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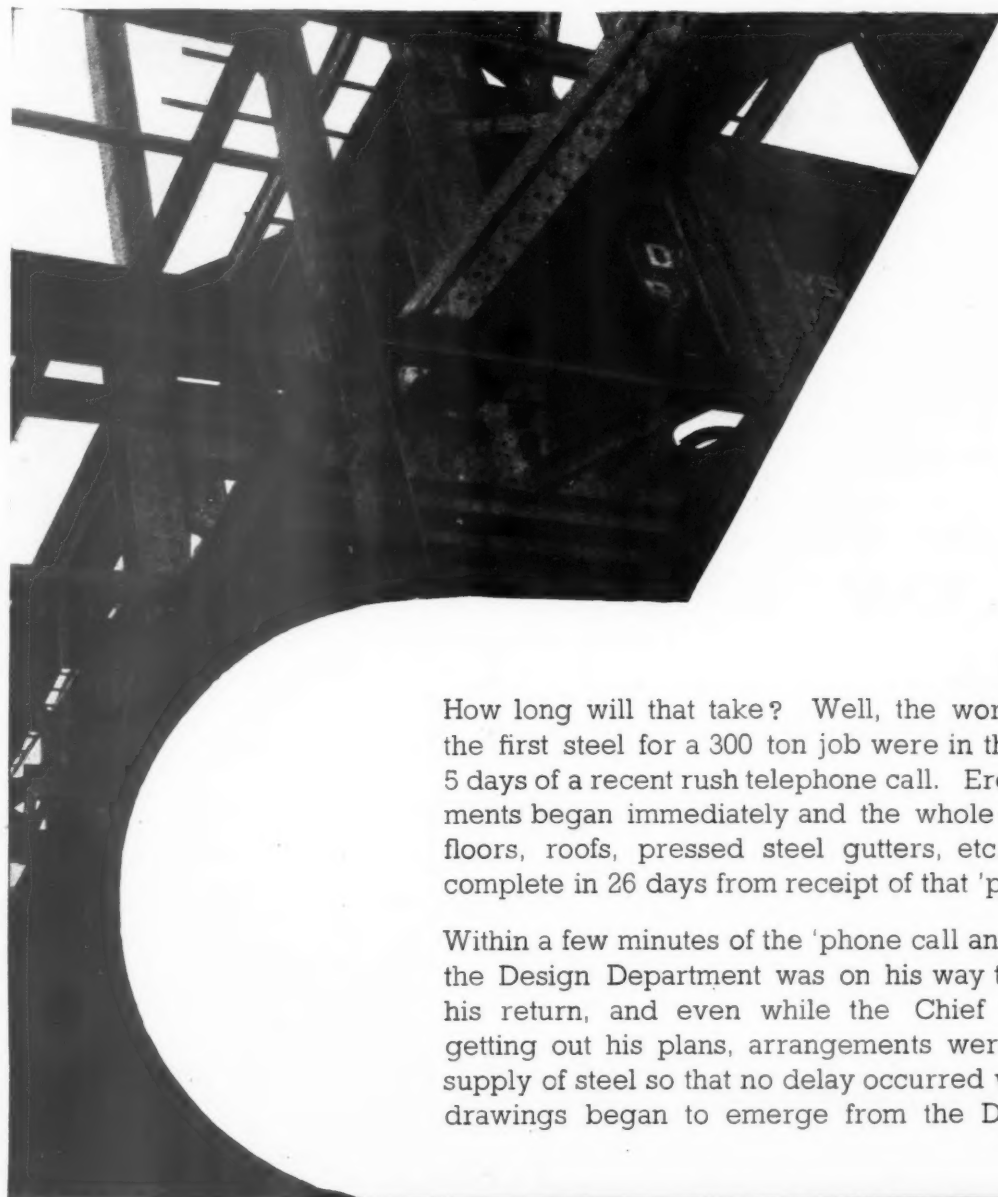
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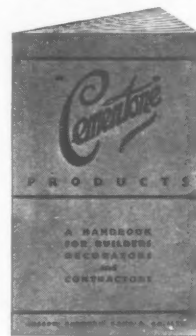
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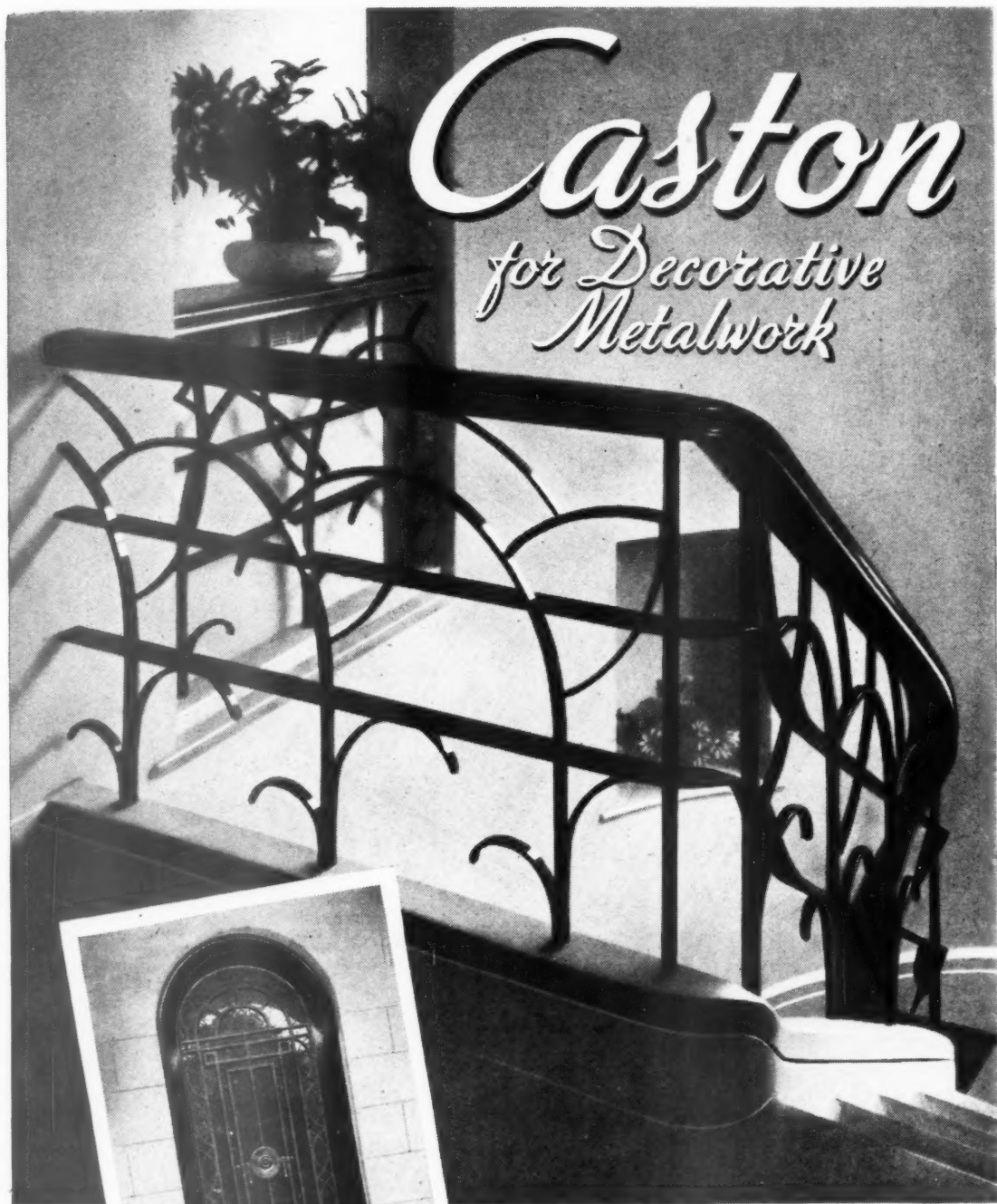
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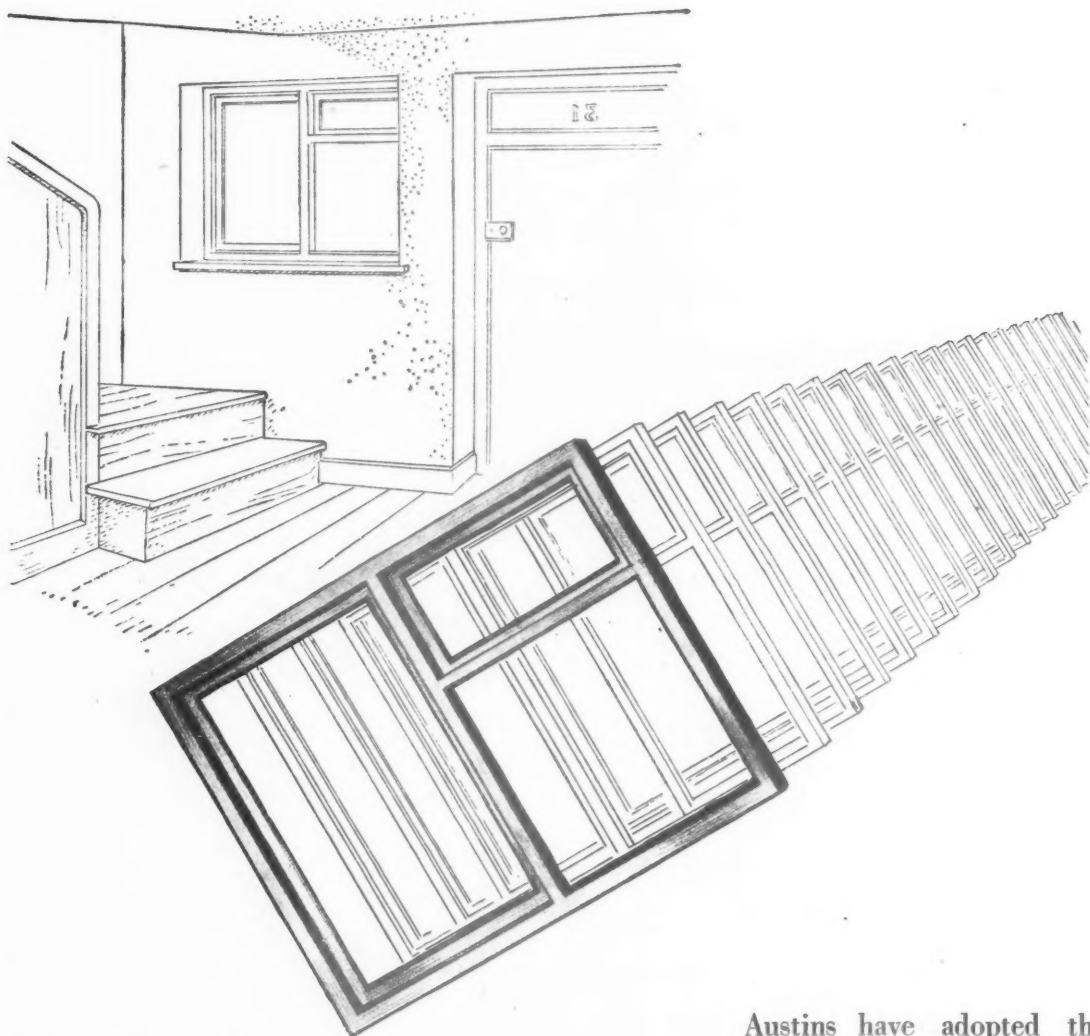
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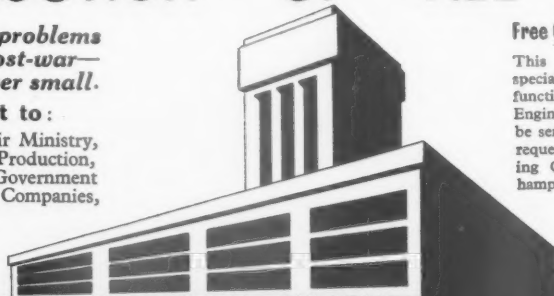
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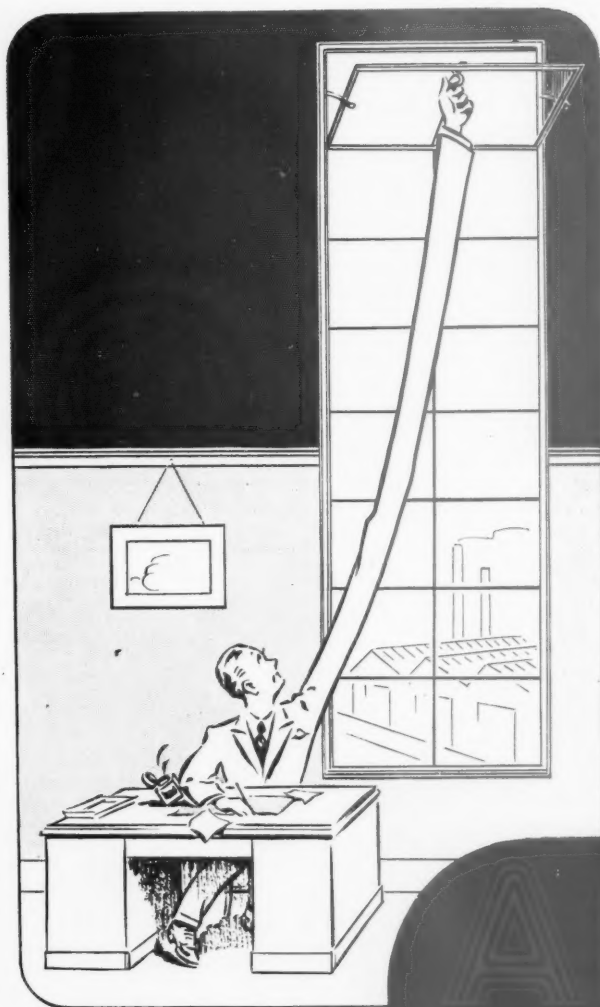


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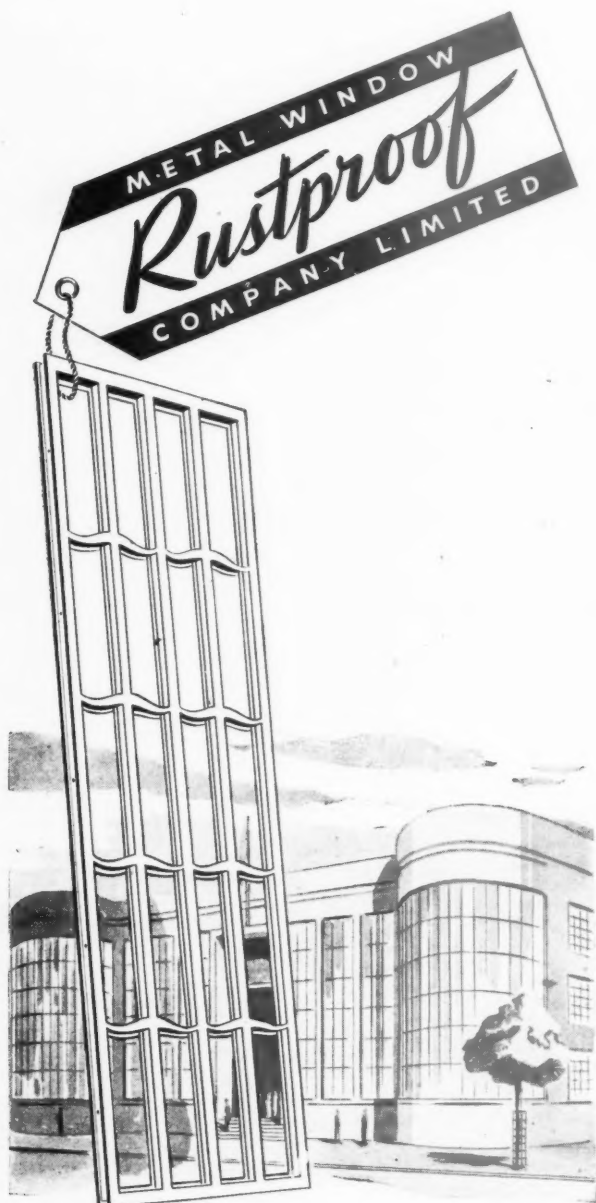
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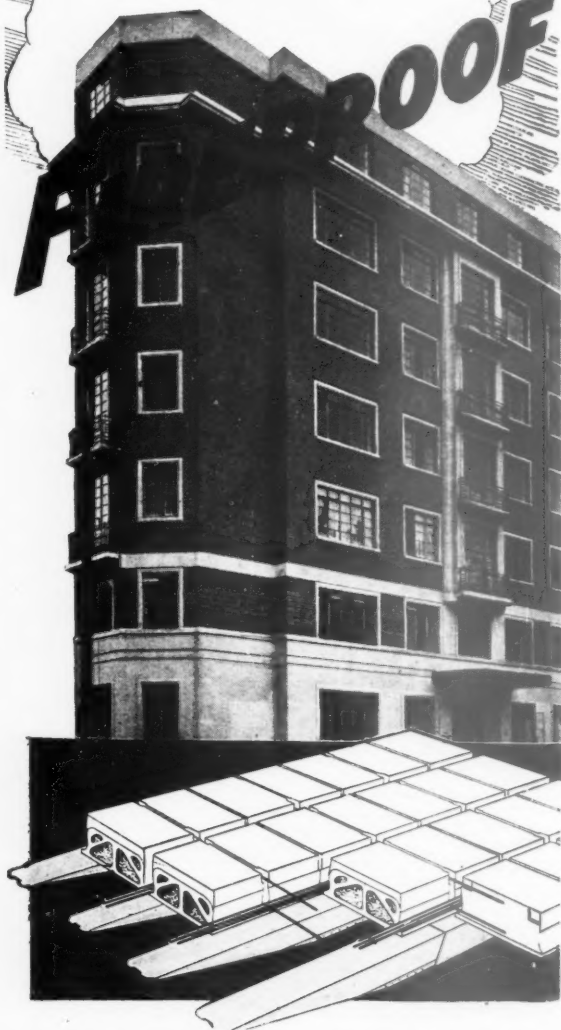
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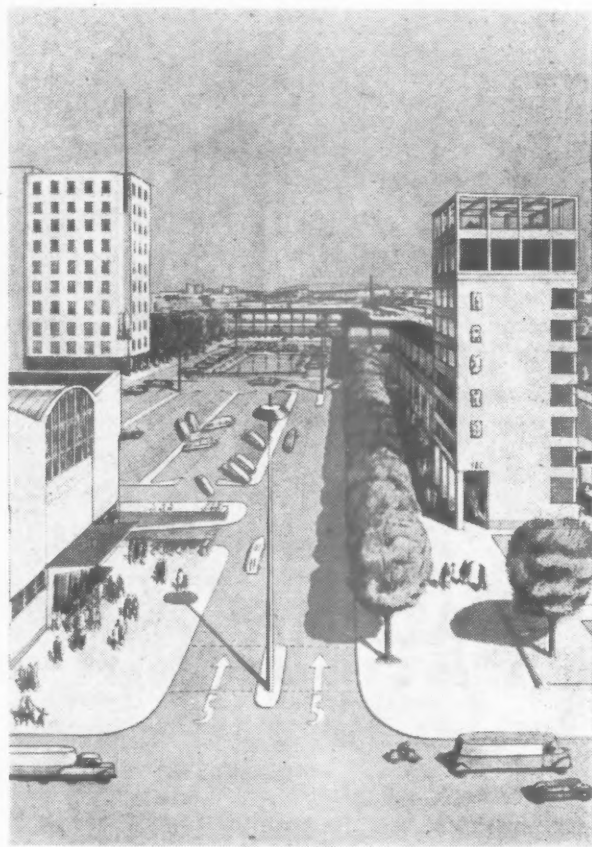
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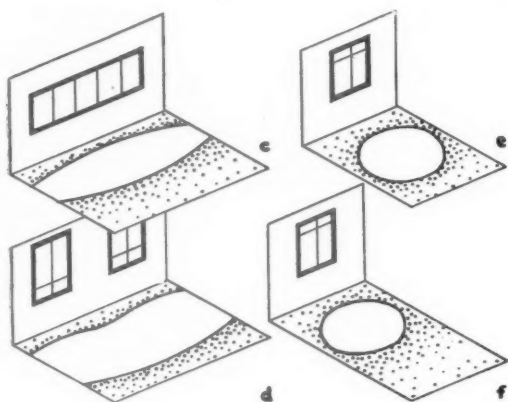
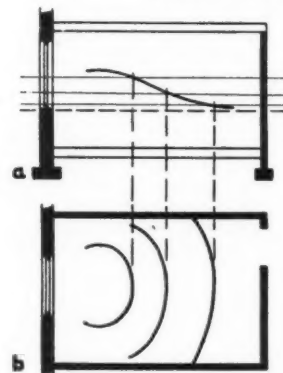


