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Hugh Bourne, M.I.E.E., M.I.H.V.E. Consulting Engineer.

P. D. Hepworth, F.R.I.B.A.

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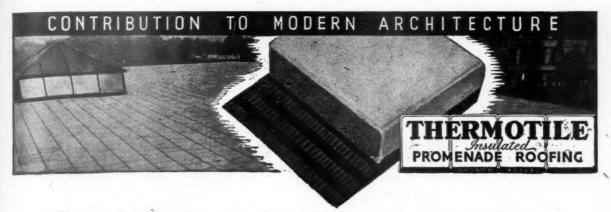
We shall be glad to give advance details of post-war Cerrux Finishes to all who are interested.

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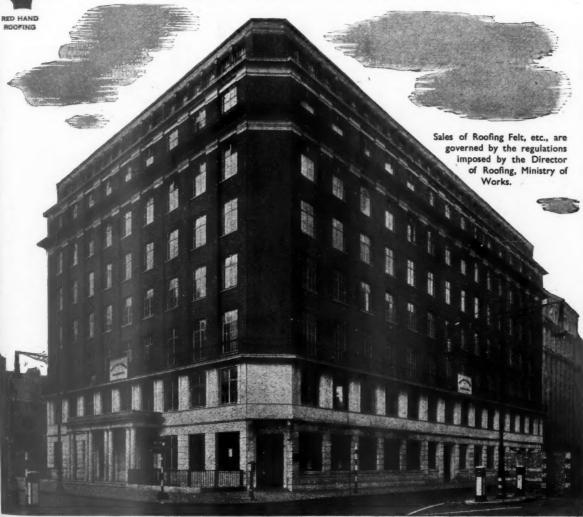
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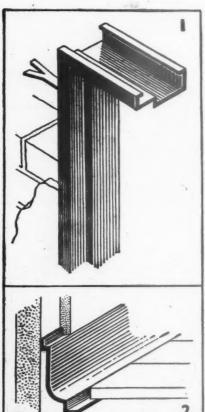


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Architect: C. LOVETT GILL, Esq., F.R.I.B.A. Builders: MULLEN & LUMSDEN LTD.

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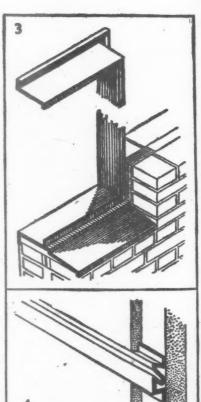


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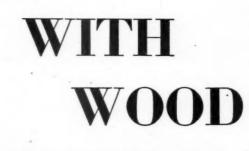
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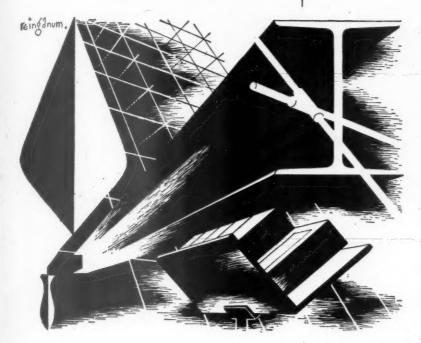
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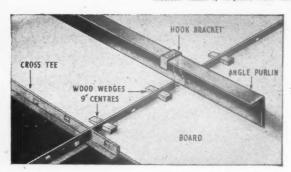
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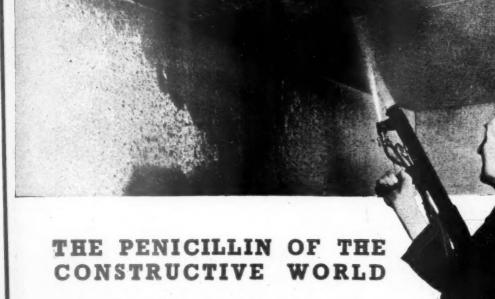
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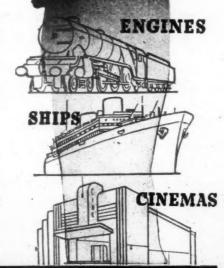
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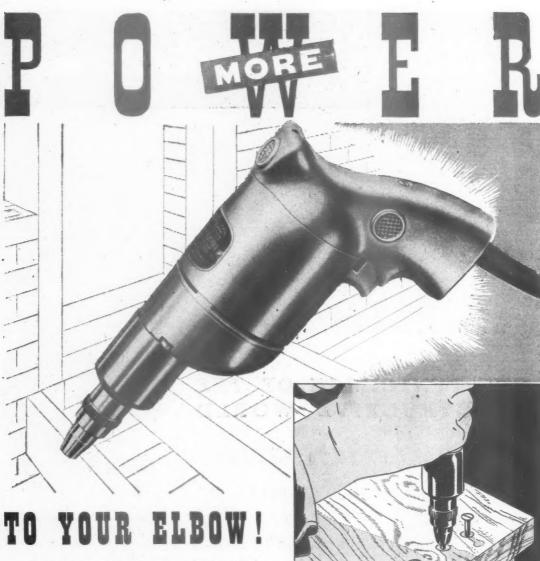
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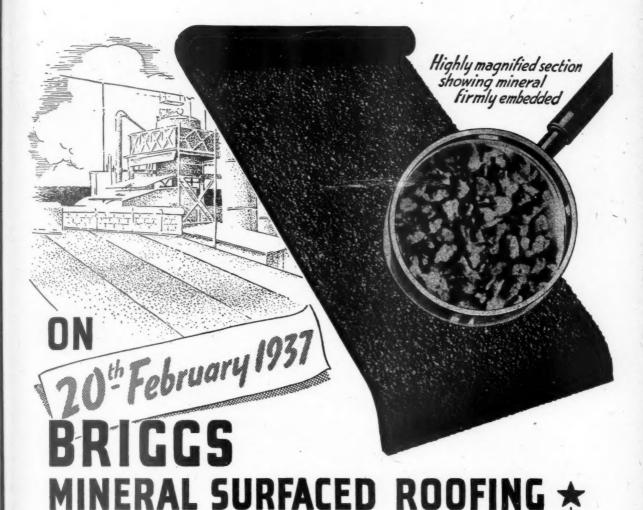


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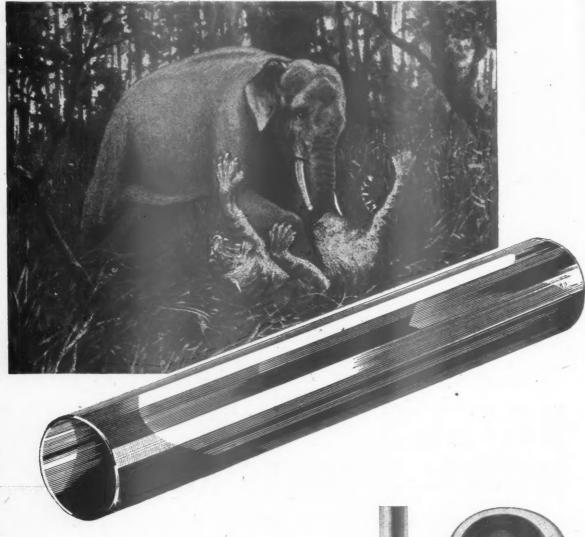
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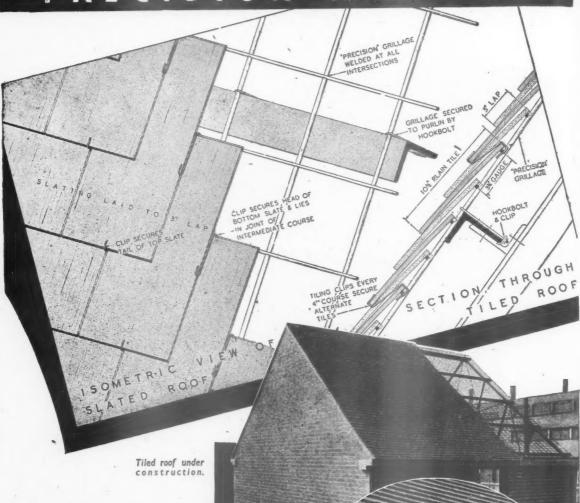
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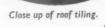


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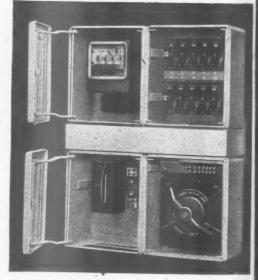
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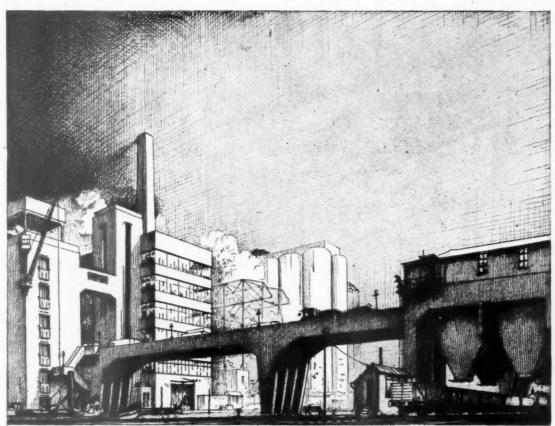


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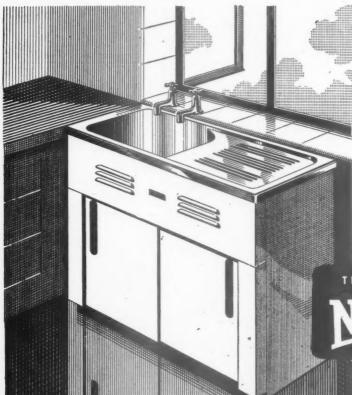
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The ENGLISH ELECTRIC COMPANY

ENLIST THE EXPERIENCE OF ENGLISH ELECTRIC

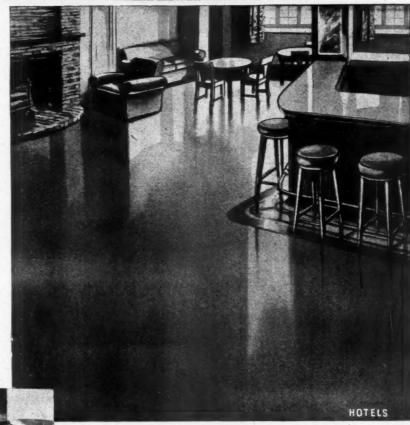
# There's a FLEXIMER Floor for every Building need...

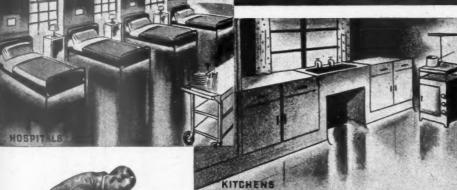
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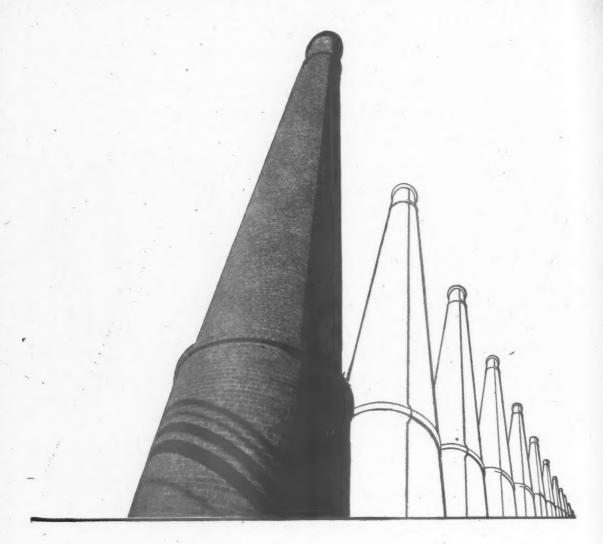
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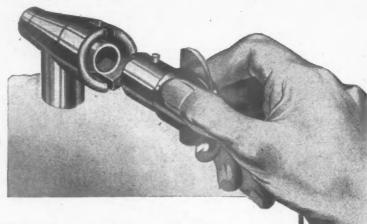
demand for priority purposes, but the position is gradually easing. Before the end of the year, in co-operation with our associate company, The Taylor Rustless Fittings Co. Ltd., we hope to commence small but increasing deliveries of stainless steel sinks and stainless architectural fittings.

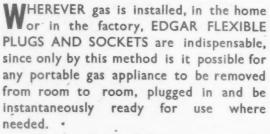


\* Our associate Company, The Taylor Rustless Fittings Co., Ltd., specialises in a comprehensive range of stainless steel architectural fittings, in hospital equipment and in the fabrication of large stainless steel tanks and vessels.

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No. 2. Mk. II.

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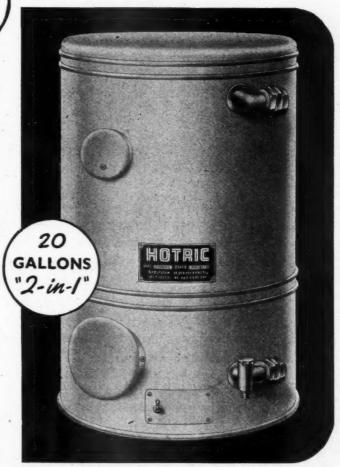
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# DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

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.

