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*The Editor will be glad to receive MS. articles
and also illustrations of current architecture in this
country and abroad with a view to publication.
Though every care will be taken, the Editor cannot
hold himself responsible for material sent him.*

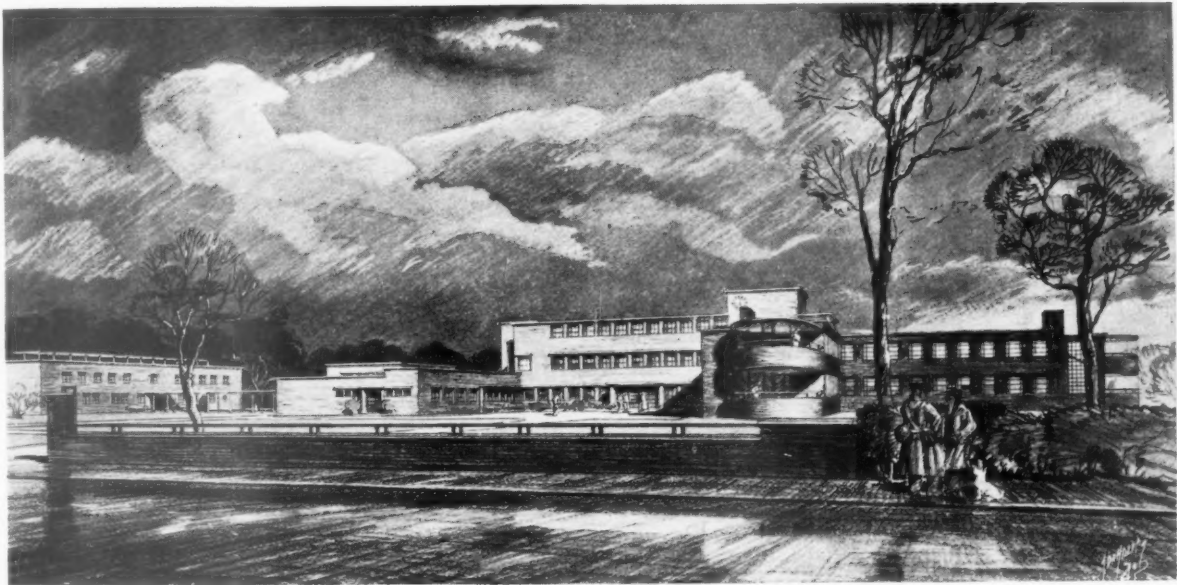
THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1940.

NUMBER 2369 : VOLUME 91

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VOLUNTARY GENERAL HOSPITAL, SLOUGH

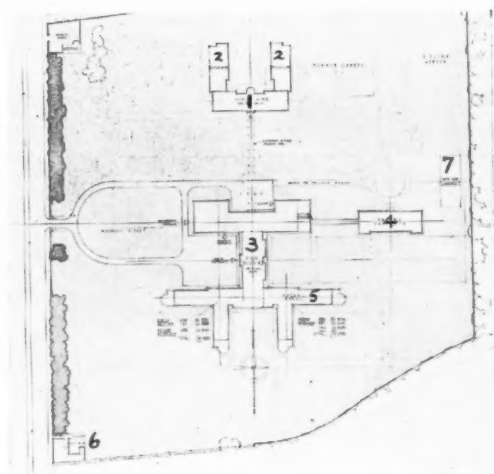


Perspective, by Mr. J. D. M. Harvey, from the Royal Academy Exhibition, of the proposed Voluntary General Hospital, Slough, for 68 surgical and medical patients. The scheme, designed by Mr. Herbert H. Clark, was placed first in a limited competition held in September last.

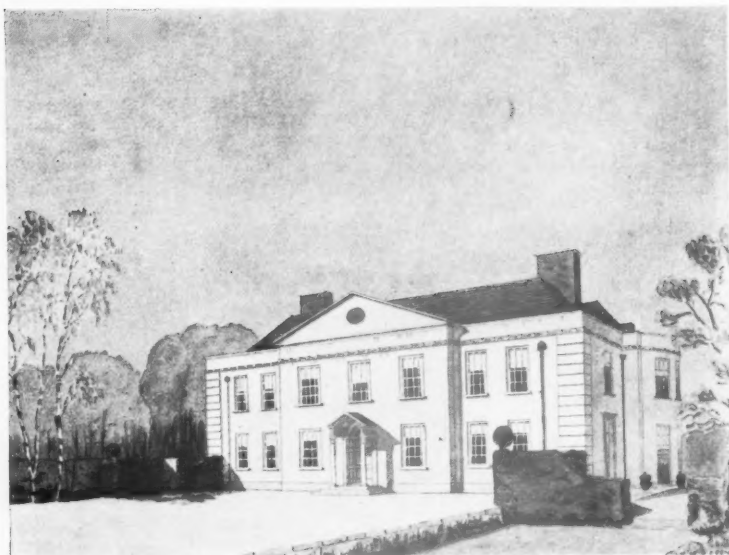
The building is planned in an open asymmetrical form with good orientation for all units. Paying cases and children are accommodated in small wards and the future extensions to the ward and kitchen units are a part of the scheme. A separate nurses' home is provided away from the main block, and is also capable of easy extension.

General construction: Brick and hollow tile floors. Facings: 2-in. light brown bricks with artificial stone dressings and white painted metal windows.

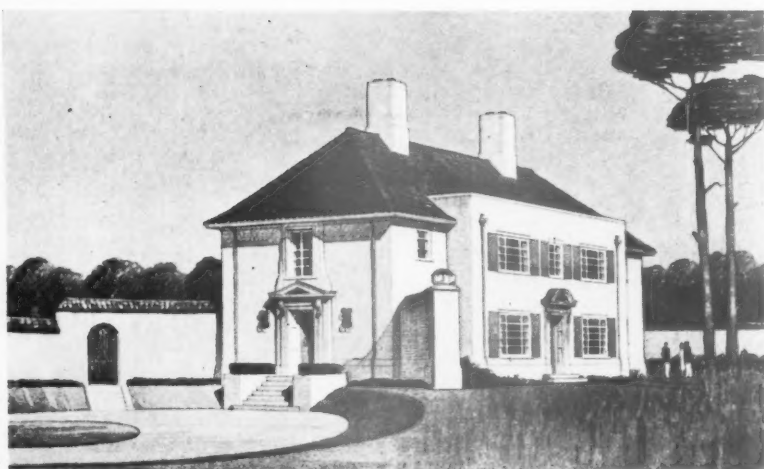
Key to block plan: 1, nurses' home; 2, nurses' home, future extension; 3, main building; 4, paying patients; 5, future wards; 6, cottage; 7, site for laundry.



DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE AT THE R.A. EXHIBITION



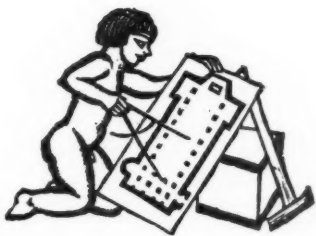
House at Burley Wood. By W. J. Carpenter Turner. Perspective by F. M. Seeley (No. 1435).



House at Ewell, Surrey. By Oliver Law. Perspective by Cyril A. Farey (No. 1504).



House at Wimbledon. By Oliver Law. Perspective by Laurence Wright (No. 1409).



HELPING HONEYMOONERS

A GENERAL description was recently published of the programme of wartime research in which architects and town planners are to be invited to take part. The suggested fields of inquiry were of great extent. But there was one astonishing omission: there was no heading, however general, which could be taken to cover wartime marriages, and the long chain of processes set in motion by those marriages. To anyone who thinks about the matter with any seriousness, this omission brings conviction of a woeful lack of realism among those responsible for the programme.

Consider just a few of the facts. Marriages are the one constituent of peacetime social life which war has not diminished but markedly increased. For years it has been obvious that there were two periods in the ordinary citizen's life when there was a good chance of influencing him or her in the right way over matters architectural—at school, and when he or she gets married. What is more, the citizen about to be married is alert, open to new ideas and eager for guidance to a degree verging on pathos. Down the long years of the past the architect has never seized this opportunity. Now, when some architects are ready and eager to do what is needed, and marriage is rampant, a need which clamours to be supplied has received no sign of notice from Authority.

There are the makings of a rowdy General Meeting here, if a dozen realists are not afraid to stand up for realism even in Research. And it is well worth while to think a little more thoroughly of the potentialities of wartime marriages as a field for architectural research.

Before the war marriage was an occasional incident: now it is an incessant activity. People whom one had imagined were comfortably in school or in their graves are getting married every day. The papers are full of them.

To any veteran of last year or last decade there is something pitiful in the fact that all these people will soon be setting up house. To any architectural research board worth its salt that fact is a bugle call for action.

All these people will soon be making the most pathetic of mistakes—avoidable mistakes. They will be buying the wrong houses and wrong furniture in the wrong way, helplessly paying for decorations they don't like and can't afford, and facing as best they can terrible discoveries about hire purchase and collateral

security, maintenance and dilapidations, the drains behind and the roads in front of their houses.

There could be no nobler outlet for architectural research than to save these people from themselves. It would not be difficult. Yet the Research Board's manifesto does not hint at doing it. To say that in this field "considerable research has already been done, but much of it requires collecting and correlating" is something of an understatement. The research has indeed been done. It has been done too often—many thousand times too often. What is needed now is to stop it being done again. And architects have just the knowledge and skill that is required.

The result at which the new kind of architectural research should aim is easy to outline.

In size and appearance it should resemble a women's journal of the more luxurious type. In layout it should blend distinction with piquancy. A cover design by Rex Whistler and a Cellophane dust-cover bearing a pierced heart motif in gold might not be out of place. There should be no difficulty about the title, either. Something pithy and clear is needed. For instance—*BEGINNING MARRIED LIFE: Being a Cautionary Guide to the Problems of Setting-up House, by a Committee of the Royal Institute of British Architects*—is on the right lines though it fails to arrest attention to the desirable degree. But it will do as a beginning.

Once the layman's attention has been arrested and he, or she, has been lured inside the cover of this new kind of Report, the worst difficulty of the responsible Committee will be over. Thenceforward the captive has only to be shown, one by one, the reefs which have wrecked so many homes and be gently informed how they may be avoided.

There are not, when one thinks back, so very many of these reefs. The inconvenient clauses in a mortgage agreement are as standardized as those in a hire purchase form or the phrases by which people are induced to buy the wrong suite or the wrong wallpaper. Few people are caught twice and it would be very easy to prevent anyone being caught once.