STANDARD WOOD CASEMENTS are based on SOUND LIGHTING PRINCIPLES

Sheet Ten

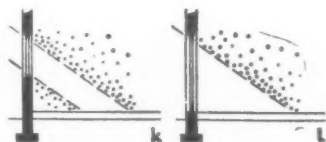
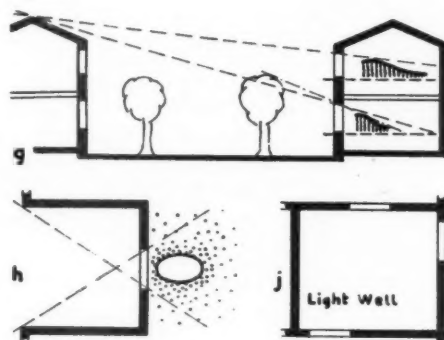
These Daylighting principles have been dealt with in the previous nine sheets of this series, and they may be summarised as follows:—

Sheet 1. The percentage proportion of the hemisphere of the sky which may be visible through a window, determines the values of the Daylighting Factor at points within the room. Readings plotted in plan and section (a & b) indicate the lighting conditions available. The level for which these values are mostly required, that of the "working plane," is usually taken to be 2 ft. 9 in. above floor level.



Sheets 2, 3, 4. The lighting characteristics of a window vary considerably with its shape (c & d), and equal areas of glass may be used to produce good or bad illumination in the same room. Depth of penetration is increased by raising the window head; spread of light admitted, by widening the window. Conversely, (e & f), the lighting conditions within a room will vary with the shape. A particular window will not illuminate equally two rooms of similar area but of different shape.

Sheets 5, 6, 7. Exterior obstructions affect the quantity of light admitted. Horizontal obstructions—houses across an urban street—will reduce the penetration (g). Vertical obstructions, which "frame" the outlook, will react more on the sideways spread of light within the room (h). Extreme obstructions, vertical plus horizontal, occurs where windows look on to an internal court (j).

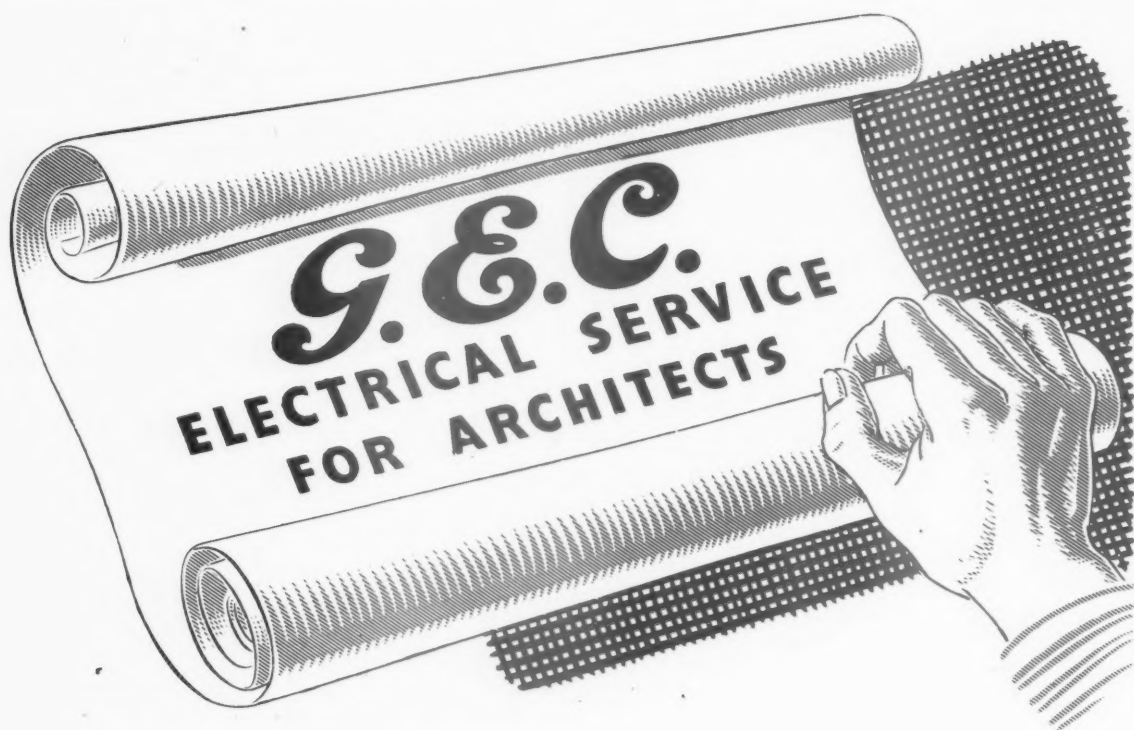


Sheet 8. Adequate light at table height—the working plane—does not always suffice. Where activities are located at floor level—cutting out dress patterns or playing with young children—glazed doors have their uses (k & l).

Sheet 9. Three common faults of window placing are illustrated as Daylighting Dents.

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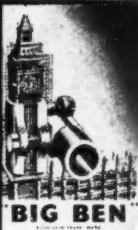
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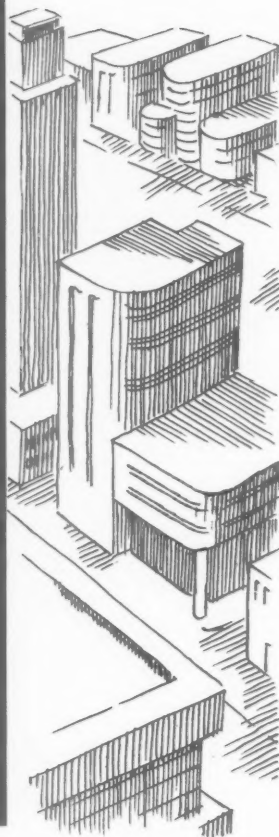
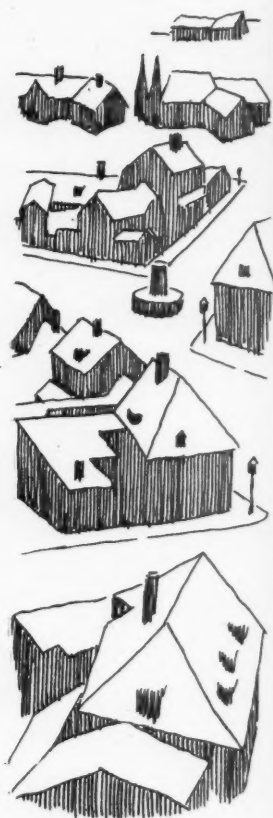
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BIG BEN



Photograph—L. W. Sanders

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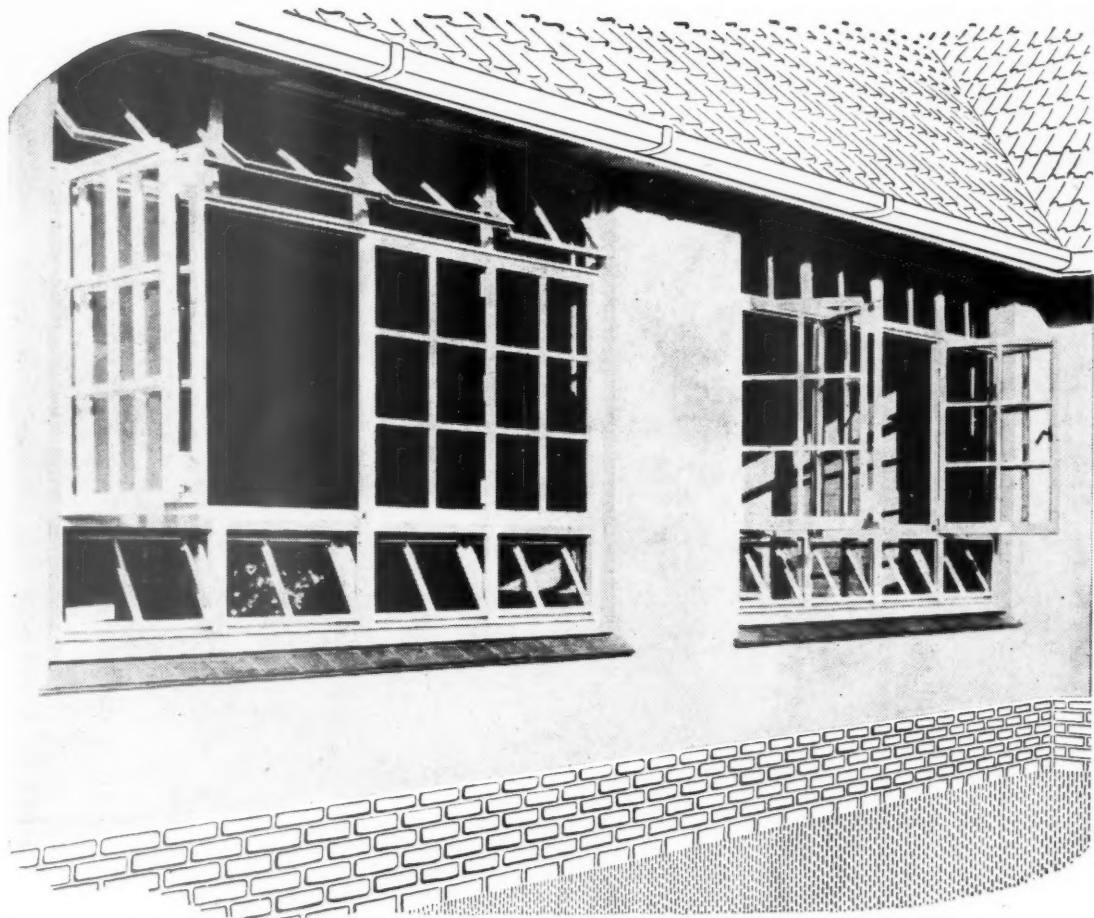
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NEWS

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1944
No. 2573. Vol. 99

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Though no feature in the JOURNAL is without value for someone, there are often good reasons why certain news calls for special emphasis. The JOURNAL's starring system is designed to give this emphasis, but without prejudice to the unstarred items which are often no less important.

★ 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 feature marked with more than two stars is very big building news indeed.

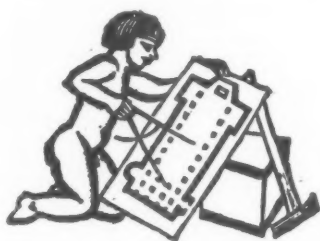
A new Association has been registered with the Board of Trade to PROTECT THE INTERESTS of British Equipment Manufacturers.

It is the Association of British Business Equipment Manufacturers Limited, a company limited by guarantee, and will embrace the leading British manufacturers of metal business equipment for use in offices and factories. The subscribers to the Association are: Ronco Limited, Milners Safe Co. Ltd., Tan-Sad Chair Co. (1931) Ltd., Rubery Owen & Co. Ltd., Chatwood Safe Co. Ltd., Sankey-Sheldon, Powers Accounting Machines Ltd., G. A. Harvey & Co. (London) Ltd., Evertaut Limited, Remington Rand Limited, Constructors Limited. From the subscribers, the following Council has been elected: A. W. Toy (President), Ronco Limited; B. B. Dyer (Vice-President), Milners Safe Co. Ltd.; H. Shand, O.B.E., G. A. Harvey & Co. (London) Ltd.; C. E. Partridge, Rubery Owen & Co. Ltd.; F. F. Chisholm, Evertaut Limited.

Mr. Joseph Forster, who has just died at Lockerbie, was COUNTY ARCHITECT OF CUMBERLAND from 1919 to 1937.

Mr. Forster was succeeded by the present County Architect, Mr. J. H. Haughlin, one of his pupils. Mr. Forster designed many new schools and extensions in Cumberland, including the schools at Wigton, Thornhill, Longtown, Whitehaven, Workington, Millom, Cockermouth, and Keswick. He is survived by his wife and son, Lieut. Arnold Forster, an ex-golf champion of Cumberland and Westmorland.

In common with every other periodical this JOURNAL is rationed to a small part of its peacetime needs of paper. For this reason it is virtually impossible for Newsagents to accept new orders for the JOURNAL for the time being, and the Publishers are also now unable to enter new subscriptions. Intending subscribers should, however, send in their names either to their Newsagent or direct to the Publishers to be recorded on the "waiting list" when they would be advised as soon as a vacancy occurs. The annual post free subscription rate is £1 15s. 0d.. Single copies, 9d., postage 2d. Special numbers, price 1s. 6d. are included in the annual subscription. Back numbers more than 12 months old (when available), double price. Volumes can be bound complete with index, in cloth cases, for 15s. each; carriage extra. Goods advertised in the JOURNAL, and made of raw materials now in short supply, are not necessarily available for export.



DIARY FOR MAY JUNE AND JULY

Titles of exhibitions, lectures and papers are printed in italics. In the case of papers and lectures the authors' names come first. Sponsors are represented by their initials as given in the glossary of abbreviations on the front cover.

BURNLEY. *Rebuilding Britain Exhibition.* At Burnley Public Library. (Sponsor, BIAE.) MAY 18-20

DARLINGTON. *Rebuilding Britain Exhibition.* At Darlington Public Library and Art Gallery. Guide lecturer, Miss Helen Kapp. (Sponsor, BIAE.) MAY 18-31

EPSOM. *When We Build Again. Exhibition and Film.* At Electricity Showrooms, Church Street. (Sponsor, TCPA in collaboration with Messrs. Cadbury Bros.) Opening 12 noon, May 22. MAY 22-27

GUILDFORD. *The English Town—Its Continuity and Development. Exhibition.* (Sponsor, TCPA.) MAY 19-26

ISLE OF WIGHT. *Homes to Live In Exhibition.* Accompanying CEMA Design Exhibition. (Sponsor BIAE) MAY 18-23

LONDON. *RA Exhibition.* Weekdays 9.30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sundays 2 to 6 p.m. Admission: One Shilling. MAY 18-AUG. 7

Hugh Casson. *Exhibition of Drawings and Water-colours. Gloucestershire in Wartime.* At 34-36, Bedford Square, W.C.1. (Sponsor, AA.) MAY 18-26

Northamptonshire Rural Workers' Cottages Competition. Exhibition of winning designs. At Housing Centre, 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. (Winning and other designs were illustrated in the JOURNAL for March 30). MAY 18-31

Gilbert McAllister. *Homes, Towns and Countryside.* At the Forest School, Snaresbrook, E.17. (Sponsor, TCPA) MAY 20

Philip James. *The Patronage of Art in the Post-War World.* Sixth lecture on the Artist and Reconstruction. Under the auspices of the Artists' International Association. At the National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, W.C.2. Admission 1s., members 6d. 3 p.m. MAY 21

Alderman W. Hyde. *Health Services and Town Planning.* At Housing Centre, 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor, HC.) 1.15 p.m. MAY 23

H. J. Manzoni, City Engineer and Surveyor, Birmingham. *Sanitation in Post-War Building.* At Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1. Chairman, Osmond Cattlin, Vice-President of the Royal Sanitary Institute. 2.30 p.m. MAY 23

J. S. Barnes, Chairman of the Plywood Section of TDA. *Plywood.* At City of London College, Electra House, Moorgate, E.C.2. Chairman: W. R. Bousfield. 6 p.m. MAY 24.

L. L. Waide. *Planning and Social Statistics.* At Essex Hall, Essex Street, W.C.2. (Sponsor, TPI.) 6 p.m. MAY 25

West Wycombe Rural Cottages Competition. Exhibition of all the designs submitted. At Regent Street Polytechnic School of Architecture. (The winning designs were illustrated in the JOURNAL for April 20). 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. MAY 29-JUNE 3

Sir Harry R. Selley, M.P. *The Conservative Party's Housing and Planning Policy.* At Housing Centre, 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor, HC.) 1.15 p.m. MAY 30

E. H. B. Boulton. Technical Director TDA. *Home-Grown Timber.* At City of London College, Electra House, Moorgate, E.C.2. Chairman: Stanley Longhurst, chairman of the English Timber Merchants' Association. 6 p.m. MAY 31

Dennis Chapman. *Social Survey Technique of obtaining Information for Housing.* RIBA Architectural Science Board lecture. At 66, Portland Place, W.1. 6 p.m. JUNE 6

Harold Morris. *Sawmilling.* At City of London Electra House, Moorgate, E.C.2. Chairman: L. A. Bayman, President of the London Sawmillers' Association. 6 p.m. JUNE 7

A. M. Chitty. *Science and Housing.* RIBA Architectural Science Board Lecture. At 66, Portland Place, W.1. 6 p.m. JUNE 13

National Housing and Town Planning Conference. Of local authorities in England and Wales. At Central Hall, Westminster, S.W. Subjects to be discussed: *Planning for Post-war Reconstruction in England and Wales and Rehousing the Nation.* The conference will be addressed by the Minister of Health (Mr. Henry Willink). Papers will be submitted by W. Dobson Chapman, President of the Town-Planning Institute, and Major John G. Martin, Secretary of the National Housing and Town Planning Council. A memorandum will also be presented in regard to the Prefabricated Emergency Houses for the erection of which extensive preparations are now being made by the Ministry of Works. (Sponsor, National Housing and Town Planning Council.) JUNE 29-30

PRESTON. *Homes to Live In Exhibition.* At Harris Art Gallery, Preston. (Sponsor, BIAE.) MAY 24-JUNE 5

LOOKING AT THE FUTURE THROUGH A BEACON WINDOW



THE trend of design in Beacon Windows has been based on the careful study of the work of contemporary Architects; a practical sympathy with the tendency to design for more light and less obstruction in every building facia.

