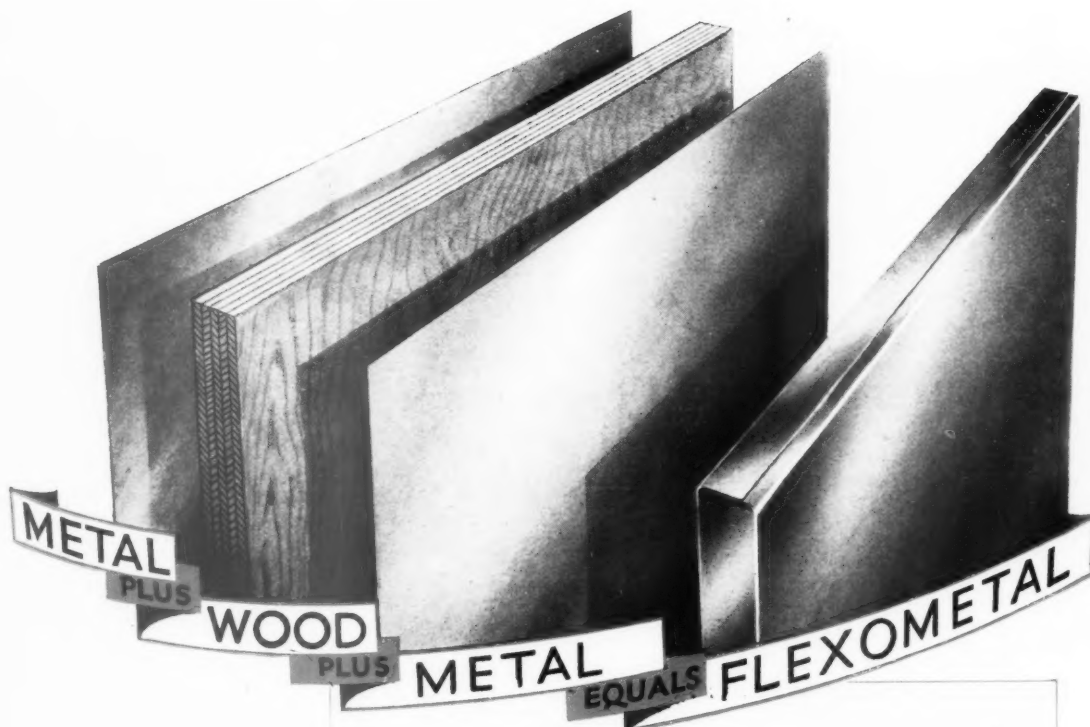


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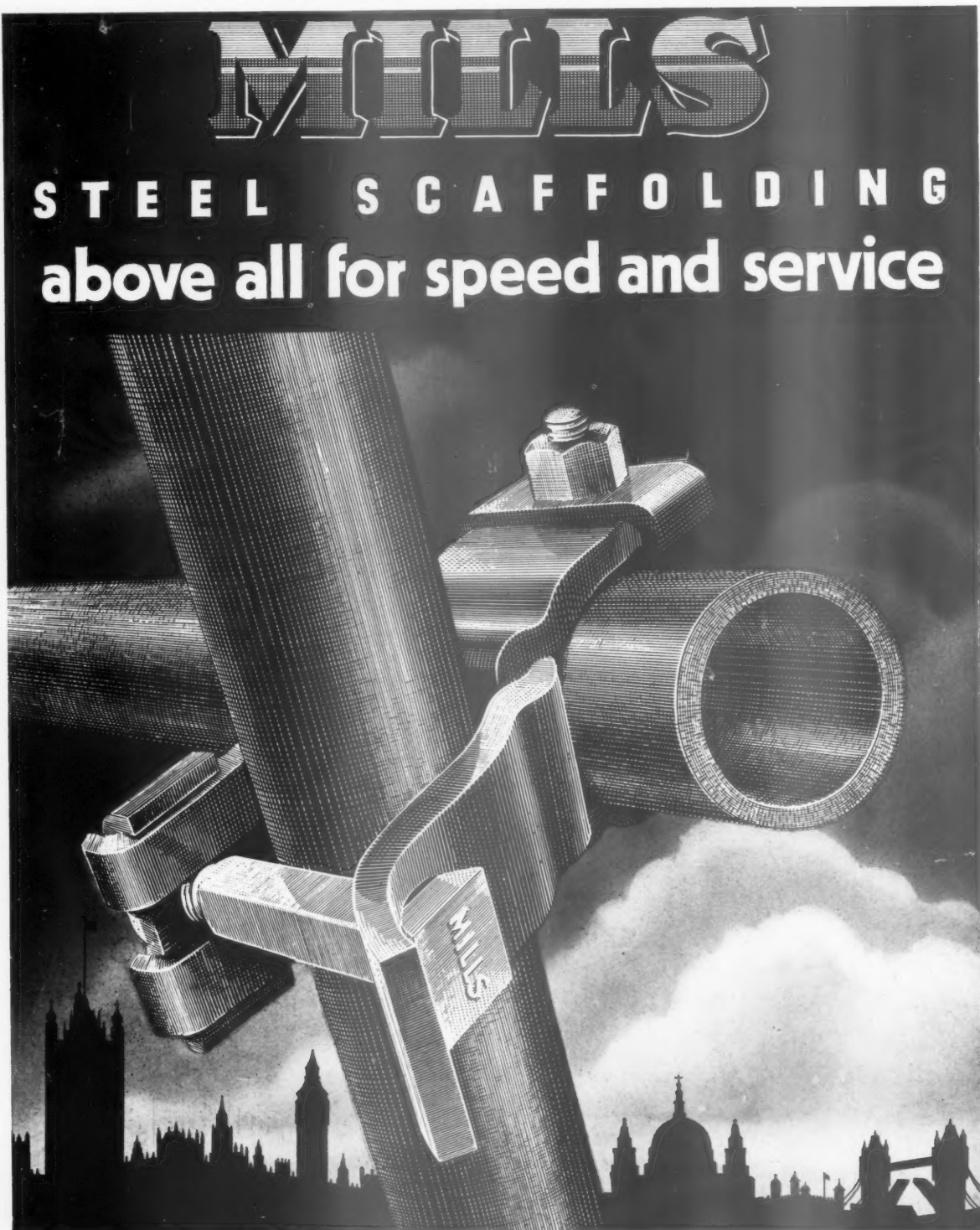
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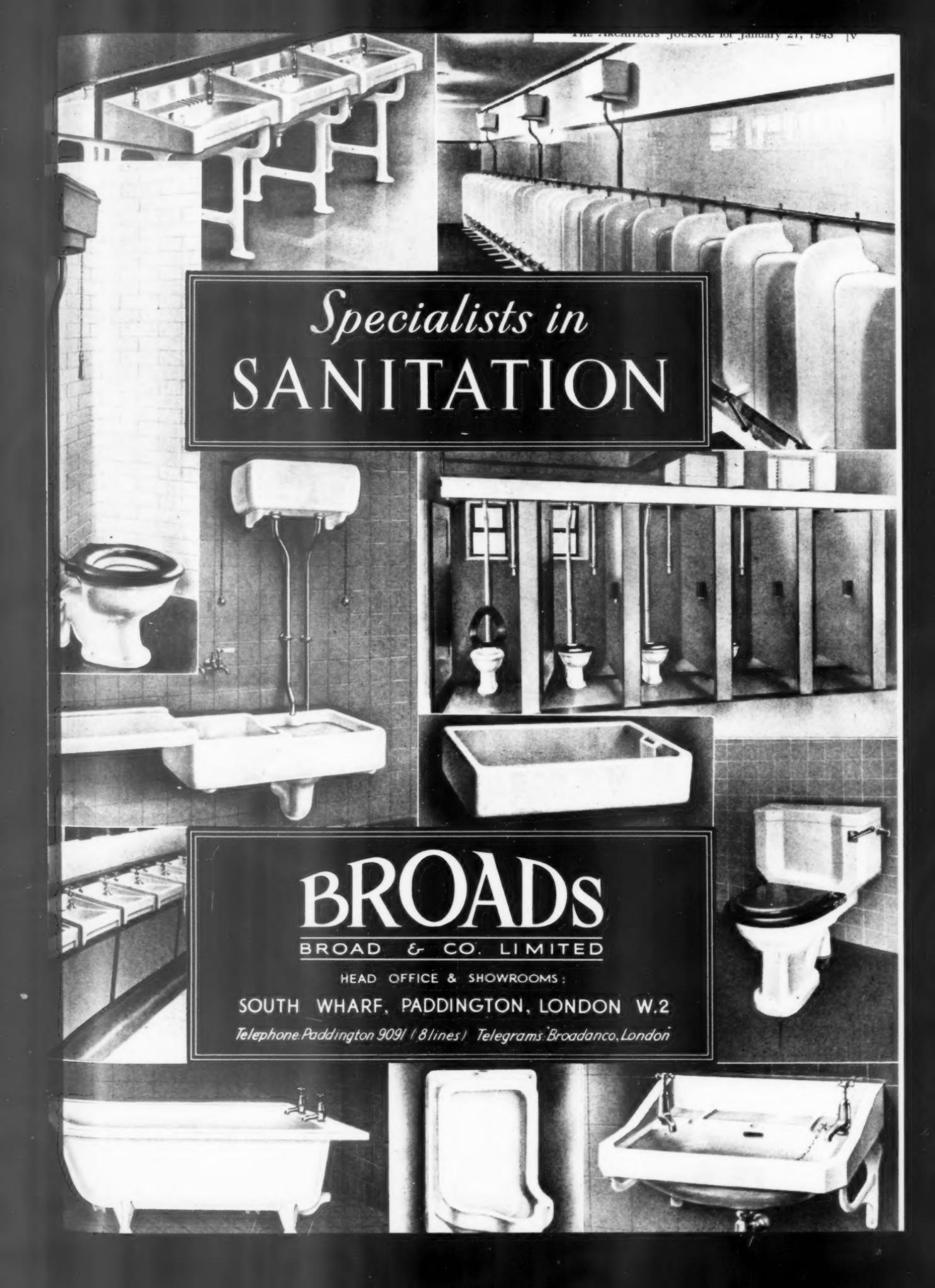
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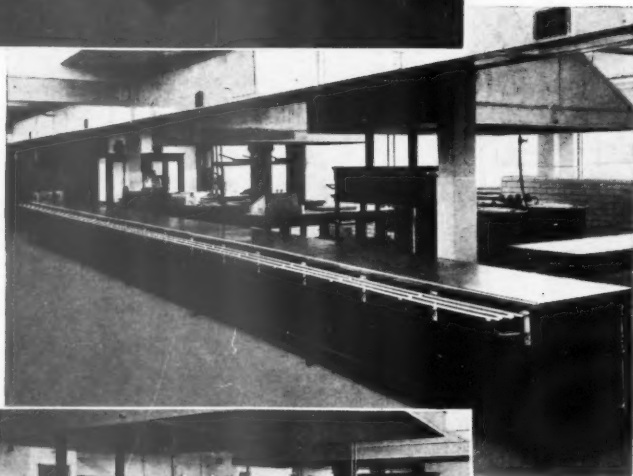
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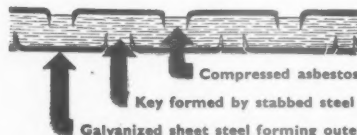
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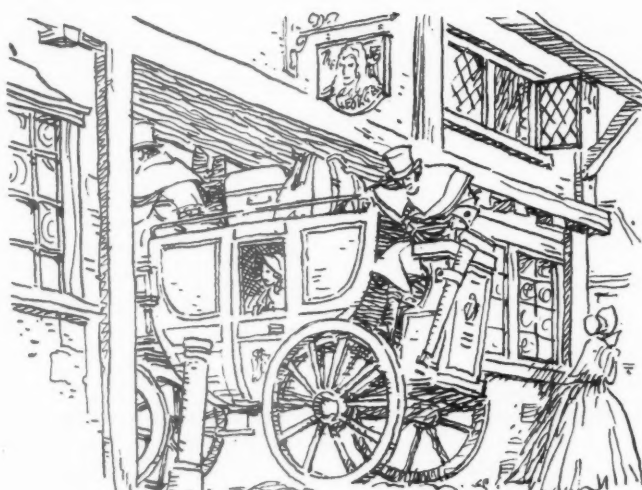
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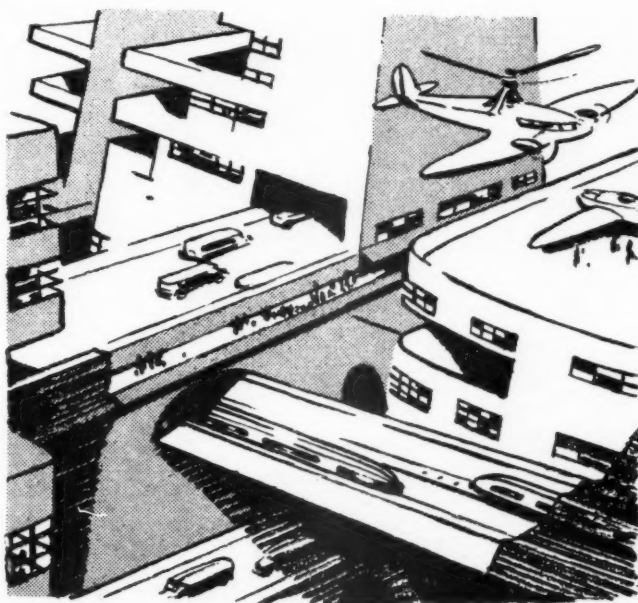


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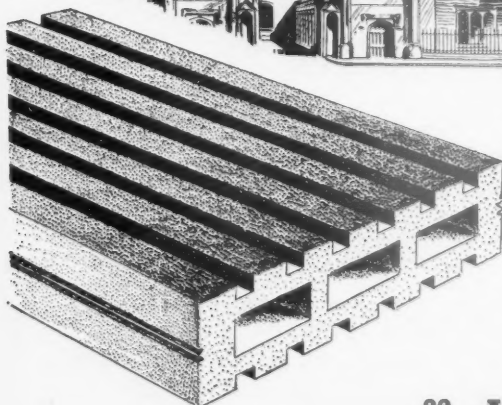
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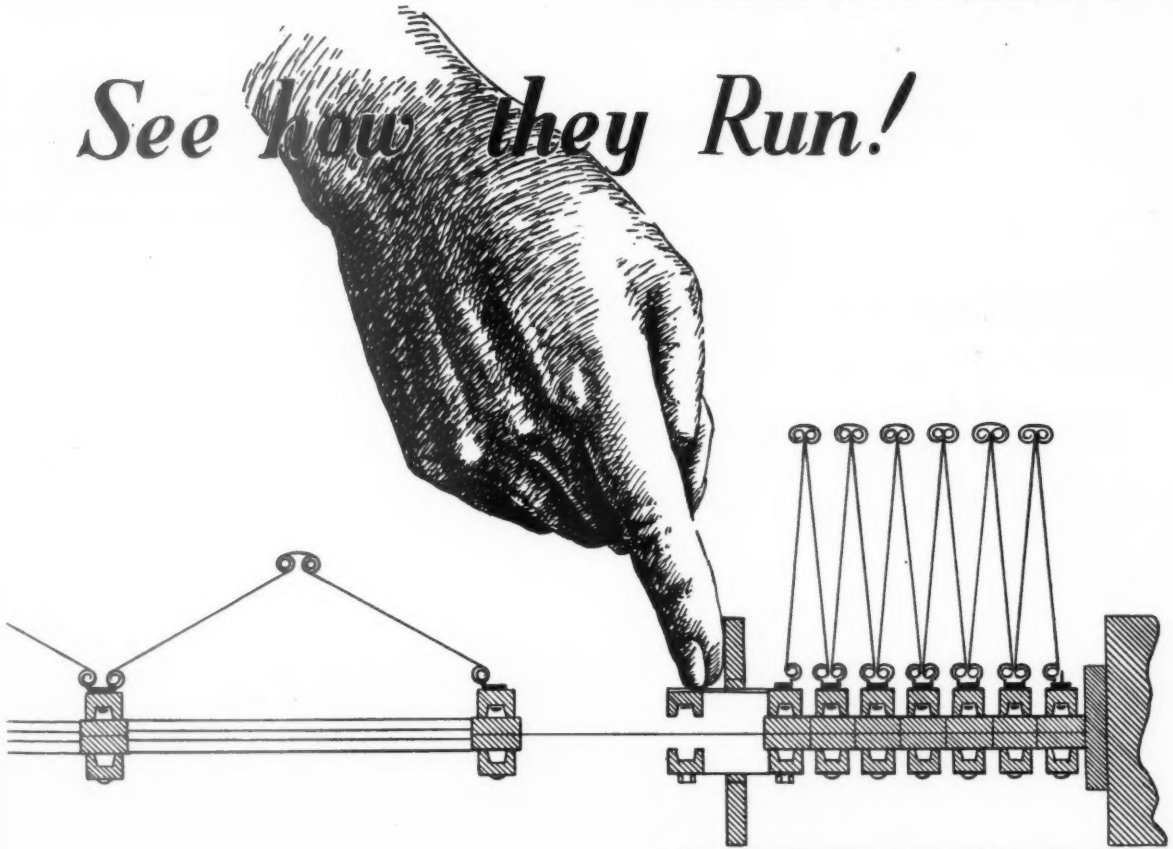
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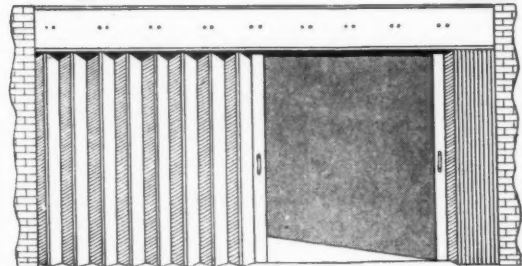
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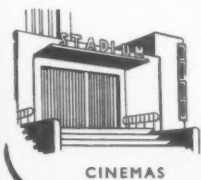


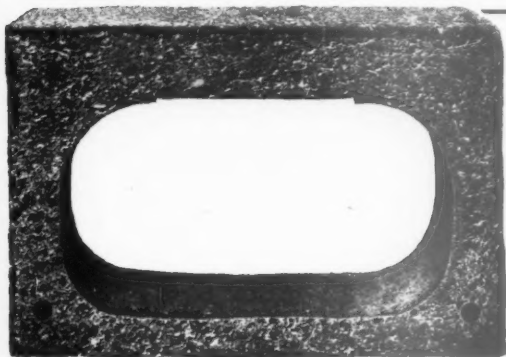
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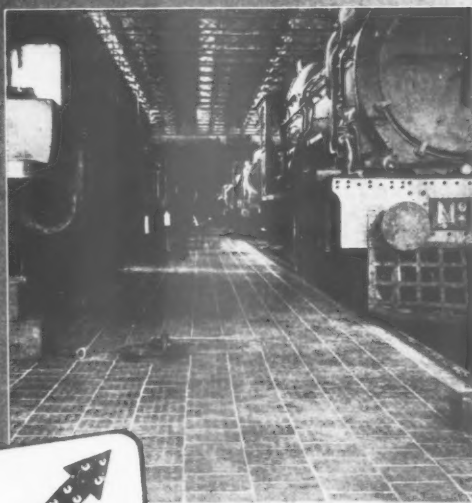
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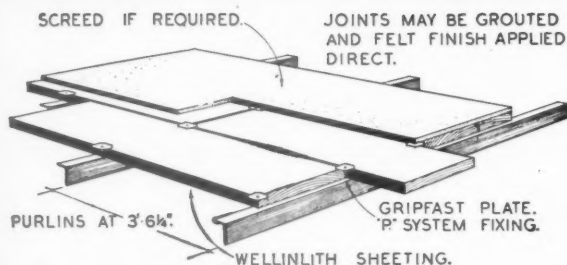
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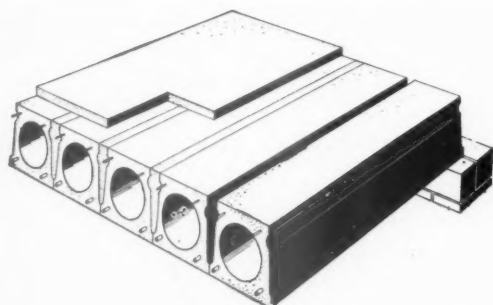
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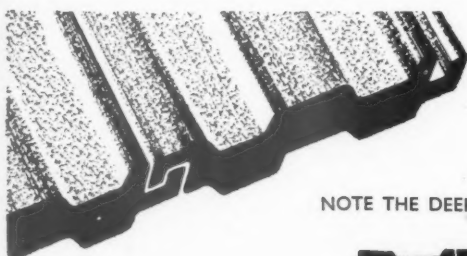
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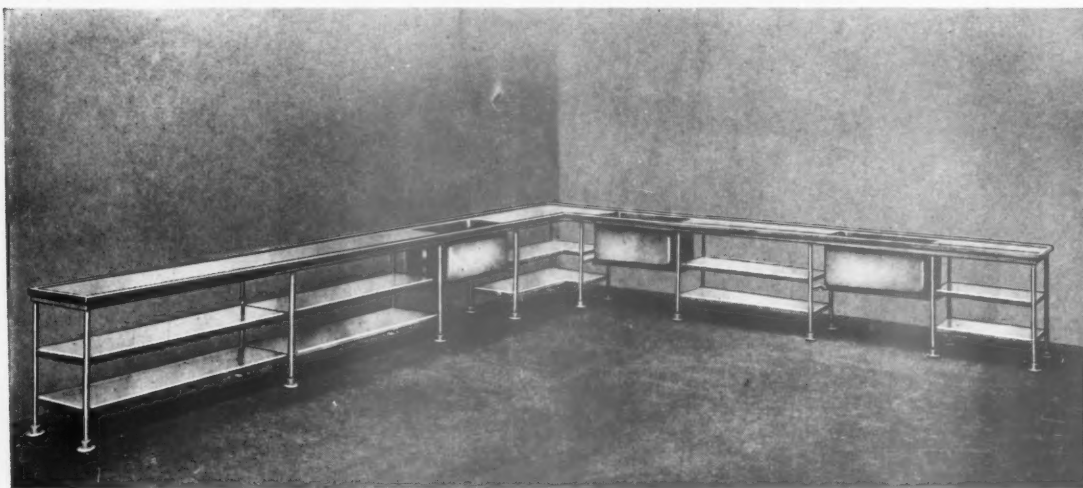
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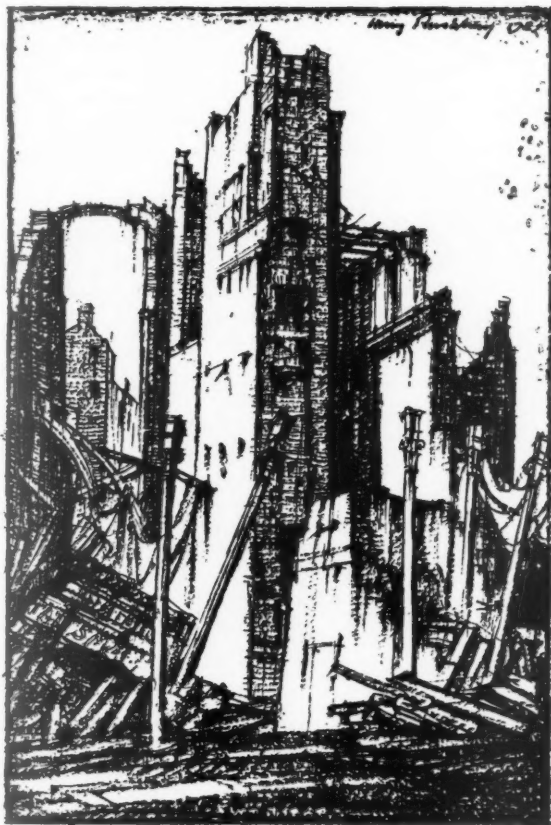
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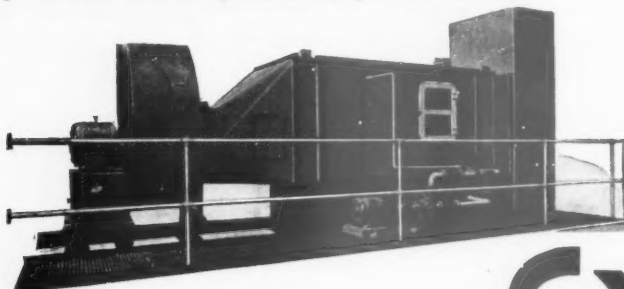
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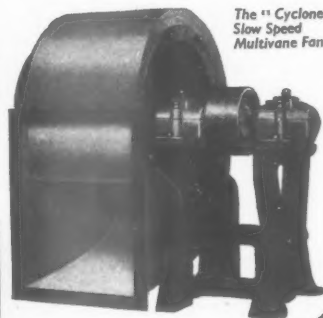
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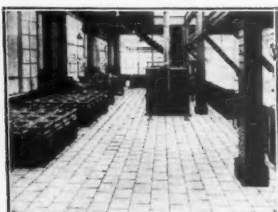
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EXPERIMENT

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It is consistently used by Government Departments, Municipal Authorities, and Public Works Contractors.

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Weighing the merits of Sisalkraft against competitive products.

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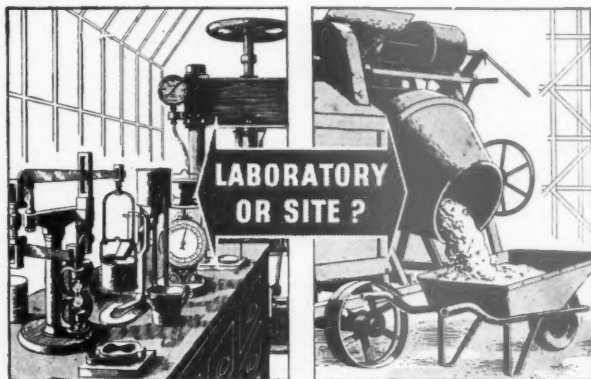
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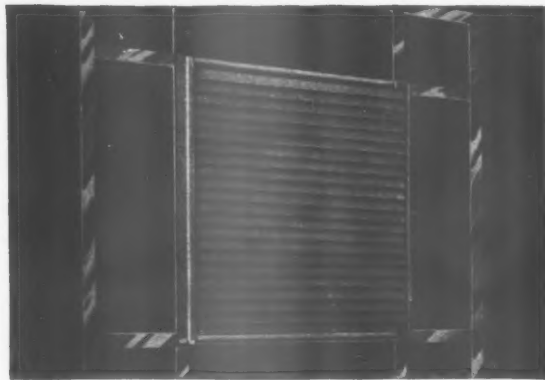
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Newham Patent pending

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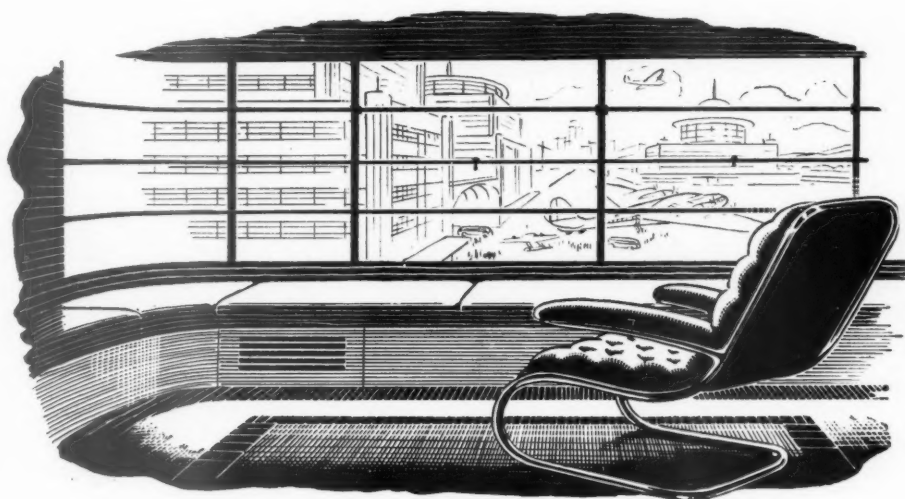
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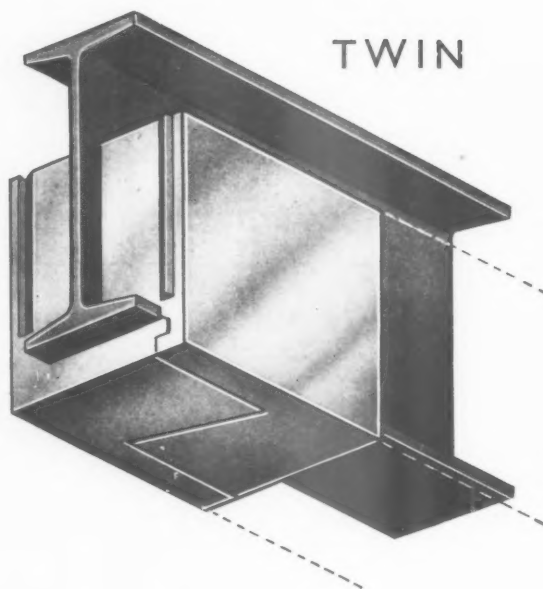
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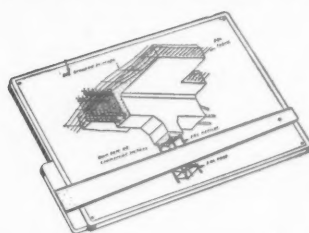
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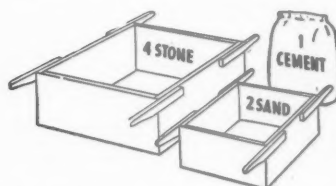
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Short Rules for REINFORCED CONCRETE



1 The design and detail drawings should be obtained from Specialists in Reinforced Concrete Design.

2 The foundations if in clay should be excavated and filled in quickly to prevent moisture changes.



3 The proportions for concrete are generally 4 parts stone, 2 parts sand, 1 part cement by volume. For some purposes $1\frac{1}{2}$ parts cement are used, giving denser and stronger concrete.

4 Stone and sand must be clean . . . special precaution with sand, which often contains loam or other harmful impurity.

5 Mixing water must be clean—Volume 30% to 70% of volume of cement, depending on dampness of stone and sand. When well rammed, the surface of the concrete should be just moist.



6 Reinforcement must be bent cold, as shown on the working drawings, and must be supported in position to give the proper cover of concrete.

7 Shuttering must be cleaned before use, and must be stiffened and braced so that no part of it will be moved by the weight and the ramming of the concrete.

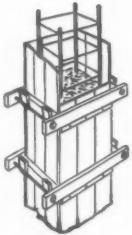
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LONDON, BIRMINGHAM, BRISTOL, LEEDS, LEICESTER, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE

CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

8 Column bars must be held in place. This can be done by wood templates at the top, or by attachment to the shuttering.



9 The open side of column shuttering should be built up only slightly in advance of the concrete so that the concrete can be easily rammed. The concrete of a day's work should be finished level with the top of the open side so that, if dirt gets on it, it can be seen and cleaned off before adding more concrete.

10 Every joint should be at right angles to the main reinforcement. The face should be swilled and coated with cement mortar before adding fresh concrete. If more than two days old, it should be hacked first.



