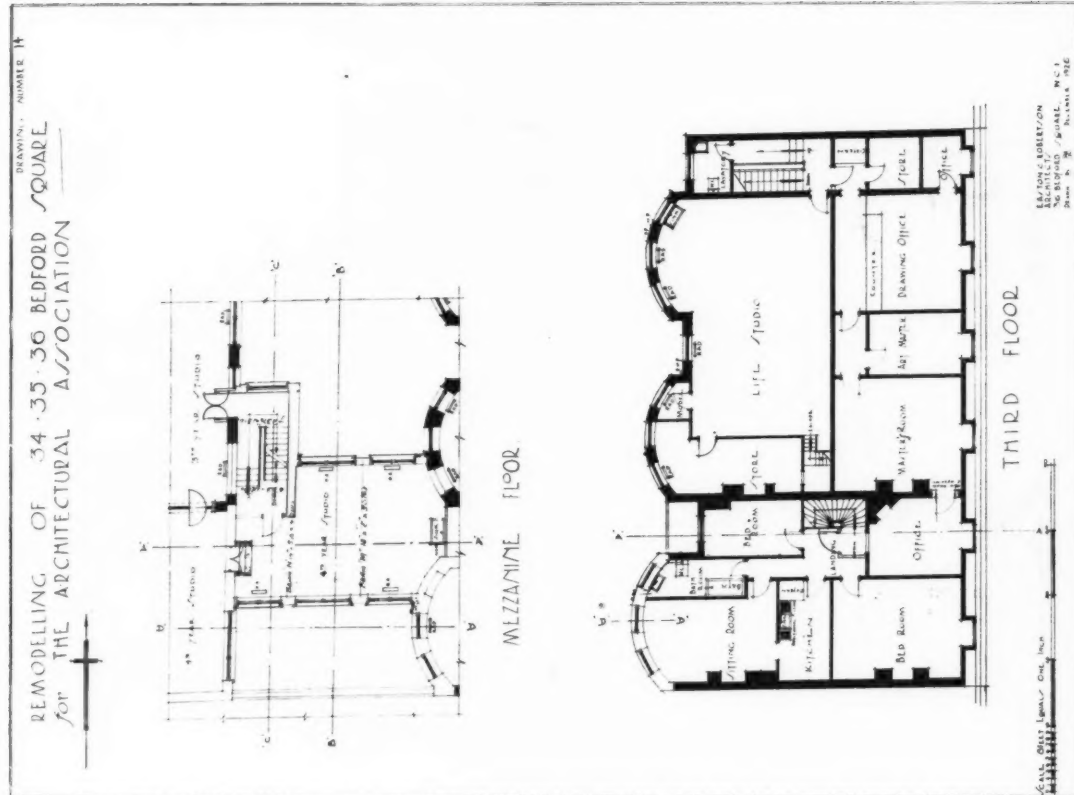
It may be taken for granted, where architects are gathered together, that the many widely divergent and cultured tastes will stimulate a very lively discussion on such matters, and it is surprising, on the whole, that this particular scheme should have been evolved, because it speaks clearly as a complete entity and not as a thoughtless conglomeration of many men's views. In rooms of the Adam type there is always a certain dictation as to what one may do with success, and what one may definitely not; the decorations here are restrained and dignified, but have that touch of comfortable modernity which is the making of a club.

The enterprise of the Council of the A.A. becomes even more apparent when it is pointed out that the subscriptions have not been raised in order to debar the heavy cost of the alterations; the subscription for town members remains at two guineas, and that for country members at one guinea; in addition (perhaps out of a conscious and not unjustifiable pride in its achievement) the Council has ruled that members of the R.I.B.A. and allied societies shall not be called upon to pay the normal entrance fee of two guineas.

Time was when membership of the A.A. had comparatively little to offer; the students have always made the most of their privileges, and may continue to do so for all the members need care; because the member who wants to be quiet can go into "No. 36" (the name will die hard) and have his whisky and soda; and if you want more than a murmur of conversation, then you can go into No. 34.



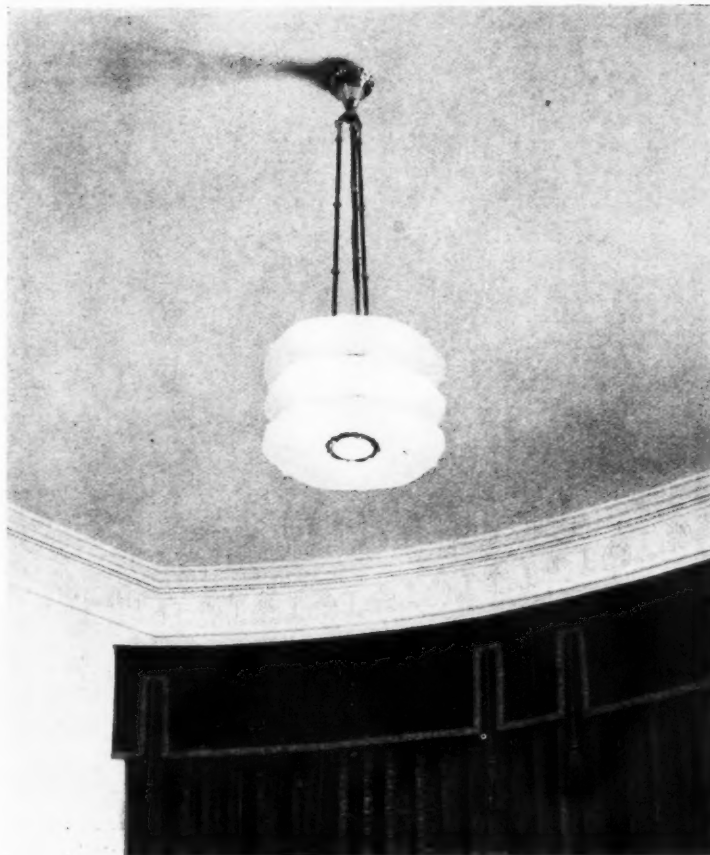
*The Architectural Association. Reconstructed by
Easton and Robertson. The ground-floor plan.*



The Architectural Association. Reconstructed by Easton and Robertson. Left, the second-floor plan. Right, the third-floor plan.



The Architectural Association. Reconstructed by Easton and Robertson. Two views of the periodicals room.



The Architectural Association. Reconstructed by Easton and Robertson. Above, the members' room. Below, a detail of one of the lighting fixtures.

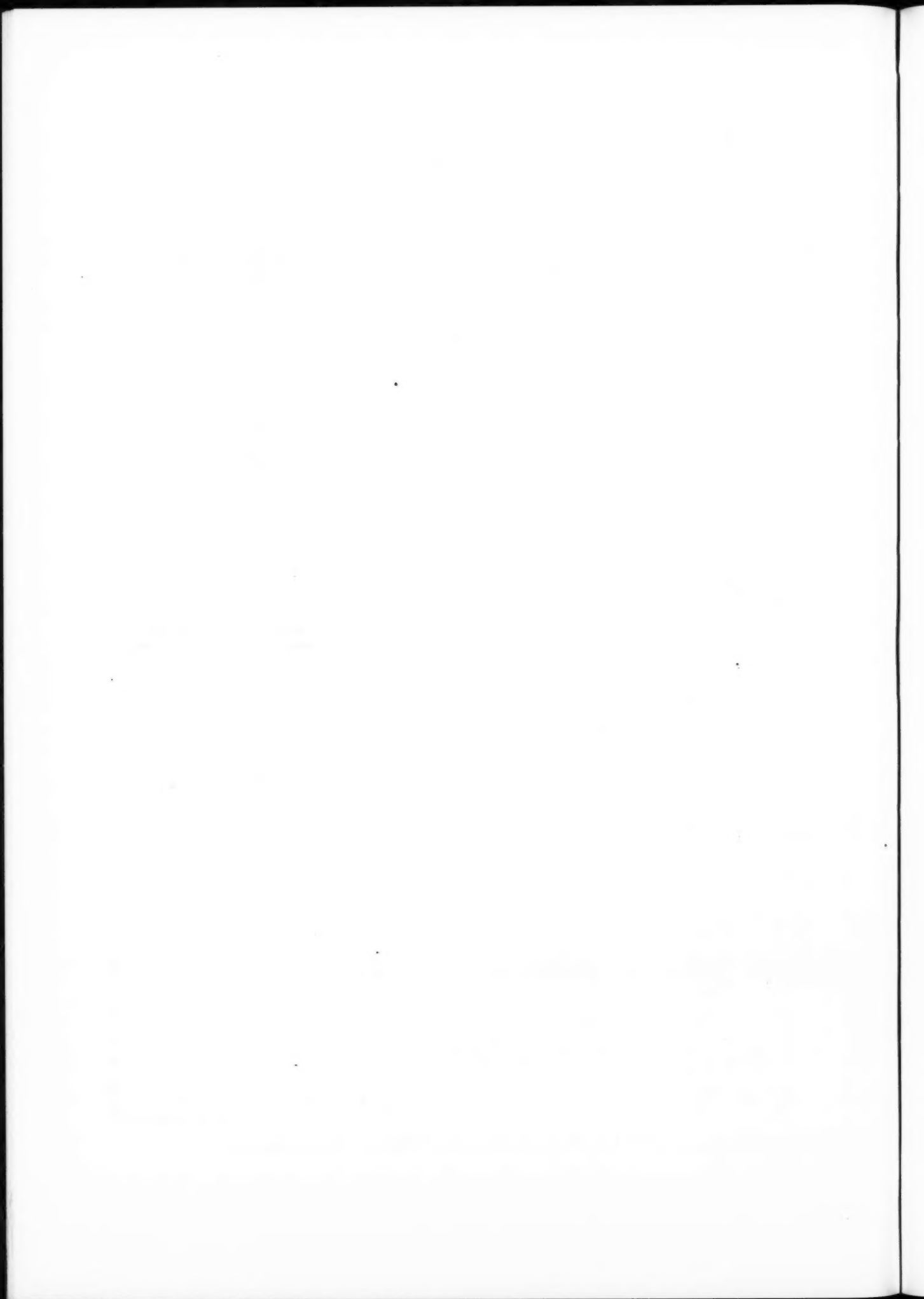


*The Architectural Association. Reconstructed by Easton and Robertson.
Above, the lecture and dance-room. Below, the first-year studio.*



ENGLISH PRECEDENT

11 Doorway, Friends House, Croydon. This doorway is the only ornate feature of a house which in shape nearly approaches the cube—or perhaps it would be more strictly correct to say that it gives one “a cube impression.” Actually, it is a good, restrained, and dignified brick building, erected, probably, about the year 1715. Folding doors, or a single door like that at Rainham Hall, would well repay the cost of insertion, in place of the modern doors. The filling-in of the tympanum with scroll acanthus carving is characteristic of work of this date. The ironwork is plain, but all the finials are pleasing.—[NATHANIEL LLOYD.]



A PLEA FOR ACOUSTIC REFORM IN LAW COURTS

[BY HOPE BAGENAL]

IT is time that we swept away the old, bad method of law-court design and substituted something better. There is evidence that the patience of the legal profession is coming to an end. Here are three pieces of evidence, two taken from the daily Press and of recent date:

a: "L . . . City has a traffic problem all its own. The law courts are situated in one of the busiest thoroughfares, and if the courts are sitting at certain periods of the day the incessant din and rattle makes the hearing of cases impossible.

"Yesterday the trouble reached a head. The chairman continually asked everyone to speak up, but there were moments when even the chairman's voice was unable to be heard. Eventually the business of the court came to a standstill and the chairman appealed to the police and asked if they had no power to divert the traffic. A police officer said that he was afraid not. They could only make a request, but had not power to divert traffic.

"Ultimately a sergeant was dispatched to appeal to the passing traffic to make a detour."

b: "This court, *as so many other courts*, is framed for the purpose of preventing people from hearing a word." Lord Chief Justice at the Old Bailey (the italics are mine).

To these two I must add a personal experience:

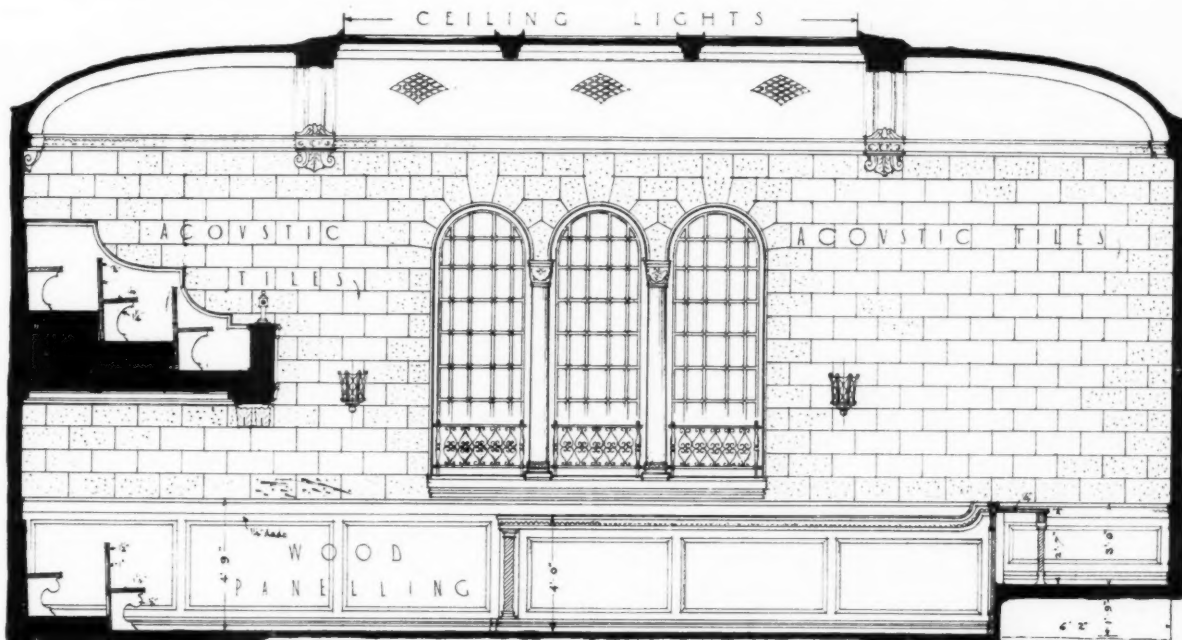
c: I once visited Street's Law Courts in order to hear a case by Lord Darling. He referred in his whimsical manner to the acoustics of the court and warned a witness to speak distinctly or that there would be no chance of his being heard. He added that on one occasion the clerk of the court had *added the echo to the original sentence*.

