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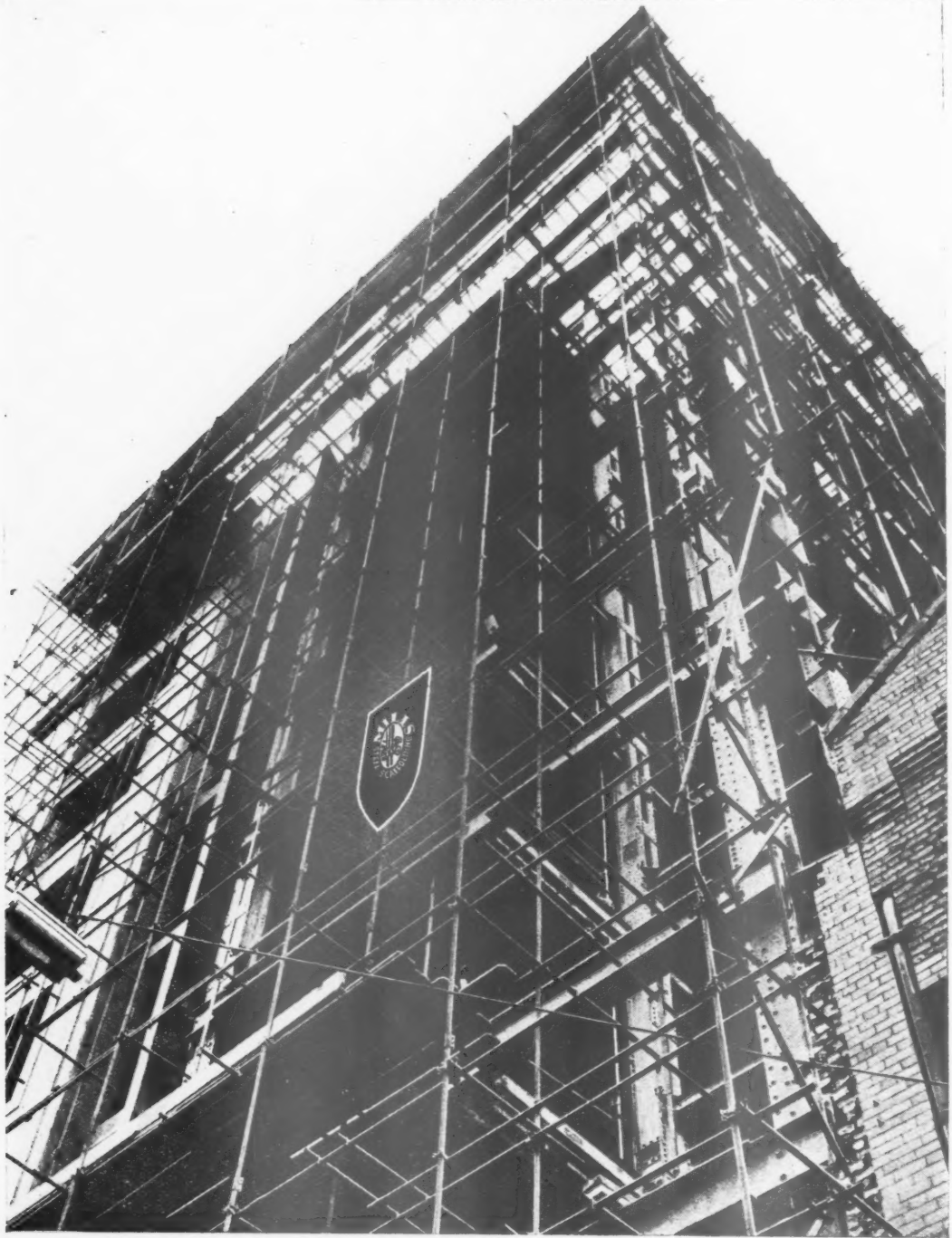
THE ARCHITECTURAL PRESS, *WAR ADDRESS*: 45 THE AVENUE, CHEAM

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[VOL. 97

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MILLS SCAFFOLD CO. LTD., TRUSSLEY WORKS, HAMMERSMITH GROVE, LONDON, W.6

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We're on our
and we've got something
up our



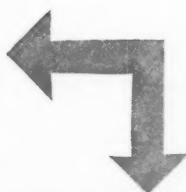
Nobody doubts the urgency with which houses will be needed after the war. Pre-war methods of building will not meet all the demands. New methods and materials will have to be brought into play. Otherwise, speed will simply be interpreted as hurry, with the result that houses will be jerry-built out of 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 realize 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.



GYPROC PRODUCTS LIMITED

THE GROUND - FLOOR OF A BIG IDEA



Ceilings of this type are constructed after normal working hours, without mess, obstruction or delay. Fixing is simple and there are no water products to dry out. Business is undelayed. Gyproc ceilings are a contribution we have already made to speed-building—and we are carrying out further researches which may have far-reaching effects in post-war building. But no single firm will solve all the problems of speed-building. We are always interested to hear from other firms whose post-war aims coincide with our own.

WE PRODUCE: GYPROC: A high-grade gypsum board with high resistance to fire and vermin. It is strong, light in weight, and non-warping. Gyproc is already known to be one of the most advanced wall-lining and ceiling materials.

GYPSTELE: Is a unit construction system for using Gyproc board in steel-frame units. These are very strong, with a high resistance to fire, and are designed to make construction rapid and removal easy. For linings to walls and ceilings, and for partitions.

GYPKLITH: A wood wool building slab. It is strong, with high thermal insulation, and it resists moisture, vermin, fungus and dry rot. It is sound absorbing and sound resisting.

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Gypstele system, forming Air Duct Trunks.



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WEDNESBURY

Forty-three years, since the twentieth century arrived, the study and development of switch and fuse gear have been the task of Sanders-Wednesbury, who manufacture types for every varied call.

Specialisation in this field, whether for heavy duty or light, industrial or domestic, whatever the purpose in view, Sanders gear is in the front rank for soundness with safety.

Even if your requirements are unusual Sanders have the departments to deal with them,



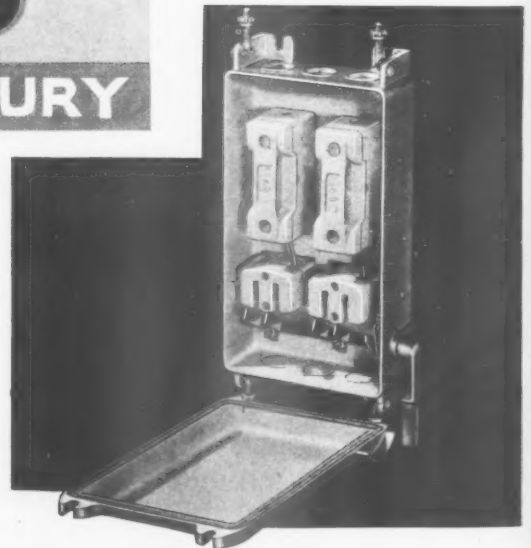
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Falcon Electrical Works,
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London Office: 78, Neal Street, W.C.2.

Phone: Temple Bar 8984

An illustration from the Sanders range of Switches and Switchfuses, Sanders' "SANDAMAX." A compact gear of specially light build, for industrial purposes.



FOR SWITCHGEAR

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Appreciating the great responsibility which will be undertaken by Architects and Builders in the planning and reconstruction of our post-war cities, we offer the fullest co-operation of our Technical Staff on all matters relating to Liquid Soap installations in Municipal, Industrial and Public buildings.

HOMACOL

LIQUID TOILET SOAP SYSTEM



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Phone Rickmansworth 3191 (2 lines)

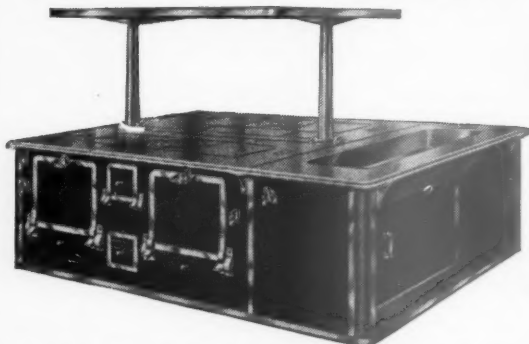
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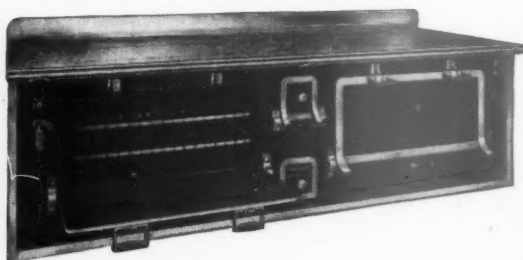


BY APPOINTMENT
ENGINEERS TO
H.M. KING GEORGE VI

COAL FIRED RANGES



Crittall Central Range. Capacious ovens fitted with sliding steel shelves and drop-down doors. Top plate of extra heavy cast iron ground bright; moulded edge and rounded corners. Float rail on two sides. Finished in black stove enamel. Burns ordinary hard kitchen nuts graded $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. to 2 ins. Rising or descending flue



Crittall nine foot special Heavy Duty Cooker. Dimensions: 9 ft. x 3 ft. x 2 ft. 8 ins. high. Contains two ovens each 37 ins. x 28 ins. x 16 ins. high, fitted with sliding grid shelves and drop-down doors. Top plate of extra heavy cast iron ground bright, guard rail in front. Finished in black stove enamel. Burns ordinary hard kitchen nuts graded to 2 ins. Flue with either top or back outlet.

CRITTALL COOKERS, like all Crittall equipment, give the utmost service with the lowest possible fuel consumption. Crittall Cookers are designed and built by engineers who have specialised for many years in the production of trouble-free equipment for caterers.

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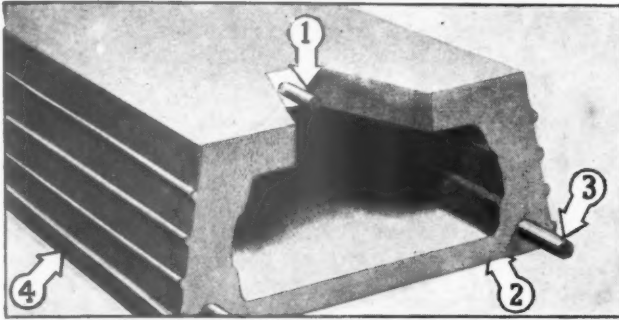
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LLOYD BOARD

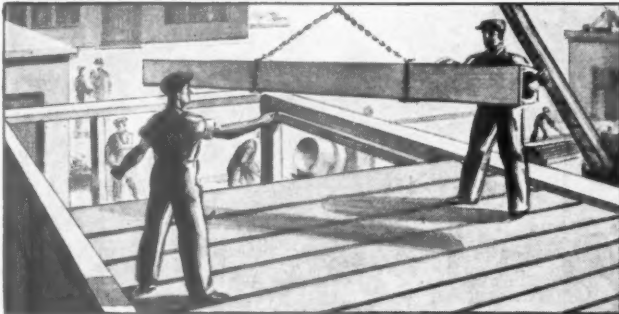


LLOYD BOARDS LIMITED
86 STRAND · LONDON · W.C.2

Save Timber-Time-Labour



SPECIAL FEATURES: 1. Designed compressive strength ensured by accurate thickness of top flange. 2. Smooth and level soffit requiring no plastering. 3. Steel reinforced. 4. Without twist or wind. 5. Recess at end to provide for in situ concrete filling over supports to take up shear and compression stresses.



EASE OF INSTALLATION: Easily and quickly laid by ordinary labour. Girling Beams also form an ideal working platform for following trades thus reducing building time to the minimum.



FREE TECHNICAL ADVICE: The services of our Drawing Office Technical Staff are at your disposal for assistance and advice on all matters relating to the use of Precast concrete units.



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'Phone: Rothwell 3174 (Leeds Extension).

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'Phone: Kirkintilloch 1785.

GIRLING'S

Replacing now scarce timber and steel, Girling's Precast Concrete Hollow Beams are to-day being specified extensively for wartime priority flooring and roofing installations.

HOLLOW

Combining strength with lightness, they are designed to carry loads from 30 lbs. to 5 cwts. per super foot, and are available in any length to suit individual needs.

CONCRETE

Enabling fixing progress at the rate of 1,000 yards per day to be maintained, and saving 3/- per yard by dispensing with undercoats and plastering, Girling Beams are a definite aid to economy.

BEAMS

-for all flooring and roofing requirements

**7 DAYS'
LIGHT
WITHOUT
ATTENTION**

ON
1½ PINTS of PARAFFIN OIL

APPROVED BY THE
MINISTRY OF
HOME SECURITY
AND BY THE
MINISTRY OF
WAR TRANSPORT



The
"BELL"
Long Burning
PARAFFIN LAMP

Pat. No. 536989.

In reinforced fine-finish cement-sand concrete, provided with air-inlets in base and outlets for combusted products. Housing spray-painted white with cast metal door enamelled white and fitted with lever lock.

Model "D" illustrated has been specially designed for Road Barriers and conforms to the requirements of the Ministry of War Transport.

Supplied with 2-way or 3-way illumination with longitudinal slit ¼" wide, with ruby windows. Can be built into the Road Barriers or used as an independent unit standing on the ground.

WRITE NOW for booklet fully describing and illustrating the various Lanterns available. May we send you a sample Lantern for testing?

A. BELL & CO. LTD.

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Also at 98, Bath Street, Glasgow



Cementone No. 5 settles the problem because it enters into chemical combination with the cement and seals the floor . . .

It saves its moderate cost many times over in reduced wear and tear of machinery and damage to products—reduced unproductive labour in sweeping, sprinkling or washing—reduced ill-health amongst operatives—and reduction or elimination of an intolerable nuisance . . .

If a "dusting" concrete floor *can* be cured, short of re-laying, Cementone No. 5 will do it. Prove it for yourself.

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*So there is still an Architect who
does not specify "STANDARD"!*



"DAYNURSERY" BUILDERS

In addition to a nest, the Australian Bower Bird builds a daynursery for his mate and young. This he decorates, with moss, freshly plucked flowers, and gaily coloured stones.