11 Finished concrete should be protected for three days against quick drying, if the weather is hot or windy.

12 Shuttering should be removed with the least damage to the timber and none to the concrete.

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BELL (Patent No. 536989)
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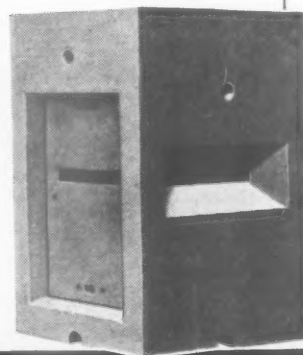
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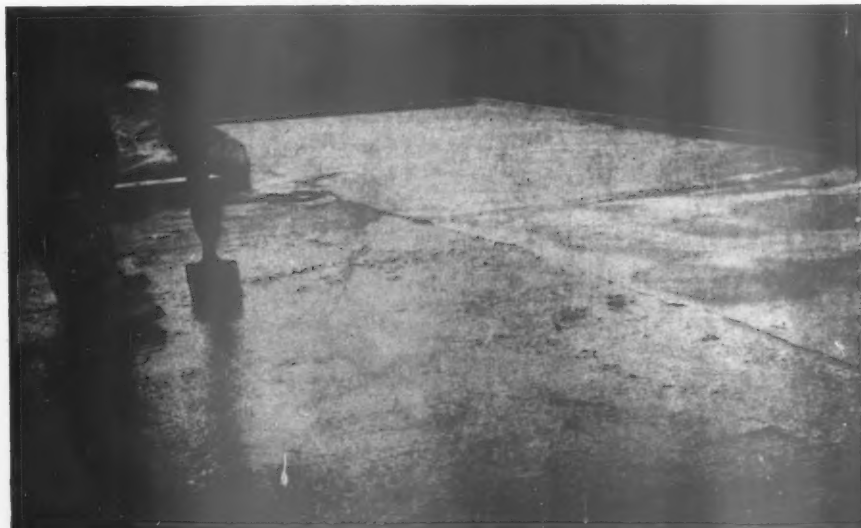
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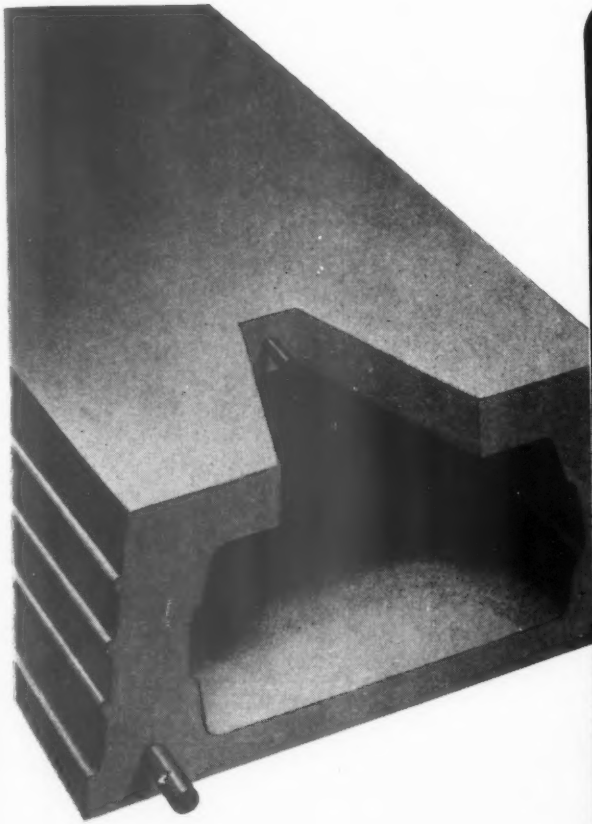
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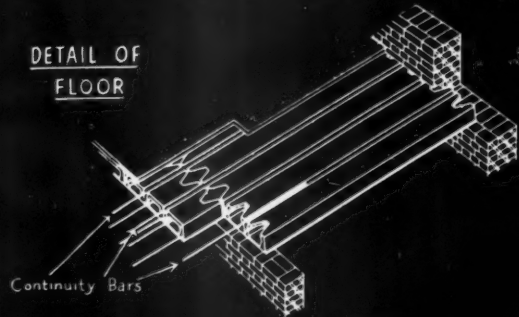
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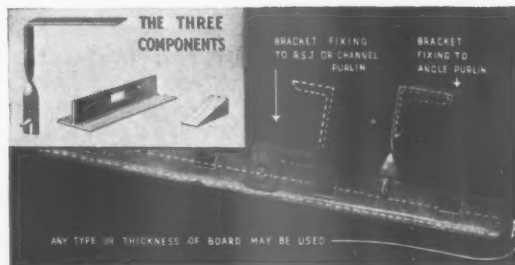
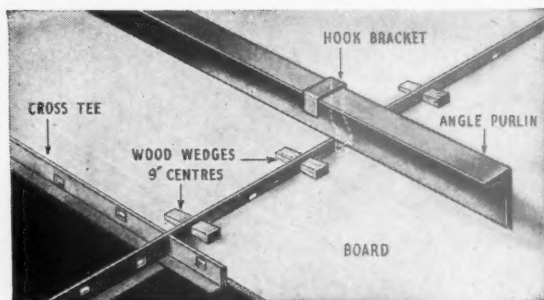
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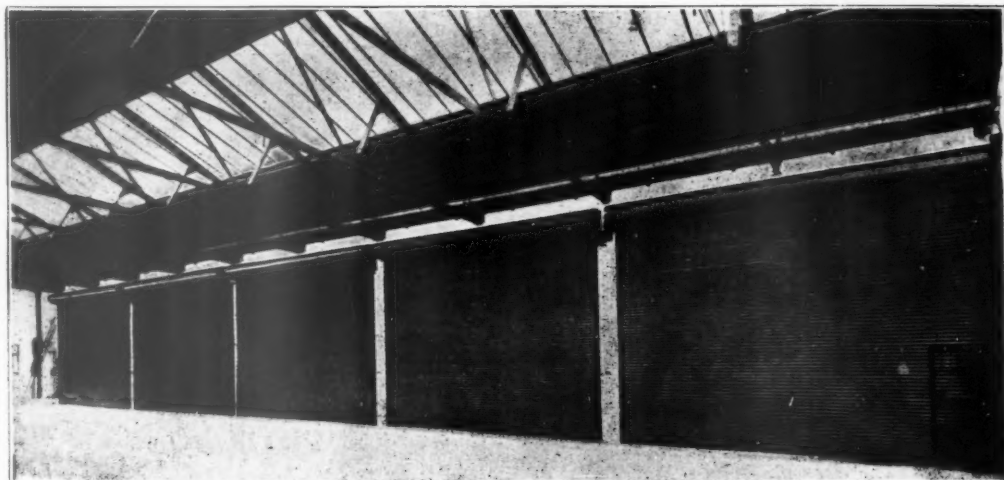
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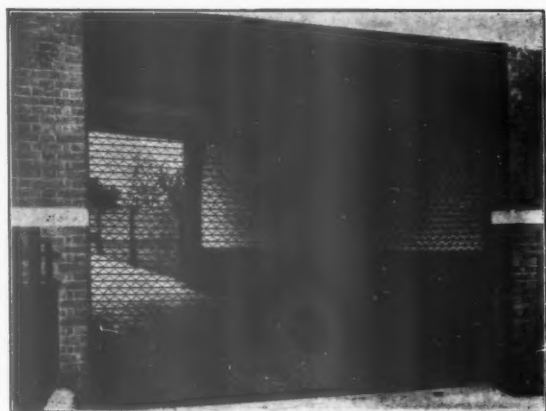
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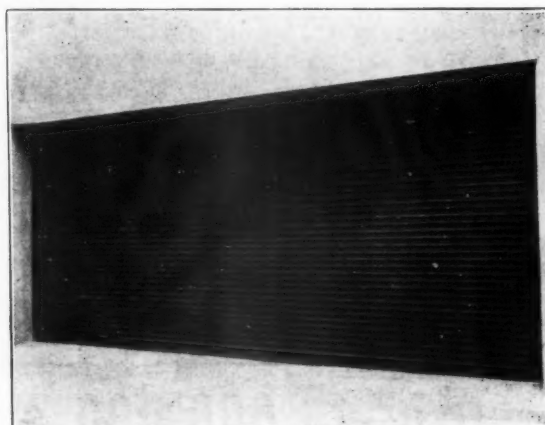
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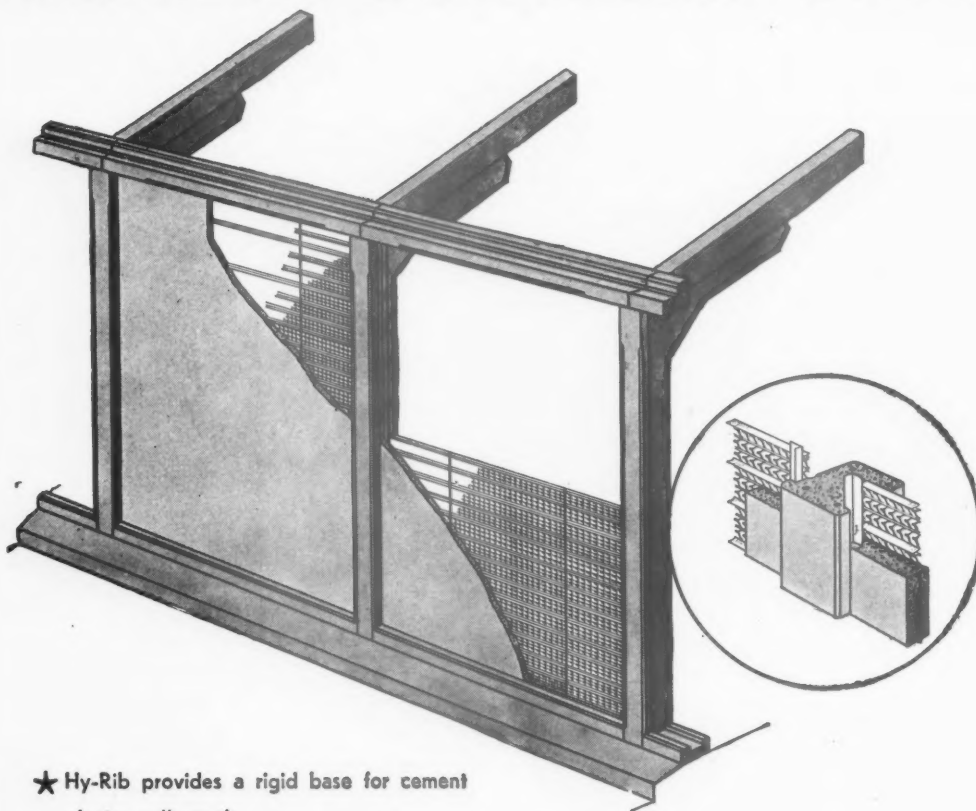
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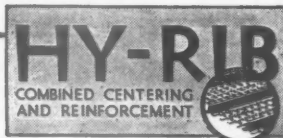
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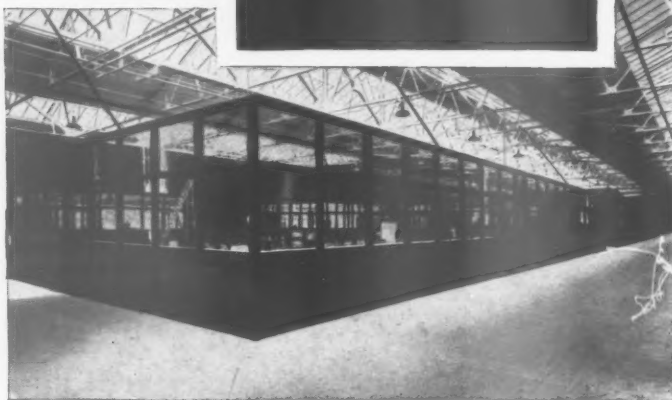


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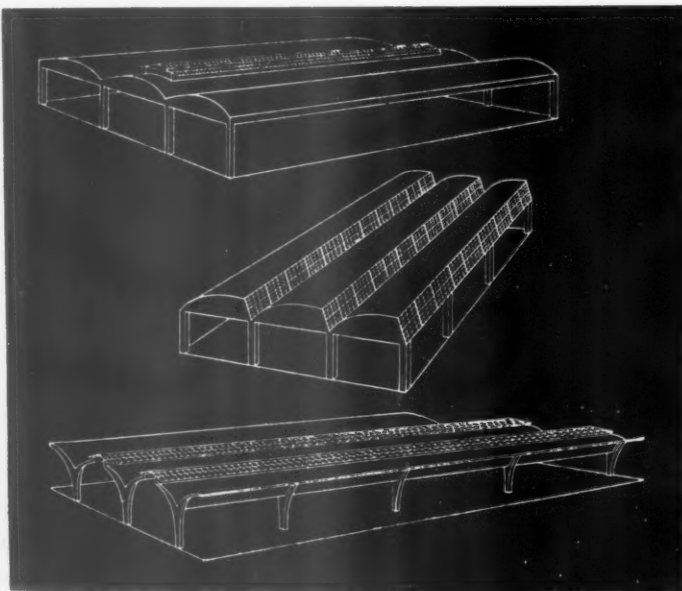
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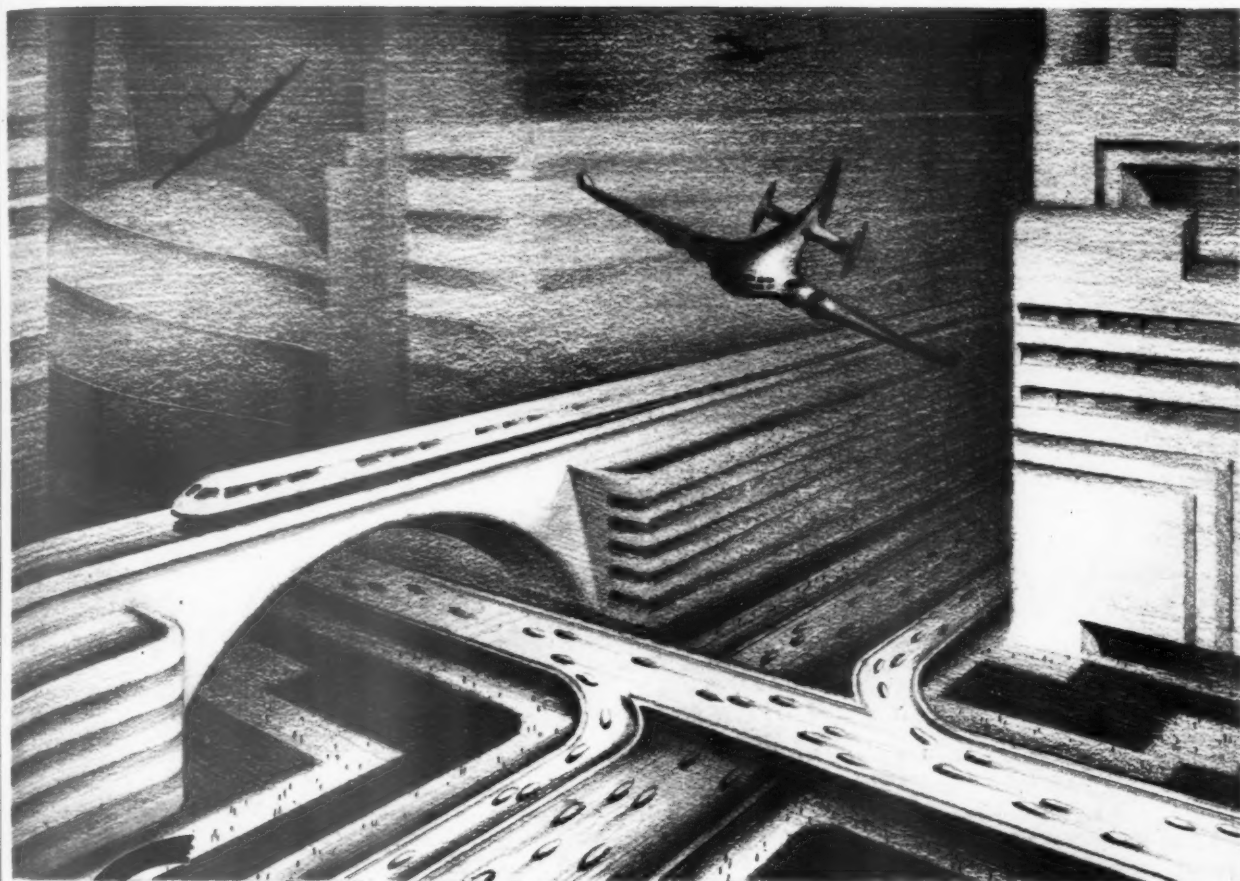
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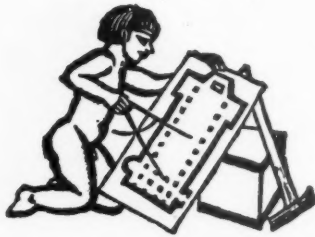
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NEWS

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Though every news item is news to someone, it doesn't follow that all news has the same value for everyone. The stars are used to draw attention to the paragraphs which ought to interest every reader of the Journal.

★ means spare a second for this it will probably be worth it.

★★ means important news, for reasons which may or may not be obvious.

Any paragraph marked with more than two stars is very hot news indeed.

Journal Abbreviations

AA	Architectural Association, 34/6, Bedford Square, W.C.1.	Museum 0974.
ABT	Association of Building Technicians, 113, High Holborn, W.C.1.	Holborn 1024-5.
ARCUK	Architects' Registration Council of the United Kingdom, 68, Portland Place, W.C.1	Welbeck 7938. Mayfair 2128.
BC	Building Centre, 23, Maddox Street, W.1.	
BINC	Building Industries National Council, 110, Bickenhall Mansions, W.1.	Welbeck 3335. Sloane 4554.
BCG	British Commercial Gas, 1, Grosvenor Place, S.W.1.	Sloane 4554.
BEDA	British Electrical Development Association, 2, Savoy Hill, W.C.2.	Temple Bar 9434.
BIS	British Industries Services Ltd., 90, Ebury Street, S.W.1.	Sloane 9801.
BOT	Board of Trade, Millbank, S.W.1.	Whitehall 5140.
BPVM	British Paint and Varnish Manufacturers, Waldegrave Road, Teddington.	Molesey 1063. Garston 2246.
BRS	Building Research Station, Bucknalls Lane, Watford.	Whitehall 5073.
BSA	British Steelwork Association, Steel House, 11, Tothill Street, S.W.1.	Abbey 3333.
BSI	British Standards Institution, 28, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	Sloane 5255.
CCA	Cement and Concrete Association, 52, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.	Abbey 2677.
CDA	Copper Development Association, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, W.C.2.	Kingston 2140.
CMC	Cement Marketing Company, Coombe Hill, Kingston, Surrey.	Sloane 4280.
CPRE	Council for the Preservation of Rural England, 4, Hobart Place, S.W.1.	Whitehall 5322.
CSI	Chartered Surveyors' Institution, 12, Great George Street, S.W.1.	Victoria 4477.
DOT	Department of Overseas Trade, Dolphin Square, S.W.1.	Whitehall 7618.
DIA	Design and Industries Association, Central Institute of Art and Design, National Gallery, W.C.2.	Holborn 2646.
GG	Georgian Group, 55, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1.	Sloane 3158.
IAAS	Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors, 75, Eaton Place, S.W.1.	Abbey 5215.
IES	Illuminating Engineering Society, 32, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	Wallington 3278.
IRA	Institute of Registered Architects, 59, Montagu Gardens, Wallington, Surrey.	Regent 4782.
ISPH	Industrial & Scientific Provision of Housing, 3, Albemarle Street, W.1.	Mansion House 2855.
LIDC	Lead Industries Development Council, Rex House, King William Street, E.C.4.	Museum 3767.
LMBA	London Master Builders' Association, 47, Bedford Square, W.C.1.	Grosvenor 2652.
MARS	Modern Architectural Research Society, 8, Clarges Street, W.1.	Whitehall 4577.
MICE	Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, S.W.1.	Whitehall 4300.
MOH	Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W.1.	Euston 4321.
MOI	Ministry of Information, Malet Street, W.C.1.	Whitehall 6200.
MOLNS	Ministry of Labour and National Service, St. James' Square, S.W.1.	Gerrard 6933.
MOS	Ministry of Supply, Shell Mex House, Victoria Embankment, W.C.2.	Reliance 7611.
MOWP	Ministry of Works and Planning, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.	Langham 4041.
NFBTE	National Federation of Building Trades Employers, 82, New Cavendish Street, W.1.	Holborn 2770.
NFBTO	National Federation of Building Trades Operatives, 9, Rugby Chambers, Rugby Street, W.C.1.	Whitehall 7245.
PEP	Political and Economic Planning, 16, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1.	Reliance 7611.
PWB	Post War Building, Directorate of, Ministry of Works and Planning, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.	Whitehall 9936.
RCA	Reinforced Concrete Association, 91, Petty France, S.W.1.	Welbeck 6927.
RIBA	Royal Institute of British Architects, 66, Portland Place, W.1.	Temple Bar 8274.
RSA	Royal Society of Arts, 6, John Adam Street, W.C.2.	Holborn 2646.
SPAB	Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, 55, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1.	Whitehall 2881.
TCPA	Town and Country Planning Association, 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1.	Oxford 47988.
ZDA	Zinc Development Association, Lincoln Building, 15, Turl Street, Oxford.	

At Gloucestershire Quarter Sessions a Cheltenham firm of CONTRACTORS WERE FINED £150 and ordered to pay the costs of the prosecution for contravening the Defence Regulations by executing structural operations, costing over £100, to a house without a licence. The cost of the work and the articles installed was £493 3s. The owner of the house was fined £30. At Cheltenham Police Court a local plumber was fined £10 and £5 5s. costs for contravening the same Regulations. The total cost of his work was £103, and that of plumber's fittings, purchased from an independent builder's merchant by the client, £28 3s. The amount expended in excess of the £100 limit was £31 3s.

The programme of the second group of R.I.B.A. ARCHITECTURAL SCIENCE BOARD LECTURES to be given at the R.I.B.A. this month is as follows: Saturday, January 23, 2.15 p.m., Artificial Lighting, by Mr. Richard Ackley, President, IES. Chairman: Mr. G. Grey Wornum, F.R.I.B.A. Interval for tea and discussion. 4.30 p.m. Planning for Daylight, by Mr. W. Allen, A.R.I.B.A. (BRS). Chairman: Mr. Henry Strauss, Parliamentary Secretary, MOWP. Saturday, January 30, 2.15 p.m., The Architect's Approach to the Problem of Noise in Buildings, by Mr. Robert Fitzmaurice, B.S.C. (BRS). Chairman: Sir Edward Appleton, F.R.S., Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. Interval for tea and discussion. 4.30 p.m., The Fundamental Principles of the Weathering of Building Materials, by Mr. F. L. Brady, M.Sc., A.I.C. (BRS). Chairman: Mr. Hugh Beaver, M.INST.C.E., Director-General, MOWP.

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and we've got something

up our



Nobody doubts the urgency with which houses will be needed after the war. Pre-war methods of building will not meet all the demands. New methods and materials will have to be brought into play. Otherwise, *speed* will simply be interpreted as *hurry*, with the result that houses will be jerry-built out of sheer necessity! We have given serious attention to this problem, our materials will help

Speed Building to become a reality, our experimental research work will perfect new methods of using them. We realise nevertheless that the building of a new world will not be a one-man, one-firm, or one-process job. We are always happy to co-operate with other firms interested in post-war building.

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Under the system outlined [three classes of road : artery, sub-artery, and local] a great number of pockets will have been created, each of which will consist of a little local system of minor roads, devoted to industrial, business, shopping or residential purposes. These pockets will be a leading feature of the whole town plan ; from the traffic point of view they are merely pockets, but each will be a centre of life and activity, and they will thus require a more ornamental name. Each pocket represents in its way a separate little community. The words "precinct", "close," "purlieu," "pale," "circuit," are all possible ; the French word "Enclave" is descriptive ; perhaps even the word "zone" might serve. The best term on the whole seems to be "precinct" ; let us therefore for present purposes adopt it. Where entry is afforded to any of these precincts for more than one sub-artery, great care must be taken that no accidental short cut through the precincts is created, for all traffic not having actual business here must be rigorously discouraged. Road layout may have to be altered in such a way as to make it deliberately obstructive. Each of these precincts will require a separate name or number of its own for directional purposes, and in particular for signposting. It is to be hoped that each precinct will have its own proper name. An outstanding example of a real precinct, with all its abounding virtues, is already to be found in the Inns of Court in London. . . . Within quiet confines from which the general traffic has been totally excluded, lie those ordered precincts, adorned with buildings that are architecturally fitting, and relieved and softened by grass plots and growing trees. In preserves of that kind all men, and not only a favoured few, should be able to spend their working hours, and town dwellers their lives. While the lawyers' precincts will keep their own dignity and reserve, the shopping precincts will revel in colour and display, and in each business precinct the stockbrokers and merchants will be able to move freely without dodging between masses of buses and cabs—a horribly inefficient arrangement. The residential precincts will have its own space and repose, equally sequestered from the rush and the peril of through-traffic. All of this is logical development, and it is bound to come—if not now, in later centuries. The streets in the various precincts will then become town streets of the old-fashioned type. They will cease to become maelstroms of noise and confusion, and become companionable places, with an air of leisure and repose ; such streets will provide a real promenade for the town dweller and a rest for jaded nerves. We shall be getting back to a Merrie England.

From *Town Planning and Road Traffic*, by H. Alker Tripp, C.B.E. (Arnold).

We regret to record the DEATH OF SIR HENRY MAYBURY, G.B.E., K.C.M.G., C.B. He took a leading part in remodelling the roads of this country to meet the needs of motor traffic, and service to the armies in France and Flanders in connection with the provision of roads. When the Ministry of Transport, constituted under the Act of 1919, absorbed the Road Board, he was appointed Director-General of its Roads Department. Under his direction many important schemes were carried out for the construction of new arterial roads and the improvement of existing highways, with substantial relief to unemployment in the years following the end of the war. He resigned in 1928, when he was made G.B.E., but continued his connection with the Ministry in an advisory capacity for bridges, roads, and traffic until 1932. He also retained until 1933 the chairmanship of the London and Home Counties Traffic Advisory Committee, to which he was first elected in 1924. He was chosen president of the Institute of Transport in 1921 and of the Institution of Civil Engineers in 1933. He was 79 years of age.

The ABT. has become affiliated to the NFBTO. Thus for the first time in British building TECHNICAL WORKERS JOIN HANDS WITH THE OPERATIVES. The Association state that the link between technicians and

operatives will make possible the solution of technical and trade union problems to the benefit of producer and consumer alike. The Association points out : Together the technical and operative workers in the industry will be able to deal with many aspects of planning and construction important to the winning of the war, and to ensure rapid and efficient re-building after victory. The building front after the war will be of primary importance. This affiliation will ensure that all workers in the industry will be united in their efforts to win the peace on this front.

Mr. William Charles Farnsworth has been elected PRESIDENT OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' INSTITUTION in succession to the late Mr. G. Vigers. Mr. Farnsworth is surveyor to the trustees of Earl Spencer for their estates in Northamptonshire, Warwickshire and Norfolk, land agent for a number of agricultural estates, including those of the Northampton Corporation, and Sir Giles Isham's Lamport Estate. He holds the appointment of surveyor to the River Nene Drainage Boards Nos. 1 and 2. Mr. Farnsworth has been a Member of Council of the Institution since 1938 and of the Land Agency Committee since 1936. He was Honorary Secretary for 13 years of the Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland Branch of which later he became Chairman, and which he now represents on the Council. He is the senior partner in Berry Brothers and Bagshaw, of Kettering.

Under the First Schedule of the Architects (Registration) Act, 1931, concerning the postal election of representatives of UNATTACHED ARCHITECTS ON THE ARCHITECTS' REGISTRATION COUNCIL for the year ending March, 1944, nominations were received for the election of the ten persons who at present represent the Unattached Architects on the Council, and no other candidates have been nominated. The representatives for the current year will accordingly be returned unopposed for the year ending March, 1944, as follows :—
A. N. Anderson, M.INST.R.A. ; Vincent Burr, F.I.A.A., L.R.I.B.A., M.INST.R.A. ; E. W. Chapman, M.INST.R.A. ; E. J. Elford, M.INST.C.E. ; Capt. Montagu Evans, M.C., F.S.I., M.INST.R.A. ; G. L. Head, M.INST.R.A. ; A. B. Houchin ; W. O. Hudson, M.INST.R.A. ; W. Roseveare, M.INST.R.A. ; H. E. G. Stripp, A.M.I.C.E.

Under a scheme to be launched by the Government many new COTTAGES FOR FARM WORKERS will probably be built before the end of the year.



S e c o n d M i n i s t e r o f B u i l d i n g

By now the building industry is getting used to having a ministry—and a Minister. Lord Portal came in with the storm over planning that swept out Lord Reith, and so far he has ridden the flood with a serene and smiling good-humour which has given absolutely nothing away. Now in the nick of time the *enfant terrible* of Reconstruction, which has always threatened to kick the bottom out of the boat,

has been handed over to Mr. W. S. Morrison and the Ministry-to-be of Town and Country Planning. Lord Portal was appointed on February 11, 1942, Minister of Works and Planning. He was born in 1885 and educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. He served throughout the last war in the Life Guards and won the D.S.O.



NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER TO THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

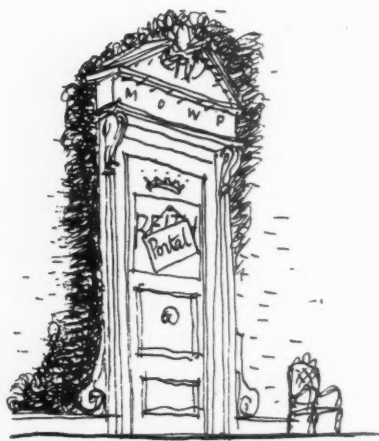
THE year 1942 has seen a great increase in the tempo of building, whether in camps, depots, factories or aerodromes. The rate of construction has steadily increased in spite of the continual loss of the younger men to the forces. During the summer there has been a remarkable co-operative effort on the part of the Building Industry to meet a special urgent demand for a new big programme of building. This has meant serious interference with many firms, and many craftsmen have been asked to work as mates and labourers; they all accepted because that was how the war effort could best be furthered.

In other ways there has been a growing collaboration which has brought valuable results and will bring still more. It is well that this should be so, since this year is bound to produce even more difficult problems in the building world than we have yet faced. Meanwhile, much too is being unobtrusively but effectively done in preparation for the return of peace; in the study of the structure of the industry, and the efficiency of present methods of carrying out work; in the consideration of the education and training of those who are going to make the industry, whether craftsmen or technical assistants or managerial staff; in the study of all the technical questions of materials, equipment and design; in the problems of standardisation and pre-fabrication; in the examination of the principal sources of materials so that supplies will not be impaired by the effect of war conditions.

All the technical bodies have joined in the recently established Codes of Practice Committee which aims at the production of real codes of good building. To my mind there is much of encouragement for the future in all this and with such a spirit I am sure that the industry will be able to face its responsibilities however great.

PORTAL

ASTRAGAL'S Review of 1942



JANUARY

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL, which was published on January 1st, 1942, was not only the first New Year's Day number for twelve years, but also the first to appear in its new "austerity" format. By pruning margins, omitting blank spaces and, by condensing layout, a paper saving of 10 per cent. was achieved without sacrificing an inch of type or illustration, and for the time being a pocket edition of the A.J. was avoided.

In London, railings had begun to disappear from the parks and squares and an order was published forbidding (except under licence) the spending of more than £100 on repairs to the same building within a period of one year.

Abroad, the war was going badly for the Allies, and the Prime Minister flew home from the U.S.A. to face a critical House of Commons. Singapore was in danger, the retreat from Libya had begun, and the Japs were spreading like a yellow stain across the Pacific. Mr. U. Saw, the premier of Burma, was arrested, and there was a Cabinet crisis in Iceland.

FEBRUARY

Portal took over from Reith, and MOWB took over town planning

powers from the MOH and became—unofficially—MOWP. The R.I.B.A. reconstruction committees published their interim reports, and it was announced that Coventry and Glasgow were going ahead with housing programmes.

The war news steadily deteriorated. Singapore and Rangoon both fell, the *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* escaped, the Burma Road was cut, there was deadlock in India. Messrs. Nelson and Lyttelton were appointed production chiefs for America and England, and Sir William Beveridge issued a report severely criticising the unimaginative use made of skilled labour in the Army. There were Cabinet changes in Britain, Iceland and the Isle of Man. In Germany, architect Spëer succeeded Todt as head of the Reich's building industry, and clothes rationing was introduced in Japan. (A kimono apparently costs 24 coupons.)

MARCH

Sir William Jowitt became the new planning pigeon-hole, the British Concrete Federation produced the B.C.F. Hut, and MOWP the standard brick. The first illustrations were published of Holford's Hostels; perhaps the most intelligently planned and pleasantly designed of all our war buildings to date. Regulations were introduced dealing with the protection of domestic premises against fire in danger areas.

The Dutch East Indies and Bataan fell to the enemy. Sir Stafford Cripps left England for India and Mr. J. L. Garvin left the *Observer* for the *Sunday Express*. Mr. Kendall, the armaments magnate, was elected M.P. for Grantham.

APRIL

There was much talk of planning at the Town and Country Planning Association's Cambridge conference, but no mention of it in Lord Portal's first public speech. (Lack of enthusiasm, or the caution of a new minister?) The cost of living was now about twice as high as in 1914, and Mr. Bevin announced that half the population of this country was now directly mobilised



in the war effort.

New economies were laid down for tailors (no more turn-ups, double-breasted waistcoats or zip-fasteners). The *Daily Mirror* was "warned" by Mr. Morrison, and Sir Warren Fisher resigned in a dispute with him over the privileges and duties of Regional Commissioners.