Now we know that Justice must be blindfold, but there is no reason in law or mythology why she should not hear. Yet it is a fact that the majority of our law courts are thoroughly bad acoustically, and that there are some in which the magistrate has never heard properly what the prisoner has to say for himself. The causes for this state of affairs are instructive and have their place in the history of modern design.

An inspection of the designs submitted in competition for the new Law Courts in 1867 reveal that acoustics were almost completely ignored in the full flood of revival enthusiasm. This is a little surprising seeing that the alteration of the House of Commons and the lowering of the ceiling was well known, and in the same year Edward Barry (son of Sir Charles) was answering questions on acoustics before a Select Committee of the House of Commons. In spite of this warning, however, Gothic halls complete with triforia and high vaults are found in nearly all the designs, so that Street was not peculiar and was only to blame in carrying them out.

Undoubtedly the bad standard set in Street's buildings influenced the whole country. When classical forms replaced Gothic, domes and pendentives succeeded to vaults. The stringing of wires was much in favour at that time. It was thought that wires should proceed from the neighbourhood of the judge to the neighbourhood of the prisoner, and that other wires should traverse from witnesses to jury. If any one interested in the nature of evidence desires to study human weakness he should collect the opinions given on the wires.

The explanation of the bad hearing in such courts is quite simple, and is to be found in the application of Sabine's law to almost any example. I had recently to analyse a law court in the North of England, and found that with a full court of ninety persons present the reverberation was four seconds, and when used by a magistrate the reverberation might be five and a half seconds or six seconds. At the same time, the human element in a court of law makes for acoustical difficulties. As is well known, there is no age limit for judges, and often their ears are less acute than their intellects. Witnesses are notoriously timid, and the average English man or woman cannot enunciate. Counsel often lose their tempers, and excusably, since at important moments the noise of a motor-bicycle outside will often drown out their most important plea. When we consider that there are so often present in a court of law all the conditions making for irritability we have to acknowledge a greater admiration for the legal profession.



The new Dudley Law Courts. By Harvey and Wicks. Section.

To overcome these difficulties the simplest means are the most efficient. Traffic noises are best excluded by planning windows upon internal areas or else by $\frac{1}{2}$ in. plate-glass single windows in heavy iron frames having small panes bedded in oiled felt. The ceiling should be kept comparatively low, say, 20 or 25 ft., and is then a useful reflector. Marginal coves, flat or slightly convex, add to the reflecting efficiency. Ceilings must on no account be segmental with centre at head level. Wood panelling to a height of 5 ft. all round the court completes the reflecting system; then between the panelling and the springing of the ceiling as much absorbing material as possible must be placed upon the walls. By this means reverberation can be reduced. This is most important. If the reflectors are good there will be no loss of loudness owing to this reduction. Acoustic conditions must be such that a man speaking in a low conversational tone will be heard over the whole court; this is quite possible. Therefore the whole wall treatment above the panelling should be in large flat planes capable of taking acoustic plaster or tiles or acousti-celotex slabs. The breaking up of the walls by columns and monumental breaks is useless. Another and most important item is a silent floor. For the most part the reverberation common in law courts is only equalled by the barrage of noise from footsteps and the scraping of feet. This can be completely eliminated by rubber or cork floors. A third point is the position of the witness-box. Should it be on the judge's left hand, facing the jury on the right, or should it be between judge and jury? In the first case the witness is in full view of the jury, but farther away; in the second case the jury hear the witness well, but can see only a profile. I am inclined to recommend the first for small courts, the second for large. Lastly, the ventilation must be considered from an acoustic point of view. A bad tendency is to be detected nowadays, namely, towards cheap, noisy ventilation fans. Fans must not be connected directly by a metal trunk to the ceiling, but should draw from a trapped chamber in the roof. The intakes should not be on a noisy street, but should draw from internal courts. If intakes on the noisy side are unavoidable, they should be several feet in length and should be lined with sound-absorbent.

It may be complained that the acoustic treatment here suggested leads to unfamiliar and unsightly designs. But the agreeable section given in our illustration of the new Dudley Law Courts, by Messrs. Harvey and Wicks, of Birmingham, in which good acoustics have formed the basis of design, must reassure us on this point. By refining the useful elements and giving here and there a little emphasis and wit, the new forms can be left to plead for themselves and to convince by the slowest but most powerful of arguments.

LITERATURE

DESIGNS FOR MODERN PLASTERWORK

It is interesting to collect the animadversions upon the art of the plasterer in the nineteenth century. "There are few of the lesser arts that have fallen so low as the plasterer's," William Morris wrote in 1882; and Scott, in his *Remarks on Secular and Domestic Architecture* (1857) thought it natural to "cast it off as an accursed thing," since no material has either so sinned or been sinned against—indeed, it was "the grand vehicle for the abominable and contemptible shamming which has degraded the architecture of our age." A famous novelist takes "old stucco ornaments, of which the substance was never worth anything, while the form is no longer to the taste of any living mortal," as the final standard of worthlessness.

And yet this plastic art, introduced in Henry VIII's reign, had been a peculiarly English success. It is evident from the number of houses in which plasterwork still remains that the output of modelled plaster must have been great during the great building period of the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. Then detached ornaments were usually introduced in the panels delimited by moulded ribs, and this surface, covered with ribs and

ornament in profusion, exhibits a large variety of great ingenuity. After the interval of formal design under the influence of Inigo Jones, the plasterwork of the late seventeenth century developed in the direction of a vivacious naturalism, in which the involved acanthus scrolls and the flowery festoons and wreaths are sometimes enlivened by the introduction of small figures, birds, and animals. Before the close of the century, however, this lively art had decayed, and one of the leading plasterers, Edward Tonge, complains that his work is no longer in demand, "the employment which has been my chiefest pretence has been always dwindling away, till now it's just come to nothing." It did not, however, dwindle so much as take the wrong turning.

The chief obstacle in the development of a living craftsmanship today is the "snobism" of the client, who so often insists upon "period" decoration because he is convinced that there is no good modern design. But apart from this battle of the ancients and the moderns, "period" plasterwork chosen is not reproduced by the old methods, which were always "lingering and costly," even in the reign of Elizabeth. A wedge has been driven between the hand craftsman of the Renaissance and his modern successor casting plaster *en masse* in jelly moulds. To take an example, a modelled ceiling is wanted in which the detail should be bold, sharp, clearly defined, and deeply shadowed on the interstices, such a ceiling as we see in some of the State rooms at Holyrood, at Bellon, at Acklam Hall, at Eye Manor, and Holme Lacy. The detail of such ceilings was modelled bit by bit, by hand, in firm, smooth, slow-setting stucco plaster, "wax to receive and marble to retain" a very sharp definition and delicate detail. These separate models were assembled and "planted" in a prepared groundwork. Now it is impossible to reproduce this intricate tangle of fruit and flowers in soft, friable plaster that will not retain a permanently sharp edge or detail, or to reproduce by modern methods the deeply undercut voids; "no jelly mould can possibly be separated and pulled away from such deeply interlocking detail"; furthermore, the practice of painting the mould with oil paint to prevent surface corrosion by the heat generated by the setting of the plaster reveals a deterioration in each successive casting.

The jelly mould cannot do the impossible; but it might be used to greater advantage for ceilings in which the ornament and mouldings are composed of strong lines and simple contours.

The hundred drawings in this portfolio, chiefly of plaster ceilings and details of ornament, are, in part, records of work executed, and, in part, suggestions and indications for an advance. Design has been too often thought of as an inexplicable mystery; and it is fortunate that Mr. Bankart has pursued a rational simplicity; on a number of the plates there is little ornament, and that goes a long way—a little embroidery upon a plain garment. The series of low relief ceiling centres for small rooms is admirable. Among later designs, that for a mansard ceiling, overrun with vine trails, reminiscent of the Vine Room at Kellie Castle, is exceptionally good, and carries on a fine tradition.

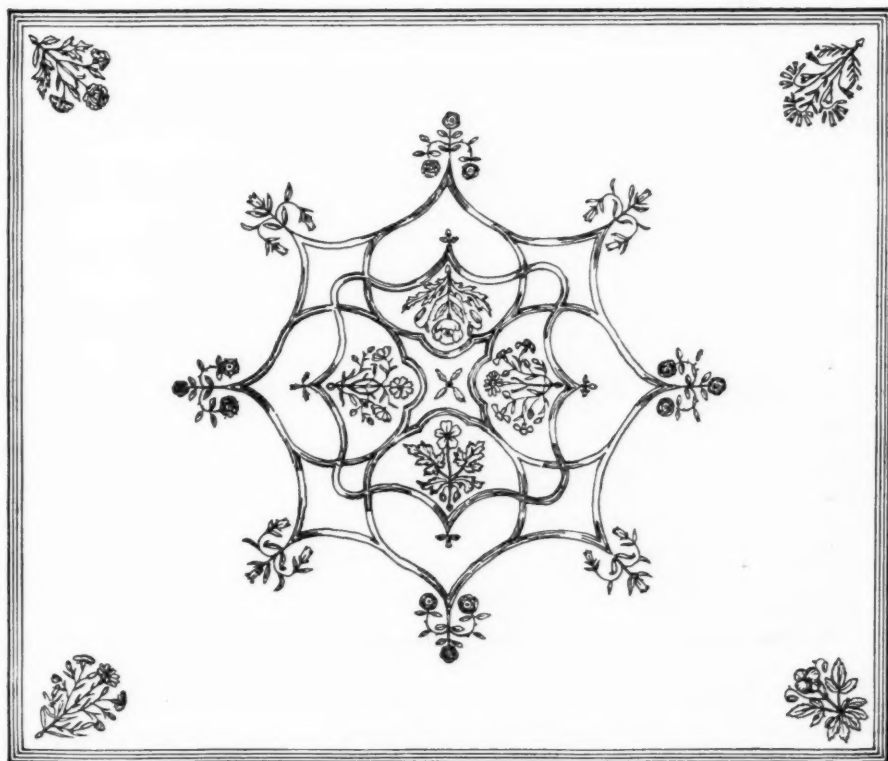
Two enriched panels (plate thirteen) are, however, not of Mr. Bankart's design, but drawn from the drawing-room ceiling at Speke Hall, where the area is crossed by large beams encased in plaster, and enriched with a running design of hops, while the panels are filled with a design of interlacing scrolls, throwing off roses, hazel-nuts, and other fruit, branching from a central stem, whose springing is marked by a strapwork shield. The book, which is very valuable for reference for designers, contains a short and useful statement of the present state of technique and design.

M. J.

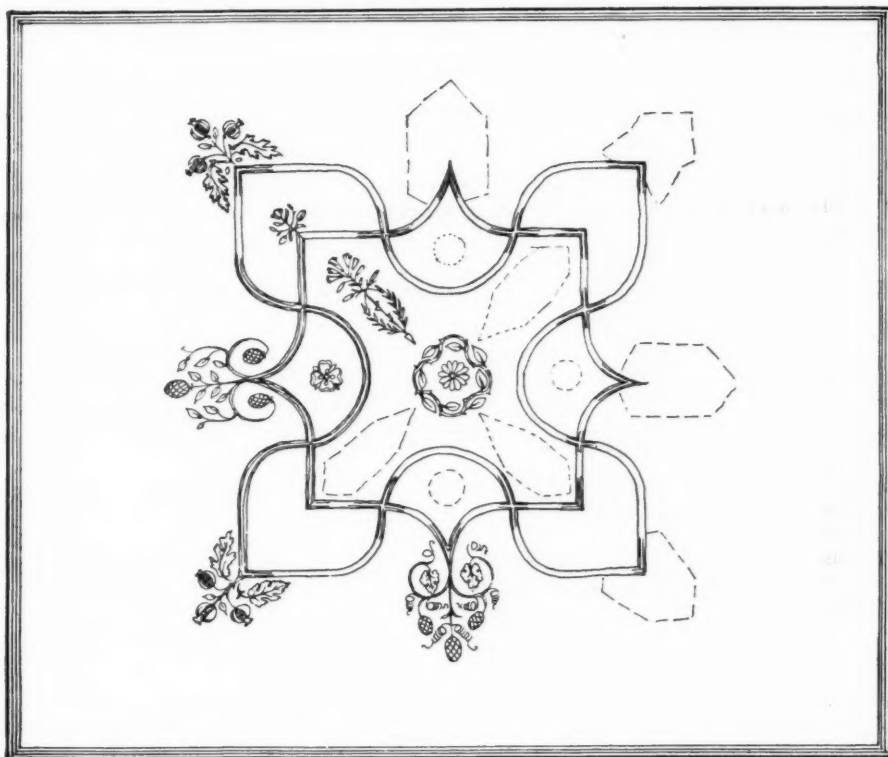
Modern Plasterwork Design. By George P. and G. E. Bankart. The Architectural Press. Price £2 15s. net.

Members of the profession are cordially invited to visit the Reading Room at 9 Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, S.W.1, where they can inspect at their leisure the books published by the Architectural Press. Any of these books will be sent on 5 days' approval on request.

Two Low Relief Ceiling Centres.



Plan.



Plan.

Scale of Feet and Inches

[From Modern Plasterwork.]

IN PARLIAMENT.