B IRMINGHAM. Modern Building Tools Exhibition. At Big Top Site, New Street, (Sponsor, MOW.) Oct. 9-13

BRENTWOOD. Country Life and Country Needs Exhibition. At Brentwood School. (Sponsor, BIAE.)
SEPT. 17-29

B RISTOL. Town and Country Planning Summer School. At Bristol Univerity. (Sponsor, TPI.) SEPT. 18-25 Modern Building Tools Exhibition. At Black Boy's Hill. (Sponsor, MOW.) OCT. 23-27

FINSBURY. NALGO Exhibition. At the Town Hall. (Sponsor, BIAE.) SEPT. 24-OCT. 1

GLASGOW. Association of Public Exhibition.
Sept. 13-14

GRAVESEND. NALGO Exhibition. SEPT. 13-29

H OMERTON. NALGO Exhibition. At Homerton College. (Sponsor, BIAE.) SEPT. 24-OCT. 8

[LKLEY. NALGO Exhibition. At the Grammar School. (Sponsor, BIAE.) Oct. 1-8

L IVERPOOL. Modern Building Tools Exhibition. (Sponsor, MOW.) SEPT. 13-15

LONDON. NALGO Exhibition. At the YWCA. (Sponsor, BIAE.) OCT. 6-13
NALGO Exhibition. At the Geffrye Museum, Kingsland Road, E. (Sponsor, BIAE.)

DEC. 3-15

John Summerson. Russian Architecture: The Historical Background. First of a series of introductory lectures to the study of Soviet architecture. At the RIBA, 66, Porland Place, W.1. Chairman, Percy Thomas, P.R.I.B.A. Tickets from SCR Architecture Group, 98, Gower Street, W.C.1. Admission free to members of the group, non-members 1s. 6d. 6.30 p.m. SEPT. 25

Dr. F. Klingender. Socialist Realism:
The Aesthetics of Soviet Architecture.
Second of a series of introductory lectures to the study of Soviet architecture. At the RIBA, 66, Portland Place, W.1. Chairman, E. J. Carter. Tickets from SCR Architecture Group, 98, Gower Street, W.C.1. Admission free to members of the Group, non-members 1s. 6d. 6.30 p.m. Oct. 22

Dr. E. G. West. Aluminium. Second of three lectures on Materials. At the Royal Society, Burlington House, W.1. Chairman, Hon. Geoffrey Cunliffe. Buffet lunch 1245 p.m. Lecture 1 p.m. (Sponsor, DIA)

Greater London Plan Exhibition. At the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, S.W.1.

Arthur Ling. Town Planning in Action:
The Moscow Plan. Fourth and last of a series of introductory lectures to the study of Soviet architecture. At the RIBA, 66, Portland Place, W.1. Tickets from SCR Architecture Group, 98, Gower Street, W.C.1. Admission free to members of the Group, non-members 1s. 6d. 6.30 p.m.

DEC. 11

Nikolaus Pevsner. Visual Planning and The City of London. At the AA, 34-36, Bedford Square, W.C.1. (Sponsor, AA.) 6 p.m. Nov. 27

MANCHESTER. Modern Building Tools Exhibition. (Sponsor, MOW.)

PONTYPRIDD. NALGO Exhibition. SEPT. 13-14
REDFIELD. NALGO Exhibition. At the Youth Centre. (Sponsor, BIAE.)
SEPT. 13-16

REYDON. Country Life and Country Needs Exhibition. (Sponsor, BIAE.) SEPT. 19-26

R UGBY. NALGO Exhibition. (Sponsor, Oct. 20-Nov. 3

SALISBURY. Homes to Live In Exhibition. (Sponsor, BIAE.)

OCT. 1-20

OUTH KIRBY. NALGO Exhibition. At Station House. (Sponsor, BIAE.) SEPT. 14-25

VENTNOR. The Future of British Resorts. Planning Our Holiday Areas. Town and Country Planning Association Conference at The Winter Gardens Pavilion, Ventnor, Isle of Wight. The conference will be opened on October 6 by the Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin and end on October 9. Among those taking part in the discussions will be Sir Patrick Abercrombie, representatives of all the main resort towns, of the travel and holiday organizations, of the hotel, catering and resort industries, and by interested members of the public. The conference will be preceded by a holiday week, from September 29 to October 6, at the Wellington Hotel, Ventnor. The Holiday Week has been designed primarily as a holiday meeting of town and country planners, members of the Association and their friends. Excursions and a limited number of lectures on subjects related to town and country planning are being arranged. (Sponsor, TCPA.) SEPT. 29-OCT. 9

YORK. NALGO Exhibition. At Holgate Hill Settlement. (Sponsor, BIAE.) Feb. 10-23

# NEWS

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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.

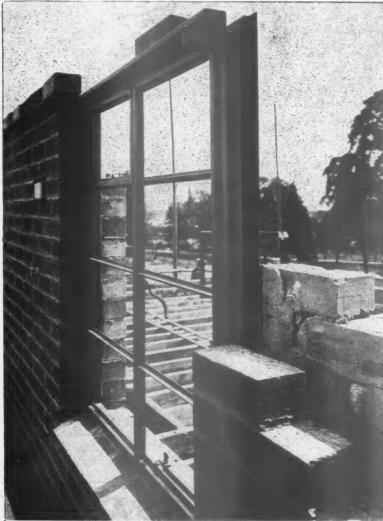
\* means important news, for reasons which may or may not be obvious.

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

A deputation from the Wandsworth Borough Council to the Ministry of Health has protested against the compulsory acquisition of BOMBED OUT SITES FOR TEMPORARY HOUSES.

TEMPORARY HOUSES.
The Minister of Health, Mr. Aneurin Bevan, received a deputation from the Wandsworth Borough Council consisting of the Mayor (Alderman Bonney), the Chairman of the Housing and Repairs Committee (Councillor Willison), and Councillors Castle, Campbell, Alexander and Symondson, together with the Town Clerk and Chief Housing Officer. Mr. David Robertson, M.P., and Capt. Adams, M.P., were also present. The deputation discussed with the Minister a Resolution passed by the Council "strongly opposing the compulsory acquisition by the Government, and the LCC or any authority, of the sites of bombed premises in order to erect Portal-type houses." The Council expressed the view that the use of such sites for Portal-type houses would retard rather than expedite the ultimate rehousing of homeless persons, as a greater number of persons could be rehoused in permanent dwellings than would be possible by the erection of temporary houses. The Minister explained that the provision of temporary houses was supplementary to the permanent house programme and would not continue beyond the point where large numbers of permanent houses could be brought into production. The essence of the matter was speed in alleviating the present acute shortage, but this would not be allowed, to prejudice the building of permanent houses.

# REBUILDING BRITAIN



# HOPE'S "CAVITY" SUB-FRAMES

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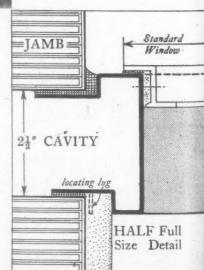
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#### ARCHITECT'S Commonplace AN

SIR BANISTER'S ORIGINALS RECOVER FROM THE COLIC. [From A Village in Piccadilly, by Robert Henrey (J. M. Dent and Sons).] The charter and by-laws of the Lorimers' Company were in a strong-room in the cellars of Carpenters' Hall when that building was destroyed by fire. Owing to the dangerous condition of the walls it was not until six months after the fire that anybody was allowed to search the ruins and remove the contents of the safe. By this time the historic documents were soaked and covered with mildew. . . . This was by no means the worst of such cases. Sir Banister Fletcher's original drawings for his *History of Architecture* were dripping wet, with the sheets stuck fast together, when they were finally retrieved from the Chancery Lane Safe Deposit, three months after the dreadful fire that destroyed half the famous street. The drawings in a thoroughly sodden state smelt so appallingly bad that the workmen were tempted to use their gas masks while handling them. The drawings were repaired with such cunning, however, that future generations will never realize how near they were to destruction.

The Penfold Gold Medal and the Driver, Wainwright, John Gilchrist and Crawter Prizes of the Chartered Surveyors Institution have been WON BY DONALD CLARK HANNAH of Dumfries, Scotland. Other prize winners are:—Penfold Silver Medal and Robert Irwin Barr Prize, Samuel Martin Smith, Stepps, near Glasgow; Institution Prize and Galsworthy Prize, Ronald Maycock, Doncaster; Special Prize, Ronald Maycock, Doncaster; Special Prize, Thomas Laird MacArthur, Greenock, Scotland; Quantities Prize, William Arthur Curley, Wylam, Northumberland; Constructive and Working Drawings Prize, Andrew Sim, Edinburgh; Beadel Prize and Mellersh Prize, Robert Watt Edgar, Kirkcaldy, Fife; Hyman Marks Prize, Clive Desmond Browning, Bristol; Julian Rogers Prize, / William Hawthorne Lochhead, Beith Ayrshire Prize, / William Beith, Ayrshire.

Parliamentary Powers are to be sought for the construction of the SEVERN BRIDGE, TO COST SEVERAL MILLION POUNDS.

Plans for the new bridge were considered Plans for the new bridge were considered by Parliament before the war, but the Government decided not to go ahead be-cause of the demands of the defence pro-gramme. The scheme provides for a bridge over two and one-eighth miles long, with a span of about 1,400 ft. over the navigation channel of the river, which would save 54 miles between Bristol, Southampton, and Cardiff.

A Deputation to the Ministry of Health from the Brighton Town Council requested that powers should be given to REQUISITION ANY UNOCCUPIED PROPERTY suitable for housing, and any large houses not fully occupied. The Minister of Health, Mr. Aneurin Bevan, received a deputation from Brighton, consisting of the Mayor (Councillor Nicholls), the Chairman of the Housing Committee (Councillor Davey), and Councillor Field, Knowles, Lux, Rostance and Sherrott, together with the Deputy Town Clerk and the Borough Surveyor. The deputation requested that powers should be given to requisition any unoccupied pro-

perty suitable for housing and any large houses not fully occupied. They stressed that the situation this winter could only be met by increased drastic powers, that procedure should be cut down to the mini-mum and pointed out that progress with mum and pointed out that progress with the housing problem was entirely depen-dent on the release of labour and technical staff to plan the work. The Minister under-took to give consideration to these submis-sions and in particular to see what more could be done in regard to the staffing difficulties, and the simplification of procedure.

Dr. Percy Dunsheath has been elected PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS.

Dr. Dunsheath has twice held office as member of the Council of the Institution, serving as Chairman of the Transmission Section 1936-7, and as vice-president 1940-3. He was appointed chairman of the Research Committee, an office he still holds, in 1942, and was re-appointed vice-president in 1945. He has been awarded the Kelvin Premium, the John Hopkinson Premium and various extra premiums. the Kelvin Premium, the John Hopkinson Premium and various extra premiums. After serving in France in the Great War as a Captain in the R.E.'s, being twice mentioned in despatches and awarded the O.B.E. (Military), he joined W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Company in 1919 to reorganize the research department, became research and technical manager in 1929 and chief engineer in 1934. He was elected a director of the company and of its subsidiaries, Henley's Tyre and Rubber Company and the Holborn Construction Company in 1937. pany in 1937.



Dr. Percy Dunsheath, President of the Institution of Electrical Engineers. See News item above.

The Royal Society of Arts is organizing a COMPETI-TION FOR A DESIGN FOR A CATHEDRAL at Colombo.

The Colombo New Cathedral Committee, in association with the Standing Committee of the Diocesan Council of the Church of Ceylon, invites architects who are qualified Ceylon, invites architects who are qualified Members of the RIBA or allied bodies, to submit in competition designs for the proposed Cathedral of the Holy Cross, together with Bishop's House, Divinity School, Diocesan Hall and Offices, in Colombo, on a site adjoining Buller's Road in that city. The competition is being organized by the Royal Society of Arts, London, on behalf of the Colombo New Cathedral Committee. Premiums, £500, £200 and £100. Last day for submitting designs. Cathedral Committee. Premiums, £300, £200 and £100. Last day for submitting designs, December 31, 1946. Last day for questions, February 28, 1946. Assessor, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, O.M., R.A. Conditions of Competition may be obtained on application to the Secretary, The Royal Society of Arts, 6, John Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.2. Deposit £1.

\*\*\* In a statement last week Mr. George Tomlinson, Minister of Works, said: THE ROLE OF THE MINISTRY OF WORKS in relation to housing has been somewhat altered as compared with the position before the General Election. It will no longer be concerned with housing policy, he continued, but as the Ministry responsible for dealing with the problems of the Building Industry as a whole. It will be charged with the task of seeing that

there is an organised plan for the production of all materials needed for the industry and for housing in particular. In that capacity it will remain responsible for the production and erection of temporary houses as the housing authorities may deduction of such prefabricated permanent houses as the Housing Authorities may decide should be made available. It is particularly in the realm of scientific development, and in the dissemination of the results of this kind of work, that the ment, and in the dissemination of the results of this kind of work, that the Ministry should be able to render real service to the Building and Civil Engineering Industry. The Ministry is being reorganised on the normal Government Department lines under the Permanent Secretary, and the need for the Ministry of Works Council Organisation has ceased. Most valuable work has been done by Sir Hugh Beaver and General Pile, but the change in the functions of the Ministry has afforded an opportunity for reorganising it on a normal peace-time basis with permanent officials in the key posts. officials in the key posts.