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from AN ARCHITECT'S Commonplace Book

INADEQUACY OF PUBLIC PROVISION. [From *Cleanliness and Godliness*, by Reginald Reynolds (Allen and Unwin)]. However, the inconvenience of our public provision is no mere question of discrimination against women; for we are all ill-served, though our miseries do not equal those of the eighteenth century, when the author of *The Grand Mystery or Art of Meditating over an House of Office, Restored and Unveiled*, portrayed the terrible difficulties of both male and female persons in London, and outlined a proposal for the erection of 500 public lavatories in the Metropolis; a project which he considered to be a profitable one. But the Great Wen has spread faster than these public services, which are (moreover) for the most part wretched places, few of them able to compete in any way with the lavatories at Friends' House, Euston; which I have always considered to be the model to be emulated, and a sufficient reason for membership of the Society of Friends, if better cause were lacking. And as to the adequacy of the public provision, I remember that a foreign visitor to our Metropolis, being asked his opinion of it, gave this reply: that London is a city where the public-houses in many parts close at eleven o'clock and the public urinals at ten. This is so well known as to escape comment from ourselves; for tyranny is too easily endured from force of habit until it becomes utterly intolerable.

At Great Yarmouth foot passengers only will use the old suspension bridge over the Yare, the BRIDGE THAT COST SEVENTY-NINE LIVES.

The century old bridge, now closed to traffic in the interests of public safety, was once the scene of a disaster in which 79 people lost their lives. A crowd had gathered on the bridge to watch a clown drawn down the river in a wash tub by four geese. As the procession passed out of sight the spectators rushed across the bridge, which collapsed, and more than 400 were thrown into the river.

The marriage took place in London, on April 27, of Mr. E. H. BROOKE BOULTON, Technical Director of the Timber Development Association and Miss Dora Donaldson.

Mr. Brooke Boulton is the author of many books on timber and trees. *British Timbers: Their Properties, Uses and Identification*, by Brooke Boulton and B. Alwyn Jay, was reviewed in the JOURNAL for April 27. Before he took up his appointment at the Timber Development Association, Mr. Brooke Boulton was Lecturer on Timber Utilization at the School of Forestry, Cambridge University. During the past few years he has lectured to thousands of troops. Among the wedding guests were Messrs. G. Grey Wornum, F.R.I.B.A., Norman Walls, Barry Glass, F. R. Yerbury, B. Alwyn Jay and Vernon V. Tatlock.

Mr. Samuel Caldwell has been looking after the ancient STAINED GLASS OF CANTERBURY Cathedral for the past sixty-five years.

This has all been removed and stored since war began: the many boarded windows in the cathedral indicate what its fate would have been had it been left. According to the *Evening Standard*, Mr. Caldwell is 80. He can repair any stained glass, ancient or modern. Down in one of Canterbury's narrow streets is the workshop he inherited from his father. It is littered with sections of stained glass—all modern—under repair. During the last war Mr. Caldwell supervised the removal and storage of the cathedral's ancient stained glass. The replacing of it occupied him for many years. Now he is getting ready to repeat this task in anticipation of an early end to the

war. He has worked single-handed since his four assistants were called up. Ecclesiastics are worried that his art may be lost when he dies. Mr. Caldwell has no children, and has no trained expert to follow him. An application may be made for the release of one of his assistants from the Services.

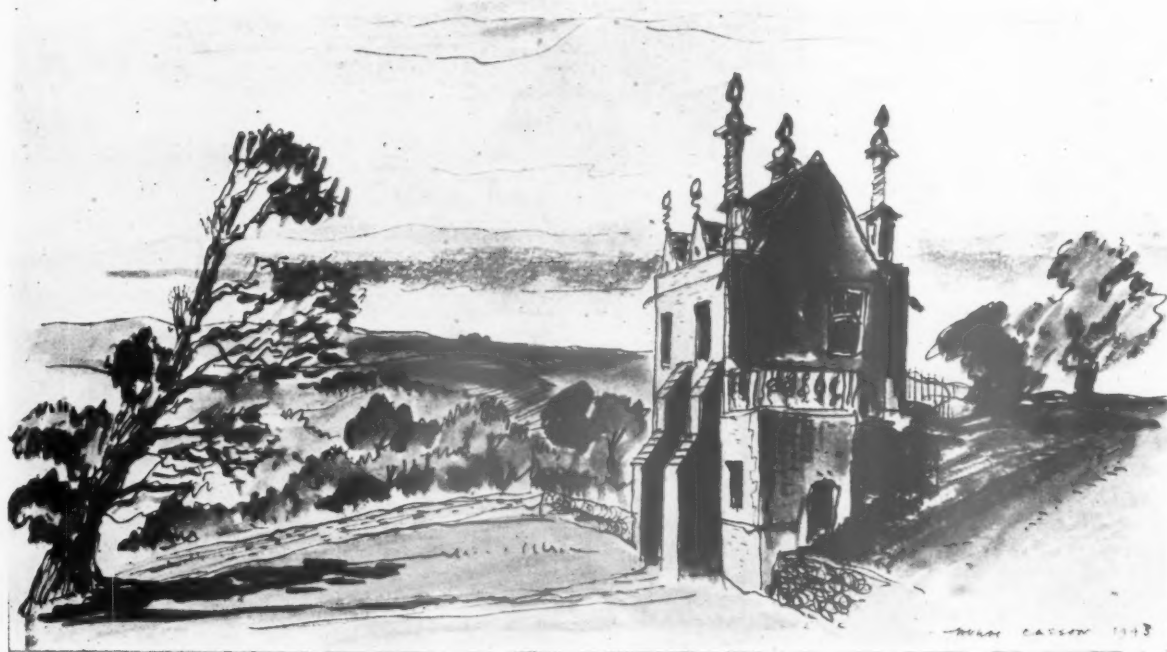
A Socialist plan to NATIONALISE COAL, GAS AND ELECTRICITY will be discussed by the party at its Whitsuntide conference.

The plan outlined in a Socialist party policy report issued last week, recommends the formation of a National Coal and Power Corporation, appointed by the Minister of

Fuel and Power, to own and administer the coal, gas and electricity industries. Under the corporation there would be set up two boards, one to control coal and the other gas and electricity. A Gas and Electricity Board would also be set up by the Minister for the development and control of production of these services. Distribution would be controlled by regional boards, which would have management powers for generation and responsibility for development, distribution and sales organisation. The report suggests that a National Electricity Board should take the place of the present Electricity Commissioners and the Central Electricity Board, which should also be set up by the Minister of Fuel and Power and should include workers in the industry. The report says: Nothing but national ownership and control will solve the conflict between public and private ownership and end the chaos which prevails in the industry.



Mr. E. H. Brooke Boulton, Technical Director of the Timber Development Association, and Miss Dora Donaldson, who were married in London last month. See News Item on this page.



Cotswold Sketches

These sketches are among others now on exhibition at the Architectural Association, Bedford Square. The title of the exhibition is *Gloucestershire in Wartime—an Architect's Impressions of Aerodromes and Architecture*, a

collection of [some 50 drawings and 'water-colours' by Hugh Casson, which Astragal reviews this week. Top, cottages at Stow. Above, a curious little seventeenth century building seen from Chipping Campden churchyard.

Emphasizing the need for piped water supplies for rural areas, Mr. E. G. Gooch referred to building of new farm cottages with NO WATER.

Mr. Gooch, who was delivering his presidential address to the National Union of Agricultural Workers at Blackpool, declared that although seven authorities were concerned in the building of four "Brown" cottages for farm workers, not one of them had looked beyond the actual building and the tenants will be without water. He also cited another case in Norfolk where it is costing a farmer £15 a week to cart water for his farm and cottages. There are, he said, substantial Government grants to enable farmers to install piped supplies to pastures but not to the workers' cottages.

At a House of Commons conference, Mr. Arnold Marsh, secretary of the National Smoke Abatement Society, advocated a SMOKELESS ZONE FOR THE CITY OF LONDON and parts of Westminster and Holborn.

If this zone is rendered smokeless, he said, it will give a magnificent opportunity to architects and town planners to redesign the damaged parts of the City. Such smokeless zones, adopted at the same time in other parts are not to be regarded as final objectives. Rather are they the initial phases of development until the whole of Greater London has become smokeless.

The RIBA Council has gratefully accepted from Lady Emily Lutyens and Wing Commander Lutyens the gift of Sir William Reid's bust of the late SIR EDWIN LUTYENS which was commissioned for Viceroy House, New Delhi.



Sir William Reid's bust of Sir Edwin Lutyens presented to the RIBA. See News Item above.

DEUS EX MACHINA

THE recent discussion at the RIBA on prefabrication was significant in revealing how unanimously architects now accept the increasing application of mechanisation to building and all that it implies—standardisation, mass-production of elements in factories, rationalisation of site work, and above all the ever-growing division of labour and the decline of skilled handicrafts. But though the full application of mechanisation and applied science to building is now generally accepted as inevitable in the future together with an even further elimination of what remains of the old-fashioned crafts, there are still many who oppose the full use of the Machine in building. Some do so with a quiet, half-conscious obstructionism as expressed, for instance, in the Architectural Room of the Royal Academy regularly each year, others, of a rarer breed, with a fanatic Luddism.

These fears of the Machine are no new phenomena, and to-day they are as unwarranted and as illogical as ever—the result of a confusion of ideas and of impulses, a confusion in particular between means and ends.

Opposing the Machine is both the sentimentalist and the group with a vested interest. Usually the two go hand in hand. The sentimentalist cries out against the dearth of craftsmanship which implies in the public mind, as one of our contemporaries expresses it well, "a sort of mixture of trade and art, by which a skilful dexterity becomes ennobled by a flavour, however faint, of artistic creation . . . a definite suggestion here that the mind, even the heart, play their part in guiding the hand, so that the work produced will have that indefinite something which distinguishes it from a merely mechanical production." The answer to that is simple. The old kind of craftsmanship is already dead and no William Morris can now hope to revive it. The so-called building craftsmanship we know to-day can hardly provide the creative and æsthetic joys of those who produced the fan vault, the hammer-beam roof or the Tudor chimney stack. Doubtless the modern bricklayer takes a pride in his work, but does he choose to spend the main part of his life in laying bricks from sheer creative exuberance?

Another cry of the sentimentalist is that the Machine automatically destroys all beauty and humanity in design. This is a fallacy long since laid low, for it is now generally recognised that the Machine requires æsthetic standards that are different from those demanded by handicrafts, but that are in no sense lower.

Among vested interest, objections and obstructions come more often from the trade unions than from profit-making concerns, for they are scared by the bogey of unemployment and the forcing down of wages. This is not an unreasonable terror but one which can and should be overcome by a controlled reorganisation and re-adaptation within the building industry. Moreover, though the so-called crafts may be superseded to a

very great extent by factory production, especially in housing, they will always be needed in some degree. Added to that, new factory crafts are produced by mechanisation itself.

Applied science if properly handled is an agent of liberation and could actually lead, with that paradox inherent in all things, to a genuine rebirth of handicrafts. When we have learned to distinguish between money and real wealth, between unemployment and "unemployment," we shall welcome the increasing freedom from toil which the Machine can provide. The *Deus Ex Machina* will, in fact, be that universal leisure without which freedom is meaningless and the development of a vital culture impossible. It will be a different leisure from that which produced the high spots of civilisation in the past, for it will not be the prerogative of a privileged minority relying on the work of a host of serfs for their necessities and luxuries but the prerogative of all men emancipated by those mechanical servants called the Horsepower and the Kilowatt. Then we may well see Mr. Herbert Read's Two-Decker Civilisation come into being and the flourishing of truly creative handicrafts side by side, and in harmony with, machine production. The craftsman, the architect and the planner liberated from the twin tyrannies of Time and Money will at last come into their own.



The Architects' Journal

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

PWB STUDIES

The first of MOW's *Post-War Building Studies*, published recently and reviewed in the JOURNAL leader of April 6, was the Burt Committee's Report on *House Construction*. Now four further studies have been published by the Stationery Office, namely *Standard Construction for Schools* (6d.), *Plastics* (1s.), *Gas Installations* (6d.), *Steel Structures* (6d.).

A quick glance at these suggests that the complete twenty-two studies which are to be published from time to time in batches will be very

useful.* Those now ready on standard schools and on plastics are particularly encouraging.

MUSEUM PIECE

Those in search of the inconsequent (or as the *Architectural Review* prefers to call it—Sharawaggi), should try a visit to some of our 'smaller provincial museums. Here Japanese armour and Georgian snuff-boxes, Dresden porcelain and Roman coins (dug from the foundations of the new Town Hall in 1908), Zulu shields (presented by a colonel's widow), and Disraeli's walking-stick elbow each other in delightful if puzzling promiscuity, and if, with the passing of years, the labels have become a little faded or disarranged, they are always authoritative and frank. (Few, admittedly, are so frank as the one which, so I am told, can be found in the museum of a south coast town. It is attached to a small mound of greyish powder, and reads, with magnificent simplicity, "Unknown Substance.")

The charm of these small museums (and indeed much of their value) lies in their homeliness. Nobody

* They will be reviewed in the Information Centre as they appear.—Ed., A.J.

could be too nervous to enter a room which is as cosy and crowded as the front parlour at home. Here is none of the dim religious light, the reverent - whisper, echoing - footfall atmosphere which seems to hang like a miasma about the halls of our metropolitan art repositories.

*

For the public these places will always, it seems, be associated with other-worldliness, with Sundays and blue serge. How early such associations are formed I had not realized until last week when visiting one of these echoing palaces of art.

*

Pausing on the threshold of a roomful of 18th century paintings I was joined by two little schoolboys. In silence we gazed at the scene before us. In the golden light which filtered through the yellow stained-glass dome the portraits of rakes and slave-owners and their doxies, the scenes of mannered gluttony and seduction glowed in rich, sombre, almost saintly, colours. There was no sound but the heavy breathing of a custodian seated in a chair, and mesmerised, it seemed, by the brilliance of his boots. A child plucked at my sleeve. "Please, mister," he said, "is this the Church part?"

BOMB DAMAGE REPAIRS

A point that has recently been decided in the Courts is that damaged property may still be a statutory nuisance under the Public Health Acts, although the damage has been caused by enemy action. The Landlord and Tenant (War Damage) Act, 1939, relieved tenants from any liability to repair that might exist in their lease or tenancy agreement where the damage was caused by the gentlemen overhead, but the landlord himself may still have to repair, at his own expense, if the damage becomes a public nuisance.

*

It is not an unreasonable position. The cost of the damage is itself covered by the War Insurance scheme and the recent increase in the amount which a property-owner may spend on repairs should allow a sufficient margin for this kind of essential repair. Architects who have to advise on the question of the repair of war-damaged property may use-

fully bear in mind the possible liability of their client to an abatement of nuisance notice under the Public Health Act, 1936, if essential repairs are merely shelved.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE IN WARTIME

If you are near Bedford Square next week, it will be worth your while to drop into the AA to see the exhibition of sketches by Hugh Casson, executed during spare moments of exile on war work in Gloucestershire. These unassuming and unaffected pen and water-colour drawings of aerodromes and architecture are less remarkable for their colour than for their sensitive line technique and for their own very definite charm and character. Moreover they display that first virtue of the architectural sketch,

the indication of details and mouldings by a touch of the pen, a mere squiggle, but such a squiggle that will provide anyone having some architectural knowledge with enough information to produce from its subtle nuance a complete measured drawing.

★

This is a feat that's not so easy as it looks. It is particularly well done in *Cottages near Stow*.* These cottages are, incidentally, also near Sezincote, a mansion in the Indian style which Repton backed against the Gothic Revival. By the look of their detailing, the masons who got to work on them must have come straight from the Sezincote job still in a romantic dream of the orient.

ASTRAGAL

* See frontispiece on page 362.



LETTERS

Tom Mellor, A.R.I.B.A.

G. Grenfell Baines, A.R.I.B.A.

John Ashworth, A.R.I.B.A.

N. Martin-Kaye, F.R.I.B.A.

Henry R. Humphreys

West Wycombe Competition

SIR,—As authors of the winning design in the West Wycombe Cottage Competition, we feel we ought to reply to Astragal's criticism in the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for May 4.

As enthusiastic and consistent advocates of contemporary architectural design, we have for quite a long time enjoyed the purely academic exercise of submitting modern designs in architectural competitions.

We recently decided it would be a pleasant change to win something.

