

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL



* A glossary of abbreviations of Government Departments and Societies and Committees of all kinds, together with their full address and telephone numbers, is given below. In all cases where the town is not mentioned the word LONDON is implicit in the address.

AA	Architectural Association. 34/6, Bedford Square, W.C.1.	Museum 0974
ABT	Association of Building Technicians. 5, Ashley Place, S.W.1.	Victoria 0447-8
ACGB	Arts Council of Great Britain. 9, Belgrave Square, S.W.1.	Sloane 0421
APRR	Association for Planning and Regional Reconstruction. 34, Gordon Square, W.C.1.	Euston 2158-9
ARCUK	Architects' Registration Council. 68, Portland Place, W.1.	Welbeck 9738
ASB	Architectural Science Board of the Royal Institute of British Architects. 66, Portland Place, W.1.	Welbeck 5721
BC	Building Centre. 23, Maddox Street, W.1.	Mayfair 2128
BCIRA	British Cast Iron Research Association. Alvechurch, Birmingham.	Redditch 716
BDA	British Door Association. 25, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	
BIA	British Ironfounders' Association. 145, Vincent Street, Glasgow, C.2.	
BIAE	British Institute of Adult Education. 29, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.	Glasgow Central 2891
BINC	Building Industries National Council. 11, Weymouth Street, W.1.	Euston 5385
BOT	Board of Trade. Millbank, S.W.1.	Langham 2785
BRS	Building Research Station. Bucknalls Lane, Watford.	Whitehall 5140
BSA	British Steelwork Association. Egginton House, Buckingham Gate, S.W.1.	Garston 2246
BSI	British Standards Institution. 28, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	Victoria 7301-2-3
CCA	Cement and Concrete Association. 52, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.	Abbey 3333
CID	Council of Industrial Design. Tilbury House, Petty France, S.W.1.	Sloane 5255
CPRE	Council for the Preservation of Rural England. 4, Hobart Place, S.W. Sloane 4280	Whitehall 6322
CSI	Chartered Surveyors' Institution. 12, Great George Street, S.W.1.	Whitehall 5322
DIA	Design and Industries Association. 2, Stratford Place, W.1.	Mayfair 5432
DOT	Department of Overseas Trade. Dolphin Square, S.W.1.	Victoria 4477
EJMA	English Joinery Manufacturers Association (Incorporated). Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1.	Regent 4448
FAS	Faculty of Architects and Surveyors. 8, Buckingham Palace Gdns., S.W.1.	Sloane 2837
FMB	Federation of Master Builders. 23, Compton Terrace, Upper Street, N.1.	Canonbury 2041
FS (Eng.)	Faculty of Surveyors of England. 8, Buckingham Palace Gdns., S.W.1.	Sloane 2837
GG	Georgian Group. 4, Hobart Place, S.W.1.	Sloane 2844
HC	Housing Centre. 13, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, S.W.1.	Whitehall 2881
IAAS	Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors. 75, Eaton Place, S.W.1.	Sloane 3158
ICE	Institution of Civil Engineers. Great George Street, S.W.1.	Whitehall 4577
IEE	Institution of Electrical Engineers. Savoy Place, W.C.2.	Temple Bar 7676
IOB	Institute of Builders. 48, Bedford Square, W.C.1.	Museum 7197
IRA	Institute of Registered Architects. 47, Victoria Street, S.W.1.	Abbey 6172
ISE	Institution of Structural Engineers. 11, Upper Belgrave Street, S.W.1.	Sloane 7128-29
LIDC	Lead Industries Development Council. Eagle House, Jermyn Street, S.W.1.	Whitehall 7264
LMBA	London Master Builders' Association. 47, Bedford Square, W.C.1.	Museum 3767
MARS	Modern Architectural Research. 46, Sheffield Terrace, W.8.	Park 7678
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. 55, Whitehall, S.W.1.	Whitehall 3400
MOE	Ministry of Education. Belgrave Square, S.W.1.	Sloane 4522
MOH	Ministry of Health. Whitehall, S.W.1.	Whitehall 4300
MOLNS	Ministry of Labour and National Service. St. James's Square, S.W.1.	Whitehall 6200
MOS	Ministry of Supply. Shell Mex House, Victoria Embankment, W.C.	Gerrard 6933
MOT	Ministry of Transport. Berkeley Square House, Berkeley Square, W.1.	Abbey 7711
MOTCP	Ministry of Town and Country Planning. 32-33, St. James's Square, S.W.1.	Whitehall 8411
MOW	Ministry of Works. Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.	Reliance 7611
NAMMC	Natural Asphalte Mine-Owners and Manufacturers Council. 94, Petty France, S.W.1.	Abbey 1010
NBR	National Buildings Record. 37, Onslow Gardens, S.W.7.	Kensington 7070
NFBTE	National Federation of Building Trades Employers. 82, New Cavendish Street, W.1.	Langham 4041
NFBTO	National Federation of Building Trades Operatives. 9, Rugby Chambers, Rugby Street, W.C.1.	Holborn 2770
NFHS	National Federation of Housing Societies. 13, Suffolk St., S.W.1.	Whitehall 2881/2/3
NT	National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty. 42, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1.	Whitehall 0211/2
PEP	Political and Economic Planning. 16, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1.	Whitehall 7245
PWB	Post War Building, Directorate of. Ministry of Works, Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1.	Reliance 7611
RCA	Reinforced Concrete Association. 91, Petty France, S.W.1.	Whitehall 9936
RIBA	Royal Institute of British Architects. 66, Portland Place, W.1.	Welbeck 5721
RS	Royal Society. Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.1.	Regent 3335
RSA	Royal Society of Arts. 6, John Adam Street, W.C.2.	Temple Bar 8274
SFMA	School Furniture Manufacturers' Association. 13, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.	Chancery 5313
SIA	Society of Industrial Artists. 20, Wellfield Avenue, N.10.	Tudor 7027
SPAB	Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. 55, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1.	Holborn 2646
TCPA	Town and Country Planning Association. 28, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.	Temple Bar 5006
TDA	Timber Development Association. 75, Cannon Street, E.C.4.	City 6147
TPI	Town Planning Institute. 18, Ashley Place, S.W.1.	Victoria 8815

standard contents

every issue does not necessarily contain all these contents, but they are the regular features which continually recur.