# Architect to the GWR

Mr. Brian Bannatyne Lewis, M.A., B.Arch, F.R.I.B.A., the newly appointed architect to the Great Western Railway Company, was on active service with a Field Company of the Royal Australian Engineers from 1940 until 1943, when he was released on the application of the Ministry of War Transport to return to the GWR, which he had joined in 1930. Born in Tasmania in 1906 he was educated at Melbourne University where he became a Bachelor of Architecture, and at Liverpool University, where he became M.A. (Architecture). He won the RIBA Victory Scholarship in

1931, the Honan Scholarship of the Liverpool Architectural Society and the War Memorial Scholarship of the Victorian Institute of Architects. He has had office experience in Melbourne, Singapore and London, and has studied in Spain and in Scandinavia. In partnership with his wife, Hilary Bannatyne Lewis, B.Arch., A.R.I.B.A., he carried out domestic works mainly in Westmorland and exhibited his own drawings of these in the Royal Academy in 1938-39-40. He volunteered in the Australian Imperial Forces in 1940, and served in North Africa, Syria and the Pacific.

At Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, the Urban District Council's decision to build ten temporary houses on a prehistoric burial ground has been CRITICIZED APPROVED.

The houses are to be built on the prehistoric Budbury site, and some of them will be in the centre of the ancient mound, now dated by experts at 2,000 B.C. Councillor Guy Underwood, who made the discovery of the circle, protested that they would be destroying something of priceless value.

Mr. B. H. St. O'Neil, inspector of ancient monuments, says *The Times*, wrote to the council: I am glad to hear your council has agreed to arrange the proposed temperature between the same and that the has agreed to arrange the proposed tem-porary houses on this area, and that the minimum of damage will be done on the ancient site. Naturally I would still prefer that none of the houses should be placed within the earth bank, but in all the cir-cumstances I am not in a position to press that point. 'We can now definitely say that the round mould is a barrow or burial mound such as was constructed in the bronze age second millenium acc. It does mound such as was constructed in the bronze age, second millenium B.C. It does not seem that sufficient work has been done to show that the site generally is of con-siderable importance, and will merit careful scientific investigation later on when paid labour is available.

The Minister of Works has decided to strengthen the existing Regional Organisation of the Ministry by the APPOINTMENT OF REGIONAL DIRECTORS who will be generally responsible for all aspects of the Ministry's work in A number of their Region. appointments to these posts be shortly announced.

M. Jacques Greber, Inspector General of City Planning in Paris, has been invited by the Canadian Government to prepare plans for the extension of OTTAWA AS WAR MEMORIAL. This has been disclosed by Mr. Mackenzie King, the Prime Minister, who said: The proposal is to extend the capital to the north proposal is to extend the capital to the north bank of the Ottawa river in conformity with the scheme which M. Greber partly developed on the south bank after the last war. General de Gaulle has indicated that M. Greber will be made available for the task. According to The Times correspondent Mr. Mackenzie King envisaged an Ottawa developed along, lines similar to what has been done in Washington, and power has already been given to the Federal District Commission to consult with munipower has already open given to the built large area in the neighbourhood of Ottawa, including stretches of the Gatineau valley. The scheme will imply city planning improvements in Hull, a community on the Quebec side of the river, where new Government departments may in due course be established. It will also be linked with national park developments in the Gatineau valley. The project is one that has long interested the Prime Minister, and he regards its fulfilment as a fitting national regards its fulfilment as a fitting national memorial to those who have died in this

## PRECISION OR AVERAGE?

TN the 'thirties the vanguard of architectural advance was dedicated to architectural precision. The word occurs again and again in Le Corbusier's writings and the quality of precision was characteristic of his buildings and those of the advanced minority of architects in all countries. The outstanding buildings were exactly designed to each particular set of circumstances, to a nicely considered scale of values, with studied architectural effect. Important discoveries in architectural form were the result of this period of concentration, of closely reasoned analysis and finely adjusted sensibility, applied to a restricted number of buildings.

Nowadays the situation has changed. Two very different factors claim attention. The immensity of the task of reconstruction postulates architecture designed in the mass—average architecture rather than the architecture of precision. The upheaval of wartime changes reminds us that architecture too must provide for change, that the precise solution of one generation may become a white elephant in the next.

In the field of average architecture we have already scored successes, particularly in some of the prefabricated houses in which the speculative builder's standard plan has been married to some of the discoveries of the architecture of precision. Average architecture is a matter of standardizing the best (and only the best) of established ideas.

The architecture of change is more difficult. Here there is no question of standardization: we are as yet in the early stages of discovery. The need for combating obsolescence by adaptability is acute, although the demand is not yet clearly formulated. It takes the shape of complaints against cast-off buildings, and requests for specially designed accommodation with a margin for development.

This is the line adopted in a pamphlet upon Industrial and Welfare Accommodation that we have received from the Post Office Engineering Union. As we must now look to the community at large as our client, we should take notice when an important group commits requirements to paper. It is clear that we who have never really mastered the art of persuading the individual client or small committee to present us with clear and practicable instructions, are now confronted with the larger task of explaining to our fellow-citizens in the mass what architecture can do for them, and what it cannot. The Post Office Engineers demand that their buildings shall in future be precisely adapted to function, that they shall not be forced to accept architectural cast-offs from other industries. On the other hand they remark that theirs is a developing

tions at a future date. The inconsistency of this argument is masked by the apparent reasonableness of the individual assertions. But a building precisely adapted to present functions is by definition not one

industry, susceptible to sudden changes in technique, and they

ask for a margin of accommodation for future needs. They

conclude by foreseeing the need to review their recommenda-

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with a margin of accommodation for future needs: and it is just because theirs, and everyone else's, is a developing industry that somebody must accept architectural cast-offs or cramped quarters or departments overflowing into each other, unless . . . . (and here, with greater insight, the Post Office Engineers might have formulated the appropriate instruction for architects) . . . unless buildings are made adaptable to change. Several methods for achieving adaptability are already being examined. Box Frame Construction is one. Similar is the permanent post-and-slab with light-weight adaptable walls and partitions. Another line is some kind of prefabricated demountable unit design that allows buildings to be added to or rearranged or removed, according to changing needs. Architects are ready to tackle this problem, but a clear public demand would be of great assistance.



The Architects' Journal

War Address: 45, The Avenue, Cheam, Surrey

Telephone: Vigilant 0087-9

NOTES

TOPICS

FULL STEEN AHEAD

"Mrs. Jones lives in a new house in a new road in a new suburb surrounded by a Green Belt. The suburb includes housing zone, shopping area and social centre; free library and lecture hall, cinema, tennis courts, children's playground, lido and paddling pool. There is a secondary school with kindergarten; several churches of varying denominations; of course, a pub. . . . . ."

"The perambulator rolls smoothly along an admirable concrete sidewalk, bordered, at punctual intervals, by small trees; nice, fresh, green-looking. No grimy bricks and mortar for lucky Mrs. Jones. Along the middle of the

road bowls a certain amount of traffic by-passed from the main...."

"Mrs. Jones sets out as usual next morning. She finds herself counting. There are 22 trees betwen her gate and the first of the shops; 22 trees there and 22 trees back—she verifies it on the return journey. Sixty-four gates in couples, representing 64 houses, distinguishable only by the variety of the curtains; with 64 front doors, 64 side sheds, containing 64 perambulators, bicycles, scooters—what have you. Sixty-four paths, 64 front gardens."

"How many steps does it take, each morning, to get past those 22 trees, 64 gates? . . . . She begins to count. Counting has become a habit. . . . She comes home, goes to bed, and, while Mr. Jones snores, lies awake, dreaming of worlds beyond her own; miserable with tiny resentments and envies. To-morrow will be Sunday. The next day Monday. She dreads another week. She begins quietly to cry. . . . ."

"Mrs. Jones—foolish, petty, empty-headed, whatever you like to call her—is to be pitied, not censured. She is the product of some busybody's idea of healthy housing conditions for the worker"; of a penal settlement for housewives, specially planned and standardised so that no good excuse offers itself for Mrs. Jones to go beyond her immediate environment and no scope exists for the exercise of her invention or originality...."

"This is what town-planning in the past has brought us to; this is where it may bring us again, unless we resist it....."

These quotations are from an article by novelist Marguerite Steen which appeared recently in the Evening News. "Compare," she says, "the life of town-planned Mrs. Jones with that of wholesome village life where there is always a centre of interest—such as the harvest—to draw the community together. One is stagnant, unhealthy. The other quick with a healthy interdependent spirit."

Before you dismiss this as superficial and ill-informed, remember the potential dangers in its tiny kernel of truth. Of course, it was neuroses, neuroses all the way in many of our pre-war suburbs. We have all read our Mumford and Auden. We know about Mecropolis, the idiot in Leicester Square, and the community spirit at Watling. But four-fifths of Englishmen are townsmen, and there's no harvest to discuss in Burnt Oak and they don't hawk homely goods in Shepherds Market any more. How then can urban life regain its structure and dignity?

The catchword—and how it's been caught, not a butterfingers anywhere except in the City of London—is the neighbourhood unit—the panacea. This is what's at the bottom of Miss Steen's sip at the Pierian spring. Most intelligent people—and they include a few town-planners—are well aware that neighbourhoods can't be built or circumscribed. All you can do is to provide the best possible physical background against which a neighbourhood can grow and flourish.

But no. The general impression—and if the Evening News has it, it's general—is that after the war we are all going to live in fenced-in neighbourhood units, and only leave them in a hearse on the way to the cemetery which we share with the next N.U. The best way of stopping this misconception perhaps is to drop the catchword.

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POETS' CORNER THE SPEC BUILDER SPEAKS-11\* Thatched roof Fire-Proof). Leaded panes, Sunken bath, Crazy path, Ditto drains, Parquet floor, Gothic door, hinese knocker. The garage (Not too large) Is baroque
Walls of brick
-not too thick.

H. J. RYAN

### CORRUGATED PERSPEX

Much is to be expected in new developments from the application to peace-time usages of materials and processes evolved and proved during the war. As an earnest of what will come, and of interest especially to those interested in lighting, comes the announcement that Perspex, the transparent plastic material designed and

sheet of corrugated Perspex. Astragal's note.

With acknowledgments to The New Statesman and

manufactured by ICI and used in every kind of aircraft throughout the war, is now available in corrugated sheet form for purposes of roof and wall lighting.

The corrugated sheets are made up to fit existing standards of corrugated iron and asbestos cement, and can be fitted to the roof or wall in exactly the same way as normal corrugated sheets, with standard hook bolts or wood screws and washers.

There are some obvious advantages in having a transparent material in this form. Not only can the corrugated Perspex sheets be fitted by anyone having experience of ordinary corrugated sheeting, thus dispensing with the need of separate glazier, but the sheets, requiring no frames or lead flashings, can easily be moved from one position to another should alterations in the floor lay-out make this desirable. Moreover, by interspersing the corrugated sheets in a chequerboard pattern upon the roofing, a shadow-free disposition of light can be obtained upon the floor below.

Corrugated Perspex roof lights are said to have a high safety factor and under normal conditions will not crack or splinter when subjected to shocks or vibrations. There is therefore no danger of workers receiving injuries through falling fragments, nor, incidentally, do the sheets need to be wired as a protection from such a danger...

The material weathers well, they say, and is not affected by atmospheric contamination. Normal maintenance is therefore reduced to mere cleaning. The lightness in weight of the material—0.9 lb. per square foot -renders it not only peculiarly easy to handle and fix in position, but simplifies roof construction.

There is still a serious disadvantage in Perspex, however, which, it is to be hoped, the experts will soon overcome. It abrades far too easily. And I should like to be assured that the sun's heat would not gradually mould a sag in the roof sheets.

**ASTRAGAL** 



# LETTERS

J. Blackburn, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.

C. Barker

### Cocoanut Matting

SIR,—I have just received a shipment of the old Journal, an event to which we architects and even engineers always look forward to out here. Many times in the past I have thought of writing to you about many things, but always the date on the Journal and the knowledge that my letter would be out of date by the time it reached

you, has put me off.

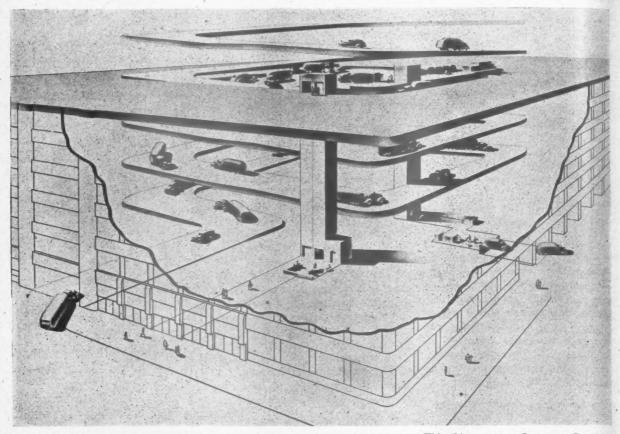
However, the system proposed by Mr.