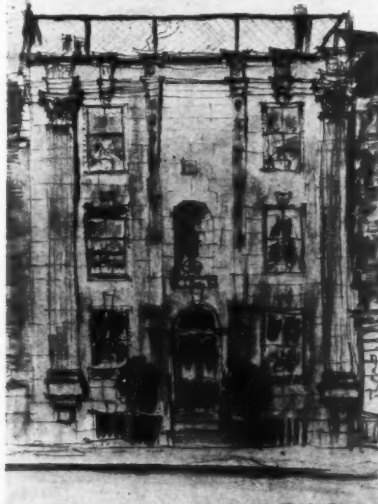
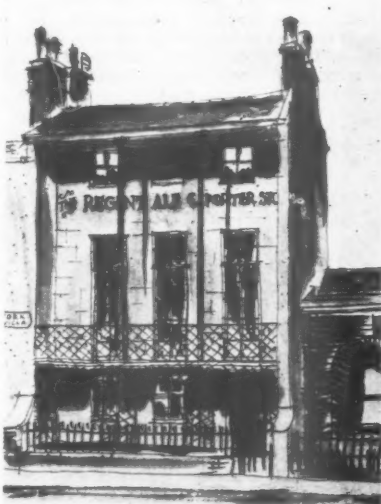
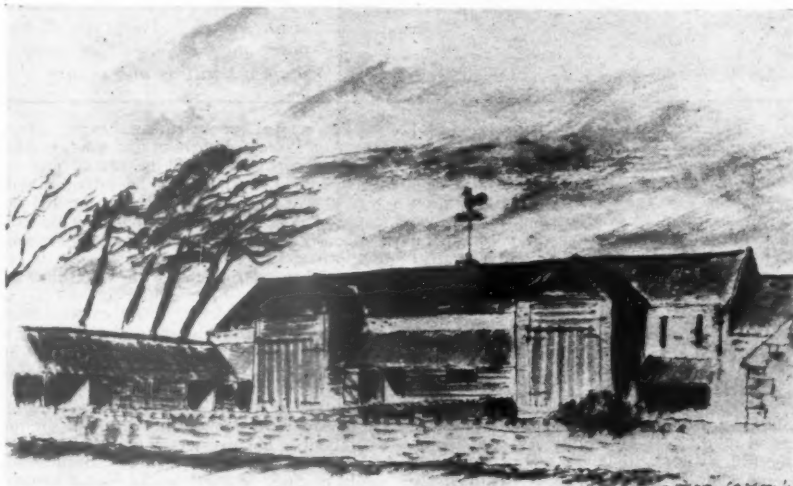
TOM MELLOR,
G. GRENFELL BAINES,
JOHN ASHWORTH,

Preston

The Teaching of Architectural Appreciation in Schools

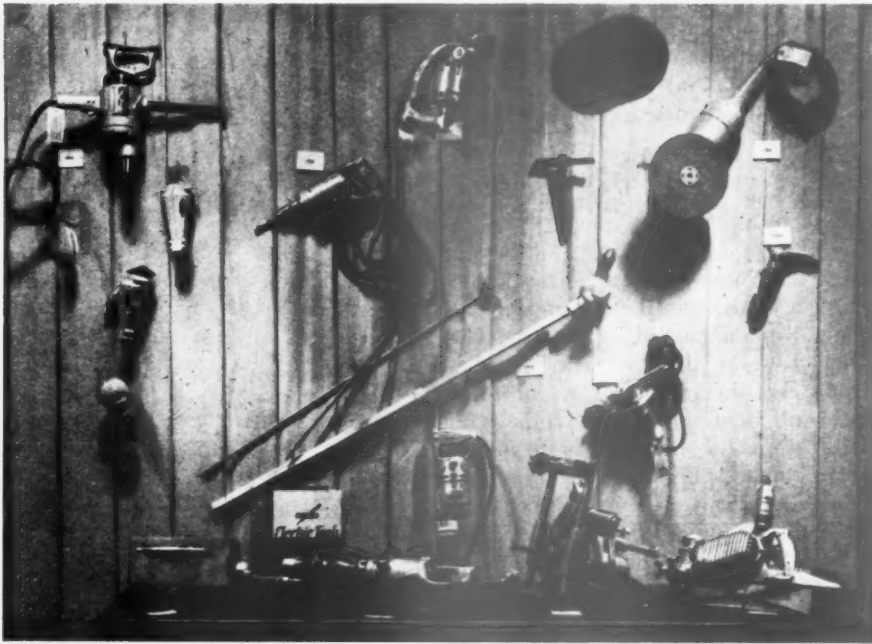
SIR,—Mr. Willcocks' kindly reference to my recent effort to prevent the possibility of this important matter being viewed from a wrong angle was very welcome, in view of his arduous and energetic work as a pioneer. His explanation of the aims of the CEAPE,* a body hitherto, I confess, unknown to me, was timely and helpful. No one can quarrel with its obvious objective. One however feels a little dubious with certain methods destined to bring about fulfilment. For instance the statement "For this reason the child from the earliest period should be brought up in well-designed surroundings" is obviously desirable, but quite impossible in this generation or the next, unless there is, either, a ruthless clearance, or teachers are perfectly frank and admit to the children the contradiction of their creed with existing fact, both of which are extremely improbable. Existing staffs also cannot be expected to be competent to teach good design within the short period allotted to them in a training college or by special additional courses which few would be willing to undertake. If anything, the present child needs superlative protection from overweening

* Council for Education in Appreciation of Physical Environment.



A few of the sketches by Hugh Casson now on exhibition at the Architectural Association, mentioned by Astragal this week. Top, a 19th century barn near Witney. Above left, the Regent Store, Cheltenham, built as a house in the days of the Regency when the town flourished as a spa, but now used as a brewer's store. Above right, St. Edward's, Stow-on-the-Wold, a 17th century stone building, which is now a boarding house.

AMERICAN PORTABLE ELECTRIC TOOLS



Portable electric craftsmen's tools were recently exhibited among other material brought back by MOW's USA Mission, which reported that if these tools were more widely used here, greater speed and efficiency would result. Those on the left include a hammer, screwdriver, saw, plane, belt sander, disk sander and polisher, router, lock mortiser, metal shears. Above, an all-purpose machine used for sawing, shaping, drilling and routing.

arrogance, possible exploitation and inevitable set ideas of this, or the decaying remnants of the previous generation, whether teachers or parents, which is another, yet no less offensive mischief. Sets of lectures and conferences are but a superficial and frenzied soporific but slightly affecting public opinion and less the ultimate beneficiary. Moreover, if sponsored by the RIBA or CEAPE, they are always suspect and blistered by stupid allegations of "axe grinding," a point, I hope, Mr. Willcocks does not miss. I venture to suggest in all deference, that the more vital point is realization that the child has its most impressionable years very early and that this tremendous issue is entrusted to the hardest worked, and probably most abused servant of the State, viz., the primary and elementary school teacher. To add the stipulation to teach good design under such conditions prejudices the whole issue at the outset. Surely this state of affairs must be remedied first.

Finally, instead of lectures and conferences, would it not be better for the interested bodies to make constant and persistent requests to the Board of Education, for the establishment

of a more comprehensive education (not training, please) for all those responsible for the education and its direction of the very young, and CEAPE maybe to have powers to invigilate its own subject? Sole concentration on this, to my mind, is a far sounder objective than all the lectures and conferences in the world. The prospect for our grand and great grandchildren would be more promising under such policy.

Westcliff-on-Sea

N. MARTIN-KAYE.

Hatch and Dining Table Fitment

SIR,—Mr. Mactaggart's invention for a hatch and dining table fitment has one serious objection, namely that the diners must sit facing a wall. Whatever wall treatment is used this is far from being a pleasant arrangement. However, the idea of a combined hatch and dining table has much to commend it and indeed is capable of development into a complete self-service device.

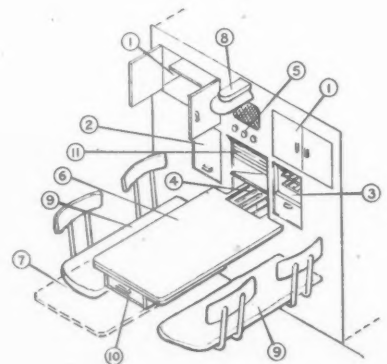
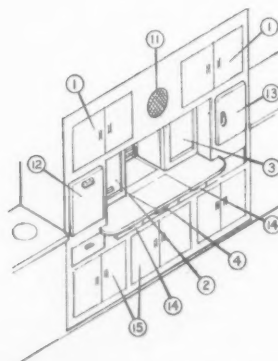
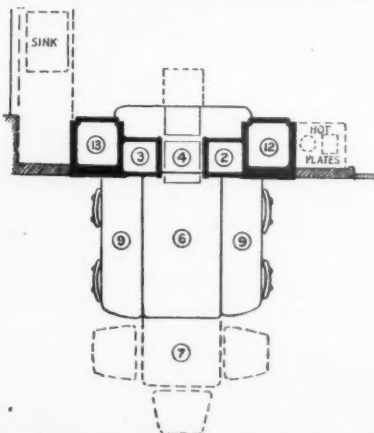
The design shown in the accompanying drawings has, as one of its main features, two

lagged service compartments with sliding doors on both dining-room and kitchen sides. One compartment would be heated and the other cooled, both would be provided with wire shelves for plates, the door on the hot cupboard sliding up and that on the cold cupboard down, to conserve the temperatures. These compartments are planned next to the oven and the refrigerator with which they are obviously allied. The china cupboards can be filled from the kitchen and emptied from the dining-room, whilst the cutlery drawer in the kitchen has a hinged cover over it in the hatch space enabling the cutlery to be taken out from the dining-room side.

A radio receiver has been shown as it would appear to be a convenient location, but this is, of course, not an essential feature. A forced convection heater of lowish consumption could be fitted in the "wall" space beneath the table to keep the diners' feet warm.

Finally, the table itself and the fixed seating are shown in cantilever construction, since it is felt that this would greatly simplify cleaning. The sliding extension will accommodate two or three more diners seated on ordinary chairs. West Drayton

HENRY R. HUMPHREYS



Hatch and dining table fitment. By Henry R. Humphreys. 1, china cupboards; 2, hot cupboard; 3, cooled cupboard; 4, cutlery drawer; 5, radio controls; 6, table; 7, table extension; 8, light fitting; 9, fixed seating; 10, drawer for table linen; 11, loudspeaker; 12, oven; 13, refrigerator; 14, drawers for cooking utensils; 15, cupboards. See Mr. Humphreys' letter on this page.

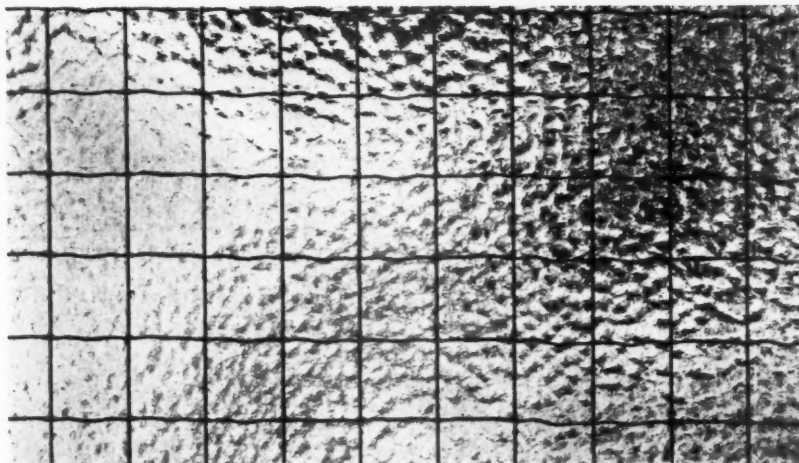
THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL LIBRARY OF PLANNED INFORMATION

ROLLED GLASSES

Georgian Wired Cast :

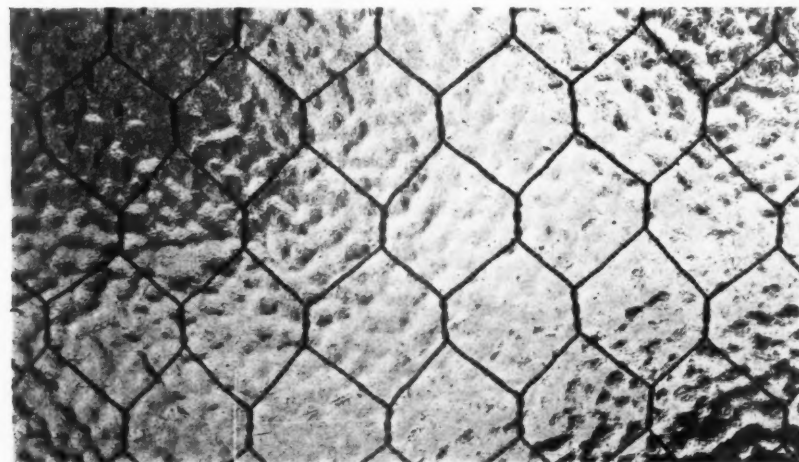
Rolled : Rough cast.
Reinforced with square wire-mesh.
Medium obscuration.
Translucent.

The accompanying photographs are full-sized illustrations of a typical section and elevation.

**Wired Cast :**

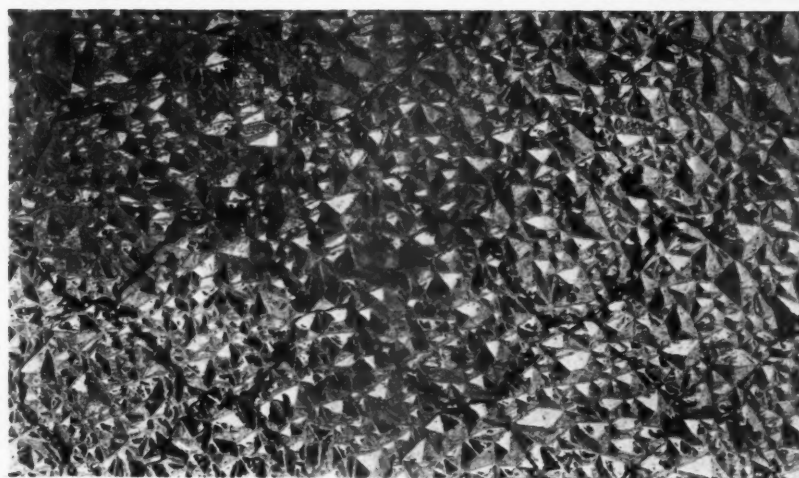
Rolled : Rough cast.
Reinforced with $\frac{7}{8}$ " hexagonal wire-mesh.
Medium obscuration.
Translucent.

The accompanying photographs are full-sized illustrations of a typical section and elevation.

**Wired Dewdrop :**

Figured Rolled :
Reinforced with $\frac{7}{8}$ " hexagonal wire-mesh.
The pattern on the glass renders the wire almost invisible.
Considerable obscuration.
Translucent.

The accompanying photographs are full-sized illustrations of a typical section and elevation.



Information from Chance Brothers Ltd

INFORMATION SHEET: GLASS II: TYPES OF GLASS 3
SIR JOHN BURNET TAIT AND LORNE ARCHITECTS ONE MONTAGUE PLACE BEDFORD SQUARE LONDON WCI

INFORMATION SHEET • 938 • GLASS No. II

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL
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INFORMATION SHEET

• 938 •

GLASS: No. 11

Subject : Reinforced Glasses.

General :

This Sheet is the eleventh of the series dealing with glass and glass products, and the third of the section on types of glass.

Types :

Georgian Wired Cast, Wired Cast, Wired Dewdrop and Wired Pattern "G."

Georgian Wired Cast (Square Mesh), Wired Cast (Hexagonal Mesh) :

Light Transmission :
75 per cent. to 80 per cent.

Maximum Standard Sizes

Georgian Wired Cast } 120" x 40" or
Wired Cast ... } 144" x 26".

Nominal Thickness and Weight :
 $\frac{1}{4}$ " ... 3 lb. 4 oz. per sq. ft.

Quality :
Made in one quality only.

Colour :
White only.

Standard Variations :
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Packing :

Packed in crates containing :
Georgian Wired Cast } approx. 250 sq. ft.
Wired Cast ... }

Specialised Applications :

Owing to its fire-resisting properties, the use of Wired glass is specified in the regulations of some authorities for public buildings.

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Light Transmission :
70 per cent. to 75 per cent.

Maximum Standard Sizes :
90" x 36".

Nominal Thickness and Weight :
 $\frac{1}{4}$ " ... 3 lb. 4 oz. per sq. ft.

Quality :
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Colour :
White only.

Standard Variations :
None.

Packing :
Packed in crates containing : approx. 230 sq. ft.

Specialised Applications :

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Previous Sheets :

Previous Sheets of this series on Glass, are Nos. 914, 917, 919, 922, 925, 927, 929, 932, and 937.

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RA EXHIBITION

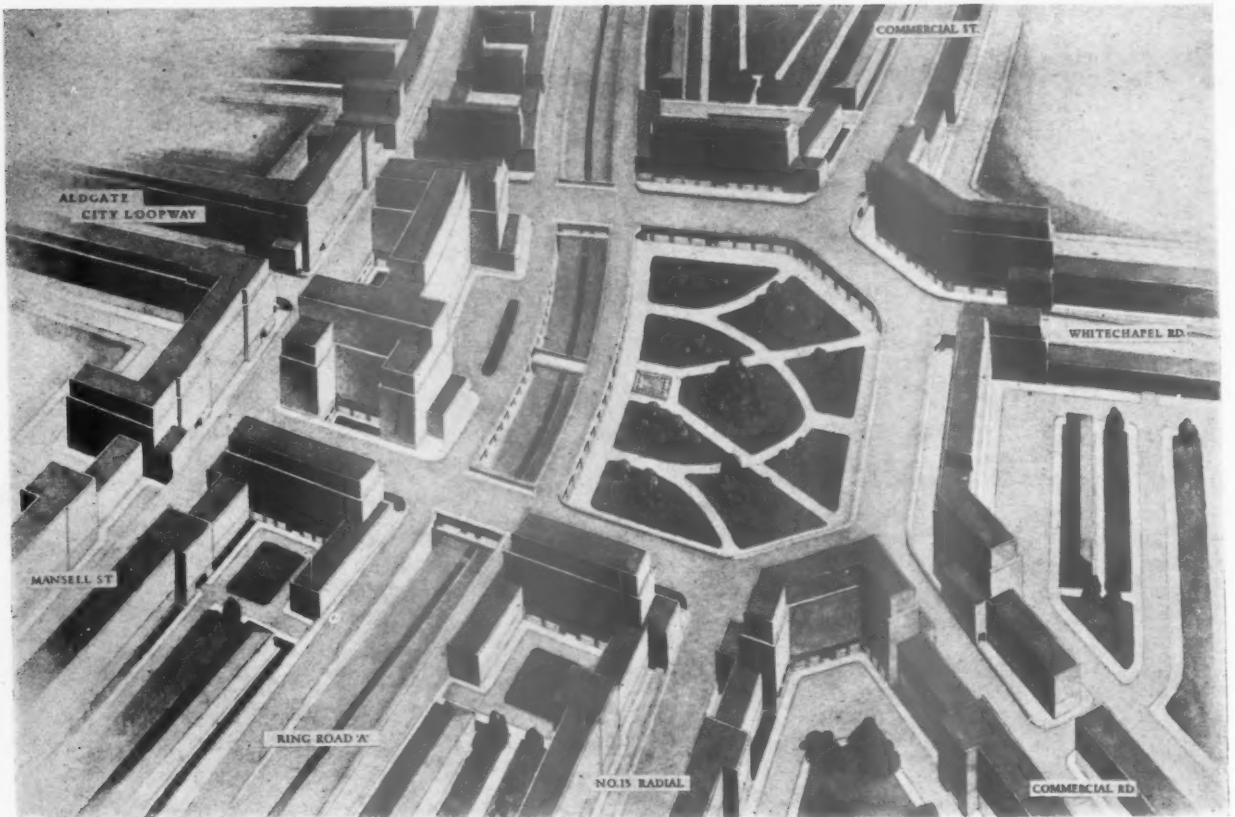
WORK OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE



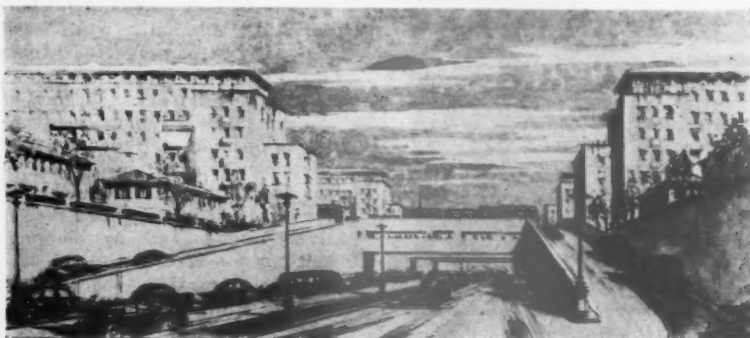
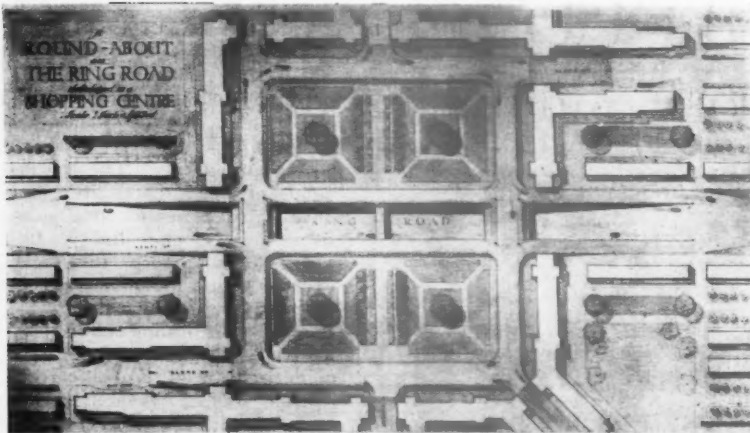
GENERAL.—In 1942 the Royal Academy Planning Committee exhibited plans and drawings for the general replanning of London. The approach was “aesthetic” and unscientific, and no attempt was made to discover the real problems and requirements. The schemes proposed amounted to little more than a road plan with focal points of pompous monumentality. Last year this approach was again expressed in similar but revised proposals. Now the Committee, though still dealing almost exclusively with road planning, is doing so in a more practical and sensible way. It is relating its work to the objectives of the County of London Plan, and puts forward alternative proposals especially regarding the Inner Ring Road.