It would be easy. And there can be few architects who will not wish it to be done when they remember what they themselves have been through, and when they realize what will have to be gone through by dozens of people (to whom they will, eventually, have to give presents) as well as by hundreds of thousands of others who are fortunately unknown to them.



The Architects' Journal

45 The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey

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NOTES & TOPICS

SIGNS OF PROGRESS

TWO statements made in the past fortnight by Mr. Ernest Bevin, the new Minister of Labour, will have been noticed with interest by the building industry and its professions.

On Thursday last he said that post-war conditions could only be solved by public works, and he hoped to see a Building Ministry and National Works Department established. And on May 24, at the House of Commons, he said that he intended to set up a national building council to supervise all building work and carry out its decisions through local committees: and this, it should be noted, referred to wartime building, not post-war.

Now speed is what matters most in war production at the moment: and extra speed for a few months can more easily be obtained by increasing manpower and keeping the existing organization than by changes in organization. And since Mr. Bevin is Minister of Labour, it is probable that the "supervision" which he intends the new building council to exercise will be confined to questions of labour transference and labour conditions.

But these statements indicate that half of two demands which the building industry has made since September has been almost granted. A single Building Ministry is on the *tapis*, but it is to be post-war: collaboration of the industry in war building is to be granted, but it is to be only partial collaboration.

No one in the industry will want to press for any change of system which will involve a day's delay in war building. Nor will anyone desire to press reforms of any kind until the present crisis is past.

But when that crisis is past, there seems every reason to draw the attention of the Minister of Supply, as well as that of Mr. Bevin, to three points: (1) The industry's peacetime organization is admirably fitted for repairing air-raid damage throughout the country; (2) before the

war that organization could and did execute large contracts at high speed without any of the blunders which have taken place under the Service Departments' system of organization; (3) if a single department controlled all war building—and did nothing but control all building: taking orders at one end and delivering the goods at the other—it would certainly use the industry's existing organization better than can be expected of any Service Department which knows nothing and cares nothing about building in general.

ERSATZ

The drive for metal is now in full swing. Architects throughout the country are, one hopes, recommending the removal of local eyesores for all they are worth.

But one fears that it is the least prominent eyesores that will go, and not all of them. Any monument, however terrible, every trimming to a public building, anything which to a single citizen might have sentimental value will have to be let alone. It is disheartening to think of the enormous improvement to our towns if the demand for scrap was taken really seriously.

In the meantime weapons of offence must have priority over A.R.P., and A.R.P. contractors are finding it difficult to obtain steel. And since there may even come a time when no steel is available for simple A.R.P. structures, it would seem wise to look round now for substitutes.

Take, for instance, the minimum overhead protection required by the Revised Code for factory shelters and vital plant. Chief alternatives are: $\frac{1}{4}$ in. steel plate; 4 in. reinforced concrete; $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. brick arch; 1 ft. 6 in. of sand or earth, suitably supported.

At present the first and last are ruled out and we are left with the brick arch—a little more bothersome to construct—and the R.C. slab. Both need centering, which can, of course, be reused. But what would be most useful for simple A.R.P. jobs in the next three months are precast slabs which will stand up to handling and require little or no steel for reinforcement. One solution may be the new "pre-stressed steel" reinforcement. The others I cannot forecast—but there's a chance here for someone.

THE END OF MORRIS AND COMPANY

Last week, among all the headlines and special articles of the third day of the Somme battle, there was in one paper half a column, and in another a paragraph, announcing that the firm founded by William Morris had come to an end.

It was a queer moment for a postscript to be written on Morris and Company: it was queer to find how, for a moment or two, the wording of the paragraph "Famous firm . . . Morris . . ." suggested only that something had happened to Lord Nuffield. Then one began to remember.

It was in 1861 that the firm which was later known as Morris and Company started at 8 Red Lion Square, Holborn. Its original members were William Morris, Madox Brown, Rossetti, Burne-Jones, Philip Webb and the two "business" men—Faulkner and Marshall. From there they set out to reform their age.

Besides the stained glass, wallpaper, tapestries and furniture for which it was most famous, the firm tackled almost every kind of decorative design—painted panels,



painted tiles, gesso work, and embroidery, table glass and china—and always with the same aim: to avoid the lifeless vulgarity of machine reproduction, to reintroduce *personality*—individual craftsmanship—into all design.

It was an aim that only expressed half the truth as we see it—for Morris and Company did not admit that good design could be obtained through the machine as well as without it. No doubt their good influence was all the greater for this limitation. Victorians liked things cut and dried: black or white, machine or man.

The battle they all fought seems very ancient history now: charming history of times when “Red Lion Square seems to be the natural resort of people on the venture”; when “Faulkner kept the books, and helped to fire the glass in the basement. His two sisters helped in tile painting and gesso work”; and one day a roll-parcel came (addressed to Morris, who was apt to be impatient with parcels) “of which the wrapping—and it was all wrapping—was gummed right through to the core.” Burne-Jones was suspected.

It was through its tapestry, of which the Green Dining Room at the Victoria and Albert Museum is the best-known example, that the firm survived; and I reproduce above a preliminary cartoon for this tapestry, drawn by Philip Webb about 1886*. Morris founded the works at Merton Abbey, continued to direct them till his death in 1896. With a change of ownership in 1905 this firm continued until last week.

CAST-IRON STEPS FORWARD

I spent recently a very interesting hour in a showroom devoted to cast iron. What is more, it was an hour which was quite unconnected with the war, although cast iron is as warlike a material as other irons and ironfounders are at present principally concerned with output for war purposes.

* From *Philip Webb*, by W. R. Lethaby. Oxford University Press.

Principally, but not entirely. For some ironfounders have thought it worth while to encourage a small department to look ahead and to smash a few common prejudices by showing that cast iron is as “modern” a material as any other.

As far as I am concerned this showroom achieved its object. Cast iron had previously meant for me rainwater goods, out-of-date ranges and frightful railings. It now includes stoves, sinks, radiator casings, table tops, sinks, wall tiling and wall panelling—all porcelain-enamelled in creams and greens and as bright and light as anyone could wish.

“Heavy duty” durability seemed to me the most important quality of the new developments. All of us have by now been depressed by the failure of modern internal finishes to stand up to hard wear: in school corridors, office halls, high-speed kitchens, snack bars and so on. And I believe that cast iron in one form or another may soon be the common solution in these cases. The porcelain enamel, I may add, was left without a blemish after my best efforts with a corkscrew—which was not the case with the corkscrew.

UNRESERVED

The announcement that any member of a reserved occupation who has been unemployed for two months is to be free to join the Forces or whole-time A.R.P. services will be a great relief to many members of building trades—particularly on the eastern side of the country.

For the last eight months the situation has been farcical. Take the case of a 26-year-old joiner (reserved at 25) who failed to get a job on Government camps. With the increasing restrictions on timber, his chance of being employed on civil work was negligible, while his skill was badly needed in several branches of the army and air force. But he was not allowed to join up—nor to take a job in A.R.P. He was compelled to do nothing, at the cost of the sorely pressed taxpayer.

NON-IMMEDIACY

It has been announced from New York that Lewis Mumford, author, architectural critic and famous exponent of territorial planning, has resigned (together with Mr. Waldo Frank) from the editorial board of the *New Republic*, the American Liberal weekly.

They give as their reason that the newspaper's Liberalism has become smug and meaningless, and that it does not share their view that the U.S.A. should give immediate help to the Allies. In reply (and before the resignations were generally known), the *New Republic* issued a statement calling for “immediate aid, short of war, in the shortest possible time”; and a spokesman said to the Press that the *New Republic* had never been isolationist but merely “non-immediate interventionist.”

Britons today will read this last phrase with a somewhat toothy smile. We know just what it means: for several years we had non-immediate interventionism very badly ourselves. But we cannot help feeling glad that Mr. Lewis Mumford is trying to prevent the sky of another continent turning black with the wings of chickens coming home to roost (as the Chinese Ambassador, another Mumford, said of our sky two years ago).

ASTRAGAL

NEWS

WAR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

Mr. E. Stanley Hall, F.R.I.B.A., has been appointed a member of the Compensation Board for war damage to property. Other members are: Mr. Justice Simonds (Chairman), Mr. A. C. Gladstone, Mr. Oswald Healing, President, Surveyors' Institution, and Mr. J. F. Linney, President, Auctioneers' Institute. The secretary to the Board will be Mr. E. R. Copleston, of the Inland Revenue Department, Somerset House. Messrs. Gladstone, Stanley Hall, Healing and Linney were members of the Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Andrewes Uthwatt which has advised as to the general principles of the assessment of damage.

LABOUR FOR WAR PURPOSES

An Order came into force on June 10, regulating the engagement of workers in engineering, building, and civil engineering. Object of the Order is to prevent interference with production by unnecessary movement of workers and to enable labour resources to be directed to the points at which the need is greatest and most urgent.

A.R.P.

The A.R.P. Co-ordinating Committee has asked Sir John Anderson to receive a deputation of scientists and technicians who have made a special study of air raid precautions. Deputation will urge on Sir John the necessity for immediately extending and improving the shelter provision in this country.

Proposals of the committee are based on a detailed investigation of the position in all parts of the country. The survey which the committee has carried out shows that, in London, one of every two residents is without shelter. The position in other vulnerable areas is only slightly better.

While a few areas have very good protection—some have bomb-proof shelters—the variation in standards is tremendous, so that the majority of areas have very poor protection indeed. The tendency is for new shelters to be built to even poorer standards and for the omission of essential amenities.

Detailed proposals of the committee include the immediate construction of shelters on the principle submitted by it to the Ministry of Home Security and recently approved by the Ministry's experts (the principle of constructing blast and splinter-proof shelters so that they can subsequently be made bomb-proof). While these are being constructed on available sites, surveys should be carried out of the numbers of persons requiring further shelter.

CONCRETE HOUSES FOR COVENTRY

Final approval has been granted by the Coventry City Council for the immediate erection of 2,500 concrete houses.

This is the first attempt by any authority in England to build on a large scale in war time, and the scheme (prepared by Mr. D. Gibson, Coventry City Architect) has been made possible only by the extensive use of concrete units and cement-asbestos products to take the place of steel and timber.

Three sites have already been chosen, and the construction of the first batch of 230 houses is expected to begin at the end of this month.