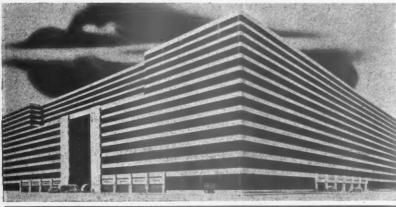
J. H. Waller for Emergency Housing has stimulated my lethargy for the following reasons.

I have been carrying out many experi-ments with cocoanut matting and cement rendering, and some 18 months ago, whilst rendering, and some 18 months ago, whilst working on an outstation, I ran out of tiles. Necessity is the mother of invention, and I tried the rendered matting on the roof with rafters at 3 ft. 0 in, centres. The result was a beautiful corrugated pitched roof, which I must admit was purely accidental, since I had not anticipated so much sagging. However, I was quick to realize the possibilities of this form of construction, as cocoanut matting is a staple village industry out here, and the next logical thing to do was to put on a curved corrugated roof with removable centering. This I did on a small building 9 ft. 0 in. wide by 13 ft. 0 in. long, and much to the amazement of everyone concerned it is still standing. standing.

Till reading your article I had been labour-ing under the happy delusion that I was the first to stumble across this idea, and convinced of the possibilities and realizing convinced of the possibilities and realizing the expense to which we go to bring steel hangars all the way from home, for a purpose to which they are not suited, I have been endeavouring to persuade the powers that be that hangars for any span could be put up much more cheaply and quickly with cocoanut matting and rendering. I have even gone to the trouble of designing a system of centring which could be used for any span between 30 to 120 ft.,

### USA COMMERCE CENTRE WILL HAVE INTERNAL ROAD





This thirteen-storey Interstate Commerce Centre covering four square blocks (180,000 sq. ft.) and providing tenants with over four acres of space on each flow, will be built in Manhattan as soon as materials are available. It is specially designed to facilitate large-scale commercial or production enterprise. A revolutionary feature will be the installation of a 32-ft. wide highway running through the interior of the building for more than three-quarters of a mile, which will enable cars and lorries to drive direct from the street to loading platforms on each floor.

and yet be transportable in 3-ton lorries, and once assembled on the job could be used for any length of hangar without having to be dissembled. However, my efforts have met with very little success, since not being an engineer I cannot produce calculations showing what depth of corrugation is necessary for any particular span, or what the safety of the structure is.

Now it appears that Mr. J. H. Waller has beaten me to it, and I offer him my humble apologies if, through a sheer accident, I have transgressed what must have been originally his idea. The situation is not without its compensations, because if Mr. Waller has some practical experience of this system, the powers that be would probably listen to him where they will not to what they consider to be the babblings of a mere architect. Having spent over 2 years in this island, I assure you that the

adoption of this system for stores, aircraft hangars, etc., would have greatly helped the war effort in the East, and for Mr. Waller's information the cement rendering will stick to cocoanut matting much better than to hessian.

I should like to hear from Mr. Waller, and would be delighted to put at his disposal my idea for mobile centring.

Colombo

J. BLACKBURN

### Swedish Housing

SIR,—Astragal's note and the small line illustration of the Swedish Timber House designed for MOW is interesting. The design is a pleasant one and could perhaps be improved if the treatment of the windows and doors were more uniform as regards sash bars. It seems strange indeed in

the present acute shortage of houses that this country can have acted so strangely. The other article on Fagersta has some extremely interesting illustrations, notably the house plans. Presumably the house is centrally heated by radiators situate under the windows, but apparently there is also provided an open hearth fireplace for a wood fire. This also appears to be the case in the women's pleasant sewing room with a well designed open hearth fireplace. Seemingly the windows are mostly kept one size despite the differing sizes of the rooms they light. The plan of the bedroom floor is excellent, despite the fact that the best bedroom door would be stopped by the bedside cabinet, and the arrangement of the landing is charming, as well as original, in so small a house.

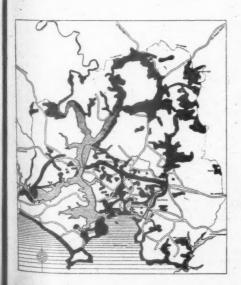
Stratford-on-Avon

CHARLES BARKER

## PHYSICAL PLANNING SUPPLEMENT



# SIR CHARLES DISCUSSES the plan for Plymouth



Sir Charles Reilly, septuagenarian architectural educationist, fresh from a visit to Plymouth in connection with Arthur J. Rank's film of the plan The Way in Which We Live, now under shooting, contributes for this week's Supplement some characteristically vigorous and racy comments on this now familiar proposal by Sir Patrick Abercromble. Above is a plan of the new city centre and shopping centre, sited in the vale between the Hoe and the Station Place. Left, a map of the park system.

### town and region planned together

The Plymouth Plan, by Mr. Paton Watson, the City Engineer, and Sir Patrick Abercrombie, with an introduction and foreword by Viscount Astor and the American Ambassador, all produced in a volume worthy of such names, yet at a mysteriously low price, if one can obtain it at all, is, as far as I know, the first plan of a town which is, as all such plans should be, a Regional Plan too. It is also the first town plan about which a full-length feature film is in the course of being made, a film called *The Way in Which We Live*. Someone in power has decided that it is time films dealt seriously with culture, and that the best expression

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BARKER

of modern culture is modern town planning, with the result that the director of that grand film about modern painting, Out of Chaos, Miss Jill Craigie, is at the moment in Plymouth making a still grander film. Let us hope it will not when finished be hidden away as was Out of Chaos, for fear of offending middle class taste or possibly the Royal Academy.

#### access to the Hoe

This Plymouth Plan about to be popularized in this thoroughly democratic way has, as all good plans of towns should have, one central dominating idea as well as several lesser ones. Everyone who has arrived at Plymouth by sea knows as he passes wooded headland after wooded headland that it is the finest port of arrival in the country, and he hopes that all good Americans will get their first glimpse of England by using it. If, however, one arrived in pre-war days by train at the North Station, as one usually did, or even if one arrives there to-day with the centre of the town cleared by our late enemy, one finds a muddle of streets giving no suggestion of how one should reach the sea front at the Hoe, with its famous stretches of grass and its glorious view of the entrance to the port, and probably, too, of sections of the Fleet lying at anchor. In fact, there used to be a crazy-pavement mediæval town between the station and the Hoe and, even if one got near to the latter in one's perambulations, it was extremely difficult to find the ways up and out of the town on to its sea front.

### grass, gardens and sea

Now, however, all this is to be altered. Directly one leaves the station one will see in front of one a wide pedestrian avenue of grass and gardens going down and then up on to the Hoe some half a mile away. This avenue centres on the Naval Monument. I wish it centred on something more If perhaps the rococo top of the obelisk were removed, like parts of the Prudential Insurance Buildings and other distressing things in the path of the avenue, it would be a still greater improvement. Anyhow, it will be a grand thing for the town to have this fine park-like back-bone, the one straight thing among the complexities of the water line. of the old citadel, and of the surrounding islands and hills. At last one will be able to find one's way without having to possess the instincts of the original pack donkey, which probably settled the old route through this and other mediæval cities. The railway and motor coaches will come into their own, better late than never, even if a flying and perhaps an atomic energy age is at hand.

#### famous stores two a penny

Along this avenue to the left and right after one has passed a cultural and residential area (what names we town planners love to use) one has on either hand three large shopping precincts, but with ring roads round them on their far sides. Each of these consists of four large groups of stores with a The stores so envisaged are parking space in the centre. like some half-dozen Oxford Streets full of Selfridges but without any traffic, but then town planners do not hold themselves responsible for the architecture shown by their perspective men. That is a mere detail. Abercrombie now tells me he wants to see William Crabtree designing these precincts in the manner of Peter Jones, and naturally I am in complete agreement. The point, however, is that this is a very large shopping centre, much more than the actual town, though that is over a quarter of a million, requires. a shopping centre to serve the whole Region, as the old one An bui be job

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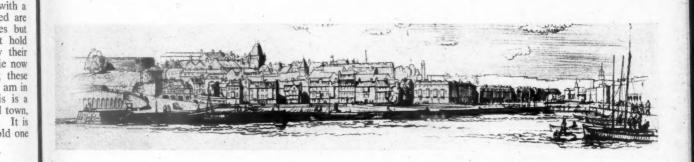
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Town Planners do not hold themselves responsible, quips Sir Charles, for the architecture of their perspective men. collaboration between town planners and architects at all stages will certainly be needed if the deceptive abstractions of many plan shapes are to stand the visual and other tests of actual building.



Ancient Plymouth was gutted by bombs, but enough of this small area remains to justify creation of an historic precinct where new building is carefully designed to harmonise with the old: note that harmony does not mean unison, or that new building should be faked or pseudo antique. For civilization generally, creative preservation has much the same value as the office file on an old job, often very useful to refer to for current work and future plans. Above, the Barbican of to-day seen from the East, below, proposed reconstruction from the same viewpoint.



### shopkeepers' opposition

From the shopping precinct one passes on to the Municipal and Law Courts precinct, then to two precincts for banks, then to two more for hotels and boarding houses, till one climbs the slight rise and finally reaches the Hoe. one gets there, hidden away on the left are an open air theatre and stadium and a marine pavilion, all called, of course, an Entertainment Centre, and on the right there is the old town and Barbican mercifully left as it is except for a little clearing up of the outline of its roofs to make it even more picturesque. So all tastes are catered for, which is perhaps right. No one, not even a town planner, should ride roughshod over an old town like Plymouth, with its Mayflower Steps and other historical associations. Hitler has been at work is, of course, another matter. In the centre of the town the authors have seized this opportunity and have replaced an awkward mediæval town by a modern one. Even so, however, I hear the shopkeepers are not welcoming the new co-operative era as they should. Like their London predecessors of Wren's time, they each want to rebuild their premises as they like and differently from those of their neighbours, forgetting that that vulgar old advertising way of doing things belongs to a competitive era only a hundred years old, which we hope has gone for ever, and that once more we are all going to be gentlemen as we were when the terraces on the Hoe were built.

That then is the general idea of the plan. Having seen the site lately and watched 3,000 of the youth of the town of both sexes marching in procession with banners asking for it, I, like them, say it is a fine plan, which the town of Plymouth ought to have.

#### regional woodlands

I do not know much about the Regional Plan. It looks all right. Those of the poor overspill—another blessed word—who want to live in the country villages round about can do so, I suppose, with the help of modern transport. On paper it would seem a wonderful area in which to live with its planned town, its cultivated area, its wild woodlands, its shores and islands all in reach. One should be able there, as Lewis Mumford maintains, to satisfy both the cultivated and primitive sides of one's nature without going to sophisticated places like Switzerland or the Riviera.

### are community centres human?

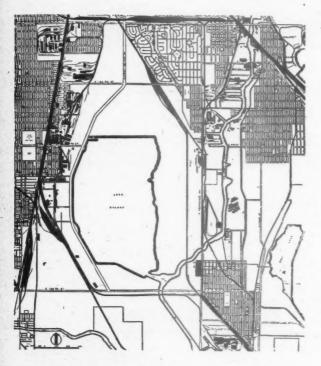
I am not so happy about the planning of the work-a-day areas like Devonport, but then I am never happy about suburban planning unless it includes real neighbourliness in the position of the houses and flats and in the run of the streets, and not just Community Centres dropped from heaven. I (as indeed some may have heard by now) believe wholeheartedly in a revival of the village green, or rather in a group of four or five oval greens about a Community Centre, that modern development of the Village Inn and the Country Club, like the petals of a flower round its centre. That should make for real community life, and in this Plymouth Plan I do not see that that life will grow as naturally as it should in the new era we are now entering. If one has a car Plymouth will be a grand place in which to live, and not one just to come to and go away from, when this plan is carried out in the next ten years, as indeed now seems probable.

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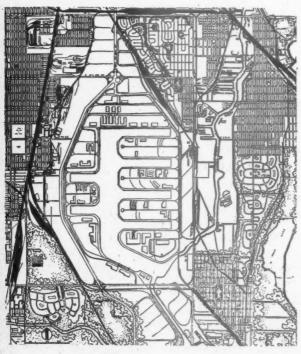
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# DOCK REFORM



BEFORE

AFTER



Dock reform: this sweeping proposal from Chicago, illustrating the conversion of a derelict urban pond on an existing waterways system into a large inland harbour with full facilities, can be related to some present-day questions and aspects of inland ports in Britain.

# PLANNING

The U.S. Federal Housing Administration's Land Planning Bulletin Number One, aims to bring previously chaotic private enterprise housing of its own accord into the planning arena. Such efforts are of topical interest in this country where, in spite of present trends, ribbon developers are still eager to revive their activities.

1. Well-planned, protected, and properly improved residential neighbourhoods have long been recognised as factors essential to the successful marketing of properties in all price ranges. One reason for this is the recognition on the part of purchasers of these properties of the greater stability of real estate values in such areas.

real estate values in such areas.

2. The development of slums, blighted residential areas, and the depreciation of property values are generally due to the failure to apply the fundamental principles used in planning high priced neighbourhoods to areas composed of houses of modest cost.

3. In recent years the increased demand for low cost houses has emphasized the need for a sound marketing policy and programme, and for adequate planning of neighbourhoods to avoid rapid deterioration of property values, future slums, and preventable financial losses to developers and home owners.