[BY OUR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE]

AN interesting point arose recently before the Local Legislation Committee when considering a private Bill promoted by the Corporation of Exeter. Clause 74 of the Bill gives the Corporation further powers to make by-laws with regard to the erection of new buildings and to appoint an advisory architectural committee.

Mr. Villiers Bayley, who appeared for the Corporation, explained that a similar clause had been allowed both to Bath and Buxton. In view of the antiquity of Exeter, and its associations as a cathedral city, it was very desirable that the beauties of High Street and other parts of the city should be preserved.

The committee approved the clause.

At question time Sir Robert Thomas asked the Home Secretary whether he was aware that local authorities were doing little to avail themselves of the powers conferred upon them during the life of the present Parliament to check the progressive disfigurement of the countryside by advertisements and petrol stations; and whether he would issue a circular to local authorities about the matter?

Sir W. Joynson-Hicks said Sir R. Thomas did the local authorities some injustice. Forty-one out of sixty-three county councils had made by-laws under the Advertisements Regulation Act, 1925, which was a very satisfactory proportion. He did not consider that any circular was required. As regarded the disfigurement of the countryside by petrol stations, he did not know of any powers which had been given either by the present or by any previous Parliament for dealing with the matter.

Mr. Robinson asked the Minister of Health whether he would

state the actual cost of parlour and non-parlour houses, respectively, at convenient dates in 1924, 1925, 1926, and 1927, specifying the cost of land, roads and sewers, materials, labour, other charges, and profit?

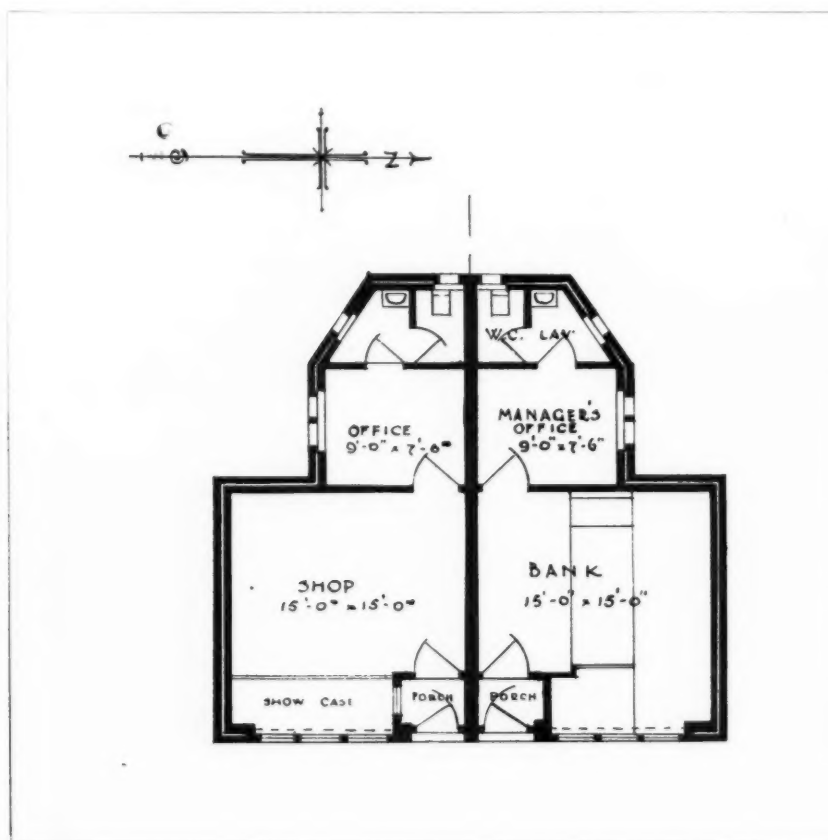
Mr. Chamberlain said that he was unable to give the all-in costs of houses erected during 1924 to 1927, but the average prices of houses included in contracts let by local authorities during the month of December in each of the years in question (excluding the cost of land and development) were, for non-parlour houses, £440, £448, £461, and £401, and for parlour houses, £491, £497, £498, and £468. Sufficient data were not available in his department to enable him to allocate the costs between the items mentioned in the last part of the question.

Mr. Chamberlain informed Dr. Salter that at March 1, 1928, forty-three local authorities were building houses by direct labour in England, and also under the Acts of 1923 and 1924.

Mr. Crawford inquired whether, in view of the existence of trusts and combines in the industries which supplied material for building, the Minister would take such steps as were within his power to induce local authorities who had housing and other building schemes to give to firms outside such trusts and combines equally with those within them opportunities to tender for the supply of such building material?

Mr. Chamberlain said he had no reason to suppose that local authorities were not fully aware of the importance of securing that specifications for houses and other buildings which they proposed to erect should provide for the widest practicable choice of materials with a view to obtaining the most advantageous prices, and he did not think that any special action on his part was called for.

Mr. T. Williams asked the Minister of Health whether he had received any complaints against local authorities who had refused



Bank and shop at Rhiwbina,
Glamorganshire. By T. Alwyn Lloyd.

to grant certificates for the subsidy to private builders who desire to build houses under the Housing Act, 1923?

Mr. Chamberlain said he occasionally received representations in the circumstances indicated in the question, but no record of the number of such representations received was made. While he was always prepared to make inquiries with regard to individual cases brought to his notice, the actual decision rested with the local authority administering the scheme, and he had no power to overrule their decision.

Mr. Shepherd asked the Minister of Transport whether his attention had been called to the proposed route of the constructed road from Beaconsfield to Rickmansworth, which would disturb seriously the historic Friends' meeting-house at Jordans, Bucks; and whether, seeing that there was an alternative route which would not have the consequences of the one now proposed, this proposal could be reconsidered.

Colonel Ashley said he was aware that in drafting the town-planning proposals for this area the local authority was considering how best to adapt the roads for future traffic requirements, having regard to imminent building developments. No scheme had yet been submitted to his department, but should such proposals come before him he would take care that all practicable alternatives were considered.

Mr. Wellock asked the Minister of Health whether, in case the building of houses could be expedited under the condition of the reduced subsidy, he could give any guarantee that the price of houses would not be permitted to rise?

Mr. Chamberlain said he saw no reason why the recent reduction in prices should not be maintained, and he would certainly refuse consent to proposals for the erection of houses at prices which appeared to him to be excessive.

Lord H. Cavendish-Bentinck asked the Minister of Health whether he was aware that on February 1, 1927, 227,094 houses were under construction or authorized, and on February 1, 1928, the number was only 145,761; and, seeing that this drop was due to the fact that the demand for houses for sale was being met, while the demand for houses for renting was still serious, particularly among the poorer wage-earners, whether he would use his utmost influence to stimulate local authorities to undertake wide schemes

of building for letting, and to this end would he consider restoring the subsidy to its original amount for this class of house?

Mr. Chamberlain said that it had for some time past been the policy of his department to encourage the erection, under the subsidy scheme, of houses which could be let at rentals within the means of the less well-paid workers, and a circular which was issued by him more than a year ago referred to this matter. The reduction of the subsidy had been followed by a considerable fall in the prices of houses, thus facilitating the erection of this type of house. He was afraid that the course suggested by his noble friend would only result in a return to higher prices.

Mr. Savery inquired if the Minister of Health was prepared to bring in a Bill to amend the Housing Act, 1925, so as to grant just compensation for disturbance to holders of business property in what were known as "unhealthy areas"?

Mr. Chamberlain said that the whole subject of slum improvement was receiving his immediate consideration, but he was not yet in a position to state when it would be possible to bring in legislation.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE TREATMENT OF INTERNAL OAK WOODWORK

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

SIR,—In a recent issue of the JOURNAL an inquiry was made by an architect as to the treatment of *internal* oak work. As this did not bring any response, and as the matter is one which much modern woodwork that I have seen shows not to be properly understood, I venture to offer some comments and suggestions, which are based upon actual experience and experiment.

I believe oak for internal woodwork comes from four principal sources—Japan, America, Austria, and England. My experience is that the two first are inferior to the last two; indeed, I must admit that I have never been tempted to use them. Austrian oak is favoured by many architects and by all woodworkers, mainly because it does not shrink and wind as English oak does. There is no doubt that this is true, but I think anyone who has



Bank and shop at Rhiwbina, Glamorganshire. By T. Alwyn Lloyd.

seen a church interior panelled and furnished in Austrian oak must have felt that it lacked something, for lack of which its appearance was far inferior to that of old work carried out in English oak.

Experience shows that the shrinking and winding of seasoned English oak, which occurs immediately it is cut and fashioned, is a great factor in producing that charm and freedom for mechanical precision which one finds in old oak work. If, however, the shrinkage and winding are excessive there may be a really bad and disfiguring result. Much can be done by judicious selection of the stuff and by avoiding pieces which obviously are "unkind;" but the most important procedure is to work the stuff ready for putting together, to let it lie for three or even six months in the workshop, and then to make such little final adjustments as may be found necessary before framing up or otherwise putting together.

It is sometimes contended that (in these days of hurry and time contracts) it is impossible to allow time for material to settle down after cutting up and moulding, but inquiry often shows that there would have been ample time had detailing been done and sent as early as it could have been to the joiner. On the other hand, when this has been done, the joiner has suited his own convenience and has delayed starting the work for many weeks after receipt of the drawings. The result of either or both failures is that English oak is blamed and the more tractable but much less interesting Austrian lauded as superior. English oak properly chosen and treated will not show excessive shrinkage or winding, but just enough to give character and interest to work, which is not conferred by any other wood. It is this character and interest (combined with the grey-brown colour) which constitutes the charm of old English woodwork.

This brings me to the actual theme of the inquiry in THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL—how to get rid of the unpleasant yellowish colour of newly-wrought oak, which, out of doors, it loses after about one year's exposure, but which, when protected from weather, it retains for many years. The beautiful grey-brown colour of old oak woodwork (in country churches, for example) is produced by the action of time; mainly through variations in temperature, which cause moisture to condense on the wood one day and evaporate it the next. Many, many repetitions of the process, each depositing salts, etc., of the atmosphere, produce the result.

In a dwelling-house the variations of temperature are less extreme, little condensation takes place on woodwork, so the objectionable yellow colour of new oak persists for many years. The professional "faker" has many ways of "antiquing" oak, into the mysteries of which I have no desire to penetrate, for the results he obtains usually betray their origin. Oak may be bleached by application of chlorine water (a weak solution of chloride of lime), but this will almost certainly require an after application of oak stain, which is not what one wishes to use. The ideal treatment is one similar in its effects to the action of the salts of the atmosphere, but greatly accelerated. A solution of common washing soda kills the yellow tinge, but for long afterwards sweats, so that the surface of the wood seems efflorescent. The common practice of waxing oak must be avoided, for the thin film of wax on the surface of the wood not only intensifies the yellow colour, but protects it from just that action of the atmosphere which, in time, would mellow it. Another result of waxing is that oak is protected for ever from any treatment which later one may wish to apply.

In my own experience, the best treatment is to apply hot lime (quicklime, newly slaked) with an old brush, allow this to dry on the surface of the oak, and to brush it off with a wire brush in twenty-four hours. This effectually "kills" the yellow colour; while traces of the lime which may linger in the grain of the wood are not unpleasing. It should be realized that no two pieces of wood are equally affected; but this is right, for the last effect at which one should aim is uniformity. Occasionally, a very close-grained and obstinate piece may require two or three applications of hot lime, each of which should be brushed off the day following application, for nothing is gained by leaving on longer except

additional labour to remove it. Even after successful treatment, waxing should be avoided, for it spoils that colour which in course of time the atmosphere would still further improve.

NATHANIEL LLOYD

WATERLOO BRIDGE

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

SIR,—I gather from statements in the daily papers that it is the intention of the London County Council to replace the present Waterloo Bridge with a steel structure. If this is true, may I be allowed to plead, before it is too late, for the construction of a handsome stone bridge, one that would in every way prove a worthy successor to the existing structure?

London is always ready to discuss with the utmost complacency the most grandiose schemes, such as a new Charing Cross bridge to cost anything between seven and eleven million pounds. Yet in such small matters as that of shouldering the difference in the cost of a stone bridge and a steel bridge in the most beautiful part of the metropolis, London is incredibly mean, and such proposals are apt to be dismissed summarily as being extravagant and as subjecting the ratepayers to unnecessary expense.

In my book, *London Rebuilt*, I incurred the hostility of Professor Reilly in advocating the demolition of the present Waterloo Bridge; but I have also said that this hostility was based upon the presumption that no present-day architect was capable of designing an equally beautiful structure. I suggest that now is the time for the R.I.B.A. to press for the construction of a really fine new stone bridge.

HAROLD T. CLUNN

DEFECTS IN BRICKS AND MORTAR

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

SIR,—Mr. A. B. Searle, who collaborated with Prof. Van der Kloes in the translation of his *Manual for Masons*, has pointed out in this book, and in contributions to the technical Press, that dust obtained by grinding vitrified clay bricks or tiles is very much akin to trass in its action upon lime, and that, in fact, brick and tile dust were used by the early Romans as a substitute for trass, with almost equally satisfactory results.

Some twenty years ago I had opportunities of observing the building of a large block of residential flats in London. They were a speculation upon the part of the builder, and as a great many old bricks were upon the site, he ground these up, with a proportion of lime, in a mortar mill, and used no sand at all. The proportion of the lime was very meagre, but when parts of the brickwork built with this mortar had to be cut away, it was found to have developed an amazing strength within a month or two of its being used.

My own experience is that a lean cement mortar (4 or 5 to 1) provides ample strength, but lacks the plasticity necessary for its manipulation by the bricklayer. The addition of a small proportion of lime-putty provides this plasticity, and no harm seems to result if the bricks are of good quality, and the usual precautions are taken to guard against structural dampness.