THEODOLITES AND DUMPY LEVELS

There is at present a shortage of theodolites and dumpy levels in the country, owing to the demand created by the number of large Government contracts. Should any of our readers have instruments not in use and be willing to sell or hire, they would be doing a service by offering them to recognized dealers or getting into touch with firms carrying out large contracts.

FLATS IN PRAGUE

The architect for the flats in Prague, illustrated in our issue for April 18 last, was Mr. Eugene Rosenberg.

COVENTRY SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

Mr. Claude Redgrave, Chairman of the Coventry Society of Architects, at a luncheon last week, said:

At the present time the profession was going through a very trying time. In the Coventry district alone buildings to the value of £1,500,000 had been cancelled or postponed, which had meant that local architects had had to dispense

with the services of about 28 assistants, and five of the Society's members had closed their offices.

Under these circumstances it was felt that the local authorities should consider their case, and, instead of increasing the staff of the City Architect's department, employ local architects to assist in carrying out their building programme.

OBITUARY

Death has occurred of Mr. John Gower Richards, of "Pant-y-gerdinen," Swansea Road, Merthyr, who was an architect and surveyor in the Borough Engineer's Department.

Aged forty-seven, Mr. Richards entered the service of the local authority in 1915 as a clerk in the Engineer's Department, and later he became articled to Mr. F. Thackeray, M.B.E., the former Borough Architect. Eventually Mr. Richards became assistant to the Borough Engineer.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

The Edward D. Prior Prize for the best understanding of building construction and of the use of materials by a student of the Cambridge School of Architecture has been awarded to Mr. Edward John Armitage, of St. John's College.

PARTNERSHIP CHANGE

An alteration is announced concerning the partnership of Harry W. Weedon, F.R.I.B.A., and Partners, chartered architects, 84 Colmore Row, Birmingham. This follows upon the retirement of William Calder Robson from the firm, and the practice is being continued by Messrs. H. W. Weedon, R. A. Bullivant and F. H. Carter.

INSTITUTION OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS

Following members have been elected:

As students: W. T. F. Austin, of Birmingham, F. J. Chate, of Bristol, J. F. Flude, of Hatch End, Middlesex, D. M. Taylor, of Darlington; as Graduate: J. Bennett, of Liverpool; as Associate-Member, W. A. Burgess, of Worcester Park, Surrey; as Associate: J. Smith, A.R.I.B.A., of Winsley, Wiltshire; as Members: M. I. Addams, B.Sc., of Esher, Surrey, and H. C. Platts, B.Sc., A.M.I.N.S.T.C.E., of Northwood, Middlesex.

* Transfer from Graduateship.

+ Passed Associate-Membership Examination.

‡ Transfer from Associate-Membership.

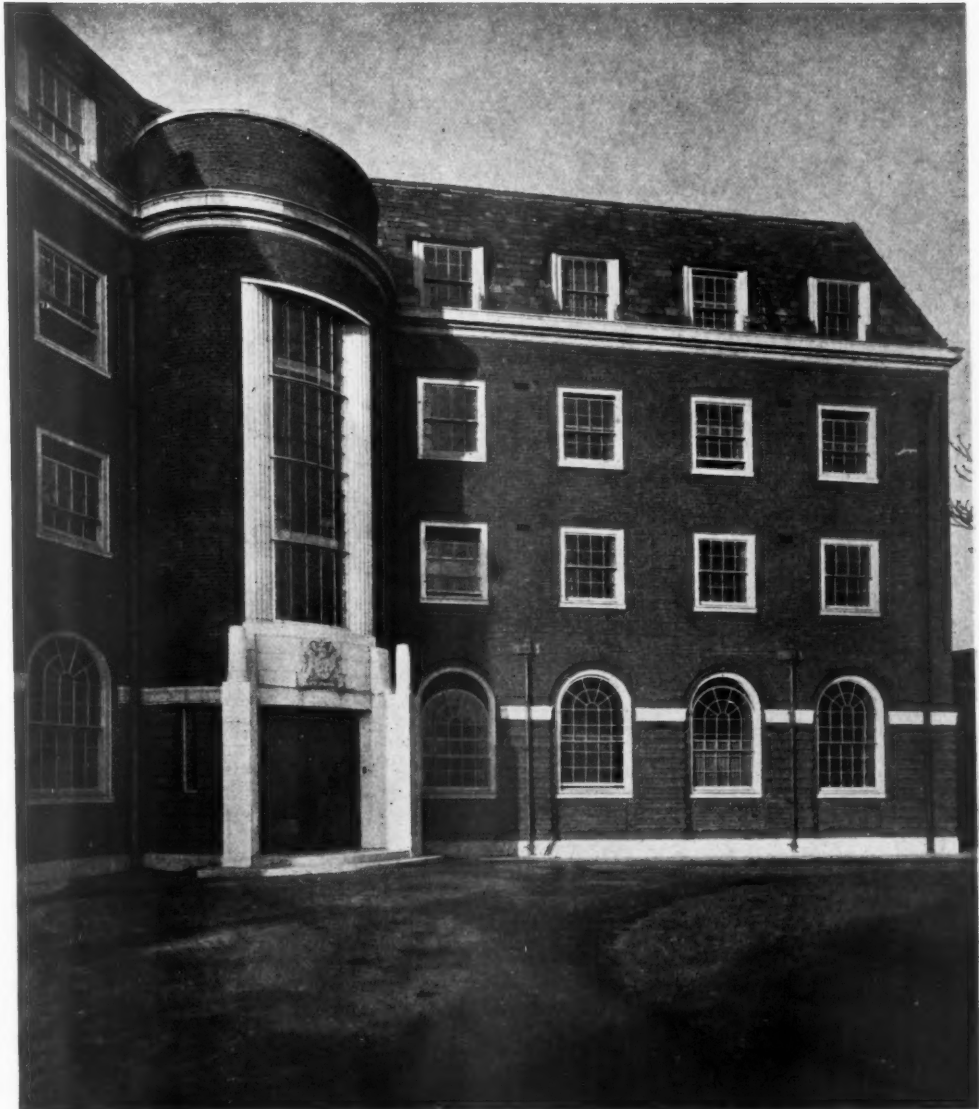
DIARY

Thursday, June 13. SOCIETY OF WOMEN ARTISTS. At the Royal Institute Galleries, 195 Piccadilly, W.1. Exhibition of pictures, sculpture and crafts. Until June 28. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tuesday, June 18. R.I.B.A., 66 Portland Place, W.1. General meeting. Paper on "Alternative Methods of Construction." By R. Fitzmaurice. 8 p.m. HOUSING CENTRE, 13 Suffolk Street, S.W.1. "Day Nurseries." By Mrs. Lanchester. 1 p.m.



From the R.A. Exhibition. University of London new buildings. Model executed by John B. Thorp.



Main entrance

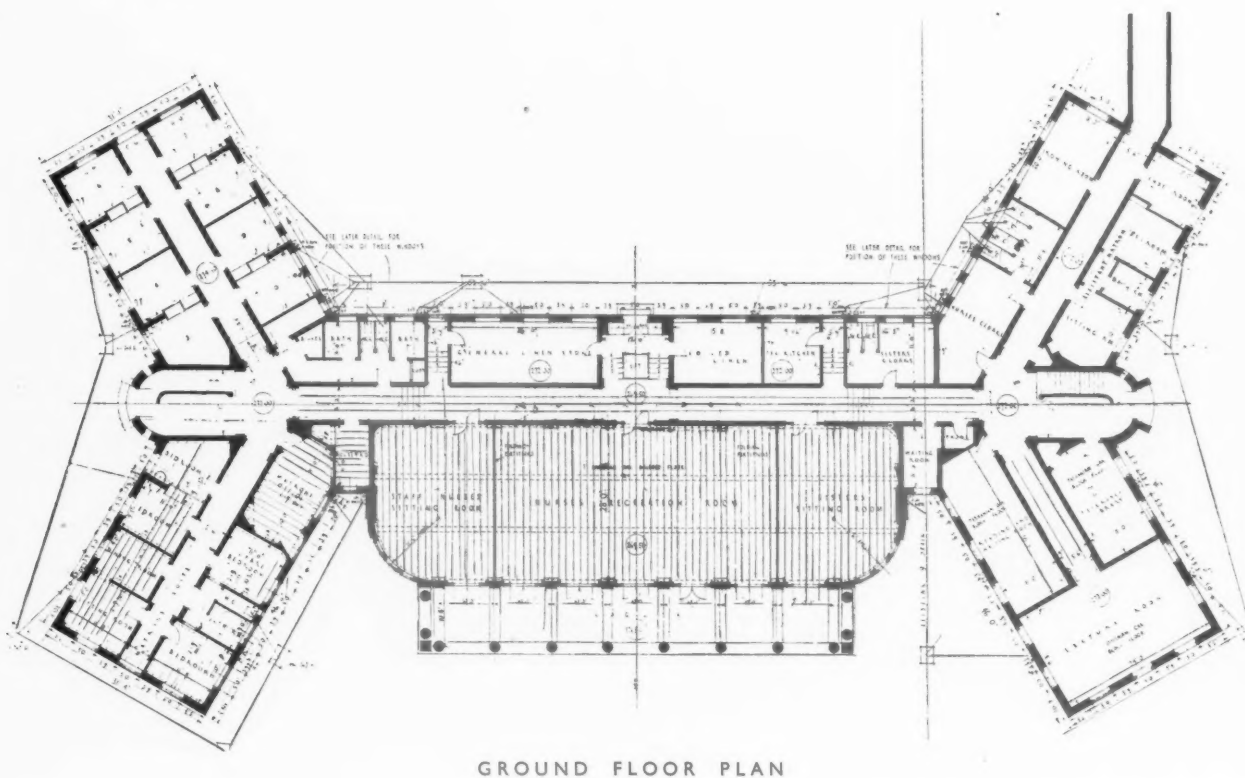
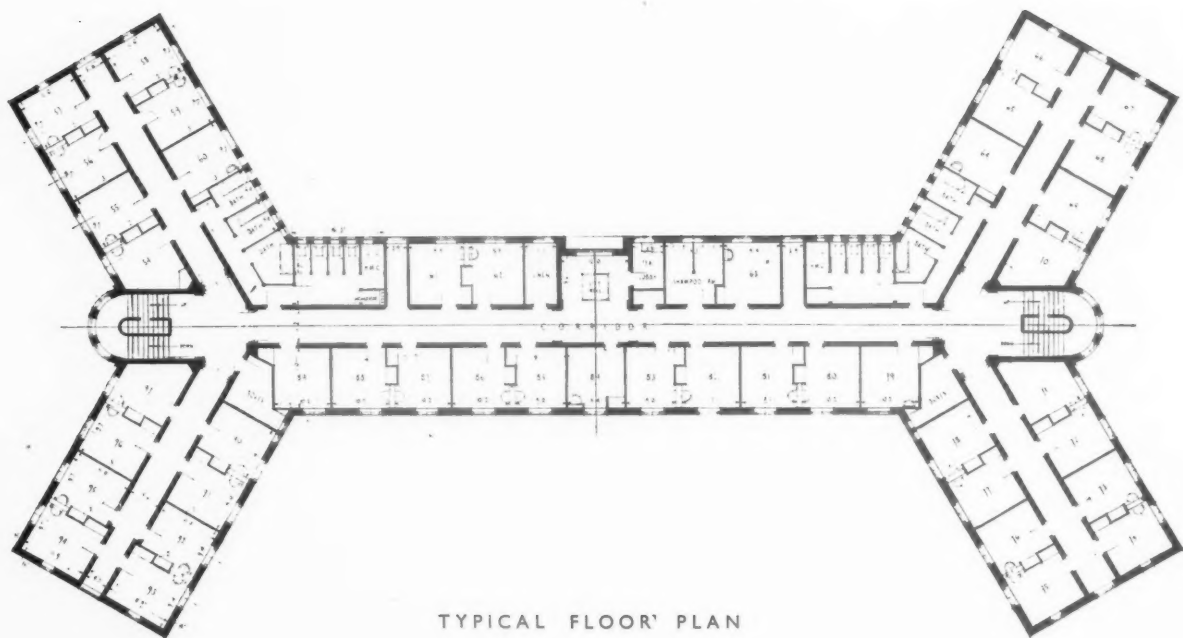
NURSES' HOME