4. Premature and unwarranted subdivisions are to be found in the outskirts of practically every metropolitan area. They are conceived in the hope of profiting through the sale of land by high pressure lot selling schemes.

5. Failure properly to analyse the market results in property being offered to the public in a price range or of a type for which there is no active demand.

6. Improper location of a subdivision commonly results from an attempt to find use for vacant land instead of selecting land with a definite residential purpose in mind.

7. Lack of adequate street improvements

and utilities result in conditions which are undesirable to prospective home purchasers. 8. Poor subdivision design due to ill-considered and improperly studied layout, while one of the least recognized, is one of the commonest causes of land development

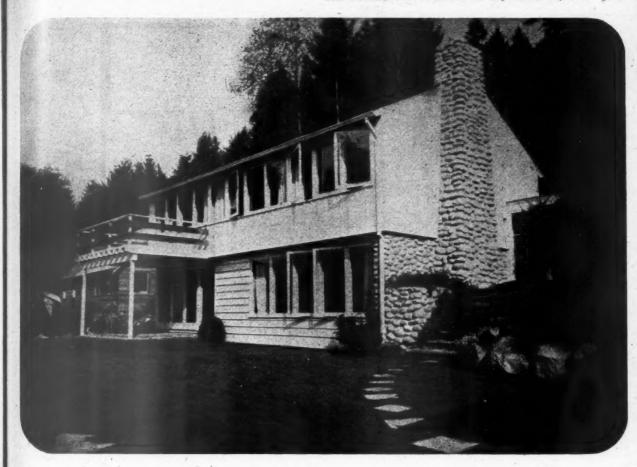
9. Lack of suitable protective covenants controlling the use of land, prohibition of nuisances, regulation as to lot sizes and location of buildings, restriction against temporary buildings, and similar considerations, is one major cause of neighbourhood blight.

10. Lack of community planning and zoning retards otherwise successfully planned subdivisions.

11. Short blocks increase initial construc-

11. Short blocks increase initial construction costs because of the large number of cross streets, and also increase traffic hazards and travel time through such districts.

12. Lots that have sharp pointed corners are wasteful of land because the resulting wedge-shaped areas have little or no utility, and constitute poor building sites.



# TWO HOUSES OF TIMBER IN CANADA

DESIGNED BY PETER THORNTON

These two houses were built in 1939 at Caulfield, British Columbia, to designs by a young Canadian architect trained in London. Construction is of timber boarding painted white backed by Ruberoid roofing felt on fir studs, the walls containing chimneys being of river pebbles in mortar.

Floors in the main rooms are of oak boarding. A 3-in, thick composition of sawdust and hydrated lime forms insulation between floor joists. All glazing is of double weight. Balcony rails are in the one case of timber and in the other of wrought iron, balcony floors being

of cedar slats  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. by  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in., spaced  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. apart.

In the smaller house without garage the main entrance hall is on the east at mezzanine level, from which stairs lead down to the ground floor and up to the first floor. Service entrance into the utility room is on the north. The larger house has a garage with concrete floor and flat roof of reinforced concrete 4 in. thick. The roof over the rest of the job is one-way and is covered with a 5-ply bituminous covering. The living room and dining room in this house are separated by a wide

door sliding into the partition wall. Off the living room is a study recess and above this off the main bedroom is a dressing recess; in both cases the ceiling is dropped 6 in. The hearths in the living room and main bedroom are of brick.

In this house the main entrance is on the north and kitchen entrance on the south from a service courtyard surround by a river pebble wall. Maids' bedrooms in both houses are off the kitchens on the ground floors. Both houses have heating chambers for central heating in the basements.

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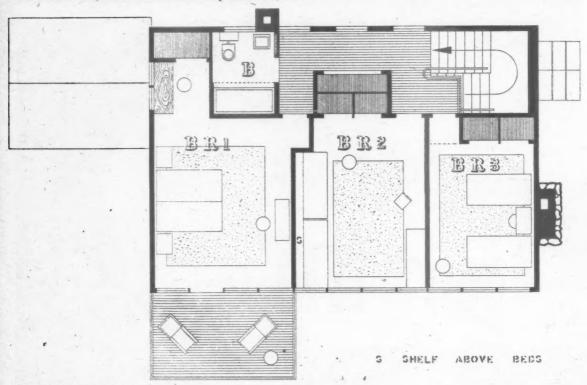
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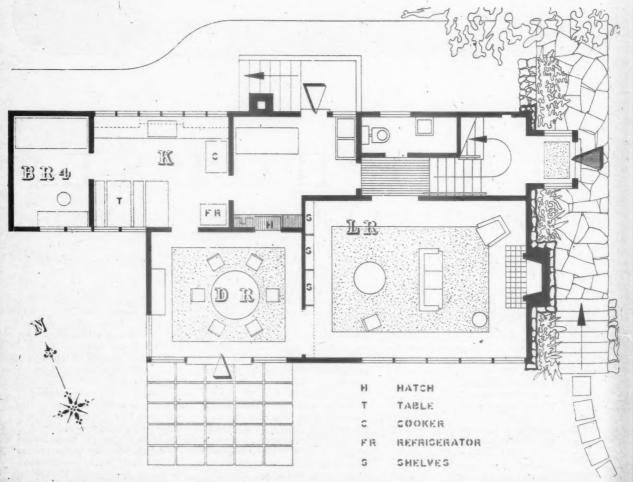
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FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

On facing page, plans of the smaller house without attached garage of which a view from the south is shown on page 191. Below, view from the south of the larger house of which plans are shown on page 195. Right, the living room of the larger house looking towards the wide doorway to the dining room.





TWO HOUSES OF TIMBER IN CANADA



On facing page, plans of the larger house with garage. Left, a close up of this house showing the end of the balcony with its wrought iron railing and the flue wall and chimney of river pebbles. Below, a general view from the south-west showing the river pebble retaining wall of the terrace approached by a wide flight of steps.

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TWO HOUSES OF TIMBER IN CANADA



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### 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.

### STRUCTURE

2099

Floor Repair

A NEW METHOD OF CONCRETE FLOOR REPAIR. Cyril H. Fitch. (The Architects' Journal, July 26, 1945, pp. 61-62.) Repair by cement gun of reinforced hollow tile floor in departmental store, badly damaged by fire in air raid. Loading up to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times design load after repair caused deflection less than 1/1,000th the span. BRS thoroughly satisfied with method and results.

2100

Orlit System

THE ORLIT SYSTEM OF HOUSE CON-STRUCTION. Architect: E. Katona. (THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL, July 12, 1945, pp. 29-34.) Pre-cast reinforced concrete frame with cavity walls. Simple method of horizontal and vertical connections. Outer leaf of special stone-faced dense concrete slabs, the inner of lightweight concrete slabs. Floors and roofs of channel shaped concrete units.

Prefabrication in Britain

PREFABRICATION IN GREAT BRITAIN. F. R. S. Yorke. (Architectural Record, May, 1945, pp. 99-112.) Lack of interest in prefabrication before war. Present necessity of non-traditional Technical development under Government control. Fifty experimental building licences issued; about 30 prototypes already built. Survey of 9 types, all but one already published in THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL.

Prefabrication in Canada

THE PREFABRICATED HOUSE INDUSTRY. E. G. Faludi and Catherine Chard. (Journal of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, March, 1945.)
Post-war Canadian housing market.
Production capacity of Canadian
building industry. Prefabricated house
production in Britain, USA and Canada.

The minimum housing programme of Canada in the first ten years after the war is estimated at 700,000 houses. Between the years 1930 and 1937 only 2.8 houses per 100 families were built in Canada, whereas in England and Sweden in the same period-the number of houses built by unassisted private enterprise alone was 16.5 and 26.3 per 100 families respectively. per 100 families respectively.

It is estimated that 133,000 workers would

be necessary to provide the number of houses required, whereas only 82,500 workers can be expected to be available. There is particularly great shortage of skilled craftsmen. Timber will be in short supply, partly because of the exhaustion due to-wartime exploitation, partly because of the commitments in the exportation to Britain. The timber market is now flooded with green, wet lumber. It seems that less conventional materials and more plywood and fibreboards will be used after the war.

The article describes some of the British and American systems, and comes to the conclusion that in Britain more emphasis is laid on the permanent character of the struc-tures than in the USA. The realization that prefabrication can be simply an extension of the process of producing building materials in the factory has, not yet, in general, touched the American market. The Canadian systems have developed under similar conditions as the US systems, initially as temporary structures, suitable for summer camps and emergency wartime housing. Both the Canadian and the US market are now in the running for systems of prefabrication aiming at permanent structures. These systems may be developed along lines similar to those along which the prototypes of the more advanced British systems were worked out; but whereas the British systems are predominantly in steel and concrete, the chief materials used in Canada will very likely be timber and its derivative products.

## MATERIALS

CAST IRON. (Special number of Official Architect, Vol. 8, No. 5, May, 1945.) Records of an Iron Age (John Summerson); What is Wrong with Cast-Iron? (Hartland Thomas); Cast Iron and Architectural Design (John Gloag); Structural Uses of Cast Iron (Richard Sheppard); Yesterday and To-day-Designing for Cast Iron (Grey Wornum); Cast Iron To-day (J. G. Pearce); Finishes on Cast Iron (Derek Bridg-Historical uses of cast iron. Cast iron in modern building technique and equipment.

It was perhaps unfortunate for the reputation of cast iron that it reached the climax of its history in Mid-Victorian times. It was used extensively both for structure and was used extensively both for structure and for ornament, and, needless to say, architects were merciless in its use as a general factotum, making it look like ropework, logs with the bark on, masonry, etc. Modern industrial development, with a greater understanding of the comparative properties of different materials and the uses most appropriate to each, may revive the

Yesterday and To-day—Designing for Cast Iron. (Grey Wornum)

popularity of cast iron for uses to which it is particularly suited. The present series of articles gives a welcome review of the quali-ties of cast iron and its past and present

The first article brings illustrations (photographed by the National Buildings Record) of some striking examples of cast-iron work

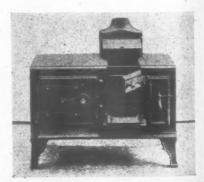
in the last century.

The second article puts the question: What is wrong with cast iron? and gives the answer that its very virtues, tractability and convenience for repetition, made it liable to abuse. But cast iron can be as up to date as any other material, and it is up to the ironfounders to restyle their material for modern use.

Mr. Gloag's article enumerates a few Mr. Gloags article enumerates a few famous uses: the iron bridge over the Severn, cast in the year 1778; an aqueduct for the Shrewsbury canal built by Telford, the Palm House at Kew Gardens and Paxton's Crystal Palace, which represented the first large scale successful example of presented building. (Convenience for resented building.) fabricated building. (Convenience for repetition made it the obvious material in the early days of mass production.) The article concludes in saying that a literature on design in cast iron is badly needed if we want to make full use of the services of this versatile material.

In structural uses cast iron was largely displaced by steel, which is equally strong in tension and compression. Nevertheless, there are certain functions for which cast iron is as suitable as steel. Whether it will again be widely used will, as Mr. Sheppard states, depend not so much upon its treatment at the hand of a few gifted detreatment at the hand of a few gifted designers, but, as always, primarily upon cost. Cast iron is particularly suitable for standardisation. The ease with which standardised brackets and heads can be fixed makes it possible to use iron columns in combination with beams of concrete and timber (The blitz expected how well sat timber. (The blitz revealed how well castiron columns stood up to the test of fire.)

Cast iron is most widely used in building for domestic appliances and components. Illustrations of the development of cookers beginning by a model of the brothers Haworth to a contemporary labour saving design are very instructive.





Top, Victorian edition of a small cast-iron kitchen range. Below, its contemporary equivalent in enamelled cast iron. See No. 2103.



OLD MILL AT BLAKENEY,
On the King's Lynn to Cromer Coast.

of Cley, supplied two ships and thirty sailors for the fleet of Edward III which besieged Calais, and in 1588 their mariners helped to defeat the Spanish Armada. From the moment a building is erected, it is in a state of siege

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ast-iron ry equi-. 2103. by rain and insidious dampness that creeps up from the ground, but the use of 'PUDLO' Brand Waterproofer in Portland cement concrete or renderings will prevent or remedy dampness that would, in many cases, be otherwise incurable.

# 'PUDLO

BRAND

CEMENT WATERPROOFER

Used with Portland Cement in renderings or concrete to exclude or retain water.