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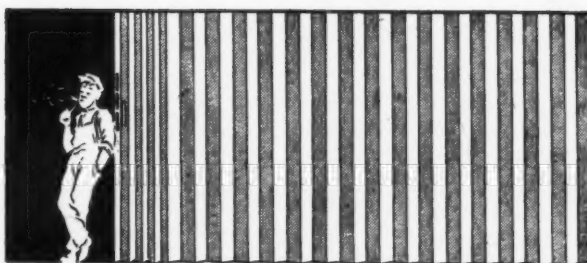
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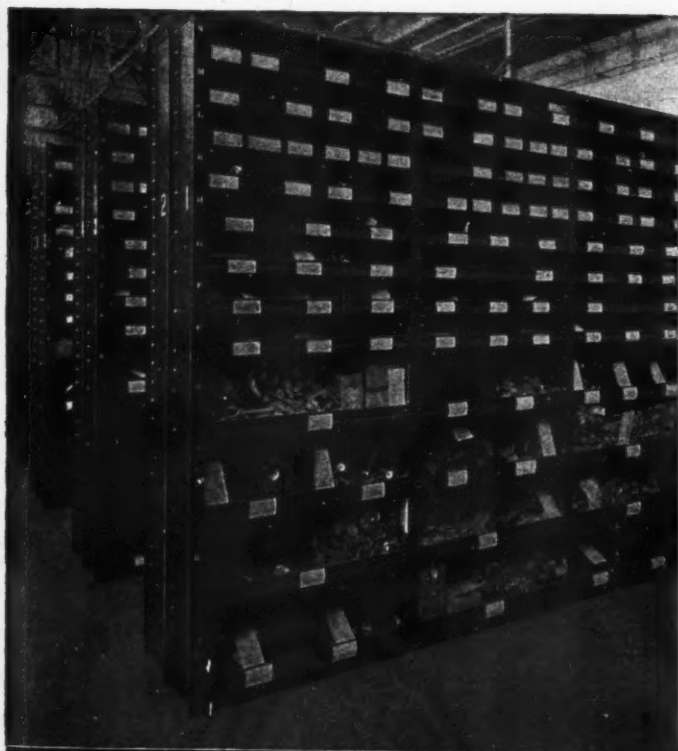
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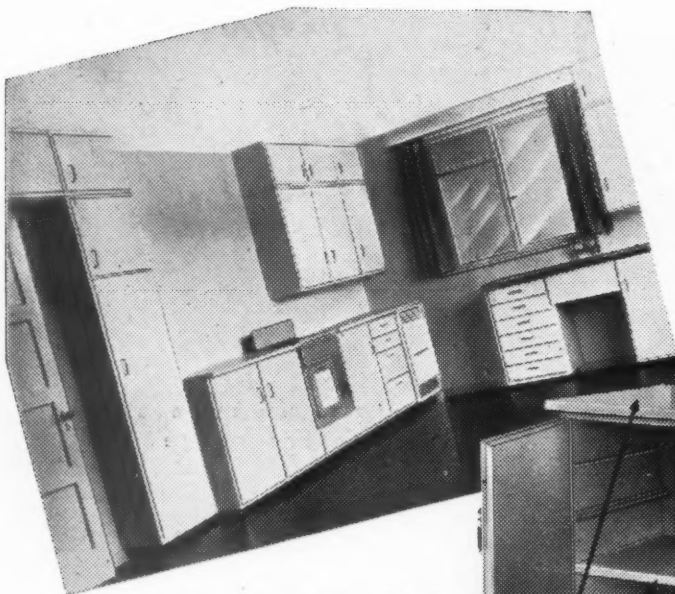
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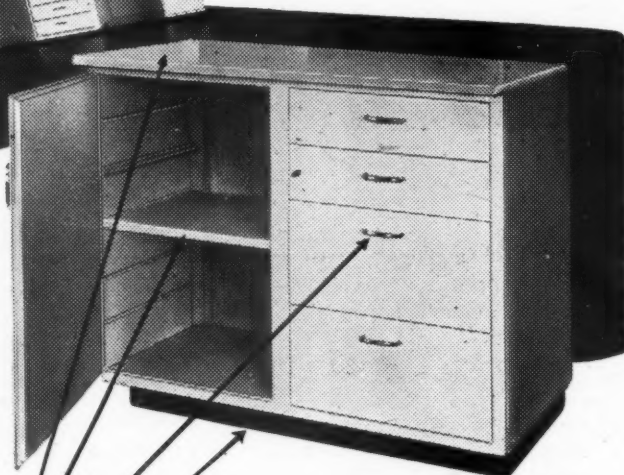
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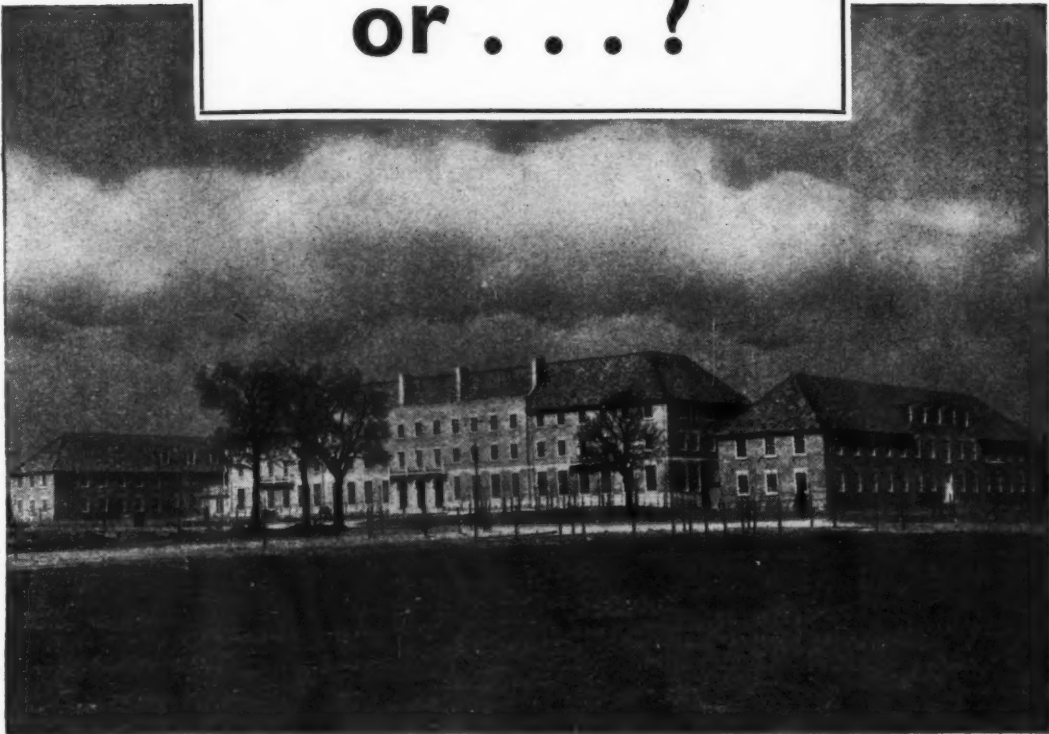
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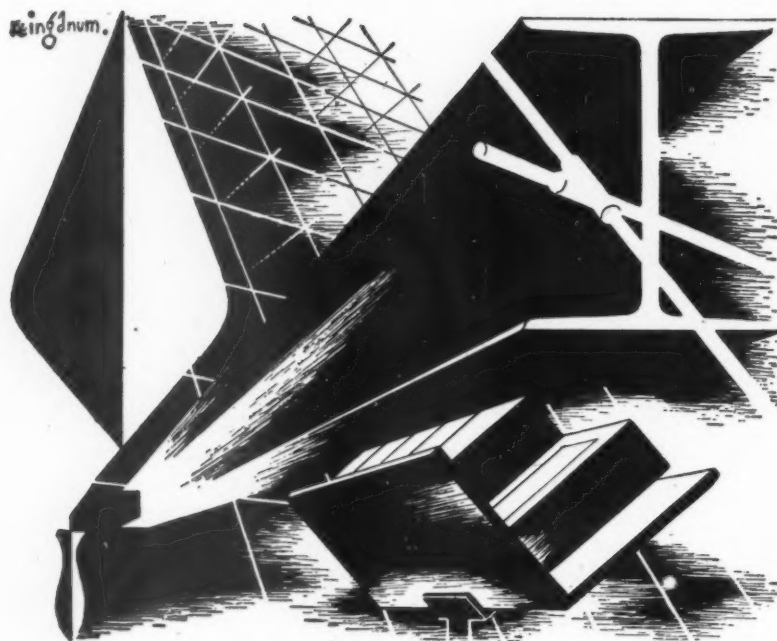
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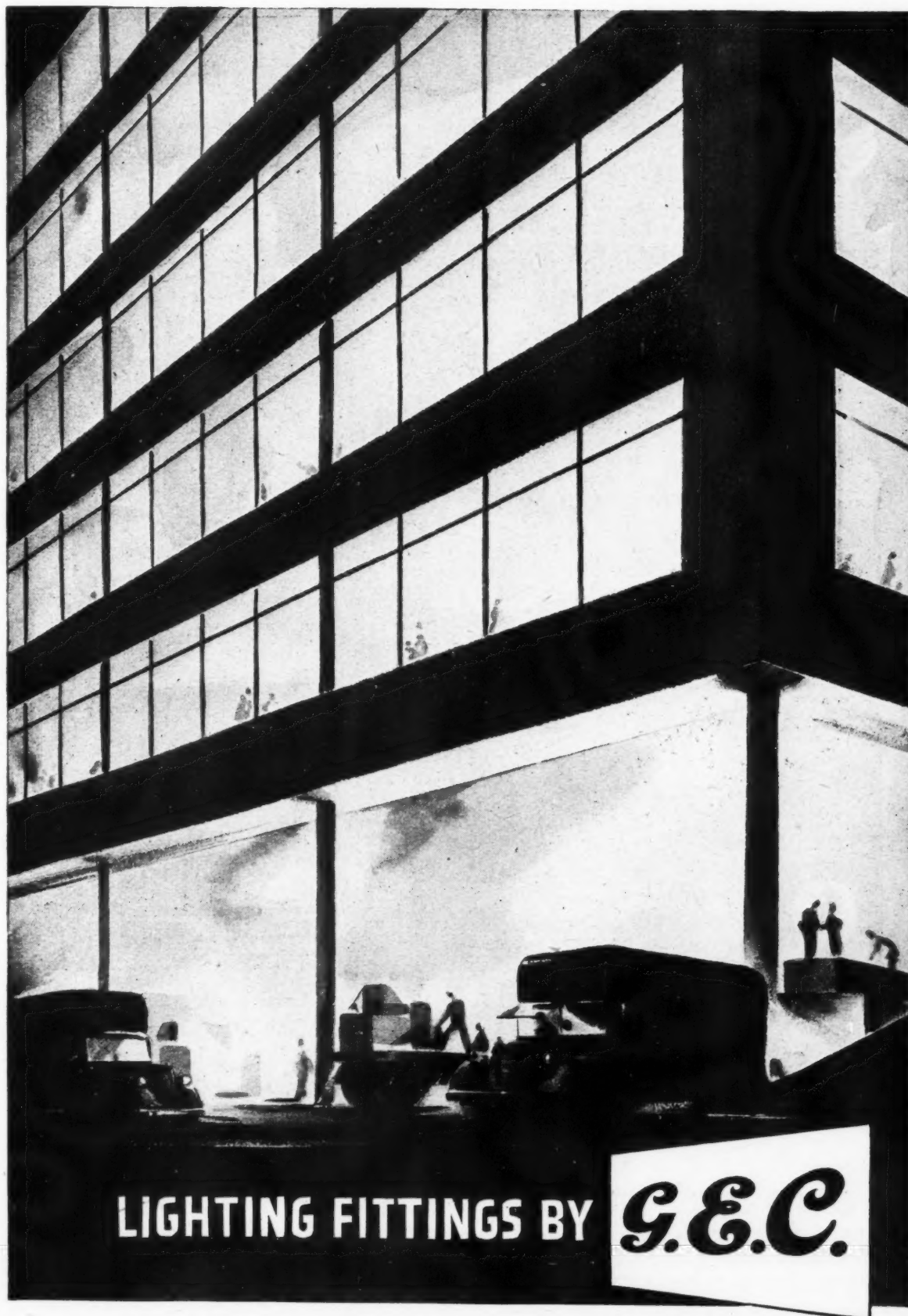
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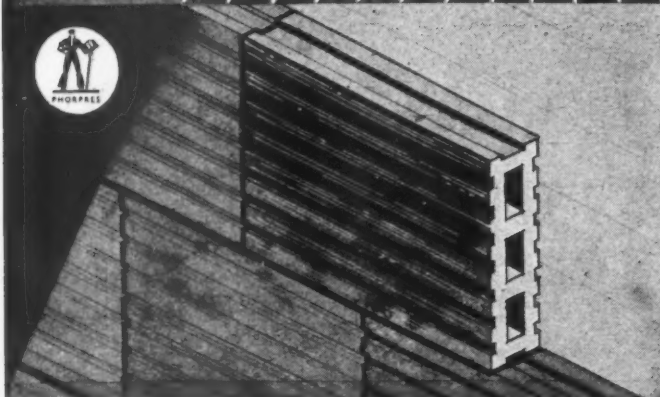
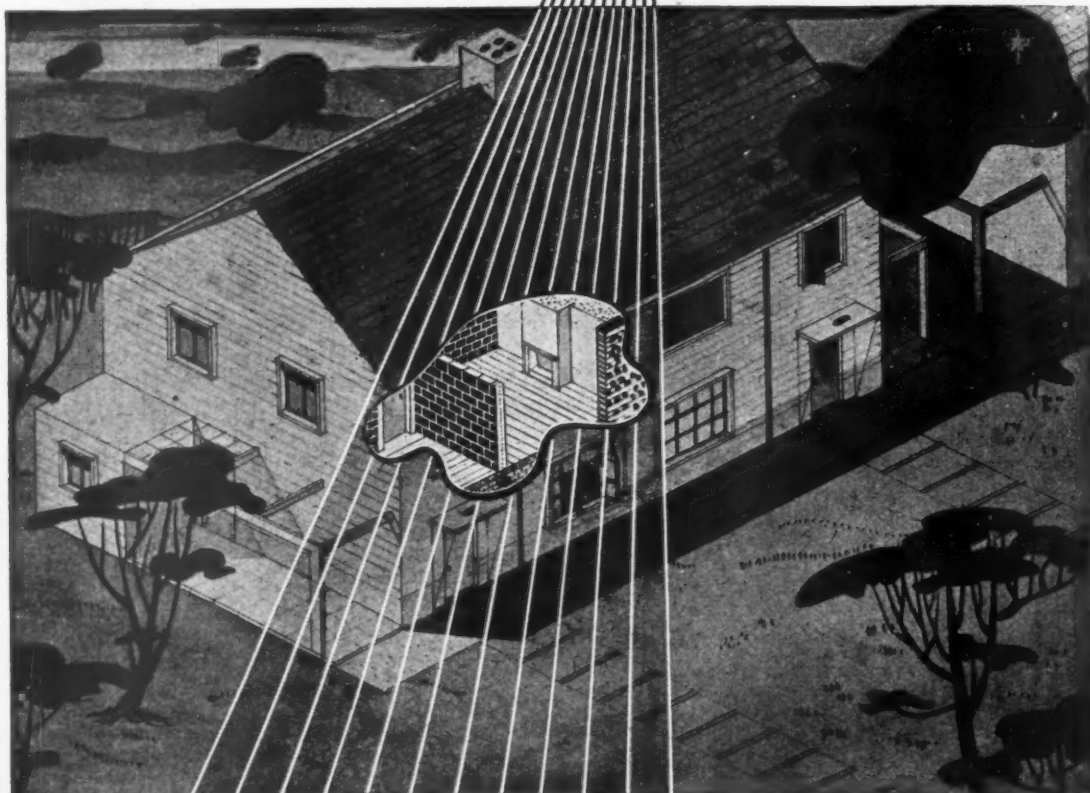
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This Present Age . . 3