ISOLATION HOSPITAL, GILROES, LEICESTERSHIRE

DESIGNED BY SYMINGTON, PRINCE AND PIKE

GENERAL AND SITE—Nurses' Home for approximately 150 sisters and nurses, matron and assistant matron. Ground falls away to the south; building faces the main road.

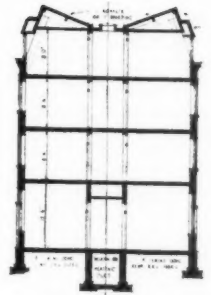
CONSTRUCTION AND EXTERNAL FINISHES—Brick construction; 14-in. external walls. Recreation room, steel-framed. Timber roof covered with Old Delabole slates. Partitions, plaster blocks. Floors, hollow tile. Recreation room, oak floor on joists. Plum-coloured facing bricks with artificial stone dressings. Wood sash windows and wood French casements are fitted.



NURSES' HOME, ISOLATION HOSPITAL, LEICESTERSHIRE

PLAN—Accommodation is arranged on four floors, most bedrooms facing south. Ground floor consists of a recreation room which can be divided into three compartments, the sisters' sitting-room, nurses' recreation room and staff nurses' sitting-room. Matron's and assistant matron's offices and quarters are situated in one wing; the library, reading-room and lecture-room in the corresponding wing on the other side. Ground floor also contains some of the nurses' bedrooms. Night nurses have special accommodation on the first floor, cut off from the remainder of the building by glazed doors. A loggia adjoins the recreation room.

INTERNAL FINISHES—Wall, plastered, finished with cream-coloured paint. Floors to staircase, corridors, bathrooms and w.c.s are of terrazzo. Recreation room has an oak floor and Jarrah wood blocks are laid in the bedrooms. Built-in wardrobes are provided in the bedrooms.



CROSS SECTION
THROUGH WINGS

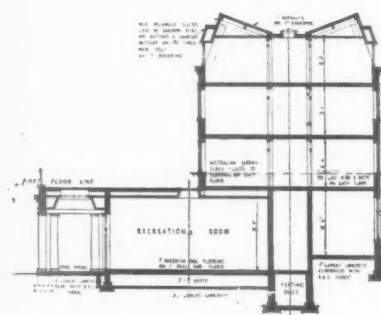


The loggia adjacent to the recreation room

DESIGNED BY SYMINGTON, PRINCE AND PIKE



Left, main staircase : below, recreation room.



CROSS SECTION
ON CENTRE LINE



SERVICES—Steam heating serving Vectairs. Separate dining-room and kitchen block, built at the rear of the old administrative block, is connected by a covered way to the new building. Passenger lift serves all floors. Each bedroom has a lavatory basin with hot water and a heated towel-rail. Electric fires are installed in private offices and recreation room.

General contractors were James Chapman and Son ; for list of sub-contractors and suppliers see page xiv.

NURSES' HOME, GILROES
BY SYMINGTON, PRINCE AND PIKE

HOUSE, HADLEY COMMON, HERTS.

SITE—Somewhat exposed open plot about $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres in extent falling away to the south-west with a frontage of 200 ft.

CONSTRUCTION—Cavity walls, 15½ in. on ground floor and 11 in. above. Oak strip floors to lounge and hall; elsewhere, deal, except scullery, which is tiled. Staircase is of oak.

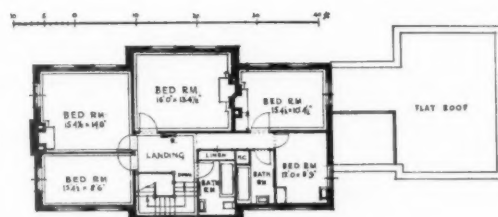
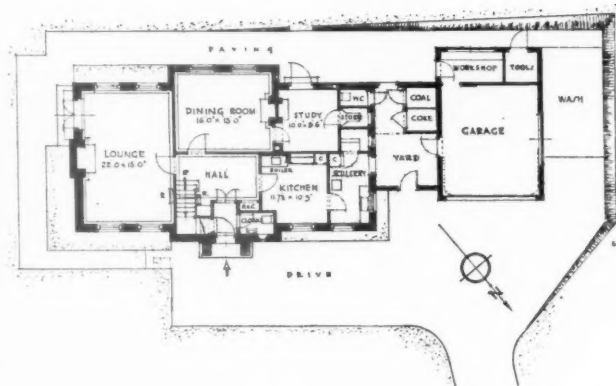
EXTERNAL FINISHES—Variegated hand-made sand-faced bricks. Double-hung sashes are fitted.

INTERNAL FINISHES—Simple coved cornices to principal rooms. Woodwork, generally, stained and waxed, except window casings which are painted cream. Flush doors. Bathroom walls are tiled in cream relieved with green bands.

SERVICES—Ideal boiler (with calorifier) for heating and hot water supplemented by electric immersion heater for summer use.



COST—£3,200 (including stone paving and drive). Price per ft. cube, 1s. 7d.



GROUND AND FIRST FLOOR PLANS

DESIGNED BY
H. C. HOLLIS

LETTERS

Royal Academy

SIR,—Reading the article on the Royal Academy in your issue for May 23 one feels again admiration of Professor Reilly's open-minded and tolerant attitude and his unflinching advocacy of a way of designing so very different from that with which he imbued his early students. At the same time the reflection occurs that his method of writing hardly keeps pace. It is, indeed, distinguished by a style obviously founded on classical precedent, and has none of that resemblance to James Joyce or Dorothy Richardson which would be so much more consistent.

The suggestion arises that for once

architects find themselves in the van of progress, and have—some of them—outstripped their age. Before attaining a general acceptance of really modern methods of building and planning, must there not be a really modern attitude to life, when mankind generally shall have been freed of the shackles of convention and have accepted, gladly, rational dress, logical thinking, scientifically designed diet, and all the other desirabilities which seem so hopelessly unattainable?

Perhaps there was needed some such cataclysm as the present war to perform so major an operation, and out of abysmal evil may come profound good.

Birmingham.

A. L. SNOW

BUILDING BULLETIN No. 2

In view of the need for maximum economy in the use of steel in wartime construction,

the potential savings in steel to be realized by reinforced concrete construction are reviewed in Wartime Building Bulletin No. 2 (H.M. Stationery Office, price 6d.) recently issued by the Building Research Station of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Using the single storey, flat-roofed designs given in Bulletin No. 2 as a basis, data are given showing that only a half or a third of the weight of steel may be necessary if reinforced concrete is used in place of structural steel. A diagram shows the relation between the weight of steel per 100 sq. ft. and the spacing of the vertical supports for various types of construction. For reinforced concrete, spans of from 20-30 feet are found to be most desirable.

There is a shortage of material for shuttering, but considerable stocks are in existence, and some suggestions are made for utilizing this supply to the best advantage. Unnecessary architectural features such as recessed panels, plinths, etc., should be eliminated or reduced, and formwork should be stripped at the earliest moment consistent with safety. A table of suggested times is given, but the Bulletin stresses that with reinforced concrete construction it is essential that buildings should be erected only under expert supervision by firms specializing in this type of work.

Shuttering could be saved, also, by the use of promising systems of precast construction, although the cost would be correspondingly higher. It is intended in future Bulletins to put forward a number of type designs which represent so far as possible the most economical and efficient use of reinforced concrete for factory construction.



Top, view from Marylebone Road : the town hall is shown on the extreme left. Bottom, perspective by the architect.