Bath was attacked in the first of the Baedeker raids, while abroad the India plan was rejected, Laval took over in France, and Switzerland condemned a popular joke to death by announcing that she now owned a merchant fleet of seven ships.

MAY

Twenty-four members spoke at the second reading of the Planning Bill in the House of Commons, where the Beveridge Fuel Plan was badly received and eventually dropped.

The first of the 1,000 bomber raids (on Cologne) resulted in reprisal attacks on Exeter and York.

Abroad, Malta received the George Cross and Lord Gort as its Governor. The British landed in Madagascar and the Japs in Corregidor. Mexico declared war on the Axis and there was a general election in Japan.



JUNE

Twenty-two serving members wrote to the R.I.B.A. hinting delicately that they hoped they wouldn't find every chair occupied when they

returned from the wars; and the MOWP Planning Bill was finally passed.

There were two more 1,000-bomber raids in Germany, but on all other war fronts the Allies were in retreat. The Anglo-Russian Pact was signed and the Fuel Target Publicity Campaign was inaugurated by Good King Hall.

JULY

This month marked the opening of the new building programme. The Board of Trade set up a committee to produce utility furniture, the R.I.B.A. started a pool for ordnance maps, and the N.B.R. another for measured drawings. The A.A.S.T.A. staged a debate on Planning—to-day or to-morrow?—and an enquiry into the positions in MOWP of Mr. Bennett and Mr. Beaver resulted in official approval of their appointments. The public were told they need no longer carry their gas-masks.

In Italy, church bells were requisitioned, and in Germany a politeness campaign was launched.

AUGUST

The Scott Report, published this month, is discussed elsewhere. The new Waterloo Bridge was opened to partial traffic, almost 20 years after the discovery (by an ex-editor of the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL) that its predecessor was falling down. Our distress at losing a national monument and a fine piece of architecture is slightly consoled by the sane elegance of the bridge which has now replaced it.

Both these events were overshadowed by the news from the war fronts, particularly the Dieppe raid. "Mr Bullfinch" flew to Moscow and Cairo, Rommel was only a few miles from Alexandria, disturbances were breaking out in India, and the Germans were at the gates of Stalingrad. In Japan Tojo replaced Togo.

SEPTEMBER

Since the days of the Spanish war many people in this country have clamoured for a "deep-shelter" policy. This month the first six

to be actually built were opened for inspection in London. They will not be used unless the blitzes begin again.

The Uthwatt report was published and received subdued applause from the press. An interesting light was thrown on modern production methods by the news that a gun factory in Britain had been dismantled for shipping to America and that a rubber factory had been similarly shipped to Russia. To-day, it appears, it is often more economical in the end to despatch the factory than its products.

Budapest and Vienna were bombed, Stalingrad continued to hold out, and Grantham listened to the self-defence of Mr. Kendall.

OCTOBER

Few people were greatly encouraged by the exhibition at Burlington House of the R.A. plan for London and at the Building Centre of the first Utility Furniture, though the former promoted a lively interchange of ideas between Sir Charles Bressey and Mr. H. G. Strauss.



The Scott and Uthwatt reports found their official nests beneath the wing of the Paymaster-General, and in the Albert Hall, the Archbishops and Sir Stafford Cripps addressed a packed audience on the part of Christianity in the new world. Some of the points made aroused a hornet's nest in the correspondence columns of *The Times*, and not long afterwards a considerable portion of the Albert Hall's ceiling collapsed.

News from the war fronts—wind-blown by Mr. Willkie's whirlwind

tour—was improving. Mr. Lyttelton's fateful 80 days were up, Stalingrad was still holding, the Japs were retreating in the Pacific, and the British advancing in Libya.

Tactlessness brought trouble to Mr. Arnold Lunn in South America and to Mr. Joad in Leamington Spa.

NOVEMBER

The Minister of Health revealed that one in every five houses in this country had been damaged by aerial bombardment, hinted that house-building might have to start again before the end of the war, and advised local authorities to start thinking about the problem. Ralph Tubbs' "The Way we Build" exhibition opened at the National Gallery, and three thousand visitors a day filed past the Utility Furniture display at the Building Centre. The Select Committee on National Expenditure delivered another broadside, this time at the Air Ministry, and a Government committee was set up to study the design of farm-buildings. The future of planning was discussed in the House of Lords, where Lord Portal announced the shelving of the problem of betterment as being too controversial, and Professor Abercrombie wisely reminded us again that we were "at our wits' end to find architects capable of handling country planning." The A.J. was referred to by the *News Review* as an "august journal."

But all this news fell into the background, for this month the war news was really good. The Allies were advancing on all fronts—Libya, Russia and the Pacific. There was a successful landing in North Africa and the French fleet scuttled themselves in Toulon—the first recorded case of ships leaving a sinking rat.

Altogether a creditable piece of war-planning by the clique of Jews and drunkards, by whom, in the eyes of our opponents, we are governed.

DECEMBER

Big news of this month was the announcement that the Government proposed to set up a Ministry of Town and Country Planning, with Mr. W. S. Postmaster-General

Morrison as first Minister. Government actions regarding matters of planning and reconstruction have always shown a lack of urgency, and any move, even if apparently in the right direction, is now received by the public with a suspicion that it is one more alteration of the points to shunt the issue on to a siding.

In England everybody who wasn't talking about the Beveridge Report was talking about Darlan. The latter eventually won easily by getting himself assassinated when the subject was losing its interest.

On the battle fronts of the world the fortunes of the Allied nations continued to prosper and the Russian offensives were a fine Christmas present to all of us.

Politicians and leader-writers, in their New Year messages, began to speak of "glimmers of light on the horizon," "faint rays before the dawn," "sparks in the gloom," "distant radiance at the ends of tunnels," hastening to add that the worst was yet to come and that we must not reduce our efforts, etc., etc. Despite their warnings confidence at the dawn of 1943 seemed a little less sober than usual. Let us hope sincerely that it is justified.

RECONSTRUCTION



For those interested in reconstruction, 1942 has been a year of promise and disappointment. A Ministry of Works and Planning was established. Two valuable reports on planning were published but only, it seems, to be pigeon-holed, while the exhibition of two ambi-

tious and widely different plans for post-war London served only to chill the imagination of the sensitive—one with its doctrinaire ruthlessness, the other with its sterile fancy-dress. The establishment in December however of a new ministry of Town and Country Planning with Mr. W. S. Morrison as first Minister-designate ended the year in an atmosphere of what Mr. Garvin calls "temperate optimism."

A flood of evidence on post-war needs and methods poured ceaselessly from official and unofficial sources. Much of it was conflicting. Polls and surveys of public opinion disclosed an apparently overwhelming distaste among civilians for terrace housing and communal facilities, while large numbers of the women's services voted with equal enthusiasm for a continuation in some degree of the group life they now enjoyed. Prefabrication, said some, was the only answer; or, if you preferred, it was "nonsense." Those who clamoured (and rightly) for improved equipment and accommodation for the housewife, sometimes forgot to remember that a higher maternal mortality is caused not by overcrowding, but by overbreeding. Housing, in fact, as Max Lock put it, is not enough—you must have crèches and nursery schools as well.

With all this whirling activity of committees, reports and exhibitions, the British public seemed largely unconcerned. The slackening in most areas of aerial bombardment had made the subject seem less urgent somehow, and certainly there was no room for its discussion in the tiny newspapers of 1942. A vague nostalgia for the suburban plot, a persistent aversion to blocks of flats, and mild anger at the quality of the buildings which during the previous year had tumbled nightly about the people's ears, were the only active sentiments which occasionally, like barnacled but faintly remembered monsters of the deep, broke surface in the placid pool of public opinion.

But in spite of contradictions of opinion and confusion in action, some progress has been made in 1942. The setting up of a reconstituted MOWP was a great step

forward, but it was soon under bombardment of advice from committees whose names were often almost as long as their reports—interim and general reports from the R.I.B.A. Reconstruction Committee, recommendations from the Committee for the Industrial and Scientific Provision of Housing (this one includes Mr. Harry Weston and Mr. Denis Clarke-Hall among its members), and a report on Kitchens by the Association of Planning and Regional Reconstruction. The information collected by these and other committees is likely to be of the greatest value, and it is a pity that so few members of the profession have had the time or opportunity fully to digest it. This was among the duties which fell to the Directorate of Post-War Planning (MOWP), whose staff now included such lively and distinguished architects as Christian Barman, F. R. S. Yorke, and G. Grey Wornum.

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In April, Sir William Jowitt, a member in 1924 of the Royal Commission on Lunacy, was appointed by the Government as referee for all matters of post-war planning and reconstruction. Among his first tasks was to examine the Scott and Uthwatt reports, which were published a few months later.

These two historic documents had to compete for headlines with Stalingrad and Dieppe and thus did not receive the publicity they deserved. In view of their importance it is perhaps worth while to recapitulate their main recommendations:

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The Scott Report on Land Utilisation in Rural Areas was an extension of the Barlow Report on the location of industry. Among the points made were these:

1. The immediate improvement of rural housing conditions, and the provision of services and other amenities in country districts.
2. The danger of introducing "industry" into rural districts.
3. The building of new and compact villages, making use of group design and eschewing the "quaint."
4. Compulsion on extractive in-

dustries to clear up their own mess.

5. The establishment of training facilities for planners. (This is a most important point, for architects should never forget that though most of them are *potentially* good planners, practically none of them are as yet trained for the job.)

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Among the recommendations of the Uthwatt Report, published a few weeks later, were the following :

1. Amendments of the law of town-planning so as to extend and simplify the power of acquisition of land and to modify rules for assessment of compensation.
2. The acquisition by the State of "development rights" in undeveloped land outside town areas ; compensation to be paid on March, 1939, values.
3. A levy of a tax of 75 per cent. on increases in land value not due to the enterprise of the owner and not including agricultural land. (The R.I.B.A., it will be remembered, suggested that the owner should contribute either a portion of his land or its value to the common good.)

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It was interesting, incidentally, to be reminded by this report that no claim for compensation lies at common law unless the State requisitions land for its own use. In other cases compensation *may* be awarded, but only as an act of grace. Here, too, perhaps is the place to join in Professor Young's protest against the distorted use of the word "develop" in connection with land, implying that a field of beet is "undeveloped" until it has a bungalow on it.

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As to the plans for post-war London, the MARS scheme for a linear layout of super-traffic arteries was an ingenious but inhuman plan and more likely to frighten than inspire the public. The R.A. plan, exhibited in Burlington House, was an "architectural development" of the Bressey-Lutyens road plan. Technically the drawings were remarkable enough, and no more wilfully deceitful perhaps than such drawings usually are (except for Harvey's mediæval barges on the

Thames). As was to be expected, some of the replanned areas—particularly that round St. George's, Bloomsbury—showed a lively imagination and fine sense of scale. But for the workers, as opposed to the loungers, of London this plan with its absurd symmetries and imposing façades concealing labyrinths of light-wells and alleys, is definitely no improvement at all, while the veneer of columns and cupolas applied haphazardly to buildings of every function would soon make Marshmallows of us all. (The only time, you will remember, that Lord Marshmallow visited a church was the day when he entered St. Paul's and enquired the time of the next train to Kempton Park.)

BUILDING INDUSTRY



During 1941 the Government had taken a number of measures in an effort to improve the war-efficiency of the building industry. The Essential Works Order, payment by results, the registration of firms (and later of plant), the increasing control of materials, improved welfare—all these were to result, it was hoped, in increased output from an industry which had hitherto not been outstandingly successful in its organisation. True, the labour force was being reduced, but the programme looked like being less rushed and the establishment of MOWP implied more centralised control and more effective planning of the year's work.

Hopes, however, were to be disappointed. Although by the middle of 1942 MOWP was employing over 5,000 technicians, its powers still seemed almost non-existent, and other ministries continued to organise with varying degrees of efficiency their own building programmes under the dominating eye of the Ministry of Labour. (Those with experience know there is no war so bitter as is fought between the building departments of two different ministries.)

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More improvements and controlling measures were introduced by Lord Portal's ministry—an order restricting the transfer of labour, the encouragement of job committees, the introduction of a standard schedule of prices and for emergencies, the creation of an admirable flying squad, whose lorries bore impeccably Trajanic lettering upon their grey and streamlined sides.

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When the American programme was launched in July, the Ministry of Labour announced the creation of a new department to control the increased use of building labour. It did not announce that architectural staffs were being reduced throughout the country. The resulting confusion was familiar enough. Lack of preliminary surveys and proper drawings are not compensated for by swamping a site with labour. (This matter of delays in issuing drawings was strongly commented upon by the Select Committee on National Expenditure in its report on Aerodrome Construction.)

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Contracts were still for the most part fixed on a priced-schedule basis and handed to a few big firms, but when the Greater London Federation of Master Builders complained of a raw deal for the "little man," they were frankly told by Mr. Beaver that unless members of the industry helped each other, the day of the small jobber was over.

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A suggestion from P.E.P. for closer co-ordination and grouping within the industry was practically demonstrated in an interesting experiment carried out in North

Staffordshire, when a group of builders, engineers and architects joined together in carrying out as a "firm" two large housing contracts for the Ministry of Supply. The results were most successful and gave an encouraging indication of the possibilities in group-building.

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By midsummer questions in the House about fees had put an end to the employment of consultants, and the industry was now almost entirely in the tolerably inefficient hands of Civil Servants. Through lack of centralised control, and thus of a properly planned programme, progress continued to be uneven. Persevering and puzzled, sometimes bogged in the slough of licences, registers and controls, sometimes breaking into a shambling trot at the appeal of a Cabinet minister or the demands of the war situation, the building industry has stumbled through 1942 without collapsing, but has arrived a little breathless at the post. We wish it a better journey this year.

PERSONALITIES



Once again Astragal's award for Personality of the Year goes not to an individual but to a group—to the members in fact of the **Scott and Uthwatt Committees** for their historic reports. Runner-up is Mr. **Henry J. Kaiser**, public works contractor, builder of the Boulder Dam, and now the shipyard magnate who assembles a ship and launches it in three days—(with steam up).

Astragal also lifts his tin hat in puzzled farewell to **Lord Reith** and in greeting to **Lord Portal** and

to Mr. **W. S. Morrison**; to Sir **Edwin Lutyens** and Mr. **Augustus John** upon receiving the O.M., to **Professor Reilly** upon receiving the Gold Medal and to P/O. **Desmond Sands, D.F.C.**, for discussing architecture en route to Augsburg; to exhibition designers **Elizabeth "Homes-We-Live-In" Denby** and **John "Design-Round-the-Clock" Grey**; to Messrs. **Vincent Harris** and **A. J. Davies, R.A.'s**, and to Miss **Jane Drew** for becoming the first war-time woman Fellow, and also Mrs. **Maxwell Fry**; to Mr. **Ralph Tubbs** for two first-class exhibitions and an excellent Penguin; to Mr. **H. B. Creswell** for "Grig," Mr. **S. R. Badmin** for "Village and Town," Messrs. **Richards & Summerson** for "The Bombed Buildings of Britain," and to the anonymous authors of "Your Inheritance"; to Pickfair architect **Wallace Neff**, for designing the Bubble House, to county architect **C. G. Stillman** for the flexible school, and to **Prof. Holford** (and his collaborators) for his hostels; to architect **Geoffrey Clarke**, upon his post as technical adviser to the County Planning Committee of Dorset, **Clough Williams Ellis**, member of the advisory committee on Welsh reconstruction problems, to **Llewellyn Davies**, Development Assistant to the L.M.S., and to architects **F. R. S. Yorke**, **F. S. B. MacManus**, **Christian Barman** and **Grey Wornum** upon their appointments to MOWP; to Mr. **Osbert Lancaster** for calling the R.A. plan for London "A Nazi Nuremburg designed by Sir Aston Webb," and to Mr. **Freddie "Fully-Fashioned" Gibberd** for suggesting the preparation of a Gothic style scheme for purposes of comparison; to Mr. **Percy Thomas**, Regional Controller of Wales, Mr. **H. G. Beaver**, Director-General of Works; and Mr. **Dudley Stamp**, adviser on Rural Land Utilisation to the Ministry of Agriculture; to Mr. **William Allen** for his lecture to the A.A.S.T.A. on New Materials and Technique; and to Mr. **N. Aslan** for his London re-planning scheme; to the **British Concrete Federation** for the B.C.F. hut, and to all the other various (and apparently richly rewarded) designers of standard huts; to the A.A.S.T.A.

upon becoming the A.B.T., and to the enthusiastic founders of A.R.G.I.T. (Canada), **MARS** (Australia) and **TECNE** (Argentina); to **John Piper** for his drawings of Bombed Bath; and to **Bernhard Lubetkin** for his Lenin Memorial in Finsbury; to **Professor Abercrombie**, planning adviser for Outer London; to Reactionary No. 1, the City Engineer of the City of London for his plea for rebuilding on existing sites; to Mr. **Ginsburg**, for his cable from Moscow; to the **653 Americans** who built 900 houses in 40 days, to the British firms who have been breaking similar records in this country, and to **Arthur Brady**, sole remaining worker on the R.C. Cathedral, Liverpool; to the **Building Centre** upon setting up in Maddox Street, and to **British Railways** upon buying up Thomas Cook, Ltd.; to **Charlie**, bricklayer star of the MOWP film, to the **President of the N.F.B.** for challenging **Lord Portal** to a bricklaying race, and to Mr. **Ansell, P.R.I.B.A.**, on his seventieth birthday; to Messrs. **Hinkins & Frewin**, builders, of Oxford, for completing an American Camp under schedule; to the designers and builders of the new Waterloo Bridge, to ex-A.J. editor, Mr. **G. J. Howling** who, playing hookey from the office in 1923, discovered that its predecessor was falling down, and to the **L.C.C. Official** who described his report as "pure sensationalism."

ASTRAGAL



Diary for nineteen forty two

City Architect. (A.J., January 8).

JANUARY

Outstanding events in the building world during the last year are dealt with in this diary, together with illustrations of some of the more important buildings and events. These are dealt with in the month under which they appeared in the building press. Many of the comments on the buildings illustrated are taken from Professor C. H. Reilly's review of the year's work, printed on pages 65 to 68. In such cases, the number of the page of Professor Reilly's article from which the extract is taken appears in brackets at the end of the comment and the comment itself is in italics.

MOWB

MOWB undertook, at the request of MOS, the task of collecting all the available iron and steel scrap in the country.

Details of food storage buildings issued by MOWB. Each is a single-storied structure of prefabricated steel with concrete floor, brick walls and steel and corrugated asbestos roof.

In order to secure the greatest possible economy in the employment of timber, MOWB suggested certain practices in regard to its use. Pointed out that these practices were in use in Government building departments, and it was thought that local authorities might follow these suggestions where they had not taken action on similar lines. Economies were listed under 15 heads.

Memorandum, *Training and Recruitment for the Building Industry*, issued by MOWB. Prepared by G. D. H. Cole on behalf of the Nuffield College Social Reconstruction Survey, the memorandum formulated a scheme for training building operatives to cope with the expected boom after the war.

T. S. Tait temporarily resigned his position of Director of Standardization.

MOWB made an order under which all persons or undertakings, including local authorities and public utility undertakings owning certain items of contractors' plant were required, when requested, to furnish information about such plant. Items included: excavators with their equipment, concrete mixers and mobile cranes.

BUILDING TRADE

Letter sent to the Prime Minister and all members of the House of Commons by F.G.L.M.B., asking for serious consideration of several matters which vitally affected the industry. Points from letter (published in full, A.J., January 29):

We represent the medium and smaller-sized builders, which are the backbone of the industry. The industry has been and is being exploited to a disgraceful extent since the outbreak of war. . . . The policy adopted and the lack of co-operation by the Ministries concerned (namely, M.O.H. and M.O.W.B. and other interested Ministries) has tended to cripple the backbone of the industry. If this policy is pursued there cannot be any doubt that the control of the operatives will pass into the hands of the large concerns, with the ultimate destruction of the firms we represent. . . . From January 1 (1942) no builder can carry out any work whatever on any one building in excess of £100 (which is retrospective for twelve months) without a licence. This means, in many cases, virtual cessation of business. We submit that the time has arrived when an enquiry is of paramount importance to save the oldest industry from disintegration.

Hugh Beaver, Director-General MOWB, answered criticisms contained in above letter in a speech at a luncheon of the N.F.M.B. Points from speech (published in full in A.J. for February 12):

It is interesting to note that in Greater London and South-Eastern England there are 20,326 firms—quarter of the whole—employing 432,556. It is also of interest to note that 80,240 firms employ less than 20 people—actually an average of less than three employees each—while only 1,257 firms employ over 100 persons. . . . We have given much thought to the idea of grouping small builders and in some cases with success. But on the whole we are not optimistic in this direction. We have found few groups able satisfactorily to continue so as to meet the competition of individual firms, either in efficiency or cost. We have laid down within our own Ministry a procedure to secure preference to local firms in respect of all contracts up to £25,000. . . . We are going to invite the Federations to discuss with us whether any form of concentration, or of controlled contraction is practicable; and, if not, what steps should be taken to secure that the industry will be able rapidly to expand again, so that all these thousands of registered builders can play their part, when the need once more arises.

PLANNING

New plan for Liverpool, drawn up by the City Engineer, fully described (A.J., January 22) by Alderman A. Ernest Shennan, F.R.I.B.A., at a meeting of the

Merseyside Civic Centre
Points from speech:

An inner ring road will link most of the arterial roads connecting Liverpool with the hinterland, and also the three main line stations.* This should provide quick and easy cross-town travel and avoid congestion at the centre. Below the ring road will be space for an underground should one be needed at some future date. Space within the ring is to be reserved for a civic centre, and this purpose emphasized by the exclusion of trams.

*Lime Street and Central Stations are to be moved forward. Exchange Station will be connected to the inner ring road by a wide new branch thoroughfare.

PREFABRICATION

Village of bubble houses designed by the American architect, Wallace Neff, at Fairfax County, near Washington. Construction financed by the American Government; American Army considering the same method of construction as a substitute for canvas tents, and hangars, barracks, etc. Method of construction:

A 3 in. gravel base and, on top of that, 3 in. of concrete with anchor hooks round the outer edge. Later, a rubber and canvas balloon is made fast to these with ropes and iron bars, and air is pumped in at 1½ lb. pressure by the same compressor used to apply the concrete. Inflation time, five minutes.

A prefabricated hut, built according to MOWB design, of timber framing covered with plasterboard, was erected on a concrete foundation and tested by officials of BRS. It successfully withstood a load equivalent to a pressure of 13 lb. per square foot. Huts to be used for the Army or as hostels for munition or agricultural workers.

A. R. P.

Publication of scheme in Coventry for war-time shelters adaptable as post-war houses. Architect: D. E. E. Gibson,

ARCHITECTS AND NATIONAL SERVICE

Publication in the press (A.J., January 29) of a letter received by the R.I.B.A. from the War Office giving full details of the nomination of members and students of professional institutions for service in the Royal Engineers.

PRESERVATION

The historic Royal Theatre, Bristol, built in 1776 and claimed to be the oldest theatre in England, was sold for £10,000 to an anonymous donor. It is to be restored and endowed as a National monument in the care of the National Trust. It is unique in retaining its interior unaltered and is complete with side-boxes.

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

Announced that Charles Marshall, of Cheam, had offered to present to MOWB a collection of fifty-two drawings, made by Sir Charles Barry, of the Houses of Parliament; certain of these drawings were retained by MOWB, remainder were presented to the R.I.B.A.

Drawings were discovered in the loft of Marshall's house in Cheam, Surrey. Marshall was a student in the office of Edward Barry in 1880 when Sir Charles Barry, his father, died. Rather than destroy all his father's drawings the son gave permission to his pupils to select any drawings they desired. Marshall chose the original drawings of the House of Commons.

SPEECHES

George Hicks, Parliamentary Secretary MOWB, at meeting of N.H.T.P.C.

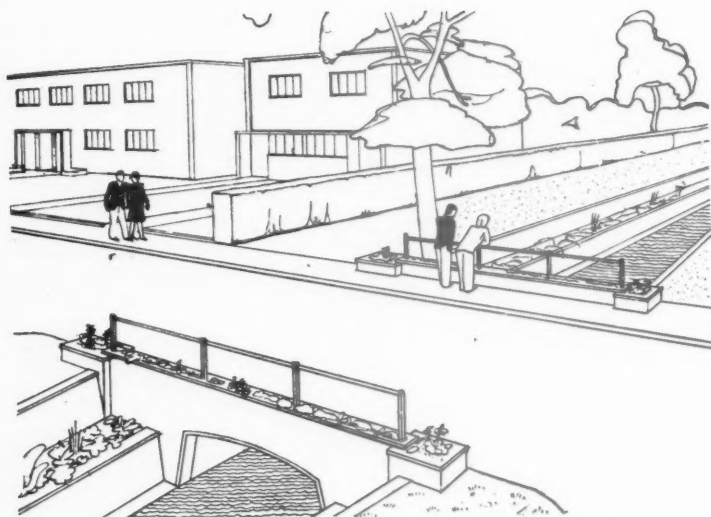
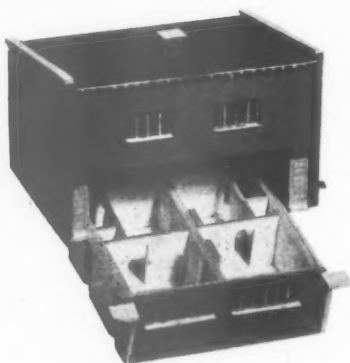
Some local authorities are formulating plans for post-war planning, and Lord Reith would like them to go ahead with all speed. They should plan with courage and imagination. There should be no dictation from Whitehall, yet local authorities should be prepared to modify their ideas in the national interest.

COMPETITIONS

One-fifth of the architectural



Coventry Shelter-to-House Scheme. A scheme to build air-raid shelters convertible in peace time to small houses was officially approved in principle. The structure of the shelter is practically unaltered when it later becomes the ground floor of the future house.



Canley Housing Scheme, Coventry. First completed part of Coventry's two-fold development plans to supply (1) urgent housing needs, (2) a general long-term policy for developing whole city. Architect: D. E. E. Gibson, City Architect, and Assistants.



A Village of Bubble Houses, designed by architect Wallace Neff, built near Washington and financed by U.S. Government. General structure is concrete sprayed onto inflated balloon of rubber-coated canvas.

profession, during the twenty years that preceded this war, were permanently engaged on waste paper work, i.e., submitting unsuccessful entries for competitions.—*E. Lewis*, article in A.J., for January 8.

LAW

Wightman Mountain Ltd. summoned by MOWB for carrying out building work without a licence. Defendants admitted contravening regulations, and were fined £50.

APPOINTMENT

L.M.S. Railway appointed R. Llewellyn Davies, B.A., A.R.I.B.A., to be Development Assistant in the Architect's Office. His duties include: to act as liaison with the various sections of the Company's Scientific Research Department, and to act as Secretary of the Building Research Committee.

George Hebson, A.M.INST.C.E., appointed Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Finsbury.

HONOURS

New Year Honours List: O.M.: Sir Edwin Lutyens, C.B.E.: T. P. Bennett, F.R.I.B.A., R. Coppock, President of BINC, and W. H. Morgan, Middlesex County Engineer. *Knighthoods*: Horace Boot, P.P. of the N.F.C.I., George Burt, Director of Mowlems. O.B.E.: J. Parkin, City Engineer and Surveyor, Portsmouth, and A. Rankine, A.R.I.B.A., City Architect, Hull. *Military* (Royal Naval List), O.B.E.: Humphrey Pakington. M.B.E.: Captain B. F. Pennells, L.R.I.B.A., and Major H. Mackay, A.R.I.B.A.

OBITUARY

John Alfred Gotch, M.A., J.P., Past President of the R.I.B.A. and the A.A. Age 91.

He was first provincial architect to be elected to the Presidency of the R.I.B.A. He also took an active part in the official life of his home town—Kettering. He became Charter-Mayor in 1938, having been Chairman of the local bench of Magistrates since 1893.

D. Barclay Niven, F.R.I.B.A. Age 77. Author of two

schemes for Charing Cross Bridge; one in collaboration with T. Raffles Davidson, the other with Caröe and Muirhead.

On Active Service: Ian Hamilton, A.R.I.B.A. (R.A.F.V.R.), G. L. Clayton, Probationer R.I.B.A. (Sgt.-P. R.A.F.V.R.).

PUBLICATIONS
Plywoods, by A. D. Wood. (W.

& A. K. Johnston, Ltd., 25s.).
War and the Planning Outlook, by A. R. Robson. (Faber & Faber, 1s.). *Professional Organization in Building*. Broadsheet No. 183, issued by PEP. *Notes for the Guidance of Applicants under Control of Civil Buildings Defence General Regulations, 1939*. Regulation 56A. Third edition. Order came into operation on January 1. (H.M.S.O., 3d.)

Illuminations (D.S.I.R.), Electrical Installations (I.E.E.), Heating and Ventilating (B.R.S.), Plumbing (B.R.S.), Plastics (P.F.), Paints (P.R.A.), Foundations, Walls, Partitions, Floors and Roofs (R.I.B.A.), Structural Steel (I.C.E.), Reinforced Concrete (I.S.E.), Timber Construction,* Dwellings (M.O.H.), Schools (B.O.E.), Business Building (R.I.B.A.), Materials (Architectural Use of Materials) (R.I.B.A.), Standard Units.*

* Convener MOWB.

Minister of Works appointed sub-panel of the main Joint Advisory Panel to advise him on problems arising in Scotland in connection with the establishment of Government scheme for Payment by Results under the Essential Work (Building and Civil Engineering) Order, 1941: Chairman: J. B. Galbraith, Deputy Chief Industrial Commissioner for Scotland. Members: John I. Loudon, Robert Brown and A. G. Hutton (Scottish National Building Trades Federation (Employers)). C. Wood, John Strain, J. Brittle, A. McTaggart, A. Henderson [alternative], (National Federation of Building Trades Operatives (Scottish Branch)). J. Crowley, R. A. Whitson, George Duncan, W. Watson [alternative] (Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors (Scottish Section)). Joint Secretaries: Maurice Scott and L. H. Gray.

Publication, by MOWB, of the *Standard Schedule of Prices* (H.M.S.O., price 1s.). Schedule was prepared by a sub-committee of the C.C. W.B., and was stated by the Ministry to be suitable for valuing the class of building and constructional work included in the Government's building programme. Points from Ministry's statement: Adoption of new schedule will enable anyone inviting tenders to issue completely priced bills of quantities on which contractors will be asked to quote a percentage on or off. The knowledge that they are working on a series of prices calculated on a uniform basis from declared constituents of value will greatly facilitate the work of contractors in determining what the percentage addition or deduction should be. Schedule will be equally usable as a basis for valuation where no bills of quantities have been prepared before operations are started. In cases where it is necessary to put work in hand before a scheme has been worked out in detail, or where it is desired to invite tenders for projected work the extent of which cannot be accurately foreseen, the schedule will form a reliable instrument for valuation of the work done with such percentage adjustment of the rates as the contractor may quote in his tender. It will obviate the use of the cost-plus form of contract for all work of the character defined in the schedule in those cases where urgency is such that no time is available to prepare detailed bills of quantities.

Major-General K. C. Appleyard, C.B.E., Director of Emergency Works, MOWB, resigned. J. M. Wilson appointed to fill the vacancy.

Minister of Works, after consultation with representatives and officials of N.F.B.T.E. and F.C.E.C., decided to set up a Panel to advise him on questions arising as to whether the conditions prescribed for building registration were being complied with

and on the action to be taken in cases where these conditions were not being observed, and in general to advise on such other matters connected with registration. Panel to consist of members nominated by the above Associations with two officials of the MOWB.

PREFABRICATION

Two prefabricated schemes fully illustrated in A.J. for February 19. First:

Typical house chosen by Jan Porel, after studying the possibilities of 30 different types, for housing the workers of Glen Martins bomber factory. Prefabricated parts are fitted together, at rate of six houses a day by crew of 150. Completed houses cost about £500 each. Real claim of the house is that exterior walls, which even in most prefabricated houses are traditionally built up of from seven to twelve layers of wood plaster, etc., are composed of a single building material.

Second: one of the demountable houses being built at the U.S.A. Navy Powder Factory at Indianhead, Maryland, for enlisted and civilian personnel employed at the plant.

House was demounted for demonstration purposes for the American Defence Programme's "Housing Projects" in 2 hours 35 minutes, carried in sections on trucks over 40 miles of country roads in 1 hour 15 minutes, and reassembled on another site in three hours—altogether less than seven hours. The U.S. Federal Work Agency responsible for the whole scheme: it uses Indianhead as the testing ground for these demountable houses which are single-family dwellings containing two bedrooms. They are built of Homasote board which is manufactured of old newspapers and re-processed chemically into a sturdy pressed board.