That unity of purpose can be achieved once the nation is inspired by a sufficiently powerful incentive is one outstanding lesson of the war. We have re-awakened to the fact that we are, first and foremost, citizens of a great nation. Our national ways, whatever their faults and shortcomings, are yet so potent as to demand in their defence all that is best of our faith, courage and even our lives. This spirit must be our urge in the difficult years of reconstruction; it will be the motive and inspiration of all our endeavours. Granted the desire, goodwill and above all, unity of purpose, the many

great and complicated problems can be satisfactorily resolved. No obstacles must be allowed to stand in the way of ensuring such a future and of deserving the just rewards of all our sacrifices. Unity of purpose in peace is the prerequisite of a swift accomplishment of these desirable objects, which of themselves, constitute a dynamic incentive. To keep faith with our comrades who have given their lives for democratic ideals of liberty, all our forces are being mobilised in administration, technology and production, so that by our united efforts we may contribute towards building a better world.

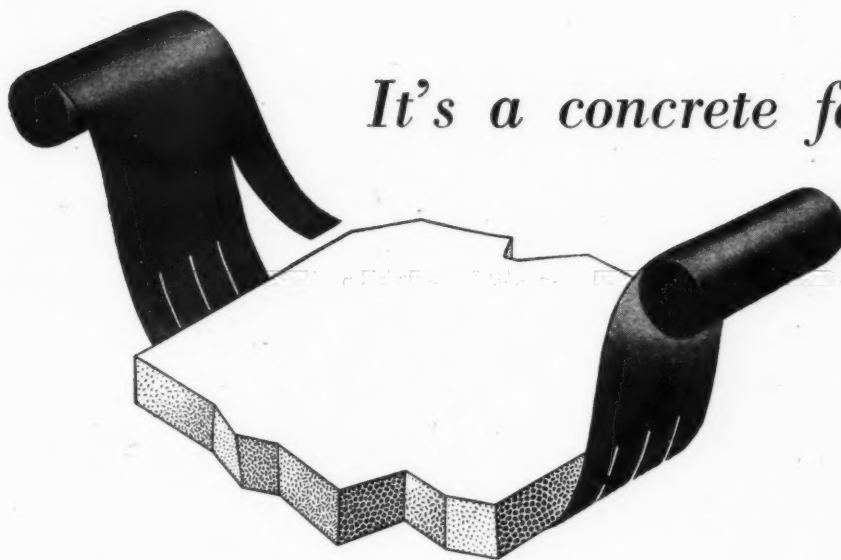


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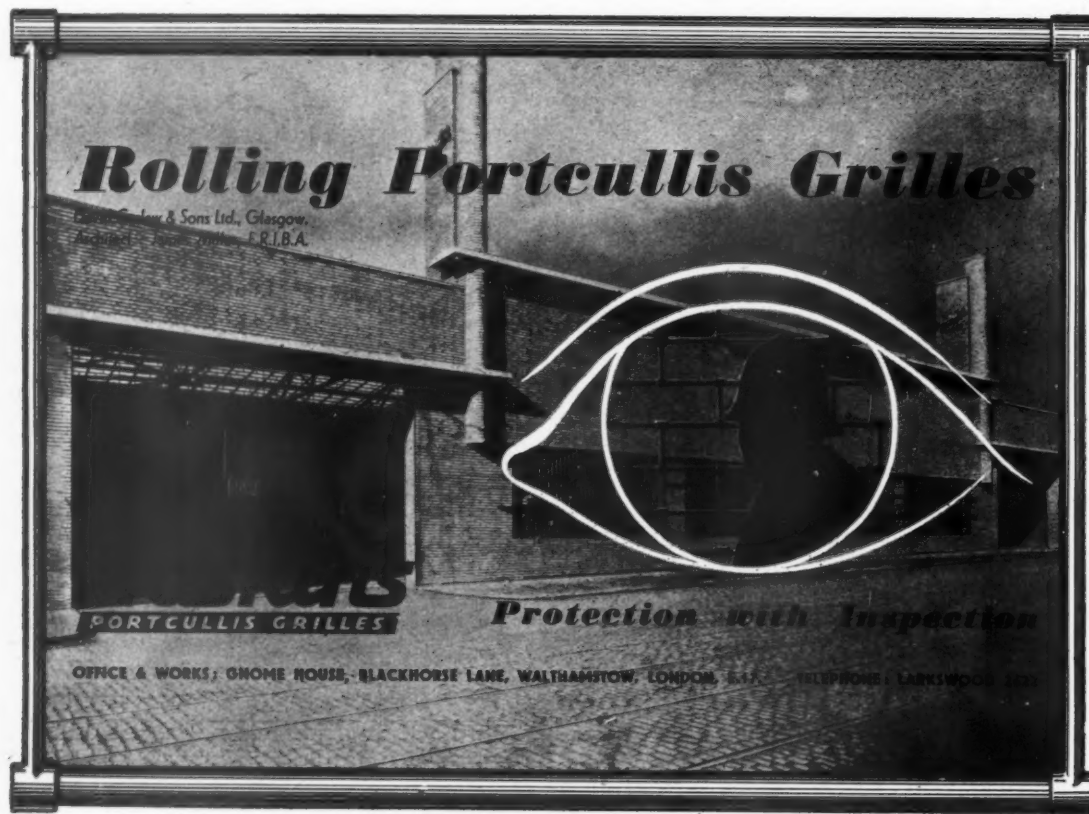