In all the many cases of erosion of brickwork surfaces that I have examined there have been exceptional conditions present which, in themselves, were often sufficient to account for the trouble, and without which any slight excess of lime in the jointing mortar would not have been harmful. The principal contributory causes seem to be:

1: The presence in the bricks themselves, or in the sand used for the mortar, of water-soluble salts.

2: (a) The presence, in the substance of the wall, of excess moisture, which may arise from a defective horizontal dampcourse, or a vertical damp-proof course in the cases of earth-banked walls; (b) roof defects, permitting rainwater to soak into the walls; (c) the use to which the building is put, e.g. car-washing, bacon-curing, and other processes which are likely to cause saturation of the walls by water, sometimes containing salts used in the particular operation.

3: Exposure to salt spray, as in buildings facing the sea.

L. E. WALKER

A TOWN-PLANNING ENIGMA

To the Editor of THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

SIR,—I learn on good authority, supported by most persistent rumour, that the L.C.C., through its Building Acts Committee, has actually given some provisional consents to the Foundling Estates, Ltd., to begin building the flats, and that the building contract is ready for signature. Thus, if one rightly interprets the Town Planning Act, a portentous anomaly is revealed. Substantially, the Minister has hardly any issue to decide—apart from the *ultra vires* argument. He may approve, modify or reject the scheme to cover the Foundling site with a Babylonian construction hateful to the neighbourhood. Meanwhile, with the report of his inspector before him, and the outraged public's objections ringing in his ears, a Building Act consent followed by a permission under an Interim Development Order may slip through the post almost unnoticed—as if it were a matter of laying a brick or two to a garden wall in Guilford Street. The Minister's omnipotence may shrivel before that of the London County Council. The long-drawn-out and expensive inquiry into the Holborn and St. Pancras Town Planning Scheme may become a farce—if the thing objected to can be done *volens volens*, independent of the Minister's decision. The terms of section 4 are quoted here to indicate what happens when an irresistible force comes into contact with an omnipotent Minister:

The Minister may by special or general order provide that where a resolution to prepare or adopt a town-planning scheme has been passed . . . the development of estates and building operations may be permitted to proceed pending the preparation, adoption or making and approval of the town-planning scheme, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed in the order.

Textually, these clauses give the Minister a kind of omnipotence. Considerable rights, of course, adhere to the local authority, to property owners, and to the public.

In the lucid *Town Planning* guide issued by the Ministry of Health it is expressly stated in paragraph 10, dealing with the operation of the Interim Development Order, that care should be taken to avoid development "seriously detrimental to local needs and interests."

If the general Interim Development Order be granted, the contract signed, the foundation of the high buildings laid on the central site, in accordance with the L.C.C. town-planning scheme, and the Minister, at his leisure, rejects the scheme or requires a lesser density or a differing user for the buildings, then the owner has a right to claim compensation from the L.C.C. If, therefore, the Minister, as we hope he will, reduces the area covered, the Foundling Estates, Ltd., will be provided with a handsome sum by way of compensation, apparently with the help of the Council—a situation not devoid of humour. In fact, the anomaly revealed here somewhat resembles the case of a man charged with murder who, after appearance before the magistrate and trial by jury at the Old Bailey, is declared innocent. But, unhappily, by the issue of an Interim Execution Order, signed by a clerk at the Home Office, he has meanwhile been hanged and the hangman well paid!

In view of the fact that the landowners at the public inquiry uniformly impugned the applicability of the Act to the area containing their estates, it is nothing less than amazing that they should now appear to be using its powers by obtaining an order for interim development, together with consequential compensation in case the Minister modifies the building plan. Morally, if they reject applicability of the Act they cannot simultaneously claim the advantages which it normally offers to those who accept its discipline. Equally, the spectacle of the London County Council—whose scheme was opposed *ab initio* by the owners—facilitating the latter's aims is calculated to excite indignation or risibility in those who are keen enough to observe it.

I would like respectfully to suggest that the Minister, when he learns of the use about to be made by the Foundling Estates, Ltd., of the powers and privileges of the Act, may, without further ado, reject their submission of *ultra vires* as obstructive and insincere. He may even restore his own authority by imposing upon them

(under section 18) a substantial part of the cost of this instructive, amusing, but otherwise useless inquiry.

The next move appears to be with the aggrieved persons "interested in the amenity of the proposed scheme." It is to be hoped that they will be able to secure sufficient financial support to secure at least the forecourt as an open space for ever.

W. LOFTUS HARE

[The following official notice was published in the *Times* on Saturday last, after we had received Mr. Hare's letter.—Ed. A. J.]

THE LONDON BUILDING ACT, 1894. HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS.

Re PROPOSED BUILDINGS upon SITE of the FOUNDLING HOSPITAL, GUILFORD STREET, BRUNSWICK SQUARE, and MECKLENBURGH SQUARE, ST. PANCRAS.

Pursuant to the 48th section of the above Act notice is hereby given that the London County Council did on the 19th day of March, 1928, CONSENT to the ERECTION of BUILDINGS on the site of the FOUNDLING HOSPITAL, abutting upon GUILFORD STREET, BRUNSWICK SQUARE, and MECKLENBURGH SQUARE, ST. PANCRAS, between GUILFORD STREET and the northernmost new street (marked "new road" on the plan hereinafter referred to) to a GREATER HEIGHT than that prescribed by the above Act.

Plans and particulars of the proposed buildings and a copy of the consent of the Council may be inspected between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (10 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. Saturdays) at the office of the Superintending Architect, The County Hall, Westminster Bridge, S.E.1.

Dated 22nd day of March, 1928.

SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTIONS

R.I.B.A. New Members

At the last general meeting of the R.I.B.A. the following members were elected:

As Fellows (12)

Addenbrooke, Lt.-Col. Joseph	Gray, George Hall.
Saunders, O.B.E.	Henderson, Arthur Edward, F.S.A.,
Archer, Edward Percy.	R.B.A.
Bain, Captain Victor.	Moore, Thomas William.
Clough, Sydney, A.R.C.A. (Arch.),	Ogden, Ernest.
London.	Petch, William.
Denman, John Leopold.	Rushton, Thomas Johnson.
Gordon, Alexander.	

As Associates (8)

Brodie, Angus George.	Kendall, Henry.
Cummings, Robert Percy.	Macduff, Albert Stanislas.
Ellerton, Edmund Monat-Keith.	Mills, Andrew Kaye.
Goldstraw, George Albert, B.A.	Scott, Elisabeth Whitworth.

As Hon. Associates (2)

The Very Rev. William Foxley Norris, D.D. OXON.	Davies, William Robert, C.B.
---	------------------------------

As Hon. Corresponding Member (1)

Tengböm, Ivar.

South Wales Institute of Architects

Addressing members of the central branch of the South Wales Institute of Architects and the South Wales branch of the Institute of Builders at the Engineers' Institute, Park Place, Cardiff, Mr. E. A. Ward presiding, Capt. W. T. Creswell, B.A.L., A.S.I., spoke on "Building Contracts and Sub-contracts." He dealt especially with a proposed new national building contract, and said that although the Federation of Builders was in favour of the new contract when ratified, the architects were opposed to it. People were very anxious to get on with some new form of national contract. Forms of contracts were not statutes, and many looked on the new contract as though it were a statute. The builders had ratified it, and it was hoped that the architects would soon agree to it.

British Architects' Conference, Bath

The annual conference of the Royal Institute of British Architects and its allied societies will take place at Bath from June 20 to June 23. The Wessex Society of Architects have in hand the preparation of the programme, which promises to be one of the most attractive in the records of the profession. It is expected that there will be a large attendance of members from all parts of the country, and they are urgently requested to reserve the dates mentioned above, and to arrange for their hotel accommodation at the earliest possible date, so as to avoid the risk of disappointment. The Executive Committee of the conference have furnished a list of hotels and boarding-houses with charges, a copy of which may be obtained from the R.I.B.A.

International Housing Conference at Munich

The tenth meeting of the "Kommunale Vereinigung für Wohnungswesen" will be held at Munich from May 23 to 25 by invitation of the municipal authorities. Representatives of many countries are being invited to explain and discuss the housing situation in their own land, and the meeting will therefore be of considerable scientific importance. The speakers chosen are as follow: America, Mr. A. Heckscher, New York; England, Mr. Montagu Harris and Miss Russell-Smith, Ministry of Health, London; Austria, Dr. Musil, city engineer and director of Building Dept., Vienna; Belgium, Senator Vinch, director of the International Union of Towns, Brussels; France, M. Sellier, Mayor of Suresnes, president of the Council General of the Seine, Paris; Holland, Mr. de Jonge van Ellemeet, director of the Housing Dept., Rotterdam; Sweden, Dr. Lilienberg, director of the Town Planning Dept., Stockholm; Switzerland, Dr. Klöti, director of the Building Dept., Zurich. The guests at the conference will visit the most recent housing schemes at Munich, the two new hostels for unmarried workers, the two almshouses, and the municipal hospital. Applications for invitations to the conference should be addressed to the "Kommunale Vereinigung für Wohnungswesen," Stielerstrasse 7, Munich, Germany.

The Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors

The second of the series of lectures arranged at the Institute, 1 Wilbraham Place, S.W., was delivered by Mr. J. Stuart Lewis, M.I.S.T.R.U.C.E., on "Steel-frame Building Construction." In claiming for steelwork construction a big part in the building industry of today, the lecturer emphasized economy in cost, speed of construction, and instanced Regent Street as typical of all these points. The varied utility of the steel frames, and the differing systems of their arrangement were dwelt upon, and it was pointed out that the high state of efficiency to which designs of structural steelwork had now risen made it possible for competition with engineers of all nations to be economically effected. While standardization of design had not been attempted to any great extent by engineers, workshop practice had been very largely standardized by leading British steelwork contractors. The lecturer traced in detail the procedure of a firm of constructional engineers invited to design, detail, supply, and erect the steel frame for a large building in London. A discussion followed in which reference was made to the question of meeting foreign importations of steel, and a tribute paid to the scientific care displayed by British firms enabling the construction of a building in sections for shipment abroad, made and cut to the sixteenth of an inch and rendered possible for erection abroad by native labour under the supervision of a few British engineers.

Devon and Cornwall Architectural Society: Plymouth Branch

A social gathering was held under the auspices of the Plymouth branch of the Devon and Cornwall Architectural Society, and was largely attended by architects and students. Mr. A. C. A. Norman, president, was in the chair. A number of drawings of artistic and architectural interest were exhibited. Mr. B. Priestley Shires, hon. secretary, in welcoming the guests, drew attention to the advantages to be derived by the prospective architectural school which is now under consideration, and set forth the numerous opportunities presented to students under the auspices of the

Royal Institute, and thus supplementing the excellent work that is being carried on under Mr. J. L. Fouracre, as lecturer on architecture. The president distributed the prizes won by the students during the past session. He remarked, in encouragement, that the very act of thinking out a problem was beneficial even if unsuccessful, and that even if through life they met with indifferent results, they were better men for returning again and again to the fray, for life itself was a competition. He referred to the remarkable success of Mr. Harry Barrett, a former student of the society, against great difficulties, as an example of indomitable courage and perseverance. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. A. S. Parker, and Mr. C. W. Earle also spoke on behalf of the students.

The South Wales Institute of Architects

The following officials have been re-elected for the year 1928-29: President, C. S. Thomas, F.R.I.B.A.; vice-presidents, C. F. Ward, F.R.I.B.A., T. Alwyn Lloyd, F.R.I.B.A.; hon. treasurer, H. Teather, F.R.I.B.A.; hon. auditor, J. Herbert Jones, F.R.I.B.A.; hon. librarian, R. H. Winder, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.; hon. secretary, Ivor P. Jones, A.R.I.B.A.

THE A.A. RECONSTRUCTED

Following is a list of the contractors for the reconstruction of The Architectural Association, illustrated on pages 443 to 450: General contractor, G. E. Wallis and Son; Dilworth and Carr, heating; Charles Preston & Co., electric system; Best and Lloyd, special electric fittings in members' lounge, etc; Educational Supply Co., Esavian screens; Dent and Hellyer, drainage and sanitary fittings; R. Husbands & Co., ironwork to staircases; Val de Travers, asphalt; Brook Bros. and Dean, curtains, etc; Jade, carpets; Robbialac, Walpamur, Manders and Pinchin Johnson, paint; Art Pavements and Decorations, floor surfacing; Staines Kitchen Equipment Co., sink; Henry Hope and Sons who presented to the A.A. the Astral window, lantern lights and lean-to; E. C. and J. Keay, steelwork; Acme Flooring and Paving Co., flooring; Yannedis, door furniture; G. Jackson and Sons, architectural decoration; County of London Electric Supply, transformer; Norman Bainton & Co., paper shades.

OBITUARY

Mr. Sidney R. Stevenson

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. Sidney R. Stevenson, F.R.I.B.A. He was articled to Mr. F. Sutton, of Notts. His work was chiefly domestic architecture in and around Nottingham, and he was responsible for the library attached to the Mechanics' Hall, and designed numerous churches and buildings in the district. His work was also well known in Wallingford; the grammar schools were built by him, and he was concerned in the restoration of Sotwell Church, Berks. Mr. Stevenson was a keen musician, and held the post of organist at St. Andrew's Church, Notts, for several years. He was also a photographer of note, and exhibited with success at the Royal Photographic Society and the "Salon."

Mr. Watson Fothergill

We regret to record the death of Mr. Watson Fothergill at Nottingham. He was born at Mansfield eighty-seven years ago, and served his articles with one of the best-known local firms of architects and surveyors. He designed hundreds of public buildings, and notable examples of his work may be found in almost every city and town between Nottingham and London. Among his local buildings were the *Nottingham Journal* and *Nottingham Evening News* offices (on the Parliament Street side), the Emmanuel Church and the Woodborough Road Baptist Church, the Black Boy Hotel, Long Row, Messrs. Jessop's shops, King Street, Messrs. Salmon and Gluckstein's shop, Queen Street. He also designed the old Albert Hall, Nottingham, destroyed by fire about twenty years ago, a large number of banks throughout the country, and important business premises in various parts of London.