Publication, by MOWB, of details of war-time economy hostel designed by the Ministry. It is made of wood, yet less wood is used in its construction than was used in a pre-war hut of the same size classed as a non-timber building.

Walls, roof, doors and furniture fitments are all of plywood on a light timber frame. They are made in sections in the factory and the prefabricated parts are then transported to the site and erected in a few hours on a cement base previously laid down. Hostel is roughly 72 ft. by 18 ft. 6 in. by 7 ft. 2 in. (height to the eaves), with cubicles for 24 agricultural or munition workers. Cubicles are arranged 12 on each side of a central corridor. Walls and roof are made in standard sections 6 ft. wide, of 1½ in. square timber framing.

Exhibition, in London, of the B.C.F. hut. This hut, suitable for various types of war building, is constructed of concrete. System fully described in A.J. for April 9.

ON THE AIR

Hugh Beaver, R. Coppock and Sir George Burt broadcast in the series "Making Plans," and discussed the

FEBRUARY



Lord Reith.

and in contact with various interests affected. In many parts the need for collaboration over wide areas has been recognized, but no one is responsible for effecting it. In addition to the Bill transferring powers, I have another nearly ready. This is a first step to strengthen planning control over building and other development so that properly conceived reconstruction shall not be prejudiced by present action."

*Ten days after these speeches were made Lord Reith and Arthur Greenwood left office.

Lord Portal appointed Minister of Works and Planning in succession to Lord Reith, who had held the position since formation of Ministry.

He was born in 1885 and educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, and served throughout the last war in the Life Guards, receiving the D.S.O. and M.V.O. in 1918. His appointments include: Managing Director of Portals, Ltd., the makers of paper for bank notes, Director of Commercial Union Assurance, Gt. Western Railway and other Companies; official appointments: Chairman, Bacon Development Board since 1935; Trustee of Lord Nuffield's scheme for assistance of special areas since 1936; Regional Commissioner for Wales under the Civil Defence Scheme in 1939; Chairman, Coal Production Council since 1940; additional Parliamentary Secretary to M.O.S., 1940.

Creation of Directorate of Post-War Building announced by MOWB. Points from official announcement:

To meet the general demand for a central rallying point, the Minister created a Directorate of Post-War Building. Object of Directorate: to co-ordinate and unify the scattered activities of existing groups and committees, to simplify, to regulate, and, as far as seems necessary, to direct. It will approach the task not through research or experiment of its own, but by collating existing information, and co-ordinating all activities pursued elsewhere. Work will be done through groups and committees, mostly actually or potentially in existence. Where existing committees are appropriate they are formed into Study Committees within the Ministry's scheme. Fifteen such Study Committees have now been discussed in detail and agreed; eleven are actually formed or in process of formation, and several are at work.

Committees formed or in process of formation, and their conveners, at the time the statement was issued: Central,* Executive,* Policy (Design),* Policy (Structure),* Policy (Installations)*

MOWB

Statements that the name of the Ministry of Works and Buildings was to be changed to Ministry of Works and Planning announced in the House of Lords by Lord Reith* and in the Commons by Arthur Greenwood.* Points from speech by Lord Reith:

So far as the Ministry of Works and Planning (as the Ministry of Works and Buildings will be renamed) is concerned, there will be a Central Planning Authority as promised. Powers and responsibilities will be transferred from the Ministry of Health, but, further, town and country planning will be extended to give effect to the principle that planning should be national policy. It won't be a subsidiary activity. What we are going to do will satisfy the hopes of those who have urged the importance of a national plan over use of land resources and of a competent organization working on a system of partnership with local government administration. Very important is this partnership of local initiative and the elements of national planning applied to localities. It is co-ordination of local plans fitting into wider framework. Hence we must:

"(1) Encourage further combinations of planning authorities over areas which demand planning as a unit;

"(2) Have experienced officers ready for consultation; as a result—

"(3) I propose to set up, on small scale and in urgent areas first, local offices for advice and help in co-ordination of planning, and

"(4) Ask individuals of standing and with experience in public administration to promote co-operation between authorities in planning over wide areas,



Mobility and Pre-fabrication in Housing, stimulated by war needs, have formed the greatest technical developments of the year, especially in the U.S.A. Here is a demountable house built at the U.S. Navy Powder Factory at Indianhead, Maryland. Demounting, transport of 40 miles and re-erection of hut took less than seven hours.



New Pathological Department of the North Staffs Royal Infirmary. Architects: Wood, Goldstraw and Yorath. The pathological department has a doorway with interesting brick details which seem to indicate that the rest of the building is more interesting. (Page 68).

fitness of the building industry to take part in post-war reconstruction. Verbatim report in A.J. for March 12.

PRACTICE

Following resolution passed at a meeting of architectural bodies held at the Architectural Association:

That this meeting having continued its deliberations, it unanimously confirmed its previous decision in favour of a scheme for the unification of the architectural profession, and those attending the meeting individually agreed that further steps should be taken as soon as possible for further discussions on the matter to be undertaken on a more comprehensive basis. (Following bodies were represented at the adjourned meeting: A.A., F.A.S., I.A.A.S., I.R.A., M.A.R.S., Unattached Architects.)

COST PLUS

Cost Plus v. Schedule of Prices fully discussed by Astragal (A.J., February 12).

"If we abandon Cost Plus, what is the alternative? In most cases nowadays it is a Schedule of Prices. And a job being executed under a Schedule of Prices is apt to show signs of 'occupational diseases' quite as distinct as, though different from, those of a Cost Plus job."

R. I. B. A.

Legislation Affecting Town and Country Planning, interim report No. 5 of the R.I.B.A.'s Reconstruction Committee published by the Institute. Recommendations were published in full in A.J. for February 12. Reports 3 to 5 of the Reconstruction Committee discussed at an R.I.B.A. meeting. J. Alan Slater said reports had been submitted to MOWB and other appropriate bodies.

NEW HOSPITAL

Philip Inman, Chairman of Charing Cross Hospital, announced that a site for a new Charing Cross Hospital had been bought near St. Giles, High Street, W.C.2; it was hoped to begin work when the war was over.

HOUSING

Publication (A.J., February 5) of details of the Penilee Housing Scheme, Glasgow. Architect, J. H. Ferrie:

This scheme was approved in 1939, prior to the outbreak of war. At the beginning of the war it was thought that it would have to be indefinitely postponed, but subsequently additional housing accommodation was found to be necessary in the Penilee area of Glasgow to provide homes for war workers. Permission was therefore given for the scheme to proceed: part of it completed this month. Chief

features: Reduction of timber to the bare minimum (it has only been used for the doors); and the use of eight different types of concrete flooring.

APPOINTMENTS

W. R. Davidge appointed by the Government of Northern Ireland to advise on official replanning schemes for the six counties.

Professor L. P. Abercrombie invited to visit Hull to advise on the replanning of the City.

W. E. Rice appointed president of L.M.B.A.

OBITUARY

Major-General Fritz Todt, architect of the German Auto-

bahnen and the Siegfried Line. He also formed the Pioneer Corps of the Reichswehr. Age 51.

On Active Service: E. M. Hooper, A.R.I.B.A. (P./O. R.A.F.V.R.), G. F. W. Griffiths, A.R.I.B.A. (Lt., R.E.)

PUBLICATIONS

Wartime Bulletin No. 19. *Economy of Timber in Building*. Issued by the B.R.S. (H.M.S.O. Price 1s.). *Elements of Quantity Surveying*, by A. J. Willis. (Crosby Lockwood, 15s.). *Grig*, by H. B. Creswell. (Faber & Faber, 8s. 6d.). *A Short History of Japanese Architecture*, by A. L. Sadler. (Angus & Robertson, 21s.). *Irish Castles*, by H. G. Leask. (Dundalgan Press, 8s. 6d.).

BRICKS

Publication of the first report of the Simmonds Committee on the Brick Industry. (H.M.S.O. Price 6d.). Recommendations included:

- (a) Current total output of bricks should be decreased by 12½ per cent. and 4 per cent. by the closure under compulsory order of specific brickworks, or in the case of large works by reduction of productivity. The 4 per cent. would be a temporary measure to produce a reduction of stocks by an amount equal to one week's supply.
- (b) A scheme should be established for contribution towards the care and maintenance of works closed under compulsory order or with approval of the Minister.
- (c) Unless essential output is to be jeopardized, the maximum release to the Forces which the industry might be called on to make under the present arrangements of reservation, deferment and release from the Forces is only possible if there is a more comprehensive transfer of labour than at present appears practicable. It is essential that the closest possible consultation with managers of works should take place before transfers are made.
- (d) Loss of men by the industry on account of calling-up for the Forces or other national work of a number in excess of those transferred from closed works should be made up by the employment, under specified conditions, of women of a suitable type in the ratio of three women for each two men replaced, but subject to a limit so that the proportion of women to total operatives in the industry does not in the immediate future exceed 20 per cent.
- (e) There should be one standard size of common brick throughout Great Britain.

R. I. B. A.

First of a series of letters urging the need for an R.I.B.A. Council Election to be held during the year was published in all the architectural papers. Letter, signed by Gordon Stevenson and F. R. S. Yorke, A.A.R.I.B.A., stated:

The activity of the R.I.B.A. has increased in recent months, and excellent interim reports have been prepared by the Reconstruction Committee.

In order to allow the membership to show their approval of this work and to strengthen the Council, which must be finally responsible for the policy of the Institute, we suggest that it is very necessary for the Council Election to be held this year. The last elections were held in 1939 at a time of great uncertainty. At that time the role of the R.I.B.A. was far from clear. The same is not true to-day, when the R.I.B.A. is in a position to give valuable advice to those responsible for post-war building and planning.

Special committee of the R.I.B.A. formed to consider the whole machinery of architectural education, issued an interim report. The most far-reaching part of the report lay in its recommendations as to the conditions of entry into the profession. These recommendations were approved by the Council.

H O S T E L S

Publication of details, plans and photographs of war workers' hostels for the Government designed by Professor William Holford. Also, two housing schemes in the Midlands for M.O.S.

and sponsored by Staffordshire Architectural Association. Architects: Edward Forshaw and E. L. Greaves.

WAR DAMAGE

First year's work of the War Damage Commission outlined by A. M. Trustram Eve, K.C., at a press conference. Full report appeared in *Builder* for April 3.

The War Damage Commission announced that the official notice of September 22, 1941, setting out the scale of professional fees for acting in an advisory or supervisory capacity in connection with the execution of the works which would be allowed by the Commission in claims for cost of works or temporary works, had been withdrawn and would be replaced by a new scale. This scale was published in A.J. for March 12.

F I L M

Building, a film produced for the Ministry of Information by Crown Film Unit, was shown to the public. It was filmed on the site of an ordnance factory and the commentator was Professor John Hilton.

H O U S I N G

M.O.H. called together the Central Housing Advisory Committee to consider post-war housing, including house design.

APPOINTMENTS

Arthur W. Kenyon elected president of the A.A. for second year in succession.

A. C. Light, Senior Lecturer at the Leeds School of Architecture, Leeds College of Art, appointed Head of the Hull School of Architecture in the Hull College of Arts and Crafts. Due to take up his appointment in September.

Judith Ledeboer, A.R.I.B.A., appointed to the Housing Architects' Staff of M.O.H.—the first woman architect to join the professional staff of the Ministry.

MARCH



Sir William Jowitt

Lord Wolmer: J. Norman Daynes, K.C.; Sir Alfred Hurst, who had been serving as Under-Secretary for Mines, transferred to staff of Sir William Jowitt.

* Post-war reconstruction was under the control of Arthur Greenwood, M.P., Minister without Portfolio, who left office shortly after Lord Reith.

Ministry announced that after March 1 the procedure for purchasing contractors' plant and obtaining steel authorizations for its manufacture would be changed.

From March 1, the Ministry would be the only Government Department dealing with applications for authority to purchase plant of various types, and from that date all applications for permits for new plant should be addressed to the Secretary, A.S.72, MOWB, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.

BUILDING TRADE

N.F.B.T.E. decided to set up a commission to consider the problems of the building industry after the war. Announcing the decision, Thomas Howarth, president, said:

Are we going back to the days of cut-throat competition? Are we going forward to a system in which we shall merely carry out the orders of Government Departments and local authorities? There are dangers in both systems, which, if we are worth our salt, we must bring to the notice of the people. And there are a thousand and one other practical questions which only the builders of the country can answer. That is our case for an inquiry, and we hope that the results will justify it.

M O W B

Sir William Jowitt, K.C.,* Solicitor-General, appointed Paymaster-General in succession to Lord Hankey, and to take charge of post-war reconstruction planning. Henry G. Strauss, M.P., appointed additional Parliamentary Secretary to MOWB. Following appointed members of the Consultative Panel on Physical Reconstruction: Viscount Samuel, Alderman F. Marshall, M.P., and J. H. Forshaw, M.C., F.R.I.B.A., Architect to the L.C.C. Other appointments: Chairman of the Building Materials Board: Sir Harold Howitt; Director of Cement in succession to

own and interim B.A.'s committee. Institute. are published. J. for 3 to 5 a Com- at an W. Alan and been B and ies.

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N G oruary 5) Penilee Glasgow. rie: 1939, prior the beginning at it would poned, but ing accom- necessary in to provide mission was to proceed; nth. Chief

ANNIVERSARY
150th Anniversary of the
death of Robert Adam. He
died on March 3, 1792.

HONOURS

Lord Reith elected first
Honorary Fellow of the
I.L.A.



Arthur H. Mackmurdo

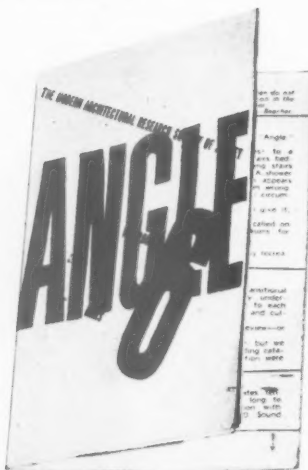
OBITUARY

Arthur H. Mackmurdo, one
of the pioneers of modern
architecture, at the age of 91.

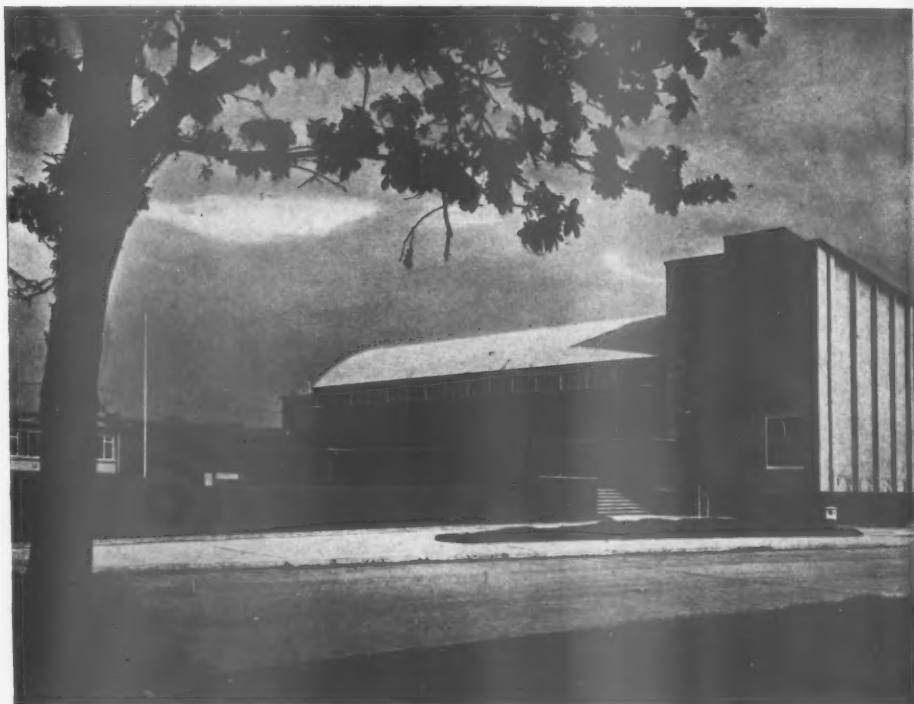
On Active Service: Denis
Bethune-Williams, L.R.I.B.A.
(Lt., R.N.V.R.); C. N. Hard-
man, A.R.I.B.A. (Sgt./P.
R.A.F.V.R.); E. M. Hooper,
A.R.I.B.A. (Sgt./P. R.A.F.V.R.)

PUBLICATIONS

*Payment by Results: Trade
Operations for which Bonus
Rates have been Fixed.* Memo-
randum issued by MOWB,
on Essential Work (Building
and Civil Engineering) Order,
1941. (H.M.S.O. Price 4d.).
*Cooking Appliances: Schedule
of Types for Wartime Supply.*
Issued by MOWB. (H.M.S.O.
Price 1s.). *War Damage:
Practice Notes.* Issued by
the War Damage Commis-
sion. Deals with certain
matters arising out of Part I
of War Damage Act,
concerned with the manage-
ment and repair of land
and buildings. (H.M.S.O.
Price 6d.). *Family Housing
in Wartime.* Published by
the C.C.A. Booklet shows
that a two-storied house de-
signed to incorporate the
recommendations made in the
R.I.B.A.'s second interim re-
port, can be erected at a cost
of £66 per person; the
labour time being 125 man-
hours.



MARS Group in Sydney was
formed in 1938 "to initiate and
co-ordinate research by progressive
technical bodies on plans of national
reconstruction." Astragal drew
attention this month to its intriguing
periodical, *Angle*.



Professor William Holford

The Temporary War-Time Industrial Hostels,
carried out by a group of architects under the
direction of Prof. W. G. Holford, form
undoubtedly the most important work of the
year, for they are significant not only architectur-
ally, but socially and administratively. The
buildings showed how the necessarily extreme
standardization could be achieved without
monotony. The Social Centre forms a main
part of these hostels. Above: A 600-person hall
at one of the hostels. Top: A decorative mural
in bright distempers.

A P R I L

M O W B

Lawrence Neal appointed Deputy Secretary in the Planning Department of the Ministry.

Ministry announced that the manufacture of glass substitutes and anti-scatter treatments for glass to be restricted to 36 glass substitutes and 23 anti-scatter treatments.

Cement sacks, whether jute, hessian or cotton, controlled under an Order made by the Minister. Order came into force on April 15.

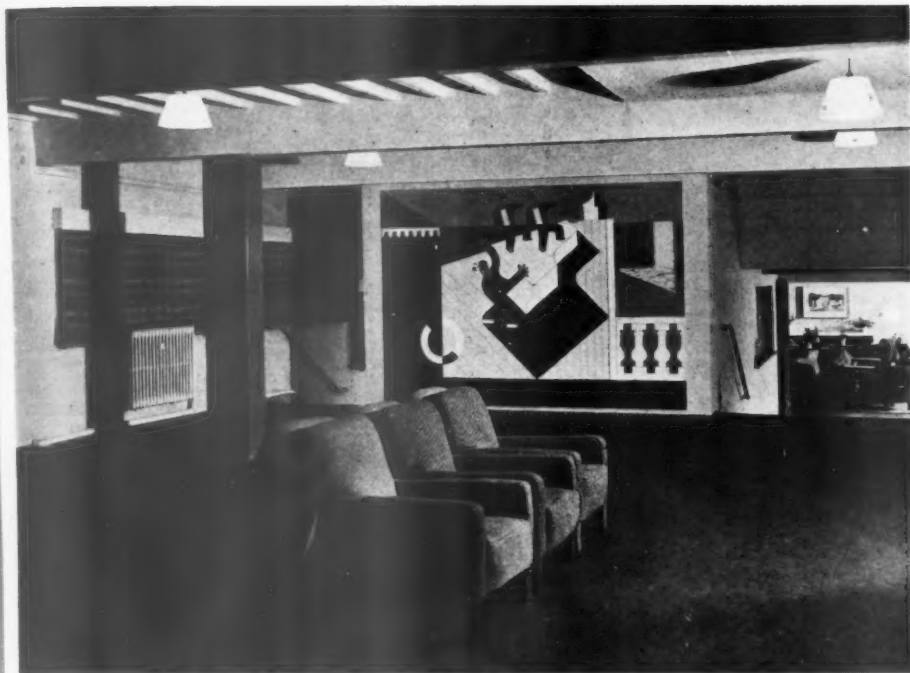
Publication, by MOWB, of designs for hostels for industrial workers. Plans published in *Builder* for May 1. The plans, prepared by MOWB, are for buildings accommodating about 1,000 workers on a 25-acre site with five additional acres for sports.

PLANNING BILL
Ministry of Works and Planning Bill passed its second reading in the House of Commons. Fifteen thousand word report of the debate (over seventy-five thousand words were spoken) published in A.J. for May 7.

BUILDING TRADE

First public appearance of Lord Portal as Minister of Works and Buildings at a luncheon organized by the N.F.B.T.E. Points from his speech:

I would like to take this opportunity to refer to the work accomplished by Lord Reith in initiating the difficult task of planning in our Ministry. I know that there are times when you feel that your advice has been disregarded. I know by experience that one always considers that one's own views are the only sound views. But there must be occasions on which different people come to different conclusions on the same facts; and, in addition to that, a Government has many factors to take into consideration in reaching decisions. There may, indeed, be occasions when I myself or my Department might be in entire agreement with you, but where there are over-riding considerations that dictate otherwise. I would like to assure you that your advice has in the past been given the closest consideration, and so it will continue. The Building Industry has a wonderful opportunity directly the war is over. We must not make the same mistakes as we did after the last war. We must be organized and prepared to set to work immediately. Men in the Building Industry must have permanent work, and not be in the position of wondering whether they will be working one week and not working the next. It is our duty to work out a long-term policy which will not only be of the greatest service to the

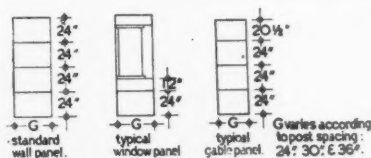


A Foyer in One of the Industrial Hostels. The whole story of these hostels is a grand architectural romance, a pointer to a new way of working, almost to a new way of life and the beginning of a new architecture. Anyone can see modern architecture like the genuine old Gothic stuff is impersonal architecture in a degree Renaissance Architecture is not, and cannot be. The great things in medieval times were done anonymously by a group of designers and craftsmen working harmoniously together. That is what has apparently been happening under Professor Holford's leadership and that is why I am putting such of the work of his group as we are allowed to see, his Munition Workers' Hostels, each with a great Social Centre building, as the chief work of the year. These hostels—there may be two or three dozen of them up and down the country—are each designed not only to house a thousand women in the standard of comfort of a good war-time hotel but with many things added like theatres and cinemas, large reading and writing rooms, foyers and games rooms, on a corresponding scale. Page 65).



New Police Headquarters, somewhere in Sussex. Architect: C. G. Stillman. A plain corniceless neo-Georgian building. With its negative nature, unassuming and pleasant as that may be in a vulgar age, one hopes nevertheless it is but a transition to something more positive. (Page 66).

Hostels,
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The British Concrete Federation Portable Hut provided an important development in pre-fabrication. Its virtue lies in its being of concrete, now the most readily available and plentiful building material in the country. The hut has advantages over lighter types of hut in its resistance to blast and earth shock.



A Monument to Lenin, designed by B. Lubetkin, and erected by the Finsbury Council in Holford Square, where Lenin once lived, was unveiled this month by Mr. Maisky, the Russian Ambassador.



Caravan City, part of a temporary housing scheme for workers of the Glenn L. Martin Aircraft Factory at Middle River, Maryland, U.S.A. Dormitories have been built for 605 single men and contracts let for 1,200 portable houses. Other families are housed in 1,200 family trailers.

country, but also ensure continuous work for the operatives in the Building Industry.

NEW COMMITTEES

B.R.S. appointed committee to make recommendations on plumbing for post-war building. Chief objects:

- (i) To review existing scientific information and practice in this country and abroad on plumbing (including the underground drainage forming part of normal building works) with particular references to the supply of cold and hot water in buildings and the removal of soil, rainwater and waste therefrom.
- (ii) To make recommendations for practice in post-war building.

Members of Committee. Chairman: Mr. Sydney Tatchell, F.R.I.B.A., F.R.S.A.N.I. Members: Messrs. W. Mumford Bailey, M.R.S.A.N.I., M.INST.H.V.E., Major Henry Clay, R.A.M.C., F.R.S.A.N.I., F.I.S.E., F. J. Gayer, F.I.O.B., G. H. Harris, R. G. Hetherington, C.B., O.B.E., M.INST.C.E., J. W. Laing, F.I.O.B., F.A.R.P.I., A. Longworth, F.R.S.A.N.I., A.M.I.S.E., F.I.O.P., F. Lorne, F.R.I.B.A., H. J. B. Manzoni, C.B.E., M.INST.C.E., J. H. Markham, F.R.I.B.A., W. M. Lloyd Roberts, M.E.N.G. (Liverpool), M.INST.C.E., A. Scott, M.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., M.I.S.T.R.U.C.T.E., R. S. Sidle, F.R.S.A.N.I., Dr. Charles F. White, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. and Mr. J. Wilson, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., F.R.S.E.

Formation of Committee for the Industrial and Scientific Provision of Housing. Membership consists of a number of technicians, professional and industrial. Object:

To study the application of mechanization to the production of building components, particularly with regard to housing, under following heads: (1) the extent to which mechanization may be allied to house-building; (2) the effect that such alliance will have upon consumer and provider.

HOUSING

Views on the design, planning and equipment of houses and flats after the war asked for by the special sub-committee set up by the M.O.H.'s Central Housing Advisory Committee.

R. I. B. A.

Publication of a letter calling for the R.I.B.A. Council Election to be held during 1942 signed by Colin Penn, President, A.A.S.T.A. He said: "It is essential that there should be an opportunity of bringing into the leadership of the Institute those who have, since war began, proved their ability."

Letter from Sir Ian MacAlister stated:

Under the provisions of an Act of Parliament passed at the beginning of the war the Annual Election of the Council of the R.I.B.A. is suspended for the duration of the war.

This point dealt with in letter by J. Alan Slater:

I suggest that if the first paragraph of that letter had read "the annual election of the Council of the R.I.B.A. may at the discretion of

the existing Council be suspended for the duration of the war," the actual situation would have been more accurately stated.

AIR RAID DAMAGE

Damage to buildings in Bath during an air raid included: The Assembly Rooms, designed in 1771 by John Wood the younger, burnt out; some of the stained glass of Bath Abbey smashed by blast, including the "Lantern of England" east window; the Theatre Royal, the Mineral Water Hospital and the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases; the Abbey Church-house, and the Bath Forum School. No fewer than nine churches of varying denominations injured in greater or lesser degree. Several houses in Royal Crescent and one corner of the Circus were also damaged.

WAR BUILDING: U.S.A.

Full details, with photographs, of the caravan city at Maryland, U.S.A. In order to meet the housing needs of workers who had flocked to the Glenn L. Martin aircraft factory (houses were not available), the U.S. Farm Security Administration took over the job.

They moved 200 family trailers to a site near the plant and formed a caravan city. Utility buildings, with sanitary facilities and rooms for washing, were built for the people living in the trailers; also, dormitories for single men. Personnel of the factory is still increasing, and another 1,000 more family trailers are to be provided.

MEMORIAL

Statue of Lenin, designed by B. Lubetkin, in Holford Square, Finsbury (where Lenin lived whilst in this country) was unveiled by M. Maisky, the Russian Ambassador.

HONOURS

A. J. Davies, F.R.I.B.A., elected a Royal Academician, and Louis de Soissons, F.R.I.B.A., an Associate.

APPOINTMENT

J. Hubert Worthington, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., appointed advisory architect for the rebuilding of the Inner Temple.

OBITUARY

On Active Service: S. A. Bradshaw, A.R.I.B.A. (Sgt./P., R.A.F.), D. McL. Craik, A.R.I.B.A. (Acting P./O., R.A.F.V.R.).

LITERATURE

The Last of Uptake, by Simon Harcourt Smith and Rex Whistler. (B. T. Batsford, 15s.).

MAY

M O W B

T. S. Tait, F.R.I.B.A., resigned from MOWB. His post as Assistant Director of Post-War Building (Standardization) taken by Francis Lorne, F.R.I.B.A. Stated that the work of the Committee on Building Materials Standardization would continue, under the chairmanship of H. Ryle, A.R.I.B.A., with Frederick MacManus, A.R.I.B.A., as Secretary. F. R. S. Yorke, A.R.I.B.A., appointed Assistant to Christian Barman, F.R.I.B.A. (Assistant Director, Administrative).

B R I C K S

Treasury, at request of MOWB, made an order imposing a levy of three shillings per thousand on all bricks manufactured and sold or otherwise disposed of.

Levy came into operation as from May 18 and is chargeable on all bricks delivered after that date, except bricks broken up and sold for hardcore. Levy, payable to MOWB, to be used for the care and maintenance of brickworks closed compulsorily or in agreement with Ministry since January 1, 1942. Manufacture of bricks controlled as from May 4.

B U I L D I N G T R A D E

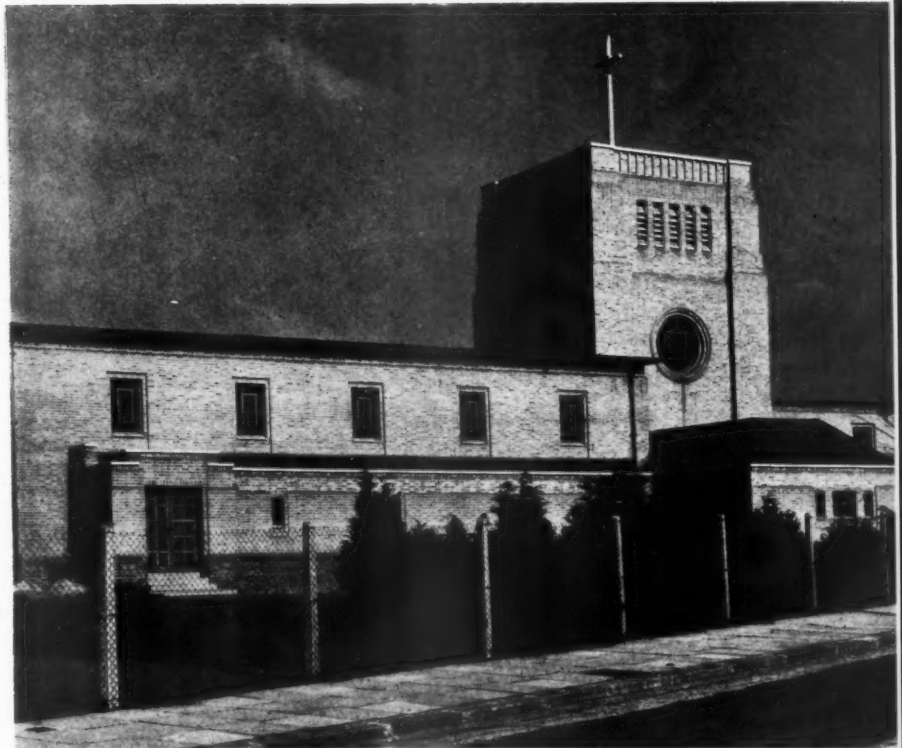
A.A.S.T.A. submitted a memorandum on the immediate steps necessary for increased output in the building industry to Oliver Lyttelton, Sir Walter Citrine and Lord Portal. (Published in full in A.J. for May 7).

B U I L D I N G S O C I E T I E S

The Building Societies' Association announced appointment of a Committee on Post - War Reconstruction Policy.

N E W S F R O M U . S . A .

G. A. Jellicoe left for America to study developments there. George Hicks discussed his visit in the House. He said: There is need for early information not now available in this country, regarding training and education, both of operatives and management in the building industry in the United States, and G. A. Jellicoe, F.R.I.B.A., a part-time member of the staff of the Ministry, is being sent to the United States for the



Church at North Greenford, Middlesex. Architect: Cyril A. Farey. A plain, smooth church, smooth as those wonderful graded washes of colour we all admired on his drawings in the days when they were the only safe passport to the R.A. walls. A really modern building might have been accepted by now had he made the perspective. This church of his is calm and suave externally and internally. Its traditional shape with its square, squat tower at the crossing gives a proper parish church appearance, though one wishes the chancel roof were as high as that of the nave, and that the ridge line had consequently been carried through level. (Page 67).



Arthur Brady, an 18 year old apprentice, was the only workman engaged on the building of the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Liverpool; all the other men had been called up.

purpose of obtaining this information. Mr. Jellicoe will be instructed also to make a preliminary examination into methods of prefabrication and standardization. It is intended that Mr. Jellicoe shall spend eight weeks in the United States.