PUBLIC LIBRARY AND ST. MARYLEBONE DESIGNED BY

GENERAL AND SITE—This building, opened last month, comprises public library, public health department (including accommodation for maternity and child welfare, tuberculosis and minor ailments) and general town hall extension. It is linked to the town hall (the outcome of an open competition won by Sir Edwin Cooper 25 years ago) by a bridge over the private roadway which separates one from the other. The new building occupies a corner site at the junction of Marylebone Road and



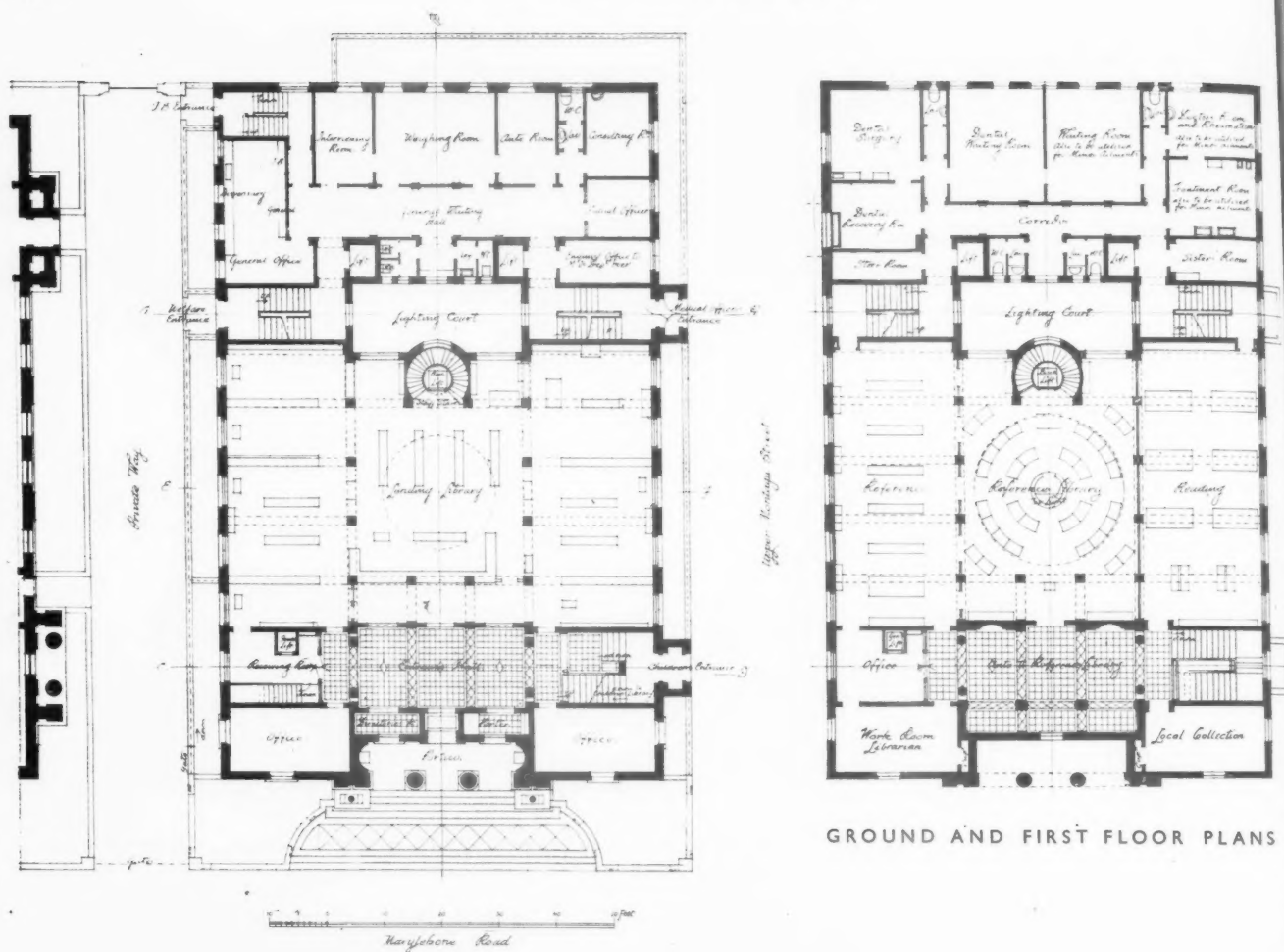
Left, one of the two bronze lamp standards on each side of the main entrance. Below, elevations to Upper Montagu Street (left) and Salisbury Place.

TOWN HALL EXTENSION

SIR EDWIN COOPER, R.A.

Upper Montagu Street. The back elevation faces Salisbury Place. CONSTRUCTION AND EXTERNAL FINISHES—Steel framed, faced with stone to harmonize with the existing town hall. Roof, concrete. Floors, hollow tile. Metal casement windows are fitted. The bronze lamps on each side of the main entrance were modelled by C. L. J. Doman.





GROUND AND FIRST FLOOR PLANS



Left, reference library; above, the large committee-room on the second floor.

PUBLIC LIBRARY AND TOWN HALL



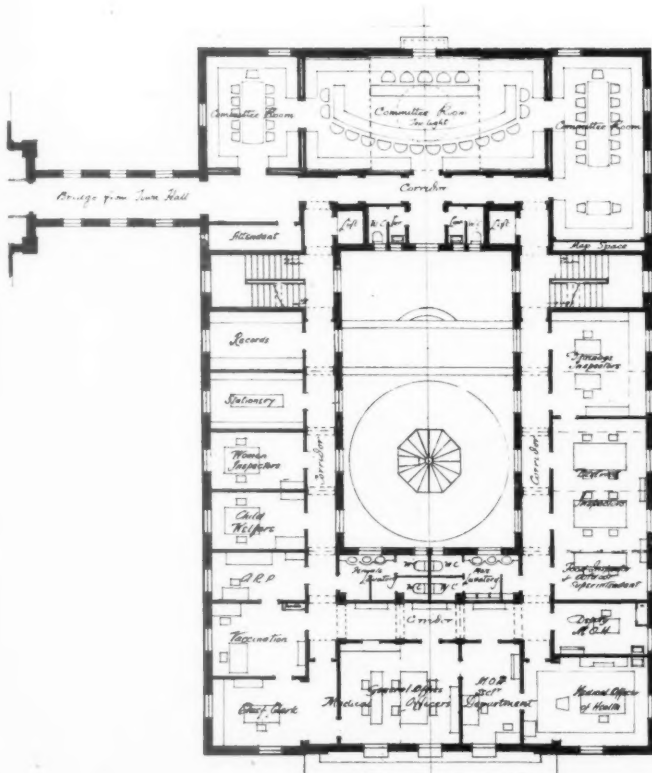
Children's library.



Ante room to reference library.



Lending library.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

PLAN—The lower ground floor contains the children's library and stack rooms. The lending library occupies the major portion of the ground floor and the reference library is planned immediately above the lending library. The rear portion of these floors, together with two further floors over the library premises, comprise the health centre and departmental extension of the original town hall building.

INTERNAL FINISHES—Entrance hall has oak-lined walls and polished stone and marble paving. The lending and reference libraries are panelled with oak. Floors throughout the principal rooms are of Rhodesian mahogany, with the exception of the committee-rooms, which are of oak. Main staircase is of oak and subsidiary staircases of green granolithic.

Below, the gateway to the private roadway connecting the extension with the town hall, shown on the right of the illustration.



EXTENSION, ST. MARYLEBONE • BY SIR EDWIN COOPER, R.A.



SERVICES—The town hall and the new building are heated by low pressure system with electrically heated boilers and the domestic hot water is supplied by independent electric water heaters. Lifts serve all floors and connect the libraries and storage rooms.

General contractors were Stewart and Partners, Ltd.; for list of sub-contractors see page xiv.

Above, main committee-room; right, west committee-room.

**PUBLIC LIBRARY AND TOWN
HALL EXTENSION, ST. MARYLEBONE**
BY SIR EDWIN COOPER, R.A.



THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL LIBRARY OF PLANNED INFORMATION

TYPICAL EXAMPLES OF CONCRETE-CASED JOIST GRILLAGES FOR STEEL COLUMNS :

FIGURE 1 : SIMPLE GRILLAGE OF ONE BEAM ONLY.

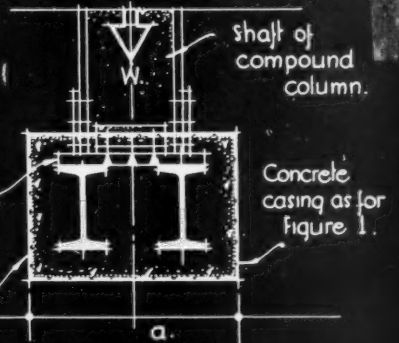
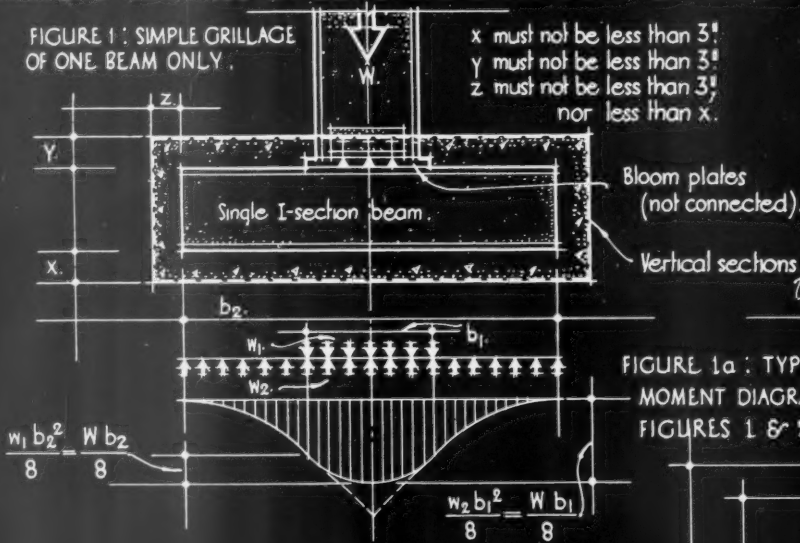


FIGURE 1a : TYPICAL BENDING MOMENT DIAGRAM FOR FIGURES 1 & 2.

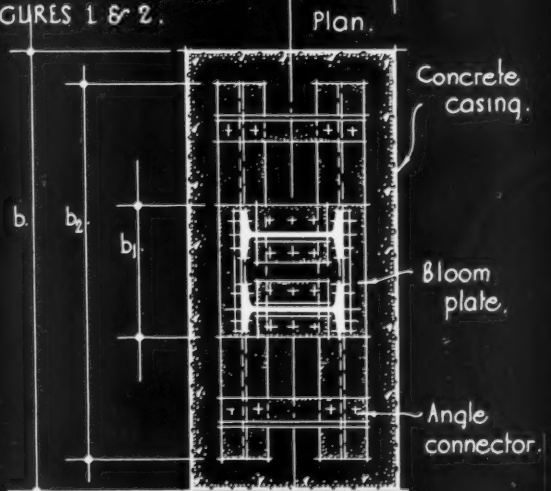
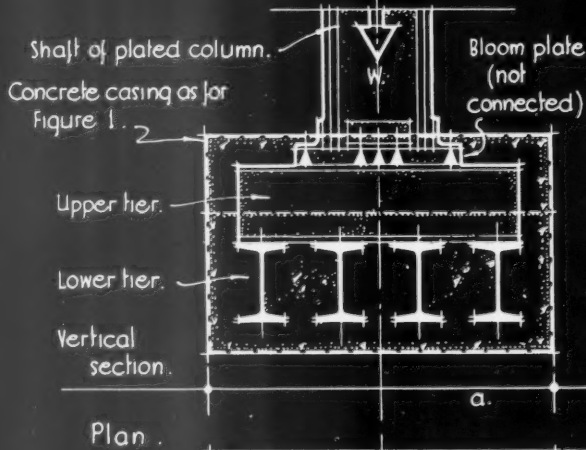


FIGURE 2 : GRILLAGE OF TWO PARALLEL JOISTS.