Stockholders and Distributors of

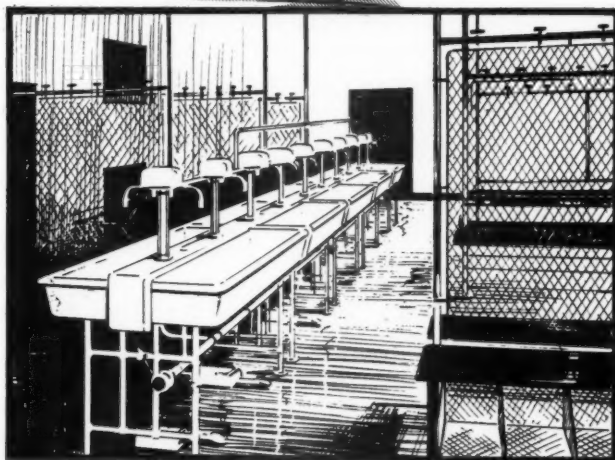
**SANITARYWARE
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OUR STOCK-IN-TRADE IS

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EST. 1870

Watford

TELEGRAMS
"STANDARD, WATFORD"

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SISALKRAFT'S POPULARITY

PSYCHOLOGY: The science of nature, functions, and phenomena of the mind. — *Oxford Dictionary.*

ENQUIRY

The result of widespread national advertising of the product.

EXPERIMENT

Rigid tests to which samples received were subjected.

EVIDENCE

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

COMPARISON

Weighing the merits of Sisalkraft against competitive products.

DISCRIMINATION

The ultimate choice of Sisalkraft

It is an interesting psychological study to follow the processes of the mind which lead to the continued selection of Sisalkraft to such an extent that it becomes an accepted standard. Stated in logical sequence, they may be considered to fall in the order stated above.

It is sufficient to deal at length only with the penultimate link in the chain of reasoning; and to adduce the following facts: Sisalkraft has no equal as a lining to hutments, and other wooden structures—as a sarking under tiled or slate roofs—as an underlay to parquet and hardwood floors—for curing concrete—for partitions and for temporary repairs to bombed roofs, walls and windows—for any kind of membrane insulation—and many other jobs where either temporary or permanent protection is required.

It has an interior reinforcement of crossed sisal fibres closely placed. These are embedded in two layers of pure bitumen, with which each of the cover

sheets is also generously coated; and the whole is combined under pressure. The resulting sheet is of great strength: and is completely waterproof and airtight. It is light in weight, pliable, clean and odourless; and is therefore easy to handle.

Sisalkraft Standard Grade is reserved for the highest priority orders of Government Departments, Municipal Authorities, and Public Works Contractors. A limited supply of Sisalkraft No. 2 Grade is available for other jobs of national importance where Sisalkraft Standard Grade cannot be supplied. Sisalkraft No. 2 Grade is the nearest rival that Sisalkraft Standard Grade is ever likely to meet, and has a wide range of usefulness.



SISALKRAFT

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J. H. SANKEY & SON, L^{TD}

ESTABLISHED 1857

22 ALDWYCH HOUSE, ALDWYCH, LONDON, W.C.2

Telephone: HOLborn 6949 (14 lines)

Telegrams: BRICKWORK, Estrand, London

ASBESTOS WOOD

solves this problem

Copy of a letter to: Turners Asbestos Cement Co., Trafford Park,
Manchester.
From: H. Wootton and Son Ltd., Builder's Merchants, Station Street,
Bloxwich, Walsall. 8th August, 1942.

Dear Sirs,

Approximately two years ago your representative persuaded me to cover the Ceiling Joists (Bedroom) in the roof of my home with $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. Asbestos Wood as a protection against Fire-Bombs.

During the night of 30th/31st July last hundreds of incendiaries were dropped by enemy aircraft in the vicinity of my home, in fact, the whole world appeared to be on fire. I made an investigation of my home and the next house, which constitute a pair, and could not trace either Fire-Bombs or damage. Having no damage to my own home, I concentrated on helping to extinguish other incendiaries that were dangerous to other property. Twenty minutes later, I was told that a red glow had been seen in one of my bedrooms. Investigation found that an incendiary had fallen apparently behind the chimney, and with the use of the Stirrup Pump we extinguished the burning wood.

I made a thorough survey of damage in daylight and found that: The Fire-Bomb had struck the roof not behind the chimney, but up the roof about 6 ft. away, penetrated the tiles, fallen on the Asbestos Wood over the wardrobe in the best bedroom, this containing about £100 worth of dresses and coats, etc. The Fire-Bomb bounced across from the point of impact on the Asbestos Wood to behind the chimney in the roof, a distance of 6 ft. and there rested at the point where the Asbestos Wood joined the Chimney Breast. During the twenty minutes between the falling of the bomb and its discovery it had been burning merrily. When it was discovered it had burnt through the Asbestos and set fire at the end to one ceiling joist, the trimmer joist, one rafter and four tiling laths.

You can imagine the mess I should have had had I not inserted the Asbestos protection, for I had taken my wife and two children, before the raid commenced, into the Shelter in the garden, my neighbour having done the same, and he was helping with me on a house that was on fire 50 yards away. So both the houses were empty.

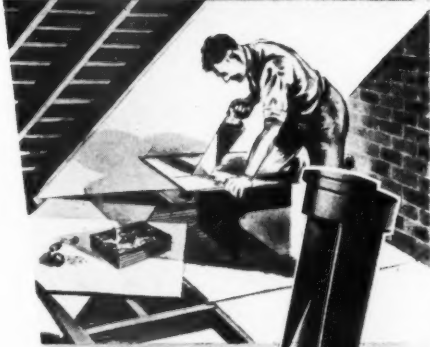
I estimate that the Asbestos Wood saved at least a damage of £200, if not the whole of my home, furniture as well, and possibly next door as well.

You see that the next time I see your representative I shall have to express my personal thanks to him for his advice.

Now to you for having made experiments in this direction of providing something that does give every person who uses it a fair chance against that terrible master FIRE, I say, Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) HAROLD WOOTTON.



FIRE PROTECTION AGAINST THE INCENDIARY BOMB!

This is one of a series of advertisements designed to show how Asbestos-cement can help to solve an almost infinitely varied range of problems. At present, war-time needs have a monopoly of its service, but when peace comes the manufacturers look forward to extending further its usefulness.



**TURNERS
ASBESTOS
CEMENT
CO. LTD.**
TRAFFORD PARK
MANCHESTER 17



The product illustrated here is:—
"TURNALL"
Asbestos Wood.

The New Horizon . . . 1



Original Painting by Anna Zinkeisen R.O.I.

The homes and possessions of the people, without discrimination, have been reduced to rubble and ashes. Churches, hospitals and historic monuments have been wantonly devastated. These buildings enshrined the visible symbol of the unconquerable spirit and traditions of a free people which cannot be destroyed.

Fire and the torturing blows of total war have forged a unity of purpose between all classes of the community and from this vital and renewed appreciation of interdependence and individual responsibility, there emerges a new horizon.

The artist's vision and the conceptions of the architect will be translated by the labourer, the engineer and the craftsman into a reality of gracious habitations. The talents of all, moulding the products of a great industry, will be dedicated to the imperishable decencies of a free humanity.



THE UNITED STEEL COMPANIES LIMITED

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UNITED STRIP & BAR MILLS, SHEFFIELD

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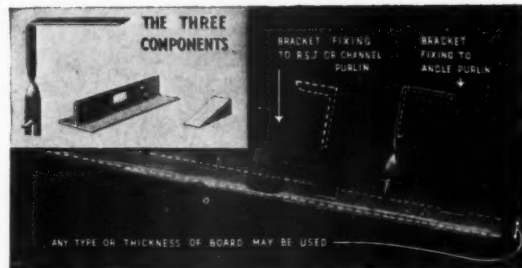
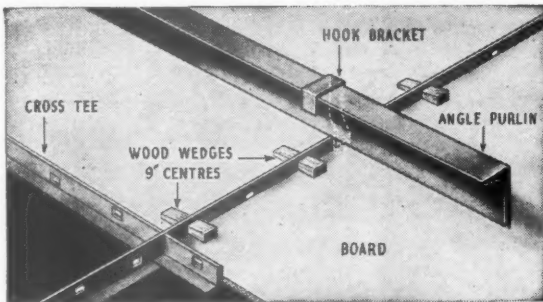
Patent No. 519406

FOR APPLYING ANY TYPE OF BOARD TO CEILING & WALLS

The Wallboard is secured to sherardised, pressed steel, slotted T-section by wedges. To the right are shown the methods of attaching the support to various forms of purlin.



Escalator Tunnel at St. John's Wood Underground Station. Architect: S. A. Heape.



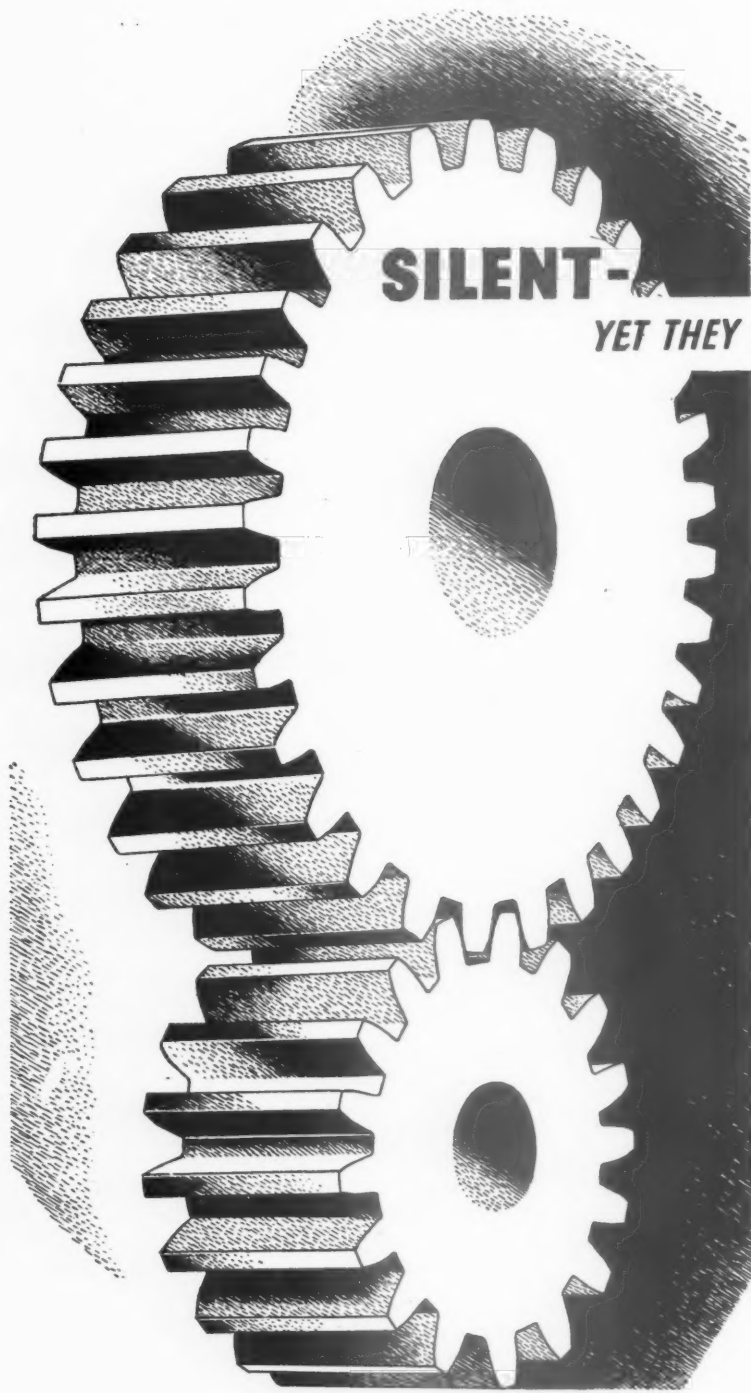
8 POINTS TO BE NOTED

1. Fixed to **UNDERSIDE** of purlins — steel or wood — covering unsightly hook bolts, clips, etc.
2. Assures the insulating value of air-space between roof and underside of purlins. No dust or dirt.
3. Can be fixed to steel or wood purlins of roofs and joists of flat ceiling.
4. No unsightly nail heads showing.
5. Can be applied to new or old buildings of any construction independently of the roofing contractor,
6. Any thickness of board can be used, from $\frac{1}{4}$ " to $\frac{3}{4}$ ".
7. This method can be used for applying linings to exterior walls.
8. The simplicity of application is such that any contractor can apply the AnD Wedge Method, and the materials making up this method can be purchased by the contractor.

Full particulars, specification and a typical layout will be sent on request

C. F. ANDERSON & SON, LTD.
 Wallboards for Government Work

Send us your "certificate of requirements" (such as Form PC/WD/1 War Dept.) and we will arrange for licence application to Paper Control
 HARRIS WHARF, GRAHAM STREET, LONDON, N.I. TELEPHONE: CLERKENWELL 4582



SILENT-

YET THEY DESERVE TO BE HEARD

IS it because gear wheels made of Bakelite Plastics run so silently that only the instructed few seem ever to have heard of them? For obviously they deserve to have made a great noise in the world!

For years, gears of toughened steel have been meshed with Bakelite gears—and they run for years! . . . There is less wear on the steel gear wheel. Where resistance to corrosion is imperative, the Bakelite gear cannot be beaten.

Gear wheels may not be your particular problem: yet it may be important to you to remember that there is available to you today a man-made material capable of standing up to hardened steel. Just one more instance where Bakelite Plastics have replaced a natural material because they do the job in hand more efficiently . .

BAKELITE LIMITED, 18 GROSVENOR GARDENS, LONDON, S.W.1

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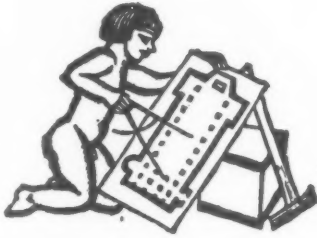
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In common with every other periodical this JOURNAL is rationed to a small part of its peace-time needs of paper. Thus a balance has to be struck between circulation and number of pages. We regret that unless a reader is a subscriber we cannot guarantee that he will get a copy of the JOURNAL. Newsagents now cannot supply the JOURNAL except to a "firm order." Subscription rates: by post in the U.K. and Canada, £1. 3s. 10d. per annum; abroad, £1. 8s. 6d. Special combined rate for ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL and ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW in the U.K. and Canada, £2. 6s.; abroad, £2. 10s. Single copies, 6d.; post free, 8d. Special numbers are included in subscription; single copies, 1s.; post free, 1s. 3d. Back numbers more than 12 months old (when available), double price. Volumes can be bound complete with index, in cloth cases, for 12s. 6d. each; carriage 1s. extra. Goods advertised in the JOURNAL, and made of raw materials now in short supply, are not necessarily available for export.



