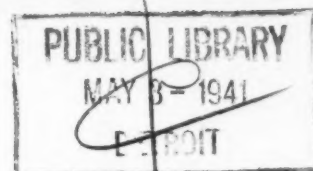


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THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL FOR APRIL 3, 1941



THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL



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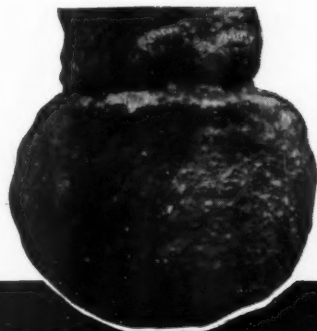
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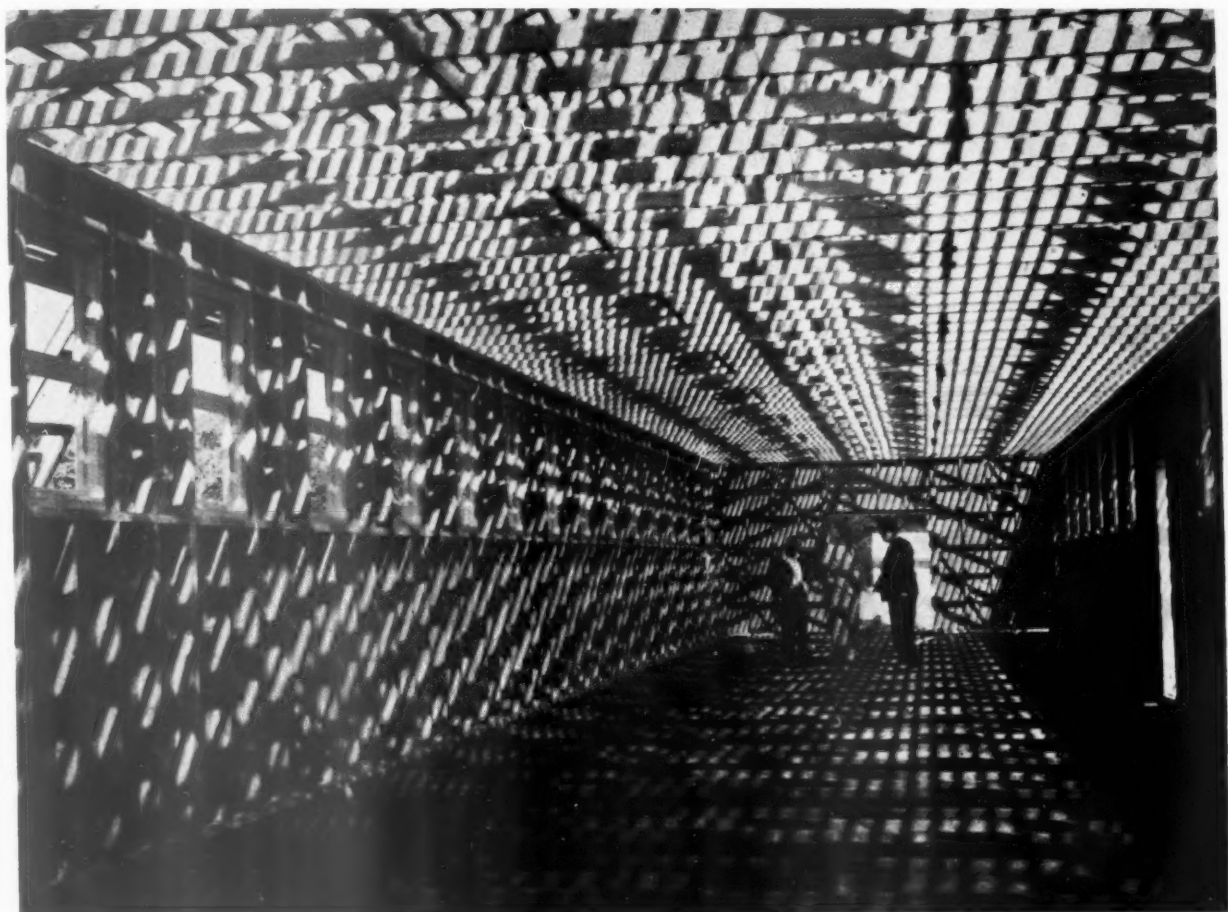
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NATIONAL CAMP PREFABRICATION



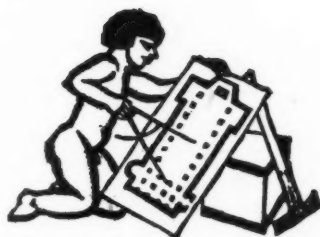
A progress photograph of the completed framing of one of the hut units at a National Camps Corporation Camp. The framing units were factory made and assembled on the site very rapidly. The buildings of the National Camps were designed by Messrs. Burnet, Tait and Lorne, and the schemes were executed by various firms of architects. The hut shown was at a camp executed by Messrs. Mitchell and Bridgwater, and the photograph is by Mr. Peter Shephard.



RAW MATERIALS OF RECONSTRUCTION

Most discussions during past months of reconstruction in London after the war have been based on far larger opportunities of complete rebuilding than are likely to be realized in fact. Larger areas of complete demolition than that shown in the accompanying photographs may exist. But they are very few: in the overwhelming majority of cases areas of complete destruction are not larger than the sites of a dozen houses. The "Rebuilding of London" is therefore an infinitely more difficult task than that of using vacant sites well.

Both photographs were taken from St. Paul's Cathedral, looking north-west towards the Old Bailey. The lower photograph was taken while the fires started on the night of December 29 were still burning; the upper (taken from the Golden Gallery) shows the area cleared and emphasizes the congestion and variety of structural type in this section of the City.



MR. CASSON'S FLASHBACK

THE JOURNAL publishes in this issue a story by Mr. Hugh Casson called *Public Bar*. It is a story of happenings during half an hour in an ordinary pub in any recent pre-war year. Its characters, setting and plot have nothing bizarre or exaggerated about them. A grubby pub is to be made much bigger and gayer, the landlord is pleased about it and a £11,000 job is coming to some architect. It is a story which seems to offer at first sight only a friendly ten-minute excursion to the pre-war world.

But anyone who reads half a column of *Public Bar* finds himself having to resist an increasingly oppressive feeling of unreality . . . the story is ordinary, the dialogue in keeping; no clock by twirling back an hour over the landlord's head gives one an Alfred Hitchcock thrill. Yet abnormality rapidly gathers like a fog round Mr. Boyes, his patrons and his pub. And then one realizes . . . *Public Bar* has stood still since 1937 and we have gone on. The speed of our progress has shed fantasy and unreality upon every detail of Mr. Casson's story. It isn't merely that a comfortable, slightly down-at-heel pub should be changed into £11,000 of Brewer's Georgian seems fantastic when to spend more than £100 on any private building is to risk a term in clink; it isn't merely that Mr. Bodkin's motorized pubcrawl and the fairy lights in the proposed Winter Garden are warped by farce when the one is next door to impossible and the other would draw the fire of the Home Guard.

It is that we have changed. The super-roadhouse of Mr. Boyes' dreams, the night life along the western roads, snarling small cars and the jobs of brewers' architects will never be quite the same again. Most of us could bear this loss if it did not remind us of how much else has changed as well. There is nearly always a time-lag between change and realization of change. In stirring times it may be a very long time-lag; but every now and then, while doing some of the waiting which all wars provide so liberally, our perceptions are prodded up into acuteness. Old illustrated papers have few rivals as repolishers of memory, and as pre-war British periodicals disappear to feed the war machine their place is more than filled by their American counterparts of today.

It is becoming difficult to turn the pages of an American news magazine without goggling at the date line. *February, 1941* . . . and yet there, in those multitudinous glossy pages—in colour, half-tone and caption—are our 1937 selves, or so near ourselves as makes no matter. There debts go to balls and posture on sunny beaches, Celebrities stare like corpses at the flashlights of First Nights, fountains of

soups and meats and fruits and creams pour out of tins; there the finger of social scorn is pointed at all who have not the shirt, the kitchen fittings, the brassiere or outboard-motor which either bears the Hallmark of Taste or has the Sixteen Better Points. There the latest political sidestep is summarized in half a column, Kutie Kandels make a shrine of every home, and, insignificantly placed, the latest out-of-works are being clubbed. Thrown back at us by the most alert journalism in the world we can see in endless pages every detail of our pre-war selves.

We don't care much for the picture. It takes an effort—if our eyes catch the falling level of the marmalade jar—not to be outraged by it. It is not only that the whole thing is familiar yet abnormal like an etching in reverse of a well-known building. It is also plainly wicked. With all the virtue which necessity is now pushing our way in giant doses we feel certain that a civilization so obsessed with materialism, which glories in so conspicuous consumption, is lurching to disaster. And as we think of all that has happened to us since then, of our changed habits and changed incomes, our changed houses, jobs and dress, we become aware of how resolute we now are.