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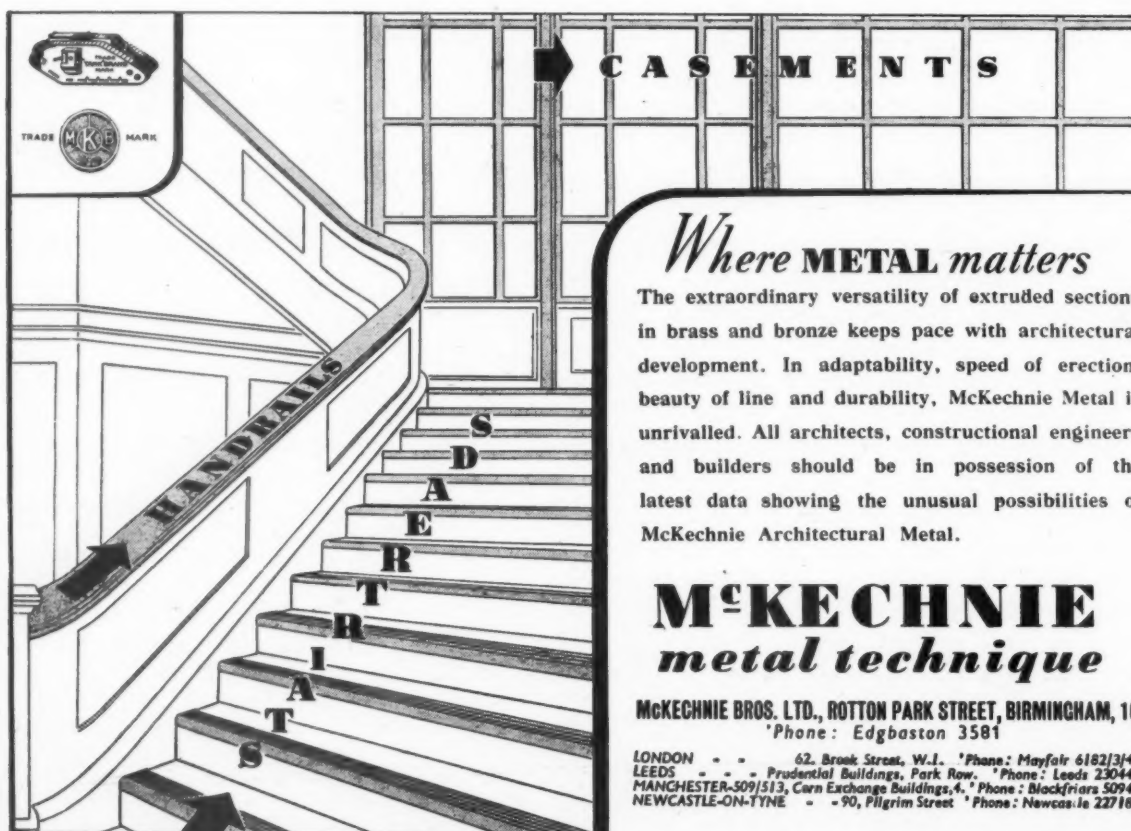
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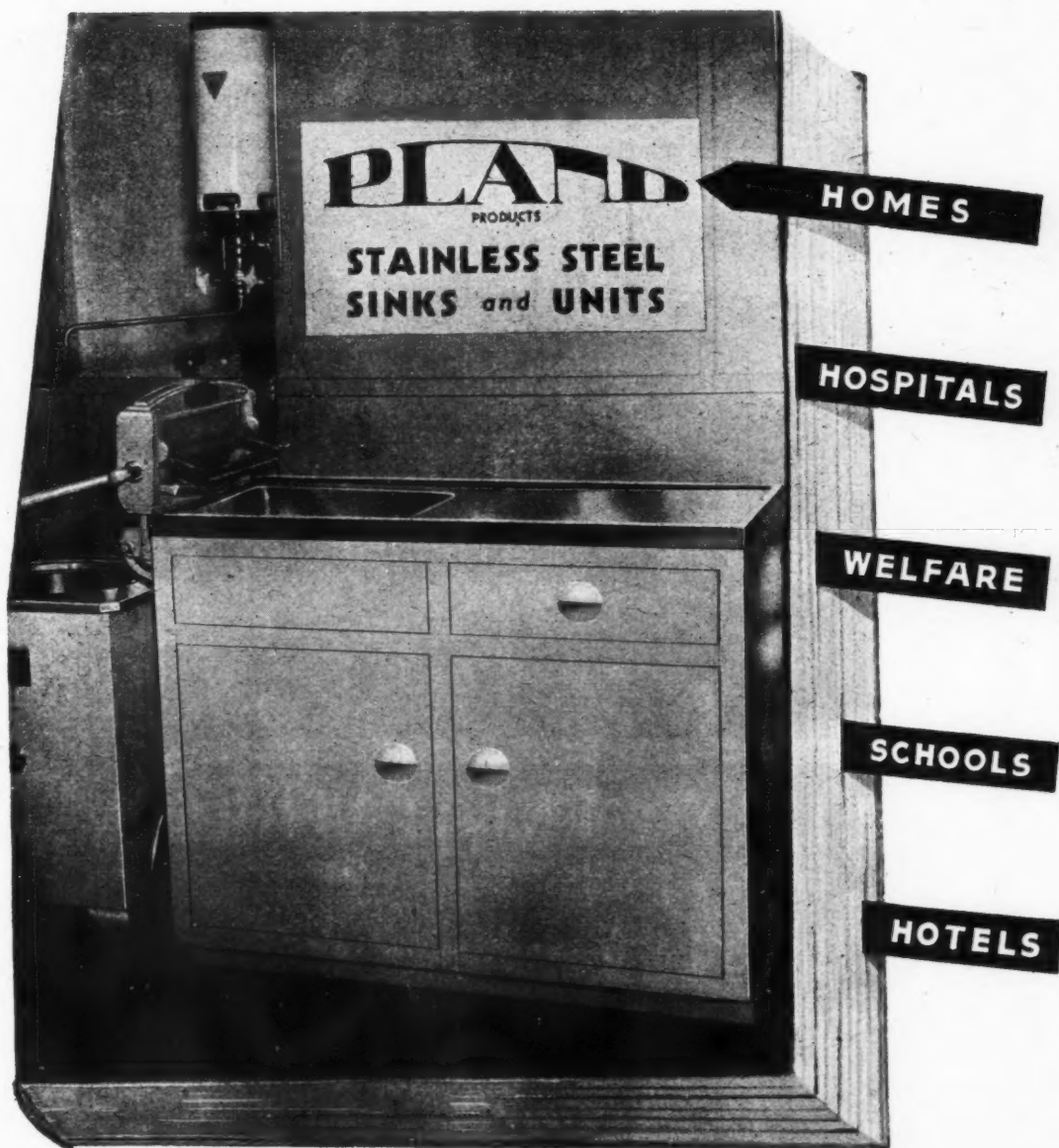
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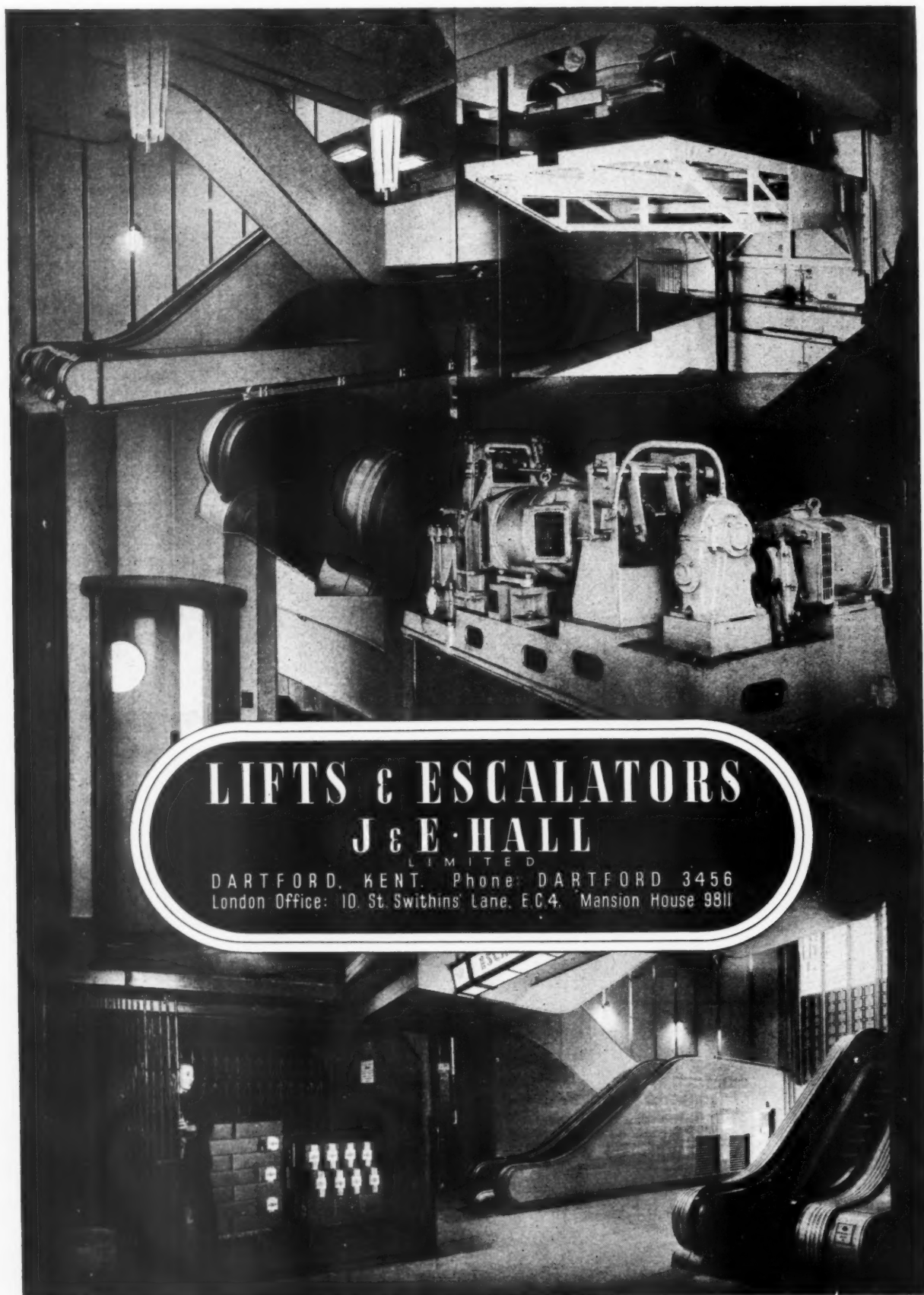
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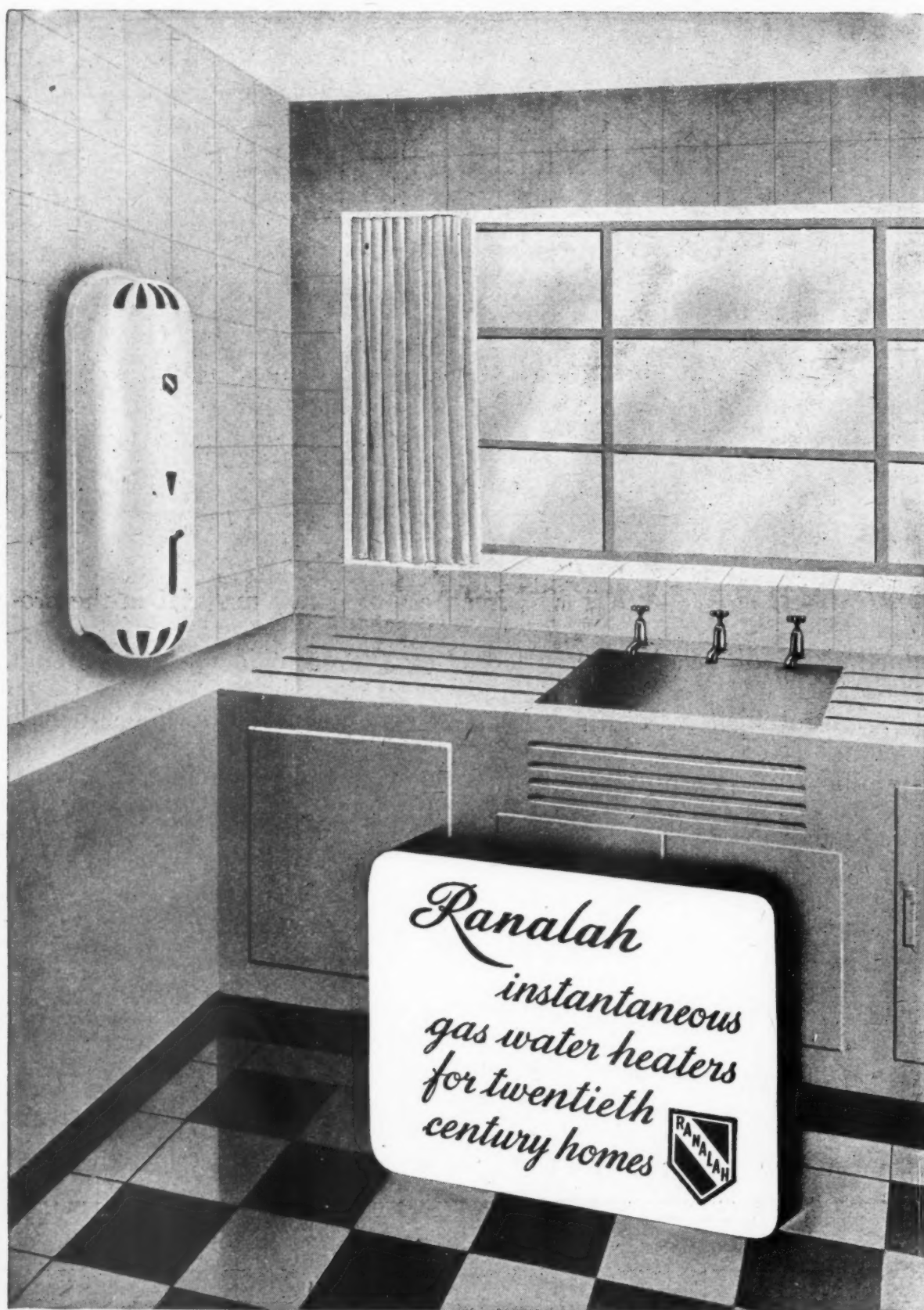