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.

Mr. J. F. Sutton, President of the Waste Paper Merchants' Association, stated at the PAPER GOES TO WAR Exhibition, at the Royal Exchange, London, that there must still be, in the hands of London business firms, many tons of used paper which are of no further value to them. He asked these firms to release that paper. As one instance of the heavy demands being made on our paper supplies, he stated that the Forces used 50,000,000 maps and charts every year. "Paper Goes to War" covers every aspect of war-time paper usage. It is open daily until February 12 from 10 till 4. Admission is free.

An invitation from MOWP to prepare a LANDSCAPE SURVEY OF ESSEX has been accepted by the Essex Branch of the Council of CPRE.

At the request of the MOS, Sir Charles Wright has been appointed ACTING CONTROLLER OF IRON AND STEEL in place of Sir John Duncanson who has undergone an operation.

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.
APRR	Association for Planning and Regional Reconstruction, 32, Gordon Square, W.C.1.	Euston 2158-9. Welbeck 7938. Mayfair 2128.
ARCUK	Architects' Registration Council, 68, Portland Place, W.C.1	Welbeck 3335.
BC	Building Centre, 23, Maddox Street, W.1.	Sloane 4554.
BINC	Building Industries National Council, 110, Bickenhall Mansions, W.1.	Temple Bar 9434. Whitehall 5140.
BCG	British Commercial Gas, 1, Grosvenor Place, S.W.1.	Molesey 1063. Garston 2246.
BEDA	British Electrical Development Association, 2, Savoy Hill, W.C.2.	Whitehall 5073.
BOT	Board of Trade, Millbank, S.W.1.	Abbey 3333.
BPVM	British Paint and Varnish Manufacturers, Waldegrave Road, Teddington.	Sloane 5255.
BRS	Building Research Station, Bucknalls Lane, Watford.	Abbey 2677.
BSA	British Steelwork Association, 11, Tothill Street, S.W.1.	Kingston 2140.
BSI	British Standards Institution, 28, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	Sloane 4280.
CCA	Cement and Concrete Association, 52, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.	Whitehall 5322.
CDA	Copper Development Association, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, W.C.2.	Victoria 4477.
CMC	Cement Marketing Company, Coombe Hill, Kingston, Surrey.	Whitehall 7618.
CPRE	Council for the Preservation of Rural England, 4, Hobart Place, S.W.1.	Canonbury 2041.
CSI	Chartered Surveyors' Institution, 12, Great George Street, S.W.1.	Holborn 2646.
DOT	Department of Overseas Trade, Dolphin Square, S.W.1.	Whitehall 2881.
DIA	Design and Industries Association, Central Institute of Art and Design, National Gallery, W.C.2.	Whitehall 2881.
FGLMB	Federation of Greater London Master Builders, 23, Compton Terrace, Upper Street, N.1.	Sloane 3158. Abbey 5215.
GG	Georgian Group, 55, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1.	Abbey 6172.
HC	Housing Centre, 13, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, S.W.1.	Regent 4782.
IAAS	Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors, 75, Eaton Place, S.W.1.	Rex House, King William Street, E.C.4. Mansion House 2855.
IES	Illuminating Engineering Society, 32, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	Museum 3767.
IRA	Institute of Registered Architects, 47, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	Grosvenor 2652.
ISPH	Industrial & Scientific Provision of Housing, 3, Albemarle Street, W.1.	Whitehall 4577.
LIDC	Lead Industries Development Council, Rex House, King William Street, E.C.4.	Whitehall 4300.
LMBA	London Master Builders' Association, 47, Bedford Square, W.C.1.	Euston 4321.
MARS	Modern Architectural Research Society, 8, Clarges Street, W.1.	Whitehall 6200.
MICE	Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, S.W.1.	Gerrard 6933. Reliance 7611.
MOH	Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W.1.	Langham 4041.
MOI	Ministry of Information, Malet Street, W.C.1.	Holborn 2770.
MOLNS	Ministry of Labour and National Service, St. James' Square, S.W.1.	7, Buckingham Sloane 5808.
MOS	Ministry of Supply, Shell Mex House, Victoria Embankment, W.C.2.	Whitehall 7245.
MOWP	Ministry of Works and Planning, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.	Reliance 7611.
NFBTE	National Federation of Building Trades Employers, 82, New Cavendish Street, W.1.	Whitehall 9936.
NFBTO	National Federation of Building Trades Operatives, 9, Rugby Chambers, Rugby Street, W.C.1.	Whitehall 6927.
NT	National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty, Palace Gardens, S.W.1.	Holborn 2646.
PEP	Political and Economic Planning, 16, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1.	Whitehall 2881.
PWB	Post War Building, Directorate of, Ministry of Works and Planning, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.	Midland 0721. Oxford 47988.
RCA	Reinforced Concrete Association, 91, Petty France, S.W.1.	
RIBA	Royal Institute of British Architects, 66, Portland Place, W.1.	
SPAB	Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, 55, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1.	
TCPA	Town and Country Planning Association, 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1.	
WLA	Wrought Light Alloys Development Association, Union Chambers, 63, Temple Row, Birmingham, 2.	
ZDA	Zinc Development Association, 15, Turl Street, Oxford.	

INTER-RELATION

From father to son the old-time crafts were handed down and a boy learnt literally at, and sometimes across, his father's knee; he acquired knowledge which can be learnt in no other way.

Has this tradition died with the coming of steel and machines? The Romantics will say it has, but at Dawnays works in Battersea thirty workers average over 33 years of service and experience, and whole families are working together.

This perhaps explains why Dawnays organisation resembles a well designed and well built steel structure.

DAWNAYS

STEELWORKS RD. S.W.11

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from AN ARCHITECT'S *Commonplace Book*

BOMBS AND LINCRUSTA [*from Recording Ruin, by A. S. G. Butler (Constable)*]. One thing is remarkable in the mêlée of bad detail and trashy decoration that I find. It is the triumph of Lincrusta. I do not mean aesthetically, but quite the opposite—in a military sense. No material, I think, has stood up to blast so stoutly. That bumpy adhesive skin on walls and ceilings, aping rich plasterwork, has counteracted many blows from bombs, even sustaining whole surfaces by itself. I feel grateful to it for having saved me the scheduling of cracks I should have found in its absence. It quite hurts me to think that something we have scoffed at for years has turned out a valuable ally in a fight. A pity it's so unattractive to look at, especially when painted chocolate.

Among those mentioned in dispatches in the New Year's Honours List was FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT S. E. T. CUSDIN, RAFVR, for many years associated with Messrs. Stanley Hall and Easton and Robertson.

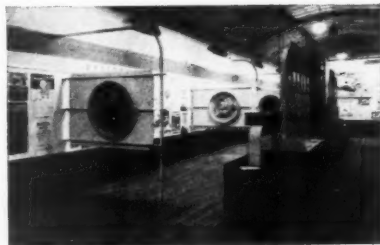
Mr. George Hicks, Joint Parliamentary Secretary to MOWP, addressing Woolwich Rotary Club said that since the Ministry had been formed BUILDING WORK VALUED AT ABOUT £52,000,000 had been allowed to proceed, consisting mainly of the construction, reconstruction, or extension of war factories, the repair of war-damaged factories or houses, and the work connected with agriculture. Work to the value of approximately £24,000,000 had not been permitted to start. Even where licences had been granted, he pointed out, it had been possible to secure a saving of 25 per cent. in the steel originally asked for, 30 per cent. in cast iron, and 25 per cent. in timber by requiring the use of alternative materials. He said: The Committee on Building Materials Standardization had done most useful work. Over 400 types of doors had been reduced to three types in seven sizes. The 17 kinds of bricks in common use throughout the country had been reduced to two. There were now only 30 types of metal windows instead of 300. Most useful work had resulted in considerable reduction in peace-time standards in electric wiring, heating, and hot-water installations. The Supplies Division was responsible not only for the furnishing of all Government offices but also for the purchase, storage, and supply of stores in great variety. The annual value of these purchases at present was £25,000,000, covering furniture, fittings, canteen equipment, ironmongery, chandlery, and a great number of other supplies for factories, hostels, hutments, barracks, and camps. He quoted the following figures: Sleeping places, in beds or bunks, 10,000,000 since 1938; crockery, 25,000,000 pieces a year; soap, 25,000,000 tablets a year; chairs, 1,750,000 a year; black-out material, 7,000,000 yards a year; fire hose, 3,500 miles a year; coal and coke, 650,000 tons a year.

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The MOH, Mr. Ernest Brown, told a press conference on February 5 that the Government had decided that a certain number of NEW COTTAGES FOR LAND WORKERS should be provided in time for the next harvest. Preparatory work has begun on the basis of 3,000 cottages, the first batch if possible to start in April. The cottages will be built in small groups in various parts of England and Wales. The actual sites, which will be in existing villages, will be selected by the rural councils in consultation with the County War Agricultural Committees, who will nominate the tenants. All the schemes will be under the close supervision of the Senior Regional Architects of MOH and the Regional Planning Officers of MOTCP. All the cottages will have three bedrooms, and most of them a parlour in addition to a living room. They will be larger than the normal type of council house, and embody the latest ideas on the internal arrangement of the rooms. There will also be roomy out-buildings suitable for rural needs. Type plans of suitable houses have been produced by the Central Housing Advisory Committee's sub-committee on design of MOH and have been discussed with MOWP. These plans and variations of them to suit varied aspects are being sent to the councils concerned for their guidance, but the designs will be adapted where necessary to suit local surroundings. The elevations will be varied according to local circumstances and traditions.

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On February 3 the House of Lords passed the MINISTER OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING BILL through



Tell the War Worker Exhibition of War Time Factory Appeals, opened by Mr. Oliver Lyttleton, the Minister of Production.

its remaining stages, and the measure is now ready to receive the Royal Assent. Criticism of the Bill has mostly been that too little is known about the national planning policy for which the new Minister is to be responsible. Lord Beaverbrook said the Bill "is more or less a diversion from the main purposes of the war," and is nothing but a project for creating yet another Ministry and multiplying the number of Civil Servants. In his view the time for considering the development of land after the war is when the war is over.

★

On the instructions of the LCC War Damage Survey the 18th century terrace in ABINGDON STREET IS BEING PULLED DOWN, owing to enemy bomb damage. The terrace facing the northern front of the Houses of Parliament was selected as the site for a statue to King George V. Protests were made at the proposal to destroy the houses and the scheme went into abeyance. It was intended that no decision would be made until after the war.

The LMBA, which this year has the right to nominate the JUNIOR VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE NFBTE, has selected Mr. G. W. Buchanan for the position. Mr. Buchanan was President of the LMBA in 1931, and is now Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of the National Joint Council for the Building Industry.

ARCUK offer for award in June a number of MAINTENANCE SCHOLARSHIPS IN ARCHITECTURE to students not less than 17 years of age on October 1. The scholarships will consist of a grant for the payment in whole or in part of the school fees, subscriptions, instruments, books, etc., and a maintenance allowance of £100 a year. They will be renewable from year to year until the student has finished his or her training. Full particulars appear on page 116.



Founder's Day in Catherine Street

Symbol of the naughty nineties, the hansom cab was invented by architect Joseph Aloysius Hansom, founder and first proprietor of *The Builder*. The one above is unique in containing the present proprietors of *The Builder*—who, as Astragal explains on another page, were induced at the centenary celebrations of that distinguished paper to sit for this unorthodox portrait—which it is our pleasure to publish for the first time with the compliments proper to the occasion. They are Mr. Herbert A. Cox, F.C.A., F.S.A. (left) and Mr. Laurence G. Oldfield, F.C.A. (right). A year after its foundation, Hansom parted with the copyright of

The Builder to J. L. Cox & Sons, its printers. Mr. H. A. Cox is a great-grandson of John Lewis Cox, whose great-granddaughter Mr. L. G. Oldfield married. In 1933 Mr. H. A. Cox was elected sole managing director and chairman and Mr. Oldfield, director and secretary. Thus family ownership has been maintained throughout the century, and direction has been held by the family for the past 60 years. Recently, Second-Lieut. A. E. L. Cox, son of Mr. H. A. Cox, and Mr. B. T. Oldfield, son of Mr. L. G. Oldfield, have joined the Board; they are of the fifth generation to be responsible for the management of *The Builder*.

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The War Office has asked the RIBA to forward the names of members and students who wish to receive consideration for COMMISSIONS IN THE R.E.'s. The letter from the War Office to the RIBA appears on page 115.

Suitable candidates under 25 years of age are likely to be offered the opportunity of special enlistment and those over 25 would have an interview with a War Office Selection Board to consider how they could most suitably be employed.

The Government is now putting into operation a special scheme for UTILISING LOCAL AND GENERALLY IMMOBILE LABOUR, prepared by MOWP and MLNS, which will provide additional men from the building trade for the speed-up of repairs to houses seriously damaged by bombs.

The work by the various local authorities on extended repairs under MOH's general scheme for the repair of bomb-damaged houses has not been proceeding as rapidly as the Government would have liked, owing largely to the demands made on the available manpower and materials by the Government's building programme and by the Services. In England and Wales as a whole there are something less than 100,000 bombed houses which, though they need considerable further repair to make them fit for occupation again, will qualify for cost of works payment under the War Damage Acts. For various reasons not all these can be repaired. Some for instance are in coastal areas, others are not suitable for reinstatement. Surveys have been carried out recently by local authorities, and it is intended to select the houses for repair, in consultation with the War Damage Commission and MOH's Regional Officers, according to the need for accommodation and the extent of the damage.

A start is being made in selected areas where the need is most urgent but the intention is to repair damaged houses in all the badly bombed areas in London and the Provinces. Full details are not yet completed and it will be some time before the scheme will be operating everywhere. This work will, of course, be additional to the first-aid repairs already given by local authorities to 2½ million less seriously damaged houses.

Engineers have warned the Thames Conservancy Board that BOULTER'S WEIR IS IN DANGER. The Weir adjoins Boulter's Lock, the most famous of Thames Valley beauty spots. The engineers have told the Board that further delay in reconstructing the dam would be "no longer prudent."