TRADE NOTES

The Silicate Paint Company have just issued a revised and enlarged price list of varnishes, all of which are manufactured from raw materials at the firm's works at Charlton, S.E. In issuing the price list the firm claim that: "Decorators may rely upon all our varnishes as being well made, well matured, and suitable for the purpose for which they are sold. Each can bears the slogan, 'Made by the Makers of Duresco,' which in itself should be sufficient recommendation to any customer who has hitherto not used our varnishes." The varnishes cover a big range of uses, including a number for application as a finish to Duresco. Duresco, the firm state, may be varnished as soon as hard and yields good results. This is particularly the case in corridors, on staircases, school and institution walls, etc. The varnishing, it is claimed, not only affords a lustrous, hard-wearing finish, but gives the appearance of a deeper-toned paint in harmony with the rest of the Duresco surface. It is said to form an inexpensive and extremely satisfactory method of treating wall surfaces which are exposed to very severe wear. For knotting the firm recommend the use of a pure shellac knotting which, they state, is not only ideal for preventing knots striking through paint, but is highly suitable for the treatment of bleeding reds, etc., before painting with white paint. The firm have also evolved a drier after much experimenting, which is claimed to be highly successful with zinc white and other leadless paints; and may be used equally well with white lead paints. It is said not to discolour white or delicate tints and to be invaluable for undercoats for enamel. One of the pioneers in enamels, Charlton enamel maintains its position in the trade after being on the market for upwards of half a century. Charlton enamel is claimed to be elastic, durable, easily applied, and to be all that a first-class enamel should be. Charlton enamel white is a pure white, neither blue nor cream, made from genuine oxide of zinc.

Spencer-Bonecourt (Kirke patent) gas-fired boilers and water heaters are the subject of a new catalogue just published by Messrs. Town Gas Boilers (Bonecourt), Ltd. These boilers and heaters are a development from the large induced draft units which this company specializes in for burning surplus industrial gas, such as coke-oven gas, producer gas, blast-furnace gas, etc. Town's gas as a fuel, however, does not appear to have received serious attention before the advent of this class of boiler. These water heaters supply any quantity of hot water at any temperature. They have a guaranteed efficiency of 85 per cent., and are claimed to be specially suitable for ordinary heating duties, particularly where the load is variable or where there is a probability of sudden demands on heating apparatus during "week-end" heating—for public baths, washhouse installations, etc. Their cleanliness, ease of handling and efficiency are outstanding features. The gas is simply turned off when heat is no longer required, and turned down when less heat is required, and can be made self-regulating. They reduce maintenance charges to a minimum, owing to the even temperatures and the absence of flame on shell and joints. Wherever dust has to be reduced to the very minimum as in the cinematograph film industry or printing works, these heaters are claimed to be particularly suitable for installation. During the past five or six years many hundreds of the gas-fired boilers and water heaters have been installed for working pressures varying from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 750 lb. per square inch. They are working on gas supplied by all the leading gas companies in this country and the colonies, also many places abroad. Seven of the water heaters, capable of delivering over 1,000,000 B.T.U.'s each per hour, have recently been delivered for heating large schools in the Liverpool area. In each case the gas supply is automatically controlled, so that the highest efficiency is obtained and labour entirely eliminated. A further gas-fired heater is now being installed at Cardiff University. An interesting feature of the water heaters and steam boilers is that they may be installed on the roof, as is the case at the "Capitol" Theatre, Piccadilly Circus.

In a new booklet just issued, the François Cementation Co., Ltd., give an interesting explanation of the uses and cost of Betonac, together with much other useful information, including a report of tests, instructions for laying the material, and a table of quantities for estimating. There are also many illustrations of buildings and other jobs where the material has been used. Betonac steel concrete is claimed to possess a hard-wearing surface, to offer unique advantages, and to be ideal for both industrial and municipal purposes. Betonac hardening material is made in three grades, which may be used separately or in combination to obtain surfaces of any character desired. The coarsest grade, which is about the size of wheat grains, gives the smoothest texture throughout the thickness of the steel concrete, and so reduces to a minimum friction by wear. Betonac of this grade is suitable for coal bunker linings and similar works. The three grades of Betonac used in equal proportion produce a surface giving, it is claimed, an excellent grip, suitable for roads, footpaths, and factory floors. Betonac steel concrete is said to be capable of giving good service in a great number of ways. It is claimed that "its high compressive strength makes it particularly useful as padstones to bridges, roof trusses, turntable pivots, etc. It can be floated with mathematical precision. It is used as a non-slip surface for factory floors, footpaths, kerbstones, roads, station platforms, subways, warehouses, etc.; as a waterproof surface for breweries, laundries, dairies, conduits, water turbine races, weirs, reservoirs, water tanks, dock walls, ash-handling plants, etc., and as a smooth surface for ore and coal bunkers, chutes, silos, etc." Copies of the booklet can be obtained on application to Betonac Department, François Cementation Co., Ltd., Bentley Works, Doncaster.

Messrs. A. Reyrolle & Co., Ltd., electrical engineers and manufacturers, of Hebburn-on-Tyne, have sent us copies of pamphlets Nos. 2 and 20, which have been revised and brought up to date. Pamphlet No. 2 deals with self-aligning fuses, up to 660 volts, designed to comply with Home Office regulations, and pamphlet No. 20 with cast-iron distribution boxes, up to 660 volts. The firm's ventilated self-aligning fuses have a separate hand grip, and it is impossible for live metal to be inadvertently touched while they are being held. The fuse wires are enclosed in asbestos tubes, fixed in separate chambers, and cannot be encircled by a man's hand while a fuse is being inserted or removed. The self-aligning contacts are an important feature. They are claimed to ensure good contact, to save time and trouble when the clips are being fitted to the slate panels; and to reduce the risk of cracked porcelains. This risk is further lessened by the perfect ventilation, which keeps the porcelains cool. The firm's distribution boxes can be supplied with a maximum of 9-ways single-pole, 4-ways double-pole, or 3-ways triple-pole. When fuses of different polarity or phase are mounted in the same box, substantial insulating barriers are fitted between the poles or phases. Insulating screens are fitted in all standard boxes. They are claimed to form an excellent safeguard against accidental shocks and burns, and the arrangement complies with the Home Office regulations made under the Factory and Workshops Acts.

A new treatment has been devised by the research department of the E. L. Bruce Company for their "Interlocking Strip" oak flooring. It is called "Bru-CELL-izing," and is claimed to make the oak impervious to damp, dry rot, and insect pests. It is claimed that Brucellized floor can be laid in mastic on damp concrete before the walls have dried out, or at any time without fear of warping, shrinkage, or discoloration; and that it can be laid in old houses, where the surrounding fabric may be suspect. It is claimed to be ideal for hot climates because it withstands extreme changes of temperature and humidity and even the rapacious termite or white ant. Brucellized flooring does not split during nailing; the lubricating action of the secret immunizing substance makes the wood easier to cut and ensures that the interlocking strips fit snugly without heavy hammering. The flooring is available under a guarantee which ensures that the flooring will fulfil every claim made for it by the manufacturers. Interested readers may obtain samples and full particulars from Mr. C. M. Sheppard, of 332 Winchester House, E.C.2.

THE WEEK'S BUILDING NEWS

Plans passed by the POPLAR B.C.: Addition, at Messrs. Lancaster & Co.'s premises, 43 Arrow Road, for Mr. C. W. Shade; addition, "The Volunteer" public-house, Old Ford Road, for Mr. W. Stewart, F.R.I.B.A.; workshop, Yabsley Street and Warrington Place, for Messrs. Pickfords, Ltd.

*

At a meeting of the PAIGNTON U.D.C. the Council's architect (Mr. G. W. Colborne) submitted two schemes for the layout of the site in York Road, in which provision was made for erecting thirteen and fourteen houses respectively. Instructions were given for the architect to submit a further scheme for the layout of this land.

*

The G.W.R. is making arrangements to proceed with a scheme for the provision of a railway station at Goodrington, PAIGNTON.

*

The PAIGNTON U.D.C. is considering an offer by Unity Builders (Paignton), Ltd., to erect up to thirty-six houses on land at Collaton.

*

Mr. F. V. Hulme, architect, is to build forty houses on the Basford Hall estate, STOKE-ON-TRENT.

*

Mr. John Young is to erect thirty-one subsidy type houses at Cardonald, GLASGOW.

*

Plans passed by the TRURO Corporation: Alterations, Boscawen Street, for Messrs. Rice; house, Newham, for Mr. W. H. Burley.

*

The TRURO Corporation Housing Committee is to prepare a scheme for the erection of twenty two-bedroomed-type of house.

*

Plans passed by the GLASGOW Corporation: Three houses, Riddre Knowes, for Messrs. James Parker, Ltd.; ten houses, Nether Auldhouse Road, Newlands, for Mr. Alex. M'Lellan; bungalows, Menoch Road, Cathcart, for Messrs. Brownlie, Watson and Beckett.

*

The CARLISLE Corporation has met representatives of the Cumberland and Westmorland County Councils on the subject of the provision of institutional accommodation for defectives.

*

Plans passed by DOUGLAS (I. O. M.) Corporation: Alterations, corner of Duke Street and Drumgold Street, for Mr. H. Wilson, architect for Messrs. Burton, Ltd.; alterations, British Hotel, North Quay, for Messrs. Manington's, Ltd.; alterations to offices, Harris Terrace, for the Guardians of the Poor; shop, Strand Street, for Messrs. Hyman Bros., Ltd.

The MARYLEBONE B.C. Baths Committee, in order to assist deliberations in connection with the proposal that a site should be acquired for the purpose of providing a new public washhouse to replace the existing unsatisfactory public washhouse at Marylebone Road public baths, has asked the Works Committee to examine the existing conditions, in conjunction with the report of the Medical Officer of Health, and to express its views upon the advisability of the acquisition of a site.

*

The BARNSELY Corporation is seeking sanction to borrow £14,522 for completing the extension of the Barnsley and district Holgate Grammar School.

*

The CARLISLE Corporation Museum director and librarian have submitted reports upon the additional accommodation required for museum and library purposes respectively.

*

The LEEDS Corporation has purchased 3½ acres of Henconner Lane, Bramley, for housing purposes.

*

The WESTMINSTER City Council has passed plans submitted by Mr. F. W. Troup, F.R.I.B.A., showing the proposed bridge over Strand Lane, connecting King's College with the proposed extension of the college over Aldwych Station. Strand Lane is a narrow foot passage approached from the Strand by a covered entrance, between King's College and Surrey Street. It is proposed to build an extension of King's College between Strand Lane and Surrey Street over the Aldwych underground railway station, and to connect the main college buildings with the extension by means of a bridge over Strand Lane, which at the point in question is only about 9 ft. wide. In addition to the building covering the entrance, there is another structure built over the lane south of the site of the proposed new bridge.

*

The NEWCASTLE Corporation has obtained sanction for a loan of £22,000 in connection with the purchase of property for the Pilgrim Street improvement scheme.

*

The COVENTRY Corporation Housing Committee has decided to acquire partly-developed sites for the purpose of the ten years' housing programme.

*

The BOLTON Corporation is seeking sanction to borrow a further £40,000 for housing advances.

*

Plans passed at BURSLEM: Alterations, 54 Liverpool Road, for Messrs. Bloor and Oakes; extensions, Flaxman Tile Works, High Street, for Messrs. A. J. Wade & Co.

The BOLTON Corporation has obtained sanction to a loan for the purchase of land in Quebec Street as a site for the erection of dwellings.

*

The NEWCASTLE Corporation has completed the purchase of 71 acres at Fenham for another housing scheme.

*

The NEWCASTLE Education Committee has acquired a site at Lonnen for the erection of an elementary school.

*

The NEWPORT (I. O. W.) Corporation has appointed a sub-committee to consider the acquisition of land for the erection of further houses.

*

Plans passed by the PAIGNTON U.D.C.: House, Marine Parade, for Mr. S. G. Boulwood; house, Barcombe Heights, for Miss M. J. Potter; two houses, new road off Winner Street, for Mr. S. Batten; bungalow, Marine Drive, for Mr. H. M. Rees; layout, land adjoining St. Paul's Church, Torquay Road, for Mr. W. J. R. James; four houses, Laura Avenue, for Mr. R. M. Ely; layout, part of Laura Grove, for The Paignton and District Land Development Co., Ltd.; two houses, Woodland Park, for Mr. J. S. German; two houses, Locarno Avenue, for Mr. W. J. R. James; ten houses, Manor Road, for Mr. R. M. Ely; extension of tramway depot, Torquay Road, for the Torquay Tramways Co., Ltd.; two houses, Eugene Road, for Misses G. M. and W. M. V. Vanstone; eight houses, Batson Gardens, for Mr. A. Jones.

*

Plans passed by the PORTSMOUTH Corporation: Three shops and thirty-six garages, Osborne and Serpentine Roads, for Messrs. E. and A. Spriggins; steel-frame shed, Rudmore Road, for the Portsmouth Steel Co.; eight houses, Monckton Road, for Mr. E. Payne; extensions, King Street, for The Portsmouth United Breweries, Ltd.; business premises, Victoria Road, for Mr. F. Devenish; five shops, Copnor Road, for Mr. R. C. Brittan; public-house, Moneyfields, for the Portsmouth United Brewery, Ltd.; five houses, Mayfield Road, for Mr. W. W. Ekers; four houses, 4 Nancy Road, for Mr. N. Rosenblit; extensions, 17-19 St. Vincent Road, for Mr. J. Morey; rebuilding, Hawke Street, for Portsmouth Housing, Ltd.; extensions, Greatham Street, for St. Luke's Church Parochial Council; four houses, Spur Road, Cosham, for Mr. H. G. Hellyer; extensions, 350-352 Fratton Road, for Messrs. Tanner Bros.