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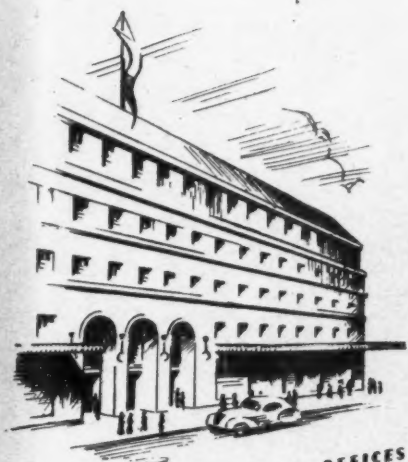
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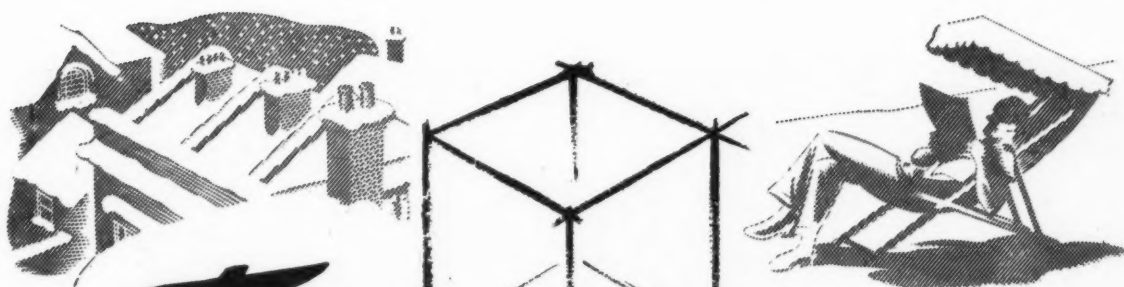
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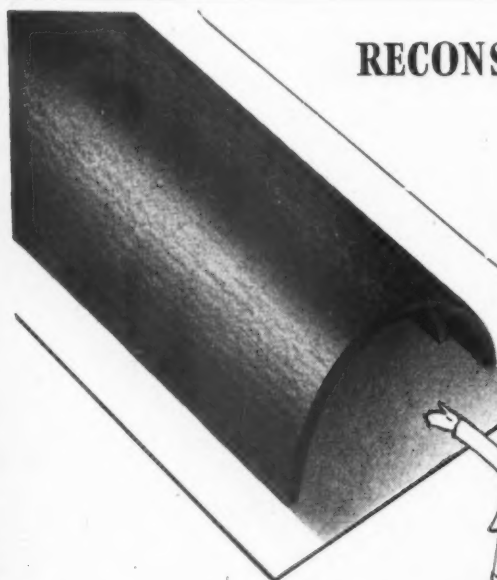