Accordingly, negotiations with MOWP and the Ministry of War Transport are proceeding for permission to undertake the reconstruction at a cost of £20,000. The lock itself will not be touched.

The weir was built originally in 1885, and has lasted about seven years beyond what is usually regarded as the safe span of existence for weirs.

GIVE MOTCP FULL POWERS

A surgeon, an architect and a civil servant were arguing as to which of their professions was the oldest. Said the surgeon: "Eve was made from Adam's rib—obviously a surgeon's job." Said the architect: "That operation was done in the Garden of Eden—obviously laid out by an architect." Said the civil servant: "Long before there was a Garden of Eden there was chaos. My profession is the oldest."

The moral of this story is to be found in the fact that though we are now in the course of legislating to set up a Ministry of Town and Country Planning, no fewer than nine Government Departments will have to be consulted before there can be physical reconstruction after the war, before any development or re-development scheme can be carried out. And of these Departments the one which will carry the most power will not be MOTCP, but the Treasury.

Assume for a moment a local authority has taken Ministerial requests to *prepare now* with the seriousness they warrant, and has proceeded (as many local authorities have) to prepare a scheme including a factory and a housing scheme. Before it can be put into operation the Ministry of Health will have to be consulted, then will come the Ministry of Town and Country Planning; then, in a sequence that will vary according to the nature of the scheme, the "Department" under the Minister without Portfolio, the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Board of Trade, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Works, and finally the Treasury.*

After four decades have passed the Local Authority will receive a polite note from a junior civil servant informing it that its scheme is far too ambitious, too modern, too well devised, and anyway can't be carried out because we can't afford it.

The time has come when planners should lobby members of both Houses, demanding that the Ministry of Town and Country Planning should be granted powers to enable it to over-ride the decisions of the other Ministries concerned with physical reconstruction. That their points of view must be

*Because it is "nobody's pigeon"—though three Government departments and five local authorities all have a say in it—the North Sea continues its invasion of the east coast undisturbed. At Pakefield (Suffolk) and Caister (Norfolk) the sea has made big inroads during the past month, and erosion at other points is causing anxiety. A church and a vicarage, several private houses and a railway line are in danger. Replying to the Caister Parish Council, which had appealed to him to take up the matter with the Government, Colonel Frank Medicott, M.P. for East Norfolk, said yesterday: "No fewer than three Government departments and five local authorities or public bodies have a direct or indirect interest. But not one of them has either the primary responsibility or conclusive authority for initiating the necessary action." The Blowfield Rural District Council have written to the Ministers of Agriculture and Health; the Norfolk Rivers Catchment Board to the Ministry of Health; and the Caister Council to the District Council. Colonel Medicott stated that he hoped to persuade the eight authorities to attend a round table conference.—(The Daily Mirror, 15/1/1943).

considered is unquestioned. But to appoint a Minister-designate with a reputation for giving way to other people and to withhold essential powers from him is not anything like good enough? The groundwork must be done now. Certain of the recommendations of the Uthwatt and Scott Reports must be made law now, otherwise they will be shelved, as was the fate of Barlow's efforts. It is no good preparing plans for London, Birmingham, Coventry, Southampton, Hull, Nottingham or even Little Mudlark unless you are fighting to get legislation which will enable those plans to be accomplished. Meanwhile the property owners are organising their resistance to the Uthwatt and Scott Reports. The Property Owners Gazette—official organ of the National Federation of Property Owners—comes out with these paragraphs :

"Of special concern to us are the Scott and Uthwatt Reports on the Utilisation of Land in Rural Areas and on Compensation and Betterment.

"When the last shot has been fired in the struggle for liberty of the nations, we must be prepared to take up the cudgels in the struggle with which owners as a body will be faced in defence of their freedom.

"The National Federation is already closely examining the recommendations of the authors of these Reports, and will determine its plan of campaign to counter any proposals which impinge on the just rights of property owners and may even mean the nationalisation of all land throughout the country, the abolition of freeholders and the establishment in their place of a 'community of leaseholders.'"

The NFPO has its head in the sand and is making rude noises. On another page of the January Gazette is the following letter addressed to *The Times* by Sir John W. Lorden, J.P. (Past President of the Federation).

"Sir, I find it difficult to reconcile your energetic backing of the Uthwatt Report with the statement in your leading article yesterday that when private interests have to give way to public need, they must receive equitable treatment. What is 'equitable treatment'?"

"Suppose the next Uthwatt Report recommends the acquisition by state of all London newspapers? While it hesitates to recommend out-and-out nationalisation of the Press for reasons of expediency, proposes that all newspapers shall be bought, not one by one at their market value taken individually, but as a whole group, at an arbitrary figure. Then the Government decided to lease each of these newspapers, not to the present proprietors, but to a third party who put up the highest figure in order to use *The Times* or other paper for personal ends.

"What would *The Times* say of such a proposal? What would it consider to be 'equitable treatment'? What would be its feelings on seeing the control of something laboriously and lovingly built up from the days of Delaney and the first John Walter pass into alien hands that might not care anything about traditions, or fair play, or British honour or international relationships? Is there any form of 'treatment' that can be considered 'equitable' for such an outrageous act?"

"It only remains to point out that the situation propounded as a possibility in a future Uthwatt Report has actually and definitely arisen in the existing Uthwatt Report in relation to the land. There are many landowners, big and little, whose families have for generations lavished as much care and devotion to the upkeep and development of their estates and farms as has been lavished on *The Times* by its successive editors and owners. The only equitable treatment of such people is to give them a helping hand to enable them to continue their good work."

Sir John W. Lorden, J.P. (Past President of the Federation of Property Owners) should be informed that there is a war on—a war which is being fought so that the peoples of occupied Europe and of this country can take their heritage—land. Those who fight so steadfastly, bearing every adversity with equanimity, would not fight for *The Times* any more than they fight for property owners.



The Architects' Journal
War Address : 45, The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey
Telephone : Vigilant 0087-9

N O T E S & T O P I C S

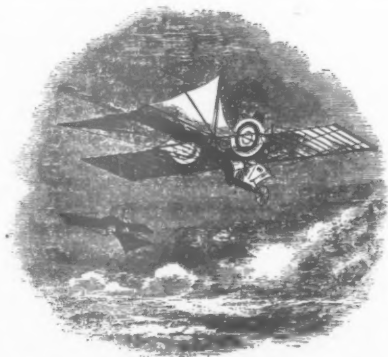
MOTCP

It may be quite right to limit MOTCP's duties to guiding post-war use of land and hence the location and grouping of all the building which post-war reconstruction policy makes necessary. But this limitation—carefully emphasised in the Ministry's title—immediately raises two questions. Who is going to prepare the national reconstruction policy, or alternative policies, between now and the end of the war? And will Mr. W. S. Morrison be able to ensure that the physical side of reconstruction is given proper consideration.

Moreover, some may share the feeling expressed in the House of Commons that the transfer more or less *en bloc* to the new Ministry of officials who had been engaged for twenty years in planning of a negative, legalistic and restrictive kind will not improve its chances.

THE BUILDER CENTENARY

Joseph Aloysius Hansom founded *The Builder* and became its first



Mr. Henson's aerial steam carriage. (From THE BUILDER, April 1, 1843).



Who's going between the shafts? Left to right: Mr. Herbert A. Cox, Chairman and Director of THE BUILDER; Mr. J. R. Hansom, grandson of Aloysius Hansom, founder and first editor; the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Sir Samuel Joseph.

editor in 1842. Then Victoria had been but five years on the throne, Cobden and Bright were agitating for the repeal of the Corn Laws, Nash had been dead only seven years, Soane five, while the RIBA was but a child of eight years. *The Builder* has survived those hundred years which future generations will doubtless regard as the most fantastic and intense period in all human history. Its vigorous constitution may well be due to the healthy seed planted by its progenitor.

Hansom must have been a man of wide resource and initiative. He gained immortality, but apparently no financial advantage, through his invention of the famous "Patent Safety Cab." In the first volume of *The Builder*, Hansom opened the fight which the paper carried on for half a century to establish proper conditions for architectural competitions by setting the fashion for publishing competition drawings.

He founded at the same time a Builders' College, where "general education, professional training and handicraft skill may be acquired and perfected together," thus anticipating Frank Lloyd Wright and Taliesin by some 90 years. He also established an early kind of Building Centre by informing manufacturers that "specimens of articles of moderate size, if deposited at *The Builder* office, will be readily referred to and shown to the firms and purchasers who may call." The early issues of the paper under his aegis express the avid and ubiquitous interest in popular science of the time, and we find, for instance, an account with wood engravings of Mr. Hansom's aerial steam carriage. "We may safely anticipate," says the article, "that ere long men will have added a new element to their dominion." A true contemporary in his passionate belief in the powers of science, Hansom, a man of many ideas, also printed a treatise

in the style of Mrs. Beeton on the making of "cold cement" which contained Cheshire cheese and "the whites of 24 or 30 eggs."

★

After a year Hansom parted with the copyright of *The Builder* to its printer, John Lewis Cox. He retired from editorship and proceeded to build up a lucrative architectural practice. With George Godwin (a considerable personality, the "Beau of Brompton," and one of Ellen Terry's husbands), who took over editorship in 1849, *The Builder* entered into its full sphere of influence, especially in its spirited fight for improvement in housing and sanitation. Though it has had a number of editors, the remarkable thing is that, save for Hansom's ownership, *The Builder* has been in the hands of the same family for a hundred years.

★

The Builder held a modest celebration of its longevity on December 31

last, and agreeably stooped to tickle its own fancy with a cab of Mr. Hansom. Mr. J. R. Hansom, grandson of the great man, was there, together with the Lord Mayor, and the giants of war building, who were photographed against the historic invention—in this case a "horseless carriage," for even the majestic influence of *The Builder* could not, of course, produce a horse in December, 1942.

ESCAPE FOR THE MAROONED

Many architects now in the services abroad are afraid that they may be stranded abroad for a long period after the war and so be prevented from sharing in the rebuilding. In order that they may have their say in reconstruction an R.E. serving in India, Mr. P. J. Marshall, writes to me to suggest that those architects and students now in India, who represent a large part of the RIBA of to-morrow, should form groups to keep ideas alive and to maintain contact with architectural thought. The first of such groups, he writes, are already being formed in Poona, Delhi and Lahore. Mr. Hormasji Ardeshin, President of the Indian Institute of Architects, has offered every assistance to the scheme, and the President of the RIBA has been asked for his co-operation.

WHITED SEPULCHRE

Goebbels is at pains to explain the subtle political significance of the word "Casablanca." Our own press gives us a surfeit of photos showing the two allied leaders sitting side by side smiling happily in the sunshine. But only one voice tells me what I really want to know—what the fabled city of Casablanca is really like. The voice is that of the *South Wales Argus*:

Casablanca, Moorish-French-Spanish architectural gem on the shores of North-West Africa, has been visited by many Monmouthshire tourists. Mrs. A. H. Dolman told Aber-tillery Women Citizens yesterday that she was greatly impressed by huge hoardings bearing advertisements in English—a touch of home in a babel of foreign tongues.

*

It is good to know that in glamorous, but primitive, North Africa, as elsewhere, men are still being educated in the refinements of Western culture.

ASTRAGAL



LETTERS

M. W. Jones

W. F. Farncombe

C. C. Shaw, B. Arch.,
A.R.I.B.A.

W. Jones

Panel Advisory Committees

Sir,—I was interested in Astragal's "we know it by experience" comments on the work of Panel Advisory Committees in the past and the difficulties likely to be experienced in the future (if the Scott Report becomes law), and read them to members of my Committee. I am instructed to say that in the main we agree with your observations, but desire to point out that the reason why panels were obliged to content themselves with trivialities was entirely due to the fact that they had no power in law under the Town and Country Planning Acts.

A good deal more than your comments suggest has been done by way of preventing the erection of badly planned and unsightly buildings, but it had to be done by tact and peaceful persuasion.

In order to improve the "standards of criticism exercised by the panels," we suggest that the RIBA should conduct refresher courses in design and criticism, for members and prospective members of panels so that they may be the better able to function when the force of law is added to their pronouncements.

If the material which panels have to criticize is to be improved then we suggest that all plans deposited with local authorities should be prepared by architects.

M. W. JONES,
Hon. Sec., Panel Advisory Committee, CPRE, Worcestershire Branch.
Worcester.

Sir,—Astragal's notes on Panels was considered by the Advisory Panel Committee of the Worcestershire Branch of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England at its last meeting.

With most of its conclusions the Committee was in cordial agreement. It is, unhappily, quite true that much of its work is necessarily devoted to details. Its criticism is limited to that of the elevations and to make a notable alteration to this implied an entire revision of the whole plan which is beyond the scope of

its powers. I would point out however that as a Committee of the CPRE, their primary function is the preservation of the amenities of the countryside by preventing the erection of buildings unsuitable either by their design or material or both for the situation in which they are to be placed, and at any rate in Worcestershire this object has, with the cordial co-operation of the surveyors, been very largely attained. For though much of its work is, as your article states, confined to such details as the shape of windows or doors and porches and the elimination of meretricious ornamentation, it has definitely secured the rejection by the local authorities of buildings which would have injured the beauty of the country or damaged the value of adjacent property. When it is remembered that at present the panel has to rely on persuasion to secure the acceptance of its advice, surely this must be regarded as something of a triumph. And should legal powers to enforce its decision be conferred on the panel still more plans would be rejected and forced to be entirely redrafted. But even if such powers are eventually conferred the work of the panels will necessarily remain critical and repressive. They may improve a design or refuse it altogether, but they can never originate anything or, officially, do anything to raise the general standard of public taste in architecture.

The Worcestershire Panel, however, has endeavoured to do something in this direction by trying to educate the people by means of lectures and pictures though it realizes that such education must be a slow process. It has established permanent exhibitions of houses, good and bad, of public buildings and of lay-outs of estates, in the museums or libraries of all the bigger towns in Worcestershire. These pictures are frequently changed and have evoked very great interest.

In addition, the panel has held a very well attended exhibition in the Shirehall of the county town, where a large collection of these pictures are shown. Later these pictures were displayed in a shop window at Evesham, Malvern and Pershore, and will gradually circulate throughout the county. These shows have been immensely appreciated and visitors from very different parts of the kingdom have been so impressed that they have asked for a loan of the pictures.