The Committee’s suggestions cover: (1) The Ring Road A; (2) the sub-arterial road system, particularly in the area lying to the south of the river and including the south bank; (3) the use of traffic roundabouts as shopping and business centres; (4) the provision of parking spaces and garages; (5) the City Ring Road and its relation to Ring Road A;

Top, revised plan of London communications showing Ring Road A and the City Loop-way. (Drawing by Dorothy Buckmaster). Above, a view of Ring Road A, which is planned as an open cutting with grass banks and trees. (Drawing by A. C. Webb).



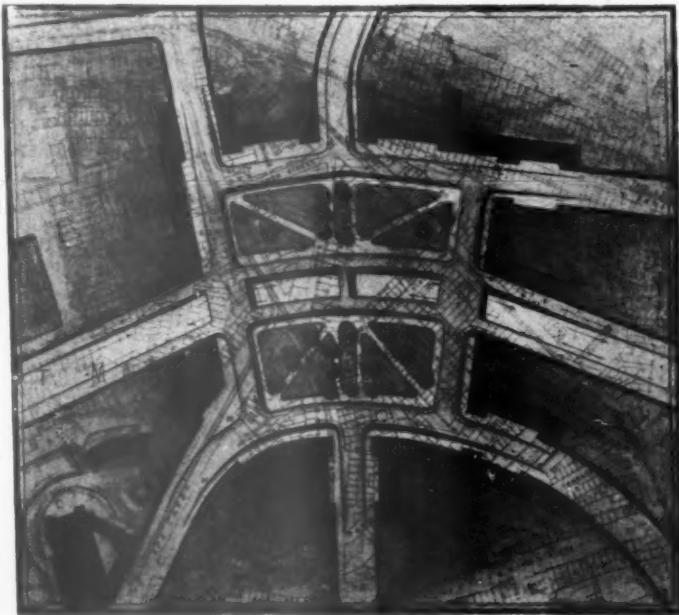
Above, junction of Ring Road A with the City Ring Road or Loop-way at a roundabout near Aldgate. (Drawing by A. C. Webb). Below, plan of a typical roundabout on Ring Road A, developed as a Shopping Centre. (Drawing by P. D. Hepworth). Bottom, another view of Ring Road A, showing ramps to and from one of the roundabouts. (Drawing by P. D. Hepworth).



(6) the main line loopway railway connections with the tube railways. RING ROAD A. — Planning authorities appear to agree as to the general location of the Inner Ring Road, but the RA Committee treats it as arterial rather than sub-arterial. The Outer Ring Road B, the Committee believes, is too large to be the dominant as proposed in the County of London Plan, which involves the introduction of main cross roads inside the ring, with unpleasant tunnels. If Ring A were constructed as a main arterial at a different level from that of the existing road, cross routes X and Y would be unnecessary, says the Committee. Its Ring Road A is about 12 miles long and is planned as an open cutting with grass banks and trees clear of all existing roads on which a minimum speed of 30 m.p.h. would be permitted. The road embodies a principle that has been applied to railways in London for nearly a century—the use of different levels.

The route proposed avoids existing main roads, and has been taken, as far as possible, through properties that are in need of reconstruction. The exact route of the Ring Road is largely influenced by the location of the access points. As these are the

Right, a detail plan of the Paddington area of Ring Road A. Below, a detail of a roundabout in North London on the ring road. (Drawings by A. T. Scott).

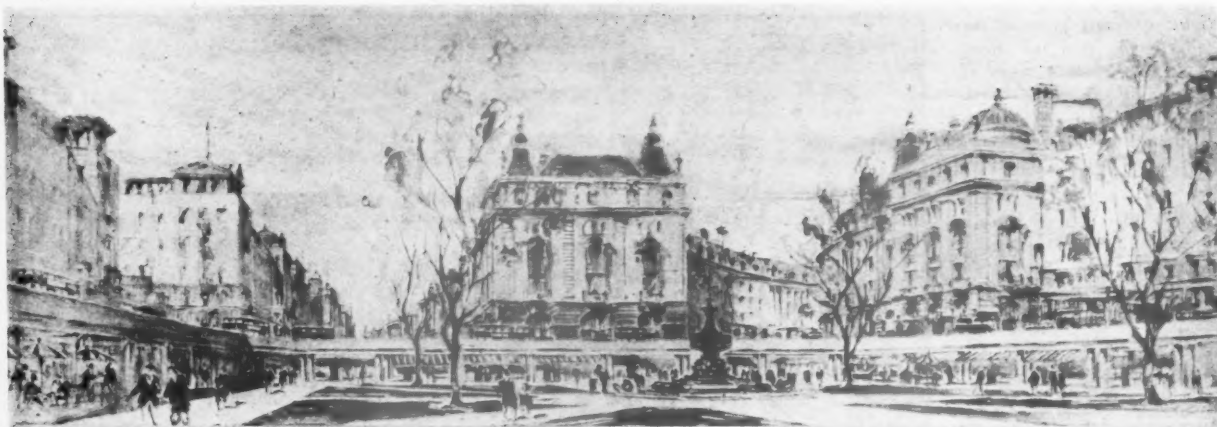


only places where traffic can leave or join this sunk road, they should be located at important existing main road junctions, so that traffic can converge or disperse in all directions. A roundabout is necessary at each of these main road junctions, and from the roundabout access is provided by means of ramps to the Ring Road running under the roundabout.

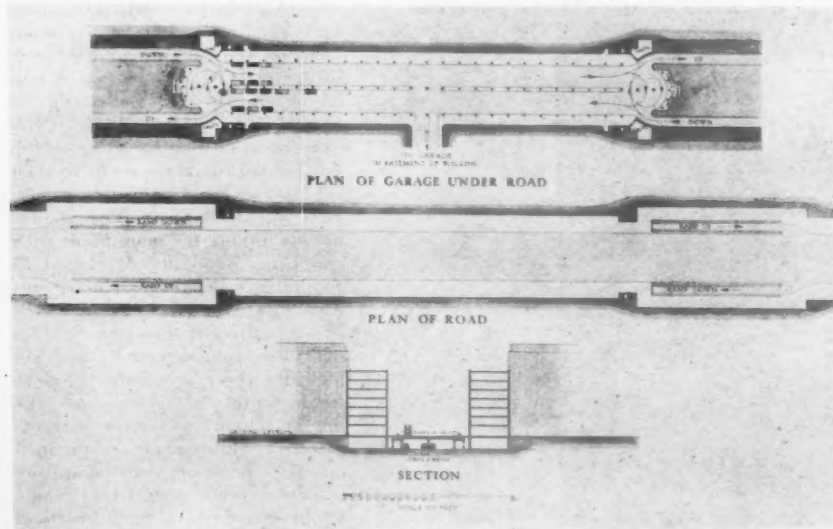
SUB-ARTERIAL ROADS.—The main roads, which are sub-arterial, automatically divide up the area into precincts, each of which can be developed as proposed in the County of London Plan. The existing main roads leading to the Ring Road roundabouts have been retained as far as possible.

ROUNDAABOUTS.—The roundabouts linking the main roads with the Ring Road are developed as shopping, business and communal centres, serving some five or six adjacent precincts. This has been done because "psychologically there seems to be more fundamental attraction in the life and hum of a busy market-place. . . . Roundabouts, if planned on the principle of separating vehicular and pedestrian traffic on different levels, offer a practical

R A EXHIBITION: WORK OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE



Top, a view of the proposed development of Piccadilly Circus from the new sunk garden, surrounded by shops, restaurants and cafés. (Drawing by P. D. Hepworth). Above, plans of Piccadilly Circus as existing and as proposed. (Drawing by A. C. Webb). Below, plan of a typical suggested parking space under the road. This space would also be used for unloading goods into the basements of the adjacent buildings. Filling stations and lavatories are sited at each entrance. (Drawing by Dorothy Buckmaster).

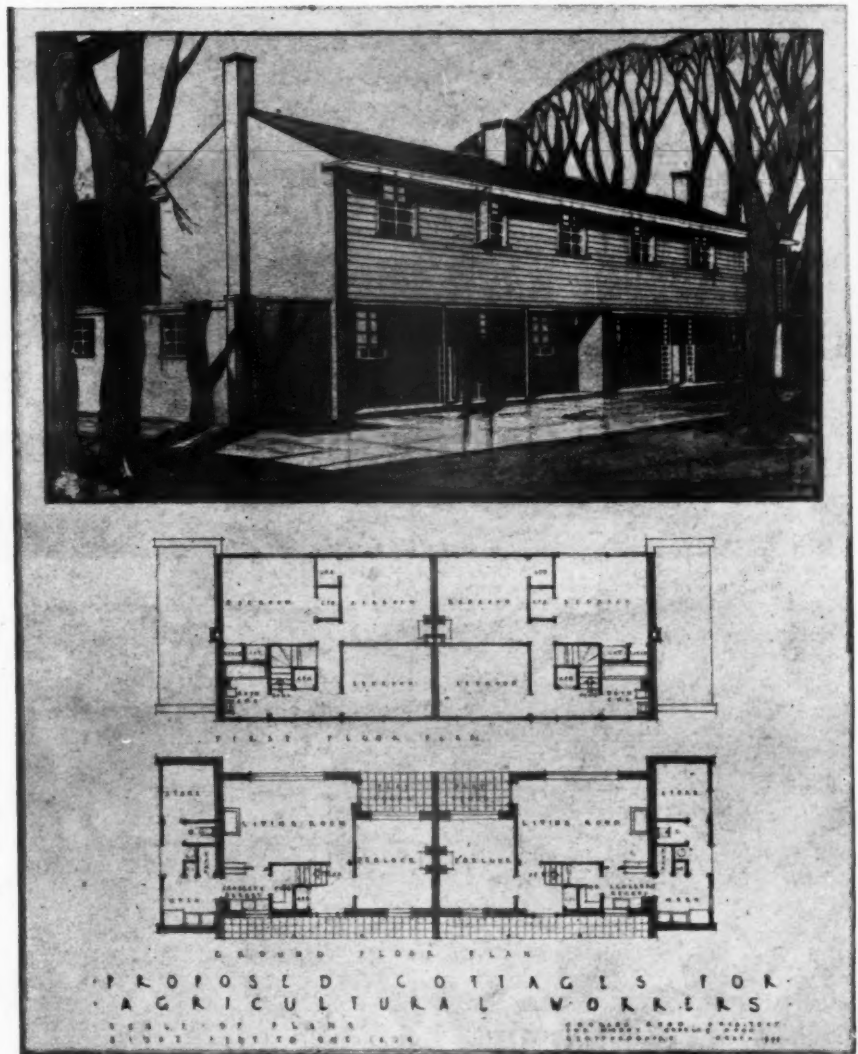


combination of safety and activity." The shops are kept on ground level, while the roundabout itself is raised about 11 ft. by means of easy ramps from the roads leading into it, thus allowing pedestrians to cross in any direction without subways.

In the case of Piccadilly Circus, the same principle as in the Ring Road roundabouts is applied, of separating vehicles and pedestrians. Here the ramps lead to a central, shopping garden. The existing roads that enter the Circus have been retained, but local alterations have been made to their junctions with the Circus to secure the right weaving lengths in the Circus itself. The Haymarket and Lower Regent Street are brought together before entering the Circus.

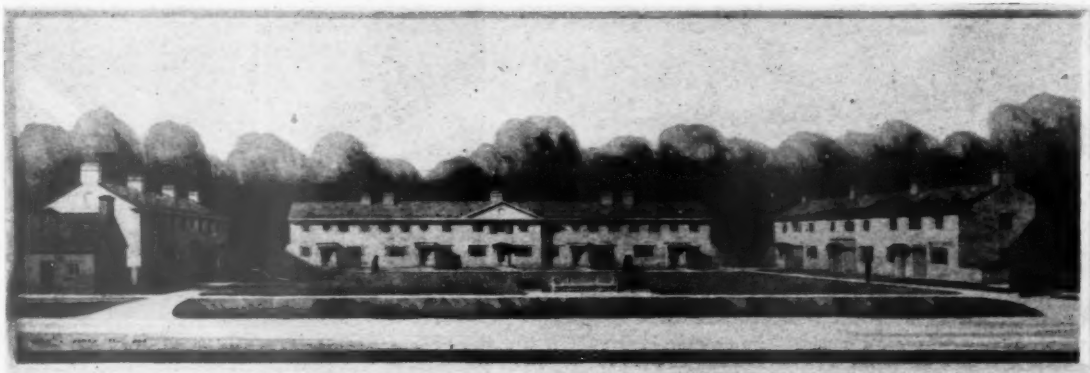
PARKING SPACES. — Double-decked roads are proposed, where the lower deck would be used not only for parking but for unloading goods into the basements of the adjacent buildings. These car parks would be maintained by the local authorities. Sewers and gas mains would be laid under the lower road, and electricity and gas mains under the pavements of the upper. Access to these services could thus be obtained without affecting the main through traffic.

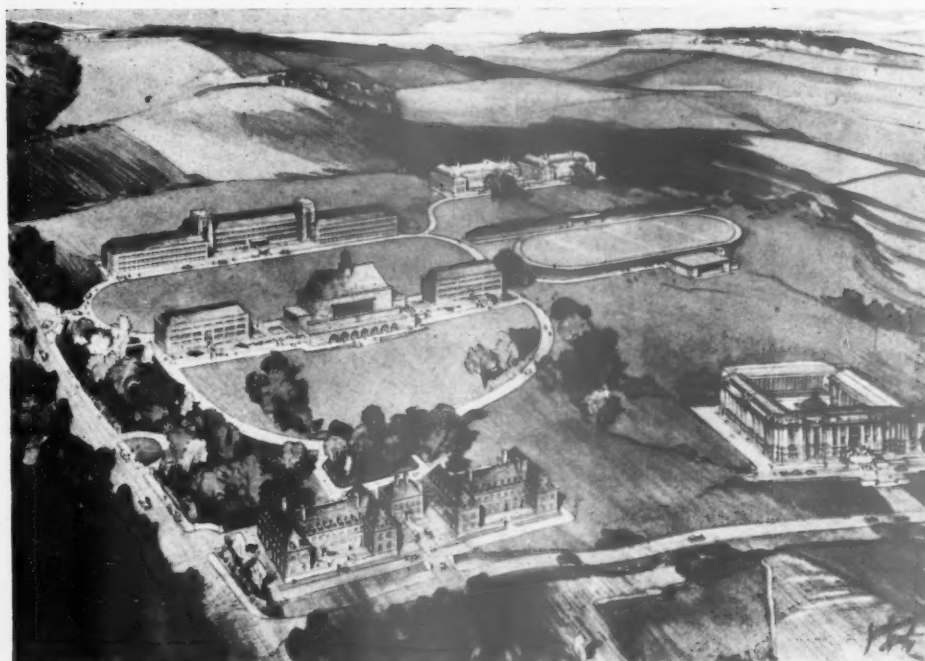
Right, proposed cottages for agricultural workers by Charles Read.
Below, proposed agricultural cottages, Harewood, by J. E. Stocks.



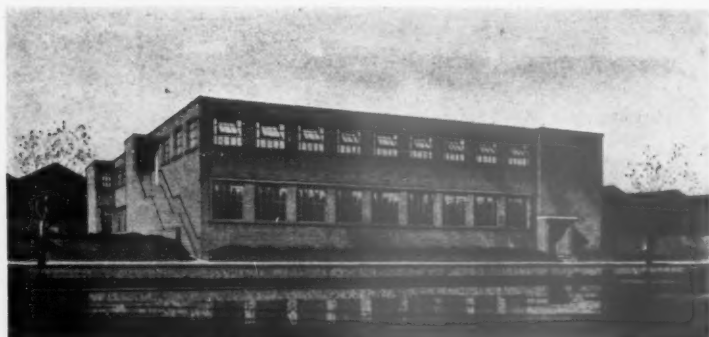
RA EXHIBITION

GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITS





Top, Walthamstow Town Hall, 1942, by P. D. Hepworth. Above, New University, Aberystwyth, by Percy Thomas. Below left, canteen for an aircraft factory by Howard V. Lobb. Below right, station in Essex for the London Passenger Transport Board and the London and North-Eastern Railway by Stanley Hall and Easton and Robertson.



R A EXHIBITION: GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITS



Above, Brentford redevelopment scheme by Howard V. Lobb. Below, Canonbury Estate redevelopment by Louis de Soissons.



RA EXHIBITION: GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITS

INFORMATION CENTRE

The function of this feature is to supply an index and a digest of all current developments in planning and building technique throughout the world as recorded in technical publications and statements of every kind whether official, private or commercial. Items are written by specialists of the highest authority who are not on the permanent staff of the Journal and views expressed are disinterested and objective. The Editors welcome information on all developments from any source, including manufacturers and contractors.

PHYSICAL PLANNING

1487 Small House Layout

A LAYOUT FOR SMALL HOUSES. *Walter Segal. (Building, March, 1944).* Interesting solution to provision of small detached house and garden in urban areas at 11-14 to acre, with adequate privacy and east-west orientation.

At 12 to the acre the available area for house and garden is 2,500-3,000 sq. ft. The house might cover 450-650 sq. ft., leaving 1,800-2,400 for garden space. This makes a good garden provided it can be kept in one piece and only a minimum surrendered to approaches.