Angle cleats have been omitted for clearness.

FIGURE 3 : TWO-TIER JOIST GRILLAGE FOR SQUARE TYPE BASE.

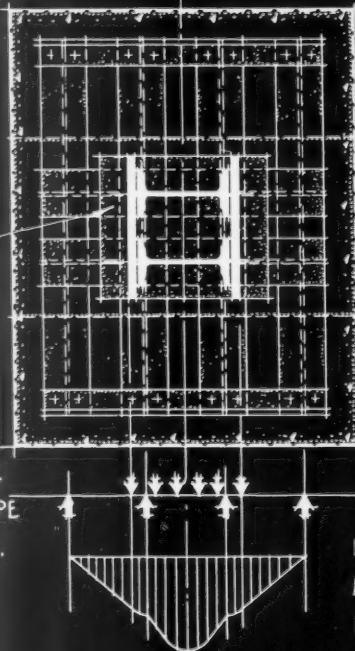


FIGURE 3a : BENDING MOMENT DIAGRAM FOR UPPER TIER BEAMS.

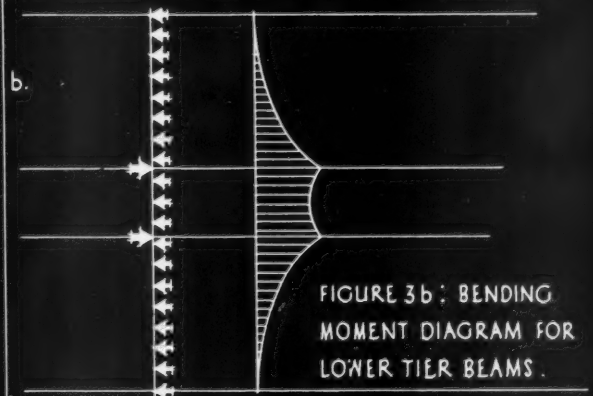


FIGURE 3b : BENDING MOMENT DIAGRAM FOR LOWER TIER BEAMS.

Issued by Braithwaite & Co.
 Engineers, Ltd.
 Compiled by C.W. Hamann,
 Consulting Engineer.

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL
LIBRARY OF PLANNED INFORMATION

INFORMATION SHEET

• 796 •

STRUCTURAL STEELWORK

Subject : Standard Connections, Splices
and Bases : 8, Grillages

General :

This series of Sheets on steel construction is not intended to cover the whole field of engineering design in steel, but to deal with those general principles governing economical design which affect or are affected by the general planning of the building. It also deals with a number of details of steel construction which have an important effect upon the design of the steelwork.

Both principles and details are considered in relation to the adjoining masonry or concrete construction, and are intended to serve in the preliminary design of a building so that a maximum economy may be obtained in the design of the steel framing.

This Sheet is the twenty-sixth of the series, and illustrates typical concrete-cased joist grillages for steel columns.

Use :

Where foundations are not desired to distribute column loads to the ground (for instance, where deep excavation is inadvisable) a grillage, which can be shallower, may be arranged to replace the foundation.

Description :

A grillage consists of one or two tiers of joists or girders. One tier would be sufficient if it were necessary to distribute a load in only one direction (a long base) but two should be used if a square base is required.

Stresses :

All grillages have to be cased in concrete if the regulations require casing of the column which they serve, but where the following special precautions are taken, the stresses in the grillages can be increased by 50 per cent. compared with the stresses in other structural members, and thus material can be saved.

These precautions are :—

- (1) 3-in. concrete cover to be kept for the whole of the grillage.
- (2) All cavities to be properly filled by such concrete.
- (3) The concrete to be of a mix not inferior to 1 : 6 and is to be carried out in accordance with the byelaws governing such concrete.

It is generally economical to fulfil these conditions and to make use of the increased stresses and all the examples given on the front of this Sheet show concrete casing.

Bloom Plates :

In order to transmit the load from a column to the grillage, a plate, thick enough to take the bearing stresses, is usually arranged. This plate is to be dimensioned in accordance with the base plates shown on Sheet 23 of this series. As there is no connection between this bloom plate and the grillage proper, only direct stresses can be taken, and no bending moments.

Examples :

The simplest type of grillage is shown in Figure 1, and consists of one beam only. The bending moment diagram is also shown (Figure 1a) and the maximum bending moment in this beam would be

$$\frac{W(b_2 - b_1)}{8}$$

where b_2 = the length of the joist,
and b_1 = the length of the base plate.

As such an arrangement is rarely possible—the bearing pressure being too high—the arrangement shown in Figure 2 (two joists parallel to each other) is more common, and three or four joists are also feasible. The bending moment diagram is the same as in Figure 1a, referring to all joists together. If there are n such joists, the bending moment for each of them would be :—

$$\frac{W(b_2 - b_1)}{8n}$$

Figure 3 shows a typical arrangement of a grillage consisting of two tiers. The bending moment diagrams are shown, and for the upper beams (Figure 3a) the load originating from the base plate can be taken as equally distributed, while the reactions on the lower beams act upwards as single loads. The same reactions act as single loads downwards for the lower beams which, on the other hand, get an equally distributed and upward directed load from the bearing pressure on the ground (Figure 3b).

Bearing Pressure :

The bearing pressure on the ground is to be checked under all circumstances, and is to be not more than that permitted for the particular type of ground. The bearing pressure can be taken from the formula

$$s = \frac{W}{a \times b}$$

where s = safe carrying capacity of the type of ground, W = total load, a = the width and b = the length of the concrete casing of the grillage.

The grillages shown on the front of this Sheet are composed of joists, but, if required, plated joists or plate girders (see Information Sheets Nos. 8 and 9 of this series) can be used.

Previous Sheets :

Previous Sheets of this series dealing with structural steelwork are Nos. 729, 733, 736, 737, 741, 745, 751, 755, 759, 763, 765, 769, 770, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 780, 783, 785, 789, 790 and 793.

Issued by : Braithwaite and Co., Engineers, Ltd.

Address : Horseferry House, Horseferry Road,
Westminster, London, S.W.1

Telephone : Victoria 8571

SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED THIS WEEK:

- ★ *I HAVE been asked to prepare plans of an A.R.P. shelter for personnel of factory premises and my clients are anxious that this shelter should be built against the existing outer wall of the factory. Is this allowed?* - - - Q₃₆₂
- ★ *WHAT are suitable scantlings for a Belfast roof truss of 20 ft. span? I have failed to find any details of such a truss in Information Sheets or my textbooks* - - - Q₃₆₃
- ★ *WHAT is the P.C. sum allowed for seating per person in a public shelter?* - - - Q₃₆₆
- ★ *CAN you give the period of time during which habitable conditions will prevail in the gas-tight A.R.P. shelters provided in our building when these have their full complement of persons?* Q₃₆₈

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL INFORMATION CENTRE

THE Information Centre answers any question about architecture, building, or the professions and trades within the building industry. It does so free of charge, and its services are available to any member of the industry.

Questions may be sent in writing to THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL, 45 The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey, or telephoned direct to the Information Centre: Regent 6888.

Enquirers do not have to wait for an answer until their question is published in the JOURNAL. Answers are sent direct to enquirers by post or telephone as soon as they have been prepared.

The service is confidential; and in no case is the identity of an enquirer disclosed to a third party. Samples and descriptive literature sent to the Information Centre by manufacturers for the use of a particular enquirer are forwarded whenever the Director of the Centre considers them likely to be of use.

Finally, if an answer does not provide all the information needed, the Centre is always glad to amplify any point on which the enquirer wants fuller explanation.

Any questions about building or architecture may be sent to:

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL
45 THE AVENUE, CHEAM, SURREY.
Telephone: VIGILANT 0087

or ring the Architects' Journal Information Centre at

R E G E N T 6 8 8 8

Q₃₅₉ SURVEYOR, LONDON.—*The brick vaults underneath the paved court of a London church are to be taken over by a Council for a public A.R.P. SHELTER. The merit of the brick vaulting is such that the Church Committee will not permit any waterproof rendering to be applied internally. DAMPNESSE penetrates to the vaults from surface water infiltration through the paving flags above, and the Council are anxious to remedy this defect as part of their work of conversion. Is there any colourless liquid which could be applied internally over the brick surface which, whilst not detracting from the archaeological value of the brick vaulting, will hold back the dampness? Failing some such liquid, what measures would you suggest, (1) as a temporary expedient and (2) as a permanent measure?*

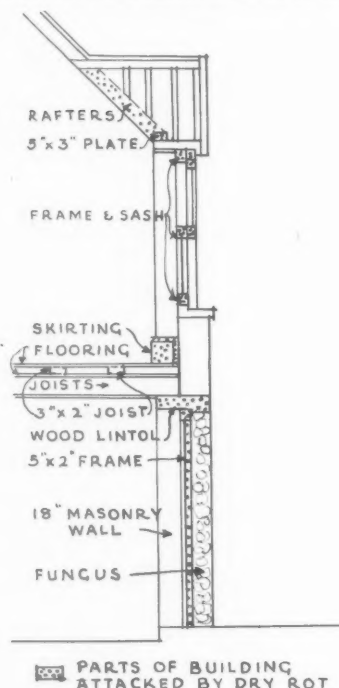
Once water has entered the brickwork of the vaulting it is difficult to see how an internal coating of a colourless solution could give the effect desired. To present a surface apparently dry to the touch such a solution would have to be of varnish film thickness. The conditions obtaining are the opposite to those where brickwork colourless waterproofers can be efficacious. Here we have the wet brickwork and the film applied to prevent egress of the

moisture. Normally such a solution is applied to prevent damp penetration into the brickwork. As a temporary measure to prevent the dampness being apparent inside the vaults, an internal wall and arch lining could be provided, independent of the structure, of a material which would be unaffected by damp. The dovetail pattern, bitumen-impregnated sheeting marketed under the name of "Stronghold" by Stronghold, Ltd., 134 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, C.2, and 10 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, would seem ideally suited for the work in so far as no water will come through the body of the material, and along the line of corrugation the material is flexible and will easily follow the line of the vaulting. Being light in weight, overhead fixing would be simplified, and probably scissor clips through the sheeting, fixed between the brickwork joints, would be sufficient. Permanent remedy could only be attained by preventing the dampness reaching the brick vaulting. Since the dampness is said to be caused by infiltration through paving flags from the courtyard above, it would be possible to pick up the paving and lay asphalt layers complete with upstands and drainage before relaying the flags. But in this case the danger of damp rising in the vaults from below, or penetrating from adjoining soil, would still remain.