I may add that our neighbours, Gloucestershire and Herefordshire, are working with us in this scheme, and I trust that your readers will regard the panels of the "three counties" as at least justifying their existence.

DR. W. F. FARNCOMBE,
Chairman of the Advisory Panel,
Worcestershire Branch of the
CPRE

Endor, near Pershore.

The Cheapest Tender

Sir,—In your leading article on January 14, you mention *inter alia* that "it does not always pay to accept the cheapest tender," and I hope that you will stimulate further discussion in your columns on this very important angle of post-war building.

Many architects, I imagine, have had unfortunate experiences of this rigid obsession that the lowest tender must necessarily be accepted, but the architect in private practice is usually in a better position than his official confrère in that his client will normally take his advice as to the contractors to be invited to submit tenders. The official architect is in no such favourable position as, though his council or committee would often willingly take his advice, most of the works carried out by local authorities are subject to Government sanction, and Government departments in the past have rigidly adhered to the principle of the acceptance of the lowest tender (after public advertisement) unless it can be substantiated—and the onus is on the local authority—that the firm with the lowest tender is unsuitable.

I believe that the cure lies with the building industry itself, and in many conversations with

"After the War—what price architecture? What price whose architecture? What price the architecture of the Copyright Owners, of the Established Practice Owners, of the Influential Connection Owners, of the Squatter Bureaucrats, and of all the other Big Bright Bustling Boys? Or what price my architecture, and, maybe, your architecture, which, at the hands of the foregoing, will have no identity of existence otherwise than as a compliant and anonymous ipso facto?

Surely, I cannot be expected to comport myself very seriously in the face of such an alternative! I offer now, therefore, certain verses I wrote in the late autumn of 1940. Pray accept them with my blessing, and study them. You should be able to draw your own conclusions."

MALCOLM MACTAGGART

contractors have found unanimous agreement with this belief, and one hopes that the industry is making every effort to set its house in order in readiness for post-war activities, for there is, undoubtedly, a growing volume of public opinion very critical and distrustful of the present unsatisfactory state of affairs.

In the meantime, sir, may I suggest that the press can do much to influence public, and therefore Government, opinion on this subject, for without a change of policy, particularly in Government departments, the efforts of the industry and architects are likely to be largely abortive. Architects can, at the same time, do much, I believe, by impressing on all their friends in the building trade the urgent need for the utmost collaboration of all the best elements in the trade and a critical self-examination by all those who have the best interests of the industry and so, ultimately, of the general public, at heart.

C. C. SHAW.

Production Committees

SIR,—There is much discussion on Production Committees at the present time, and as we have had such an organization working for the best part of a year, a note on it should be interesting to others who may be thinking of forming a similar body.

Our job is a large Government one in a rural part of Wales, and was started well before the war began, and therefore well before any of the present welfare orders and control measures were introduced. The local conditions are similar to those on many other jobs in isolated rural areas, and need no explanation. The work went along quite well until the outbreak of war, but after that and particularly in the latter part of 1940 and early 1941 the morale of the whole job became bad, and the works acquired an unenviable name throughout the whole area from which labour could be drawn. The results were low output, high rate of absenteeism, and receding completion dates. This applied to all later contractors, some four in number, as well as the original contractor, and staffs were not immune from the effect.

In spite of remedial steps in 1941 the bad name and unsatisfactory results persisted, and early in 1942 it was suggested to the Contractors' Agents and to me that some kind of joint production organization should be tried. Accordingly after some preliminary meetings a Joint Works Council and a subordinate Production Committee were formed. The Council comprised two contractors' agents, four representatives of the employees chosen by special ballot, two engineers of the Government Department, one of them the resident engineer, and myself as a member without voting powers, and an honorary secretary. The Production Committee consisted of eight elected representatives of employees, four of whom were also the employees' representatives on the Council, four representatives of the contractors' staffs

and four representatives of the Government Department's staffs, none of the latter two groups was above the grade of foreman. This rather peculiar composition was caused by the long and narrow nature of the site, with works of various contractors mingled together along it. The site was divided into four lengths, each length had a sub-committee of four, all four sub-committees joining together to form one larger Production Committee.

It was intended that the Council should be mainly a directive body, while the committee should attend to detailed application.

The aim of the scheme was to foster progress by all legitimate means, including propaganda, remove causes of bad morale, encourage co-operation and invite suggestions and criticisms making for greater progress. Propaganda was aimed chiefly at developing a sense of personal responsibility, and this was done by encouraging talks and discussions among small groups, by arranging for several special speakers, and by running an intensive campaign: "It all depends on me." Welfare, transport and working hours and conditions were also dealt with in so far as they affected progress. Absenteeism, too, was a matter which received attention with a considerable amount of success.

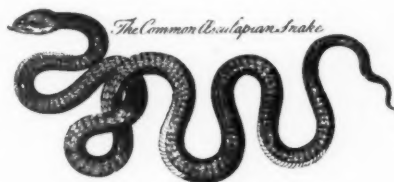
As to the results achieved, we think that the facts speak for themselves. The morale of the whole job is much improved, complaints which were formerly frequent have ceased, the job is no longer the boggy which it used to be, absenteeism has ceased to be a problem, and it is now possible to forecast the completion dates with some confidence.

An important reason for our success is that the organization is a joint one, comprising contractors' managements, employees, technicians, and resident engineer's staff, and that on the Council the management's representatives were contractors' agents and not junior staff, and one of the Government Department's representatives was the resident engineer. A principle was adopted in the working of both the Council and the Committee of having the chairman elected for each weekly meeting from the management and employees sides alternately; this did not lead to the loss of efficiency which might have been expected, and the effect of the goodwill engendered was great.

A significant criticism of the scheme which is made by both management and employee members of the Council and Committee is that it should have been got going much earlier; the fact that all the contractors are on a B/Q or Schedule basis adds more point to it.

We are well aware that our organization has its faults, which arise largely from lack of previous experience as a guide, but we think that if our Joint Council can work and show such good results under the adverse conditions on our particular job, even better results could be achieved elsewhere.

WM. JONES,
Site Officer.



AFTER THE WAR

By Malcolm Mactaggart

Illustrated by
Nicolas Bentley

There was a boy named William Perch,
His father meant him for the Church.



His father was a man of wealth
Who hated doing good by stealth—
He said, "My son need have no fear
Of doing good in *that* career."

Young William spent his early days
In the accustomed carnal ways;
He did the things which Youth will do
Until at length discretion grew,
And one fine day his fond papa
Told him the use which Churches are.

But William would not be beguiled—
He was, alas, an only child.
"Dear Father," he politely said,
"The Church is far above my head;
Besides, I could not give my mind
To fastening collars from behind."

The father viewed with grave concern
The son opposed to Godly turn.
Worse was to come! Reports from
School
Drew him ambitious, fraud, and fool;
The only cause for pleasure stood
In William's manners. These were
good.

Now, Perch had set his heart upon
A lofty calling for his son;



It was a blow to him therefore
And cut him to his deepest core
When William said he must refuse
To entertain paternal views . . .

It happened that at Bankers End
There dwelt a man—a mutual friend.
He, then, perceiving Perch to pine
And fall into a slow decline,
Considered *something* must be done
To save a father from his son,
And it was planned we three should
meet
For luncheon in Throgmorton Street,
When, coffee served, could Perch
impart
The topic closest to his heart.

The day arrived and duly Perch
Discours'd of William and the
Church ;
If cash would help (his face grew tense)
He would not boggle at expense.
What did I think ? He wrang in rue
His hands and wondered what to do.

Myself in my accustomed way
Brought pipe and matches into play.
At length I spoke : " If Truth is nil
Why should not Beauty fill the bill ?
I do not mean that William should
Hew stone, write verses, carve in wood,
Or work with brush and paint to show
A portrait of Lord So-and-So.
Oh, no ! I mean that he should turn
To something any fool can learn.
William, I urge, with his defect,
Assumes the rôle of Architect."

But Perch grew sombre all the more :
" Good God ! The boy can't even
draw.
Gutters and gargoyles—things like
that—
Would knock him absolutely flat."
I puffed in silence. Clouds of smoke
Rose to the ceiling, palled, and broke.
I spoke : " My choice I base upon
Manners—ambition—in your son.
What need for him that he embroil
His hands in unrequited toil ?
A modicum of skill will do—
Enough to sketch an Irish Stew,
Enough to give a lesser man
The *indications* of a plan—
What need, what need is there for
more ?
Let me explain the English Law

And show Success is not a line
That pen or pencil need define.

"Two points of Law support the cause
Of privilege (that shapes our Laws)
The first of which I now recite—
Section 5b of Copyright :*
EXCEPT a man shall covenant
Expressly stating NO, HE SHANT,
HE SHALL, whom wages and not fee



His services reward, AGREE
By such act, fact, deed, step, or token,
That Copyright has been bespoke
For his employER to devise,
Sell, give away, or otherwise
Without condition own. THERE-
FORE
(Here is the second point of Law)
EmployEES who find publicated
Their work, with authorship misstated,
Are at a loss to claim correction
The Law admitting no defection
UNLESS the fact can be averred
That Breach of Contract has occurred.
AND Contract cannot be allowed
Unless with Copyright endowed.

" It must, of course, be understood
That the reverse does NOT hold good.

No employER who makes me laugh
May lay his folly to his staff ;
No employEE may publish dross
And state the author is his boss.
For crude behaviour of this sort,
Action for libel can be brought.
But who assumes the credit for
Another's work, he breaks no Law ;
His claim confers a compliment
And is no libellous event.

" Of course, the time is hardly now,
The circumstances don't allow.

* 5 b it ought to be, but I could not quite get it in.

On every hand the German Blitz
Is knocking England into bits,
And architects have little chance
Of helping *anyone* advance.
But when the force of War is spent
And Peace pervades the firmament,
What heyday then to raise anew
Town Halls ! Memorials ! Churches
too !
What pleasure then to resurrect
Chain Stores and Banks ! What
architect
But does not feel his pulses throb
In portent of so nice a job !
Yourself," I said, " from all accounts
Are good for really large amounts—
And have you then no apt support,
No influential friend-at-court
To lend a preferential hand
Till William of himself doth stand,
And by permission of the Press
Turns Copyright to great Success ?

" Which way to turn—which side to
veer—
Be Bureaucrat—be Privateer ?—
Such signs as Nature doth permit
Give little clue to answer it ;
The scions of more private days
Were entering bureaucratic ways
Ere War befell, but what will be,
When War is done, I cannot see."

And neither Perch could see nor you
Can see what is not yet to view ;
Our World to-day is drenched with
blood,
To-morrow is as clear as mud.

THE MORAL which must here ensue
Relates to all but me and you—
WE know it is unwise to seem
Eager for undeserved esteem,



And would, of course, far rather die
Than own to having told a lie.
I hesitate because of this
To mention what the moral is ;
The Royal Institute, no doubt,
Would just as soon I left it out.

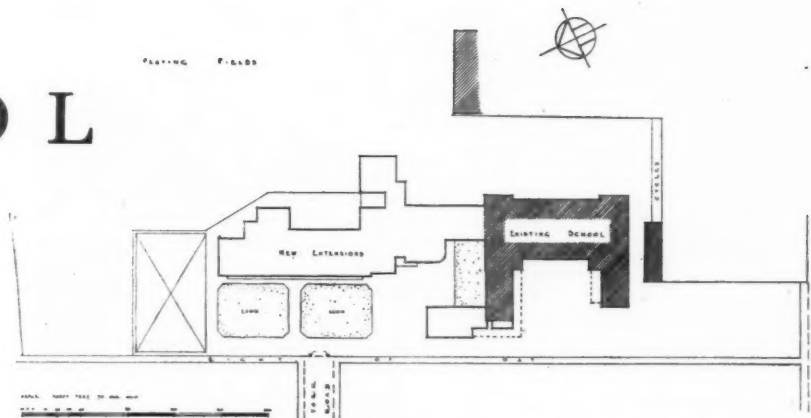
THE END

S



Above: the gymnasium.

SCHOOL



SITE PLAN.

A T LITTLEHAMPTON

DESIGNED BY

C. G. STILLMAN

GENERAL—A large extension built to improve the facilities of an existing Senior Boys' School.

CONSTRUCTION — Walls are faced externally with buff-coloured cement bricks. The main construction generally is brick and the assembly halls are steel framed



Above: The assembly halls are steel framed with 11 in. cavity walls, faced with buff-coloured cement bricks. Right: a general view of the school from the north-east.

DESIGNED BY
C. G. STILLMAN

Architect to the West
Sussex County Council



with 11 in. cavity walls. The floors to corridors, cloakrooms, lavatories, etc., are laid with granolithic paving and those to the hall are of columbian pine stained and wax polished.

INTERNAL FINISH—In the corridor the weatherboarding beneath the window is left showing; lavatory and cloakroom walls are left fairface with cream distemper and dado in light stone paint, and black stain on doors with the frames painted green. The walls of the Assembly Halls are fairfaced, painted cream with 3 ft. grey dado, and the V jointed fibre board on the ceiling is distempered cream. All woodwork is Matsine finish. The staff room walls are distempered cream, doors stained black and built-in fittings treated with Matsine clear.

The general contractors were Messrs. Patching & Co., Worthing.