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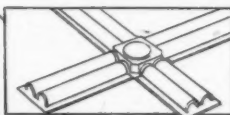
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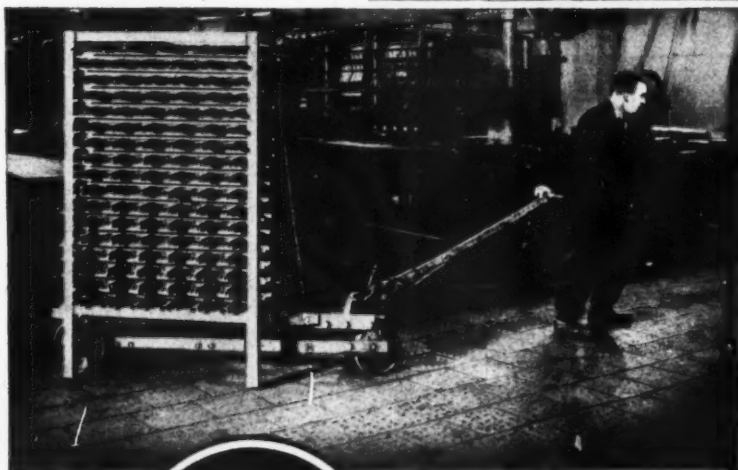
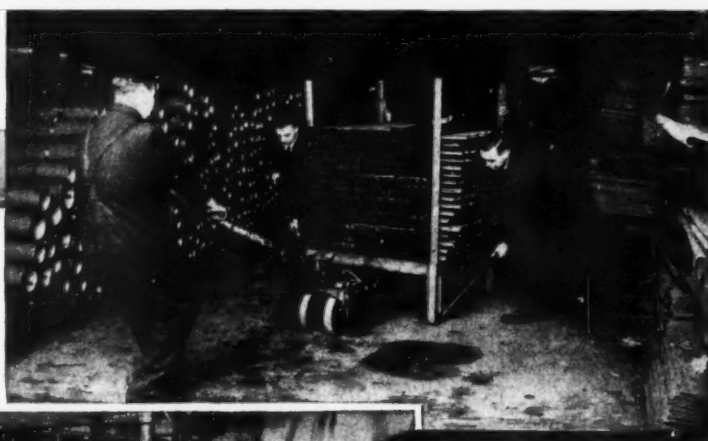
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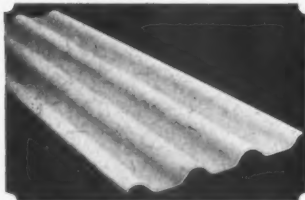
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Made and stocked in: Grey, Red, Russet Brown and Green.
- Overall depth of corrugations, $\frac{3}{4}$ ".
- Actual cover of a 7' 0" sheet as laid, 6' 6" x 3' 9".
- Spacing of purlins up to 6' 6" centres. Horizontal supports for side sheeting up to 6' 6" centres if sheets are fixed vertically.
- Number of square yards of sheeting per ton is approximately 100.
- Minimum end lap of roofs, 6". Side lap, 3".
- The weight of 100 sq. ft. as laid for roofing with fixing accessories is approximately 455 lbs., or 41 lbs. per sq. yd.

FIXING

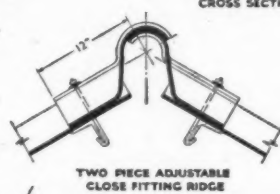
Fix to steel purlins with hook bolts, with special galvanised diamond and bitumen washers, and to timber purlins with 6" mushroom head drive screws.

ACCESSORIES

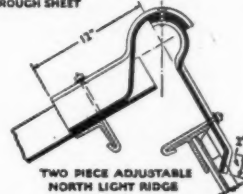
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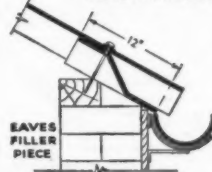
CROSS SECTION THROUGH SHEET



TWO PIECE ADJUSTABLE
CLOSE FITTING RIDGE



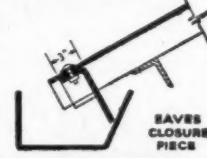
TWO PIECE ADJUSTABLE
NORTH LIGHT RIDGE



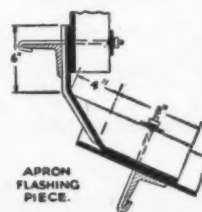
EAVES
FILLER
PIECE



BARGE
BOARD



EAVES
CLOSURE
PIECE



APRON
FLASHING
PIECE

AREA & WEIGHT TABLE			COVERING CAPACITY		
SIZE	AREA IN SQ. YDS.	APPROX. WEIGHT IN LBS.	Nb. OF SHEETS	COVERING WIDTH	Nb. OF SHEETS
10' 0"	4.444	157.87	1	4' 0"	14
9' 6"	4.222	149.98	2	7' 9"	15
9' 0"	4.000	142.08	3	11' 6"	16
8' 6"	3.778	134.19	4	15' 3"	17
8' 0"	3.556	126.30	5	19' 0"	18
7' 6"	3.333	118.40	6	22' 9"	19
7' 0"	3.111	110.51	7	26' 6"	20
6' 6"	2.889	102.62	8	30' 3"	21
6' 0"	2.667	94.72	9	34' 0"	22
5' 6"	2.444	86.83	10	37' 9"	23
5' 0"	2.222	78.94	11	41' 6"	24
4' 6"	2.000	71.04	12	45' 3"	25
4' 0"	1.778	63.15	13	49' 0"	26