The strange thing is that it is an awareness not untinged with complacency. It is as though we felt that we are better off as we are than as we were. No moral is to be drawn from this, but the fact remains that unattractive as the present may be, *we do not*, most of us, *want to go back to the 'thirties*, nor do we want to go back to what they stood for. Nor will we.

Five minutes' study of the same American papers will show Britons that, beyond all question, the 'thirties and all that belongs to them are now, in Britain, past history. Nothing that was customary then will be customary ever again in the same way. We are still too near the 'thirties to pick out with certainty the few attitudes of mind, habits or fashions—in architecture or anything else—which will be held to be typical of the decade twenty years ahead. In any case we are too busy to spend much time in the attempt.

It does, however, seem worth while to spend a very little time looking over a few specimens of the 'thirties which lie in and around the field of architecture while they are still sharply remembered and easily recognized by all of us. So the JOURNAL has asked Mr. Hugh Casson to pull out his tweezers and hold one or two up to the light. It believes that no one will take a peep at *Public Bar* on p. 225 without realizing with a shock that he has gone far and gone fast since the time that this scene with its context were accepted as the normal mode of life.



The Architects' Journal

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NOTES & TOPICS

IN CHARGE OF ARCHITECTS' RECONSTRUCTION

IN the *R.I.B.A. Journal* for March 17 it is announced that the Institute has set up a Reconstruction Committee with the following terms of reference:

To consider and formulate the policy of the R.I.B.A. and Allied Societies on the subject of post-war reconstruction and planning in its widest aspects.

★

After the firm memorandum sent to the Minister of Building on architects' part in reconstruction it is essential that architects should prepare at once to play that part well. The new Committee is the first big step in that preparation, and it seemed to me disappointing.

★

In terms of physical building alone post-war reconstruction will raise huge problems. In its wider sense reconstruction means the application of foresight and order to human affairs on far wider scale than has ever before been attempted. If architects are to discharge their part in this attempt with even tolerable ability they will have to comprehend the principles of far larger questions than ever before, they will have to understand thoroughly the architectural implications of those questions and their best architectural solutions. To do this they will need resolute effort and the very best guidance they can get.

★

If the R.I.B.A.'s Reconstruction Committee of thirty-three persons* is looked at with these truths in mind a certain sinking of the heart seems to me unavoidable. A Committee can be of three kinds: a representative council to say yea or nay on behalf of individuals or groups to motions laid before it; an Expert Committee—wholly composed of experts in one or other branch of the terms of reference—which can direct, criticize and suggest; or a Working Committee who work as individuals under the direction of Experts and meet only to make sure they are moving together. In modern times it is almost impossible for an Expert and Working Committee to be one and the same: for real experts are too busy and too few for any private society to be able to

* The membership of the Committee appears on p. 224.

command more than a small proportion of their time. And for architects to comprehend reconstruction will need the enthusiastic, almost wholtime, arduous labour of half a dozen men guided by the best advice obtainable.

★

The R.I.B.A.'s Reconstruction Committee may be a first-rate representative council, but this is not what matters to architects. What matters is who is to *guide* and who is to *do* the work. A committee of thirty-three members can do neither.

★

Of these two fundamental aspects of preparing the profession for reconstruction guidance is far the more important. I have therefore set down below my own suggestions for the membership of a Committee which in size and representation would seem calculated to give architects the best guidance available within R.I.B.A. membership in a matter which will affect them for the rest of their lives. I have given no names to the members of my Expert Committee for two reasons. The establishment of such a Committee should surely begin by deciding what knowledge and experience, in what proportions, should be represented on it: the choice of individuals should come later. Secondly, it is certain that some of the individuals who possess the desirable qualities in highest measure will not be able to serve, and therefore the choice of "the best available" is best done privately by those with special knowledge. But on NUMBER and QUALIFICATIONS the whole profession should make up its mind, and therefore it is to these aspects that I restrict my suggestions.

Chairman.

A man of great experience as a chairman of committees. Terse and businesslike, familiar with all problems likely to be discussed, but without special knowledge of any one aspect of reconstruction.

Member No. 1.

An expert in the policies and administrative mechanism of planning from the official point of view.

Member No. 2.

Experienced in the practice of planning since 1909 and well-versed in the problems of rehousing after the last war.

Member No. 3.

A town-planning consultant with a wide range of experience in the preparation of planning schemes for different types of area.

Member No. 4.

Possesses special experience of the planning problems of new industrial groupings, particularly in Special Areas.

Member No. 5.

An official architect with knowledge of peacetime redevelopment in or near large cities and the social problems related thereto.

Member No. 6.

An official architect with knowledge of war-time reconstruction and redevelopment in an urban industrial area and resultant social problems.

Member No. 7.

An expert in war-time developments of building materials and technique and the probable post-war situation in building construction and materials supply.

Member No. 8.

An architect of exceptional experience in the efficient organization and execution of very large building projects.

Member No. 9.

To represent National Buildings Record and advise on preservation of buildings.

Member No. 10.

A full-time secretary, to be shared with the Working Committee, who should possess enthusiasm for reconstruction, an open mind, and consummate ability in writing of complex matters in a simple, interesting manner.

REHOUSING AFTERWARDS

One hopes that the first post-war aim of London's replanners will be to increase local feeling where it is strongest and sow it where it is not. This would mean, as the JOURNAL has already suggested, that rehousing for

central areas will have to be carried out in central areas. It would mean that the land purchased for flats would have to be sufficient to provide reasonable gardens around them and that the flats would have to be supplemented by nursery schools, community and health centres, clinics and young peoples' clubs.

★

We know in advance what the objections to this procedure will be. They will be (1) that flats and nursery schools are no substitutes for a home and garden for everyone, and (2) that the cost would cripple us in the task of trade recovery and so on. We can hope that the answers of London's directors will be that (1) the majority of poorer families have paid dearly in health, nutrition, cash and desolation of spirit for their voluntary or compulsory move to the suburbs; and (2) that it was the bankrupt nations after the last war that built most flats and clinics in their cities, who were the most healthy, who looked best fed and clothed and made the quickest industrial recovery.

★

Finally, London's planners may suggest that the preferences of those most concerned should at least be borne in mind. Speaking at Oxford on March 30, Mr. Lewis Silkin, Chairman of the L.C.C. Town Planning Committee, said that 95 per cent. of Londoners preferred flats near their work to cottages with gardens at a distance.

POCKET PREVIEW

During a desultory cleaning up of pigeon-holes and drawers, I came the other week upon a pocket diary designed for architects and builders. It was a diary for the year 1939, which, judging from its new appearance, had been popped into the drawer without a thought directly it arrived from some unknown person.

★

In December, 1938, I was too busy to look at any diary except one, but in March, 1941, there was time to feel wistful as I turned over the hundred pages of useful information which preceded the actual diary. For there was a time—during my first three years as a student—when I could not be parted from just such a diary.

★

I remember buying one for the first time and sitting up at night to master all that I could of its useful information. And when I had read and re-read its thumbnail summary of architecture and the problems of practice, it seemed that only a few years' work lay between me and being master of both.

★

So—perhaps in the hope of recapturing youthful certainty—I found myself reading the five pages devoted to Architecture in the 1939 edition. And if, having done so, I realized that the big problems of architecture cannot be summarized, I at least admired the vigour of the author's attempt to reduce so much into so little. Here are three quotations:

On Site Planning :—

National Planning depends so much on the natural wealth of the nation. Is it rich in minerals, beautiful stones and gems, marbles and special clays? Climatic conditions give rise to different ways of building. The chemist supplies ways and means

of preserving building material, of manufacturing new material, and he shows how to blend different material. The Government may do much for architecture, but only public opinion can make laws and by-laws and regulations; public opinion is the determining factor, whether for good or evil it will force re-building, and the architect must be the steady influence.

★

Under Planning come *Sites*: city, suburban and country. With expensive land, it is more imperative that close scrutiny may be given to full use, rental leased on site rather than on actual accommodation. In the suburb the site must not be far from a station; avoid a double method of transit. Easy access to shopping and amusement centres are all-important. Flats in the country are almost ruled out of the question of planning.

On Design :—

New Buildings are always going up, and in each there are many features to be admired and deplored. The keen architect will take photographs and sketches, even drawings to scale from these, which will help him with future designs. To the engineer is given the credit of flourishing while the architecture is at a standstill, but this only applies to large factories and warehouses, the steel house has almost been a failure; many of these have to be rough-cast with cement material to keep the steel from rusting, painting has proved too costly; these are now being sprayed with rough-cast material. The architect does not claim to have had any part in the design of the "steel house"; he hates the shoddy and featureless, yet he has placed on buildings useless domes simply because he thought these were expected by his client.