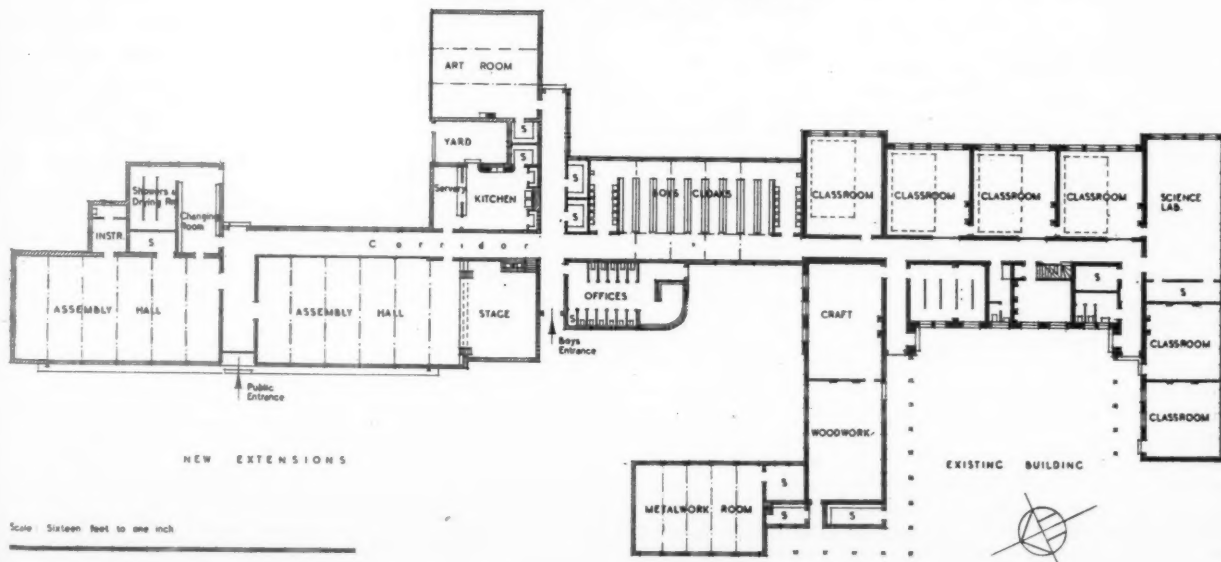
For list of sub-contractors see page 116.

SCHOOL AT LITTLEHAMPTON, SUSSEX



View of the assembly halls looking north-east.

GROUND FLOOR PLAN.



Scale: Sixteen feet to one inch

*This feature, developed from the previous Information Centre, which dealt only with questions and answers, provides a technical intelligence service in tabloid form. Its function is to record all developments in building technics throughout the world as reflected in technical publications, papers read before learned societies, official statements, reports of research institutions and building experiments. Lack of scientific data is a handicap both to the technician and to the planner. Even where there is no lack of information the organization for putting it over has remained so rudimentary as to negate most of the advantages of the original research. The **information centre** attempts to remedy this deficiency and to keep all busy men, whether fighting or working, abreast of current developments in building technique. Items are written by specialists of the highest authority who are not on the permanent staff of the Journal. The views expressed are disinterested and objective. The A.J. system of starring important items applies in this section.*

Physical

PLANNING

1057 ★ *Dwelling Houses*

Royal College of Physicians of London: DESIGN OF DWELLING HOUSES. Memorandum, December, 1942. The medical profession lays its views before the Central Housing Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Health.

Its recommendations include:— (1) That no room used for sleeping be less than 100 sq. ft. and the second bedroom always as large as the first. The pernicious doctrine that children require less air-space than adults must be finally scotched. (2) The essential factor is that there should be an adequate supply of hot water for both cooking and washing. (3) The provision of a separate water-closet is not regarded with favour because (a) for health reasons persons should be encouraged to wash their hands after using the toilet; and (b) it is found by experience that when a water-closet is placed in the same room as the bath it tends to be kept in a more wholesome condition. (4) Most important from the health point of view is adequate provision for drying and airing clothes. (5) Even in new houses the great importance of having a built-in wardrobe for clothes in each bedroom is not sufficiently realized. (6) In housing for the aged the first principle is to avoid

setting aside a special area in a housing estate on the almshouse plan. (7) The three-storey house consisting of a two-storey cottage with a single-storey flat on the third floor deserves serious consideration. (8) External piping is no longer necessary; the construction of internal bathrooms and water-closets with a proper system of ventilation can now be carried out without creating the slightest nuisance. (9) Housing estates should be grouped on a community basis, each group making its own provision of safe playgrounds for children, recreation facilities for all ages, shopping centres, and such public services as school, library, hall, health centre and communal restaurant.

1058

PEP

PEP: PLANNING. Broadsheet No. 200, January 19, 1943. Contains impressive analysis and index to its 199 forerunners.

PEP (Political and Economic Planning) nearly twelve years ago, started a new movement in public life, and its stature has steadily increased. Its guiding belief has been in the value of the fact-finding attitude to the great problems of contemporary life. PEP has attempted to assemble large masses of information which may previously have been unpublished or scattered, in such a way as to provide a foundation of fact for those who in their different spheres are responsible for policy. The principle of anonymity has been strictly preserved throughout as a means of making available for

publication the knowledge of people who, owing to their special experience, would not be able to express their views freely if personal publicity were involved. Its work, in the main, has been concerned with industrial and social planning. Physical planning has seldom been tackled, and architects are very poorly represented among the club and working members.

1059

Russian Town

Arthur Ling: TWO PLANS FOR A RUSSIAN TOWN. Planning and Building in the USSR, Bantam Books, January, 1943, 4d. The first plan of Zaporozhie in the Donetz coal area carried out in 1930 on the lines of Ernst Mai. In 1939 new plans made jointly by the State Planning Institute and the local architectural bureau.

In 1926 the population was under 60,000; in 1938 it was almost 300,000; the industrial plan provided for a population of 600,000 by 1960. The first plan was for small residential units divided by green parkways. After nine years it was found that the division of the town into scattered units had proved an obstacle to communal life and the new plan aimed to unite the separate units into one town. The first plan had concentrated on cottages. The new plan was to consist mainly of flats. It had been found that the industrial workers preferred the additional services and amenities made possible by flat development, particularly central heating and hot water.

STRUCTURE

1060

Bridges

Anon: RECENT IMPORTANT BRIDGES IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE. The Engineer, January 1, pp. 24 to 26; Engineering, January 1, 1943, pp. 1 to 4, and January 15, 1943, pp. 41 to 43. Waterloo Bridge. Howrah Bridge, Calcutta; Story Bridge, Brisbane, Australia.

Three notable bridges have been brought near completion within the British Empire in the past year. By the progressive removal of the erection gantry, of which only a small portion remains at the Southern end, Waterloo Bridge has been revealed to the eye. The bridge is the first in reinforced concrete in the London area to have a definitely modern style. "Despite the covering in Portland stone there is no concealment that it is a concrete bridge; by its twin arch construction that tunnel effect to be feared in a wide

bridge has been avoided . . . But because . . . the bridge is supported upon reinforced concrete walls only 2 ft. 3 in. thick and the apparently solid arches are actually hollow shells, it seems to us that the external piers are neither narrow enough to reveal the true flexibility of the structure nor wide enough to support its apparent weight. . . . We wonder whether by some means the true lightness of the arches could not have been revealed, and whether, by sloping the tops of the piers inwards, as they are already sloped betwixt the arches, for instance, the real flexibility of the support could not have been brought out."

We hope that readers of this column will disagree with one remark about which *The Engineer* maintains that "there can be no two opinions. Bare concrete seen at close quarters has not a good appearance." Perhaps the best solution, at the Embankment arch, for "the unpleasant contrast between the Portland facing of the arch and the bare concrete underneath" would have been to use no facing, but obtain a fine surface for the concrete by properly designed and carefully carried out formwork.

The Howrah Bridge across the Hooghly at Calcutta has a central span of 1,500 ft., and is designed to carry a roadway 71 ft. wide, as well as two pathways 15 ft. wide. It is the third largest cantilever in the world, and has a suspended span of 564 ft. between the cantilever arms. An interesting feature is that the roadway deck is suspended beneath the main girders in the central span and that the approach roads, on both sides of the river, turn in underneath the anchor arms and join up with the suspended deck at the main piers. The approach roads are independent of the superstructure, and the shore spans do not therefore directly carry traffic.

The Story Bridge at Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, is of similar construction with a main span of 924 ft., with a 60 ft. roadway and two 10 ft. footways.

ACOUSTICS

& Sound Insulation

1061 ★ Noise Reduction

R. Fitzmaurice (BRS): PROBLEMS OF NOISE IN BUILDINGS. Lecture, RIBA Architectural Science Board, January 30, 1943. Effect of planning on noise reduction. Distance and angle effects. Auditoria design. Weight and discontinuity as a defence. Impact noises reduced at source.

Scientific information is sufficiently advanced for an indication to be given

as to the correct method of approach to many problems. It is only the designer of buildings who can apply this information, and problems must be dealt with in the early design stage. It is usually very difficult to correct faults in a completed building and always much more expensive.

Noise can be defined as sound coming at the wrong time or in the wrong place, e.g., an echo in an auditorium is sound at the wrong time, while the neighbour's radio is often sound in the wrong place.

In auditoria design emphasis must be laid on the need for correct shape. The provision of absorbents is not in itself enough. Published information should be sufficient to enable any designer to avoid bad mistakes. What is more difficult is to obtain the refinements of quality such as are desirable in a good concert hall. Some information on this was collected before the war.

In order to obtain quiet conditions in rooms the first thing a designer should do is to assess the values of possible sources of noise nuisance, both outside and inside the building. Methods of combating these noises could then be considered. Note the value of space in reducing noise loudness. (Slides were shown to indicate the value of setting back the building from traffic noises). The amount of noise coming through openings such as windows is shown to be related to the angle of incidence of noise. Planning, therefore, is of the utmost importance and is the first line of defence.

Structural defence is more expensive and less likely to give the desired results although considerable improvements could be obtained. For air-borne noise there are two alternatives: weight or discontinuity. Weight is seldom sufficient because sound reduction varies as the logarithm of the weight and not in direct proportion. For very light materials additional weight gives an appreciable difference in insulation, but the added value of a 9 in. brick wall over a 4½ in. one is only just appreciable. The 9 in. wall is often insufficient as insulation and to get further improvement by weight would be quite impracticable. In considering methods of noise transmission it is useless to soundproof a partition without considering adjacent walls, floor and ceiling. The principle of floating box construction must in noisy cases be applied.

Impact noises can travel a long way through structures and can be most disturbing. The best defence is to eliminate the noise by choosing quiet fittings and machinery and using soft coverings to prevent footstep noises.

During the discussion after the lecture the suggestion was made that composite walls should have their different leaves made of either different materials or different thicknesses of the same

material. The lecturer agreed that this might help slightly but thought that the actual discontinuity was by far the more important factor.

LIGHTING

1062 ★ Artificial Lighting

R. O. Ackerley (Pres., Ill. Eng. Soc.): ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING. Lecture, RIBA Architectural Science Board, January 23, 1943. Chief aim not to describe in detail any particular aspect of artificial lighting, but to discuss what sort of knowledge of lighting the average architect ought to possess.

This is, of course, where one ought to begin, with a sort of syllabus, because it raises all the vexed questions of relations between architects and specialists. The architect (said the lecturer) ought to know enough to guide his client on broad lines, and for himself, to know where his own knowledge stops and where a consultant is required. Then he should be able to appraise the advice given him, and finally he ought to appreciate the factors in room design which affect the subsequent artificial lighting. In summary, there is no reason, then, why an architect should not readily acquire competence for small jobs, but it is doubtful if many would find any point in tackling the bigger ones alone.

As for the type of knowledge required to satisfy these objects, there are three fields: first, the physiology of vision; secondly, the laws of light control in design; and lastly, knowledge to balance comfort, economy, and aesthetic considerations.

The question of physiology keeps coming up these days. The Building Research Station has often spoken of the ear and hearing, the body and heating, and now we have the eye and lighting. There are points of real importance here, and to cite a case, with the eye, there is its response to illumination increases. The eye, like the ear, is sensitive, not to equal increases of illumination but to equal proportional changes. If there is 1 foot candle on a surface it might take 1 more foot candle to make a difference, but if there are 10 foot candles present, then it would require 10 more foot candles to produce the same sort of improvement. This, as the lecturer pointed out, means that while we should be careful about 1 or 2 foot candles where illumination is not good, one would not be critical of, say, 5 or 10 foot candles in a very brightly lighted place. Several points of this sort were made, and one felt that what is needed is an

architect's introduction to physiology. Light control connotes mainly the design of fittings and the types of source, and the lecturer gave demonstrations both of different types of reflectors and of sources, including the increasingly familiar fluorescent tube.

Discussion of the balance of the various factors, economy, beauty, efficiency, psychology and so on, took Mr. Ackerley into a less specific field where he made it clear that, in the final mixture of ingredients, lighting was not an absolute science; some experience is valuable, and he quoted several cases to illustrate his points. He suggested that where there was any uncertainty, in a difficult job, it was best to erect a test section.

Mr. Ackerley, in summing up, seemed to feel, as everyone else did, there was so much goodwill for the approach he described that it ought to be carried further, and he put forward, tentatively, the suggestion that the illuminating engineers and the Science Board might have a joint session. The idea was well received. These technical subjects require co-ordination if we are to avoid the chaotic state towards which we were heading before the war, and one of the best ways of developing a common line of thought is to get together to think it out.

QUESTIONS and answers

THE Information Centre answers any question about architecture, building, or the professions and trades within the building industry. It does so free of charge, and its help is available to any member of the industry. Answers are sent direct to enquirers as soon as they have been prepared. The service is confidential; and in no case is the identity of an enquirer disclosed to a third party. Questions should be sent to: THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL, 45, The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey

1063

Q Is there a special paint which can be used for sealing the surface of a granolithic finished concrete floor to keep down the dust? We are not referring to the use of sodium silicate solutions for this purpose, and we have seen in a Lancashire factory a floor that was painted with a dark red paint that was sufficiently durable to withstand a reasonable amount of trucking and foot traffic.

A In addition to ordinary sodium silicate solutions there are a large number of patent colourless solutions which can be used. We cannot state with certainty what the dark red paint referred to in your enquiry is, but it may be RIW cement floor enamel, which is available in various colours. The manufacturers are RIW Protective Products of 2, Orsman Road, London, N.1, who will give you

full particulars. The material is primarily for dry concrete floors not exposed to the elements. It is in short supply but a certain amount of the material can be obtained for jobs of sufficient importance.

1064

Q Can you give me the names of some firms that manufacture disinfectors for clothing and bedding? Mobile types would be particularly useful, but elaborate fixed installations would not do as they are for installing in temporary buildings or for moving from site to site as required.

A Below are the names and addresses of two manufacturers of Mobile Disinfectors:—

Messrs. Bacterol of 435, Strand, London, W.C.2; Messrs. Clayton Installations of 8, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

1065

Q There are upwards of 14,000 names in the last edition of the Register of Architects. The Architects' Registration Council must therefore have an annual income of over £7,000. What happens to all this money? Is a balance sheet published?

A The Council is responsible for the registration of Architects and for seeing that professional discipline is maintained. In cases of misconduct the person in question can be removed from the register. This work entails some cost of upkeep but we understand that about half the income is allotted to scholarships for architectural students. A balance sheet is not published but any registered architect may obtain particulars of the accounts if he wishes.