Q360 ARCHITECT, WATERFORD.—*I enclose herewith a small portion of DECAYED TIMBER. It is a portion of a joist in a floor. The timbers in the floor have decayed, and this rot has spread to skirtings and window over and through lintols into wallplate and roof. It shows in the walls and on their surfaces in the form of a heavy mushroom fungus. Lack of ventilation and dampness in a lintol seem to be the original cause of rot setting in. Would you please let me have your opinion as to the best means of treating this?*

From examination of the sample of infected timber the rot is very obviously dry-rot fungus, and drastic and immediate steps will be necessary in the remedial measures. Once started, this form of rot does not need the presence of accidental moisture to continue its growth; it absorbs moisture from the atmosphere. In remedial measures, not only the obviously infected timber must be removed and destroyed by burning, but also woodwork for a fair distance around the infected timber. Microscopic strands of the rot fungus are growing through timbers in the proximity of that

obviously infected, and unless severe steps are taken to eradicate them further outbreaks are unavoidable. In the sectional sketch attached to the



enquiry (see above) no indication is given as to the construction of the ground floor, whether this is in timber or whether there is a dampcourse to the building. But, while it can be assumed that the outbreak started in the wood lintol, the possibility of rising damp penetrating the wood door frame or any ground-floor timber must not be overlooked. Quite obviously a lot of the timber, even including roof timbers, will have to be removed. In reinstatement work every attempt should be made not to build in timbers—even if this entails carrying roof and floor timbers clear of the walls and resting on steel joists. All timbers used in reinstatement work should be cut and made ready for fitting, but before being fitted should be dipped in some preservative: either creosote or one of the other proprietary solutions. It may be necessary to strip all plaster-work in the vicinity and to apply a blowlamp flame slowly over the brickwork. In addition, an antiseptic solution should be lavishly brushed over these surfaces before replastering.

Leaflet No. 6, entitled "Dry Rot in Buildings: Recognition, Prevention and Cure," and issued by the Forest Products Research Laboratories of Princes Risborough, Bucks, will be found useful.* This leaflet summarizes the information given on this subject in the Forest Products Bulletin

* A copy has been sent to the enquirer.

entitled "Dry Rot in Wood," published by H.M. Stationery Office, 80 Chichester Street, Belfast, price 1s. net.

Q361 ARCHITECT, LONDON.—*I am constructing permanent W.C. accommodation in the basement of a large factory, and I write to enquire whether you could assist me on the following point: A suitable treatment for concrete and fletton brick WALLS to avoid DEFACEMENT by pornographers.*

This problem is one for which the only successful solution in the past has been the use of glazed so enamelled bricks and tiles. But a very rough surface is successful in that it is difficult to make any defacement legible: it is, however, unhygienic. Failing glazed brick or other such surfaces, it would seem that the aim must be to counteract the legibility of writings or drawings. This can be done by the use of sufficiently dark mottled colours. If the cost of gloss painting or of the application of glazed cement surfaces is not too high, these two mediums finished in a small mottle or splashed effect in the correct combination of colours might overcome the nuisance. Probably the most permanent and economical method is the application of the dashing coat of a roughcast mix, but this is undoubtedly an unhygienic surface for lavatory premises.

Q362 ARCHITECT, HAMPSTEAD.—*I have been asked to prepare plans of an A.R.P. shelter for personnel of factory premises and my clients are anxious that this SHELTER should be BUILT AGAINST the existing outer WALL OF the FACTORY. Is this allowed? Also will the shelter rank for grant, and, if so, where do I apply?*

There is no restriction on the placing of the shelter but from a protection point of view it is important that brickwork of at least 14 in. thickness should surround any part of a shelter built above ground. The placing of the shelter against the existing wall of the factory will necessitate considerable cutting away for effective support of the shelter roof; and any additional thickness of roof necessary to withstand demolition load might be another consideration tending to show that there is not likely to be a saving in cost by building the shelter against the existing factory wall. On questions of size, thickness of walling and of roof, etc., complete information is to be found in Home Office

A.R.P. Handbook No. 5, entitled "Structural Defence," and obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, price 2s. Generally speaking, the period during which the construction of factory shelters ranked for grant is long since past, except in certain areas recently included in the Scheme for Compulsory Shelters for personnel. Also, such shelters are compulsory only where personnel of 50 or upwards are employed. In any case a communication should be sent at once to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor in the locality where the shelter is to be erected, giving particulars of the factory building and number of persons. It may be that some special circumstances will make it possible for a grant to be obtained.

The Information Centre must make clear that, while it gives general opinions on problems involving legal matters, such advice must in no case be taken as a legal opinion on the facts of a particular case. It must also be made clear that the Centre, in helping to solve inquirers' problems, can accept no responsibility for any action taken as a result of its advice.

House, Taplow, Bucks. From the description given it would seem that a complete answer is to be found only in the use of continuous sheet metal. Lead would be too soft to withstand the edges of the drums: zinc would probably be best, since the use of any harder metal will be accompanied by difficulties of joints.

keep in mind a sum of 1s. 6d.-2s. per person (18 in. run) for seating and a price of around 25s. for a chemical closet. These are about the only two items of equipment or furnishing in a public shelter. The lighting of shelters is closely specified in the various British Standard A.R.P. Specifications. With the inability to obtain a licence for timber for seating or steel for seat supports, about the only material readily available is concrete. Standard lengths of seating in reinforced concrete, also standard seat supports, are available now from various firms. One firm, Trianco, Ltd., Imber Court, East Molesey, Surrey, produce plain and cork-faced reinforced concrete seating and standard concrete seat supports. Prices at the time of writing are 11d. per foot run for the plain seat slab and 1s. 10d. per foot run for the cork-faced slab.

Q363 ARCHITECT, LONDON, N. — *What are suitable SCANTLINGS FOR a BELFAST Roof TRUSS of 20 ft. span? I have failed to find any details of such a truss in Information Sheets or my textbooks.*

The usual members of a Belfast Roof Truss of 20-ft. span are as follows:—

String, 4½ in. by ¾ in.

Bow, 1½ in. by ¾ in.

Braces, 3 in. by ¾ in.

In construction it is usual for the bow and string to be in two thicknesses with the braces fitted between.

Q365 COUNTY ARCHITECT, SOUTH COAST.—*I understand that there is a type of A.R.P. lighting fitting approved by some authorities for outside lighting which consists of a glass filter which emits ULTRA-VIOLET rays, and when used in conjunction with a special fluorescent paint, gives useful LIGHTING for directional signs, etc. Can you please let me know the name of the manufacturers of such filters and paint?*

Lamps suitable for use with luminescent materials are available from the firms given in the footnote marked*. The fluorescent paints can be obtained from the firms given in the second footnote†. It should be mentioned, however, that the use of ultra-violet lighting and fluorescent paint externally is opposed to the recommendations contained in the Defence Lighting Regulations, and on this point the Civil Defence Regional Officer in your area should be consulted. The whole question of Luminescence was dealt with in an article in the JOURNAL for May 23.

Q367 ARCHITECT, WALES. — *I am an architect and surveyor's assistant, having served my articles and worked in various offices for the past eight years. I am now employed temporarily (1½-2 years) by the Electricity Department of a Borough Corporation as a RECORD MAP DRAUGHTSMAN—a reserved occupation. The information I require is, what SALARY (approximate) this position commands generally?*

No useful information can be given on this point. The need for every Public Service Authority having such draughtsmen is obvious, and most authorities have no doubt turned on to such work those who are normally engaged on plotting peacetime extensions and renewals. Salaries paid to new personnel depend on the importance of the authority, the skill of the new employee and local wage rates generally. Therefore the only answer that can be given is—between £3 and £7 a week.

Q364 BUILDERS, LONDON.—*We have been asked to provide a SURFACING over existing concrete WHICH WILL NOT ABSORB PETROL or oil and at the same time will withstand fairly heavy drums being rolled over on edge. Is there any cement product which would do this?*

There are a number of proprietary materials for incorporation in cement mixes with the object of increasing the resistance of the finished material to any deleterious effects caused by oil absorption into concrete. Proprietary mixes of this kind are oil-proof in that they are unlikely to be affected by absorbed oil, but it is not claimed that the finished material will not absorb oil or petrol. We doubt very much, and particularly under the conditions of traffic, whether any cement product would fulfil the requirements. It may be possible to use a surfacing of an oil-resisting asphalt, but any question of guarantee would have to be discussed with firm laying asphalt of this class, as, for instance, the Limmer and Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., Berry Hill

Q366 ARCHITECTS, LONDON.—*What is the P.C. SUM allowed FOR SEATING per person IN a PUBLIC SHELTER?*

It would appear that there are no fixed p.c. sums for the few items of furnishing or equipment in public shelters. The people whose duty it is to sanction shelter costs for grant

* The General Electric Co., Ltd., Magnet House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Crown House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., 155 Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2; Siemens Electric Lamps and Supplies, Ltd., 38-39 Upper Thames Street, London, E.C.4; Philips Lamps, Ltd., Century House, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.2; Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Bush House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2; Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., 1 Kingsway, London, W.C.2; Crayelco, Ltd., Thanet House, Strand, London, W.C.2.

† Thos. Parsons and Sons, Ltd., 315 Oxford Street, London, W.1; The General Electric Co., Ltd., Magnet House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Crown House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2.

Q368 STORE ARCHITECTS, LONDON. — *I have been asked to give the period of time during which HABITABLE CONDITIONS will prevail IN the GAS-TIGHT A.R.P. SHELTERS provided in our building when these have their full complement of persons.*

INFORMATION CENTRE

In working this out I used the normal ventilation data and have obtained results as low as nine minutes. I feel that something must be wrong in my calculations or else there is some special formula used in calculations for this work. Can you help me in this matter?