★

Order in architecture implies that a building must look like what it is intended for. The design of a palace should not be copied for an insurance office or a bank. Standardization, which is the friend of the architect, does not imply that church architecture should be left to the railway architect.

FITNESS FOR PURPOSE

Thinking of the student days which these tips for students conjured up, I wondered why no attempt had been made, by Gallup Polls or as a Thesis study, to answer that most fascinating question: why architects choose their calling. The question was put to three young students whom I met recently. They all replied that it was because their parents thought they could draw. One of them added facetiously that his people "Thought me not clever enough to be anything else." Not satisfied, I asked if any relative were an architect or connected with the building industry. All of them said "No." They were too polite and too ingenuous to ask me why. I put the question to an elder; he told me, "Had such a question been put to me when their age, I might have given a similar reply. I am uncertain if it would have been the truth. Before I became a student I was launched, at my own request, in a profession which from childhood I had planned to follow. Some time afterward, I suddenly resolved to change into architecture. Heaven knows why. I knew nothing about the business save the name."

★

"When I told my father the startling news, he said, 'That's strange. I laid a foundation stone one year to the day before you were born, and was very interested in the progress of the building in the months which followed.'"

"Perhaps there is more than we suspect in pre-natal thoughts: they must exceed the power of the stars. For, singularly, I have been told by more than one amateur astrologer, completely ignorant of my history, that I should have been in command of the Royal Navy—the training for which I had abandoned."

ASTRAGAL

NEWS

R.I.B.A. RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

On the recommendation of the Policy Committee the War Executive Committee have decided to appoint a Reconstruction Committee, with the following terms of reference:

To consider and formulate the policy of the R.I.B.A. and Allied Societies on the subject of post-war reconstruction and planning in its widest aspect.

The following have accepted the invitation to serve:

*The President (Chairman), *The Hon. Secretary (Joint Hon. Secretary); *The Hon. Treasurer; Mr. D. L. Bridgwater [A.]; Mr. W. R. Davidge [F.]; *Wesley Dougill [F.]; Miss J. B. Drew [A.]; Mr. J. Murray Easton [F.]; Sir Banister Fletcher [F.]; Mr. E. Maxwell Fry [F.]; Mr. Stanley Hamp [F.]; *Mr. Joseph Hill [F.]; Mr. F. R. Hiorns [F.]; Mr. Charles Holden [F.]; G. A. Jellicoe [F.]; Mr. Julian Leathart [F.]; *Miss J. G. Ledebor [A.]; Mr. Hubert Lidbetter [F.]; Mr. J. L. Martin [A.]; Mr. Brian Peake [A.]; *Mr. S. C. Ramsey [F.]; Professor C. H. Reilly [F.]; Professor A. E. Richardson [F.]; *Mr. Howard Robertson [F.] (Joint Hon. Secretary); Mr. D. Roth [A.]; The Hon. Godfrey Samuel [A.]; Sir Giles Gilbert Scott [F.]; Mr. R. H. Sheppard [A.]; J. Alan Slater [F.]; Mr. C. G. Soutar [F.]; *Mr. Raglan Squire [A.]; Mr. Ralph Tubbs [A.]; Mr. A. H. Verstage [A.].

Those members marked with an asterisk will form, if willing to serve, the Executive Committee of Reconstruction Committee.

In addition each of the Regional Reconstruction Committees to be set up jointly by the Allied Societies would appoint a representative to serve on the Reconstruction Committee.

It is also proposed that the Reconstruction Committee should appoint a Publicity Sub-Committee with the following terms of reference:

Generally to further interest in the work of the architectural profession, and in particular to spread the views of the R.I.B.A. on reconstruction.

THE RECONSTRUCTION DEBATE

Points from Speeches.

Shortage of space prevented the JOURNAL, as it prevented the daily press, from reporting the Commons debate on reconstruction on March 19 as fully as many speeches merited. The JOURNAL therefore prints below some of the points made by a selection of the speakers:

Mr. Lawson (Chester-le-Street):

I say that the Ministry of Works ought not to accept, merely because the Defence Services are doing a great work which we all appreciate, the mandate laid down by these Departments that they are specialized works and must be placed in certain parts of the country. What the Ministry of Supply, the Ministry of Works and the Defence Departments decide in this matter to some extent decides the trend of the population in the future. Communities grow up and have to be looked after, and I say that this is not merely a matter of building immediately but a matter of deciding what is to be the future shape of this country.

I do not know whether the Commission [on Location of Industrial Population] meant to be humorous in their Report, but they pointed out

that, totalling up the number of people for which the local authorities were planning, they found that they had planned for a population of no fewer than 291,000,000. Each area was looking to its immediate interests.

One thing did stand out, that whatever virtue there was in whatever town planning authorities had done, they had not had the slightest regard to the national interests as regards planning the nation as a whole, for example, saving agricultural land or directing certain industries to places where they should be located.

Sir Percy Harris (Bethnal Green, S.W.):

I am speaking now as a member of the Select Committee which has issued voluminous reports on all kinds of contract work. My hon. Friend, in his excellent speech, made some reference to the big contractors who are carrying out some of the jobs, but if we had one Department co-ordinating the whole of the building effort, I believe that not only would these scandals be prevented, but there would be greater efficiency, and competition for labour and material would be avoided.

Sir Jonah Walker-Smith (Barrow-in-Furness):

The Parliamentary Secretary has told us of certain activities of the Ministry, the appointment of committees, the appointment of controllers, the appointment of officials of all kinds and descriptions. I am sure those facts were given to impress us, and I have no doubt that they have impressed us, but whether favourably or not is a matter for the consideration of each one of us. All these functions of priorities, licensing and controlling tend to restrict output and slow down the wheels of production. I believe that policy to be fundamentally wrong.

Let this be the fundamental and basic feature of the contracting conditions, that there must be in the contract itself community of interests between the contracting Department and the contractor, to see that there is the utmost efficiency, output and economy.

Mr. Silkin (Peckham) [Chairman of L.C.C. Town Planning Committee]:

First of all, I do not agree that this work should be done partly by the Ministry of Health and partly by the Ministry of Transport. I think the work of planning our country after the war is of such importance as to deserve a new Ministry, a Ministry of Planning and Building.

Secondly, planning must be national. We cannot leave it to the large numbers of separate local authorities to carry out their own separate planning for their own separate areas. Such matters as the control of the location of industry cannot and must not be left to the vested interests of local authorities. It is all very well to say, for instance, to London, "Get rid of your industries," for a local authority has a vested interest in its own area, and London is not out to lose rateable value and will naturally be selfish about it. If I were given, as Chairman of the Town Planning Committee, a free hand in the matter, I should be tempted to vote for industry remaining inside the county in order that we should have rateable value in the county. Therefore, it is a matter that must be settled nationally.

In 1931 it was estimated that the amount of land zoned in draft schemes for residential development was sufficient to provide for a population of 291,000,000. Yet only one-half of the country was the subject of draft schemes, so that on that basis the separate local authorities could provide for a residential population of nearly 600,000,000 people. That shows the absurdity of allowing small planning authorities each to carry out its own plan. We must have large planning areas.

Mr. Kenneth Lindsay (Kilmarnock):

Those school camps are not only well and, on the whole, economically built, but they are the best-sited camps in this country. That is the result of this House insisting upon having on the board not only men who know something about certain aspects of the building industry but

men who know something of the æsthetic side as well.

But I am told that the industry is not to a sufficient extent a unity. There are the points of view of the architect, the surveyor and the contractor. Very often, I understand, that of the architect tends to become remote and almost academic.

You have to go pretty well the whole hog, and take the powers from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Transport, and ally them to that central authority. If you have not these allied and directly-related organs of government together, the whole thing seems to me sheer nonsense. People want decisions.

ARCHITECTS IN THE FORCES

The JOURNAL can now only rarely be obtained at a bookstall, and a great many architects who are in the Forces who would like to see it feel it not worth while to place a firm order for it because they may change their address or may be ordered abroad at short notice.

In order to enable its members who are now in the Forces to keep in touch with architecture, the A.A.S.T.A. are collecting second-hand copies of this and other technical journals and are sending them on to architects in the Services. The A.A.S.T.A. list of those who would like to receive architectural journals is now growing rapidly longer as the available copies become fewer.

Readers would therefore help an admirable cause if they would post to the A.A.S.T.A., 113, High Holborn, London, W.C.1, all copies of the JOURNAL which are otherwise likely to be thrown away.

LETTERS

Professor S. D. Adshead, F.R.I.B.A.
Sidney R. Harris, F.R.I.B.A.
Birkin Haward, A.R.I.B.A.

Cochran and Co., Annan, Ltd.

Architects and Reconstruction

SIR,—In the leader of your issue of March 6 you state that at the end of the last war architects failed to realize that the small house was the most fundamental of all architectural problems, and you suggest that architects neglected to interest themselves in the design of the small house.