1066

Q A friend of mine has a chimney which smokes, because there is not sufficient draught to take the smoke up the flue. She has a draught excluder on the door and windows and does not wish to take them off. Is there a method of getting more draught to the fire, other than that of having holes (covered with gratings) through the hearth, to underneath the floor?

A We would advise you to obtain a copy of "The Cure of Smoky Chimneys"—Notes from the Information Bureau of the Building Research Stations, 4th Series, No. 3, from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Building Research Station, Garston, Watford, Herts. The main point which it stresses is that in most cases the trouble lies in the fireplace design and even when there is lack of sufficient ventilation, reconstruction of the fireplace on the lines set out in the pamphlet may overcome the trouble, but if not some means of ventilation in an external wall should prove an effective remedy.



Speeches and lectures delivered before societies, as well as reports of their activities, are dealt with under this title, which includes trade associations, Government departments, Parliament and professional societies. To economise space the bodies concerned are represented by their initials, but the hazy or lazy reader can look up their meaning in the list of Journal abbreviations on the contents page. In cases where the abbreviations are not shown there the name of the association is given in brackets here. Except where inverted commas are used, the reports are summaries and not verbatim.

NFBTE

F. Leslie Wallis

On February 4 Mr. F. Leslie Wallis welcomed press representatives at the headquarters of NFBTE at the beginning of his year of office as President.

F. L. Wallis: NFBTE includes builders of all sizes and therefore truly represents the whole industry. The Government comes to the Federation for advice and will probably continue to do so on the problems ahead. The Government looks to the building industry, more than any other, to restore the country to normal after the war.

The building industry is difficult to concentrate and though concentration may be necessary to-day, we must keep the individual builder going as far as possible for post-war purposes. Jobs can be given to building firms now in repairing badly damaged buildings.

I hope we shall get registration of builders on a qualitative basis in the manner of architects' registration and so prevent unskilled men with a little capital setting up as builders after the war and producing shoddy work, as happened after the last war.

A lot of nonsense has been talked about prefabrication. The industry is not opposed to this but I can see a danger in it. Mass production without wide supervision is bad and we do not want to build the slums of the future after the war.

The Federation's association with the building trades operatives remains as cordial as ever;

PATENT WELDED TUBULAR CONSTRUCTION

Data Sheet No. 11

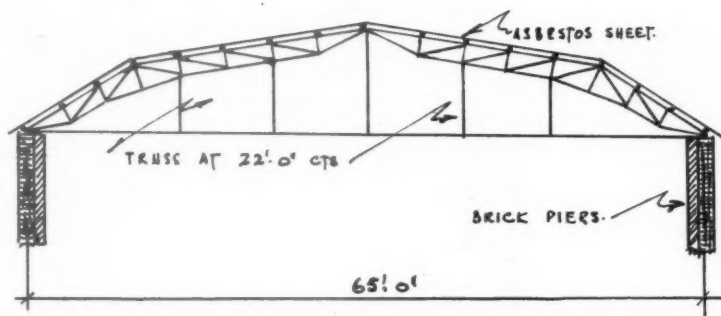


Fig. 22. Composite tubular roof truss used in conjunction with brick construction.

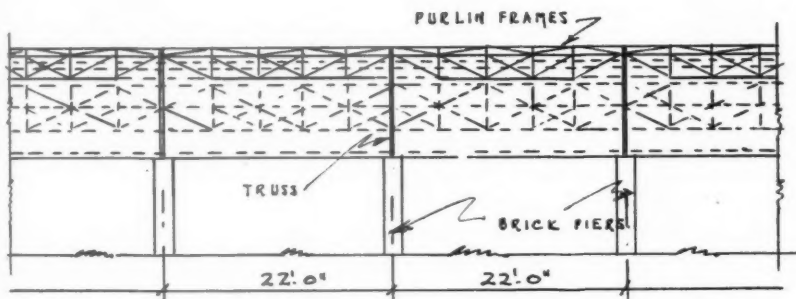


Fig. 23. Elevational detail.

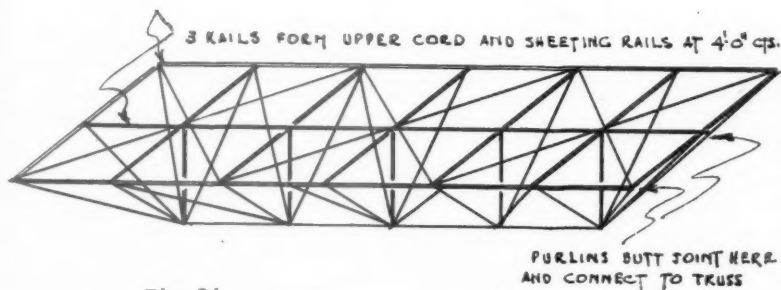
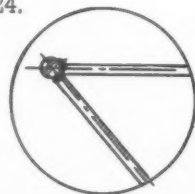


Fig. 24.



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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The following publication will be sent in response to a request from those giving evidence of their genuine interest

Sheet Copper Work for Building
Copper Alloy Sections
The Use of Copper for Domestic Water Services

Copper Data
Copper Pipe-Line Services in Building
The Resistance of Copper to Soil Corrosion

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C16



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(5)

and an excellent machinery for providing settlements exists. Two recent advantages gained have been holidays with pay and the national apprenticeship scheme.

The Beveridge Report is a very wise and sound document, but it contains many ideals which industry probably cannot swallow. It must be looked into carefully particularly in relation to export trade which it might affect.

The building industry has played its part in the war effort and is proud of the work it has done. For reasons of security details cannot be given.

A commission will very shortly be set up by the Federation to look into and report on the future of the building industry. It will have an independent chairman whose name will be announced very soon, and its membership will consist of twelve picked men from the industry. Though scope will be wide, its terms of reference have not yet been fixed. Sittings will be in private for the present but a report will probably be published in due course. It will work for a better organisation for better building. The commission will have no authority and will be purely exploratory and advisory.

TCPA

F. J. Osborn

Third lecture in the series "Rebuilding Britain," organised by the TCPA on "London's Dilemma," was given by Mr. F. J. Osborn, Hon. Secretary of the TCPA, at YWCA, Great Russell Street, W.C.2, on Thursday, February 4. Chairman: the Mayor of West Ham, Alderman Mrs. Gregory, J.P.

F. J. Osborn: The position of London between 1938-9 was approximately as follows: the Greater London area contained 10 million people, and the built-up area $8\frac{1}{2}$ million, half of whom were in the LCC area—an average of 50 to the acre. Between the two wars, the population of Greater London increased by nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ millions. This increase was mainly due to commerce and was made possible by suburban housing and transport development. An average of 70,000 houses a year was built, and there was very little demolition of existing buildings. A strap-hanging population was thus developed, making on an average 450 journeys per head a year and spending from £15 to £25 per family a year on fares. Overcrowding on the tubes at peak periods is unavoidable under existing conditions and even under the best arrangements 50 per cent. of travellers are doomed to strap-hang. On roads in central London, 5.85 to 7.7 miles per hour for cars was the best possible and this for vehicles designed to travel at 60 miles per hour. Parking was barred in most places and waiting not allowed in many streets. The City authorities did not want to provide more parking as this would increase the traffic still further.

The Bressey Scheme, half of which was in the LCC area, would have cost £200 million. Even with a 60 per cent. state subsidy, the LCC could not afford the scheme, though it was a county affair rather than a national one.

LCC housing began well after the last war and some very good schemes were produced in the suburbs. 1.4 per cent. of the housing was in flats in the central area, the rest being houses in the outer areas. Later 65 per cent. of LCC housing was in flats. Between the wars, 75 per cent. of people in central London lived in apartments, 12½ per cent. in proper flats, and 12½ per cent. in whole houses. 67 per cent. lived in three rooms, and 33 per cent. in one or two rooms.

Most Englishmen want their own separate house and garden, provided it is near their work. Distance from work of residences is a vital consideration and the main dilemma in

rebuilding. Regarding open spaces in London, there were only 1.88 acres per 1,000 of population, of which only a part was playing fields. On the other hand London is a great cultural centre and there were 700,000 seats in theatres and cinemas. Seven million people visited the museums each year.

The objects in rebuilding must be: (1) to build decent homes; (2) to secure business and industrial efficiency; (3) provide possibilities for a good social life; (4) make our towns beautiful to look at. These objects are unthinkable unless we deconcentrate. We must see that people are not forced to concentrate by decentralising industry and business. I think that flats are undesirable; moreover people do not want flats. It may be impossible to give everyone a house, but we must be clear as to what we do want.

The first axiom is that we must stop the further growth and spread of London. Having stopped the extension we must keep all the existing open spaces and reduce business and residential densities in the centre. The maximum tolerable density is 20 houses to the acre, and this allows for a certain number of flats. As businesses die they must not be allowed to be replaced except under special licence. This brings up the problem of the movement of industry and business. New towns in the home counties must be built for new industries. Another problem arising is that of land values. Where density is reduced, values are reduced. Government compensation would therefore have to be paid to owners. In the aggregate, of course, values would not be reduced but merely displaced.

In decentralising London, I suggest a period of 20 years is necessary, allowing for the rehousing of 2 million inside London and 2 million outside in 1,200,000 new houses. Since before the war, when London was expanding, 70,000 houses a year were built, 20 years should be a practicable period.

It has been the policy of the LCC to make London grow. A reversal of public policy is needed. I suggest that the LCC should form a committee of experts to decide with other authorities where 15 to 20 new towns should be built in the Home Counties. Building development has in the past been left mainly to individual effort. Governmental function will be needed in the future to build new towns.

Whatever we do let us do it in the best possible way, with the best possible technicians and the best architects. It is an extraordinary thing that town planning has been a lost subject since the time of Plato. I hope that owing to the spread of education and culture, and to our experience in the blitz, we may be at a point when big things will be done. We can be complete failures or heroes. There is no other choice.

At Canterbury

Conference on January 30 on Planning for Living. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Temple, in the chair.

Mr. F. J. Osborn, Hon. Secretary of the Town and Country Planning Association, said quick transport to new housing estates has proved a delusive remedy.

The only solution is a movement to small and medium-sized towns in the country. In addition to proposing some 40 to 50 entirely new towns, Mr. Osborn suggested that London ought to have ten or a dozen such daughter-towns or satellites; Birmingham, three or four; Manchester and Liverpool, two or three; Bristol, Portsmouth and Southampton, one or two each.

The Dean of Canterbury, Dr. Hewlett Johnson, advocated cities of from 40,000 to 50,000 population.

Canterbury should become a university centre, and the services of a group of great artists and experts should be enlisted to help

in rebuilding Canterbury in a way which would give a lead to the rest of the country.

Mr. W. R. Davidge, past president of the TPI, said that no more than about 10 per cent. of the population could leave their present home towns permanently.

Even to provide for these would involve something like 50 new towns, each with a population of 40,000, and the transfer of a similar number to 50 existing towns. Planning, whatever its form, must affect the whole future of the nation and include all its activities, great or small. Nothing could safely be omitted.

RIBA

Enlistment in RE's

The following letter has been received by the RIBA from the War Office on the NOMINATION OF MEMBERS AND STUDENTS OF PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR SERVICE IN THE ROYAL ENGINEERS. Members and Students of the RIBA who wish their names to be put forward should send the particulars specified to the Secretary, RIBA.

The War Office,
F/200/A.G.7 (L) A.G.7(L),
Hobart House, London, S.W.1.
January 20, 1943.

SIR,
NOMINATION OF MEMBERS AND STUDENTS OF PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR SERVICE IN THE CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS.

I am directed to refer to War Office letter B/9292/A.G.7(L) dated January 5, 1942, and kindly request you to cancel that letter and substitute the following:—

It is still desired to obtain particulars of members and students of Professional Institutions who are not already serving and are desirous of consideration for employment in commissioned rank or otherwise in the Corps of Royal Engineers.

It would, therefore, be appreciated if you would forward the names of members and students to:—

The Under-Secretary of State,
The War Office,
A.G.7(L), London, S.W.1.

May the following information be furnished in respect of each applicant:—

1. Date of Birth.
2. Private Address.
3. Occupational Classification Number (not Industry letters).
4. (a) Registration Number under the National Service (Armed Forces) Acts.
(b) Date and place of Registration under these Acts.
(c) Medical Category if examined under these Acts.
5. If release from present employment could be obtained.
6. Has a deferment been granted, and if so the date it ceases.
7. Particulars of any former military or O.T.C. experience.

On completion of the necessary application forms, suitable candidates under 25 years of age are likely to be offered the opportunity of Special Enlistment (see 3 below), and those over 25 years of age would have an interview arranged for them with a War Office Selection Board in order to ascertain under which category they could most suitably be employed. Age, qualifications and experience determine whether a candidate may be recommended for one of the following:—

1. An Immediate Emergency Commission through the Army Officers' Emergency Reserve.
2. Direct entry into an R.E. Officer Cadet Training Unit, after pre-O.C.T.U. training.

3. Special Enlistment as a Pioneer Student, i.e., General Service Corps training followed by four months Corps training in an R.E. Training Battn., and then consideration for Pre-O.C.T.U. and O.C.T.U. training.
4. Civilian appointment if over the military age limit or if of low medical category.

It is emphasized that every candidate receives individual consideration, and it should be noted by those appearing before a War Office Selection Board that their papers are sent to the War Office for confirmation.

At present vacancies exist in practically all R.E. Units for those possessing the necessary technical qualifications and experience, including those with experience in Transportation (Railway Construction, Locomotive Operating, Dock Operating, Marine Engineering).

Should any member or student receive a calling-up notice under the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, he should immediately inform this office of such notice, giving National Registration No. and the date and place of reporting for duty. On receipt of such information, the question of transfer from the General Service Corps to R.E. may then be taken up with a view to subsequent consideration for commissioned rank.

Appreciation is expressed for the considerable assistance you have already rendered in the past.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) W. D. ROBERTSON,
for Director of Organization.

Town Planning

A course of six lectures for architects on TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING is to be held at the RIBA. The lectures will be given on the following Wednesdays:—

February 17.—“The Village and the Small Town,” by A. W. Kenyon, F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I.

March 3.—“Town and City,” by Professor W. G. Holford, M.A., B.A.R.C.H., A.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I.