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The word 'PUDLO' is the Registered Trade Brand of Kerner-Greenwood & Co. Ltd., by whom all articles bearing that Brand are manufactured or guaranteed



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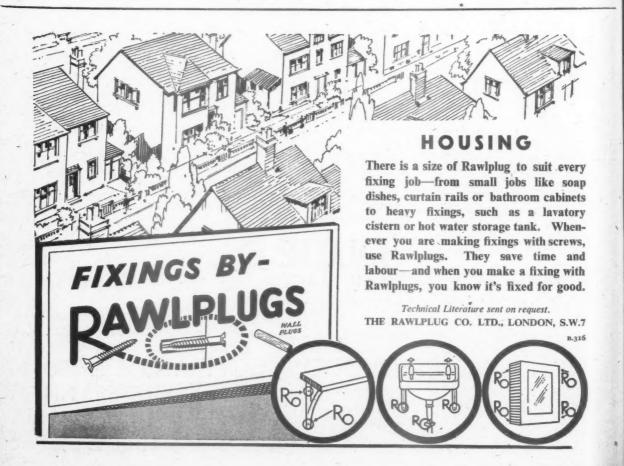
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The article "Cast Iron To-day" discusses the transformation the industry has undergone in recent years. In the British Cast fron Research Association the industry has an organised unit for the conduct of research and experiment, which is to be expanded considerably for post-war purposes. The last article (by Mr. Bridgwater) is about the most important question of surface treatment. The finishes for cast iron can be divided in three main groups. In the first group a modification of the chemical composition of the surface of the iron makes this surface more resistant to corrosion. The second group contains permanent or nearly permanent coatings of a different material. In the third group a relatively temporary thin coating of paint, varnish or lacquer is applied as a protection, and to provide a coloured and attractive finish. Through these new surfaces and finishes cast-iron appliances can be made to fit extremely well into contemporary architecture.

#### 104 Lumber Stress Grading

New Specification for Stressgrade Lumber. (Engineering News-Record, June 14, 1945, p. 808.) National Design Specifications for stress-grade lumber and its fastenings published by National Lumber Manufacturers' Association.

The comprehensive booklet retains for proposed general peace time use the 20 per cent. increase in stresses promulgated by the War Production Board in 1943. (See No. 1318: 9.12.43.) The new material is intended for inclusion in building codes and specifications. It is expected to apply to all structures where designed timber members are used.

2105 Wall Decoration Colours

FLAT COLOURS FOR WALL DECORA-TION. B.S. 381WD: 1945. (British Standards Institution. 6d.) Colour card containing ten colours.

2106 Dry Rot

DRY ROT IN BUILDINGS AND ITS PRE-VENTION. W. P. K. Findlay. Paper read at a Sessional Meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute in London on January 17, 1945. (Journal of the Royal Sanitary Institute, April, 1945, pp. 85-90.) Prevalence of dry rot. Cause and nature of the disease. Conditions influencing the development. Cure of dry rot. Prevention in new buildings. Increase of dry rot as a result of the war. (See short item on this paper, No. 1978: 7.6.45.)

Dry rot in buildings became troublesome as softwood was substituted for oak, and during the last century many famous buildings have suffered from its attack. It became increasingly important after the last war owing to the use of unseasoned timber, the speed of building and the adoption of certain new, untried methods of construction. Since this war there has been a marked increase in the prevalence of dry rot. General neglect of upkeep, combined with war damage, has allowed dampness to get into the buildings and rot has followed. In some districts at least 75 per cent. of the houses in which fires occurred have since developed dry rot, and in many cases the damage caused by the subsequent rot was far greater than that caused by the fire.

damage caused by the subsequent rot was far greater than that caused by the fire. The growth of dry rot is due to fungi, the most dangerous of which is Merulius Lacrimans (see also Inf. Centre No. 1429, A. J., March 30, 1944, p. 249), and in the majority of cases the infection is air-

borne and the spores have come from other outbreaks of dry rot in the neighbourhood. If an outbreak of dry rot is discovered in a building a thorough investigation of the building must be carried out immediately. The focus of the attack must be sought for and its complete extent followed up. (Frequently it is found to extend very much further than is at first suspected.) The most common indication is the shrinkage of the attacked wood, which leads to a waviness of the surface. Ground floor timbers are most frequently attacked; the conditions of joists, skirtings, window frames, etc., should be carefully inspected. Having localised the outbreak, one proceeds to cut away all timber which shows the least sign of attack, and it is advisable to cut into sound wood for twelve to eighteen inches beyond the last visible sign of attack.\* One of the most difficult things is to ensure that the fungus does not grow out again from the infected brickwork, and a most careful sterilization treatment of the walls must be carried out before replacements are put in. An additional precaution is to coat the surface of the walls with a cement or hard plaster layer. As far as possible the new timber used for replacement should be kept out of contact with the infected wall. The ends of joists may be wrapped in bituminous felt, which protects them against dampness and infection. All new timber used for replacement should be thoroughly treated with preservative after it has been cut to the final size. Pressure-treated tim-ber is more resistant than timber treated with a surface preservative. Since a defective ventilation facilitates the outbreak of dry rot, it is always advisable to increase ventilation when carrying out repairs. Additional airbricks should be inserted and a clear passage for the air right under the floor from one side of the house to the other should be provided. Temperature has an important effect on

Temperature has an important effect on the rate of development of the fungi and woodwork slightly affected by dry rot may sometimes be sterilized by exposure to a temperature above the maximum suitable for the growth of the fungi. The moisture content of timber is the really important factor determining whether

will develop and cause rot in the work. Timber containing less than fungi woodwork. per cent. moisture, based on its dry weight, is absolutely immune, and there is little risk of serious decay occurring in wood containing less than 25 per cent. Precautions should be taken to ensure that the woodwork in buildings never reaches a moisture content sufficiently high to permit In every new the development of fungi. In every new building it is against the penetration of dampness that precautions must be taken.

The use of built-in timbers surrounded by brickwork should be avoided as far as possible. If timber is embedded in concrete only material impregnated under pressure should be used. The rise of dampness from the soil is a frequent cause of dampness and the fundamental importance of adequately draining building land before build-ings are erected on it must be emphasized. Effective damp-proof courses should be inwalls to prevent the rise of serted in brick water, and in the case of a solid floor the whole surface of the concrete should be covered with a layer of bitumen not less than one-eighth of an inch thick. An adequate subfloor ventilation must be provided. If the flow of air under floors is obstructed by a solid floor, it may be advisable to lay a drainpipe under the concrete. The percolation of rain water through the walls can be resisted by suitable renderings In the case of flat roofs a damp-proof course must be inserted in the parapet to prevent damp working down the wall and reaching the ends of the roofing timbers Condensation troubles can be reduced by

providing extra ventilation, by the use of more absorptive surfaces, or by better heat insulation.

## PLUMBING and Sanitation

2107

Thames Barrage

THE THAMES BARRAGE SCHEME AND ITS IMPORTANCE IN THE LONDON RECONSTRUCTION PLANS. J. H. O. Bunge. (Journal of the Royal Society of Arts, May 25, 1945.) Outline of schemes supported by Thames Barrage Association. Discussion of paper includes opposition on number of points by Sir Cyril Kirkpatrick, lately of Port of London Authority.

Advantages of barrage scheme are claimed to be: Keeping of sewage out of London, two way river traffic at all times, elimination of mud banks and general improvement of amenities, better fire-fighting facilities for riverside areas, less danger of flooding. Among objections to the scheme which were raised during discussion of the paper were: Danger of silting of the Estuary, a uniform high water level would be unhealthy, effect on drainage system of London would be serious and a rise in permanent saturation level would be certain, the scheme would involve much daily pumping to maintain a constant water level, and finally it would not be practicable to pass all the necessary traffic through the proposed locks. The lecturer disagreed with these arguments.

## 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.

2108

New Appointments

Should a salaried architect, at present in a position, but seeking a change of post for personal reasons, apply to the Appointments Board, or are the services of this department reserved for those who are at the time unemployed, or who are demobilised from the Services? Alternatively, should one make application to the Central Register?

A salaried architect who wishes to change his appointment is at liberty to find another position through advertisements and other usual methods, but he is to-day restricted from taking up the new appointment, being still subject to direction by the Ministry of Labour.

He must therefore first obtain his release from his present engagement and can only take the new position with the Ministry of Labour's consent. They are at liberty to direct him elsewhere if they do not consider the new position to be of sufficient national importance.

It would be advisable to contact your local office of Ministry of Labour and National Service, to verify this matter so far as your particular case is concerned.

<sup>\*</sup> This, by some experts, is considered inadequate, see No. 1496: 25.5.44.



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 economize 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.

### RFAC

The following are extracts from OBSERVATIONS ON THE CITY LONDON'S REPORT ON POST-WAR REconstruction, issued by the Royal Fine Art Commission. (HMSO, 2d.)

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

What the Commission chiefly look for in the road proposals, is a plan which combines ready access for occupiers of premises in the City, with improved opportunities for architectural development of the resulting building blocks. The plane tunities for architectural development of the resulting building blocks. The plans proposed are mainly traffic plans, other considerations being secondary. The Report advocates (a) a new circular route, intended to act partly as a by-pass and partly as a distributive road for through traffic, in-cluding nublic service, vehicles; and (b) cluding public service vehicles; and (b) street widenings within this ring, whose effect would be to relieve congestion mainly in the western and more heavily damaged section of the City. For general con-venience of access, however, it seems essential to provide a carefully spaced network of main roads—without bottlenecks—along which public service vehicles can pick up and set down passengers reasonably near, though not necessarily adjacent to, their offices—in whatever part of the City these may lie. The northern section of the circular route fulfils its double function of by-pass and distributive road more satisfactorily than the southern section; and it is recommended that the possibilities of a main east-west route on the higher ground should be considered, in preference to should be considered, in preference to either of the embankment treatments proposed in the Report. A line linking Queen Victoria Street with a widened Cannon Street and Eastcheap, and thence cutting through to Hart Street, Crutched Friars, Aldgate and Whitechapel; or alternatively linking up Mark Lane with Fenchurch Street and Aldgate in such a way as to form an improved forecourt to Fenchurch

Street Station, would have many advantages. On the northern arm of the circular route as proposed, the big roundabouts shown in Report at the crossing of Bishopsgate and Moorgate do not appear essential; that at the junction with Aldersgate, Long Lane and Barbican should be considerably simplified by planning more equal angles be-tween the entrant roads; and that proposed for Holborn Circus—in addition to awk-ward plotting—creates two particularly dangerous collision points. This roundward plotting—creates two particularly dangerous collision points. This round-about, though considerable in area, achieves neither good building frontages nor convenient traffic circulation. The Commission recommend for consideration a complete re-alignment of this traffic junction in hex-agonal form, one entrant street being a new link with Fleet Street branching off the southern portion of a widened Fetter Lane. This would take through traffic from Fleet Street to Liverpool Street Station and the north-east by means of the circular route without requiring a turning back from Lud-gate Circus by St. Bride Street and Shoe

ST. PAUL'S

The Commission understood from their meeting at Guildhall that it was not the desire of the City so to replan the surroundings of the Cathedral as to place it in a backwater. With this point of view they are in entire agreement; but at the same time the Commission have always regarded time the Commission have always regarded the passage of heavy main traffic close to St. Paul's, particularly, at the south-west corner, as being a defect capable of improvement. The opportunity has now been given by war damage to remedy this state of affairs, to separate the main traffic routes from a short ceremonial forecourt to the west portico of the Cathedral, and to open up some extremely interesting and rather informal views of the Cathedral by widen-

ing the open space round it.

The Commission are satisfied that a return to the original Cathedral precinct, with main traffic carried along a widened Carter Lane, is a practicable possibility. They also feel that it would be a mistake to carry cross traffic from Newgate Street to Cannon Street by any main road immediately non Street by any main road immediately east of the Cathedral (as shown either by Drawing No. 3 or by Drawing No. 4). They would prefer to see this link by a widened Queen Street which would then be a main road linking Southwark Bridge with Cheapside, while its extension would be a dignified approach to Guildhall.

The Commission further recommend investigation into the possibilities of a wider approach to St. Paul's from the point where Ave Maria Lane meets Ludgate Hill, including a replanning of the forecourt so as to separate normal traffic from that special to ceremonial occasions. The Commission ceremonial occasions. The Commission does not regard a symmetrical treatment of the environment of St. Paul's as desirable under present conditions. Whatever may have been the original intention, and whatever later attempts may have been made to enclose the building within a formal colonnade while the Cathedral was under construction, the City as it developed in the XVIIth and XVIIIth centuries followed an irregular layout, in which the single buildings, such as the City churches, rather than the composition of surrounding buildings, produced the most interesting effects. The great dome of St. Paul's dominated the uneven roofs and was seen in a hundred different views—not solely along one or

The west portico is, however, a terminal feature to one approach only, namely that from Ludgate Hill: and the Commission agree that it should have a more worthy and a less congested forecourt than it at present possesses, free from through traffic. of accommodating a large crowd on special occasions, and making provision for the proper circulation of ceremonial vehicles and processions. They are also impressed by the advantages of an open

view on the south side, although it is not essential that this should be axial with the

HEIGHT OF BUILDING BLOCKS
One of the most remarkable features of
Wren's Plan of London after the Great Fire was the carefully designed arrange-ment of building blocks to provide good frontages and convenient depth of site for The present Proposals do not buildings. appear to envisage any marked improve-ment in the size, shape and alignment of building blocks; in many cases proposed street improvements and roundabouts result in plan shapes on which no architect could hope to design a successful and con-venient building. No doubt some adjust-ment in the lines of minor roads and courts is intended to accompany the more detailed stage of replanning. But, in the published Report, no indication is given of how such adjustments are to be made.

Many of the widened main streets create

awkward junctions with narrow streets and alleys, and call for re-arrangement, and possibly the elimination of some of the

small streets so affected.