AIR RAID DAMAGE

Damage to Exeter, York and Norwich during an air raid included:

Exeter: Direct hit on South Choir Aisle of the Cathedral—the first of the great English Cathedrals to suffer; several bays wrecked; extensive damage done to Southern Haye and Burnwell Crescent, the town-planned Georgian quarter behind the Cathedral; St. Stephen's Church and Sidwell Church and some others were also hit. **York:** Guild Hall, destroyed by fire, and also a number of good Georgian houses in Bootham. **Norwich:** The Friends' Meeting House was the only serious architectural building of merit to be destroyed.

R. I. B. A.

Twenty-two members of the R.I.B.A., serving in the Forces in a letter to the press stated that architects now serving in the Army deserved to have the biggest say in reconstruction.

HOSTELS: FEES

Basis of employment and remuneration of nominated private architects in regard to MOWB schemes for hostels, W.O. camps, and similar schemes of a standard type which involve repetition units, were revised. Copies of the revised scale obtainable from Secretary R.I.B.A.

SPEECHES

Oliver Lyttelton, Minister of Production:

I believe that there are three things which we all want. The first is to make this a truly cheerful country—a country in which we can laugh when we want and put out our tongues at the people we don't like—a spacious, active, enterprising country. The second is to see that we are never again faced with the horror of mass unemployment. The third is to modernize the capital equipment—by which I mean the transport, the roads, ports, towns, houses and amenities of our country, and the curious thing is that in reaching for the third of these objectives we shall be going a long way towards attaining the first two. Mr. Eden says we must plan not merely because we may like the result but because we have no option. If we refuse to carry out one kind of planning designed to raise standards of

living we shall find ourselves instead involved in another kind of planning. We shall find ourselves again at war.

PREFABRICATION

On a site immediately behind the Tate Gallery in John Islip Street MOWB opened an exhibition of nine prefabricated huts:

Types were: Maycrete (sawdust concrete); B.C.F. (reinforced concrete); Curved Asbestos (asbestos-cement); Seco (plywood and wood wool); Nashcrete (sawdust concrete); B.C.F.-Light (reinforced concrete); Plywood (cubicle type); MOWB Hall Hut (plaster-board); and the Orlit (reinforced concrete).

COMPETITION

Conditions were issued by the I.A.A.S. of its open competition for a small model housing estate. Latest date for submission of designs: January 1, 1943.

LAW

H. R. Bull, of Messrs. Nicklin and Bull, Birmingham, was prosecuted, at the instance of the A.R.C., at Birmingham Petty Sessions, for unlawfully carrying on business under the title of architect, not being a person registered under the Architects (Registration) Acts. Defendant was fined £5, with £2 2s. costs.

EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition of domestic planning and design arranged by Elizabeth Denby and Noel Carrington opened in London by Sir Stafford Cripps. Exhibition sponsored by the C.E.M.A., C.B.I.A.E. and D.I.A.

Exhibition, organized by the H.C., and held at the R.I.B.A.

HONOURS

W. H. Ansell, P.R.I.B.A., elected Hon. Corresponding Member of the A.I.A. **Military:** M.B.E.: Lt. Ralph H. Brentnall, R.E. (A.R.I.B.A.) for "conspicuous gallantry in carrying out hazardous work in a very brave manner."



P/O. Desmond Ossiter Sands, (A.R.I.B.A.) awarded D.F.C. for daylight raid on Augsburg.

ROYAL ACADEMY

Photographs were hung in the Architectural Room at the Royal Academy—the first occasion since the last war. Exhibits consisted of 47 drawings and 54 photographs.

APPOINTMENTS

Sir Giles Gilbert Scott appointed architect for the replanning of Coventry Cathedral.

W. H. Ansell re-elected President of the A.B.S.

R. Coppock re-elected President of B.I.N.C.

OBITUARY

Mr. C. R. Ashbee, one of the most important exponents of the domestic revival of the nineties. He was 78 years of age.

On Active Service: P/O. Donald MacAlister, second son of Sir Ian and Lady MacAlister, presumed to have been killed in air operations.

PUBLICATIONS

American Nation, by John Glog. (Cassell & Co., 7s. 6d.). *Living in Cities*, by Ralph Tubbs. (Penguin Books, 1s.). *Bulletin C.14. Factories*. Issued by the M.O.H.S. Bulletin mainly concerned with methods of heightening and strengthening protective walls built in single-storey factory buildings.

JUNE

MOWB

H. B. Allum, C.B.E., M.V.O., Controller of Supplies, MOWB, appointed Principal Assistant Secretary in charge of the Building Materials Division of the Ministry. He was succeeded by the Deputy Controller, Mr. G. P. Gilchrist, M.B.E.

Ministry established a force of mobile builders to tackle emergency building work anywhere in Gt. Britain.

Force consisted of six hundred mobile builders in ten compact flying squads complete with mobile feeding and sleeping accommodation, materials and plant. Each squad is equipped with specially designed vehicles—three fitted with sixteen bunks each, a fourth with twelve bunks and a kitchen to provide the squad with three meals a day for seven days, while a 5-ton lorry acts as tender to the convoy carrying plant and sufficient materials to enable the squad to be independent for seven days. Thus, in a town blitzed overnight, they can arrive within a few hours and get to work calling on local resources for billeting, food, tools or even materials. Similarly they can instantly start an urgent job for one of the services in any lonely spot, without any need for huts, bedding or canteens.

R.I.B.A. agreed to sponsor three of the Committees set up under the D.P.W.B. of MOWB. Committees and Members:

1. THE ARCHITECTURAL USE OF BUILDING MATERIALS: *Chairman*, Edward Maufe, A.R.A.; *Vice-Chairman*, Oswald P. Milne; *Hon. Secretary*, Basil M. Sullivan, C.I.E., O.B.E. *Members*, Robert Atkinson, W. T. Curtis, J. Murray Easton, Henry M. Fletcher, J. H. Forshaw, M.C., W. Curtis Green, R.A., Lionel G. Pearson, J. Hubert Worthington, O.B.E.; *Nominated by the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland*, J. R. McKay; *Nominated by MOWB*, Brian O'Rorke, W. A. Rutter.
2. BUSINESS BUILDING COMMITTEE: *Chairman*, Stanley Hamp; *Vice-Chairman*, James R. Adamson; *Hon. Secretary*, Alex. T. Scott; *Members*, Graham Dawbarn, Joseph Emberton, Bernard George, Joseph Hill, T. C. Howitt, D.S.O., Gordon Jeeves, M.C., Herbert J. Rowse, J. Alan Slater, L. Sylvester Sullivan, Henry Tanner; *Nominated by the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland*, T. F. MacLennan; *Nominated by MOWB*, C. J. Mole, M.B.E., M.V.O., Francis Lorne.
3. COMMITTEE FOR WALLS, FLOORS AND ROOFS: *Chairman*, C. Lovett Gill; *Vice-Chairman*, Horace Cubitt; *Hon. Secretary* (to be appointed); *Members*, Percy V. Burnett, Joseph Emberton, R. Fitzmaurice, Stanley Heaps, Arthur W. Kenyon, Hubert Lidbetter,

Alister G. MacDonald, F. P. Scott, A.M.I.N.S.T.C.E.; Nominated by the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland, Wm. McCrea; Nominated by MOWB, G. A. Gardner, Superintending Structural Engineer, MOWB, Francis Lorne.

Change of address of Licensing Officer for London Civil Defence Region: Licensing Officer, MOWB., 51/54, Gracechurch Street, E.C.3. (Tele.: Mansion House, 9855).

PLANNING BILL
Minister of Works and Planning Bill passed its second reading in the House of Lords. Motion introduced by Lord Portal. Full report of his speech in A.J. for June 25. Extracts from speech: This Bill constitutes the first step in carrying out the Government's policy. Objective of that policy is to secure the right use of the land of the country for all purposes. For this, existing planning powers are known to be inadequate, and it will be necessary to introduce legislation substantially amending, strengthening and extending the present law. Before this is done, I consider it essential to have the final Reports of the Uthwatt Committee and Scott Committees, which are now near completion.

BUILDING TRADE
The age of reservation for men in building and civil engineering occupations raised to 41.

BRICKS
Second Report of the Committee on the Brick Industry under consideration by MOWB (H.M.S.O. 6d.). First Report was submitted to Minister at end of 1941 and published in March, 1942. The Second Report, to some extent complementary to the first, dealt with the following six points: 1, A Picture of the Industry. 2, A Quota Plan. 3, Compensation for the Loss of Sales. 4, The Price of Bricks. 5, Control of the Industry. For Minister's decisions on recommendations, see August (page 56).

RECONSTRUCTION
First meeting of the special Reconstruction Committee appointed by the Building

Societies Association to consider post-war problems. Lord Sankey said: It is right and proper that Building Societies should see how they can assist in obtaining the much-desired better houses for a people who so richly deserve them. Jerry-building must not be allowed to raise its ugly head again in our post-war world. Building Societies have suffered much unjust and damaging criticism in recent years because of the activities of the jerry-builder. They agree with, and must co-operate with those who feel strongly that jerry-building is a social menace to be ruthlessly destroyed.

PREFABRICATION
Two films of prefabricated housing in America shown to the press by MOWB at Ministry of Information. Both films stressed the advantages of wood for this type of building.

JOB COMMITTEES
What is a job committee? Full details of these Committees set out in the A.J. for June 25. Briefly, a job committee is: A group of men drawn from all the personnel—including architects—on a given job which gets together to discuss ways and means to eliminate obstacles to maximum output.

Plea by D. E. E. Morrison, Chairman, Public Relations Committee, A.A.S.T.A. for the setting up of job committees. Meetings of drawing office staffs alone, such as have taken place in the L.C.C. and MOWB, can achieve important results, but the kind of meeting that will do most is the meeting on the site itself between technical staff and operatives. The site is the place where in actual execution the plans and organization of the job are tested.



Housing Scheme in the West for the Ministry of Supply. Architect: G. A. Jellicoe. Geoffrey Jellicoe's little houses in groups of hundreds, or it may be thousands, in various parts of the country, seem good and practical, as well as simple enough to combine well together and to suit most types of landscape. His long terraces set round large open squares or in some other formal way regain for their inhabitants the friendliness of the slum, yet with no loss of respectability, a very notable achievement. (Page 67).



Library at New College, Oxford. Architect: Hubert Worthington. Solid and even rather grim-looking in its rough stone. The main hall inside is clearly a fine and worthy thing with tiers of bookshelves giving scale and the books themselves a fine contrasting texture to the plain surfaces. (Page 67).

Are there delays, waste of material, faulty construction, misleading details, architect's and client's changes of mind? They all come to light on the site. Technicians and operatives together are in a position to check over every step in the whole building process in the light of each other's experience.

National Service, for his address, and desire to assure the Minister and the Government of their fullest co-operation in carrying out the important programme of works required by the Government."

BUILDING PROGRAMME
Statement by Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labour and National Service, on new building programme to representatives of building and civil engineering industries: Britain is going to do its greatest job in this war—as the base for troops from the other side as well as for the armies and air-forces already here. The building industry will be in the vanguard in this great job. We shall have to house the great armies and air-forces from America. Port facilities, aerodromes, runways, camps and all the rest have got to be provided and provided quickly. 28,000 building workers who were due to be called up are to be left in the industry until October provided they are on priority work. In October the question will be reviewed again. Following resolution was carried with acclamation: "The representatives of the operatives and employers in the building and civil engineering industries here assembled thank Mr. Ernest Bevin, the Minister of Labour and

WAR-TIME BUILDING
Publication of four housing schemes to provide war-time accommodation for factory workers. Built for M.O.S. by G. A. Jellicoe. (A.J., June 11 and June 18).

R. I. B. A.
J. Alan Slater continued the plea for holding the R.I.B.A. Council Election with several letters to the press. D. E. E. Morrison joined the attack. He said: We do know that there has been dissatisfaction over the R.I.B.A.'s attitude to certain questions—its lack of vision in regard to the official shelter policy and reservation in the past, and, at present, its concentration on post-war problems to the detriment of the urgent questions of to-day. In a democratic country an election is the only obvious way of finding out whether this dissatisfaction has any widespread basis. The membership should be given an opportunity to exercise their democratic right.

NATIONAL BUILDINGS RECORD

Through the generosity of one of its members of Council, the N.B.R. announced a scheme by which it is hoped to centralize the results of student measuring activities and to build up through this means a national collection of graphic records of buildings of artistic, historic, topographical and sociological interest.

BRITISH RESTAURANTS

Lord Woolton suggested that local architects should be used for the design of British Restaurants in a statement to councils:

I am sure that your Council will bear in mind the possibility of using the services and artistic capacity not only of the architects in the locality who might be interested in such things, but also of the pupils of the local School of Art, who, in some cases, have contributed excellent work to such restaurants. My Department also may be able to give your Authority assistance in this direction, if it is desired. My motive in writing to you has been the hope that in these measures forced upon us by war we may be able to add to the amenities of life by creating some beauty whilst providing for a necessity.

ECCLESIASTICAL

Ten minimum conditions for a Christian way of life laid down by the R.C. Hierarchy of England and Wales. One point:

The minimum living accommodation for a family should be such that no one has to sleep in the living room; that there be satisfactory sanitation; that there be a bathroom for each family. Slums should be abolished—there is no excuse for slums.

EDUCATION

Following upon the initiative of R. Birdwood Willcocks, F.R.I.B.A., the Berkshire E.C. proposed to include study and training in the appreciation of architecture in the curriculum of its senior and secondary schools.

HONOURS

List of Birthday Honours included the following awards: *Order of Merit*—Augustus John, R.A. *Knight Bachelor*—T. P. Frank (co-ordinating officer for public utility services, London C.D. Region, and Chief Engineer to

the L.C.C.); *C.B.E.*—J. A. Dawson, Director of Works, Air Ministry; P. W. Jupp, Director of Lands, MOWB; George H. Parker, Chairman, National Joint Council for the Building Industry; H. E. Walker, Deputy Director of Public Works, Nigeria; H. E. Brooke-Bradley (Deputy County Surveyor, Worcestershire); H. M. Enderby (City Surveyor, Canterbury); F. H. Gibbons (Borough Engineer, Dudley); C. J. Mole, F.R.I.B.A. (Assistant Director of Works, MOWB); and H. Woolridge, (Senior Scientific Officer, D.S.I.R.); *O.B.E.*—W. E. Rice (President, London Master Builders' Association); *M.B.E.*—W. P. Haldane (Deputy City Engineer, Edinburgh); H. H. McTaggart (Quantity Surveyor, Department of Health for Scotland).

APPOINTMENTS

Lord Reith appointed Lieut./Commander, R.N.V.R., on the staff of the Rear-Admiral, Coastal Forces.

G. L. Vigers* elected President of the C.S.I. His father and grandfather were Presidents in 1910-11 and 1898-99.

*Died in December.



Professor Patrick Abercrombie appointed to replan the area surrounding the County of London.

OBITUARY

Sir Edwin Cooper, A.R.A., F.R.I.B.A., at the age of 59. A. W. Anderson, organizer and first president of the Federal Council of the A.I.A. in 1915. Prefix "Royal" attached to name of Institute in 1929.

On Active Service: Samuel Britten Bennett, Lt., R.N.V.R., D.S.C., killed in action. He was one of the founders and Editor of *Focus*.

JULY

MOWP

Minister of Works and Planning Bill received the Royal Assent. Following notice issued from 10, Downing Street:

"The King has been pleased to approve that the Right Honourable Lord Portal, D.S.O., M.V.O., be appointed Minister of Works and Planning, and that Mr. George Hicks, M.P., and Mr. H. G. Strauss, M.P., be appointed Joint Parliamentary Secretaries to the Ministry of Works and Planning." Lord Portal continued to hold office as First Commissioner of Works and Public Buildings. Powers and duties of the Minister of Health under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, were transferred to the Minister of Works and Planning.

Announced that MOWB would cost the nation, during the year ending March 31, 1943, £5,765,400, of which salaries would account for £5,282,900.

Thirty-five of MOWP's mobile builders completed the site construction work for an army camp.

The men were employed by the Ministry as part of its plan to expedite the construction of camps for the forces. Normally there is a delay of 3 weeks between inviting tenders for this work and in the starting of the contract. In this case, directly tenders were invited for the job, the mobile builders went off to the site and erected, in 16 days, huts to accommodate the advance party of the main contractor. Thus, work on the camp proper was able to start immediately the advance party arrived.

Stump extractor machine put into operation by the Ministry. Object: To glean cast-iron stumps which were left projecting from stone parapets and area walls.

Drastic restrictions imposed on the use of lead for building and plumbing purposes. Announced that lead sheet and pipes would be released only in limited quantities for special work of an essential nature; all other uses of lead, except for chemical purposes, would cease.

The areas controlled by MOWP's Licensing Officers in two Regions were amended, while telephone numbers and addresses of other Licensing Officers were changed:

Details of the changes, which should be made in Appendix D of *Notes for the Guidance of Applicants* are: (i) *N.E. Region*.—Telephone Number is Leeds 29063/4. (ii) *N. Midland Region*.—(a) Address changed to: 2, Lucknow Drive, Nottingham. (b) All Derbyshire is now included in this Region. (iii) *S.W. Region*.—Address changed to: 5/6, Cotham Lawn Road, Bristol, 6. (iv) *N.W. Region*.—All Derbyshire is now in the N. Midland Region. (v) *Southern Region*.—Address changed to: "Hillingdon," 39, Christchurch Road, Reading. Telephone number: Reading 81246.

F. E. Towndrow, F.R.I.B.A., appointed Senior Architect in the D.P.W.B., and secretary to the three Policy Committees (Design, Structure and Installations). Report issued by Directorate showed:

That of the 15 study committees announced in March, 11 were sitting, the remaining four were being formed—Steel Structures, Reinforced Concrete Structures, Timber Structures and Standards. Following new Committees formed since March: Sub-Committee on the Design of Houses and Flats (Scotland); and Committees on House Construction; Farm Buildings; Acoustics; Fire Grading; Mechanical Installations; Gas Installations. Of the new Committees only one had started work. Stated that several more Committees were projected; estimated that 25 would be at work at end of 1942. Constitution of the Committees and terms of reference given in A.J. for July 16.

Two appointments in MOWP were inquired into by the Select Committee on National Expenditure following questions in the House of Commons on the dual capacity of individuals appointed to high positions in Government departments while retaining association with firms which have contractual relations with these departments.

The persons concerned were: Hugh Beaver, Director-General, MOWP (lately a member of the firm of Sir Alexander Gibbs and Partners); and T. P. Bennett, F.R.I.B.A. (lately senior partner in the firm of T. P. Bennett and Son). Committee, in its report, stated that, from the evidence submitted, it would not appear that there had been any abuse of their positions by the holders.

RECONSTRUCTION Government decided to appoint an Advisory Council on Welsh Reconstruction Problems with the following terms of reference:

To survey, in conformity with the general examination of reconstruction problems now being conducted by the Government, those problems of reconstruction which are of special application to Wales and Monmouthshire, and to advise on them. Constitution of the Committee: Principal J. F. Rees, M.A. (Chairman); D. M. Evans Bevan; Mrs. Clement Davies; James Griffiths, M.P.; F. W. R. Harris, B.Sc.; J. Lloyd Humphreys; Dr. T. J. Jenkin, D.Sc.; William Jones, C.B.E.; David Lewis; Herbert Henry Merrett; Professor D. Hughes Parry, M.A.; Dr. Laura G. Rees; Sir Robert J. Webber; Evan Williams; Professor W. M. Williams, M.A.; Clough Williams-Ellis, F.R.I.B.A.; and William Thomas (Secretary).

BUILDING TRADE

To cope with a new demand for labour, the M.L.N.S. established a building and civil engineering department to control the use of manpower in those sections of the national effort.

UTILITY FURNITURE

Following is the constitution of the advisory committee appointed by Mr. Dalton, President of the B.O.T., to produce specifications for utility furniture:

Chairman: Charles Tennyson, vice-chairman of the Council for Art and Industry. Members: Miss Elizabeth Denby, specialist in planning and equipment of low-cost housing; Mrs. E. Winborn, member of the Tenants' Committee of the Kensal Housing Estate; Rev. Charles Jenkinson, vicar of St. John and St. Barnabas, Leeds, former chairman of the Leeds Corporation Housing Committee; John Gloag, consultant on industrial design; W. Johnstone, furniture manufacturer, member of the executive of the Furniture Trades Federation; Herman Lebus, furniture manufacturer; Gordon Russell, furniture designer, of Broadway, Wores.; and W. Welsford, manager of the furniture factories of the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

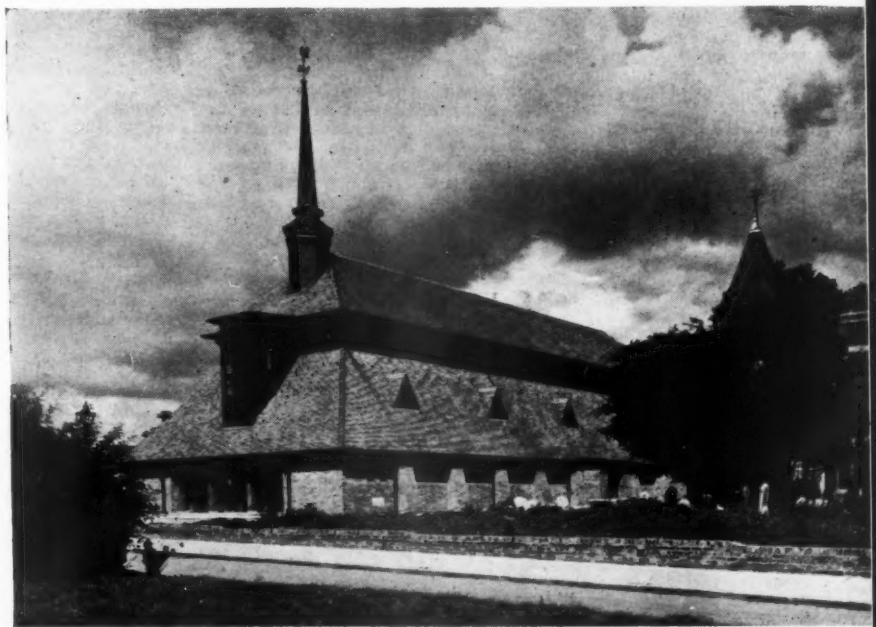
EXHIBITION

Exhibition entitled Eastern Front, designed by Ernö Goldfinger, and held in London. Objects of exhibition:

- 1, To show some of the material sent from this country to the U.S.S.R. in fulfilment of the pledge of help, and its use by the Soviet fighting forces.
- 2, To show some of the essential raw materials sent by the U.S.S.R. to this country.
- 3, To show some manifestations of Anglo-Soviet friendship.



Court House, Chichester, Sussex. Architect: C. G. Stillman. One is glad to see a fine, spacious entrance hall where anxious people can meet and talk. This fine hall is the keynote to the design both externally and internally and that, of course, is as it should be. (Page 66).



Timber Church at Greenford, Middlesex. Architect: Professor Richardson. One has often heard the stock comparison of a Gothic interior to a forest glade. Here the interior is still more like it, the timber taking so naturally to Gothic shapes. The exterior with its steep roof and flèche naturally has a Norwegian look but harmonizes well with the steep roof and flèche of an old church which adjoins it. (Page 67).

H O U S I N G
Memorandum of Evidence of C.S.I. submitted to Sub-Committee on Design of Dwellings of the Central Housing Advisory Committee of M.O.H. published in press. (A.J., for August 6.)

MARS PLAN

A master plan for London, published in full in the *Architectural Review* for June, subject of a leading article in the A.J. for July 9. Extracts from leader:

As becomes a Modern Architects' Research Society MARS has ignored the existing mess and refused to be limited or conditioned by it, preferring instead to work out from first principles what a plan for reconstructing London should seek to provide.

R. I. B. A.

Letter signed by ninety members of the architectural staffs of MOWP and L.C.C. published in the technical press: As members of the staffs of the two largest architectural departments in the country, we should like to support the correspondents who have in these columns expressed the view that R.I.B.A. elections should be held this year and annually. The last elections took place over three years ago, since when the isolation between the membership of the Institute and its Council has steadily increased. We have no doubts that this is largely due to the absence of annual elections and meetings which has prevented members from undertaking their share of responsibility for the policy and activity of the Institute. The demand for elections is not necessarily an attack on members of the present Council—they, just as much as the membership, are prevented by the absence of elections from fulfilling their function efficiently—but we do feel that the reasons advanced for the suspension of elections are inadequate. We wish to see a vigorous Institute taking an active part in the formulation of war building policy as well as looking to the future, and we consider that the holding of elections is an essential step in this direction.

SPEECHES

R. Coppock, at meeting of T.C.P.A.:

It is not possible to face the post-war problems in precisely the same way as last time. Politicians of the last post-war period knew it was impossible to carry out the programme they pretended to believe in. This time they will not get away with that. Obviously the question of planning is the question of expert knowledge and understanding. One of the first things necessary as far as planning

is concerned is to secure the land for the people; whether it is by compensation or annexation, does it matter? The fact is that we shall have a very small building personnel as compared to the personnel we had in 1939. During the 20 years between the wars we built four million houses; we cannot wait 20 years for four million houses again. Whether those houses are to be prefabricated, or ordinary brick or stone-built, is irrelevant at present.

Henry Strauss, at the T.P.I.: What have been the main faults in our town and country planning hitherto? The most important fault is, perhaps, this: that such planning has too often been thought of merely in the form of maps showing the lines of roads and indicating zones and land uses. As long as it is so conceived, town planning will certainly fail. Without architecture town planning is useless or even mischievous. Town planners must always remember this: while it is possible for a ground plan to be so bad as to render good building impossible, it cannot, however good it is, render good building certain. That will depend on the architect. It is essential that the ground plan, by providing building blocks of practicable size and shape and the right relation between streets, buildings and open spaces, should afford opportunity for good architecture. Architectural advice is, therefore, needed at an early stage of the plan. It is again, of course, essential when the buildings are designed.

Lord Portal at meeting of F.G.L.M.B.:

After the war builders will not want a fictitious boom but a level and balanced programme on which they can work for ten, twelve or fifteen years, or whatever the period may be. There is so enormous an amount of work ahead that everybody will realize that for some time after the war there must necessarily be a system of priorities. In one way the building industry will be fortunate: with the exception of timber all the materials it needs are to be found in our own country. What I intend to do, and what I have done, as Minister, is to take the advice of people who know more about the Ministry than I do. I believe in the policy of the "open door," which enables members of the various sections of the building industry to come and tell me what is wrong and how they think it should be remedied. I suggest that the industry should seriously consider how best the master builders of the country can be organized.

SHEET MATERIALS

Special issue of the A.J. devoted to Sheet Materials published on July 30.

COMPETITION

Conditions issued of an open

competition for the Castle site, including the Parish Church, the Roman Fort, Bridge and land adjoining the River Wharf, Ilkley. Latest date for designs was September 30. (See December 24, page 412, for result).

ARCHITECT OFFICERS

Twenty-seven members of the R.I.B.A. were gazetted 2nd Lieutenants in the Royal Engineers. They are:

Fellows: E. P. Lavender and T. W. Snailum. Associates: A. V. Banks, J. Catchpole, S. A. Comben, H. W. Cortis, E. J. Cundliffe, J. E. W. Dallachy, E. J. Edwards, J. Forbes, A. E. Gerrard, F. Greenwood, G. H. Hopkinson, F. W. Honeywell, J. L. Hope, H. Jackson, A. H. Jones, J. Lewis, K. L. Maggs, A. J. Morrison, T. Rothwell, K. A. Stevens, A. M. Stewart, R. T. Tatchell, G. J. Timmis. Licentiate: C. E. Buhl and T. G. Birchall Scott.

MESSAGE FROM MOSCOW

Following cablegram received by R.I.B.A. from Moscow: Council Royal Institute British Architects, 66, Portland Place, London.—On behalf all architects our country, we send cordial greetings Royal Institute British Architects on occasion conclusion treaty between Great Britain and Sovunion. Our organization is united with you not only by professional and creative interests in common but also by singleness our aspirations and efforts in great fight against common enemy, against barbaric Hitlerism. Architects our country give all their strength and knowledge to this fight and attentively follow wartime work their British colleagues. We are sure that henceforth our friendly relations will grow still closer and that architects both our allied countries will multiply their efforts for achieving sacred aim—our common victory over enemy.—Union Sovarchitects K. Alabyan, Secretary-General, transmitted Society Cultural Relations—Liberson.

The following reply was sent by Institute:

K. Alabyan, General Secretary, Union Soviet Architects, Granatny 7, Moscow, 2, U.S.S.R.—Royal Institute of British Architects warmly welcomes treaty between Great Britain and Soviet Union. It confirms friendship already existing between the architects of our two countries. We are united in determination to crush common enemy of freedom and to work together for creation of a better and happier world.—William Henry Ansell, President, Royal Institute of British Architects.

APPOINTMENTS

New Regional Controller for Wales: Percy E. Thomas, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A.

Lt.-Commander E. Basil Green, R.N., Assistant Managing Director of the Royal Doulton Potteries, appointed Deputy Regional Commissioner for Civil Defence in the S.E. Region.

Uttoxeter U.D.C. called in W. Dobson Chapman, M.T.P.I. to make a comprehensive survey of the area, and to advise in conjunction with the Council's Surveyor, S. S. Proud, on the plan for the future development and redevelopment of Uttoxeter in order that the Council may be ready to control and encourage development of the Urban District in the immediate post-war period.

Denis Winston, M.A., B.A.R.C.H. (Liverpool), A.R.I.B.A., senior lecturer in architecture and civic design in Liverpool University, appointed senior architect of the Northern Ireland Ministry of Home Affairs.

C. M. Coombs, F.R.I.B.A., deputy county architect to Staffordshire County Council, appointed county architect.

Sir Edward Crowe re-elected chairman of the R.S.A.

W. H. Ansell re-elected President of the R.I.B.A.

O B I T U A R Y

On Active Service: J. B. Tomlinson, A.R.I.B.A. (Fl./Sgt. R.A.F.).

PUBLICATIONS

Sand Lime Bricks. Wartime Building Bulletin, No. 20. (H.M.S.O. Price 3d.). *Vauxhall Gardens*, by James G. Southworth. (Columbia University Press, 18s. 6d.). *London Triumphant*, by Sydney R. Jones. (Studio, 15s.). *Heating and Ventilating*, by L. G. Overton. (Sutherland Publishing Co., 15s.). *Bombed Buildings of Britain*, by J. M. Richards, with notes by John Summerson. (Architectural Press, 15s.). *Specification*, 1942, edited by F. R. S. Yorke. (Architectural Press, 10s. 6d.).

AUGUST

M O W P

In order to secure the utmost economy in labour and materials required for building programmes, memorandum was issued to supplement the "Notes on Methods of Construction and Uses of Materials recommended by the Directorate of Constructional Design," issued on February 12 last, in Works and Building Committee Paper B.P.(O) (42) 9, and circulated to local authorities.

Leslie Beaufoy, F.R.I.B.A., appointed Assistant Secretary in MOWP.

Announced by MOWP that bonuses were being paid to building and civil engineering operatives whose output was higher than "basic" for all the main building and civil engineering operations on over 2,000 Government sites which were scheduled under the Essential Work Order.