As a matter of fact, the R.I.B.A. did all that a professional body could do to interest the builders of small houses. It instituted Regional Competitions for small houses, and published the results in a well-got-up and well-illustrated booklet. It also lent its professional assistance to the promotion of competitions inaugurated by the *Daily Mail* and the proprietors of "The Gidea Park Garden City."

I personally feel that you are wrong in suggesting that the tenants of small houses were becoming the profession's clients for other buildings. The tenant of the small house does not belong to the class who employs architects.

A much more direct loss to the profession has been brought about by our local authorities employing their surveyors to do architectural work. This, as is well known, has resulted in local authorities having architectural de-

partments. The loss to the private practitioner cannot be deplored as it is the trend of our Socialistic legislation, and quite outside the directing influence of the profession.

Local authorities are employing on the staffs of their architectural departments young architects who are members of the Institute. This, I think, is to the good, and so long as their most important works go to the leading members of the profession, or to competition, we have nothing to complain about. But the profession should use every endeavour to see that the heads of these local authority architectural departments are in fact members of the Institute, and directly responsible to their Councils.

London

S. D. ADSHEAD

SIR,—I wish to correct an erroneous and misleading statement which appeared in your leading article, "Architects must Standardize," in your issue for March 6.

You say: "In 1919 architects failed to realize that the small house is the most fundamental of all architectural problems and that if architects did not design that house and show constant interest in its improvement, the standard of design of all other buildings would be lowered."

Later on you say: "The publication of *Industrial Housing* is the first move to ensure that the same mistake is not made again."

As a matter of fact, the R.I.B.A. organized in 1917-1918 a competition for four classes of small houses, I being one of the four Assessors appointed for the Midland district.

Over £500 was given in premiums, at least 800 competitors took part, about 1,700 designs were submitted, and a volume illustrating the whole thing published in 1918.

The foregoing figures prove that architects did, at that time, take an interest in the small house and, in fairness to the R.I.B.A. and the men who did this work, I shall be obliged by your publishing this letter.

Northampton

SIDNEY F. HARRIS

The JOURNAL's contentions, restated last week, that architects after the last war did not sufficiently appreciate the importance of small house design is given added force by Prof. Adshead's letter. The occupier of the small house is becoming, through Councils and committees, more and more often the architect's client, and since architects had nothing to do with the design of his own house, he regards their services as an unnecessary and expensive addition to the cost of any other building.—ED. A.J.

Reservation of Architects

SIR,—As a supporter of the A.A.S.T.A., I should like to reply to Mr. T. E. Scott's "comment" in his capacity as Chairman of the Architecture and Public Utilities Committee published in your issue for March 13.

First, Mr. Scott refers to a statement that "architects were removed

FLASHBACK

Nothing is more constant, it has been said, than change. But normally change approaches with mildness and takes place unnoticed. Not today, however. Today change has kicked open the front door and confronts us all. Change, 1941, is a blend of gangster and a female Virtue on a public building and holds a Charter of Rights in one hand and a gun in the other. There must be few people today who can look back on August 31, 1939, that last day of peace, without feeling that almost everything about them has changed—from their opinions and the price of honey to their residence, income and dress. The Thirties, good or bad, have now joined the Seventies and the Nineties in history. The Thirties, whether we like it or not, are now a PERIOD.

We may be too close to them to sum up the essence of the Thirties as we can sum up Edwardian by high collars, horn gramophones and motors with doors at the back. But we can, in odd moments, begin the work of collation: we can begin to sift from acts and forms which seem characteristic those general mannerisms which will eventually symbolize the Thirties.

Always in the vanguard of new movements (even when they are in reverse) the JOURNAL has commissioned Mr. Hugh Casson, that exact, sardonic, yet affectionate observer of the near-contemporary scene to try to reproduce it for those who lately were of it. For, before we puff out our chests in readiness for the battles of the next and the post-war years it seems a justifiable war-time indulgence to take one look behind, if only to see what a gulf of the spirit already separates us from our past.

PUBLIC BAR

By Hugh Casson

IT was a pleasant, shabby little room, lit by two square sash-windows, and filled with the thin sour smell of scrubbed boards and stale beer. A few fly-specked trade-cards hung on the walls, which were distempered a faded green above a chocolate-coloured dado, and the remnants of a highly glazed linoleum clung in patches to the floor. The furniture was a nondescript collection of cheap wheel-back chairs and deal tables, and in the midst of them, as dark glistening and patterned as some evil sort of toad, squatted a glossily veneered wireless set. Round the central lampshade—made of pink silk and cut, as Pugin used to say, "in a knowing manner"—cruised a solitary fly, recoiling every now and then with understandable sharpness as it approached the hideous centre of its orbit. The room was silent except for the roar of evening traffic on the London road outside, and the heavy breathing of the landlord—a paunchy little man wearing a cloth cap and pince-nez—who was engaged behind the bar in attaching cord to the back of a picture. Watching him with the rapt expectancy of children waiting for an adult to make a fool of himself, were two elderly labourers—their heavy, patient faces peered ox-like over pints of old and mild.

Seated by the fireplace, over which hung a coloured Cecil Aldin print depicting some laughable event of early motoring days, was an important-looking

from the Schedule of Reserved Occupations at the request of the Architecture and Public Utilities Committee." I do not think such a statement was ever made. The A.A.S.T.A. report on their deputation to the Ministry of Labour credited an official with saying that "de-reservation had been carried out at the request of the Profession." Mr. Scott should remember that his Committee is not by any means the whole Profession.

Secondly, Mr. Scott calls this statement a "half-truth," apparently referring to the fact that his Committee, at the time of its disastrous intervention at the end of 1939, recommended the raising of the age of reservation to forty-five and did not recommend complete de-reservation. Mr. Scott is no doubt correct, but I am surprised that he thinks it worth while to draw attention to the fact. The average age of the R.I.B.A. Council, whose nominee he is, has too often been the subject of criticism.

Finally, it would be interesting to know how many architects under the age of forty-five, and who had military experience in the last war, "were anxious to join their old units." In view of the fact that a man who is now forty-five would have been only twenty-two in 1918 the number must be very small—too small, in fact, to serve as a basis for the increase in the age of reservation which Mr. Scott's Committee recommended.

BIRKIN HAWARD

Hampstead

(Further letters appear on page 232.—ED. A.J.)

man in a bowler hat and pointed shoes, who affected only the faintest interest in the proceedings. Picture-hanging, it was clear, was no out-of-the-way activity in his sophisticated life. He was drinking Guinness and wore a signet ring.

As the landlord adjusted the last knot, tyres crackled on the gravel outside the window. Car doors slammed and voices shrilled through the evening air.

"That," said the landlord, "will be young Mr. Bodkin. Always drops in about this time."

Sensing the approach of gentry, the man in the bowler hat assumed the deprecatory expression of a member of the Athenæum who has been caught entering the R.A.C., while the labourers nudged each other and winked. A moment later the door opened to admit the new arrivals, two girls, almost identically dressed in corduroy trousers and pullovers beneath expensive looking fur coats, and a young man, the studied disorder of whose dress proclaimed him to be the "sporting undergraduate" type—the sort of man who looks his best in a macintosh. His trousers were shapeless, his coat loud-checked and shaggy, and round his neck was a tie like a knotted sandbag. From beneath an incipient moustache jutted a highly offensive looking pipe. "Evening all," he said (Mr. Bodkin clearly fancied himself as "a good mixer"), "three half-cans of the usual please, Mr. Boyes." He nodded affably at the two labourers, who did not however reply. Their eyes were directed in frank interest at the two girls, who were busily engaged in showing how at home they were in a pub. One had gone straight to the dartboard and was throwing doubles with aggravating skill, while the other, having switched on the wireless, assumed a nonchalant stance at the bar and began picking her teeth with a match. Like an unleashed animal the music of Al Fresco and his Demons bumped and squeaked its way around the room. The glasses on the bar began to vibrate, and an irregular thumping noise issued from beneath the hob-nailed boot of one of the labourers. He liked a bit of jazz.

"What's the picture, Mr. Boyes?" asked the girl at the bar. "Ah," said Mr. Boyes, raising his voice above the din, "I was just going to show it to Mr. Bodkin. It's the architect's design for the new place they're going to build here. The brewery have sent it down to hang in the bar. Pretty, isn't it? Got class too. Not flashy like some places you see. How do you like it?" An anxious note crept into his voice. "I think it's perfectly sweet, Mr. Boyes," she replied, studying her reflection in the mirror behind the bar. She really *must* go to the hairdressers next week. Her hair was looking too foul for words. Mr. Boyes looked pleased. "What do you think, Mr. Bodkin? I like to have the opinion of my regulars." Mr. Bodkin assumed a judicial frown and regarded

the picture. It was a watercolour sketch of a typical piece of Brewers-Georgian, with elaborate chimneys and fussy keystones. A profusion of narrow sash-windows, one pane wide and four high, decorated the façade, and before the door stood a badly drawn car and two people, looking—as in all architects' drawings—like inverted cypresses. Despite the abundance of quoining and cornices, the building was as bald, featureless and uninteresting as a peppermint cream.