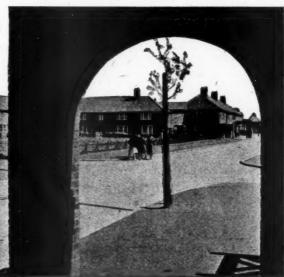
The Commission have always endorsed in The Commission have always endorsed in principle the necessity for control of height, particularly in the region of St. Paul's, and between the Cathedral and River. They now take the view, however, that the pre-war proposals should be considerably amended to meet a new situation, in respect, for example, of the buildings on either side of Queen Victoria Street, south of the Cathedral. Moreover, if building up to the maximum by-law height ing up to the maximum by-law height allowed (71) is open to owners and possibly even enjoined on them, in any part of the except certain specified areas in the neighbourhood of the Cathedral, the tendency will clearly be for frontages to be erected on the most favourable sites to a height of 80 feet with two floors in the roof, and for the back land to be less advantageously developed. The Comadvantageously developed. The Commission fully realise the difficulty of devising and then imposing a new form of control on owners; but they feel very strongly that a lead should be given by the Corporation in this matter, so as to enable proper replanning of entire City blocks to be undertaken, in vertical section as well as in plan.

TOWER HILL
It is highly desirable that there should be, if possible, some form of precinct around the Tower, free from through traffic; since this neighbourhood is one of the two sites affected by the Proposals which are of supreme historical and architectural interest. The road and traffic arrangements proposed in the Report would, however, in the opinion of the Commission, destroy the very of the Commission, destroy the very amenities which the City seeks to preserve. Two alternatives suggest themselves. One is that the southern arm of the circular route should avoid Tower Hill altogether, while dock traffic travelling south and west should cross Tower Bridge—or use, if and when it is constructed, the projected tunnel—and join the A-Ring route on the South Bank. The the A-Ring route on the South Bank. other is that the proposed road between the Tower Ditch and the gardens to the north of it where the site of the Scaffold is, should be abandoned, leaving only one is, should be abandoned, leaving only one wide road, viz., that running just south of the Port of London Authority building, and Trinity House. In this way the two gardens could be linked together, preserving the fine fragment of London Wall (which could be shown to advantage with the property of the county o its accompanying Ditch), and also the site of the Scaffold; and leaving the Church of All Hallows with access from the gardens on one side at least.

OPEN SPACES

The Commission agree in principle with the opinion expressed in the Report that small open spaces are more suited to the use and character of the City than large

Housing



Photograph: By courtesy City of Liverpool, Architectural and Housing Department.

# **Cast Iron Proposition for Post-War Building Priorities**



Millions of new houses will be needed; millions of children will, be staying longer at school, and school buildings everywhere must be enlarged and new schools built. For all these buildings thousands of miles of pipes and

gutters, millions of stoves, fireplaces, and so forth will be made of cast iron. But there are many other uses in building for this old, tried, but up-to-date material. Cast iron is a building proposition: it is worth looking into.

Issued by The British Ironfounders' Association, 145 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, C.2.

Facts about the Building Uses of Cast Iron The British Cast Iron Research Association has a Building Uses Department which is available for dealing with enquiries

Enquiries should be addressed to:

Uses Department which is available for dealing with enquiries from architects and builders about cast iron. Mr. Derek L. Bridgwater, F.R.I.B.A., is Consultant to the Department.

The Building Uses Department, British Cast Iron Research Association,
Alvechurch, Birmingham

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ones. They recommend, however, that open space in traffic roundabouts, where it is of little use, should be discounted, and a slight increase obtained in certain areas. In addition the Commission recommend a footpath survey and plan, with the object of linking up as far as possible these open spaces with disused burial grounds, churchyards and monuments to which the public have access, the Tower Wall at Cripplegate, and historic buildings. Such a pedestrian network need not of course be by public right of way throughout its entire length; some sections would be by courtesy of private owners or of the Church authorities.

## Publications Received

How Should We Rebuild London? C. B. Purdom. (J. M. Dent, 12s. 6d.)
Highland Power. (Scottish Association of Scientific Workers, 3s, 6d.)
National Parks in England and Wales. J. Dower. (HMSO, 1s. 0d.)
The Scrap Book of Huddersfield. N. Spencer. (Private Publication.)
When Democracy Builds. Frank Lloyd Wright. (University of Chicago Press.)
The Making of Scientific Management. L. Urwick and E. Brech. (Management Publications Trust, 7s. 6d.)
City of Norwich Plan, 1945. H. C. Rowley, C. H. James and S. R. Pierce. (The City of Norwich Plan, 1945.
More Advanced Quantity Surveying.
A. J. Willis. (Crosby Lockwood, £1 5s. 0d.)
Approved House Designs. (Department of Health for Scotland.)

Bombed Churches as War Memorials. (Architectural Press, 3s. 6d.) Basic Road Statistics. (British Road Basic Road Statistics. (British Road Federation, 1s. 0d.)

Bricklayers Repair Work. W. Frost. (The Technical Press, 4s. 6d.)

Spon's Architects' and Builders' Pocket Book. C. Young and B. Engel. (E. and F. N. Spon, 9s. 0d.) British Architects and Craftsmen. S. Sitwell. (B. T. Batsford, £1 ls. 0d.)
English Church Design. F. H. Crossley.
B. T. Batsford, 12s. 6d.) (B. T. Batsford, 12s. 6d.)

Builders' Handbook on Carpentry and Joinery. S. H. Glenister. (G. Allen & Unwin, 5s. 0d.)

Municipal and Private Enterprise Housing. R. L. Reiss. (J. M. Dent, 3s. 6d.)

Water, Drainage and the Community.

Rolt Hammond. (J. M. Dent, 3s. 6d.)

British Furniture Makers. J. Glóag.

(Wm. Collins, 5s. 0d.)

Kitcher Planning. (British Commercial) (British Commercial Kitchen Planning. Gas Association.) Planning Acts, 1943-5. Compensation for Acquisition of Land. J. R. Smith-Saville. (The London Gazette, 16s. 6d.) Pocket Section Book. (Fleming Bros.)
Whither Plastics? H. R. Fleck. (T Whither Plastics? H. R. Fleck. (The Temple Press, 15s. 0d.)
Architectural, Practice and Procedure. H. H. Turner. (B. T. Batsford, 18s. 0d.)
Prefabricated Homes. B. H. Cox. (Paul Elek, 2s. 0d.) Community Restaurants in Design. Sir W. Deedes. (London Council of Social W. Deedes. W. Deedes. (London Council of Social Service, 2s. 6d.)

Polish Art. Jerzy Zarnetki. (Polish Publications Committee, 2s. 6d.)

Practical Building Mechanics! Newman Tate. (E. Chapman & Hall, 15s. 0d.)

Town and Country Planning Act. D. Head. (Sweet & Maxwell, £1 1s. 0d.)
The County of London Plan. E. Carter
Coldfinger. (Penguin Books, 3s. 6d.)

W. B. McKay. (Longmans, Brickwork. Green, 7s. 6d.) Sheffield Replanned. (Sheffield City Council, 5s. 0d.) Housing and the State. Marian Bowley. G. Allen & Unwin, 15s. 0d.)

Dry Rot in Wood. Department of Scientific Industrial Research. (HMSO, 1s. 0d.) Studies in Polish Architecture. Jerzy Fac-tynski. (University Press of Liverpool, zynski. ( £1 ls. 0d.) The Meaning and Purpose of Art. A. R. Howell. (A. Zwemmer, 18s. 0d.)

A Review of Recent Progress. (Reinforced Concrete Association, 1s. 6d.)
Works of Art in Italy. (HMSO, 1s. 6d.)
Commercial Art and Industrial Design,
J. Lewis. (R. Ross, 2s. 6d.)
Stress Grading of Timber. C. J. Chaplin. Timber Development Association.)

The National Trust. J. Lee
(B. T. Batsford, 12s. 6d.) J. Lees-Milne. A. Stokes. (Faber & Faber, Venice. 10s. 6d.) Manchester and District Regional Plan-ning Proposals. R. Nicholas. (Jarrold & Son.)

The Plan of London County. Lewis Mumford. (Faber & Faber, 1s. 6d.)

Greater London Plan, 1944. Patrick
Abercrombie. (HMSO, £1 5s. 0d.)

The Building of London. M. and A.

Potter. (Penguin Books [Puffin], 9d.)

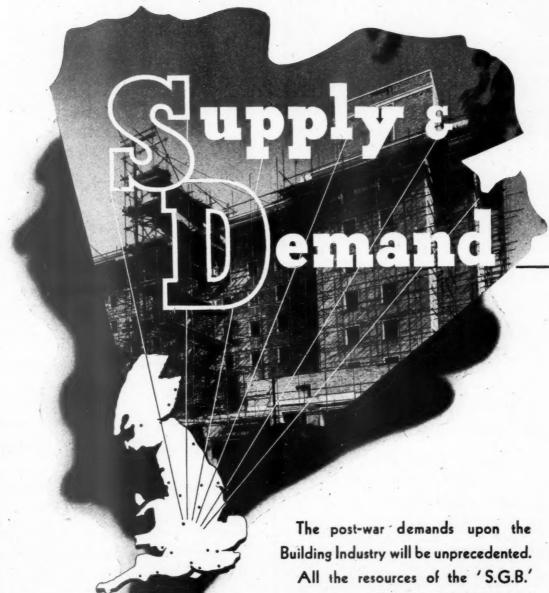
Builder's Calculations. S. H. Glenister. (G. G. Harrap, S. Od.)

Magahda Architecture and Culture. S. C.
Chatterjee. (University of Calcutta.)

Valetta and the Three Cities. A. S. T. B.
Harrison. (Government of Malta.)

Observations on the City of London's Report on Post-War Reconstruction. Fine Art Commission. (HMSO, 2d.) Report on Cheltenham. (Ge (Georgian Report on Group, 2s. 0d.) Building Societies' Year Book, Francy. (Francy & Co., 12s. 6d.)





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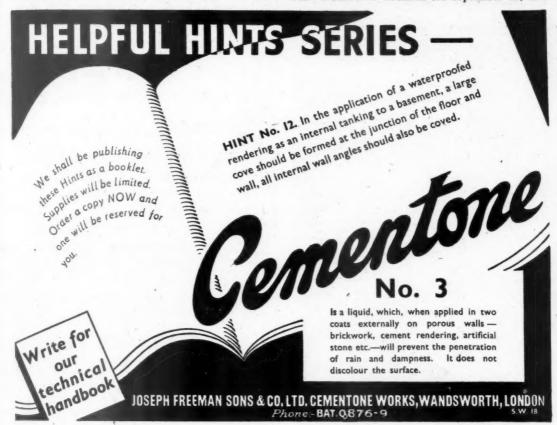
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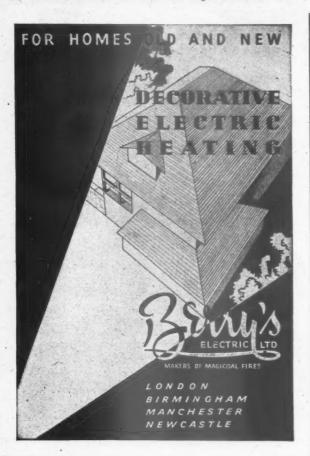
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# Efficient insulation

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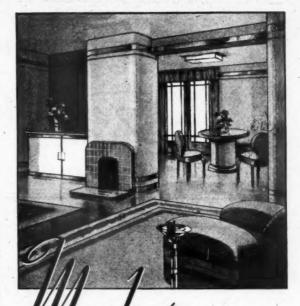
is essential to economic recovery

To minimise waste of fuel due to excessive heat losses by the provision of efficient thermal insulation in all new buildings has become an essential part of the National programme for economic recovery. Among the materials available for the purpose, and especially suitable because of its low thermal conductivity of (0.57 B.Th.U./Sq.ft./hr/°F./in.) is GYPKLITH. These wood wool building slabs are light in weight, structurally strong, provide a good key for plaster or cement, and can be cut or chased with wood-working tools. Full technical information on request.



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The use of light alloys in modern furnishing and interior decoration will be a sine qua non of post-war housing. We are ready to place at your disposal our war-time experience in the anodising of Aluminium and its Alloys in natural or colourful finishes; bright finishes for the bathroom and lavatory, and rust-proofing generally in the kitchen.

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Worked on 200 Aerodromes; Opencast Collieries; rebuilt 250 Armoured Fighting Vehicles; and made well over 300,000 Prefabricated Sections for Government Buildings, and are now making these Sections for 75 Government houses per week.

Camouflage painted Twenty Two Million Square Yards of Buildings and Runways.

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Already hundreds of orders have been received for new Courts, Recreation Grounds, Public Parks, Squash Courts, etc., also orders to repair thousands of blitzed and neglected Hard Courts, etc.

May we put your name down on our Rotation List, then we can give your enquiry prompt attention as soon as war conditions permit?



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HEATING MIRAGLE "—vide the Daily Mine ECONOMY with EFFICIENCY will be a post-war keynote for many years—and "INTEROVEN" STOVES will be greatly in demand because they save their cost in brickwork, labour and space.