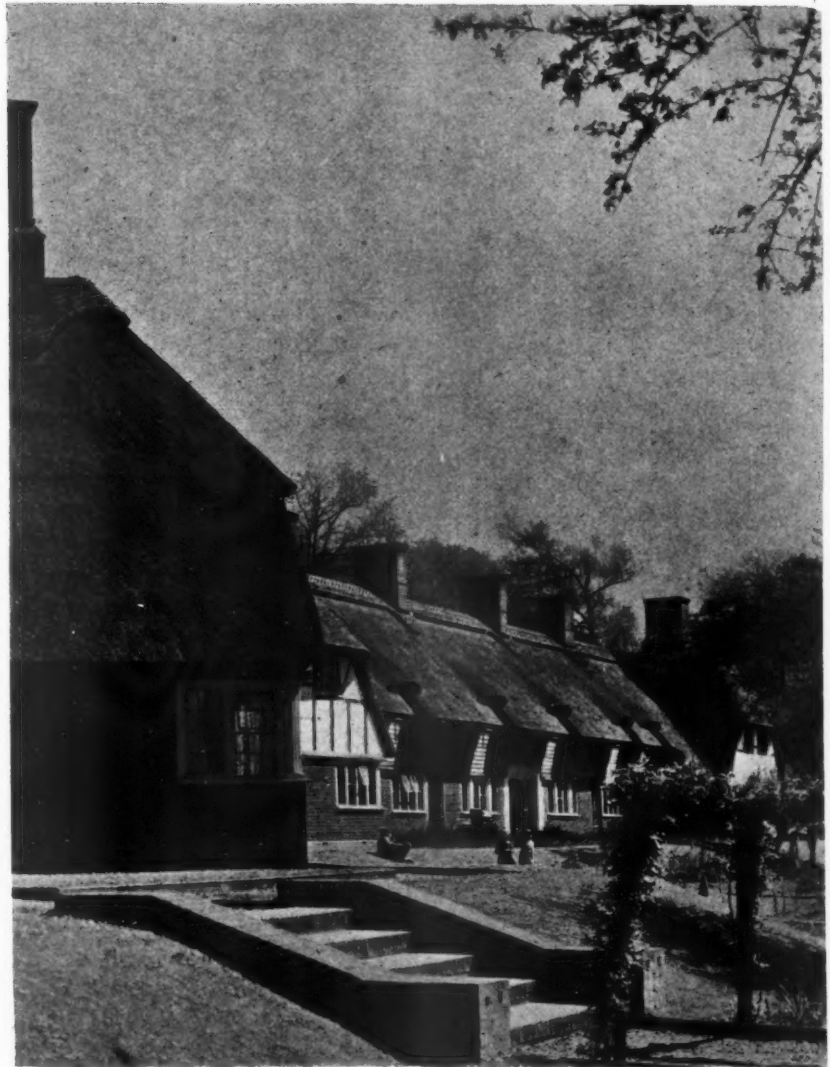


Lord Justice Scott.

SCOTT REPORT

Publication of the Report by the Committee on Land Utilization in Rural Areas. Prepared for MOWP* (H.M. S.O. Price 2s.). The body responsible for the Report, popularly called the Scott Committee, was set up in October, 1941, to report on questions arising out of the findings of the Barlow Report and is divided up into five parts: 1, present position; 2, recommendations; 3, planning and development — machinery and procedure; 4,

*Committee was set up by Ministry in consultation with Ministry of Agriculture.



Cottages for Landworkers on Lord Portal's Estate, Hampshire. Architect: Arthur E. T. Mort. One can admit their charm. It is the charm of a toy. I am glad they nestle under a church—nestle is the right word. (Page 68).



Waterloo Bridge. Architect: Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. The new bridge, which supersedes Rennie's structure, was begun in October, 1937, and was opened this month.

a five-year plan for Britain; 5, summary of recommendations and suggestions. Also included is a minority Report by Professor S. R. Dennison.

RECONSTRUCTION

Statement by Herbert Morrison, Minister of Home Security, that reconstruction of heavily raided towns and cities need not wait until after the war. Local authorities could get on with a good deal of preparatory work.

Discussion on "Reconstruction: Should the Plans be Drafted Now?" held by A.B.T.

Miss Jane Drew (for):

The reason why planning must be done now could be seen from the history of the period after the last war. Then spirits had been low; there was unemployment, misery, and epidemics which had carried off more victims than the war itself. Ninety-nine per cent. of our people should be on full-time war effort, but the rest should work on peace problems. We must have the plans ready to put into operation.

K. Campbell (against):

It was no good building concert halls and museums for people who were too worried about mere existence to appreciate music and art. We didn't know what post-war conditions were going to be. There was no agreement on how to plan. Those with anti-planning records were now busy making schemes. To win this war we should have to get our hands dirty. Every architect should be in direct war work.

CONFERENCE

The relationship of civil engineering with the building industry was the subject of the first of a series of conferences at the I.C.E.

Professor C. E. Inglis (President, I.C.E.): After the war building and the construction of public works will assuredly form a large portion of our national effort and, boldly conceived and intelligently allocated, such work should go a long way to counteract the menace of a post-war industrial depression.

Lord Portal: One advantage the building industry has is that most of the materials it uses are produced in this country: it also has the advantage of knowing beforehand that there will be a vast amount of building to be done in this country after the war. It is for those presiding over the industry to prevent a slump occurring by having a balanced programme extending over a number of years. There will have to be housing and other special priorities. Mr. W. H. Ansell, P.R.I.B.A.: If

we look on the post-war building needs of the nation as a glorious scramble with everyone trying to get what he can out of it, we are heading for failure. The first and most important consideration is not the prosperity of the building industry as such, but the ensuring that what the industry produces can be of the greatest national benefit.

NEW COMMITTEE

Home Secretary appointed a committee, under chairmanship of John W. Morris, K.C., to consider future planning of bombed public houses. Members:

G. A. Bryson, Captain A. J. Dyer, H. T. Edwards, F. B. Gillie, H. G. Griffiths, E. J. Hayward, Frank Hunt, F. H. Jones, L. L'Estrange Malone, L.C.C., Sir Miles Mitchell, Sir Sydney Neville and Miss J. I. Wall. Secretary, H. B. Wilson, of the Home Office.

BRICKS

Minister of Works and Planning announced his decisions on the recommendations made in the second report of the committee, set up in September, 1941, to advise him on the steps to be taken for increased efficiency and economy in the manufacture of bricks. Summary of the decisions:

1. Proposal for formation of a National Brick Advisory Council for the industry was accepted, with L. W. Farrow, a chartered accountant, as Chairman, 22 members and three technical advisers. Functions of the Council: (a) price fixing; (b) quotas; (c) operation of the Care and Maintenance Scheme; (d) over- and under-sales scheme; (e) the best means of effecting correlation of production and demand; (f) co-operation with the Ministry and the appropriate research bodies on matters affecting the production of bricks; (g) to perform such other functions as the Minister may specify from time to time, and to advise on all and any other questions concerning the brick industry, including transport, labour, fuel and other problems affecting output. 2. The principle of Minimum Prices agreed. 3. Quota plan recommended by the Committee agreed in principle, subject to the review of the allocation of trade at least every three months. Administration of the plan to be in the hands of MOWP. 4. Recommendation of a scheme in the operation of which undertakings would pay into a fund for oversales, and draw out for undersales, was approved, and it was proposed to arrange for issue of necessary Regulation. 5. Current national output of bricks to be reduced from time to time (not necessarily at regular intervals), in order to balance supply and demand, and to maintain stocks at a proper level. This reduction to be effected in part by closure of

works. An Appeal Tribunal on closure decisions to be set up. This Tribunal to consist of representatives of M.L.N.S., M.F.P., M.W.T., and representatives of brick manufacturers.

Constitution of Council.—Chairman: L. W. Farrow, F.C.A. Members nominated by the industry in area groups and Associations are as follows: T. R. C. Hurl, of Messrs. P. & M. Hurl Limited and Gilbert Morrison, of Niddrie & Benhar Coal Co., Ltd. (Scottish brick manufacturers); J. Dobson, of Horden Collieries, Ltd. (northern brick manufacturers); H. L. Hartley, of Hartleys (Castleford), Ltd., and E. C. Payne, of Sheffield Brick Co., Ltd. (North-Eastern manufacturers); T. Harrison of Messrs. J. & A. Jackson Ltd., W. Heaton, of Ravenhead Brick Co., Ltd., and J. Fielding, of Fielding & Sons (Blackpool) Ltd. (North-Western manufacturers); E. Taylor, of East Midlands Brick Mfrs. Assoc. (East Midlands manufacturers); J. H. B. Dixon, of Messrs. H. M. Grant & Co., Ltd. and N. J. Wigley, Midland Federation of Brick & Tile Manufacturers (West Midlands manufacturers); W. S. Courtis, of Phoenix Brick Co., Ltd. (South Wales & Monmouthshire manufacturers); J. Chalker, of Fison Packard & Prentice Ltd. (Eastern manufacturers (non-fletton)); Colonel C. W. D. Rowe, of London Brick Co., Ltd., Sir Horace Boot, of Eastwoods Limited and S. A. Garner, of Marston Valley Brick Co., Ltd. (Eastern manufacturers, Pressed Brick Makers' Association, Limited); E. Finch Mitchell, Sussex & Dorking United Brick Co., Ltd. (Southern manufacturers); E. Gwynne Vevers, of Cattybrook Brick Co., Ltd. (South-Western manufacturers); M. O. Gill, of London & Rochester Trading Co., Ltd. (Stock Brick manufacturers); R. E. Barringer, Manfield Standard Sand Co., Ltd. (Sand Lime Brick manufacturers). In addition, the Minister has invited L. H. Pearmaine, of the Transport and General Workers Union, and H. L. Bullock, of the Municipal and General Workers Union, to become members of the Council. The following will act as Technical Advisers: A. T. Green, Director of Research, British Refractories Research Association; Dr. F. M. Lea, of Building Research Station, and Dr. J. G. King, of Fuel Research Station (both nominated by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research).

BUILDING MATERIALS

Owing to the need to conserve lead supplies, M.O.S. stated it was essential to make every possible saving in use of lead for all purposes. The Control (Non-Ferrous Metals), therefore, found it necessary to impose drastic restrictions on the use of lead for building and plumbing purposes. Full details of the changes appeared in A.J. for August 13 (page 111).

BUILDING INDUSTRY F.G.L.M.B. passed following resolution:

That His Majesty's Government instruct its appropriate Departments to revise immediately its present system of allocation of contracts and labour with a view to using to the full the complete organization of the medium and smaller builders.

R. I. B. A.

With the help of members of the R.I.B.A., it is proposed on the suggestion of a member to form an ordnance map "pool" or series of pools in appropriate centres throughout the country.

It is proposed to form the London and Home Counties Pool immediately, and members who have 25 in. or 6 in. maps of that area, whether or not they live or work in it, asked to send these maps to the Institute, addressed to the Librarian.

Leader in A.J. (August 6) summarized the arguments that had been advanced by members of the R.I.B.A. in favour of an immediate Council election.

Institute issued a first general statement of conclusions from the Reconstruction Committee:

The statement was divided up into four sections:

Section I.—Human Needs as a Foundation for Reconstruction: (a) Individual and Public Needs; (b) Practical and Aesthetic Needs. Section II.—Outline of a National Plan to meet these needs: (a) Positive Policy; (b) Urgency of Planning; (c) Machinery for Planning: 1, Nature of a National Planning Authority. 2, Precedents for Public Development. 3, Organization of Planning Authorities; (d) Legislation; (e) Organization of the Building Industry; (f) Building Technique; (g) Finance.

Section III.—Filling in the National Plan (a) General Suggestions: 1, Location of Industry. 2, Preliminary Local Work. 3, Decentralization and New Towns. 4, Relation of Housing to Town-Planning; (b) Housing: 1, Importance of Housing in Post-War Reconstruction. 2, Post-War Housing Need. 3, Planning the Post-War Housing Programme. 4, Housing Agencies. 5, Research. 6, Housing Standards.

Section IV.—The Architects' Contribution: (a) In the History of Town Planning; (b) In Modern Planning: 1, Architects and Planners. 2, Civic Planning; (c) In the Public Control of Building Design.

PREFABRICATION

C.C.A.'s exhibition of day nurseries had two objects:

SEPTEMBER

1, to show how problems of siting, planning, finish and details, which are common to all hatted nurseries, have been overcome; 2, to provide information on the types of prefabricated huts now available for nurseries.

MOWP issued details of a standard hut for rapid erection, to speed the construction of army camps, hostels for workers and so on.

Hut can be adapted for use as a dormitory, a recreation room, a dining room or a canteen. Standard R.C. frame designed for mass production which will take any of the numerous types of covering—i.e., bricks, clay blocks, plaster-board, etc.

KITCHEN PLANNING
"The Hub of the House," title of report by the A.P.R.R. on the kitchen. It had been submitted as evidence to the M.O.H. Central Housing Committee's Sub-Committee on the Design of Dwellings.

LONDON CHURCHES
London Diocesan Reorganization Committee appointed specially selected people to consider how best to tackle the replanning which will be necessary in the diocese as the result of the war. Following areas have been selected for this preliminary survey, and the "advisers" who will conduct the investigation are:
1. (a) Stepney and Poplar: Bishop Mosley, W. F. Oakeshott; (b) Shoreditch and Hackney: Canon Adam Fox, A. K. Sabin.
2. Stoke Newington, West Hackney, Islington, Finsbury: Bishop Mosley, the Rev. E. St. G. Schomberg.
3. St. Pancras: A. E. A. Napier, A. Campbell Allen.
4. Westminster, Holborn: the Rev. E. St. G. Schomberg, D. Timmins.
5. St. Marylebone, Paddington: the Dean of Westminster, Caroline Lady Bridgman.

WAR DAMAGE
The War Damage (Amendment) Act, 1942, received the Royal Assent. This Act makes very important changes in Part I of the principal Act of 1941, which relates to Immoveable Property and to fixed machinery and plant. It also introduces some minor amendments of the "Commodity Insurance Scheme," under the War Risks Insurance Act, 1939, and also of the Business Scheme under Part II of the War Damage Act, 1941.

EXHIBITION
A travelling exhibition, entitled "Design Round the Clock," devised by John Grey, held at the A.A. Chief feature of the exhibition was that the exhibits were displayed on stands of a new kind, which allow all the material to be taken out and re-used in a different context.

REGISTRATION OF ALIENS

Miss Rathbone asked the Home Secretary in Parliament whether he was aware that the A.R.C. was refusing scholarships to all aliens as such, though admitting them to the register on payment of the same fees as British students.

Mr. H. Morrison, in reply, said that the Act of 1931 provided that the A.R.C. should devote at least half the fees received for the provision of scholarships and maintenance grants in such manner and on such conditions as the council might determine, but there was no requirement to exclude aliens from these awards. He had no responsibility for the council's decision in these matters, nor would he feel justified in seeking power to intervene.

CAMPUS

Colonel McKeachie, General Purchasing Agent, U.S.A. Forces, and Lord Portal, congratulated 300 men of the building industry on the completion in nine days of a rush building job, somewhere in England, for the American Army which was expected to take 42 days.

WATERLOO BRIDGE

Part of the new Waterloo Bridge opened to traffic. Work on the Bridge was started in October, 1937, from the designs of Rendel, Palmer and Tritton in collaboration with Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, R.A. Astragal divulged that the first person to discover that the old Waterloo Bridge was unsafe was Mr. G. J. Howling, then Editor of the Journal, and, at present, Editor of the *Builder*.

HONOUR
E. Vincent Harris, F.R.I.B.A., elected a Royal Academician.

PUBLICATIONS
Britain Rebuilt, by Eric S. de Maré. (Sidgwick & Jackson, 2s. 6d.)
Town Planning and Road Traffic, by H. Alker Tripp. (Edward Arnold & Co., 10s.).

MOWP

Standards Committee, planned in 1941 as an essential part of the committee organization of the D.P.W.B., was convened by MOWP. Constitution:

Chairman: Sydney Tatchell, F.R.I.B.A. Secretary, F. R. S. Yorke, A.R.I.B.A. Technical Officers: F. MacManus and C. R. Fowkes, A.A.R.I.B.A. Members: S. Poinson Taylor, F.R.I.B.A., R. H. Matthew, A.R.I.B.A., Dr. F. M. Lea, D.S.C., Edwin Williams, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., J. Nelson Meredith, F.R.I.B.A., Reginald Browne, F.I.A.A., F.I.A.S., P. Good, M.I.E.E., F.C.G.I., C. Roland Woods, M.B.E., LL.B., F. R. Hiorns, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., Robert Chalmers, O.B.E., B.S.C., R. J. Rogers, M.INST.GAS, E. A. Reynolds, M.A., T. Stevenson (Temporary), R. V. Chate, M.INST.C.E. (Deputy): W. Cyril Cocking, Sir Giles Scott, R.A., Ralph Freeman, M.INST.C.E., G. Grey Wornum, F.R.I.B.A., G. B. Sankey, J. Laing, Francis Lorne, F.R.I.B.A., John H. Markham, F.R.I.B.A., Guthlac Wilson, C. R. Fowler, M.B.E. So that due regard may be paid to local conditions in various parts of Great Britain, six corresponding members to be appointed to represent East Anglia, the Midlands, the West Country, Wales, the North East and the North West respectively; Scotland already directly represented on the committee.

MOWP set up a Codes of Practice Committee composed of representatives of the principal technical institutions, the building research departments of Government, the B.S.I. and B.I.N.C. These bodies reached complete agreement on the principles involved, and nominated the following permanent representatives:

R.I.B.A.: Hubert M. Fairweather and E. Berry Webber. Institution of Civil Engineers: Lieut.-Col. C. M. Norrie, D.S.O., and H. J. F. Gourley. Institution of Electrical Engineers: J. R. Beard and P. V. Hunter, C.B.E. Institution of Mechanical Engineers: Col. S. J. Thompson, D.S.O., and Dr. H. L. Guy, F.R.S. Institution of Municipal and County Engineers: E. J. Elford and J. H. Melville-Richards. Institution of Structural Engineers: P. J. Black and G. B. R. Pimm. Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors: E. W. Mackenzie and J. E. Swindlehurst. Building Industries National Council: R. Coppock, C.B.E., and Major V. Lefebure. British Standards Institution: C. le Maistre, C.B.E., and P. Good, C.B.E. In addition, the M.H.S., M.O.W.P., and B.R.S. asked to appoint assessor members.

Ministry appointed Regional Planning officers for the whole

of England and Wales. Names and addresses:

Chief Planning Inspector and Chief Regional Planning Officer: K. S. Dodd, M.C., M.A., A.M.INST.C.E., M.T.P.I., Ministry of Works and Planning, Lambeth Bridge House, London, S.E.1. (Telephone: Reliance 7611).

Regional Planning Officers:

Northern Region: R. B. Walker, F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I., 19, Highbury, Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Telephone: Jesmond 2225).

North Eastern Region: R. H. Mattocks, P.P.T.P.I., Temporary Address—7, Blenheim Terrace, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds, 2. (Telephone: Leeds 22382).

North Midland Region: R. A. Hudson, M.T.P.I., 44, Lucknow Avenue, Mapperley Park, Nottingham. (Telephone: Nottingham 66907).

Eastern Region: E. FitzGibbon, B.A., B.A.I., Temporary address—c/o Ministry of Health, 12, Queen Anne Terrace, Cambridge. (Telephone: Cambridge 54461).

Southern Region: A. Morris, M.INST.C.E., M.T.P.I., 61, Western Elms Avenue, Reading, Berks. (Telephone: Reading 60826).

South-Western Region: H. W. J. Heck, M.I.M. & C.Y.E., M.T.P.I., 15, Elmdale Avenue, Clifton, Bristol. (Telephone: Bristol 34670).

Wales: R. D. Jones, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., 17, Ninian Road, Cardiff. (Telephone: Cardiff 686).

Midland Region: E. H. Doubleday, P.A.S.I., A.M.T.P.I., 75, Westfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. (Telephone: Edgbaston 3624 and 3625).

North-Western Region: M. J. Hellier, A.M.I.M. & C.Y.E., A.M.T.P.I., 100, Palatine Road, West Didsbury, Manchester, 20. (Telephone: Didsbury 3937).

South-Eastern Region: H. R. Wardill, F.S.I., M.T.P.I., 24, Calverley Park, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. (Telephone: Tunbridge Wells 3237).



Mr. Justice Uthwatt.

UTHWATT REPORT
Publication of the Report of the Expert Committee on Compensation and Betterment (H.M.S.O., 2s. 6d.). This body, popularly called the Uthwatt Committee, was



Municipal Offices, Friern Barnet. Architects: Sir John Brown and A. E. Henson. One of those lucky buildings on a narrow curved site facing an open space which makes an effective, dominating mass without columns or other adventitious emphasis. Indeed, in this case the tall flèche, as if from a Georgian stable, might have been omitted with some gain to the whole. Externally this is a neo-Georgian building relying, apart from the interest of its mass, on the contrast of long first floor windows bound together with a continuous balcony and a tight range of small ones below, and an open range of small ones above, instead of on the contrast of white window bars to brickwork. Indeed, it is the proportions of this building with no architectural pretence, apart from the flèche already mentioned, which makes it effective externally and that external expression is the natural reflection of a simple internal plan—a long central corridor with rooms on either side and a council chamber as a back addition. (Page 66).

set up in January, 1941, to advise on (a) steps to be taken now or before the end of the war to prevent the work of reconstruction being prejudiced; (b) alterations of the existing law which might be necessary to facilitate stabilization of land values and the acquisition of land for public use on an equitable basis. The first part of this undertaking was dealt with in an interim report published in July, 1941.

RECONSTRUCTION

George Hicks, in House of Commons, was asked about the proposals for the post-war revision of the lay-out of London. He said he understood that these authorities had provisional plans for redevelopment in an advanced stage of preparation, but he could not say when they would be completed. The question when and by whom such provisional plans might be inspected was for the authorities themselves to determine.

SPEECHES

In the series of meetings to discuss the question of civil engineering and the building industry, held at the Institution of Civil Engineers,

George Hicks, principal speaker, said:

Those who build should realize their responsibility to the public, and they should co-operate in every way with good town planning. In the first place, they should demand harmonious architectural design and good standards of workmanship; in short, they should avoid "stunts." Secondly, they should decide, with the help of the architect, what they really want before the plans are finally drawn, and should stick to it; they should not chop and change in the middle of the contract.

BUILDING CENTRE

Building Centre moved to 23, Maddox Street, W.1, the old R.I.B.A. building. Tel.: Mayfair 2128.

NATIONAL BUILDINGS RECORD

Announced that the National Buildings Record Scheme for reproducing measured drawings had made an excellent start. Since the first announcement in June, more than 250 sheets had been copied.

R. I. B. A.

"R.I.B.A. Election — the Next Step?" title of Leader in A.J. for September 17. A method of testing the opinion

of the profession as a whole was suggested.

PREFABRICATION

A film, brought back from America by G. A. Jellicoe, of a prefabricated housing scheme in California, was shown at the R.I.B.A. Film dealt with a prefabricated housing scheme in California, carried out on the Homosote system.

A. R. P.

Six of London's eight new deep tunnel air-raid shelters opened.

Four are sited to the north of the River, and four south, and all are constructed below tube stations. Each has accommodation for 8,000 persons. Construction of the shelters undertaken by the L.P.T.B. as agents of the M.O.S., and the work was directed, in collaboration with the Chief Engineer of the Ministry by two firms of consulting engineers.

PLANNING

A.P.R.R. announced that the School of Planning had now been reborn as a company limited by guarantee (non-profit making). It was hoped that funds would be forthcoming to restart the School at least on a correspondence basis.

ON THE AIR

Charles Holden and Edward Maufe took part in a transatlantic broadcast with Richard Wessell.

HOUSING

Minister of Health, Mr. Ernest Brown, received representations from a deputation from the Sheffield City Council regarding preparatory action under war conditions for the resumption of the Council's housing programme. Arrangements were discussed to expedite the examination of the proposals so that there would be no avoidable delay when it became possible to restart house building.

APPOINTMENTS

J. T. Castle appointed City Architect, Bradford, in succession to H. Conolly, the new Deputy County Architect of Essex.

W. J. Reed appointed head of the Co-operative Wholesale Society's architects' department in succession to L. G. Ekins, who retired after 45 years' service.

Miss Marjorie Morrison appointed Secretary of the D.I.A. for the war period. Lord Sempill re-elected President.

C. S. Agnew appointed Deputy Director of Works and Chief Architect of the Works Division of the Northern Ireland Ministry of Finance.

HONOURS

A. R. Cobb elected Associate of the Royal Canadian Academy.

OBITUARY

Dr. Ralph Adams Cram, the famous American architect and authority on Gothic architecture. Age 78.

PUBLICATIONS

Notes on the Repair of Bombed Houses. Wartime Building Bulletin, No. 21. (H.M.S.O., 1s.) *Timber Economy*, No. 3. Issued by MOWP. Contains detail drawings showing timber saving forms of construction for racks, shelving, bins, cupboards for various types of buildings. (H.M.S.O. 1s.) M.O.H. Bulletin C.10. *Translucent Substitutes for Glass* (supersedes Bulletin B.10). Bulletin C.24. *Protective Walls in Single-Storey Factories: Method of Heightening and Strengthening Existing Walls.*



H. Alker Tripp.

Town Planning & Road Traffic, by H. Alker Tripp, C.B.E. (Edward Arnold & Co., 10s.).



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CERRUX
DECORATIVE FINISHES

PATENT WELDED TUBULAR CONSTRUCTION

Data Sheet No. 11

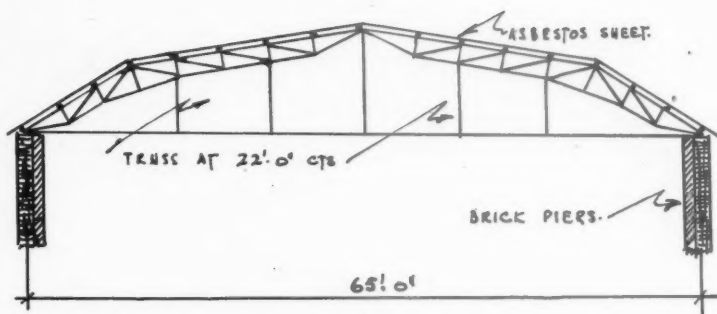


Fig. 22. Composite tubular roof truss used in conjunction with brick construction.

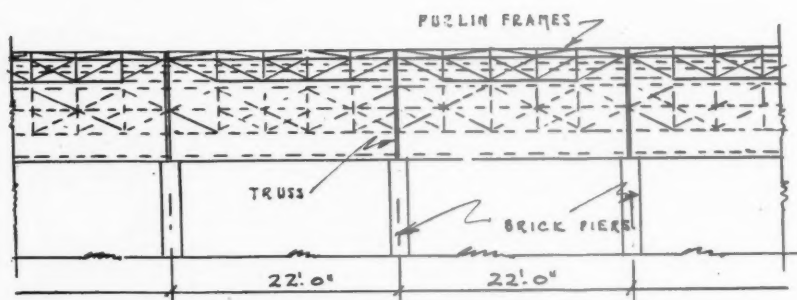


Fig. 23. Elevational detail.

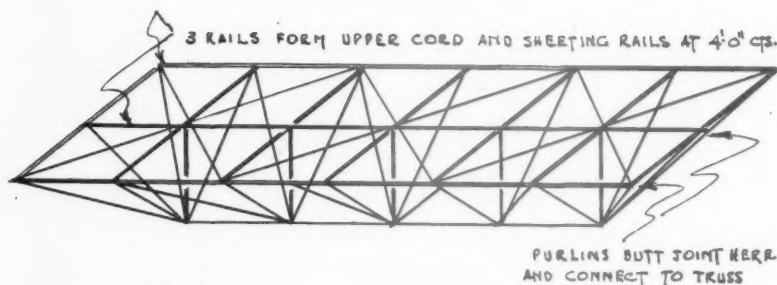
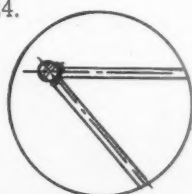


Fig. 24.



INSET CIRCLE SHOWS SIMPLE DIRECTIONAL JOINT WHICH IS ONLY COMMON TO TUBE SECTION

Triangular girder detail, a form of directional jointing only possible with the tubular section.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH BRICK CONSTRUCTION

This sheet demonstrates a satisfactory method of employing standard tubular roof principles in conjunction with brick construction, the tubular principles being placed at 22 ft. centres.

The tubular design and assembly only differs in minor details from the examples shewn in previous data sheets. The purlins are of the same fabricated beam construction but, instead of being used as single members, they are framed into triangular girders, the upper chord being three members at 4 ft. 6 in. centres (Fig. 24).

At first glance Fig. 24 would appear to indicate intricacy of design and fabrication, but the inset detail shews its real simplicity — this simple form of directional jointing can only be used with tubular steel members, the circular section allowing braces and diagonals to be used in any direction.

A structure of this type 80 ft. in length and with a roof span of 65 ft., has a total steel tonnage of 7.0, and cost details of roof construction and assembly (inclusive of delivery, erection and asbestos-cement covering) are available.

• • •

NOTE—These data sheets are appearing weekly in THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL—they are now available in complete Folder form and application for these Folders should be addressed to Scaffolding [Great Britain] Limited, 77, Easton Street, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

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OCTOBER

MOWP

Francis Lorne, Assistant Director (Standards) of the D.P.W.B. resigned owing to ill-health. He was succeeded by G. Grey Wornum.

MOWP set up offices in Glasgow and Liverpool, at which enquiries may be made, and information obtained, regarding the granting of civil licences for building.

Addresses: No. 16, Gordon Street, Glasgow, C.1, and 81, Dale Street, Liverpool. All written communications to: Regional Licensing Officer, 80, Princess Street, Manchester.

Supplement to the Standard Schedule of Prices (H.M.S.O., price 4d.), contained a more complete schedule for pre-fabricated hutments and schedules for special light-weight steel tubing for water services, camouflage painting and asbestos cement pressure pipes for water mains.

Six Regional Contractors Plant advisers appointed by MOWP—(a) to advise on general problems relating to care and maintenance; (b) to assist in obtaining plant when this is required on important works; and (c) to see that all existing plant is fully employed, if necessary by the exercise of compulsory powers.

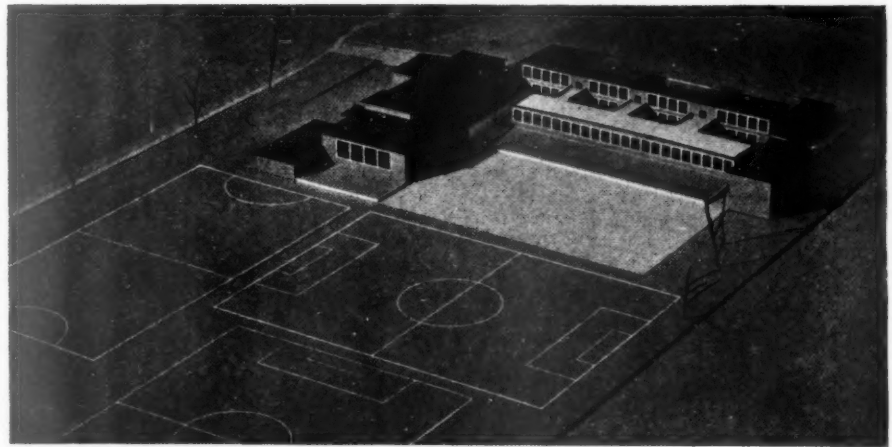
NEW COMMITTEE

Joint committee was formed by the R.I.B.A. and the Central Institute of Art and Design to consider the setting up of a register of craftsmen engaged in the crafts related to architecture.

Members: R.I.B.A.: H. M. Fletcher, H. B. Creswell, Basil Oliver, F.S.A., and S. J. B. Stanton. C.I.A.D. Arts and Crafts Representatives: Stonework: Denis Tegetmeier or Allan Durst. Woodwork: Harry Norris or Edward Barnsley. Metalwork: Archibald Carne. Tiles: Bernard Leach. General: Cosmo Clark. Chairman: Charles Tennyson, C.M.G., Secretary: T. A. Fennemore.

BUILDING TRADE

Statement made by George Hicks to the F.G.L.M.B.,



School at Scalby, Yorkshire. Architect: F. X. Velarde. The plan is a fine open one in three main blocks, but all connected by wide loggias. Do I see the influence of Denis Clarke Hall's winning "News-Chronicle" scheme in this? I hope so. (Page 66).

that the Government were adopting a policy of spreading the available building work among as many suitable firms as possible.

Policy included such measures as extending the lists of contractors invited by Government Departments to tender for work; requiring contractors to put work out to sub-contract; preventing the overloading of individual firms; and using the Works and Buildings Emergency Organizations in drawing up tender lists for contracts under £25,000.

N.F.B.T.E. unanimously decided not to accept the new Standard form of Government contract, pending negotiations with the various Government departments concerned. F.C.E.C. made a similar decision.

Warning to building industry that it would have to face greater reductions in its ranks contained in a letter from Hugh Beaver, Director-General, MOWP, to W. E. Rice, President, L.M.B.A. and that Lord Portal was considering the matter.

RECONSTRUCTION

In the House of Lords Lord Reith introduced a motion calling attention to the machinery of planning advocated in the Reports of the Uthwatt and Scott Committees; he asked the Government whether they proposed immediately to adopt some such essential



The R.A. Plan for London. Architects: R. A. Town Planning Committee under Chairmanship of Sir Edwin Lutyens. A general glance at the plan showing the redevelopment of the whole Central Area gives no impression of coherence.



Utility Furniture was exhibited this month at the Building Centre. The photo shows a bedroom suite.

first step in preparation for post-war re-construction. My submission is that the machinery for national planning should be settled now, and that it is quite impossible to wait until all the points in the two Reports have been studied and analysed, and decisions taken on them.