All the data required are set out in the A.R.P. Handbook No. 5, entitled "Structural Defence," price 2s. net from H.M. Stationery Office, York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2. Ordinary ventilation data are not used in such work. The period

of habitable occupation is calculated upon the basis of the area of floor, wall and ceiling surface in relation to the number of occupants. From table 4.4.1 of the publication mentioned above a period of occupation of three hours would be acceptable in an unventilated gas-tight shelter where the total surface area per person is 75 sq. ft., and of 12 hours where the surface area per person is 100 sq. ft. These figures, however, are for occupants at rest. In situations where personnel will be expected to work with normal efficiency greater surface allowances will be necessary.

of the road are visible for some distance ahead. Kerbs and road obstacles such as island refuges which have been tiled in this way are, it is stated, quickly seen, their exact position accurately judged.

Again, the use of white glazed tiles may be adapted to assist the pedestrian. It is possible to set small white grooved tiles in the upper surface of the kerb. The exact whereabouts of the edge of the pavement can then be readily seen by the pedestrian stepping into the roadway.

The tiles will have other uses, apart altogether from their place in the wartime scheme. One instance immediately suggests itself. The glazed light-reflecting ceramic tile will be a very valuable component of our arterial roads and of other roads where there is little or no direct lighting and on which comparatively high speeds are reached. The Doulton ceramic tile, set along the kerb at bends in the road and at similar danger-points will, it is claimed, pick up and reflect the headlights of approaching vehicles even in foggy weather.

MANUFACTURERS' ITEMS

The B.S.P. pocket book, containing tables and technical information on pile driving operations, is now obtainable from the British Steel Piling Co., Ltd., of Thames House, Millbank, S.W.1. In the foreword to this—the 5th—edition, it is pointed out that the developments in piling and plant that have taken place in recent years necessitated extensive alterations and revisions to the previous edition. There is an entirely new section dealing with the most satisfactory methods to be employed in driving Larssen steel sheet piling, particularly when the piling occupies a permanent and conspicuous place in the finished structure. The notes on the design of coffer-dams and retaining walls have been enlarged.

Aluminium in Architectural Work, a review of which was printed on page 536 of our issue for

May 23, is obtainable from Aluminium Union Limited, The Adelphi, Strand, W.C.2.

A leaflet just issued by Doulton & Co., Ltd., illustrates and describes their new indicator tiles for use in the blackout and for arterial roads even in peacetime. The indicator tile is a glazed ceramic tile, 12 in. by 4 in. in size, which may be inserted vertically in the kerb or otherwise fixed against the surface of an obstruction. On the face of each tile there are raised ribs which reflect any rays of light falling upon it. White glazed and black glazed tiles can both be supplied. By using alternating tiles of these two colours a striking contrast is obtained.

When the tiles are set in this way in the vertical face of the kerb they catch and reflect the headlights of oncoming vehicles. The edges

A brochure recently issued by Radiation, Ltd., of 7 Stratford Place, W.1, has been compiled to help persons concerned with large-scale catering. The information given and the suggestions offered as to kitchen planning and equipment layout are on practical lines and are based on the firm's own experience of this kind of work. The foreword states: "An urgent problem facing many businesses is the provision of staff canteens and kitchens. A similar problem faces many factories and munition works, etc., where the demands of work of national importance have meant increases of staff beyond the capacity of existing canteen arrangements. In addition, the centralized feeding of the many thousands of evacuated children is now recognized as preferable to separate catering in individual homes. How, then, can the new (or existing) canteens best be planned to meet present-day conditions with the greatest efficiency and economy? In the confident belief that it will be of assistance to those confronted by this problem, we have prepared this booklet under the direction of our large kitchen planning and advisory department, and have illustrated it with photographs of a few of the many canteen kitchens we have designed and equipped."

The problem of equipping new factory canteens to feed our army of munition workers, to which the Minister of Labour has just drawn attention, is made easier by the considerable amount of knowledge that already exists on this subject. Many firms already have canteens planned and equipped on economical lines and their experience and that of the organizations responsible for the equipment will no doubt be made use of by the Ministry.

The gas industry, for instance, has recently published two very comprehensive booklets dealing with the planning, layout and fuel requirements of canteens of all sizes.

One of these, *Large Scale Kitchens, Office Dining Clubs and Works Canteens*, illustrates and describes a number of existing canteens; the other, *Feeding the Children in the Reception Areas*, deals with the problem of temporary communal kitchens and the type of equipment needed.

Both these booklets can be obtained free of charge from the publishers, the British Commercial Gas Association, Gas Industry House, 1 Grosvenor Place, London, S.W.1.

We have received from Turners Asbestos Cement Co., Branch of Turner and Newall, Ltd., No. 14 of their series of *Problems Solved in Asbestos-cement* booklets. It deals with the production in asbestos-cement of unit-construction cubicles without the use of timber or steel. These cubicles are of a size and design which makes them well suited for shower-baths or lavatories. They can be fitted with doors if required, and as such an addition consists simply of a piece of stout asbestos-cement cut



From the R.A. Exhibition: Proposed Shop at Epsom. By Thomas J. R. Winn. Perspective by the architect (No. 1488).

Mr. Howard Robertson, in one of his recent series of articles on "The Next Years" published in THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL, writes :—

"Many Architects know that in the majority of cases the best all-round result in building is achieved by selecting the right Builder for the job on hand, and negotiating his employment direct on an agreed basis."

It is the aim of all Builders who take pride in their work to qualify for such a recommendation.

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Owing to the paper shortage caused by the German invasion of Scandinavia, the JOURNAL, in common with all other papers, is now only supplied to newsagents on a "firm order" basis. This means that newsagents are now unable to supply the JOURNAL except to a client's definite order.

To obtain your copy of the JOURNAL you must therefore either place a definite order with your newsagent or send a subscription order to the Publishers.

to the required shape, the only other addition is two hinges and a simple form of clasp. They can be assembled on site from a strictly limited number of component parts, or sent out from the factory ready assembled, and in either case the only preparation for their erection is the forming of the necessary number of holes, 12 in. deep by 4 in. diameter, on the floor of the site.

Dr. Bernard Friedman, managing director of Ascot Gas Water Heaters, Ltd., recently held a reception at the firm's Neasden works in connection with their new publication entitled "Ascot" *Render Practical Service*. Dr. Friedman, in explaining the purpose of the brochure, said: "As a result of conversations I had with friends responsible for A.R.P. defences, I gather that there is much room for improvement in filling certain gaps and perfecting existing A.R.P. installations, especially concerning decontamination work, namely the supply of constant and immediate hot water. At great expense of energy, work and material cost, my firm has compiled the present A.R.P. brochure, which it is our resolution to send out immediately to 20,000 addresses—to authorities of every kind who directly or indirectly are connected with or responsible for A.R.P. installations. Although outwardly a purely commercial feature, I was guided by the desire to make a contribution to National Defence, placing ourselves, our whole organization, in the service of this cause."

The brochure consists mainly of photographs showing Ascot installations in various parts of the country. In the brief foreword it is pointed out that there are no fewer than 600,000 Ascot instantaneous gas water heaters in homes, factories and workshops throughout the country, and that they are now being installed for national defence purposes in more than 630 towns. Copies of the brochure are obtainable, free of charge, on application to the firm at their works, North Circular Road, Neasden, N.W.10.

THE BUILDINGS ILLUSTRATED

NEW NURSES' HOME, ISOLATION HOSPITAL, GILROES, LEICESTERSHIRE (pages 591-594). Architects: Symington, Prince and Pike, F.F.R.I.B.A. General contractors were James Chapman and Son. Sub-contractors and suppliers included: United Tile Co., Ltd., bricks; Empire Stone Co., Ltd., stone; Richard's, Leicester, Ltd., structural steel; Helical Bar and Engineering Co., Ltd., Helicon fireproof floors; Setchell and Sons, Ltd., Old Delabole slates; Imperial Chemical Industries, Pioneer plaster blocks; Hollis Bros. & Co., Ltd., woodblock flooring; Croft Granite Brick and Concrete Co., Ltd., patent flooring and stairtreads; Maddock and Wright, central heating; J. H. Carver, Ltd., plumbing;

J. Orton and Sons, electric wiring and electric heating; Troughton and Young, Ltd., electric light fixtures; Woodhouse & Co., sanitary fittings; R. Pochin and Sons, door furniture and window furniture; Crittall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., steel casements; G. T. Pick and Sons, metalwork; Craven Dunnill & Co., Ltd., tiling; J. and E. Hall, Ltd., lifts.

ST. MARYLEBONE TOWN HALL EXTENSION (pages 596-600). Architect: Sir Edwin Cooper, R.A. General contractors were Messrs. Stewart and Partners, Ltd. Sub-contractors and suppliers included: Lawford Asphalte Co., Ltd., asphalt; Aston Construction Co., Ltd., steelwork; Kleine Co., Ltd., floor construction; Newalls Insulation Co., cork insulation; William Smith, metal windows; W. H. Heywood & Co., Ltd., roof lights; Matthew Hall & Co., plumbing; Mumford, Bailey and Preston, Ltd., heating; Higgins and Cattle, Ltd., electrical work; Express Lift Co., lifts; J. Whitehead and Sons, Ltd., marble work; Roberts Adlard & Co., Ltd., wall tiling; F. Dejong & Co., Ltd., fibrous plaster; J. W. Gray and Son, Ltd., lightning conductors; William Smith and Galsworthy, Ltd., metal work; John Mowlem & Co., Ltd., wood panelling; Allensons, Ltd., joinery; Hitchins Flush Woodwork, Ltd., flush doors; Acme Flooring and Paving Co. (1904), Ltd., and Granwood Flooring Co., Ltd., flooring; Art Pavements and Decorations, Ltd., terrazzo; Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd., sanitary fittings; Faulkner Greene & Co., Ltd., glazing; Luxfer, Ltd., fire-resisting glazing; James Gibbons, Ltd., locks, etc.; George Houghton, stone carving and wood carving; J. P. White and Sons, Ltd., and Seco, Ltd., furniture; J. Avery & Co., curtains; Luxfer, Ltd., and James Gibbons, Ltd., metal shelving; Watson and Sons (Electro-Medical), Ltd., X-ray; Hanovia, Ltd., sun-ray. Quantity surveyor was Mr. G. A. Webster. Sculptor, Mr. C. L. J. Doman, R.B.S. Lettering by Mr. Percy Smith.

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