The plans on this page show an arrangement based on cross one-way streets at frequent intervals. These drives have a 12 ft. roadway plus two 4 ft. pavements. They need only be of light construction and should save considerable street costs.

Houses are staggered and provided with lateral gardens—a compromise between the English and American conceptions. The gardens should be screened from the drives or streets by fences, trellis, walls or hedges.

The houses themselves would all have east-west orientation; party walls would be left blank and the main elevation would face the garden.

HEATING and Ventilation

1488 New Electric Circuit

DOMESTIC RING MAIN. *E. Jacobi. (Electrical Review, December 31, 1943, p. 871).* Discussion of new domestic electrical circuit.

The electrical industry has been seriously considering a change in the form of ordinary domestic wiring, and there is a good deal of evidence that it may be widely accepted. Mr. Jacobi is one of its principal advocates.

The proposed circuit is in the form of a ring main. Its real value is stated to be the advantage that can be taken of diversity in final distribution of load where the total load can be anticipated, but not the individual loads. Present regulations cannot envisage four socket outlets, for instance, in one room without their being installed and protected as if for simultaneous use. Yet four heavy loads in one room at one time is a practical improbability, and the ring main is designed on this assumption. The result is an economy in wiring and protection. For domestic areas up to about 1,000 sq. ft. it is estimated that one cable of 7.029 section would be adequate, with one main fuse of 30A.

The protection of the ring main by one fuse will necessitate local fusing for equipment. It is assumed that this will be in the plug itself, with two sizes of plug being in use, a 3A size for lighting and motor driven domestic apparatus, and 10A for everything else up to

2 kW. fires. Suggestions are made for the design of the plug.

The advantages of the ring main are said to be less obvious when used for the connection of heavy loads such as cookers, and normal wiring is therefore commended. Ceiling lighting outlets can be put on the ring main, but the author feels again that there is no advantage to be gained over normal wiring because of the problem of local fusing.

A ring main diagram is given, and a table comparing the equipment used in normal and ring main wiring. The chief differences, as indicated, are in the fusing (one 30A in place of five 15A), and wiring (370 yards for the ring main and 450 yards for normal use).

Two comments should be made. First, the ring main attracts more by its logic and simplicity than by its economy. And the other, that it would seem very desirable to find matters of this kind figuring more prominently in the architectural journals; instead of being hidden from architectural eyes in purely electrical journals.

1489 Problems of Ring Mains

RING MAINS, OUTLETS, AND PLUGS. *R. Plummer. (The Electrician, January 21, 1944, p. 48).* Practical problems in the use of ring mains. Elimination of building work.

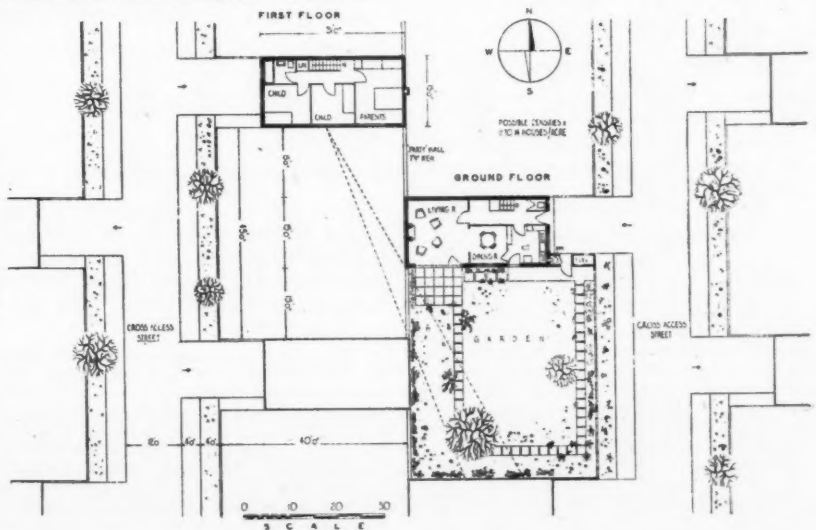
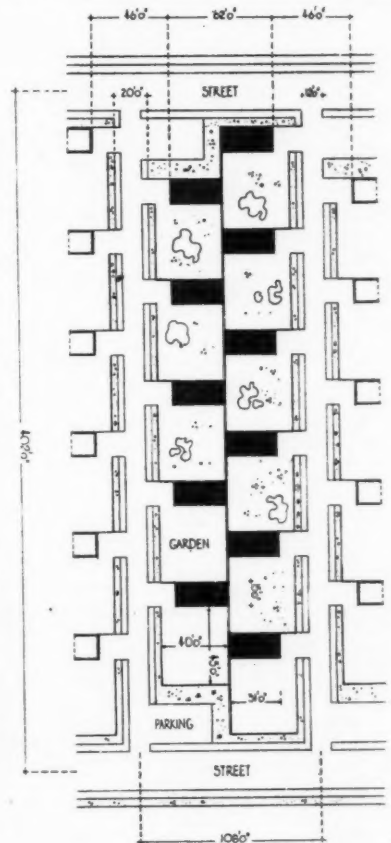
The electrical industry is strangely divided for and against the ring main. Mr. Plummer avoids taking sides, and discusses some of the real practical difficulties in the use of ring mains. Perhaps the most interesting item for designers relates to the elimination of unnecessary building work, first by adequate preparation in the working drawings, and second, in construction methods by which cutting away and making good is kept to a

minimum. The author raises the question whether the necessary construction items might not involve as much extra work as the subsequent chasing itself.

1490 Domestic Electric Plug

A UNIVERSAL DOMESTIC PLUG. (*Electrical Times, February 10, 1944, p. 168.*) Description of a plug and socket design for universal domestic use.

The plug is a familiar pattern, though smaller than the standard domestic 5 amp. It has the usual 3 round pins, one of which is fused to any desired standard so that the plug may



Top, typical layout plan for small houses with lateral gardens and cross access streets illustrating an article by Walter Segal. Above, a detail of the same layout. See No. 1487.

be rated high enough to take all normal domestic appliances.

The socket-outlet has the usual shutter to protect the pin inlets. Its unusual feature is its design to connect to the ring main. The wire is merely based for a short length, and need not be cut and doubled back, as in normal practice.

While admiring the objective of standardizing such an item as this, one cannot but wonder why American and English practice is so widely divergent, especially in that the former uses the flat pin almost universally, which needs no protecting shutter for the inlets. The whole seems altogether a simple, less bulky, less costly and more refined arrangement.

PLUMBING and Sanitation

1491 London's Water Supply

LONDON'S WATER SUPPLY. Henry Berry. (*Journal of the Royal Society of Arts*, March 17, 1944.) General description of London's water supply. Area served, companies concerned. Methods and capacity of storage. Methods of filtering and chemical treatment.

1492 Airport Drainage

THE DESIGN OF AIRPORT DRAINAGE. (*The Plumber and Journal of Heating*, February, 1944. Extracts from article in *The Shire and Municipal Record*, Australia). Objects of drainage. Description of methods of calculation.

The drainage system of an airport may serve either to lower ground water level in order to improve subsoil stability or to carry the surface run off after storms. The article deals mainly with removal of surface run off. Methods of calculation are given but it is pointed out that the relation between rainfall and run off are so complex that any computation yields, at best, only an approximate answer.

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.

1493 Machine Shop Floor

Q We shall be glad to have your advice upon a problem concerning a machine shop floor. All the castings for machining must pass down the gangway, and these are carried on hand-operated elevating trucks. Any machine for repair must also pass down this main gangway and it is essential that the floor keeps a good surface and resists considerable wear. It is in this that we are troubled. The concrete surface has broken up giving rise to a number of pot holes, patching has been done but has not proved very successful. We, therefore, seek your advice for a material suitable for such a floor.

A We would advise you to lay a topping of cement and sand or granolithic on

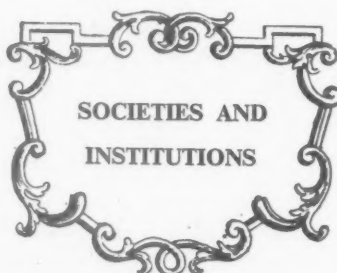
the existing floor, incorporating a floor hardener in the mix.

You would do well to follow the particular manufacturer's directions both as regards mix and methods of laying but, of course, you must see that the existing floor is clean and sufficiently rough to provide a key.

1494 Treatment of Vitrolite

Q Is there any method of treating Vitrolite, in a bath recess, to prevent splashing from the shower getting through the joints and causing the adjoining bedroom to be damp?

A It appears from your description that no sealing compound was used on the base before the Vitrolite was applied. If this had been done no damp could penetrate the wall. Even if a sealing compound has not been used, there should be no escape of moisture if all the joints are properly sealed with a glazier's pointing compound, and we would suggest that you have the joints properly repointed by a glazier.



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 a glossary of abbreviations will be found on the front cover. Except where inverted commas are used, the reports are summaries, and not verbatim.

AA

Eric L. Bird

April 18, at 36, Bedford Square, W.C.1. General Meeting of the Architectural Association. Lecture on ARCHITECTURAL NOTES OF A RECENT VISIT TO SICILY by Eric L. Bird, M.C., A.R.I.B.A.

E. L. Bird: A war-time visit to Sicily is no Cook's tour. The pursuit of military aims has an annoying effect of missing many of the places an architect would like to visit. For instance, I saw very few of the many historic buildings and not a single Greek temple. But my colleagues and I had opportunities to make studies of other kinds that are denied to the peace-time visitor. We were able to observe at close range the social life of the inhabitants and its reflection in the vernacular architecture. In this we were much helped by the fact that occasional

buildings had been sectioned by bombing so that methods of construction could be examined in detail. Further, as members of a conquering army, we were able to walk into any building without question or payment to see what we wished. My job kept me in Palermo, Messina and Catania—the three largest towns, in which I spent a total of three months—and I also visited Monreale, Taormina, Cefalu and, across the Straits of Messina, the small towns of Reggio and San Giovanni.

The social organization of Sicily is surprisingly feudal. There are twenty-seven dukes in Sicily as well as a few dozen princes, marquises, barons and counts.

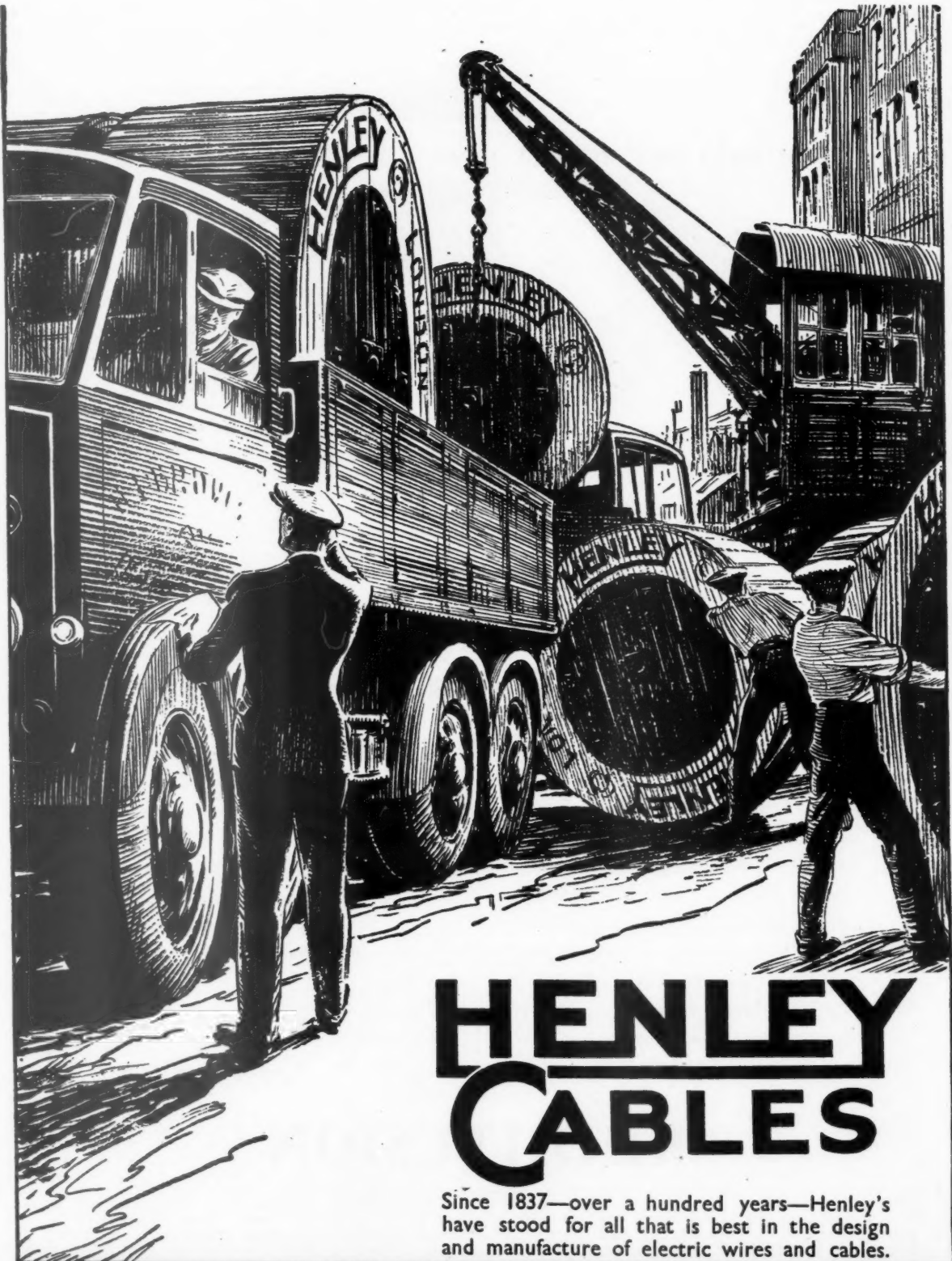
An outstanding impression in Sicily is the extreme poverty of the people. Even the proud aristocracy are no more than petty squires, while the poor are herded into squalid villages and appear to live on next to nothing. There are hardly any manufactures and no mining except sulphur and asphalt. The country is almost entirely agricultural, growing principally oranges, lemons, olives and grapes. Every available square yard is cultivated, much of it in laboriously built terracing of the mountain slopes. These terraces extend as high as 3,000 feet on the slopes of Etna.

Apart from the larger cities there are two main types of town or village, namely, those on the plains and those on the hills. The plains towns are few in number because there is not much level ground on the island. Many of them are laid out with a rectangular grid plan, which is by no means modern, and is possibly a relic of Roman or even an earlier tradition. The hill towns are perched on the most inaccessible crags or mountain shelves, and many can be approached only on foot or mule back. The outstanding features of these towns are extreme squalor and incredible overcrowding. It was not uncommon to find that a town a few hundred yards square had as many as 10,000 inhabitants. There is usually one main street, 20 to 30 feet wide, and a small town square, on which is the west front of the inevitable Baroque church, the remaining open spaces being stinking little unpaved lanes which appear to serve the secondary purposes of cooking place—for which charcoal braziers are used—rubbish dump and public latrine.

The comparative wealth and sophistication of the larger towns naturally give somewhat different results. On the whole they are cleaner, at least in parts, the main streets are wider, the newer quarters being generously and even splendidly planned. Both Palermo and Catania have mediaeval centres through which two or three straight streets have been cut, but which otherwise consist of narrow lanes. In Palermo there are some magnificent Baroque palaces hidden away in these alleys, though most have degenerated into slum tenements. Outside the mediaeval centres, the cultured Italian genius for fine planning has produced some magnificent tree-lined boulevards, bordered with large blocks of flats and villas that are dignified even if their stucco detail is meretricious. Palermo also has a fine waterfront which at present is somewhat knocked about. Catania has the dignified Via Etnea which runs straight through the town and has the peak of Etna to close the vista. It is, of course, no news that modern Italian town planning is good, even though it tends to be showy and, in Sicily, is planted piecemeal on a squalid, primitive background.

Messina is an entirely modern town, and I propose discussing it in detail later. Taormina also is exceptional in being a typical hill town that has been cleaned up for the benefit of tourists. It stands on a shelf about 700 feet above the sea. One side of the town square has a railing on the edge of a 500 foot precipice. Free from the usual dirt and poverty, the inherently charming vernacular architecture here blossoms like a flower in the crisp clear Mediterranean light—a light that defies description and eludes the camera. Taormina is certainly a town to go back to.

The geological basis of Sicilian architecture must not be overlooked. Along the north side of the island there is an ancient raised beach, from about 500 to 1,000 feet above



HENLEY CABLES

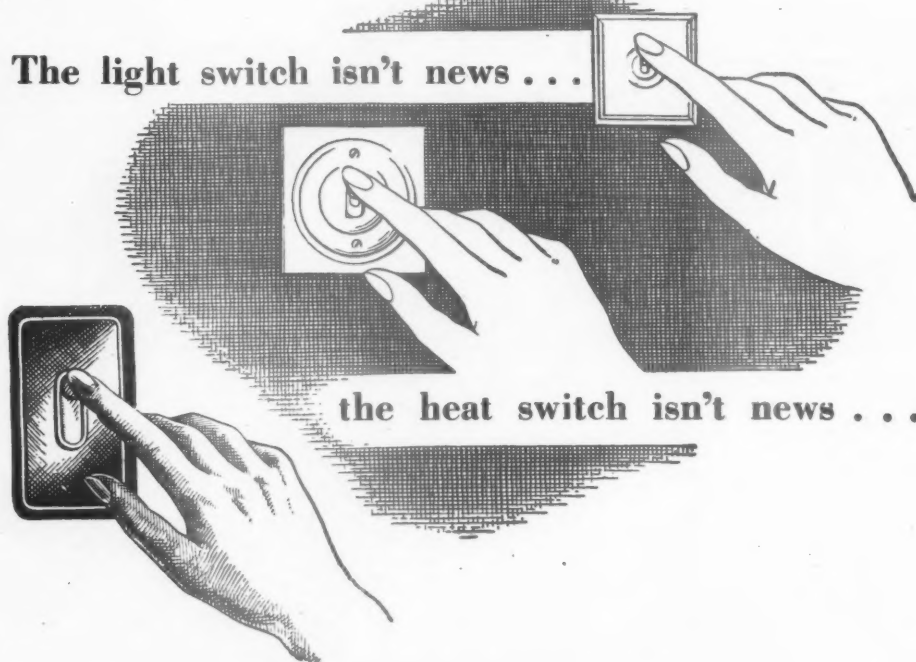
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sea level—this is a mine of good building materials. Palermo is built of a coarse calcareous tufa that is quarried in large blocks from it. This stone is light, very friable and is commonly squared with an axe. The blocks are used for walling like children's building blocks, that is to say, all the stones are through bonders, merely breaking joint on the face. Blocks of 2-foot cube appear to be lifted into place quite easily by two men. The beach and its adjacent beds provide clay for bricks, gypsum for plaster, aggregate for concrete, and there is a large Portland cement works situated on it. In Catania the common building stone is basalt from the lava beds of Etna. Here the walls are built as polygonal rubble and have a central core.