Mr. Bodkin took refuge in facetiousness. "So that's where all my beer money has gone, is it?" he asked. "What's it going to cost?" "About eleven thousand, they say," said Mr. Boyes. "Oh well," said Mr. Bodkin, "makes a change. A bit different from the old spit and sawdust, eh Ted?" He glanced at one of the labourers. "Ar," said Ted. "Variety," said the man in the bowler hat, anxious not to be left out, "is the spice of life."

Encouraged by this flow of opinion the other labourer showed signs of life. "See the car in front?" he said. "That's me and Ted drivin' up in our Rolls Royce."

This witticism convulsed them both. "You will have your little joke, Alf," laughed Mr. Boyes, shooting him a glance laden with menace, "but seriously, Mr. Bodkin, do you think it will attract the roadhouse trade? There's going to be a big room at the back which Mrs. Boyes and I thought would make a nice winter garden." Mr. Bodkin nodded gravely. "We could serve teas there at week-ends, and perhaps sometimes fix up a little dance—very select of course," he added, his pince-nez glittering angrily at the brightening faces of Alf and Ted. "It would cheer the place up a bit. People like a bit of music."

"Wine, women and song," said the man in the bowler hat, draining his Guinness. "Same again, please." Mr. Boyes served him as though in a dream. Before his eyes floated a placard. "Dainty teas," it announced in discreet lettering, "now being served in the Winter Garden." On dance nights he would hang fairy-lights over the car park. He pictured graceful couples gliding over the parquet among the potted palms. He might even get the staff to wear Elizabethan costume. (Mr. Boyes' sense of period was a little vague.)

The dart player meanwhile, sensing with practised skill that her performance was no longer the centre of attraction, sauntered up to the bar. "What's all this?" she wailed, "are they going to mess this lovely little place about? I think it's a crime. Why, it's madly attractive as it is, don't you think so?" she flashed a hundred candlepower smile on the man in the bowler hat, causing him to choke into his Guinness.

"Don't be so sentimental, darling," said the other girl. "It's a dark, smelly little pub, and the lavatories are primeval. I think it's a swell idea to rebuild. But

of course you *must* have a swimming pool."

Mr. Boyes shook his head modestly, but his mind raced ahead. A swimming pool! Of course! In a moment the scene unfolded before his eyes—the laughing bronzed bathers, the deft, white-coated waiters, and among them, debonair, gracious and alert, himself, in a panama and—yes, why not?—tennis shoes!

"Well, I think it's a shame to touch it," said the dart player; "surely you can modernize the place without *destroying* it?" Absently she began to reconstruct her face. Really the whole subject was too boring. She wouldn't have entered the conversation at all only she wasn't going to let Diana get away with that line of talk.

The man in the bowler hat was heard to mutter something about omelettes and breaking eggs.

"Well, girls," said Mr. Bodkin, "we must be off if we want to see the big picture. Cheerio all. Hope to see a change here next time, Mr. Boyes." He shepherded his companions out. The car engine roared and they were gone. As though at a signal Al Fresco worked his Demons into a final convulsion, and the room sank once more into silence.

"Well," said Mr. Boyes, walking heavily over to the fireplace, "they seemed to like it all right, and they're the sort we're going to cater for." "That's right," said the man in the bowler hat. "You got to be up-to-date to get the high-class trade. What they like," he added with the assurance of a West-End clubman—(he lived at Slough)—"is a nice bit of panelling. Nothing like a bit of high-class marquetry to bring them in." He had been in the timber trade once, and still knew a nice bit of wood when he saw it.

"I like a bit of panelling myself," said Ted. "Ar," said Alf, "and if we 'ad a real dance band instead of that box of tricks, we could 'ave some real fun in the evenings."

Mr. Boyes did not hear them. As he unhooked the Cecil Aldin and hung the watercolour in its place his mind was adrift in a world of pile carpets and polished woodwork. He would have an office with "Manager" painted on it. His pince-nez grew misty with excitement as he straightened the watercolour. Tomorrow he would buy a pair of tennis shoes.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The British Aluminium Co., Ltd., Temporary Head Office, Oakley Manor, Belle Vue, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, announce the following changes in branch office addresses: The Company's Birmingham office is removed from Lawley Street to Lansdowne House, 41, Water Street, Birmingham, 3 (Telephone, Birmingham Central 3053-4). The Bristol office and warehouse are closed temporarily. The London office is removed from Norfolk House to Trafalgar House, Waterloo Place, London, S.W. 1 (London telephone, Abbey 1365).



FINE ART PUBLISHERS

AT BRADFORD

BY CHIPPINDALE AND EDMONDSON

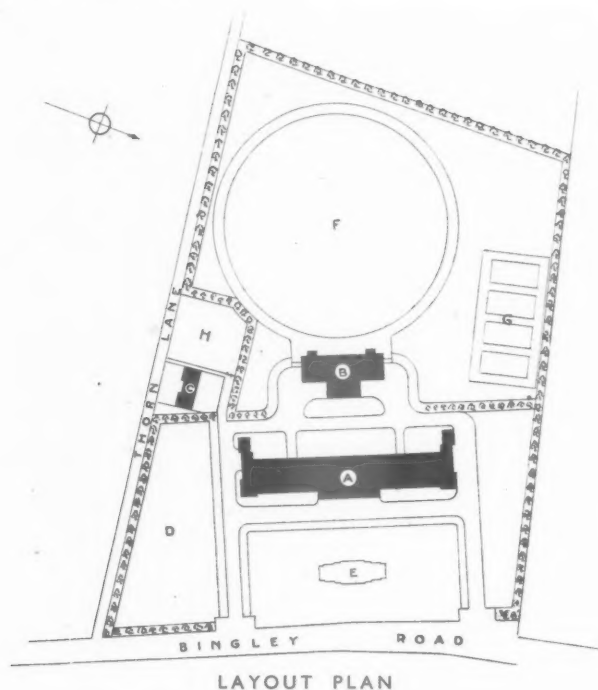
GENERAL—The buildings, for a firm of fine art publishers, consist of business premises, canteen and sports pavilion and three cottages, all planned as one scheme. The registered trade mark "Classic" of the firm is symbolized in the design of the centre portion of the main front.

CONSTRUCTION—Main building: steel frame, with foundations down to rock, faced with dressed stone, cast-stone dressings and steel-framed windows with cast-iron breast panels. The suspended floors are of the reinforced hollow brick type and have a superimposed floating wood floor. The canteen and sports building is of reinforced concrete, faced in a similar manner to the main building. The cottages are of brick with stone dressings and roofed with green Westmorland slates.

Above: The principal entrance to the main building.

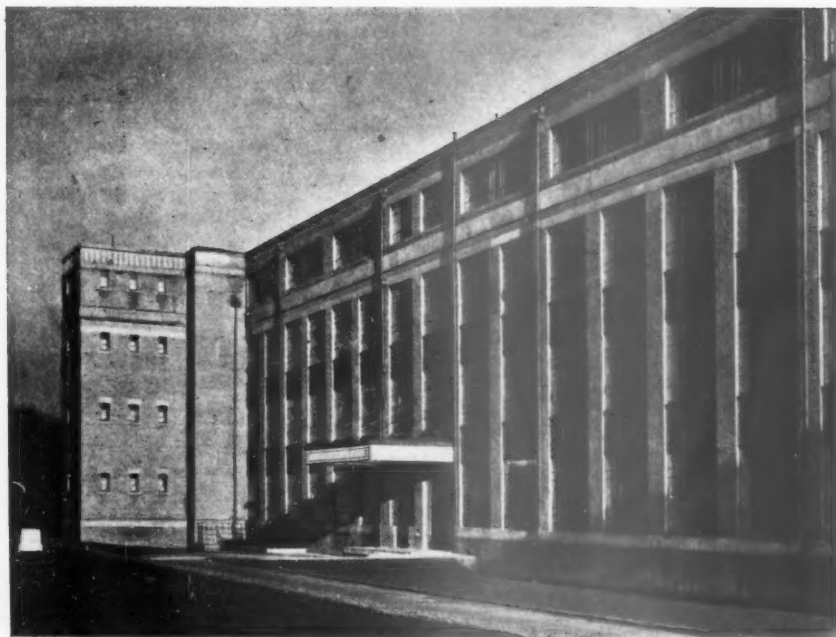
KEY TO LAYOUT PLAN

- A. Main building.
- B. Sports pavilion, canteen, garages and car park.
- C. Three cottages for caretaker, gardener and engineer.
- D. Rose garden.
- E. Lily pool.
- F. Cricket ground.
- G. Tennis courts.
- H. Nursery garden.