*

Messrs. James Bros., of Nelson Street, are in negotiation with the SWANSEA Corporation regarding an improvement in the street in connection with property demolition and the erection of a group of shops.

The DEWSBURY Joint Hospital Board is having plans and estimates prepared to modernize their existing hospital at Mitchell Laithes.

The STRETFORD U.D.C. has now passed plans submitted by the White City (Manchester) Greyhound Association, Ltd., for a greyhound race track.

The BRISTOL Corporation has acquired for further housing schemes, 39 acres at Fishponds, 15 acres at Speedwell, and 32 acres at Horfield.

Plans passed by the BRISTOL Corporation: Eight houses, Cuffingham Avenue, Brington, for Mr. R. J. Cuff; thirty houses, Parson Street, Bedminster, for Messrs. Greenhill and Low, Ltd.

The WESTMINSTER City Council has made arrangements for an improvement on the Grosvenor estate, Millbank, and for the erection of 500 working-class dwellings. This scheme is by arrangement with the Duke of Westminster, and in association with the redevelopment of the estate. Parliamentary powers are necessary for the scheme.

The STOKE-ON-TRENT Corporation has decided to prepare a scheme for the reconstruction of the Broad Street unhealthy area, Hanley.

The STOKE-ON-TRENT Corporation has passed revised plans for the erection of Roman Catholic Church, school, parish hall, and presbytery at High Lane, Burslem.

The SOUTH SHIELDS Education Committee has completed the purchase of a site in Harton for the erection of an elementary school.

The BOURNEMOUTH Education Committee has approved plans of the new school to be erected by the managers of St. Walburga's School in Malvern Road, Moordown, to take the place of the existing school in Yelverton Road.

The BOURNEMOUTH Corporation has obtained sanction for a loan of £10,000 for further housing advances.

The STOKE-ON-TRENT Corporation Housing Committee is considering the acquisition of 40 acres at Newstead Farm, Trentham, for another housing scheme.

The SWANSEA Corporation Housing Committee has asked the borough engineer to proceed immediately with the provision of roads and sewers required in connection with the erection of a further 500 houses at Mayhill and Townhill on the site indicated by the borough architect.

The SWANSEA Corporation has decided to proceed with the building of the Swansea and Merthyr Tydfil Asylum as originally intended at Cefn Coed, Cockett.

Plans passed by the SWANSEA Corporation: Three houses, Bowen Street, for Mr. J. O. Watkins; eleven houses, Baglan Street, for Mr. A. E. Wright; bank, St. Helen's Road, for Lloyds Bank Ltd.; rebuilding, 29 Waterloo Street, for Messrs. J. Plosker & Co.; four houses, Pentregethin Road, for Mr. John Hayward; additions to pavilion, Bryn Road, for the Swansea Bowling Club; new road, off Gower Road, for Sir T. A. Morris.

Plans passed by the BOURNEMOUTH Corporation: Additions, 27 Latimer Road, for Messrs. Mountford and Stevens; garage, lock-ups, and caretaker's quarters, etc., Carlton Hotel, East Cliff, for the managers; alterations, The Rainbow Dye Works, Stourvale Road, for Messrs. The Rainbow Dye Works, Ltd.; alterations, Yelverton Road, for Messrs. G. Lane & Co.; alterations and additions, 172 Wimborne Road, for Mr. J. Kay; alterations and additions, 88 Charnminster Road, for Messrs. Eastmans; men's club and billiard saloon, Brassey Road, for Mr. T. J. Rowley; four bungalows, Tuckton Road, for Messrs. Midgley and Hardy, Ltd.; two houses, Oxford Avenue, for Mr. A. Bunce; school, Malvern Road, for the Rev. Father Wilmot, S.J.; three houses, Jameson Road, for Mr. S. Harris; shops, showrooms, and flats, Westover Road, for Mr. S. B. Parsons.

The STOKE-ON-TRENT Corporation has passed plans by Messrs. Beckett and Bloor, architects, for the layout of the Oakhill estate.

Plans passed by the HORNSEY Corporation: Extension to Denewood Road, for Mr. W. Quennell; alterations and additions, 13, 14, and 15 The Pavement, Middle Lane, for Messrs. J. Farrer and Sons; six houses, Creighton Avenue, for Messrs. S. W. Phillips & Co.; alterations and additions, the Railway Hotel, Tottenham Lane, for Mr. J. W. Bailey; two houses, Lanchester Road, for Messrs. Smerdon Bros.; addition to Manor Works, High Street, for Messrs. Brasse, Ltd.

Plans passed by the WESTMINSTER City Council: Premises corner of Grosvenor Gardens and Lower Belgrave Street, for Messrs. Yates, Cook and Darbyshire; buildings over St. James's Park railway station for Mr. G. Vernon.

The HORNSEY Corporation now recommends the provision of a branch library at Muswell Hill.

Plans passed by the PENRITH U.D.C.: Additions, White Horse Hotel, Great Dockray, for Mr. J. Walton.

Plans passed by BERMONDSEY B.C.: L.C.C. Fire Station, Wolseley Street, for Messrs. E. D. Winn & Co., Ltd.; offices, 1 Jacob Street, for Mr. W. Figg, for Messrs. Spillers Victoria Foods, Ltd.

Plans passed by SOUTH SHIELDS Corporation: Layout of thirty building sites, between King George Road, Mortimer Road, and Stanton Avenue, for Mr. Howard Hill, for Messrs. J. T. Armstrong and Son; extension to warehouse, Nile Street, for Messrs. Walter Hansen and Son, for Messrs. Wm. Duncan, Ltd.; two shops and dwellings, Prince Edward Road, for Mr. T. Fairfoot; rebuilding premises, King Street and Russell Street, for Messrs. T. A. Page and Son, for Messrs. H. Binns, Son & Co., Ltd.; ice-cream factory and café, Mile End Road, for Mr. Howard Hill, for Mrs. A. Valenti.

Plans passed by the FULHAM B.C.: Additional building, 474-6 Fulham Road, for Mr. N. Parr; building, Albert Wharf, Wandsworth Bridge Road, for Messrs. W. J. Marston and Son; additional building, 139 to 143 Hammersmith Road, for Messrs. J. Lyons & Co.; new buildings, 48 to 62 Peterboro' Road, for Messrs. J. Mears, Ltd.; additional building, 38 and 40 Vanston Place, for Messrs. W. J. Marston and Son.

The London County Council is to proceed with the construction of further blocks of tenement dwellings on the "Dickens" estate, BERMONDSEY, comprising in all about 119 lettings.

The BERMONDSEY Corporation recommends that the erection of the new municipal offices in Spa Road be carried out by the manager of the works department, at a cost of £65,953 10s.

Plans passed by the LOWESTOFT Corporation: Butcher's shop, Battery Green Road, for the Co-operative Ships Stores; dairy, cart shed, and stable, School Road, Oulton Broad, for Mr. C. S. Minster; two houses, Victoria Road, for Mr. W. Calver; two houses, Laurel Road, for Mr. T. H. Lambert; alterations to theatre, London Road, for Mr. F. C. Symonds; six houses, Kirkley Run, for Mr. C. F. Church; two houses, Kirkley Run West, for Mr. J. A. Gaze.

The SOUTH SHIELDS Education Committee has appointed a sub-committee to consider the provision of new public elementary schools to meet the needs of the Cleadon Park estate and district.

Messrs. Browett, Taylor, Robertson and Morgan, of 3 and 4 Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2, are to erect a building upon a site abutting upon the western side of Tufton Street and the eastern side of Marsham Street, WESTMINSTER.

PRICES CURRENT

EXCAVATOR AND CONCRETOR

EXCAVATOR, 1s. 4½d. per hour; LABOURER, 1s. 4½d. per hour; NAVY, 1s. 4½d. per hour; TIMBERMAN, 1s. 6d. per hour; SCAFFOLDER, 1s. 5½d. per hour; WATCHMAN, 1s. 6d. per shift.

Broken brick or stone, 2 in., per yd.	£0 11 6
Thames ballast, per yd.	0 11 0
Pit gravel, per yd.	0 18 0
Pit sand, per yd.	0 14 6
Washed sand.	0 15 0
Screened ballast or gravel, add 10 per cent. per yd.	
Clinker, breeze, etc., prices according to locality.	
Portland cement, per ton	£2 15 0
Lias lime, per ton	2 10 0
Sacks charged extra at 1s. 9d. each and credited when returned at 1s. 6d.	
Transport hire per day:	
Cart and horse	£1 3 0
Trailer	£0 15 0
3-ton motor lorry	3 15 0
Steam roller	4 5 0
Steam lorry, 5-ton	4 0 0
Water cart	1 5 0

EXCAVATING and throwing out in ordinary earth not exceeding 6 ft. deep, basis price, per yd. cube.	0 3 0
Exceeding 6 ft., but under 12 ft., add 30 per cent.	
In stiff clay, add 30 per cent.	
In underpinning, add 100 per cent.	
In rock, including blasting, add 225 per cent.	
If blasted out, add 80 per cent. to 150 per cent.	
Headings, including timbering, add 400 per cent.	
RETURN, fill, and ram, ordinary earth, per yd.	£0 1 6
SPREAD and level, including wheeling, per yd.	0 1 6
FILLING into carts and carting away to a shoot or deposit, per yd. cube.	0 10 6
TRIMMING earth to slopes, per yd. sup.	0 0 6
HACKING up old grano, or similar paving, per yd. sup.	0 1 3
FLANKING to excavations, per ft. sup., do. over 10 ft. deep, add for each 5 ft. in depth, 30 per cent.	0 0 5
If left in, add to above prices, per ft. cube.	0 2 0
HARDWARE, 2 in. ring, filled and rammed, 4 in. thick, per yd. sup.	0 2 1
do. 6 in. thick, per yd. sup.	0 2 10
PUDDLING, per yd. cube.	1 10 0
CEMENT CONCRETE, 4-2-1, per yd. cube.	2 3 0
do. 6-2-1, per yd. cube.	1 18 0
do. in upper floors, add 15 per cent.	
do. in reinforced-concrete work, add 20 per cent.	
do. in underpinning, add 60 per cent.	
LIA-LIME CONCRETE, per yd. cube.	£1 16 0
BREEZE CONCRETE, per yd. cube.	1 7 0
do. in lintels, etc., per ft. cube.	0 1 6
CEMENT concrete 4-2-1 in lintels packed around reinforcement, per ft. cube.	0 3 9
FINE concrete benching to bottom of manholes, per ft. cube.	0 2 6
FINISHING surface of concrete spade face, per yd. sup.	0 0 9

DRAINER

LABOURER, 1s. 4½d. per hour; TIMBERMAN, 1s. 6d. per hour; BRICKLAYER, 1s. 9½d. per hour; PLUMBER, 1s. 9½d. per hour; WATCHMAN, 1s. 6d. per shift.

Stoneware pipes, tested quality, 4 in., per ft.	£0 0 10
do. 6 in., per ft.	0 1 3
do. 9 in., per ft.	0 2 3
Cast-iron pipes, coated, 9 ft. lengths, 4 in., per yd.	0 5 6
do. 6 in., per yd.	0 8 6
Portland cement and sand, see "Excavator" above.	
Leadwool per cub.	£2 0 0
Gaskin, per lb.	0 0 4

STONEWARE DRAINS, jointed in cement, tested pipes, 4 in., per ft.	0 4 3
do. 6 in., per ft.	0 5 0
do. 9 in., per ft.	0 7 9
CAST-IRON DRAINS, jointed in lead, 4 in., per ft.	0 8 0
do. 6 in., per ft.	0 10 0

Note.—These prices include digging concrete bed and filling for normal depths, and are average prices.
Fittings in Stoneware and Iron according to type. See Trade Lists.

BRICKLAYER

BRICKLAYER, 1s. 9½d. per hour; LABOURER, 1s. 4½d. per hour; SCAFFOLDER, 1s. 5½d. per hour.