March 17.—“Communications,” by Sir Charles Bressey, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.C., D.L.

March 31.—“Holiday Use of Countryside and Coastline,” by Mr. John Dower, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.

April 14.—“The Planning of Rural Areas,” by Mr. Thomas Sharp, M.A., L.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I.

April 28.—“Planning Administration,” by Mr. Richard L. Moon, Vice-President, T.P.I.

Intended primarily for the benefit of architects interested in town and country planning, the lectures will deal with the general principles of planning and planning administration. Admission will be free to all registered architects, but application must be made beforehand to the Secretary, RIBA, for cards of admission. The lectures will start at 6 p.m.

LSA

Exhibition

An exhibition of work of students was held in LSA (Leeds School of Architecture, Leeds College of Art), from February 2 to February 5.

The exhibition was a comparatively small one but the exhibits were very carefully selected. They included large scale models, photographs, sketch designs, colour and interior decoration schemes and town planning work.

These comprised some of the work seen by Sir Giles Scott on his visit when he commented on the high standard of design and the excellent craftsmanship shown in the models. A few of the models were prepared by students who have since joined the Forces.

Sir Giles Scott

Sir Giles Scott inspected LSA (Leeds School of Architecture) on January 27, in his capacity of visitor.

He gave an informal talk about design, illustrating his remarks with designs and working drawings of his own buildings. He stressed the need for the appropriate use of all building materials, whether new or old. The students were particularly interested in photographs of the Church of Our Lady and St. Alphege at Bath, the Church of Our Lady Star of the Sea at Broadstairs, Kent, and a series of drawings of Liverpool Cathedral.

Sir Giles also took the opportunity of walking around the studios and chatting with some of the students. He was shown models and drawings prepared in the School during the last two or three years.

ARCUK

Scholarships

ARCUK offer for award in June, certain MAINTENANCE SCHOLARSHIPS IN ARCHITECTURE.

The scholarships will consist of a grant for the payment, in whole or in part, of the school fees and necessary subscriptions, instruments, books, etc., and, when necessary, a maintenance allowance not to exceed as a rule £100 a year. The scholarships will be renewable from year to year until the student has finished his or her school training. They will be available for students of British nationality who could not otherwise afford such training to enable them to attend architectural schools approved by the Council. The scholarships will be available both for students who have already begun their training and for students wishing to begin their training. Scholarships will not be granted to students who will be less than 17 years of age on October 1 next.

Particulars and forms of application may be obtained from the Secretary to the Board of Architectural Education, ARCUK, 68, Portland Place, London, W.1. Copies of previous years' examination papers can be obtained on payment of 6d. The closing date for the receipt of applications, duly completed, is March 16.

BSF

Membership

A number of leading producers of British stones for monumental, decorative and architectural work, working in close co-operation during the last eighteen months, recently formed BSF (British Stone Federation), to promote and protect the interests of the British stone industry.

Under the presidency of Mr. John Hadfield (Managing Director of Hopton-Wood Stone Firms, Ltd.), some seventy producers have now applied for membership. The Federation is anxious to have the whole-hearted support of all producers in the U.K., of granite, marble, firestone, sandstone, limestone and other natural stones; so that it may be fully representative of all branches of the trade when dealing with the many problems not only of

to-day, but particularly of those vital post-war years that must, necessarily, affect the workings of the industry. It also wishes to make exhaustive research, and compile statistics for submission to Government Departments (or other bodies) concerned with the re-building of Britain.

The Federation states that the promotion of the use of stone dressed and finished wholly in the U.K. is a matter of great importance, since only in this way can maximum employment be found for British workers. It also feels very strongly the necessity of retaining and training skilled craftsmen. The Federation will provide a full information service on all matters relating to the trade.

Enquiries as to terms of membership should be made to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Harold Fletcher, Bank House, The Bridge, Matlock.

ISE

New Members

Candidates elected January 28:

As Students: Dennis Walter Angel, London; John Henry Thomas Brown, of Stoneleigh, Surrey; Joseph William Fortey, of Birmingham; Alan Graeme Gibbs, of Watford, Herts; Colin Rudley Mattinson, of Birmingham; Cedric Arthur Moulder, of Kidderminster; Peter Robinson, of Shelton Lock, Derby; David Smith, of Burton-on-Trent.

As Graduates: Stanley Parkin Ball, of Chesterfield; Eric George Bennett, of Johannesburg; John Picton Davies, B.A., of Lansdown, Bath; Harold Robert Hicks, of Rutherglen, Lanarkshire; Desmond Grant Horne, of Westville, Natal; Hans Laser, of Johannesburg; Robert Frederick Pott, of Worcester Park, Surrey; Robert Hastings Schaffner, of Beboni, Transvaal; Malcolm George Edward Wade, of Prestwich, Lancs; Frederick Walkden, of Sale, Cheshire; John Olav Williams, of Loughborough, Leics.

As Associate Members: Maurice Kenelm Bryce, of Manchester; James Clifford Garnett (Major, R.E.), of London; Haripada Ray, of Calcutta; Reuben Simon Reuben, of Bombay; Pran Nath Singh, of Lahore; Kartar Singh Sohal, of Quetta; Robert Williams, of Stretford, Lancs.

As Members: Llewellyn John Prosser, of Lytham St. Anne's, Lancs; James Herbert Wood, of Bournemouth.

BUILDINGS ILLUSTRATED

SENIOR BOYS' SCHOOL, LITTLEHAMPTON, WEST SUSSEX. C. G. Stillman, F.R.I.B.A., County Architect. General Contractors: Patching & Co., Worthing. Clerk of Works: J. Pears. Sub-Contractors: G. Asserati, asphalt; Johnson's Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co., Ltd., reinforced concrete; Clapham Common Brick & Tile Co., Ltd., bricks; Blokcrete Co., Ltd., artificial stone; Matt. T. Shaw & Co., Ltd., structural steel; Granwood Flooring Co., Ltd., patent flooring; G. N. Haden & Sons, Ltd., central heating and boilers; Brighton, Hove and Worthing Gas Co., gas fixtures and gas-fitting; Sussex Electric Supply Co., electric wiring, electric light fixtures and electric heating; J. R. Howie, Ltd., sanitary fittings; William Dibben & Sons, Ltd., door furniture, casements and window furniture; John Stones, Ltd., folding gates and curtain track; William Dibben & Sons and Haywards, Ltd., iron staircases; Hill, Aldam & Co., Ltd., sliding doors; Granitese (Great Britain), Ltd., glazed tiling; North of England School Furnishing Co., Ltd. and Wilson & Garden, Ltd., school fittings; Lockerbie & Wilkinson, Ltd., cloakroom fittings; Parker, Winder & Achurch, Ltd., cycle racks.



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PRICES

BY DAVIS AND BELFIELD, CHARTERED QUANTITY SURVEYORS

No important changes occurred in the prices of the Basic Materials given below during December. Rates of Wages have not altered since February 1st, 1942.

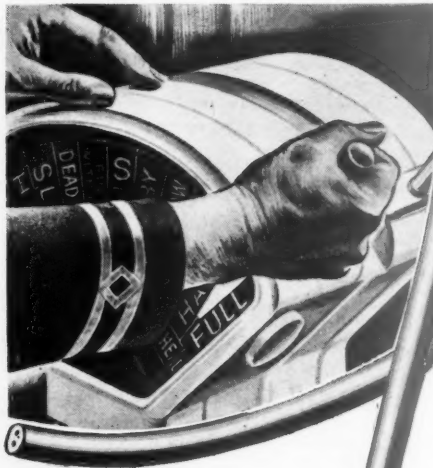
BASIC MATERIALS	Increase over pre-war prices at end of											
	Jan., 1942	Feb. 1942	Mar., 1942	April, 1942	May, 1942	June, 1942	July, 1942	Aug., 1942	Sept., 1942	Oct., 1942	Nov., 1942	Dec., 1942
Portland cement	+37.8	+37.8	+37.8	+37.8	+37.8	+37.8	+37.8	+41.46	+41.46	+41.46	+41.46	+41.46
2-in. unscreened ballast ..	+71.01	+71.01	+71.01	+71.01	+71.01	+71.01	+71.01	+71.01	+71.01	+71.01	+71.01	+71.01
Fletton bricks (at station) ..	+11.89	+11.89	+11.89	+11.89	+18.38	+18.38	+29.19	+29.19	+29.19	+29.19	+29.19	+29.19
Stoneware drainpipes (British Standard) 2 tons and over ..	+28.13	+28.13	+28.13	+28.13	+28.13	+28.13	+37½	+37½	+37½	+37½	+37½	+37½
Roofing tiles	+30	+30	+30	+30	+30	+30	+42½	+42½	+42½	+42½	+42½	+42½
Steel joists (basic sections) ex mills	+47.5	+47.5	+47.5	+47.5	+47.5	+47.5	+47.5	+47.5	+47.5	+47.5	+47.5	+47.5
Lime greystone	+35.29	+35.29	+35.29	+35.29	+35.29	+35.29	+35.29	+35.29	+35.29	+43.53	+43.53	+43.53
Sheet lead	+54.35	+54.35	+54.35	+54.35	+54.35	+65.22	+65.22	+65.22	+65.22	+65.22	+65.22	+65.22
Iron rainwater goods and soil pipes	+26½	+26½	+26½	+26½	+26½	+26½	+26½	+26½	+26½	+26½	+26½	+26½
Copper tubes	+29.79	+29.79	+29.79	+29.79	+29.79	+29.79	+29.79	+29.79	+29.79	+29.79	+29.79	+29.79
White lead paint	+31.82	+31.82	+36.36	+36.36	+36.36	+36.36	+38.64	+38.64	+38.64	+41.67	+41.67	+44.70
RATES OF WAGES (Central London Area)												
Labourers	+19.05	+22.22	+22.22	+22.22	+22.22	+22.22	+22.22	+22.22	+22.22	+22.22	+22.22	+22.22
Craftsmen	+14.29	+16.67	+16.67	+16.67	+16.67	+16.67	+16.67	+16.67	+16.67	+16.67	+16.67	+16.67

LABOUR—Rates of Wages since 1st February, 1942.

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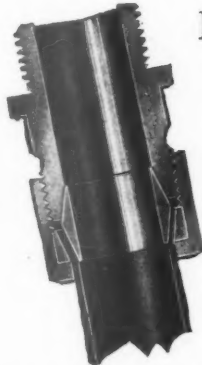
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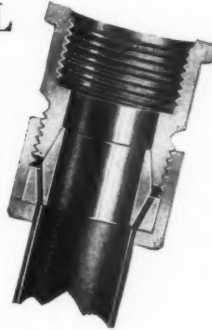


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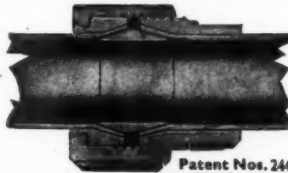
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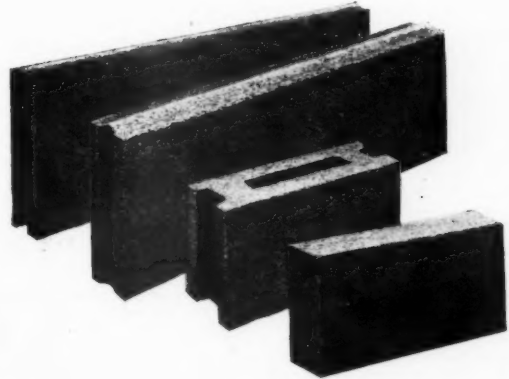
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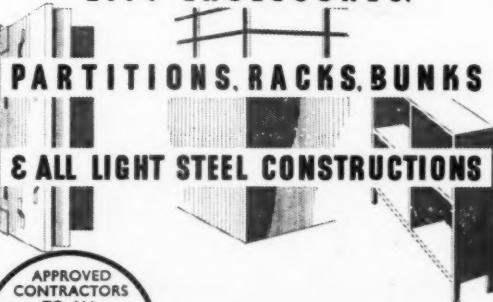


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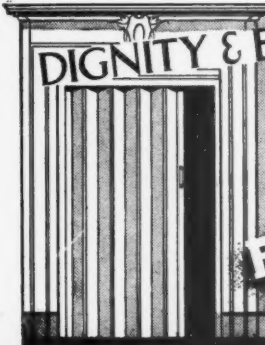
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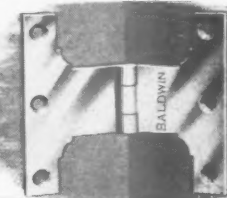
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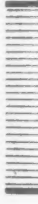
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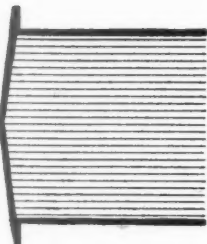
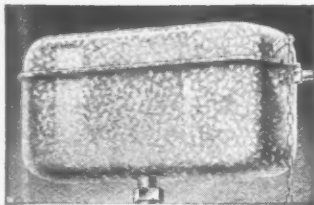
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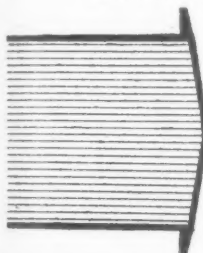
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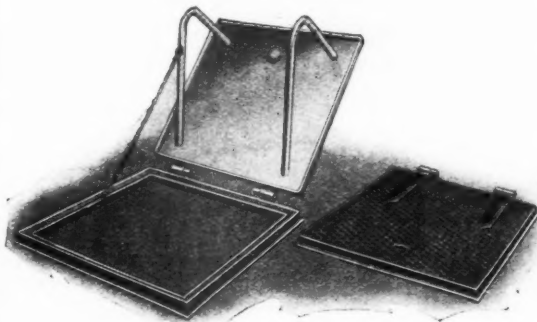


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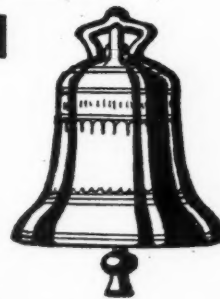
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Santa Sophia, Constantinople.

WAS built by order of Justinian, in A.D. 532-537, on the site of two successive churches of the same name, i.e.: (a) The wooden-roofed basilica, erected by Constantine, A.D. 360; (b) The church erected by Theodosius, A.D. 415. The architects were Anthemius of Tralles and Isidorus of Miletus.

The minarets were added by the Mahometans in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

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