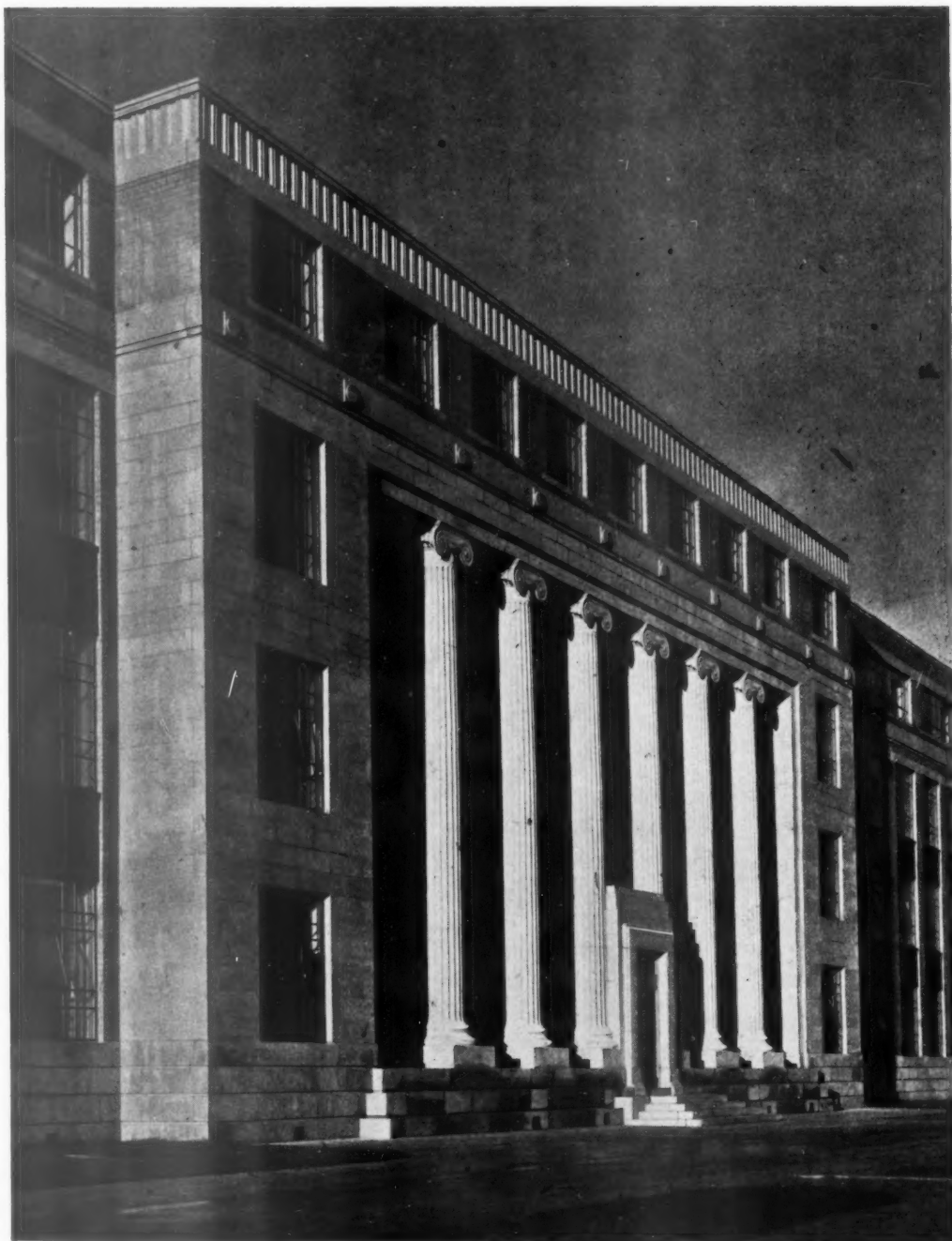


FINE ART PUBLISHERS,
BRADFORD

BY CHIPPINDALE AND EDMONDSON

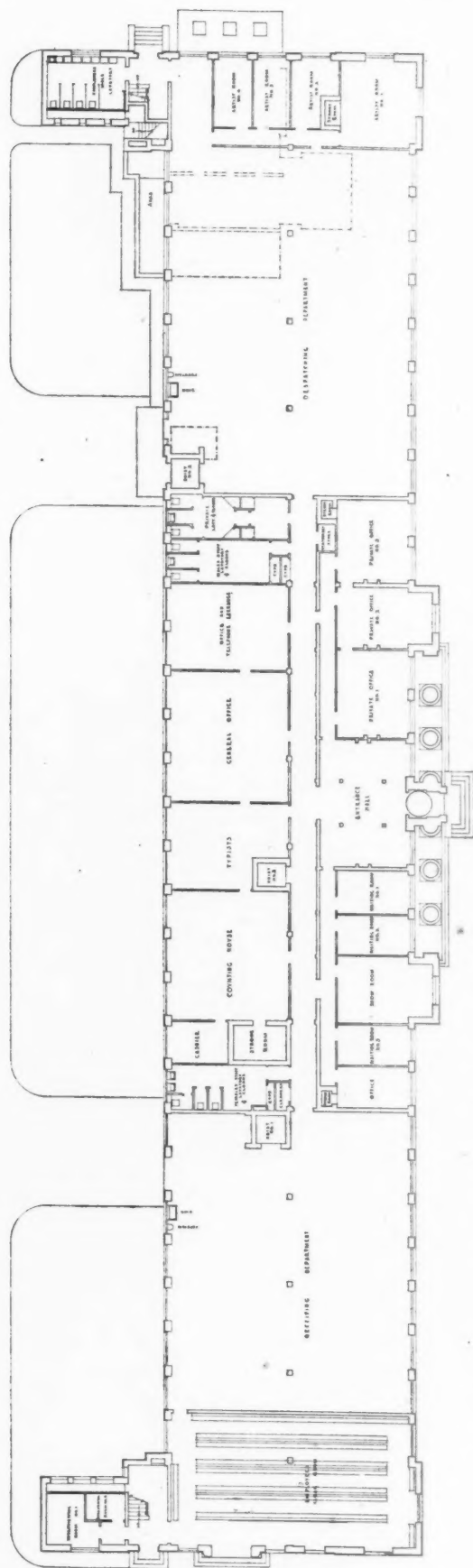


Left: West front of main building.



OWNERS' REQUIREMENTS—The plan was influenced by the decision of the directors that the offices must be placed on the ground floor and in the centre of the building, as the nature of the business demands constant communication therefrom to the various departments. This does not interrupt the process flow, the raw materials being taken from the receiving room by the goods hoist at that end to the various production floors, and work their way along to the other end, where they descend by another goods hoist to the despatching department.

Above: The centre portion, containing the principal entrance, of the main front.



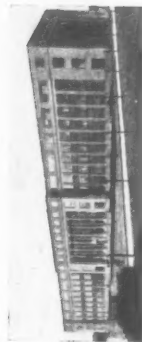
GROUND FLOOR PLAN OF MAIN BUILDING

INTERNAL FINISHES—Main building: floors, production departments, birch boards; offices, corridors and studios, compressed cork tiles; cloakroom, receiving and despatching departments, red asphalt; employees' lavatories, terrazzo. Walls: production departments, cloakroom, studios and staff offices, hard wall plaster, finished with high-gloss synthetic paint and tile plinths; employees' lavatories, terrazzo. Entrance hall doors, walls and furniture, Indian silver greywood and Macassar ebony; showroom doors, walls and furniture, Australian walnut and Macassar ebony. The private offices and directors' lavatories are panelled in various hardwoods. All internal woodwork, except the panelled rooms, is oak, natural colour, wax polished. In the canteen and sports building the floor finishes are: canteen and dressing-rooms, birch boards; kitchen quarters, tiles. The internal faces of the walls are finished with hard wall plaster, finished with high-gloss synthetic paint.