Almost all walls are faced with stucco. The plaster tradition of Sicily dates from Greek times and the craftsmanship is of a very high order. Cut-stone mouldings are exceedingly rare, all details, including the statues that gesticulate on Baroque buildings, being moulded in plaster. Near Messina is the village of Gesso that gave its name to the famous decorative plaster technique. Plaster craftsmanship is quite unlike our own. The material is very quick setting and the plasterers work at speed, throwing the mix on to the wall or ceiling with quick jerks of the wrist. They use an ordinary bricklayer's trowel for this and carry the mix on a wooden hawk or square board which they hold in the left hand level with their faces. The throwing is very accurate and covers the surface fairly evenly. When the hawk is empty it is used in a few deft strokes to smooth the surface which is not again worked or touched. The quality of finish achieved by these apparently slapdash methods is astonishingly high.

The third component of the architecture is the climate. This dictates the use of thick walls and small shuttered windows to exclude solar heat and glare. The proportion of window area to wall ranges from 5 to 15 per cent. This contrasts with the 25 to 50 per cent. typical of this country. Roofs are either tiled red of low pitch or flat. In both cases solar heat is excluded by providing a separate sub-ceiling of lightweight construction beneath. Roof construction breaks many of the weather-proofing rules that have to be so rigidly obeyed in this country. The typical flat roof has irregular joists covered with boards on which is laid concrete, a layer of bitumen and then decorative floor tiles. This finishes against the parapet with a course of tiles on edge and no other kind of flashing whatever. Sicily has a heavy winter rainfall, but the periods of sun between showers and the absence of severe frost allow building methods that would be disastrous in the prolonged soakings of our climate.

These then are the basic elements of Sicilian architecture, namely, a dense population of poor people, providing cheap labour, abundant building materials from the earth and a hot sunny climate. The resultant of these forces is an architecture of square planned high rooms, each housing one family as a maximum, built up into blocks of flats with thick external and internal walls and small regularly spaced windows. One of my colleagues aptly named it egg-box planning. This manner of building appears to be quite independent of architectural fashions and to have persisted from ancient times to such a degree as to make very difficult the dating of buildings by an architectural visitor. It does not seem to matter much whether the external stucco decoration is of pure Renaissance form, or Baroque, or the more austere Fascist; all the buildings have a very close family resemblance. The typical room is about 12 to 15 feet square and 10 to 15 feet high. The ceiling has coved edges. There are at least two doors, both on the centre lines of walls. There is one window, also on the centre line, extending down to the floor and giving access to a balcony. Pile a number of these units together, add a staircase or two and you have almost any urban building in Sicily.

To an Englishman accustomed to the succession of architectural cults that have

followed one another in Great Britain since mediaeval times, it was a shock to find that since the days of Bernini, Baroque has remained the traditional architectural veneer in Sicily. At least 99 per cent. of the churches are pure Baroque, ranging in quality from really inspired compositions of breath-taking grace and spontaneity, to the merely vulgar and crude. Unfortunately the latter predominate: the pre-Fascist architects were well grounded in their elements of Classic and Baroque architecture, but their taste and sense of proportion were atrocious. The buildings of the Fascist regime brought in a welcome austerity even if they are slightly pompous. The house of the leading Fascist at Messina is severely dignified in a rather showy manner, rather like someone registering correct behaviour in a gathering of vulgarians, but taken by itself it is a very good building.

Messina is a unique town. Not only is it entirely modern but has been built under a strict code of regulations intended to defeat the effects of earthquake. At 5.21 a.m. on December 25, 1908, the ancient town of Messina was almost totally destroyed by earthquake in 31 seconds. With it perished 80,000 of its 120,000 inhabitants. The story of its rebuilding and a study of its present form offer some useful ideas which are worth considering in our somewhat parallel problems at the present time.

The old town had a typical congested centre with the usual narrow slummy lanes and it was at once decided that a new plan must be made. The Government commission appointed to rebuild the town decided first that they would build a temporary town to meet immediate needs and then provide at leisure an entirely new town on a new plan. For the temporary town use was made of offers of help from all over the world, particularly from the United States and Russia. The United States sent prefabricated timber houses with the result that for some years, Messina looked remarkably like any Middle West town. The immediate needs having been met, Government commissions got on with the job of replanning the city, defining anti-earthquake construction and arranging the supplies of materials and labour. The final town plan was not approved until 1911, three years after the earthquake.

The Government acquired most of the freeholds in the town, subsequently erecting most of the buildings, which they still own. This gave them a free hand in replanning and rebuilding the town, which remains essentially a State enterprise though long ago handed over to control of the Municipality. The Government-owned buildings are managed by a kind of public utility society.

Public and communal buildings were replaced according to a leisurely programme, and the town slowly grew to its full stature which it achieved about ten years ago. The finishing was to some extent accelerated by a severe conflagration that occurred in 1924, when some 250 of the temporary houses, together with a wooden church and school were destroyed.

Main tree-lined avenues, from 80 to 120 feet wide, run through the town, the remaining portions being laid out in rectangular grids with streets 40 to 60 feet wide. There is a fine waterfront and most of the town enjoys magnificent views across the Straits. There is a planned industrial area; this must have been one of the first attempts at zoning industry. The industries are, however, few and insignificant and much of the industrial area is still open space. The planning scheme gave a series of rectangular blocks which are numbered throughout the town. Thus a resident has a block or "isolata" number as well as a street number.

Height and construction of buildings were strictly regulated. All buildings were to be framed, the residential blocks being planned with a rectangular grid of columns not to exceed 5 metres between centres. This meant in practice that rooms were about 15 feet square with one window to each bay. Thus the whole town has a basic unit of measurement which is reflected in the facades and gives an

underlying rhythm on which are superimposed the trills of stucco ornaments, ironwork and painted shutters. That the stucco and ironwork are mostly of a poor design is beside the point and does not seriously lessen the general effect of unity.

At first no buildings were to exceed two storeys or ten metres in height. After fifteen years, three storeys or twelve metres were allowed, and during the last four or five years these have been again increased to four storeys or fourteen metres. Roofs could be flat or low-pitched according to the whim of the architect; actually about 70 per cent. of roofs are flat. These regulations gave two curious results. First, the lower buildings are in the centre of the town and the higher buildings, erected at later dates, are on the outskirts. Second, whole streets are of uniform height and present an even skyline, because gables, turrets and other unstable fripperies are not allowed.

The net result of this planning and regulation is an unusually spacious and charming town. After living in it for some two months, I felt hemmed in by masonry and jostled by crowds on returning to Palermo. In Messina there is always a good view of the sky and not a mere blue strip between parallel lines of cornice. Views of the sea or mountains terminate most of the cross streets. There is room to saunter on pavements and no need to push through endless crowds, as is necessary in most other towns. The effect of spaciousness is, however, not extreme; one has the feeling of being in a town and not, as in a typical army camp, on a piece of land dotted with buildings. What might be termed the space-height ratio of towns deserves more study than it has had in the past, particularly from the viewpoint of architectural feeling.

The regulation requiring all buildings to be framed has resulted in a general adoption of reinforced concrete, since Italy has always been short of steel. Further, all floors are required to be of reinforced concrete, either in-situ slab or hollow tile. A most unusual method of erection has become standard practice. The site is first levelled and mass concrete laid under the points of support and sometimes under the wall lines. On this a ground frame of reinforced concrete is first cast. This frame picks up the bases of the columns and is therefore a rectangular grid. The panel walls are then built usually in 14- or 18-inch brickwork, but sometimes in hollow tile and sometimes in precast concrete blocks. Spaces are left between the panel walls which can thus act as shuttering for the columns on two sides. When the brickwork reaches first floor level, boarding is placed on the front and back faces of the walls, closing the gaps between the panels, and the columns are poured. On the top of the walls a second grid of beams, similar to the ground frame, is then cast, the floor shuttering is put up and the floors are poured. The unit span allows floor shuttering to be re-used. After this the second storey is built in exactly the same way as the first. All doors and window openings are also enclosed in reinforced concrete frames which extend to the beam above. Similarly all parapets and balconies are reinforced.

This construction is not so expensive as might appear. The labour for walling and concreting is very cheap; formwork is reduced to the minimum, is simple and re-usable without alteration; all materials, except steel rods, are produced within a few miles of the city.

The building created by these means has a variety of uses. The ground floors can be shops or dwellings, the upper floor offices, work-rooms or dwellings. Occupancies can be enlarged or changed by removing or replacing walls. Since the structure is highly fire-resisting, there is no danger in putting a garage in one or more bays of the ground floor. Access to the upper storeys is always by internal staircases lit from the top through reinforced concrete lantern lights that are glazed at the sides only. The flat roof is an amenity that has to be experienced for a month or two to be appreciated as fully as it deserves.

The planning of these Messina dwellings is by no means perfect and one has to bear in mind the time when most of them were built, namely, before and immediately after the first Great War. Many of the courtyards are far too narrow, though this defect is less important than it would be in a higher latitude or gloomier climate. Sanitary arrangements are not all they might be, but on the whole they are far superior to those of the rest of Sicily and indeed of many French and Belgian towns. At least, Messina has no slums and does not smell like other Sicilian towns. There is also considerable overcrowding by British standards. The City Engineer showed us the drawings of his latest housing scheme, which had 75 per cent. one-room dwellings, 20 per cent. two-room and 5 per cent. three-room. The one-room dwellings were to be occupied by poorer families.

The typical older building of Messina has had a curious effect on the intermingling of classes. The poorer live on the ground floor, sometimes having access to the courtyard only. The top floor consists of apartments of the wealthier with an intermediate class in between. We lived in style in a couple of top-storey flats, while on the ground floor was our fruit merchant, who lived with his wife and family of two children and had his shop all in one bay fifteen feet square; a water closet was partitioned off in a corner and ventilated into the shop; at night he closed in the whole affair with a rolling steel shutter.

In spite of Sicilian peculiarities, I think Messina building presents another idea worth exploring. This is the provision of utility skeleton buildings of frame and floors that can be simply and economically adapted to any one of several purposes. The erection of whole groups of skeleton structures would be relatively cheap, because large-scale operations and the use of machinery would be possible. Thus town planning would be achievable positively in three dimensions and not merely by restriction of building heights. The adoption of standardized spans and floor heights would simplify and greatly cheapen construction as compared with our present method of numerous owners erecting groups of buildings with endless variations in span and height. Any fears that such a scheme would result in a dull uniformity or that it could not be made to fit the variations of tenants' demands are best dispelled by a stay in Messina.

No honest description of Messina could avoid mention of that grandiose piece of Fascist architecture, the Railway and Ferry Terminal. The scheme comprises a town station, maritime station, quays and berths for the ferry ships, stores, workshops, signal boxes and water towers. All was planned and designed as a whole with excellent taste and a bold imagination. We were told that Mussolini had declared Messina would have the finest station in the world, a boast that the Messinese did not entirely appreciate because they had to pay for it. Nevertheless Mussolini was not very far out. The scheme is years ahead of anything else in railway architecture that I have seen.

ELMA

Luncheon

May 3, at the Savoy Hotel, London. Luncheon given by the Electric Lamp Manufacturers' Association. Lord Woolton, Minister of Reconstruction, was the guest of honour. Other guests were Lord Portal, Minister of Works, and Major Lloyd George, M.P., Minister of Fuel and Power. The chairman of the Association, C. F. Dickson, presided. A lighting demonstration and lecture were given by Dr. C. C. Paterson, O.B.E., F.R.S., director of one of the

leading electrical research laboratories in this country and chairman of MOW's Lighting Study Committee.

C. C. Paterson : (By means of demonstrations outlined the progress of the electric lamp from the days of the carbon filament lamp, giving three units of light for one unit of electric power, to the present-day coiled coil filament lamp, giving twelve units of light for the same current consumption, and concluded by giving the audience a glimpse of the future possibilities of lighting by showing examples of the latest lighting discovery, the tubular fluorescent lamp.)

The introduction of this lamp is a direct result of research in this country about ten years ago, and while the United States of America with their two extra pre-war years for creating mass production facilities have by now nearly five years lead in the making and utilization of those lamps, we must not overlook the pioneering work of British scientists in this matter.

Fundamentally the lamp consists of a tube through which passes an electric discharge in mercury vapour. Instead of passing through a wire filament which it heats to incandescence as in the ordinary Tungsten lamp, the electricity is carried by the vapour in the tube, which is thereby caused to emit a considerable amount of ultra-violet radiation together with a little blue light. It was necessary to find some means of converting the ultra-violet energy into useful light. This was achieved after careful research by using the phenomenon of luminescence, that is, by introducing into the tube materials which would fluoresce under ultra-violet radiation contained in the glowing vapour. Further research was carried out to find the best materials for this purpose until eventually fluorescent powders were evolved which made it possible to reproduce any hue of daylight from warm sunset to the relatively cold light which we have from clouds at midday. These lamps give nearly three times as much light for a unit of electric power as our most efficient filament lamps.

War-time restrictions have confined its use in this country almost exclusively to factories where, on account of its high efficiency, it is saving 200,000 tons of coal a year.

BINC

Annual Meeting

May 4, at 11, Weymouth Street, W.1. TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING of the Building Industries National Council. The Council approved proposals, *inter alia*, to send a deputation to the Minister

of Reconstruction on the needs of the post-war building programme, for holding a further building congress later in the year, to consider the effect of rent control on building activity and to initiate wider research into building costs.

A report was received from the General Purposes Committee covering the activities of the various committees during the last six months. It was reported that immediate effect had been given to the general recommendations adopted at the preceding meeting of the Council for the expansion of the Council's activities.

The Sub-Committee on Technical and Industrial Research has been preparing submissions on those aspects of prefabrication and standardization which can appropriately be dealt with by the industry as a whole. The Sub-Committee has also under consideration the future needs of the industry in respect of research and to this end is making a survey of the present research capacity centred in the industry's own establishments.

The Fire Prevention Panel has now nearly completed drawing up recommendations for legislation on means of escape from fire and of a code of principles to be read in conjunction with such legislation. The Council's public relations services continue to operate through the enquiry service and other routine channels.

The following were re-elected as Officers of the Council for the ensuing year: **President :** Mr. Leslie Wallis, J.P. **Senior Vice-President :** Mr. Howard M. Robertson, M.C., F.R.I.B.A., S.A.D.G. **Junior Vice-Presidents :** Mr. E. C. Harris, F.S.I., Lieut.-Colonel C. W. D. Rowe, M.B.E., Mr. Percy Thomas, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., Mr. J. W. Stephenson, J.P. **Honorary Treasurer :** Mr. B. S. Townroe, M.A., D.L., J.P., Hon. A.R.I.B.A. **Honorary Secretary :** Mr. I. Ernest Jones, M.A., B.Sc.

RIBA

Minutes

April 18, a Council Meeting of the RIBA was held at 66, Portland Place, W.1. The following are NOTES FROM THE MINUTES of the Council.

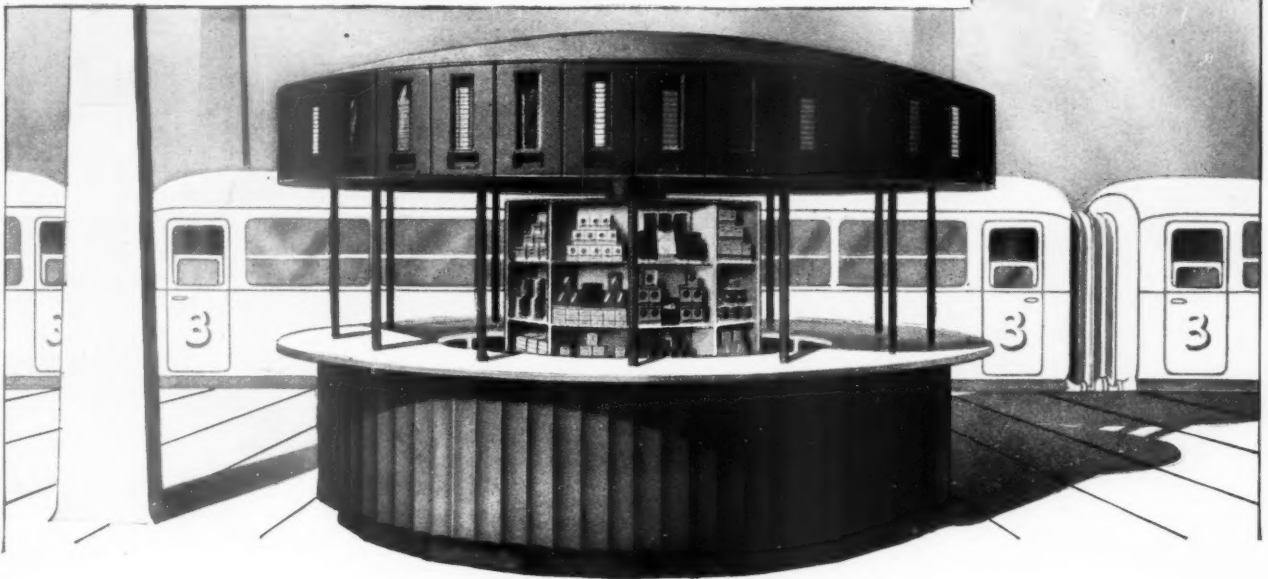
Appointments

Public Relations Committee: Lieut. R. Y. Goodden, R.N.V.R. (A). British Standards Institution: Reconstituted Building Divisional Council: H. M. Fairweather (F). Building Industries National Council: F. R. Hiorns (F), in place of Mr. Basil M. Sullivan (F), who has resigned on appointment as chairman of the Board of Architectural Education.

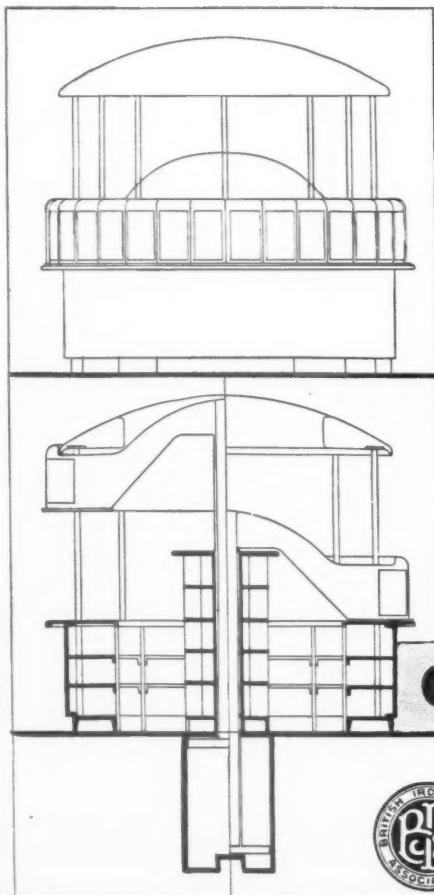


One of the demonstrations used to illustrate Dr. C. C. Paterson's talk at the ELMA lunch reported on this page. On the left is a carbon filament lamp, and on the right two 2 ft. warm tinted fluorescent lamps using the same amount of current.