FOR COMPLETE TECHNICAL DETAILS AND METHOD OF
FIXING WRITE FOR CATALOGUE SECTION 25

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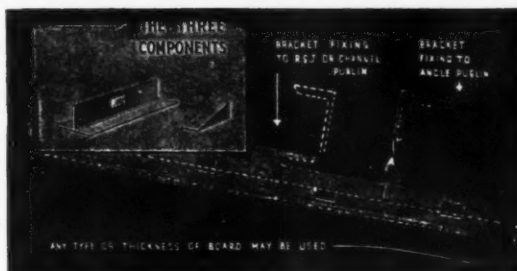
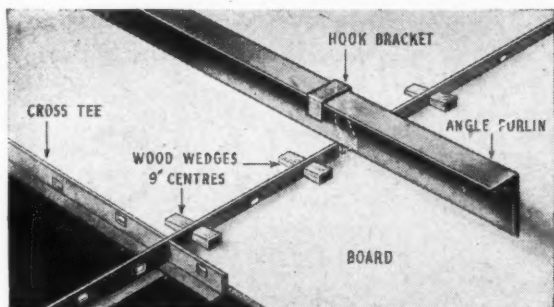
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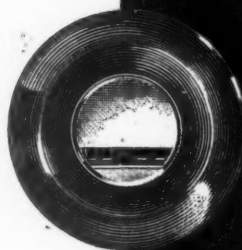
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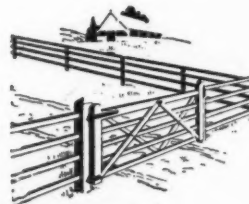


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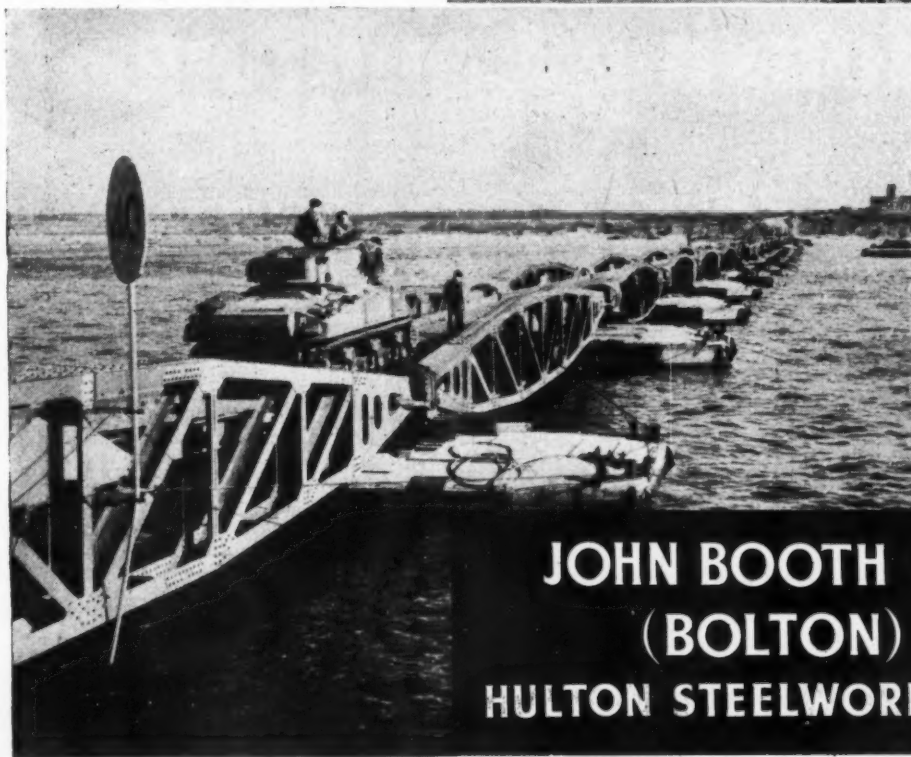
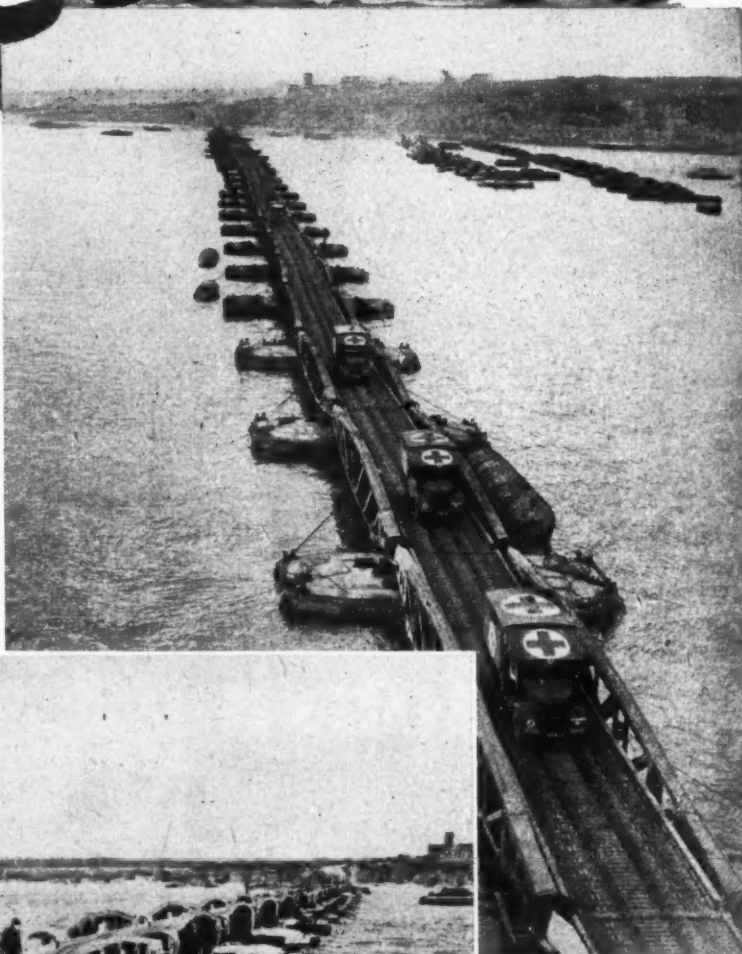
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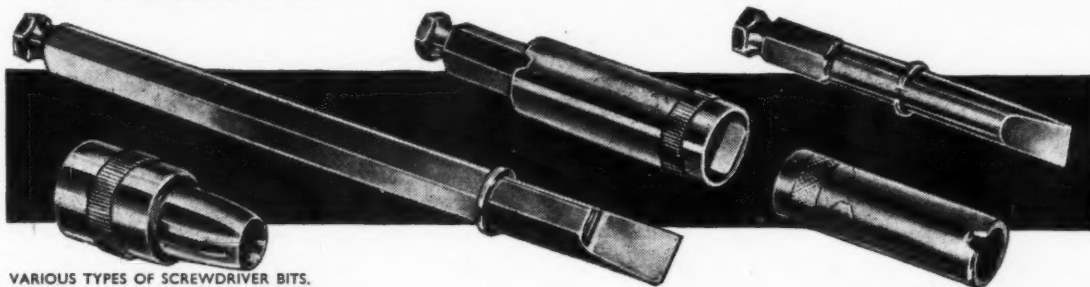


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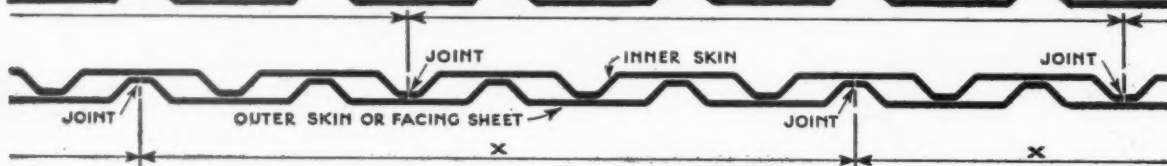
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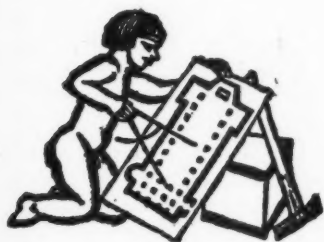
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In common with every other periodical this JOURNAL is rationed to a small part of its pre-war needs of paper. Thus a balance has to be struck between circulation and number of pages. We regret that unless a reader is a subscriber we cannot guarantee that he will get a copy of the JOURNAL. Newsagents now cannot supply the JOURNAL except to a "firm order."