London stocks, per M.	£4 15 0
Flettons, per M.	3 0 0
Staffordshire blue, per M.	9 10 0
Firebricks, 2½ in., per M.	11 3 0
Glazed sill, white, and ivory stretchers, per M.	24 10 0
do. headers, per M.	24 0 0
Colours, extra, per M.	5 10 0
Seconds, less, per M.	1 0 0
Cement and sand, see "Excavator" above.	
Lime, grey stone, per ton	2 17 0
Mixed lime mortar, per yd.	1 6 0
Damp course, in rolls of 4½ in., per roll	0 2 6
do. 9 in. per roll	0 4 9
do. 14 in. per roll	0 7 6
do. 18 in. per roll	0 9 6

BRICKWORK in stone lime mortar, Flettons or equal, per rod.	£33 0 0
do. in cement do., per rod.	36 0 0
do. in stocks, add 25 per cent. per rod.	
do. in blues, add 100 per cent. per rod.	
do. circular on plan, add 12½ per cent. per rod.	
do. in backing to masonry, add 12½ per cent. per rod.	
do. in raising on old walls, etc., add 12½ per cent. per rod.	
do. in underpinning, add 20 per cent. per rod.	
HALF-BRICK walls in stocks in cement mortar (1-3), per ft. sup.	£0 1 0
BEDDING plates in cement mortar, per ft. run	0 0 3
BEDDING window or door frames, per ft. run	0 0 3
LEAVING chases 2½ in. deep for edges of concrete floors not exceeding 6 in. thick, per ft. run	0 0 2
CUTTING do. in old walls in cement, per ft. run	0 0 4
CUTTING, toothing and bonding new work to old (labour and materials), per ft. sup.	0 0 7
TERRA-COTTA flue pipes 9 in. diameter, jointed in fireclay, including all cuttings, per ft. run	0 3 6
do. 14 ft. by 9 in. do., per ft. run	0 3 0
FLAUNCHING chimney pots, each	0 2 0
CUTTING and pinning ends of timbers, etc., in cement	0 1 0
FACINGS fair, per ft. sup. extra	0 0 3
do. picked stocks, per ft. sup. extra	0 0 7
do. red rubbers gauged and set in putty, per ft. sup. extra	0 4 9
do. in salt white or ivory glazed, per ft. sup. extra	0 5 6
TUCK pointing, per ft. sup. extra	0 0 10
WEATHER pointing, do. do.	0 0 3
TILE creasing with cement fillet each side per ft. run	0 0 6
GRANOLITHIC PAVING, 1 in., per yd. sup.	0 5 0
do. 1½ in., per yd. sup.	0 6 0
do. 2 in., per yd. sup.	0 7 0
If coloured with red oxide, per yd. sup.	0 1 0
If finished with carborundum, per yd. sup.	0 0 6
In small quantities in finishing to steps, etc., per ft. sup.	0 1 4
Jointing new grano, paving to old, per ft. run	0 0 4
Extra for dishing grano, or cement paving around gullies, each	0 1 6
BITUMINOUS DAMP COURSE, ex. rolls, per ft. sup.	0 0 7
ASPHALT (MASTIC) DAMP COURSE, ½ in., per yd. sup.	0 8 0
do. vertical, per yd. sup.	0 11 0
SLATE DAMP COURSE, per ft. sup.	0 0 10
ASPHALT ROOFING (MASTIC) in two thicknesses, ½ in., per yd.	0 8 6
do. SKIRTING, 6 in.	0 0 11
BREEZE PARTITION BLOCKS, set in cement, 1½ in. per yd. sup.	0 5 3
do. do. 3 in.	0 6 6
BREEZE fixing bricks, extra for each	0 0 3

The wages are the Union rates current in London at the time of publication. The prices are for good quality material, and are intended to cover delivery at works, wharf, station, or yard as customary, but will vary according to quality and quantity. The measured prices are based upon the foregoing, and include usual builders' profits. Though every care has been taken in its compilation it is impossible to guarantee the accuracy of the list, and readers are advised to have the figures confirmed by trade inquiry.

MASON

MASON, 1s. 9½d. per hour; DO. Sizer, 1s. 10½d. per hour; LABOURER, 1s. 4½d. per hour; SCAFFOLDER, 1s. 5½d. per hour.

Portland Stone:	
Whitbed, per ft. cube	£0 4 6
Basebed, per ft. cube	0 4 7
Bath stone, per ft. cube	0 3 0
Usual trade extras for large blocks.	
York paving, av. 2½ in., per yd. super	0 6 6
York templates, av. per ft. cube	0 6 9
Slate shelves, rubbed, 1 in., per ft. sup.	0 2 6
Cement and sand, see "Excavator" etc., above.	
HOISTING and setting stone, per ft. cube	£0 2 2
do. for every 10 ft. above 30 ft. add 15 per cent.	
PLAIN face Portland basis, per ft. sup.	£0 2 8
do. circular, per ft. sup.	0 4 0
SUNK FACE, per ft. sup.	0 3 9
do. circular, per ft. sup.	0 4 10
JOINTS, arch, per ft. sup.	0 2 6
do. sunk, per ft. sup.	0 2 7
do. do. circular, per ft. sup.	0 4 6
CIRCULAR-CIRCULAR work, per ft. sup.	1 2 0
PLAIN MOULDING, straight, per inch of girth, per ft. run	0 1 1
do. circular, do., per ft. run	0 1 4

HALF SAWING, per ft. sup.	£0 1 0
Add to the foregoing prices, if in York stone, 35 per cent.	
do. Mansfield, 12½ per cent.	
Deduct for Bath, 33½ per cent.	
do. for Chilmark, 5 per cent.	
SETTING 1 in. slate shelving in cement, per ft. sup.	£0 0 6
RUBBED round nosing to do., per ft. lin.	0 0 6
YORK STEPS, rubbed T. & R., ft. cub.	1 9 0
YORK SILLS, W. & T., ft. cub. fixed	1 13 0
ARTIFICIAL stone paving, 2 in. thick, per ft. sup.	0 1 6
do. 2½ in. thick, per ft. sup.	0 1 9

SLATER AND TILER

SLATER, 1s. 9½d. per hour; TILER, 1s. 9½d. per hour; SCAFFOLDER, 1s. 5½d. per hour; LABOURER, 1s. 4½d. per hour.
N.B.—Tiling is often executed as piecework.

Slates, 1st quality, per 1,200:	
Portmadoc Ladies	£14 0 0
Countess	27 0 0
Duchess	32 0 0
Old Delabole	Med. Grey Med. Green
24 in. x 12 in.	£42 11 3 £45 1 0
20 in. x 10 in.	31 4 3 33 0 6
16 in. x 10 in.	20 18 0 22 4 9
14 in. x 8 in.	12 1 0 12 16 3
Green Randoms per ton	8 3 9
Grey-green do., per ton	7 3 9
Green pebbles, 12 in. to 8 in. long, per ton	6 3 9
In 4-ton truck loads, delivered Nine Elms station.	
Clips, lead, per lb.	£0 0 6
Clips, copper, per lb.	0 2 0
Nails, compo, per cub.	1 6 0
Nails, copper, per lb.	0 1 10
Cement and sand, see "Excavator," etc., above.	
Hand-made tiles, per M.	£5 18 0
Machine-made tiles, per M.	5 8 0
Westmorland slates, large, per ton	9 0 0
do. Peggies, per ton	7 5 0
SLATING, 3 in. lap, compo nails, Portmadoc or equal:	
Ladies, per square	£4 0 0
Countess, per square	4 5 0
Duchess, per square	4 10 0
WESTMORLAND, in diminishing courses, per square	6 5 0
CORNISH DO., per square	6 3 0
Add, if vertical, per square approx.	0 13 0
Add, if with copper nails, per square approx.	0 2 6
Double course at eaves, per ft. approx.	0 1 0
SLATING with Old Delabole slates to a 3 in. lap with copper nails, at per square:	
24 in. x 12 in.	Med. Grey Med. Green
20 in. x 10 in.	£5 0 0 £5 2 0
16 in. x 10 in.	5 5 0 5 10 0
14 in. x 8 in.	4 15 0 4 15 0
Green randoms	6 7 0
Grey-green do.	5 9 0
Green pebbles, 12 in. to 8 in. long	4 17 0
TILING, 4 in. gauge, every 4th course nailed in hand-made tiles, average per square	5 6 0
do. machine-made do., per square	4 17 0
Vertical Tiling, including pointing, add 18s. 0d. per square.	
FIXING lead soakers, per dozen	£0 0 10
STRIPPING old slates and stacking for re-use, and clearing away surplus and rubbish, per square	0 10 0
LABOUR only in laying slates, but including nails, per square	1 0 0
See "Sundries for Asbestos Tiling."	

CARPENTER AND JOINER

CARPENTER, 1s. 9½d. per hour; JOINER, 1s. 9½d. per hour; LABOURER, 1s. 4½d. per hour.

Timber, average prices at Docks, London Standard Scandinavian, etc. (equal to 2nds):	
7 x 3, per std.	£21 0 0
11 x 4, per std.	33 0 0
Memel or Equal. Slightly less than foregoing.	
Flooring, P.E., 1 in., per sq.	£1 2 6
do. T. and G., 1 in., per sq.	1 2 6
Planed boards, 1 in. x 11 in., per std.	30 0 0
Wainscot oak, per ft. sup. of 1 in.	0 1 4
Mahogany, Honduras, per ft. sup. of 1 in.	0 1 3
do. Cube, per ft. sup. of 1 in.	0 2 3
do. African, per ft. sup.	0 1 0
Teak, per ft. sup. of 1 in.	0 1 3
do., ft. cube	0 12 6
FIR fixed in wall plates, lintels, sleepers, etc., per ft. cube	0 5 6
do. framed in floors, roofs, etc., per ft. cube	0 6 6
do. framed in trusses, etc., including ironwork, per ft. cube	0 7 6
PITCH PINE, add 33½ per cent.	
FIXING only boarding in floors, roofs, etc., per sq.	0 13 6
SARKING FELT laid, 1-ply, per yd.	0 1 6
do. 3-ply, per yd.	0 1 9
CENTERING for concrete, etc., including horsing and striking, per sq.	2 10 0
TURNING pieces to flat or segmental soffits, 4½ in. wide, per ft. run	0 0 4
do. 9 in. wide and over per ft. sup.	0 1 2

continued overleaf

CARPENTER AND JOINER: continued.

SHUTTERING to face of concrete, per square	£1 10 0
DO. in narrow widths to beams, etc., per ft. sup.	0 0 6
USE and waste of timbers, allow 25 per cent. of above prices.	
SLAT BATTENING, per sq.	£0 12 6
DEAL boarding to flats, 1 in. thick and firrings to falls, per square	2 10 0
STOUT feather-edged tilting fillet to eaves, per ft. run	0 0 6
FEATHER-edged springer to trimmer arches, per ft. run	0 0 4
STOUT herringbone strutting (joists measured in), per ft. run	0 0 6
SOUND boarding, 1 in. thick and fillets nailed to sides of joists (joists measured over), per square	2 0 0
RUBEROID or similar quality roofing, one-ply, per yd. sup.	0 2 3
DO., two-ply, per yd. sup.	0 2 6
DO., three-ply, per yd. sup.	0 3 0
TONGUED and grooved flooring, 1 1/2 in. thick, laid complete with splayed headings, per square	2 5 0
DEAL skirting torus, moulded 1 1/2 in. thick, including grounds and backings, per ft. sup.	0 1 0
TONGUED and mitred angles to do.	0 0 6
WOOD block flooring standard blocks laid herringbone in mastic:	
Deal 1 in. thick, per yd. sup.	0 10 0
DO. 1 1/2 in. thick, per yd. sup.	0 12 0
Maple 1 1/2 in. thick, per yd. sup.	0 15 0
DEAL moulded sashes, 1 1/2 in. with moulded bars in small squares, per ft. sup.	0 2 6
DO. 2 in. do., per ft. sup.	0 2 9
DEAL cased frames, oak sills and 2 in. moulded sashes, brass-faced pulleys and iron weights, per ft. sup.	0 4 6
MOULDED horns, extra each	0 0 3
DOORS, 4-panel square both sides, 1 1/2 in. thick, per ft. sup.	0 2 6
DO. moulded both sides, per ft. sup.	0 2 9
DO. 2 in. thick, square both sides, per ft. sup.	0 2 9
DO. moulded both sides, per ft. sup.	0 3 0
DO. in 3 panels, moulded both sides, upper panel with diminished stiles with moulded bars for glass, per ft. sup.	0 3 6
It in oak, mahogany or teak, multiply 3 times.	
DEAL frames, 4 in. x 3 in., rebated and beaded per ft. cube	£0 15 0
Add for extra labours, per ft. run	0 0 1
STAIRCASE work:	
DEAL treads 1 1/2 in. and risers 1 in., tongued and grooved including fir carriages, per ft. sup.	0 2 6
DEAL wall strings, 1 1/2 in. thick, moulded, per ft. run	0 2 6
If ramped, per ft. run	0 5 0
SHORT ramps, extra each	0 7 6
ENDS of treads and risers housed to strings, each	0 1 0
2 in. deal mopstick handrail fixed to brackets, per ft. run	0 1 6
4 1/2 in. x 3 in. oak fully moulded handrail, per ft. run	0 5 6
1 1/2 in. square deal bar balusters, framed in, per ft. run	0 0 6
FITTINGS:	
SHELVES and bearers, 1 in., cross-tongued, per ft. sup.	0 1 6
1 1/2 in. beaded cupboard fronts, moulded and square, per ft. sup.	0 2 9
TEAK grooved draining boards, 1 1/2 in. thick and bedding, per ft. sup.	0 4 6
IRONMONGERY:	
Fixing only (including providing screws):	
To DEAL—	
Hinges to sashes, per pair	0 1 2
Do. to doors, per pair	0 1 7
Barrel bolts, 9 in., iron, each	0 1 0
Sash fasteners, each	0 1 0
Rim locks, each	0 1 9
Mortice locks, each	0 4 0

SMITH

SMITH, weekly rate equals 1s. 9d. per hour; MATR., do. 1s. 4d. per hour; ERECTOR, 1s. 9d. per hour; FITTER, 1s. 9d. per hour; LABOURER, 1s. 4d. per hour.

Mild Steel in British standard sections, per ton	£12 10 0
Sheet Steel:	
Flat sheets, black, per ton	17 0 0
DO., galv., per ton	19 0 0
Corrugated sheets, galv., per ton	18 10 0
Driving screws, galv., per grs.	0 1 10
Washers, galv., per grs.	0 1 1
Bolts and nuts per cwt. and up	1 18 0
MILD STEEL in trusses, etc., erected, per ton	25 10 0
DO., in small sections as reinforcement, per ton	16 10 0
DO., in compounds, per ton	17 0 0
DO., in bar or rod reinforcement, per ton	20 0 0
WROTE-IRON in chimney bars, etc., including building in, per cwt.	2 0 0
DO., in light railings and balusters, per cwt.	2 5 0
Fixing only corrugated sheeting, including washers and driving screws, per yd.	0 2 0

PLUMBER

PLUMBER, 1s. 9d. per hour; MATE OR LABOURER, 1s. 4d. per hour.