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- UPPER SECTION.** This would not be constructed in cast iron owing to the weight restriction necessary for the moving part. This section which would contain the slot machines would be raised and lowered by a hydraulic lift, housed in the centre of the stand. The canopy would be supported on the columns and would not be movable. The top of the moving section would contain a flood-light to illuminate the under side of the canopy at night.

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Department of Architecture, Southern College of Art, Portsmouth Centre

The Council approved a recommendation by the Visiting Board that the Department of Architecture of the Southern College of Art, Portsmouth Centre (evacuated to the School of Art, Winchester), should be granted recognition of the three-years' course for exemption from the RIBA Intermediate Examination, subject to a further inspection when the school returns to Portsmouth. Recognition will date from the third year examinations held during the school year 1943-44.

War Damage Repairs: Payment of Cost of Works by Instalments

The Acting Secretary reported that in reply to representations made with regard to war damage repairs and payment of cost of works payments by instalments, the War Damage Commission had stated that consideration was being given to the best arrangements for ensuring that there should be adequate and timely finance for the work of repairing war-damaged properties when general reconstruction became possible.

Deputation to Minister of Health on Circular 14/44 on Advance Preparation of Housing Sites

It was reported that a deputation consisting of the President, Mr. L. Sylvester Sullivan (chairman of the Practice Committee), Mr. C. H. James (chairman of the Housing Committee), Mr. A. W. Kenyon, Mr. Edwin Williams and Mr. C. D. Spragg (Acting Secretary), waited upon the Minister of Health and Sir John Wrigley, Joint Deputy Secretary, on March 22 and stressed the undesirability of the employment of architects, as suggested in Circular 14/44 regarding Advance Preparation of Housing Sites, for roads and sewers only without consideration of layouts. The Minister had stated that his intention was that layouts should in fact be prepared with houses shown

in block form, and that he was anxious that architects should be employed to design the houses themselves when it was possible for local authorities to give detailed instructions. It was also appreciated that it was desirable that the private practitioner employed for the work should have the same opportunity as the official architect of seeing a scheme through to its conclusion. The Minister had added that he would urge local authorities to obtain competent technical advice in connection with all housing schemes.

Gift of Drawings by Mrs. Henry Noel

The thanks of the Council have been conveyed to Mrs. Henry Noel, grand-daughter of Charles Robert Cockerell, who has presented to the RIBA a group of drawings by Alfred Stevens and her grandfather of the sculptures at Lincoln and Wells Cathedrals, and has also lent, until further notice, the famous Charles Robert Cockerell drawing, "A Tribute to the Memory of Sir Christopher Wren."

Obituary

The Acting Secretary reported with regret the death of the following members and student: Sir Cecil Harcourt Smith, K.C.V.O., LL.D. (Hon. A), Lionel Colin Brewill (F), Robert John Angel (ret'd. F) (Mr. Angel was a past member of the Science Committee and had represented the RIBA on the Councils of other bodies and on many committees of the British Standards Institution), John Campbell (ret'd. F), Colin William Anderson Inglis (A) (killed on active service), Kenneth Perry (student) (killed on active service). Messages of sympathy have been conveyed to their relatives.

Birmingham and Five Counties Architectural Association

The Council formally approved the suspension of certain rules of the Birmingham and Five Counties Architectural Association enabling the President and Council to continue in office for the ensuing session.

NCASF

Architects' Committee

During the past winter an Architects' Committee has been formed in New York under the auspices of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. Its purpose is to bring the professions of the United States and the Soviet Union closer together by developing an understanding of each other's background and present problems, and thereby creating a basis for constructive co-operation after the war.

The Committee intends to be a medium for an exchange of data on matters of a general professional interest in both countries such as housing, community planning, industrial building, new materials and building methods, and problems of post-war reconstruction. At the same time it will act as intermediary in obtaining specialized information. Another aspect to be covered is historic architectural research. There is to be an interchange of data on professional organizations and their aims, standards and practice; on architectural education and technical training, leading eventually to exchange visits by architects, engineers, technical personnel and students. An important part of the Committee's work is the preparation of travelling exhibits on architectural and allied subjects for circulation in this country and Russia. The Committee has already commenced work on two introductory survey exhibits, one on American architecture for the Soviet Union, one on Soviet architecture and planning for the USA.

The Committee is to function nationally and hopes also to develop regional sub-committees. Address: 232, Madison Avenue, New York 16.



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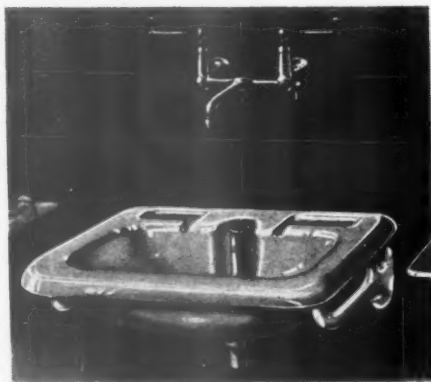
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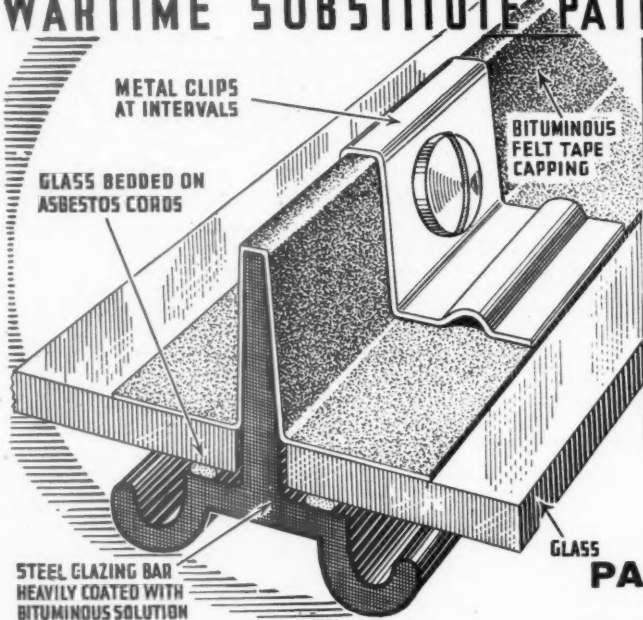
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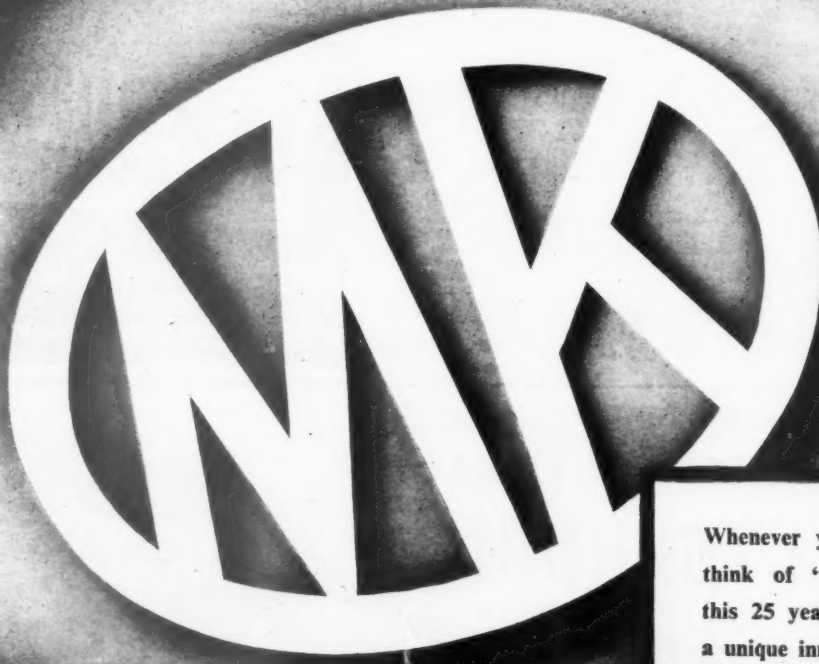
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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements should be addressed to the Advt. Manager, "The Architects' Journal." War Address: 45 The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey, and should reach there by first post on Monday morning for inclusion in the following Thursday's paper.

Replies to Box Numbers should be addressed care of "The Architects' Journal." War Address: 45 The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey.

Public and Official Announcements

Six lines or under, 8s.; each additional line, 1s.

The Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors maintains a register of qualified architects and surveyors (including assistants) requiring posts, and invites applications from public authorities and private practitioners having staff vacancies. Address: 75 Eaton Place, London, S.W.1. Tel.: Sloane 5615 991

MERIONETH JOINT PLANNING COMMITTEE.

APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING OFFICER.

The Committee invite applications for the appointment of County Planning Officer at a salary of £500 rising by annual increments of £25 to £600 per annum, plus bonus and travelling allowance according to the Merionethshire County Council Scale. (Cost of living bonus is limited to Officers whose salaries do not exceed £525 per annum).

The person appointed will be required to devote the whole of his time to his duties, and must be fully conversant with the Town and Country Planning Acts, Orders, Circulars, etc.

Applicants must have had wide experience of planning and membership of the Town Planning Institute will also be an advantage.

The appointment will be terminable by three months' notice in writing on either side, and will be subject to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and the Sick Pay Scheme and other rules and regulations of the Merionethshire County Council. The successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications in writing giving age and full particulars of qualifications and previous experience, together with copies of three recent testimonials should be submitted to the undersigned not later than Thursday, the 1st day of June, 1944.

HUGH J. OWEN,
Clerk to the Joint Committee

County Offices,
Dolgelley,
1st May, 1944.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON.

BOROUGH SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT—CHIEF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of Chief Assistant Architect at a commencing salary of £550 per annum rising by two increments of £25 to £600 per annum, subject to deductions under the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937.

Applicants must be Associate Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects. They should have considerable experience in the design of schools and other public buildings.

Applications endorsed "Chief Assistant Architect" should be delivered to me not later than 1 p.m. on Wednesday, the 31st May, 1944.

H. HOPKINS,
Town Clerk.

EDINBURGH COLLEGE OF ART.

The Board of Management may award in June this year three Scholarships of £225 for one year for a full-time course in Town and Country Planning at the School of Architecture of the College for the session beginning on 2nd October, 1944. Candidates must be British subjects, under the age of 30 on 1st October, 1944, and should have completed a degree or diploma course in Architecture, Engineering or Surveying. The last date for receipt of applications is 7th June, 1944.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, College of Art, Edinburgh, 3.

BELFAST EDUCATION AUTHORITY.
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, BELFAST.

Principal:

D. H. ALEXANDER, M.Sc., Cantab., Wh.Sc., M.I.M.E., M.I.Mar.E.

Applications are invited for the position of Head of the Building Trades Department in the College of Technology, Belfast.

Applicants should possess a University Degree or qualifications accepted as equivalent. They should have practical Building experience and be competent to teach students preparing for the examinations of the R.I.B.A.

The salary attached to the position is £600 per annum rising by annual increments of £25 to £750 per annum or £800 for an approved Honours Degree. Increments are allowed for approved service under other authorities in the British Empire.

Application form and full particulars may be obtained from the undersigned with whom application must be lodged not later than 30th June, 1944.

Canvassing is strictly forbidden and will disqualify.

J. STUART HAWNT,
Director of Education.

Education Office,
College of Technology,
Belfast.

635

CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL

Applications are invited for the appointment of Two Senior Architectural Assistants in the County Architect's Department, at an annual salary from £460 to £500 according to qualifications and experience. Forms of application may be obtained from the County Architect, County Hall, Truro, to whom applications must be sent not later than Saturday, the 3rd June, 1944, accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials.

L. P. NEW,
Clerk of the County Council.

County Hall,
Truro,
10th May, 1944.

640

Architectural Appointments Vacant

Four lines or under, 4s.; each additional line, 1s.

Wherever possible prospective employers are urged to give in their advertisement full information about the duty and responsibilities involved, the location of the office, and the salary offered. The inclusion of the Advertiser's name in lieu of a box number is welcomed.

TEMPORARY ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required for Architectural Section of Local Authority (Greater London Area). Salary may be up to £400 plus war bonus, according to qualifications and experience. Before any appointment is made the approval of the Ministry of Labour and National Service will be necessary. Box 617.

WANTED, SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, for busy West Riding Office. Good knowledge industrial work and quantities essential. Able to take charge. State salary. Box 625.

SENIOR PLANNING ASSISTANT required by a County Council. Candidates must be fully conversant with Town and Country Planning Acts and Orders, experienced in preparation of Planning Schemes, and competent to advise on general layout of land for development. Appointment will be subject to reconsideration after war. Salary £400 rising to £500 p.a., plus war bonus. Applications in writing (no interviews), stating date of birth, full details of qualifications and experience (including a list in chronological order of posts held) with three testimonials, and quoting Order No. C.81 should be addressed to the Ministry of Labour and National Service Appointments Office, 2, Shindfield Road, Reading.

634

ARCHITECTURAL AND SURVEYING ASSISTANT required by Chartered Architect's and Chartered Surveyor's office in the North, with very varied practice. Apply with references, Box 636.

LONDON ARCHITECT'S OFFICE. Two assistants required to work on prefabricated housing. Salary £6 to £12 according to qualifications. Box 638.

Classified Advertisements continued on page xxxviii.

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 - (b) Junior Assistant: to prepare working drawings and details under supervision, assist on surveys, etc. Inter A.R.I.B.A. standard.
- Applicants must be keen, energetic and capable of original work. Midlands area, permanency with good prospects to the right applicants. Apply in writing, stating age, qualifications, brief resume of training and professional experience, salary required and liability for National Service to Box 637. [Chartered Architects].

Architectural Appointments Wanted

Architectural Assistants and Students seeking positions in Architects' offices will be printed in "The Architects' Journal" free of charge until further notice.

ARCHITECT, SURVEYOR AND CLERK-OF-WORKS, with over 25 years' theoretical and practical experience in all branches of the profession, seeks permanent and responsible position. Experience includes war damage, dilapidations, property management and maintenance, and a sound knowledge of estate agency; not liable for military service, rendered war service during 1914-18. Box 286.

ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMAN, willing to prepare and draw schemes for an Architect. Able to work week-ends and evenings. Box 289.

ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, Registered (36), seeks part-time appointment with firm of architects. Special experience in design, construction, heating and electrical services, etc., and specifications for industrial and commercial buildings. Box 293.

SENIOR ASSISTANT, passed A.R.I.B.A., P.A.S.I. exams., urgently requires spare-time work. Surveys, working and detail drawings, specifications, estimates, schedules of condition, war damage or dilapidations prepared at reasonable charges. Box 294.

ASSISTANT, 9 years' experience; exempt military service. Can secure release conditional upon an appointment of National importance. Reconstruction preferred. Salary £450-£500. Box 296.

ARCHITECT (chartered), experienced in carrying through works in London and provinces. Box 297.

EXPERIENCED ASSISTANT (28) undertakes work at home in off-duty hours from National Service. Tracing, colouring, drawing from rough sketches; also typing and duplicating Specifications, Schedules, Bills, etc. Fees by arrangement. R. L. Booker, 28, Elmwood Road, Herne Hill, S.E.24. 298

JUNIOR DRAUGHTSWOMAN, Art School and Technical College training, some experience, wants position in London with architect engaged on war work. Box 299.

ASSISTANCE. A/R.I.B.A.'s will prepare schemes and drawings, etc., in own office, spare and part-time work. Total experience 25 years. Central Scotland area. Write Box 301.

ARCHITECT'S ASSISTANT, experienced all classes of buildings, requires position with architect in Yorkshire or London area. Box 300.

CHIEF ASSISTANT (Chartered Architect) desires similar or executive position of permanency, offering sound prospects. Wide first class experience in design, detailing and supervision (including resident site supervision). Box 302.

YOUTH, aged 17 years, seeks position in architect's office, in London area. Has knowledge of architectural subjects and experience in office work. Box 303.

DRAUGHTSMAN AND CIVIL ENGINEERING ASSISTANT, 28, Reinforced Concrete Designer, no release required present employment (consultants). Exempt military service. Car owner. 114, Franciscan Road, S.W.17. 304

ASSISTANT, seven years' experience domestic, commercial, industrial structures and prefabrication, is available immediately for professional firm, contractor, industrial concern or research organization. Salary about £6 6s. Box 305.

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Other Appointments Vacant

Four lines or under, 4s.; each additional line, 1s.

ASSISTANT EDITOR wanted for Architectural Paper. Write, with full particulars of qualifications, salary required, &c., to Box 51.

Other Appointments Wanted

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HEATING AND VENTILATING ENGINEER, A.M.I.H.V.E., specialist in district supplies for hot water services and heating, is willing to act as "consulting engineer," free lance at the usual fees, etc., or paid post to private company or corporation desirous of, or at present financing undertakings for the supply, installation and maintenance of engineering plant in the above connections on a large scale. Write in the first place to Box 628.

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WANTED. Complete set or part ARCHITECT'S JOURNAL Library of Planned Information Sheets. Bound or Unbound. Good price offered. Box 621.

SPECIFICATIONS AND BILLS OF QUANTITIES, etc., expeditiously and accurately typed or duplicated. Translations and Facsimile, Typewriting. All work treated confidentially. Miss G. Saunders, Typewriting Bureau, 17, Dacre Street, Westminster, S.W.1. Telephone: Whitehall 2605

WANTED. The published price will be paid for a copy of *The Architectural Review* for April, 1943. Box 295.

WANTED, a copy of *Ideal Home*, April, 1944; also *New Era*, July and August, 1937. Box 614.

STUDENT wishes to purchase any pre-war copies of the *Architectural Review*; also any volumes *Library of Planned Information*; also any volumes *Oeuvre Complete* of Corbusier. Box 629.

WANTED. *Architecture of Greece and Rome*, Dinamoor & Ashby, latest edition, new or second hand, good condition. G. R. E. Weaver, 6, Greenbank Road, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent. 631

PROGRESSIVE BUSINESS MEN'S FORUM. A Debate will take place on Thursday, 18th May, at 5 p.m. at Langham Hotel (Bolivar Entrance), Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1, between Mr. Quintin Hogg, M.P., and Mr. William Gallacher, M.P. Business and Professional men and women are cordially invited. 633

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R.I.B.A. QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS. Mr. C. W. Box, F.R.I.B.A., M.R.San.I. Courses by Correspondence and Personal in Studio. 115, Gower St., London, W.C.1. Telephone: Euston 3305 and 3906.

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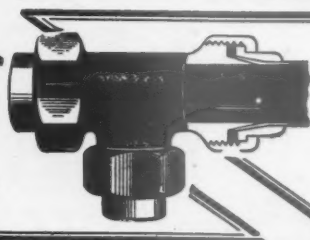
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