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The advantages of using Jicwood 'X' are so many that we can only state briefly a few of its uses. Jicwood 'X,' consisting of plywood, plastic or light metal skins permanently bonded to a low density. expanded plastic core, offers better thermal insulation than high grade cork; it is vermin and bacteria proof; non-warping and above all, combines great strength and rigidity without framework, yet can be made as light as 0.6 lb. per square foot. Its qualities suggest numerous uses, such as temporary housing (prototypes licensed by M.O.W. are erected), partitions, panelling, doors, flooring, furniture, fixtures; in fact, Jicwood 'X' can be utilised for practically all stressed applications.



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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 Friday 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

Surrey.

### Public and Official Announcements

Six lines or under, 8s.; each additional line, 1s. THE INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION OF ABCHITECTS AND SURVINORS 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, Earon Place, London, S.W.1. Tel.: Sloame 5615. 991

#### BOROUGH OF LUTON.

#### BOROUGH ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT to the Borough Engineer's Department, at a salary of £310 per annum, rising by annual increments of £15 to £355, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present at the rate of £59 lés. per annum. The position will be a temporary one in the first instance, but will be a temporary one in the first instance, but will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applicants should have had some practical experience after completion of training, and have made specific progress in obtaining a recognised professional qualification.

Applications, giving particulars of age, train-

professional qualification.

Applications, giving particulars of age, training, experience and qualifications, and stating position in relation to National Service, should be forwarded to the Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Luton, not later than the 22nd September, 1945. Hall, Luton, 1919.
1945.
Canvassing will disqualify.
W. H. ROBINSON,
Town Clerk

28th August, 1945.

#### NORTH RIDING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Applications are invited for the post of TECH-NICAL ASSISTANT (Grade "C") in the Build, ings Department. The post is exempt from the age restrictions of the Control of Engagement Order. The salary is £225 a year, rising by annual increments of £15 to £300 a year, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £60 a year, under existing conditions, working hours are increased by one-seventh, and the payment for this is at the rate of one-seventh of the basic salary. The total commencing emoluments are therefore about £311 a year. The post is subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act. Applicants should have sound experience in carrying out surveys of sites and buildings, be neat draughtsmen and be experienced in maintenance work and in dealing with builders' accounts. Further particulars and form of application may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed foolscap envelope, and completed applications, with copies of two recent testimonials, should be returned not later than 6th October.

F. BARRACLOUGH.

Education Offices, County Hall, Northallerton.

### BLACKWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ARCHITECT AND HOUSING MANAGER.
Applications are invited for the above appointment. Salary, £400, rising by annual increments, on satisfactory service, by £50 to £600 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, £59 16s., and travelling expenses.
Candidates must be Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects or hold equivalent qualifications and are Registered Architects.
They must have had experience in the design, preparation of working drawings, specifications and laying out of estates for housing and other architectural work usually undertaken by a local authority and the repair and maintenance of houses.

hosses.

The appointment will be terminable by one month's notice on either side and will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, accompanied by three recent testimonials, must be received by me not later than 20th September, 1945.

W. S. COCKERHAM,

Clerk to the Council.

Dale Close, 100, Chesterfield Road South,
Mansfield.

31st August, 1945.

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of a Senior Planning Assistant, Grade E, at a commencing salary of £450 per annum, rising, subject to satisfactory services, by two annual increments of £20 and one of £10, to £500 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus of £59 16s. per annum and travelling allowance in accordance with the County Council's scale.

Applicants should be members of the Town Planning Institute, or hold an equivalent qualication, and have had experience in the preparation of Planning Schemes by a Planning Authority.

Authority.

The appointment is subject to the Local Government Superannuation Acts, and the successful applicant will be required to pass a medical examination. The appointment will be terminable by one calendar month's notice on either side.

either side.

Application in writing, stating age, qualifications, and experience, and position with regard to National Service Act, accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, marked in the top left-hand corner "Planning Appointment," must be lodged with the undersigned not later than first post on Monday, lat October, 1945.

Canvassing directly or indirectly will be a disqualification. Applicants must state in their application whether they are related to a member of the County Council.

T. H. EVANS,

Clerk of the County Council.

County Buildings, Stafford.

County Buildings, Stafford. 6th September, 1945.

BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD.

#### ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

Applications are invited for the temporary appointment of an Architectural Assistant in the Office of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor at a salary of £420 per annum, rising, subject to satisfactory service, by £20 per annum to £430 per annum, plus cost-of-living award, at present 23s, per week. Preference will be given to persons who have passed the Final Examination of the Royal Institute of British Architects, or who hold equivalent qualifications. Applicants should have had previous experience in the design of Council houses, housing layouts, etc. The appointment will be terminable by one month's notice on either side.

Applications, stating age, qualifications, experience and position with regard to military service, accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, and endorsed "Architectural Assistant," should reach the undersigned not later than noon on Wednesday, 26th September, 1945.

VINCENT J. WILLIS, M.Inst.M. & Cy.E., Reg. Arch.,

Borough Engineer and Surveyor and Planning Officer.

Municipal Offices, Rainsford House,

Duke Street, Chelmsford. 666

### LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL

Appointment of Senior Planning Officer in the Town Planning and Building Regulation Division (Statutory Branch) of the Architect's Department at a salary of £800 per annum, rising by annual increments of £50 to a maximum of £1,000 per annum, together with cost-of-living bonus, at present £60 per annum, for men, and £48 per annum for women.

present £50 per annum for men, and £4s per annum for women.

The position is subject to the Council's Superanuation and Provident Fund, and will be temporary in the first instance; but the successful candidate will be eligible for consideration at a later date for appointment to the permanent staff. Candidates should possess appropriate professional qualifications and experience, and should be conversant with current town planning legislation. The duties of the position will include in particular work in connection with the development of the Council's town planning proposals, the drafting of scheme provisions and the preparation of redevelopment proposals for large urban areas. The person appointed will be responsible also for the supervision of duties undertaken by the staff engaged on all branches of the Council's planning work.

Applications should be made to the Architect to the Council, County Hall, Westminster Bridge, London, S.E.1, for form of application (enclose stamped addressed foolscap envelope), to be returned by Saturday, 29th September, 1945. Canvassing disqualifies.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

#### ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of

Applications are invited for the appointment of an Architectural Assistant.

Candidates must be over 30, unless medically unfit for Military Service.

Salary, £325, by annual increments of £12 10s. to £350, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s, per annum, and an allowance for extended office hours.

Applications should be sent to the undersigned by 22nd September, 1945.

J. HARRISON.

County Architect.
the Ministry of Labour.
13th September, 1945.

BOROUGH OF SOUTHALL.

BOROUGH ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of an Architectural Assistant on the permanent staff of the Council. Salary, £365 x £15-2425, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s, per annum. Commencing salary according to qualifications, and experiences.

cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum. Commencing salary according to qualifications and experience
Candidates should be registered architects, and preference will be given to members of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Experience in preparation of working drawings, specifications, surveying and setting-out in connection with housing works, is desirable.

The candidate appointed will be required to pass a medical examination, and the appointment will be subject to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937.

Applications must be submitted on the official form, which should be obtained from, and returned to, the Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Southall, Middlesex, with copies of three recent testimonials, not later than noon on September 18th, 1945.

Canvassing any member of the Council or any ommittee thereof, directly or indirectly, will

M. LINDSAY TAYLOR, Town Clerk.

Town Clerk's Offices, South Road, Southall, Middx. 31st August, 1945.

#### LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

## VACANCIES FOR PLANNING STAFF IN THE ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for a number of positions in the following grades:—
Temporary Planning Officers, Grade II—£500-

ositions in the following states. Temporary Planning Officers, Grade II—£500-£25-£650 per annum.
Temporary Planning Officers, Grade III—£380-£20-£500 per annum.
Cost-of-living additions, at present £60 a year or men, and £48 for women, are added to all all price. salaries.

salaries.

Successful candidates will be subject to the Council's Superannuation and Provident Fund. When permanent appointments are resumed, temporary staff with satisfactory service will receive consideration on a merit basis.

Candidates should possess appropriate professional qualifications and experience, and should be conversant with current town planning legislation.

Application should be made to the Architect to the Council, County Hall, Westminster Bridge, S.E.J., for form of application (enclose stamped addressed foolscap envelope), to be returned by Saturday, 29th September, 1945. Canvassing disqualifies.

#### CITY OF CANTERBURY.

### SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of a Senior Assistant Architect in the City Architect's Department at a salary of 2420 by 220 to 2500 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present 23s. per week.

Preference will be given to candidates trained in a recognised School of Architecture and who are A.R.I.B.A. Consideration will be given to serving men. Previous experience of municipal work, including schools, is desirable, but not essential.

The successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination for the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937.

Applications, endorsed "Senior Assistant Architect," giving age, full particulars of experience and oualifications, and the name of three persons to whom reference may be made, should be received by Mr. L. Hugh Wilson, A.R.I.B.A. A.M.T.P.I. City Architect, not later than 31st October, 1945.

J. BOYLE. Town Clerk. Municipal Buildings, Dane John, . Canterbury. 5th September, 1945.

## COUNTY BOROUGH OF CROYDON.

## BOROUGH VALUER'S DEPARTMENT.

Apolications are invited from analified persons for the appointment of a TEMPORARY SENIOR SURVEYOR on the staff of the Borough Valuer at a salary of £8 ss. per week, plus war bonus (at present £1.3s. per week). Applicants must be experienced in dealing with applications for Building Licences. conversant with Ministry of Health revulations, and competent to control staff and take full responsibility for the administration of this work.

Applications, on forms to be obtained from the Borough Valuer, together with copies of three recent testimonials, to be returned to him not later than 22nd September, 1945.

Town Hall, Croydon.

Town Hall. Croydon. August, 1945.

GELLYGAER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

JUNIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (TEMPORARY).

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NER. Town Clerk.

OR,

Applications are invited for the appointment of Junior Architectural Assistant (temporary) in the Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

Applicants should have been trained in an architect's office, should be neat draughtsmen and have a good knowledge of building construction.

Salary at the rate of £250 per annum, plus beams on the Whitley Scale (at present £59 16s.).

Applications, giving details of qualifications and experience, position as to National Service and the earliest date available for duty, should be sent, together with three recent testimonials, to the undersigned not later than Thursday, 27th September, 1945.

TUDOR LAWRENCE,

Clerk of the Council.

6th September, 1945.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of a Senior Architectural Assistant,
The salary will be £400 per annum, rising by annual increments of £12 10s. to £450 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 18s. per annum, and an allowance for extended office

Candidates must be qualified as Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects and over 30 years of age unless medically unfit for Army Partice

Service.
Applications should be sent to the undersigned by 22nd September, 1945.
The appointment is subject to the approval of the Ministry of Labour.

J. HARRISON,
County Architect.

13th September, 1945.

CITY OF ST. ALBANS

CITY ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS.

Applications are invited for the following appointments in the above department:

(a) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Salary, 2400 per annum, plus current cost-of-living bonus, 259 fes. per annum. Applicants must possess an architectural qualification, and have had experience in the preparation of plans, working drawings, specifications and layouts of modern municipal housing estates, including surveying and levelling.

(b) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Salary, 2250 per annum, Dus current cost-of-living bonus, 259 les. per annum. Applicants should have had experience in architectural work, preferably in the office of a local authority.

Both the above appointments are for a temporary period and will be subject to one month's notice on either side, and the position with regard to military service must be stated.

Applications in writing, stating age and experience, together with copies of two recent testimonials (non-returnable), must be received by me not later than first post on 24th September, 1945.

S. H. E. CRANE, Town Clerk.
St. Albans.

September, 1945.

656

Architectural Appointments Vacant

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

MANOHESTER.—Architectural Assistants required for industrial and housing work; good prospects. Write fully, stating age, experience, qualifications, and salary required, Ernest A. Newton, Leach & Booker, Chartered Architects, 28, Kennedy Street, Manchester, 2. 614

Architects, 28, Konnedy Streel, Manchester, 2. 614

A RCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMAN required in Drawing Office in Maidstone district; position offers good prospects for suitable applicant. Write, stating age, experience, and salary required, to Box 613.

DROGRESSIVE Firm of Architects, with fifty years' standing in the Midlands, have vacancies for one or two experienced Architectural Assistants; good salaries paid to suitable applicants, who must be first-class draughtsmen and well trained for important large scale work; a similar vacancy occurs in our London office. Please state qualifications, age, and experience to Box 600.

A RCHITECT'S SENTAD ASSISTANCE.

A RCHITECT'S SENIOR ASSISTANT required in N.E. London; experienced in design of industrial and commercial buildings; state age, experience, and salary required. Box 604

A RCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, with housing and surveying experience, required, Telephone Central 6683 or write Box 621.

JUNIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required for Birmingham Architect office, by the Box 642. State experience and salary

PIRST-CLASS ARCHITECT'S ASSISTANT quired immediately for housing, factory, banks and other general work: experienced in working drawings, details, specifications, surveys and knowledge of quantities. Write, giving age, experience and salary required and when available, to Tennant & Smith, F./A.R.I.B.A., Ropergate Chambers, Pontefract, Yorks.

S ENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required for Birmingham Architect office.

Apply, telephone Birmingham Central 3628 or write Box 643 State experience and salary required.

SENIOR and Junior Assistants required by Bristol architect for large-scale industrial work in all parts of the country; applicants must be capable of taking responsibility and be prepared to travel extensively. Apply, James Mackintosh, 18, Orchard Street, Bristol 1. 664

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