Lead, milled sheet, per cwt.	£1 9 0
DO. drawn pipes, per cwt.	1 10 0
DO. soil pipe, per cwt.	1 12 0
DO. scrap, per cwt.	1 0 0
Copper, sheet, per lb.	0 1 9
Solder, plumber's, per lb.	0 1 3
DO. fine, per lb.	0 1 9
Cast-iron pipes, etc.:	
L.C.C. soil, 3 in., per yd.	0 4 0
DO. 4 in., per yd.	0 4 9 1/2
R.W.P., 2 1/2 in., per yd.	0 2 2
DO. 3 in., per yd.	0 2 7
DO. 4 in., per yd.	0 3 6 1/2
Gutter, 4 in. H.R., per yd.	0 1 6 1/2
DO. 4 in. O.G., per yd.	0 1 10 1/2
MILLED LEAD and labour in gutters, flashings, etc. per cwt.	3 2 6
LEAD PIPE, fixed, including running joints, bends, and tacks, 1 in., per ft.	0 2 0
DO. 1 in., per ft.	0 2 3
DO. 1 1/2 in., per ft.	0 3 0
DO. 2 in., per ft.	0 4 0
LEAD WASTE or soil, fixed as above, complete, 2 1/2 in., per ft.	0 6 0
DO. 3 in., per ft.	0 7 0
DO. 4 in., per ft.	0 9 9
WIPED soldered joint, 1 in., each	0 2 6
DO. 1 in., each	0 3 2
BRASS screw-down stop cock and two soldered joints, 1 in., each	0 11 0
DO. 1 in., each	0 13 6
CAST-IRON rainwater pipe, jointed in red lead, 2 1/2 in., per ft. run.	0 1 7
DO. 3 in., per ft. run	0 2 0
DO. 4 in., per ft. run	0 2 10
CAST-IRON B.R. GUTTER, fixed, with all clips, etc., 4 in., per ft.	0 2 0
DO. O.G., 4 in., per ft.	0 2 3
CAST-IRON SOIL PIPE, fixed with caulked joints and all ears, etc., 4 in., per ft.	0 4 8
DO. 3 in., per ft.	0 3 6
Fixing only:	
W.C. PANS and all joints, p. or s., and including joints to water waste preventers, each	2 5 0
BATHS, with all joints	1 3 6
LAVATORY BASINS only, with all joints, on brackets, each	1 10 0

PLASTERER

PLASTERER, 1s. 9d. per hour (plus allowances in London only); LABOURER, 1s. 4d. per hour.

Chalk, lime, per ton	£2 17 0
Hair, per cwt.	2 0 0
Sand and cement see "Excavator," etc., above.	
Lime putty, per cwt.	£0 2 9
Hair mortar, per yd.	1 7 0
Fine stuff, per yd.	1 14 0
Sawn laths, per bdl.	0 2 5
Keene's cement, per ton	5 15 0
Sirapite, per ton	3 10 0
DO. fine, per ton	3 18 0
Plaster, per ton	3 0 0
DO. per ton	3 12 6
DO. fine, per ton	5 12 0
Thistle plaster, per ton	3 9 0
Lath nails, per lb.	0 0 4
LATHING with sawn laths, per yd.	0 1 7
METAL LATHING, per yd.	0 2 3
FLOATING in Cement and Sand, 1 to 3, for tiling or woodblock, 1 in., per yd.	0 2 4
DO. vertical, per yd.	0 2 7
RENDER, on brickwork, 1 to 3, per yd.	0 2 7
RENDER in Portland and set in fine stuff, per yd.	0 3 3
RENDER, float, and set, trowelled, per yd.	0 2 9
RENDER and set in Sirapite, per yd.	0 2 5
DO. in Thistle plaster, per yd.	0 2 5
EXTRA, if on but not including lathing, any of foregoing, per yd.	0 0 5
EXTRA, if on ceilings, per yd.	0 0 5
ANGLES, rounded Keene's on Portland, per ft. lin.	0 0 6
PLAIN CORNICES, in plaster, per inch girth, including dubbing out, etc., per ft. lin.	0 0 3
WHITE glazed tiling set in Portland and jointed in Parian, per yd., from	1 11 6
FIBROUS PLASTER SLABS, per yd.	0 1 10

GLAZIER

GLAZIER, 1s. 8d. per hour.

Glass: 4ths in crates:	
Clear, 21 oz.	£0 0 4 1/2
DO. 26 oz.	0 0 5
Cathedral white, per ft.	0 0 7 1/2
Polished plate, British 1/2 in., up to 2 ft. sup.	0 1 2
DO. 4 ft. sup.	0 2 3
DO. 6 ft. sup.	0 2 6
DO. 20 ft. sup.	0 3 1
DO. 45 ft. sup.	0 3 3
DO. 65 ft. sup.	0 3 5
DO. 100 ft. sup.	0 3 10
Rough plate, 1/2 in., per ft.	0 0 6 1/2
DO. 1/2 in. per ft.	0 0 6 1/2
Linseed oil putty, per cwt.	0 15 0
GLAZING in putty, clear sheet, 21 oz.	0 0 11
DO. 26 oz.	0 1 0

GLAZING in beads, 21 oz., per ft. £0 1 1
DO. 26 oz., per ft. 0 1 4
Small sizes slightly less (under 3 ft. sup.).
Patent glazing in rough plate, normal span, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per ft.
LEAD LIGHTS, plain, med. sqs. 21 oz., usual domestic sizes, fixed, per ft. sup. and up £0 3 0
Glazing only, polished plate, 6d. to 8d. per ft. according to size.

PAINTER AND PAPERHANGER

PAINTER, 1s. 8d. per hour; LABOURER, 1s. 4d. per hour; FRENCH POLISHER, 1s. 9d. per hour; PAPERHANGER, 1s. 8d. per hour.

Genuine white lead, per cwt.	£2 7 6
Linseed oil, raw, per gall.	0 3 6
DO., boiled, per gall.	0 3 8
Turpentine, per gall.	0 4 0
Liquid driers, per gall.	0 8 6
Knotting, per gall.	0 18 0
Distemper, washable, in ordinary colours, per cwt. and up	2 5 0
Double size, per firkin	0 3 6
Pumice stone, per lb.	0 0 4 1/2
Single gold leaf (transferable), per book	0 2 0
Varnish, copal, per gall. and up	0 12 6
DO., flat, per gall.	1 2 0
DO., paper, per gall.	0 16 0
French polish, per gall.	0 17 6
Ready mixed paints, per gall. and up	0 15 0

LIME WHITING, per yd. sup.	0 0 3
WASH, stop, and whiten, per yd. sup.	0 0 6
DO., and 2 coats distemper with proprietary distemper, per yd. sup.	0 0 9
KNOT, stop, and prime, per yd. sup.	0 0 7
PLAIN PAINTING, including mouldings, and on plaster or joinery, 1st coat, per yd. sup.	0 0 10
DO., subsequent coats, per yd. sup.	0 0 9
DO., enamel coat, per yd. sup.	0 1 2 1/2
BRUSH-GRAIN, and 2 coats varnish, per yd. sup.	0 3 8
FIGURED DO., DO., per yd. sup.	0 5 6
FRENCH POLISHING, per ft. sup.	0 1 2
WAX POLISHING, per ft. sup.	0 0 6
STRIPPING old paper and preparing, per piece	0 1 7
HANGING PAPER, ordinary, per piece	0 1 10
DO., fine, per piece, and upwards	0 2 4
VARNISHING PAPER, 1 coat, per piece	0 9 0
CANVAS, strained and fixed, per yd. sup.	0 3 0
VARNISHING, hard oak, 1st coat, yd. sup.	0 1 2
DO., each subsequent coat, per yd. sup.	0 0 11

SUNDRIES

Fibre or wood pulp boardings, according to quality and quantity.
The measured work price is on the same basis . . . per ft. sup. £0 0 2 1/2

FIBRE BOARDINGS, including cutting and waste, fixed on, but not including studs or grounds, per ft. sup.	0 0 6
Plaster board, per yd. sup.	from 0 1 7
PLASTER BOARD, fixed as last, per yd. sup.	from 0 2 8
Asbestos sheeting, 1/2 in., grey flat, per yd. sup.	0 2 3
DO., corrugated, per yd. sup.	0 3 3
ASBESTOS SHEETING, fixed as last, flat, per yd. sup.	0 4 0
DO., corrugated, per yd. sup.	0 5 0
ASBESTOS slating or tiling on, but not including battens, or boards, plain "diamond" per square, grey	2 15 0
DO., red	3 0 0
Asbestos cement slates or tiles, 1/2 in. punched per M. grey	16 0 0
DO., red	18 0 0
ASBESTOS COMPOSITION FLOORING: Laid in two coats, average 1/2 in. thick, in plain colour, per yd. sup.	0 7 0
DO., 1 in. thick, suitable for domestic work, unpolished, per yd.	0 6 6

Metal casements for wood frames, domestic sizes, per ft. sup.	0 1 6
DO., in metal frames, per ft. sup.	0 1 9
HANGING only metal casement in, but not including wood frames, each	0 2 10
BUILDING in metal casement frames, per ft. sup.	0 0

Waterproofing compounds for cement. Add about 75 per cent. to 100 per cent. to the cost of cement used.

PLYWOOD, per ft. sup.	
Thickness	1/8 in. 1/4 in. 3/8 in. 1/2 in. 5/8 in. 3/4 in.
Qualities	A.A. A. B. A.A. A. B. A.A. A. B. A.A. A. B.
Birch	4 3 3 3 3 4 3 7 6 4 8 7 6
Alder	3 3 3 3 3 4 3 7 6 4 8 7 6
Gaboon	4 3 3 3 3 4 3 7 6 4 8 7 6
Figured Oak	3 7 7 10 8 11 11 10 10 10 10 10
Plain Oak	3 7 7 10 8 11 11 10 10 10 10 10
Oregon Pine	3 7 7 10 8 11 11 10 10 10 10 10

1 1
1 4
span,

3 0
er ft.

ER
44d.
hour ;

7 6
3 6
3 8
4 0
8 6
3 0

5 0
3 6
0 4

2 0
2 6
2 0
3 0
5 0

3 3
0 6
9 9
0 7

0 10
0 9
1 2

8 8
6 6
2 2
6 6

7 7
10 10
4 4
0 0

0 0
2 2
11 11

2 1

6 6

7 7

8 8

3 3

3 3

0 0

0 0

0 0

0 0

0 0

0 0

0 0

0 0

0 0

6 6

6 6

9 9

2 10

0 0

in.

A. B.

d. d.

7 6

7 7

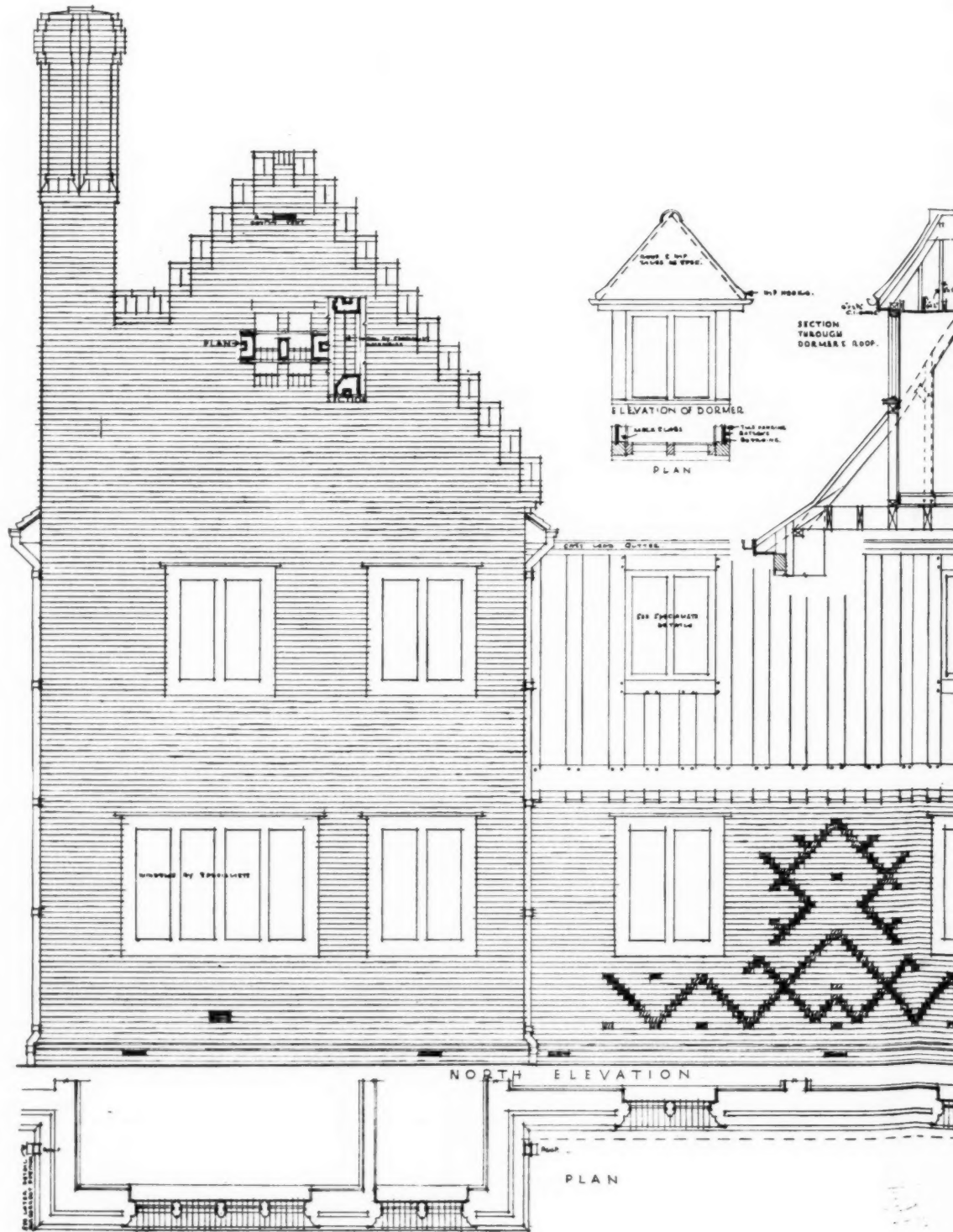
10 -

- -

- -

- -

HOUSE AT STONE WORCS FOR J C HILL ESQ



No. 14