EDUCATION

A scheme came into operation in Liverpool whereby Polish architectural undergraduates whose studies had been halted by the German occupation, resumed their studies. Following an agreement, sponsored by the British Council, between the Polish Government and the University of Liverpool, facilities were provided for about 60 Polish students, who had already embarked on their professional studies in Poland, to complete their courses in the Liverpool School of Architecture.

HOUSING

In the course of a discussion on Manchester's Housing needs with a Deputation from the City Corporation, the Minister of Health said that all local authorities should follow the example of Manchester and Sheffield and begin now to prepare at least one year's programme.



Sir Charles Bressey



Sir Edwin Lutyens

R.A. PLAN FOR LONDON Exhibition, at Burlington House, of a scheme for the replanning of London, prepared by the Town Planning Committee of the Academy (A.J., October 22). Also publication of C. T. Aslan's scheme for replanning of London (A.J., October 9).

A. B. T.

Two-thirds of the members voted for the name of the A.A.S.T.A. to be changed to the Association of Building Technicians. The Council decided to incorporate the change in the proposed new rules to be put before the annual general meeting to be held in London in November.

R. I. B. A.

First and second of a series of lectures on Scientific Building, organized by the R.I.B.A. Architectural Science Board, held at the Institute.

EXHIBITION

The Englishman Builds Exhibition, designed by Ralph Tubbs, held at the National Gallery.

WAR DAMAGE

Statement by War Damage Commission on sale of war-damaged buildings:

If a property is so seriously damaged as to be a total loss within the meaning of the War Damage Act, a value payment is made to the persons who hold proprietary interests in it at the time of the damage. If, on the other hand, the property is not so seriously damaged as to be a total loss the usual payment is a cost of works payment. This is made to the person who actually incurs the cost of repair. This person would normally be the purchaser if the sale is effected before the damage is made good.

APPOINTMENT

Minister of Agriculture appointed Dr. L. Dudley Stamp to advise him on the agricultural aspects of town and country planning schemes.

OBITUARY

On Active Service: R. Broad, A.R.I.B.A. (F./O., R.A.F.V.R.), H. Goolden, A.R.I.B.A. (F./Lt., R.A.F.), H. Bennett, A.R.I.B.A. (S./Sgt., R.E.).

NOVEMBER

MOWP

The principles which MOWP agreed with the building industry for the use of groups of contractors for Government contracts announced by MOWP. The principles dealt with contracts estimated to cost over £25,000, £25,000 or less, and special conditions governing Scottish contractors. Full conditions published in A.J. for November 26.

In view of heavy demands for the current building programme, MOWP decided to control roofing materials.

The order applied to: Asbestos cement products; roofing felts (all types); damp course felts (all types); plasterboard; natural slates for roofing and damp courses.

MOWP drew attention to the fact that when any change occurs in the particulars of a registered firm notification should be given to the Chief Registrar (B. & C.E.), Sanctuary Buildings, 18, Great Smith Street, S.W.1. Certificate of registration should be returned at the same time for amendment.

NEW COMMITTEES

Lord Portal appointed an Advisory Council representing the employer, operative and professional sides of the building and civil engineering industries, for the examination and mutual consideration of problems and policies affecting the present and future position of these industries in relation to the demands of the country's building and civil engineering requirements. Members of the Council, nominated by their respective bodies:

T. Howarth, O.B.E., Sir Jonah Walker-Smith, M.P., and G. H. Parker, C.B.E. (N.F.B.T.E.); A. G. Hutton (Scottish National Building Trades Federation (Employers)); Henry T. Holloway, J. Crowley and N. H. LeMare (F.C.E.C.); J. W. Stephenson, J.P., Bruce Sandercock, Luke Fawcett and R. Coppock, C.B.E. (N.F.B.T.O.); Tom Pugh and H. Bullock (Civil Engineering Conciliation Board); W. H. Ansell, M.C., P.R.I.B.A., and Hubert Worthington, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A. (R.I.B.A.); Sir Peirson Frank, M.INST.C.E., F.S.I., and W. T. Halcrow, M.INST.C.E. (I.C.E.); Alan W. Davson, F.S.I., and Alexander H. Purdie, F.S.I. (C.S.I.). G. H. Parker, C.B.E., elected chairman, and J. W. Stephenson, J.P., vice-chairman.

A committee set up by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries "to consider and make recommendations regarding the lay-out, design and construction of Farm Buildings after the war":

Mr. T. W. Haward (Chairman), Professor L. P. Abercrombie, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., William Alexander, Stanley Chivers, J.P., Major A. Douglas, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Professor F. L. Engledow, C.M.G., M.A., B.Sc., George Gee, Edwin Gunn, A.R.I.B.A., Edward Holland-Martin, W. Holmes, C.B.E., R. W. Trumper and James Turner, B.Sc.

BUILDING TRADE

Ernest Bevin announced that, having regard to the numbers of men required by the Armed Forces in the months of November and December, the Government had decided, after careful consideration, that amongst the measures to be taken to meet those demands must be the call-up of the building workers, whose calling up was deferred in July for the purposes of the extended Building Programme.

Minister of Labour and National Service made an Order — the Building and Engineering Construction (Young Persons) Order, 1942 — to restrict the hours of employment of young persons in various building and civil engineering trades.

Following resolution passed by F.G.L.M.B.:

That this meeting, representing 1,700 members, confirms its determination to assist H.M. Government to bring the war to a successful conclusion, but views with alarm the lack of method shown by the Ministry of Labour and National Service in regard to the transfer of building operatives. It strongly deprecates the lack of courtesy shown to the Federation's request to the Ministry of Labour for a deputation to be received in this connection. It urgently claims that this Federation should be consulted as to the method of selection and transfer, and that local panels should be set up to advise the national service.

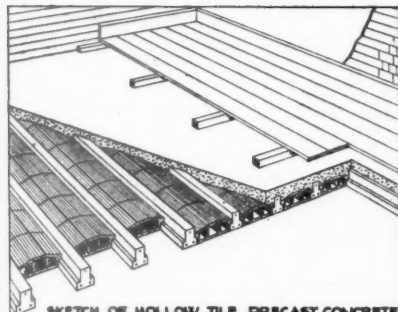
Statement by Deputation from Liverpool Council to Minister of Health that owing to the shortage of labour for works of repair and to the cessation of house building, the housing conditions of Liverpool had seriously deteriorated.

FLOORING

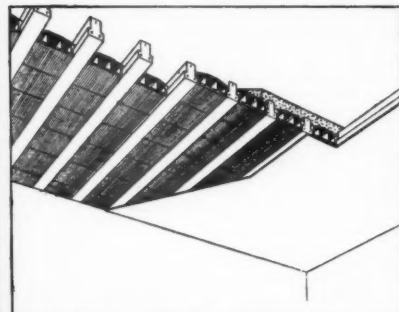
CONTRACTS

LONDON

LIMITED

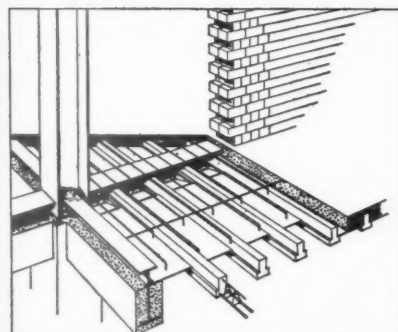


SKETCH OF HOLLOW TILE PRECAST CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION TYPE 'A' HOLLOW TILES USED AS CENTERING PRECAST CONCRETE UNITS ARE AT 15" CENTRES FLOOR CLIPS CAN BE SET IN INSITU CONCRETE

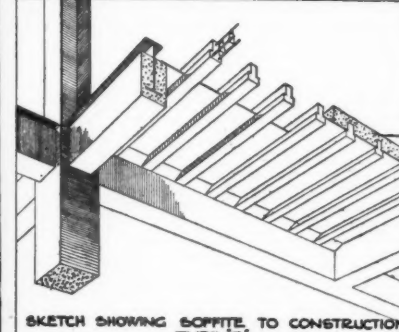


PERSPECTIVE SKETCH OF SOFFITE TO HOLLOW TILE PRECAST CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION TYPE 'A' THIS CONSTRUCTION ELIMINATES SHUTTERING

CONSTRUCTION TYPE A

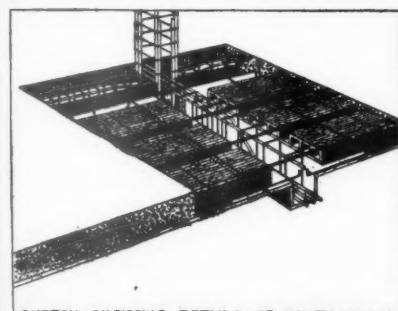


SKETCH OF RIBBED SOFFITE CONSTRUCTION TYPE 'B' ASBESTOS SHEETS USED AS CENTERING UNITS CAN BE DESIGNED AT 12", 15" AND 18" C/Cs

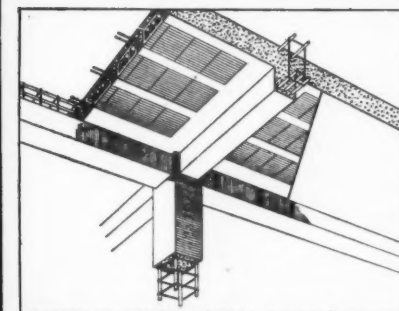


SKETCH SHOWING SOFFITE TO CONSTRUCTION TYPE 'B' THIS CONSTRUCTION ELIMINATES SHUTTERING ASBESTOS SHEETS ENHANCE FIRE RESISTANCE

CONSTRUCTION TYPE B



SKETCH SHOWING DETAILS OF INSITU HOLLOW TILE CONSTRUCTION TYPE 'B' HOLLOW TILES ARE LAID AT 15" CENTRES AND REINFORCEMENT IS ACCURATELY POSITIONED BETWEEN



SKETCH OF CONSTRUCTION TYPE 'E' SHOWING SOFFITE THIS SYSTEM CAN BE UTILIZED TO PROVIDE RENDERING COAT TO SOFFITE IN ONE OPERATION WITH CONSTRUCTIONAL CONCRETE

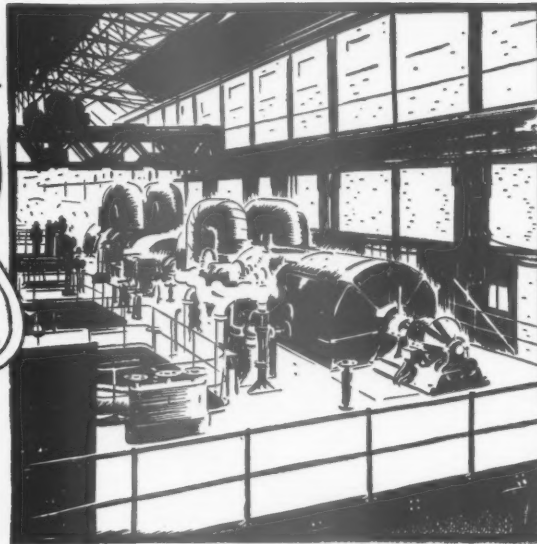
CONSTRUCTION TYPE E

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'Phone Holborn 7633

A very tentative estimate of the City's post-war need was 30,000 houses. They considered that as soon as labour and materials could be made available, war-damaged houses should be fully restored and the 2,000 new houses on which work was suspended in 1939 should be completed. The Council were ready to let at short notice contracts for 7,000 houses on sites for the development of which plans had been prepared.

EXHIBITION

Announced that "Rebuilding Britain" is the title of the exhibition organized by the R.I.B.A. Reconstruction Committee and the building industry, which is to open at the National Gallery at the beginning of February, before going on tour in the provinces and possibly among the Home Forces. The R.I.B.A. states:

Aim of the Exhibition is to show the public general principles for reconstruction. It will emphasize our important needs for work, homes, health, education and recreation, and suggest an approach to planning by means of which these needs can be satisfied. It will suggest that only through a national approach to planning, which includes industrial location and a proper use of the land, can rebuilding be properly carried out. It will not show detailed proposals for rebuilding particular areas, but will show general examples of the type of development to which the method of approach can lead.

UTILITY FURNITURE

Exhibition, at the Building Centre, of articles of domestic furniture covered by utility designs and specifications.

On and after November 1, 1942, the manufacture of domestic furniture prohibited, except for the production of these utility articles by selected firms, licensed by the B.O.T. for this purpose. Firms allowed until December 31, 1942, to complete the manufacture of pre-utility furniture which was in process on November 1. Following designers assisted the Committee in its work: L. J. Barnes (N.R.D.), Edwin L. Clinch (N.R.D.), Walter J. Cornell (N.R.D.), H. J. Cutler (N.R.D.), John Grey, F.R.I.B.A. (N.R.D.), Kenneth Holmes, J. C. Macneill (N.R.D.), Brian O'Rorke, M.A., F.R.I.B.A. (N.R.D.), Victor Ruben (N.R.D.), Grey Wornum, F.R.I.B.A. (N.R.D.).

QUANTITY SURVEYORS

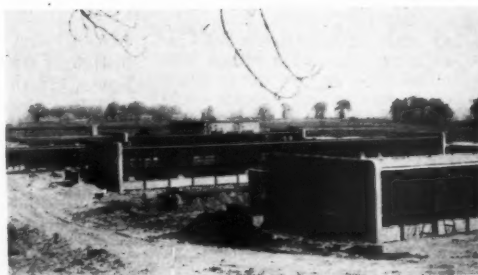
Statement by the Quantity Surveyors' Committee of the C.S.I. on the present position and future prospects of the quantity surveying profession.



Work Progresses on the Forthcoming R.I.B.A. Exhibition, "Rebuilding Britain," to be held early in 1943. The R.I.B.A. Reconstruction Committee is organizing this.



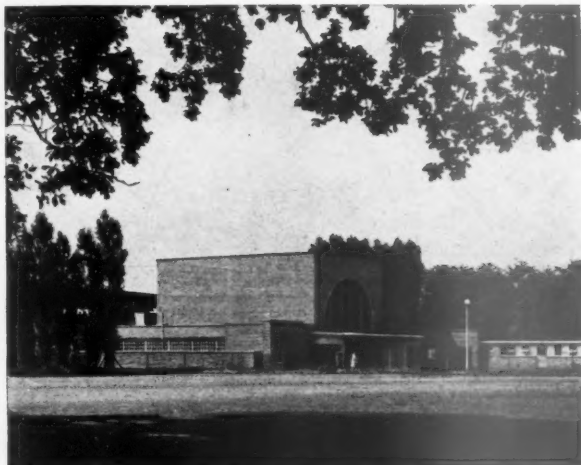
War Office Camps for the American Army in this country were approaching completion this month. Records in speed of erection were broken by full use of mechanical road makers, trench excavators, a battery of concrete mixers and efficient organization. The Iris tubular steel form of construction was used for storage huts and workshops.



Experimental School. Architect: C. G. Stillman, County Architect of West Sussex, who wrote an important article this month on school building. This example is of light-steel standard unit construction, allowing flexible planning.



University Laboratory, housing the Departments of Zoology and Psychology of a university in the south of England. Architect: Verner O. Rees. The north side of the building with its two tiers of continuous windows to a horizontal block of buildings, contrasted with a plainer vertical block, makes a very pleasing composition. (Page 68).



Joint L.P.T.B. and L.N.E.R. Railway and Bus Station in Essex. Architects: Messrs. Easton and Robertson. This building has grand concrete cantilevered roofs to the platform, springing from a central row of piers and a barrel vaulted entrance hall enclosed in a rectangle of brickwork with a great semi-circular window, which it is suggested are a delicate double-barrelled compliment both to the Underground stations of Charles Holden and to the old King's Cross with its great arches and semi-circular roofs. Anyhow, it is a pleasant result above ground in the station and its hall, and a stirring one under the ferro-concrete roof on the platforms. What wonderful shapes and powers this grand material is going to put into the hands of those who are fortunate enough to live another ten years these platforms are a hint. (Page 68).

Report adopted by the Council of the Institution: The policy of the exercise of official control in the past has led some to believe that there will be a definite tendency towards the further regimentation of the industry in the post-war period, especially having regard to the great volume of work then to be undertaken. We do not find that the opinion is held in responsible quarters that this policy of control is likely to lead

to the nationalization of the industry. In the evidence submitted to us the view was generally expressed that such a course would be unwise judged from the standpoint of the highest national interest. Such control of the industry as may be considered desirable in the national interest, however, should be exercised by the Government after full consultation with the industry itself if the best results are to be obtained.

RECONSTRUCTION
Birmingham City Council considered a preliminary scheme for post-war reconstruction costing £96,230,000 and employing 32,827 workmen.



Sir William & Lady Beveridge.

Sir William "Freedom-from-Idleness - is - more - important - than - Freedom - from - Want" Beveridge issued his report on Social Insurance.

WAR DAMAGE
War Damage Commission announced that a notification of war damage to land or buildings (Form C.1) could not be accepted after the prescribed period of 30 days from the date of the damage unless it was accompanied by an explanation satisfactory to the Commission of the failure of the claimant to notify the damage within that time.

R. A. PLAN
Court of Common Council expressed disagreement with the plan of the R.A. Committee for the rebuilding of London so far as the City is concerned, and adopted a reasoned criticism prepared by the City Engineer. The Engineer's report was submitted to MOWP.

COMPETITION
Moscow Section of the Committee of Arts attached to the Soviet Union of Architects, in collaboration with the Committee of Arts attached to the Council of Peoples Commissars of the U.S.S.R. announced a competition for designs for monuments to their heroic comrades who had fallen in Russia.

AIR RAID DAMAGE
Minister of Health announced that more than one out of every five houses in this country had been damaged by bombs. He gave following figures:

Damaged, 2,750,000. Repaired and Occupied, 2,500,000. Pulled Down, Left or still Unoccupiable, 250,000. Of the 250,000 under the last heading 100,000 had received first-aid repairs, but for various reasons were not occupiable at the present time. Against this loss we had brought into use 135,000 new houses which were in course of construction at the outbreak of war.

AERODROME CONSTRUCTION

The nineteenth report from the Select Committee on National Expenditure, devoted to aerodrome construction. Summary of the Committee's recommendations:

- (1) The Air Ministry should consider more carefully the time that it will take to complete each contract, having regard to the various factors which are likely to cause delay to the work.
- (2) The Ministry should consider the advisability of inviting contractors to tender on a wider basis.
- (3) Before any future work is undertaken by the Ministry, time and progress schedules should be prepared by the contractor and lodged with the Ministry.
- (4) More attention should be given to the importance of avoiding, once construction has begun, any alteration in plans which is not absolutely necessary.
- (5) The date for the completion of a contract should be agreed upon by the Air Ministry and the contractor in consultation; penalties for failure to complete works within the contract time should be strictly enforced; and a bonus should be paid for early completion.
- (6) The Ministry should ensure that plans for new aerodromes are completed and finished at an earlier stage than in the past.
- (7) Workmen should be encouraged to live on aerodrome sites, by making the camps more attractive and comfortable.
- (8) Steps should be taken to ensure that disciplinary action against workmen for misconduct or absenteeism be taken as speedily as possible.
- (9) Men with the necessary technical knowledge should be stationed at ports and goods stations to avoid losses and delays in the transport of machinery to aerodromes.
- (10) Arrangements for liaison between the department of the Ministry in charge of plans and the department responsible for the supply of equipment should be improved.
- (11) The Ministry should adopt a system of priority for completing aerodromes.
- (12) The remuneration of resident engineers should receive the attention of the Ministry.
- (13) Consideration should be given

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to the Air Ministry undertaking all aerodrome construction for the Government.

(14) Land otherwise unused should be cultivated at all Royal Air Force stations.

C A M P S

Publication (A.J. for November 19) of progress photographs of a military camp, described by the War Office as the largest single project of its kind in the country.

O N T H E A I R

B.B.C. broadcast the story of how a firm of builders completed a military camp in two months under the scheduled time.

A. B. T.

Name of the Association of Architects, Surveyors and Technical Assistants officially changed to Association of Building Technicians. D. E. Percival, A.R.I.B.A., elected President for the ensuing year.

UTHWATT REPORT

Committee appointed by the L.M.B.A. to consider the

probable effects of the Uthwatt Report, when adopted, of building in the London area.

A P P O I N T M E N T S

Sir Edwin Lutyens, P.R.A., and Professor Patrick Abercrombie appointed advisers to the Hull Corporation on schemes for rebuilding and replanning damaged areas.

O B I T U A R Y

On Active Service: J. R. Jones, A.R.I.B.A. (2nd/Lt., R.E.).

P U B L I C A T I O N S

Drainage and Sanitation, by E. H. Blake. (B. T. Batsford, 15s.). *Industry and Rural Life*, by H. Bryant Newbold. (Faber & Faber, 8s. 6d.). *Aberdeen*, by Fenton Wyness. (W. & W. Lindsay, 2s. 6d.). *The Romantics*, by Geoffrey Grigson. (George Routledge & Co., 10s. 6d.). *Recording Ruin*, by A. S. G. Butler. (Constable & Co., 7s. 6d.). *Sir Edwin Lutyens*, by Robert Lutyens. (Country Life, 8s. 6d.).

Country Planning: H. Strauss, M.P., aged 50 (new appointment). £1,500 a year. Parliamentary Secretary, MOS, E. Duncan Sandys.

Government statement continued:

Sir William Jowitt, on appointment as Minister without Portfolio, will continue his existing duties in regard to post-war reconstruction problems and will have access to the War Cabinet for the purposes of this work. This appointment and the appointment of Lord Cherwell, F.R.S., to succeed Sir William Jowitt as Paymaster-General will take effect forthwith. The remaining appointments will not take effect until the legislation setting up the new Ministry of Town and Country Planning, which will be introduced shortly, has received the Royal Assent. The Ministers concerned will continue, in the meantime, to hold their existing offices.

* He has been Postmaster-General since 1940. He was called to the Bar, Inner Temple, in 1923, was Private Secretary to the Solicitor-General during the years 1922 to 1923 and from 1924 to 1927, and to the Attorney-General from 1927 to

1929, and from 1931 to 1935. From 1935 to 1936 he was Financial Secretary to the Treasury, and during the same period was Recorder of Walsall. He was Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries from 1936 to 1939 when he became Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister of Food, holding these positions until he was appointed Postmaster-General. During the last war he served in the R.F.A. in France, 1914 to 1918, won the M.C. and was thrice mentioned in despatches, resigning his commission in 1919 with the rank of captain. He was educated at George Watson's College, Edinburgh, and Edinburgh University.

FINE ARTS COMMISSION

Reorganization of the Royal Fine Arts Commission. Intended that the Commission shall co-operate with the new Ministry of Town and Country Planning in preserving the beauties and amenities of town and countryside. It will be consulted when any questions of architectural taste arise and on other matters.

Chairman, Earl of Crawford, who succeeds his father. New members are: Mr. R. Freeman, Mr. W. G. Holford, Mr. A. E. Richardson, Mr. J. H. Worthington and Mr. G. F. Webb. Former members who will continue to serve are Prof. L. P. Abercrombie, Mr. C. Holden, Viscount Lee of Fareham, Sir E. Lutyens and Mr. R. C. Norman.

BUILDING TRADE

Workers in the building and civil engineering industries benefited by a new non-contributory scheme to provide a week's annual holiday with pay. An agreed national scheme was adopted and embodied in an agreement signed between the Employers' and Operatives' organizations represented on the National Joint Council for the Building Industry and the Civil Engineering Construction Conciliation Board. Scheme applied to all operatives covered by these two Wage Agreements.

RECONSTRUCTION

In the House of Commons the Parliamentary Secretary to MOWP announced that the report upon the Town Planning of Greater London upon which Professor Abercrombie was engaged, would be completed and available in September, 1943.

Wandsworth B.C. decided to inform the L.C.C. of its desire to deal with post-war reconstruction and development in so far as it relates to housing in the light of local

requirements, as well as any interim development which may be indicated by the M.O.H., prior to the cessation of hostilities. Sub-committee appointed to report on opportunities for redevelopment. Mr. Ewart G. Culpin, F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I., retained to advise and assist with the selection of suitable sites and the redevelopment thereof.

R.S.U.A. appointed a special committee to deal with town planning and post-war reconstruction.

AFTER THE WAR

First of a series of articles (A.J. for December 3) in which THE JOURNAL asked several different people to describe probable post-war developments in the architectural profession and the changes which are indicated if the profession is to be made fit for the kind of work that is likely to be required of it, for unless its services are effectively available when they are needed they will not be available at all. Articles published, December 3: 1, by A. Calveley Cotton; December 10: 2, by A. H. Tatton-Brown; 3-4, extracts from post-war reconstruction debates in Parliament; December 17: 5, by H. Myles Wright; December 24: by Cecil C. Handiside; December 31: 6, by D. E. E. Gibson.



Prof. C. H. Reilly.

ROYAL GOLD MEDAL

The R.I.B.A. Council decided to submit to H.M. The King the name of Professor C. H. Reilly, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A. (Emeritus Professor of Architecture, University of Liverpool) as a fit recipient of the Royal Gold Medal for 1943. The son of Charles Reilly, F.R.I.B.A., Professor Reilly was born in 1874 and was educated at Merchant

DECEMBER

NEW MINISTRY
Announced at beginning of month that the Government had decided to constitute a separate Ministry of Town and Country Planning in England and Wales under a separate Minister. The announcement was made in the House of Lords by Lord Portal and, in the Commons, by Sir William Jowitt.

Government appointments (made on December 31), included:

Minister Designate for Town and Country Planning: W. S. Morrison,* M.P., aged 49 (new appointment). £5,000 a year.

Minister Without Portfolio: Sir William Jowitt, K.C., M.P., aged 57 (not previously filled). £5,000 a year.

Under-Secretary Designate Ministry of Town and



Chapel, Northampton General Hospital. Architects: Sir John Brown and A. E. Henson. Looks externally rather like a mausoleum or at least a mortuary chapel, in neither case one would imagine a very good suggestion for the patients, but which nevertheless has considerable charm in the interior, especially in the combination of a delicate coloured metal screen to the sanctuary and very simple homely wall and curtained windows. (Page 67).

Taylor's School. He went to Queens' College, Cambridge, in 1893, with a scholarship, obtaining a first class in the Mechanical Sciences Tripos (Engineering) in 1896. After Cambridge, he entered his father's office for a year, and then moved to the office of John Belcher, F.R.I.B.A. He was appointed to the Liverpool Professorship in 1904 and resigned in 1933, when he was elected Professor Emeritus. His buildings include the Students' Union and Gilmour Hall of Liverpool University; St. Barnabas Church, Dalston; Accrington War Memorial, and various town and country houses, including, in association with Thomas Hastings, of New York, the new Devonshire House, Piccadilly. He submitted the only classical design in the Liverpool Cathedral competition to be commended by the assessors.

BRICKS

Lord Portal appointed Sir John Greenly, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., to be Chairman of the Tribunal which has been established, in accordance with the recommendations of the Simmonds Committee, to consider appeals from brick manufacturers whose undertakings are scheduled for closure under the scheme recommended by the Committee. Membership will

consist of one representative from each of the M.L.N.S., M.W.T., M.F.P., and two representatives from the industry.

ROYAL ACADEMY

Royal Academy announced it proposed to make the plans for reconstruction in London which the Planning Committee had exhibited at Burlington House, and are now revising, a feature of the Architectural Section of next year's Summer Exhibition; and it would welcome designs submitted at the appointed time by architects for the rebuilding of London with special reference to the Committee's plans as recently exhibited and published.

COMPETITION

Result of the Ilkley Competition (architectural and town planning) for the Castle Hill Site and surroundings:
1st Premium (50 guineas), Capt. Hubert Bennett, F.R.I.B.A., York;
2nd Premium (30 guineas), H. E. Burton, Birmingham;
3rd Premium (20 guineas), Lieut. Frank

Booth, A.R.I.B.A., York; Commended: E. J. Harrison, B.A.R.C.H., A.R.I.B.A., Lancaster; G. Grenfell Baines, A.R.I.B.A.; John A. Ashworth, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.; T. Mellor, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., Preston; A. J. Steel, A.R.I.B.A., and L. Whitaker, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., E. Yorks.

LAW

Number of prosecutions instituted by MOWP against building owners and builders for carrying out work in excess of £100 without MOWP's consent.

At Blyth Court, the Blyth Dry Docks and Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., and James R. Rutherford & Sons Ltd., builders, were fined £100 for carrying out alterations at the Manse without a Ministry permit. Constructional work amounting to at least £300, it was alleged, had been done.

At Harrogate Mrs. Edith Higham was fined £50, William Jackson & Sons (Harrogate) Ltd., builders, £20, and Charles Cowen, plumber, £20, all with costs, for executing work at a residential club over the £100 limit without a permit.

At the West Riding Assizes, on December 4, M. G. Nimmo, company director, and Wilfred Coates, builder, were fined £50 and £10 respectively for executing constructional works to Nimmo's house at a cost of £1,500 without Ministry consent.

At Devon Quarter Sessions, Frank Curtis Ltd., and A. J. Stubbings (director) were fined £100 and £20 respectively for constructing a bungalow costing £423 without consent, an application having been turned down.

WAR DAMAGE

Up to December 10 the War Damage Commission received claims for repayment in respect of repairs already carried out to about 1,100,000 enemy damaged properties by their owners or occupiers.

GIFT TO NATION

Lord Astor arranged to hand over Cliveden, Bucks., to the National Trust.

Lord Astor's gift included the monetary endowment needed for its upkeep and with the house he is giving many of the furnishings, among them the tapestries in the great hall and fine examples of Lely and other masters. The famous Cliveden Woods, with their mile-long frontage to the Thames, are also part of the gift.

TIMBER

Timber Control Board of the M.O.S., having now largely

SUBURBAN HEIGHTS

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



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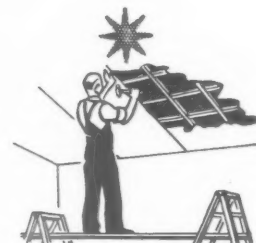
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- 3 An open space of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch should be left between each sheet, and wooden cover strips used.
- 4 Nailing on edges of sheets should be at 4 inch centres, across the sheets at 6 inch centres, and not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the edges.
- 5 Horizontal fixing on walls saves timber. Skirting, chair rails and picture rails then act as cover strips.

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achieved the purposes for which it was set up, was disbanded.

ANNIVERSARY
L.M.B.A. celebrated the seventieth anniversary of its inauguration with a reception in the R.I.B.A. building.

The Builder celebrated, on December 31, one hundred years of continuous publication.

OBITUARY
Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., P.P.R.I.B.A. Age 86.

Joseph Abraham Meikle, F.R.I.B.A., at his home in Clapham. Mr. Meikle was joint plaintiff in the action brought in 1941 against Mr. Edward Maufe, A.R.A., and Heal & Sons, for infringement of copyright.

W. S. Purchon, head of the Welsh School of Architecture at the Technical College, Cardiff, since 1920. Age 63.

Albert Kahn, American industrial architect and engineer, known as the father of modern factory design.

On Active Service: Eric Ravilious, official war artist and Temporary Captain in the Royal Marines.

APPOINTMENT
A. P. Lay appointed architect of Queen Anne's Bounty by the Governors in succession to Martin Skinner.

HONOUR
Dr. H. V. Lanchester awarded the James Alfred Ewing Medal for 1941 by Institution of Civil Engineers for specially meritorious contributions to the science of Engineering in the field of research.

PUBLICATIONS
Reconstruction and Town and Country Planning, by Sir Gwilym Gibbon. (A. & B. N., 15s.).

Professor Reilly, this year's Gold Medallist, here repeats his traditional review of the year's buildings which are illustrated in the Diary under the month in which they appeared in the building press.

B u i l d i n g s of the Y E A R

[BY PROFESSOR C. H. REILLY]

THE Editor insists on my reviewing the year's work once more however little there is of that work about which one can talk, or indeed which exists at all, and however ancient and out of date I am myself becoming. The only buildings of any of the pre-war types in the illustrations before me are a few either begun before the war started and finished, I suppose, by special permission, such as a few public buildings and churches, or one or two buildings in Ireland, that poor uncomfortable country, to which by descent I belong, unhappier than ever because more uneasy than ever in her conscience.

There is, of course, a great mass of war buildings, factories, huddled camps, hospitals and hostels, which may only be hinted at, or if partially shown, shown with no indications of their locality. As far as one can tell the mass of it was handed over early in the war, if not before the war started, to that eminent firm of engineers Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners, not only factories but hostels, too. This is a sad indication of the position in which both architects and architecture are held in Government circles as well as shewing a complete absence of knowledge of the real content of our art. Of course, one does not expect Cabinet Ministers to be very clear-headed as to the function of the architect of to-day as a planner ready to solve economically, and with an eye to human efficiency as well (absent from the engineer's equipment) every sort of building programme. Many architects themselves are not clear about it. They say this building is work for architects, that is not. The Royal Academy with its emphasis on architecture as a fine art, too ladylike to touch life save at one or two selected points, is not a little to blame for this.