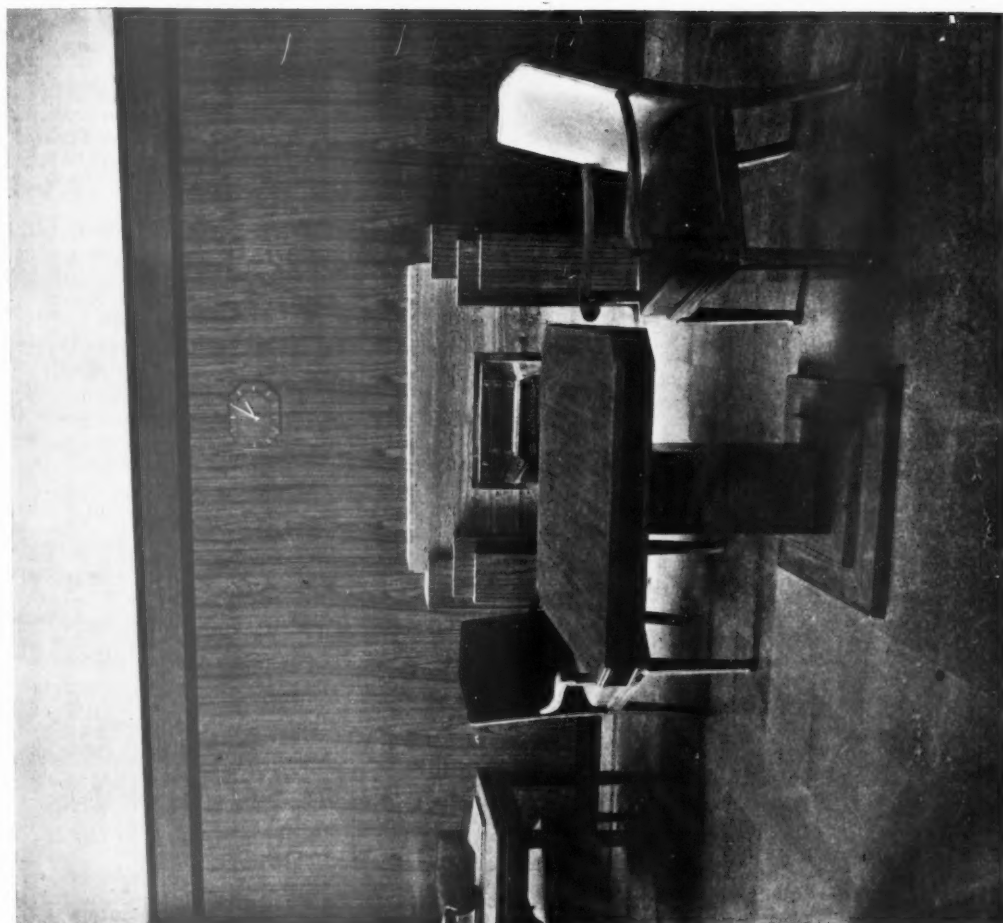
Top: Ground floor plan of main building. The works corridor between the general offices and the private offices is not for the conveyance of goods, but for the occasional use of the ground-floor employees and the general use of the clerical staff. The passenger lift off this corridor is for the directors, managers, and office staff.

Right, centre: General view of main front.

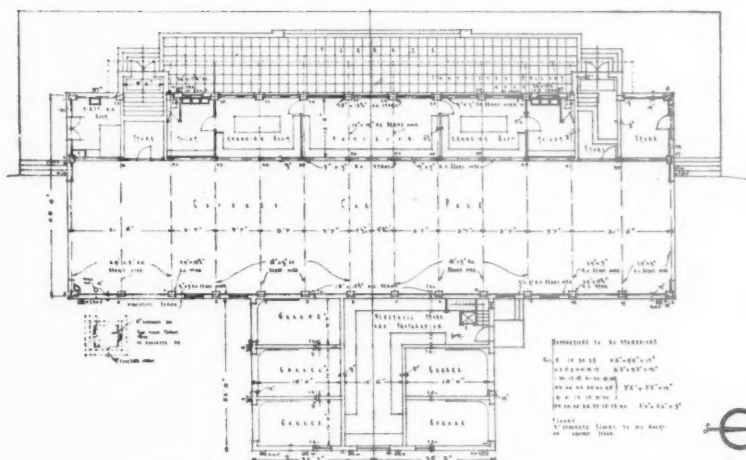
Right: An upper floor. The duct in the floor is for shafting, and is covered with loose battened birch boards when the installation is complete.



Below : Showroom. Centre and Bottom : Private offices. Left : The entrance hall.



FINE ART PUBLISHERS, BRADFORD • BY CHIPPINDALE AND EDMONDSON



CANTEEN AND SPORTS PAVILION : GROUND FLOOR PLAN



Centre : The canteen. Left : West elevation of canteen and sports pavilion.

The general contractors for the complete scheme, including the main building, canteen and sports pavilion and the three cottages, were Messrs. Alfred Robinson, of Bradford. For list of sub-contractors see page xiv.

FINE ART PUBLISHERS, BRADFORD

LETTERS—continued

*Services in Buildings**

SIR,—It is always a matter of considerable difficulty and of doubt to establish the steam, hot water, refrigeration and other "engineering domestic requirements" for buildings at the design stage. Frequently, too, it is not easy to arrange a location for these various sorts of domestic services in a new building in the most suitable relation to gas mains, electricity cables, hydraulic mains; and for access to and from public thoroughfares to deliver coal or coke and to despatch ash, clinker, and other rubbish.

Under the Ministry of Works and

Buildings there should be a golden opportunity for attending to all these matters comprehensively and in the public interest, and according to how they affect the lay-out of re-created cities which needs the conception and vision of a Hausmann.

We as boiler makers are indirectly interested only, but it is well known that few, if any, of the older buildings in London, and unfortunately not many of the new, provide either adequate or appropriate space for engineering domestic services, or suitable positions in relation to the public services mentioned; nor to the needs of a chimney or vent whether independent of a building or integral with it.

A bureau of information is desirable that could publish—mainly for architects—data upon the size and shape of

engineering services "power rooms" appropriate for the purposes for which buildings are intended. It would be possible to prepare representative diagrams of power rooms that would be the basis for the accommodation to be provided by the architect concerned when designing a new building. From these he could choose the best position for the power room in the building itself, and especially in relation to the public services which would be used, namely:

- (a) Transport to and from coal and coke bunkers and clinker pits and public highways.
- (b) Towns gas mains.
- (c) Electricity supply cables.
- (d) Water and hydraulic mains.
- (e) Transport of fuel oil and petrol to and from public highways and fuel storage tanks.
- (f) Transport of block ice to and from public highways.
- (g) Canals and rivers with their water-borne traffic.
- (h) Etc., etc.

All this in turn would affect the position and building line(s) of new premises and would enable an architect to make the most economical use of the site value for a boiler and power room. Thus single-storey annexes with chimney would disappear and a selected part of one or two floors of a modern shallow storied building would be used for the power room with a chimney integral with the building.

A scheme of the kind would eliminate some transport difficulties and would prevent the frequent opening up of roads and approaches to get access to the public utility services.

We suggest that a body might be set up in such as a joint committee of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers and representative Consulting Engineers, to examine the possibilities of these proposals and to make representations to the Minister of Works and Buildings.

Co-ordinated effort towards well-laid-out cities having regard to the use of and access to inter-related public utility services, and to clean atmosphere, would be worth while, and is indeed imperative.

Yours faithfully,

COCHRAN AND CO., ANNAN, LTD.

OBITUARY

We regret to record the death of Mr. Ernest Hirsch, chairman of The Kleine Company, Ltd. He made a notable contribution to the progress of the building industry by the introduction into this country of reinforced hollow-brick floors, and in the course of the last thirty-five years made a wide circle of friends in the industry.

SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED THIS WEEK:

- ★ *WHAT is the best means of protection for Office Fire Watchers to ensure reasonable safety and comfort?* - - - - Q679
- ★ *CAN I obtain any literature to assist me in assessing War Damage?* - - - - Q680
- ★ *WHAT is the best way to protect a Church Roof from incendiary bombs so that constant watching can be avoided?* - - - - Q681

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 help is available to any member of the industry.

Enquirers do not have to wait for an answer until their question is published in the JOURNAL. Answers are sent direct to enquirers as soon as they have been prepared. The service is confidential; and in no case is the identity of an enquirer disclosed to a third party. 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.

Questions should be sent by post to—

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL
45 THE AVENUE, CHEAM, SURREY

—but in cases where an enquirer urgently requires an answer to a simple question, he may save time by telephoning the question to—

VIGILANT 0087

The reply will come by post.

Q679

ARCHITECT, LONDON.—*I have been asked to provide some means of PROTECTION FOR FIRE-WATCHERS in office property. This will incorporate some form of shelter on the roof (probably of sandbags) and making an attic reasonably comfortable for relief watchers.*

My problem is that the scheme at present in operation is apparently only provisional and has not yet officially been approved, and as space is limited I should like to know the exact number of watchers required before putting work in hand. I realize that this is not strictly an architectural problem, but if you can give me any information as to the official requirements I shall be greatly obliged.

I might mention that the present scheme is a joint one for a number of adjoining office buildings.

We regret that we cannot give you the information you require as no specific requirements have been laid down.

The matter is dealt with in the Fire Prevention (Business premises) Order, 1941, made by the Minister of Home Security, dated January 18th, 1941.

Briefly the Order requires the

occupier to "Make proper and adequate arrangements for the purpose of securing that fires . . . will be immediately detected and combated," and states that the occupier must notify the appropriate authority within fourteen days of the arrangements made by him. The appropriate authority may approve, disapprove, or modify the arrangements, and the occupier must carry out the arrangements finally approved. This applies also to a joint scheme submitted by several occupiers.

Your best method of finding out the required number of watchers is therefore to ask your clients to obtain the Local Authority's opinion on a provisional scheme as soon as possible.

Q680

ARCHITECT, YORKSHIRE.—*To assist me in the assessing of WAR DAMAGE, I should be very pleased if you would forward to me any literature concerning the following :*

1. The various types of forms to be filled in.
2. Forms for personal belongings such as furniture, etc.
3. Buildings which can be repaired without actual consent of Landlord or Owner (who pays for cost of said repairs?).
4. What form has to be completed when a building has been repaired and the builder has submitted his account, and for which the owner wants to claim the amount?
5. What buildings are regarded as essential and which can be repaired and claimed for?

Any further information which may be of assistance to me regarding War Damage and the assessing of same I shall be grateful to receive.

The new Insurance Scheme for property is described in the War Damage Bill, which can be obtained through any bookseller (published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 1s.). This Bill has not yet been passed, however, and you need not necessarily concern yourself with it.

The present War Damage to Property, Government Compensation Scheme, can be seen in the short reports on the subject which are also published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. each (First and Final Reports of the Committee on the Principles of Assessment of Damage).

Briefly, the method of assessing damage in accordance with these reports is:

The cost of reasonable reinstatement based on March 1939 prices or the diminution in market value of the property—whichever is the less.

It should be noted, however, that this is merely the approved method of assessment, and the Government has not bound itself to pay the whole or any proportion of the assessment.

All claims for compensation for property—i.e. land, buildings or personal possessions—must be made on the same type of form (Form V.O.W.1), which can normally be

obtained from the local authority and sometimes through booksellers.

There is no need to distinguish between "essential" and other buildings for the purpose of a claim; claims can be submitted for any type of building, but no compensation will be paid at present, as mentioned above. A loan may be obtained in certain circumstances for the repair of essential buildings and plant, under the Essential Buildings and Plant (Repair of War Damage) Act, 1939, but this is not compensation.

Both "essential" and other types of property can be repaired, except that non-essential buildings are subject to the restriction on building work costing more than £500, and that certain materials can only be obtained under licence.

Neither the landlord's nor the tenant's liability to repair extends to the repair of War Damage, and therefore neither are normally bound to repair or to bear the cost of repairs unless a "Notice of Retention" or a "Notice to Avoid Disclaimer" has been served in accordance with the Landlord and Tenant (War Damage) Act, 1939. If the former has been served the tenant will be liable for repairs, and if the latter has been served the landlord will be liable.

The form to be filled in for claiming compensation (with a few exceptions specified on the form) is V.O.W.1.

PRICES

BY DAVIS AND BELFIELD, CHARTERED QUANTITY SURVEYORS

BOTH the prices for the basic materials given and rates of wages remain unchanged. The rates of wages for the Central London Area are 1s. 11½d. for craftsmen and 1s. 6½d. for labourers.

It will be noticed that the increase shown for roofing tiles is less than that shown in previous issues. Information received from a reliable source confirms that previous quotations submitted were high.

Anyone who has retained the sheet showing price increases for 1940 would do well to note the alterations.

P. Davis

F.S.I.

INFORMATION CENTRE

BASIC MATERIALS	Increases over pre-war prices for 1940 at end of		
	Jan., 1941	Feb., 1941	Mar., 1941
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Portland cement	+35·37	+35·37	+35·37
2-in. unscreened ballast	+47·8	+47·8	+47·8
Fletton bricks (at station)	+11·89	+11·89	+11·89
Stoneware drainpipes (British Standard) 2 tons and over	+18½	+18½	+18½
Roofing tiles	+20	+20	+20
Steel joists (basic sections) ex mills	+47·5	+47·5	+47·5
Lime greystone	+29·76	+29·76	+29·76
Sheet lead	+50	+50	+50
Iron rainwater goods and soil pipes	+18	+18	+18
Copper tubes	+27·66	+27·66	+27·66
White lead paint	+26½	+26½	+26½
RATES OF WAGES (Central London Area)			
Labourers	+12·70	+15·87	+15·87
Craftsmen	+9·52	+11·90	+11·90

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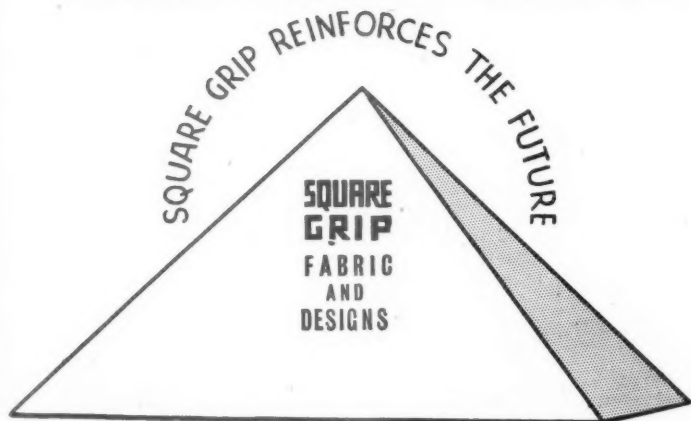
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Q681

ARCHITECT, LONDON.—*I am interested in a FIRE WATCHING scheme attached to A large and ancient PARISH CHURCH. Can you tell me if any method has been evolved where by it is made unnecessary to keep constant vigil on the top of the church tower in case incendiary bombs should alight there?*

The tower in question has the usual stone parapet and the roof is presumably of wood joists and boarding covered with sheet lead.

I can at the moment think of only two ideas; a 4 in. layer of concrete or a 9 in. layer of sand, but really doubt the effectiveness of either method.

According to A.R.P. Handbook No. 9, Incendiary Bombs and Fire Precautions (obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, price 6d.), $\frac{1}{4}$ in. mild steel plate, one layer of sandbags (closely laid) or $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 4 in. of reinforced concrete will all give protection against penetration by a 1 kilo incendiary bomb. The roof in question would probably bear the weight of sand and this could more easily be removed than concrete.

The same authority states that 2 in. of dry sand is proof against burning, and we should have thought that if sandbags were closely packed any disturbance caused by impact would

be likely to leave sufficient sand. Renderings and bags rot-proof has been dealt with in "Notes on the Construction, Maintenance and Replacement of Sandbag Revetments" (obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d.), and an economical method has also been introduced by the Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd.

If you feel doubtful of this method you might consider the use of $\frac{3}{4}$ in. Durasteel 3DF2 laid flat on the roof. This is a composite steel and asbestos board manufactured by Durasteel Roofs, Ltd., of Oldfield Lane, Greenford, Middlesex, which weighs 9.5 lbs. per square foot and costs 3s. 1d. per square foot. A permit would have to be obtained. Its chief advantage over concrete, for this purpose, is the ease with which it can be removed as the sheets need only be laid flat with closely butted joints.

We must, however, point out that the protection of the roof of a church tower—particularly the tower of a "large" church—will not mean that the building is properly protected. Incendiary bombs fall at an angle of from 10 to 30 degrees to the vertical and often come in bunches. It is therefore far more likely that bombs will strike the nave roof or even penetrate windows than that they will land on the tower.

THE BUILDINGS ILLUSTRATED

FINE ART PUBLISHERS AT BRADFORD (pages 227-232). Architects: Chippindale and Edmondson, LL.R.I.B.A. The general contractors were Alfred Robinson of Bradford. Subcontractors and suppliers included: Girlington Ltd., cast stone; Henry Barrett and Sons, Ltd., steelwork; Ferrocon Engineering Co., Ltd., reinforced concrete; Bolton and Hayes, Ltd., hollow tile floor and asphalt floors and roofs; Independent Sprinklers, Ltd., sprinkler installation; Fred. Watson, heating; W. D. Wilson, electrical installation; W. Walker and Co., Ltd., steel windows; Sloan and Davidson, panel breasts; T. R. Hayes and Sons, layout of grounds and garden work; Conway and Co., Ltd., marble and terrazzo work; Cork Insulation Co., Ltd., cork tile flooring; G. Parnall and Co., Ltd., panelling and furniture to private offices; F. Fox and Co., Ltd., steel strong-room doors; A. Carpenter, locks and door furniture; Accordio Blinds, Ltd., blinds; H. Shepherdson, revolving door; W. F. S. Holt, revolving shutters; Bradford Corporation Electricity Dept., cooking equipment; Reliance Lift and Engineering Co., Ltd., lifts; Fred. Holdsworth, Ltd., painters' work.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Messrs. Quiggin and Gee, FF.R.I.B.A., have removed their offices temporarily: "Ennerdale," 3, Linden Avenue, Blundellsands, Liverpool, 23. (Telephone, Gt. Crosby 3666.)

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