Certainly among the older men that attitude exists. There is one notable exception I can call to mind. A dear old architect, much younger than I am, a Gold Medallist, recently whispered to me at an R.I.B.A. Committee "the Royal Academy is the skeleton at our feasts here always spoiling by its attitude what we try to do." The typical outlook of the government official is consequently that which Major-General Beith, Director of Public Relations to the War Office (Ian Hay in another walk of life who ought to know better), took in a letter to *The Times* early in the war when I had protested at the waste, to put it on its lowest grounds, which was going on all over the country by the supplanting nearly everywhere of architects by engineers. "Hutments," he replied, "give little scope for architectural treatment." The cloven foot is clearly there. Architectural treatment! Something applied like ointment to the sore places the engineers have left! Architecture to such people is always decoration, perhaps to cover up mess and muddle, but certainly decoration and therefore equally certainly not wanted in war time. I attribute the failure of the Government on the whole to employ architects, except indirectly, to the great mass of war-time planning and building, to this fallacy, this attitude to architecture, into which so many of us fell in pre-war days and which their plans for Central London show that the Royal Academy are by no means free from yet.

Light came out of darkness, however. Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners found after all they needed architectural help. It is said they tried to get the great names, and the great names failed them or turned them down. They then remembered a young Liverpool Professor and, of course, an old student of the Liverpool School (I would be more than human instead of something rather less not to point that out). The man they remembered was W. G. Holford, Professor of Civic Design, who had succeeded Professor Abercrombie, but, more important under the circumstances, had controlled for this same firm of engineers the building of a group of factories on the Gateshead Trading Estate. Professor Holford collected his young friends, architects, engineers, specialists of all sorts, some fifty of them, from all parts of the country and in an astonishingly short time had executed five millionworth of work, and very good work, too, as far as the illustrations show, and as far as we are allowed to see to-day. The whole story is a grand architectural romance which will some day be told in detail, but it was, and is, something much more than that. It is a pointer to a new way of working, almost to a new way of life and to the beginning of a new architecture.

Anyone can see modern architecture, like the genuine old Gothic stuff, is impersonal architecture in a degree

Renaissance Architecture is not, and cannot be. The great things in medieval times were done anonymously by a group of designers and craftsmen working harmoniously together. That is what apparently has been happening under Professor Holford's leadership, and that is why I am putting such of the work of his group as we are allowed to see, his Munition Workers Hostels, each with a great Social Centre building, as the chief work of the year.

These hostels—there may be two or three dozen of them up and down the country—are each designed not only to house a thousand women in the standard of comfort of a good war-time hotel but with many things added like theatres and cinemas, large reading and writing rooms, foyers and games rooms, on a corresponding scale. Very few hotels in this country, if any, cater I fancy for a thousand inmates. To this problem was added that of safety not only by air raid shelters to all parts, but by dispersal so that the buildings should not be recognizable from the air. For this reason the sleeping blocks, varying from twenty to fifty persons per block with bedrooms for two persons (each bed with its own radiator!), bathrooms and shelters, had to be arranged in a variety of informal patterns round the Social Centre block yet involving no great extension of access roads, round which the buses taking the women to their work could circulate. The illustrations published, after being carefully censored by various ministries, naturally deal chiefly with interiors. From these, however, it will be seen at once what a high standard of elegance has been obtained even with war-time materials and with the restrictions on wood the war involved, and what a real welcoming non-institutional air they have. It can also be seen how, among the group of architects, a mural painter was found. It is, indeed, a distinguished group with names like F. R. S. Yorke, R. T. Kennedy, Gordon Stephenson, F. W. B. Charles, F. F. C. Curtis and Johannes Schreiner, Eric Mendelsohn's late head-man, appearing in it. But one should not break into the brotherhood by selecting names. The great fact is that it was a brotherhood with a capable young Prior at the head of it and that in a national emergency brought about by the bombing of our towns, which necessitated the moving of our war factories, it did the work quickly and did it well. These buildings in rural surroundings where there will be no local use for them after the war are nevertheless too good and too well built to be pulled down. A national use must be found for them and the one which naturally occurs is that of boarding places for the boys and girls of secondary schools where they can live together for a time, as in the Scandinavian countries, and taste the pleasures and feel the discipline of community life. Architecturally the only adverse criticism I have to make on the job is that

no chapel should have a ceiling sloping only from right to left or left to right. I defy a saint to pray under such conditions.

Other hostels by other architects on a smaller scale but almost equally well-detailed, as far as one can judge from the small illustrations, have been put up in other parts of the country. The only ones, however, I have been able to track down to their authors are by Messrs. Easton and Robertson, in Hertfordshire and by D. L. Bridgwater in Warwickshire.

After these war-time hostels the most important as well as the biggest pile of illustrations is strangely enough that of municipal buildings. I suppose municipal authorities have had a pull with the Government in getting permission to finish the work already started when the war broke upon our uneasy slumbers. The most important is the Court House somewhere in Sussex, designed by one of the most distinguished, if one of the youngest, of the quickly rising class of official architects, C. G. Stillman. It is a rectangular building containing two law courts placed side by side in the centre and surrounded by all the accessory rooms and with all the problems of circulation solved, including that of the popping up into court of the prisoners from the cells in the basement. One is glad to see a fine spacious entrance hall in addition to the entrance vestibule where anxious people can meet and talk, the sort of *salle du pas perdu* every French Law Court has, but which we so often forget. It is, indeed, this fine hall with its five lofty windows which is the keynote to the design both externally and internally and that, of course, is as it should be. Internally, though without any traditional ornament in the way of pilasters and their trappings but relying entirely on fine proportions and contrasting wall surfaces, this hall is most effective. I wonder what the colours are. The curtains some thirty feet high might be very splendid. The courts themselves seem to me equally right in that they are severe and rely on plain plywood surfacing for their warmth.

The same architect has a new police headquarters also, I suppose, somewhere in Sussex, which is a more ordinary building in plain corniceless neo-Georgian, relying for interest in the exterior of its main administrative block on the contrast of tall narrow sash windows with their white bars and frames to a plain brick field. This mass again contrasts as a whole with a plain mass at right angles to it with hardly any windows which clearly contains the cells. No plan is shown. This kind of architecture appears to be for the moment a vernacular form of expression. It certainly makes ample use of our chief building material—brick. With its negative nature, unassuming and pleasant as that may be in a vulgar age, one hopes nevertheless it is but a transition to something more positive.

The municipal offices at Friern Barnet by Sir John Brown and A. E. Henson is one of those lucky buildings on a narrow curved site facing an open space which makes, as Charles Voysey has more than once proved, an effective, dominating mass without columns or other adventitious emphasis. Indeed, in this case I think the tall *flèche*, as if from a Georgian stable, might have been omitted with some gain to the whole. Once again externally this is a neo-Georgian building but relying this time, apart from the interest of its mass, on the contrast of long first floor windows bound together with a continuous balcony and a tight range of small ones below and an open range of small ones above, instead of on the contrast of white window bars to brickwork. Indeed, it is the proportions of this building with no architectural pretence, apart from the *flèche* already mentioned, which makes it effective externally and that external expression is the natural reflection of a simple internal plan, a long central corridor with rooms on either side and a council chamber as a back addition. The detail everywhere is equally simple but not, to judge from the illustrations, quite as elegant and refined as that in Mr. Stillman's law courts.

The next pile which tempts me is one of scholastic structures, small but with one or two interesting looking buildings. The first is F. X. Velarde's Senior Elementary School at Scalby, in Yorkshire, now finished and opened by the P.R.I.B.A. and in the result extraordinarily like the sketch model. The plan is a fine open one in three main blocks but all connected by wide loggias. This ensures the children getting fresh air in passing from one block to the other. The three blocks are the science rooms to the south-east, the main block of classrooms in the centre and the Assembly Hall block on the other side with the headmaster's, nurses', and medical rooms as a further extension. Still another separation is that of each classroom by a short corridor at right angles to the main corridor. This ensures not only natural cross ventilation but that indispensable thing—quiet. Do I see the influence of Denis Clarke Hall's winning *News Chronicle* scheme in this? I hope so. The result externally is a very pleasing grouping of masses, the taller ones appearing at just the right places for emphasis. Like buildings of good simple children's bricks so often do, this school building shows how independent of decorative aids, in spite of Mr. Ruskin, good architecture can be. When, however, one looks closely at Velarde's detail one finds it not only clean and clear cut like his main masses but with even, and this may shock the youngest of us, little fluted pilasters planted on his window frame just for fun. They remind me of Lubetkin's *Erechtheum* figure under his concrete block of flats at Highgate. Pulling the legs of the puritans is good

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sport with architects like these two, each with a touch of genius in all they do.

Let us contrast this light, elegant but rightly temporary looking school with an educational building, solid and even rather grim-looking in its rough stone, at Oxford by Hubert Worthington. It is an independent library building for New College but not curtailing the famous gardens because the site was obtained by pulling down some small out-buildings and clearing back-yards. It consists of a large, lofty reading room with four book-lined bays on either side of a wide hall and two rooms for special collections and two fine staircases, both of which seem to lead to the stack in the semi-basement below. One of these staircases is set in a semicircular end to the main vista which externally, like the curved entrance bay, serves to soften the outline of this plain building seen against its elaborate Gothic surroundings. There is not enough in the photograph of the exterior to say how successful this is but there is both character and courage in what one can see. The main hall inside is clearly a fine and worthy thing with tiers of bookshelves giving scale and the books themselves a fine contrasting texture to the plain surfaces. This interior, if not modern architecture in the strictest sense of the term, is nevertheless fine stuff. I hope Hubert Worthington will soon be an A.R.A. He is the right type—the type needed if we need at all a delayed action institution like the Academy, for he is very much alive yet sufficiently traditional and academic in his outlook. Seizing the opportunity, another A.R.A. I should like to suggest is W. G. Newton and for similar reasons, and regret there is none of his elegant work this year among my piles. I hope, however, my doing this will not prejudice their chances if election would please them. It might. You never can tell with so clublike and secretive a body. Hubert Worthington has another new building for the same college and carried out in the same rough stone walling with heavy cut stone to the jambs and architraves of his sash windows and doors, all in a rather north country manner equally masculine and unaffected in detail but one imagines a little too broken up into a series of symmetrical masses for an Oxford college building. This is, of course, only to judge from photographs and not from seeing the building in its surroundings. It is a block of college chambers but the scheme of the masses is that for some lordly country mansion by Robert Adam, a little reduced in scale certainly and with no central portico of columns or even pilasters. It rather suggests a mansion one step lower in the social scale, designed, say, for a butler and his footmen rather than for a peer and his family. I am sure these articulated masses

nevertheless make a series of very well lit and comfortable chambers both for undergraduates and dons and the suggestion they carry of a demodé country mansion is of little account.

Churches.—It surprises me that there are any. Let us begin with the strangest, strange at any time outside a mediæval forest but more strange still in war-time when no one can get any timber. It is the timber church by Professor Richardson at Greenford, in Middlesex, a new industrial area. I think the interior quite inspiring. One has often heard the stock comparison of a Gothic interior to a forest glade. Here the interior is still more like it, the timber taking so naturally, as Richardson has used it, to Gothic shapes. What a virtuoso he is, yet how naughty the whole thing seems just now! There are, of course, in this building of his other original ideas besides the use of a scarce and generally forbidden material. There is a Lady Chapel at the gallery level above the high altar, for instance, romantically approached by two steep flights of stairs. The exterior with its steep roof and flèche naturally has a Norwegian look but harmonizes well with the steep roof and flèche of an old church which adjoins it. Another mystery—why two? I hope nevertheless the roof is shingled even at the cost of a little more timber but that one cannot tell from the photographs.

As a contrast to the above but still strange to say at a Greenford, and still in Middlesex, we have a plain, smooth church by Cyril Farey, smooth as those wonderful graded washes of colour we all admired on his drawings in the days when they were the only safe passport to the R.A. walls. I believe a really modern building might have been accepted by now had he made the perspective. This church of his is calm and suave externally and internally and in that way reminds one of its author.* Its traditional shape with its square, squat tower at the crossing gives a proper parish church appearance though one wishes the chancel roof were as high as that of the nave and that the ridge line had consequently been carried through level. Internally the round arches of the nave arcade with their fine wide soffits suggest walls strong enough to take a barrel vault but such things except in plaster, which is not worth having, are not possible in these degenerate days unless one is willing to face the problems of ferro-concrete. I expect the flat beamed ceiling which here takes its place has some fine Farey colour about it.

Surprisingly enough the third church on my list is Cyril Farey's, too. When I remember his last year's churches as well I do not understand it unless he is bewitching the clergy as he did the

R.A. hanging committee a few years ago. This second church, St. Peter's, Grange Park, is perhaps not quite so pleasing externally, which is indeed almost a relief. That may be because at present it lacks its tower. The interior this time with an open timber roof is perhaps more so. It is smaller and more homely. I wish it had chairs and not stock pews, but they possibly came from a previous building and are a temporary makeshift. I know my only church, built forty years ago, has still such things in it, which shows what a mistake it is to allow them in in the first instance.

Next in the pile is a little chapel at the Northampton General Hospital, by Sir John Brown and A. E. Henson, which looks externally rather like a mausoleum or at least a mortuary chapel, in neither case one would imagine a very good suggestion for the patients, but which nevertheless has considerable charm in the interior, especially I think in the combination of a delicate coloured metal screen to the sanctuary and very simple homely wall and curtained windows.

Finally, there is a great sad thing, a cathedral at Cavan in Ireland, still building. There is no need to say anything about it.

Housing and Hospitals frighten me because I know so little about them at any time and if possible less still under war-time conditions. Geoffrey Jellicoe's little houses in groups of hundreds, or it may be thousands, in various parts of the country, seem good and practical, as well as simple enough to combine well together and to suit most types of landscape. One would have said until one saw the photographs that little war-time flat roofed boxes would be hard and uncompromising and worse even than the standard pairs of semi-detached cottages which is what the inter-war period chiefly produced. Now one sees them in his long terraces set round large open squares or in some other formal way one realizes that they regain for their inhabitants the friendliness of the slum yet with no loss of respectability, a very notable achievement. I think it is the little porches, protecting one from the weather as one gossips with one's neighbour while nevertheless giving individuality and respectability, which have been the main way by which this important psychological effect has been obtained. The little porch is generous in width and the method of letting light through it into the house by two long vertical panels of glass bricks in the place of the ornamental glass in the upper panels or panel of the door, as in every speculative villa, is of course a great improvement. The framing of the windows, too, in slabs of artificial stone, while costing very little in such enormous quantities gives a sense of tidiness as well as brightness which is very valuable.

That these houses are like Holford's hostels of post-war usefulness, when the ground floor windows can be widened, is a grand thing. If Jellicoe after his recent visit to the States is able to solve the aesthetic difficulties of prefabrication as well as he has succeeded here he will have done the country a very great turn, more than all the King's gardens and all the King's parks, good as I am sure these latter are. There is a pleasant variation of the Jellicoe type by Alwyn Lloyd, in South Wales. I am afraid the Glasgow variations are not nearly so good.

In contrast to these there is a group of fourteen thatched cottages which Lord Portal, Minister, one should remember, of Works and Planning, has put up on his own estate. One can admit their charm. It is the charm of a toy. I gave one of my grandchildren a farm toy with little thatched buildings and they gave me much the same kind of pleasure. These are considerably finer, of course, and the grouping much more elaborate. The way indeed they are grouped together in one long block with a couple of crescents and stretches of straight is intriguing. I am glad they nestle under a church—nestle is the right word. I hope his lordship is pleased. I am sure if he is like my grandchild he will be, and be grateful too to his architect, Arthur Mort, as she is to me.

Hospitals.—There are naturally a number of these, mostly temporary ones or additions prepared for an emergency. In most cases no plans are given for fear the buildings, I suppose, might be identified from the air and prove too tempting to the gentle German. Arthur Kenyon has a large one for a thousand beds with nice quiet one-storey buildings with sloping roofs, ribbed as if in asbestos. These buildings seem connected by a long curved wall with occasional small windows as if to a corridor. It is curious how interesting in these days of flat roofs a long range of plain sloping ones at an angle, I should judge, between 30 deg. and 45 deg., can look. Anyhow these plain unbroken roofs, one after the other, give a unity and restfulness in the photograph which is very valuable and do it without any suggestion of mock antiquity. The detail, too, of these buildings, simple as they are, is very good. I have found the plan after all. It looks like a grand one for peace-time but its layout surely makes it peculiarly easy to spot from the air.

Fielding Dodd's Churchill Hospital somewhere in the Home Counties is another large scheme but not quite symmetrically laid out and flat roofed. There is no doubt, comparing the roofs, that low one-storey buildings in the mass look better with sloping roofs to lift them up a little. Externally the most interesting thing of Fielding Dodd's building is the entrance to the administrative block where he has allowed himself a slight tower rising above his

acres of low flat buildings. There is interesting detail here, too, as well as pleasant contrasting surfaces.

Messrs. Wood, Goldstraw and Yorath's extensions to the North Staffordshire Infirmary are naturally of a more permanent character. The main masses in a small illustration do not seem to compose too happily but the pathological department has a doorway with interesting brick details which seems to indicate that the rest of the building is probably more interesting too.

The university laboratory for departments of zoology and psychology in a southern university by Vernon Rees may perhaps be included here. It certainly must not be omitted as the north side of the building with its two tiers of continuous windows to a horizontal block of buildings, contrasted with a plainer vertical block, makes a very pleasing composition. The one interior room I have seen seems particularly airy and light so that one would have liked to have seen more.

Banks.—There is just one, and at first glance one is inclined to say "good old stager" and pass on, but it is more than that. It is very elegant stuff, very well detailed. The strange thing is how little it seems to belong either to these war years or even to the last decade, yet here it is placed in 1942. Forty years ago how proud I should have been to have done it! It is the head office of the Edinburgh Savings Bank, by Mr. William Paterson, with Mr. Cecil Howitt as consultant.

Restaurants.—There are several British Restaurants of course, and mainly adaptations of existing buildings, but L. H. Keay, to whose name most good public work in Liverpool seems naturally to attach itself, has one at Norris Green, a district where he has built many hundreds of houses for the Corporation, which is a new building and has an interesting entrance showing the contrast in surfaces and material in which the good modern architect specializes.

Shops.—For these I have only the remodelling of a late eighteenth or early nineteenth century shop in Clifton, by Mr. Ralf Edwards, but with its delightful setting it is well worth a place I confess, modern as I like to think myself, I can enjoy a little piece of fancy dress like this justified by its setting. I can so easily forget it is new and see it with ladies in crinolines entering and beaux ogling them from the Regency balconies above, and wishing I, myself, belonged to so civilized and leisured an age—for some.

Houses.—There is a big Sir Guy Dawber house, St. Anne's, Cambridge, built, I suppose, just before the war and good of its kind like all his work, but warm as its bricks and tiles no doubt are and rich as its decoration, it leaves

me cold. It belongs neither to the eighteenth century nor to the twentieth. What its future can be I cannot imagine. It already stands as a Victorian villa did thirty years ago though that far uglier thing was a more genuine product of its age. With its dozen or so bedrooms I suppose it will have to become a school but schools are needed to save genuine old houses from destruction.

A little two-roomed house in Ireland, by Kenneth Bayes, seems more appropriate to the times and to the way of life it suggests, though I confess the deliberate placing of the gas fire in the sitting-room out of the centre of its setting as well as the roof sloping across the room are a little too much for me. I would not mind it sloping down my back but not over one shoulder. One has to be a cow, surely, to enjoy that. The little house with its long demesne wall, a very Irish touch that and especially as the wall does not really enclose the site, sits into the landscape as if to the manner born, as no doubt it was, and as all good buildings should appear to be.

Two buildings which do not in this lean year fall into any group are a joint L.P.T.B. and L.N.E.R. Railway and Bus Station in Essex, by Messrs. Easton and Robertson, and an office building by Jane Drew. Both have interesting points. The former has grand concrete cantilevered roofs to the platforms springing from a central row of piers and a barrel vaulted entrance hall enclosed in a rectangle of brickwork with a great semi-circular window, which it is suggested are a delicate double-barrelled complement both to the Underground stations of Charles Holden and to the old King's Cross with its great arches and semi-circular roofs. What diplomatic finesse architects who work for combined railways have to deal in! Anyhow, it is a pleasant result above ground in the station and its hall, and a stirring one under the ferro-concrete roof on the platforms. What wonderful shapes and powers this grand material is going to put into the hands of those who are fortunate enough to live another ten years, these platforms are a hint of. May such excellent architects as these go on leading the way!

Miss Drew's war-time office and garage building in brick and concrete, but brick and concrete clearly distinguished, is, I suppose, the office block to one of her many war-time factories. It is very sensible and workmanlike with clean cut and even elegant lines. Its flat roof is rightly, I think, emphasized by projecting it to protect the walls and cast a shadow. Compare this straightforward little building with a similar structure, probably in curly terra-cotta, erected for a similar purpose during the last war and we have some measure of the general good the modern movement has brought about and how right and wise it is to employ a woman architect when one finds one as capable as Miss Drew.

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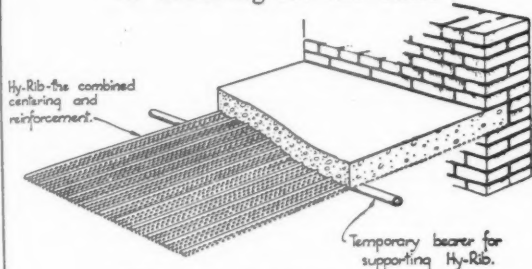
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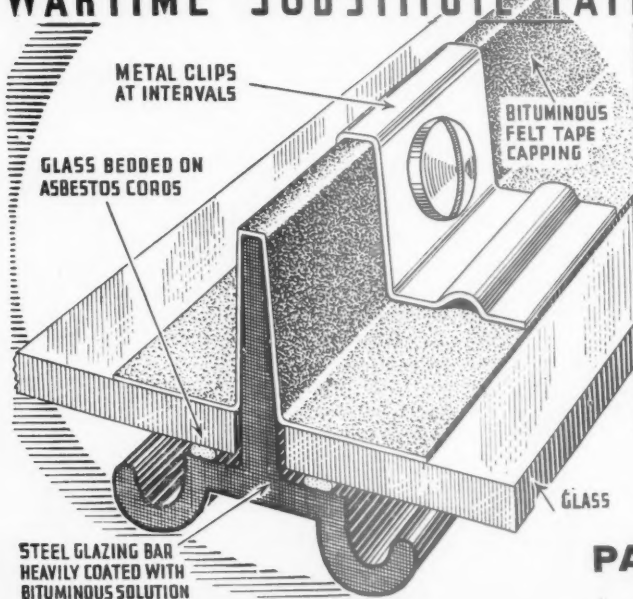
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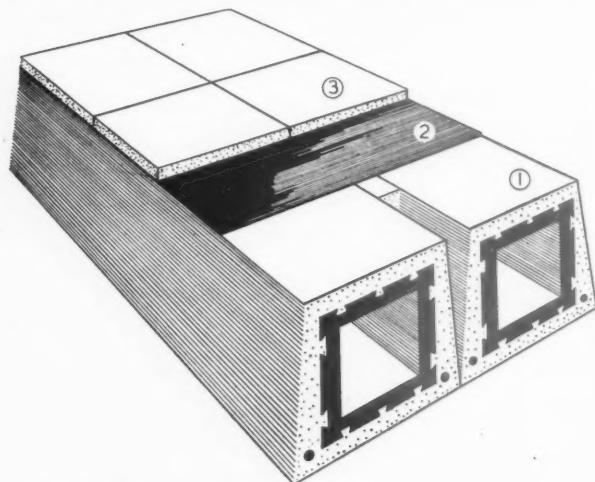
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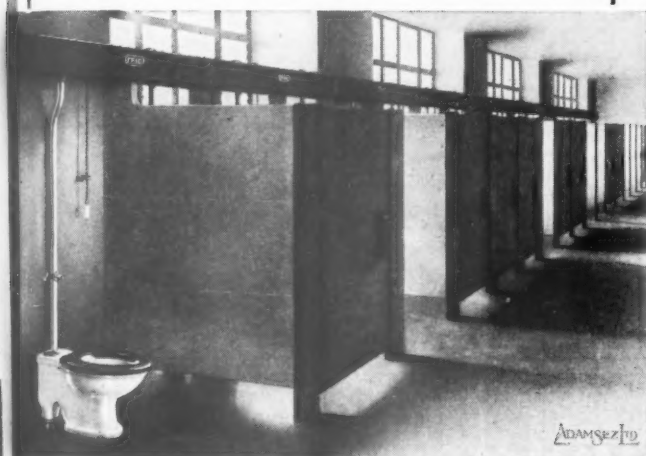
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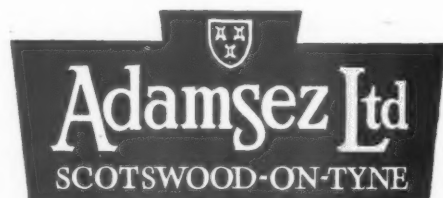
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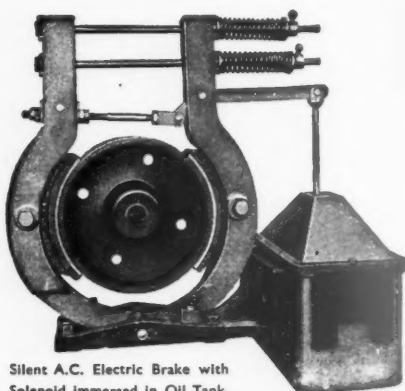


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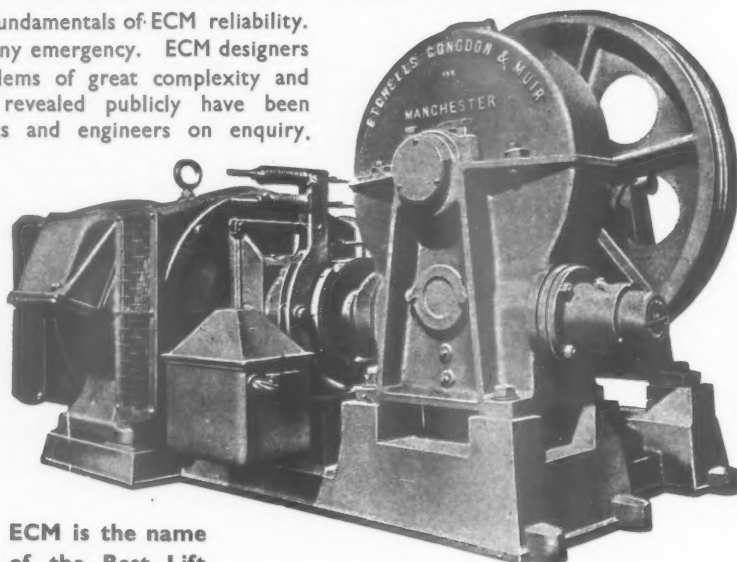
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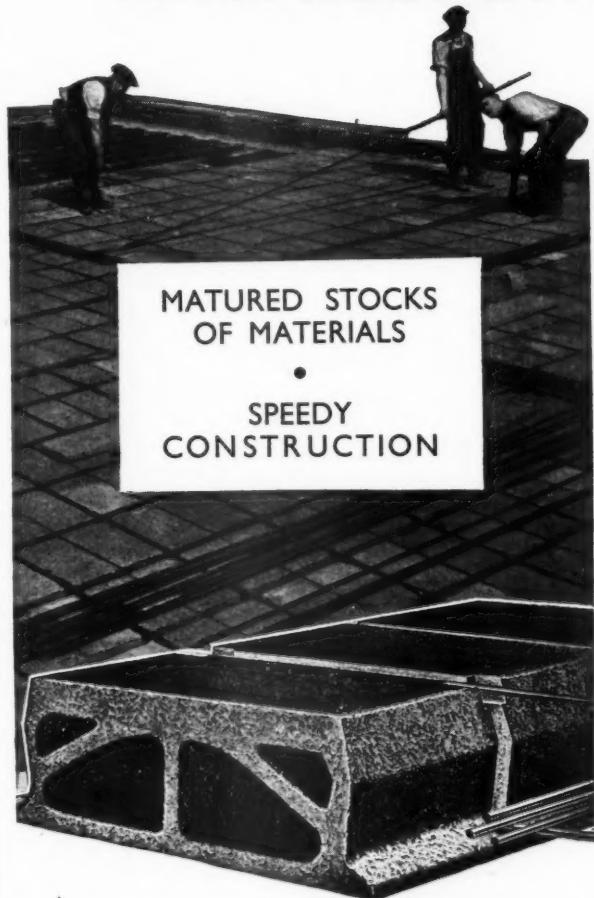
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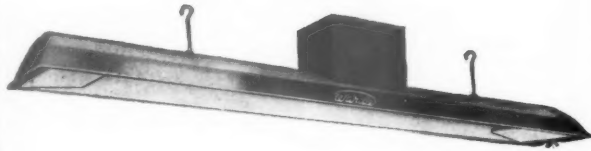


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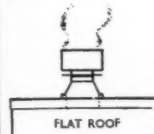
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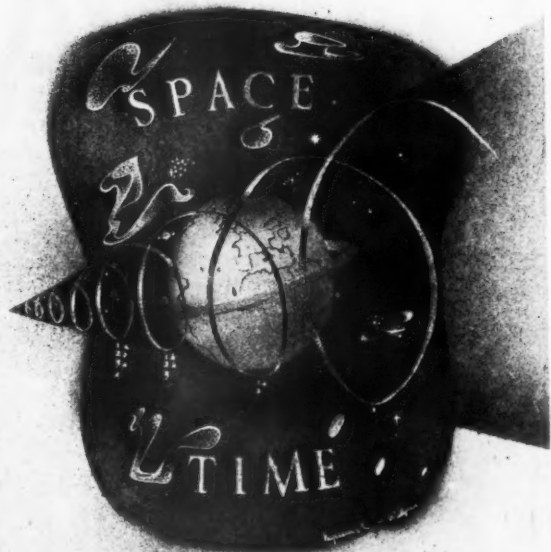
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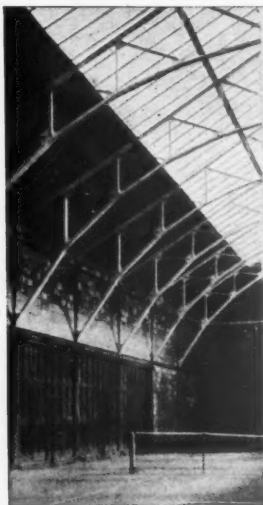
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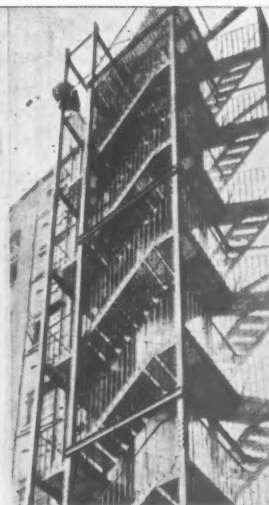
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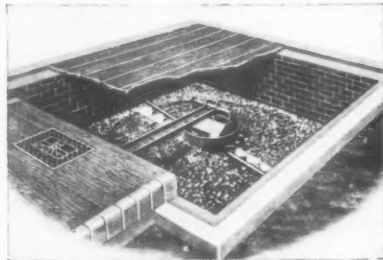
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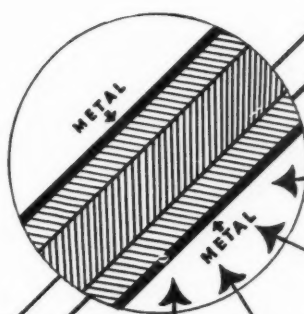
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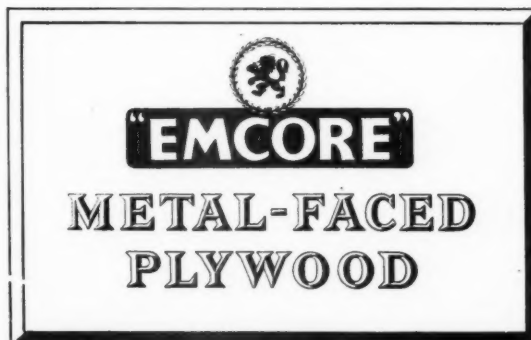
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