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DIARY FOR MAY JUNE AND JULY

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

BLACKPOOL. *Health Congress.* To be opened by Lord Woolton. Sections of the Congress include *Engineering and Architecture*, presided over by Sir Reginald Stradling, and *Housing and Town Planning*, presided over by Norman H. Walls. (Sponsor, RSL.) JUNE 3-7

LONDON. *Wood Engravings and Water Colours.* By Eric King. At the Batsford Gallery, 15, North Audley Street, W.1. (Sponsor, B. T. Batsford, Ltd.) MAY 9-22

Building Now Exhibition. At the RIBA, 66, Portland Place, London, W.1. Open each week day from 10-6. (Sponsor, RIBA.) MAY 9-MAY 11

Exhibition of Paintings and Water Colours. By Paul Delvaux. At the Redfern Gallery, 20, Cork Street, Burlington Gardens, W.1. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. MAY 9-MAY 11

Electrical Association for Women. Twenty-first Annual Conference. At the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, W.C.2. (Sponsor, EAW.) 10 a.m. MAY 10

H. Ruhemann. *The Technical Approach to Art.* At the Courtauld Institute of Art, 20, Portman Square, W.1. (Sponsor, CIA.) 5.30 p.m. MAY 14

Illuminating Engineering Society Convention. At the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Victoria Embankment, London, W.C. An Exhibition will be held in the adjacent ELMA Lighting Service Bureau. Provisional Programme:—May 14, 6 p.m.: Reception by the President. Lecturettes, illustrated by experiments and demonstrations, on such topics as lighting in captivity, camouflage and decoy tactics, some light on invasion, the wonders of black light, etc. The Exhibition at the Lighting Service Bureau will be open for inspection and will continue open during the Convention. May 15, 10.45 a.m.: Annual General Meeting, followed by addresses on *Lighting during the War and After* and *Light and Health*. 12.30 p.m.: The President will entertain leading representatives of IES Centres and Groups to luncheon. 2.30 p.m.: A paper on *New Lamps for Old* (Mr. L. J. Davies). 5.30 p.m.: Dinner-dance at Connaught Rooms, Kingsway, London, W.C.2. (tickets 25s. each). May 16, 10 a.m.: A paper on *Laboratory Technique during the War* (Mr. W. R. Stevens and Mr. G. T. Winch); 11.30 a.m., a paper on *Aerodrome Light* (Dr. S. English); 2 p.m., a paper on *Daylight and Town Planning* (Mr. W. A. Allen); 3.30 p.m., a paper on *Fluorescent Lighting* (Mr. W. J. Jones) (alternatively: a trip down the River Thames or a conducted tour of Hampton Court); 5.30 p.m., informal social evening

(burlesque pageant, *Lighting Through the Ages*) at Magnet House, Kingsway, London, W.C.1. May 17, 10 a.m.: Visit to the National Physical Laboratory. (Sponsor, IES.) MAY 14-16

H. Berry, M.P. *Town Planning and Water Supply.* At the Town and Country Planning Association, 28, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2. Chairman, Major T. F. Thomson. Buffet lunch, 12.45 p.m. Talk and discussion, 1.15 p.m. (Sponsor, TCPA.) MAY 16

E. K. Waterhouse. *Livre du Cœur D'Amours Espris.* At the Courtauld Institute of Art, 20, Portman Square, W.1. (Sponsor, CIA.) 5.30 p.m. MAY 21

Mrs. Monica Felton. *New Towns.* At the PEP Club, 16, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1. Speaker lunch, member 3s. 6d., guest 5s. 1 for 1.10 p.m. (Sponsor, PEP Club.) MAY 22

R. Fitzmaurice, Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser, Ministry of Works. *Materials and Methods of Construction for Housing.* Announcement of result of AA Election of Officers and Council for Session 1946-7. At the AA, 34-36, Bedford Square, W.C.1. (Sponsor, AA.) 6 p.m. MAY 28

R. A. Scott James. *The Unity of the Arts.* At the International Arts Centre, 3, Orme Square, Bayswater Road, W.2. (Sponsor IAC.) 8 p.m. MAY 28

Trenchard Cox, Director, City Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham. *Problems of a Municipal Museum and Art Gallery.* At the Courtauld Institute of Art, 20, Portman Square, W.1. (Sponsor, CIA.) 5.30 p.m. MAY 28

Federation of Master Builders, London Region. Luncheon meeting preceding half-yearly meeting. At the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, W.C.2. Guest of honour, Rt. Hon. Aneurin Bevan, M.P., Minister of Health. 12.45 for 1 p.m. (Sponsor, London Region FMB.) MAY 30

Dr. David Mace. *Environment and Marriage.* At the Town and Country Planning Association, 28, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2. Buffet lunch, 12.45 p.m. Talk and discussion, 1.15 p.m. (Sponsor, TCPA.) MAY 30

Dr. Mary Woodall. *Gainsborough.* At the Courtauld Institute of Art, 20, Portman Square, W.1. (Sponsor, CIA.) 5.30 p.m. JUNE 4

W. A. Thorpe. *The Idea of Furniture.* At the International Arts Centre, 3, Orme Square, Bayswater Road, W.2. (Sponsor, IAC.) 8 p.m. JUNE 11

NEWS

THURSDAY, May 9, 1946
No. 2676 Vol. 103

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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.

Work is well under way on the construction of A LARGE FACTORY IN MONMOUTHSHIRE for the production of nylon yarn.

Occupying a site of about 100 acres between Pontypool and Usk, the factory for British Nylon Spinners, Ltd., is being built to the design of Sir Percy Thomas, P.R.I.B.A. The consulting engineers for the civil engineering and buildings are Messrs. Scott & Wilson, London. The steel frame for the pilot factory has been completed, and work on the foundations of the first section of the main factory has been started. The latest machinery for excavating and moving material is being employed. This first section of the main factory will be of steel frame construction 1,000 feet long by 350 feet wide and rising in parts to a height of 100 feet. No less than 13,000 tons of structural steel will be required in this section. The structural steel for the main factory will be supplied and erected by Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., London, who carried out the corresponding part of the pilot factory.

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From AN ARCHITECT'S Commonplace Book

WHEN THE ADAM HOUSE WAS MORE THAN PRETTY. [From Georgian London, by John Summerson (Pleiades Books).] The hall, the staircase, each room, each closet, fits into a counterpoint of living-space; . . . It is all devised for the conduct of an elaborate social parade, a parade which was felt to be the necessary accompaniment of active and responsible living. These houses of Adam's were not pleasure pavilions or settings for Vanity Fair; they were built by people with a certainty of their own importance and of the paramount justice of whichever political cause they espoused. They were not built for domestic but for public life—a life of continual entertaining in drawing-rooms and ante-rooms and "eating rooms" where conversation would not be wholly ephemeral, where a sentence might be delivered, which would echo round political England, where an introduction might mean the beginning of a career or a deft criticism the dethronement of a policy. Adam's letters and sketches show how fully he appreciated for what kind of life he was planning. He ponders the assembly of guests, the conversation before dinner, the procession to the dining-room; he considers where the upper servants shall stand, how the under servants shall perform their duties without being noticed; and behind the parade he plans for the dignified, easy privacy of lord and lady, with study, dressing rooms, closets and bed-chambers. The real glory of the Adam houses died with the life for which they were built. When they become "mixed" clubs, council rooms for distillers and seminaries for the University of London, it is no longer easy to see what underlies the Pompeian lace and the Etruscan colouring or to give back to each room the measure of emphasis or reticence which it had when the regulated tide of 18th century society flowed through it. Adam houses are always pretty but in their origin they were something more.

★ The bomb-damaged churchyard of St. James's Church, Piccadilly, is to become A GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE.

The Garden of Remembrance is to be dedicated to the courage and fortitude of the people of London during the war. The Bishop of London, Dr. Wand, will dedicate the garden, which has been designed by Prof. A. E. Richardson, on Sunday, May 12, at 3 p.m., in the presence of Queen Mary, who will formally open the gates. The converting of this bombed site into a garden is due to the generosity of the late Viscount Southwood.

★★

For nearly a year at Norwich a five-storey building has been HEATED BY RIVER WATER.

The waters of the River Wensum flowing through Norwich have, according to the *Daily Telegraph*, for nearly a year maintained a temperature of 62½ degrees in a five-storey corporation building here. This heating process has been developed by the City Electrical Engineer, Mr. Sumner. The plant he has installed in his department is the only one in the country. Engineers from all parts of the world have travelled to see it. The Norwich heat plant extracts and uses the latent heat present in even the coldest water at all temperatures above freezing point. The heat pump employed is based on the theory of raising temperature by compression. Working costs amount to one-third of those incurred by electric heating or by solid fuel central heating.

A building and development scheme for the NATIONAL CHAMBER OF TRADE'S LONDON HEADQUARTERS is being discussed at the Chamber's Conference at Scarborough this month (May 20-22).

The idea is to establish a London headquarters worthy of the 250,000 retail shopkeepers whom the NCT represents and to

mark the occasion of the Chamber's Jubilee. The resolution is to be moved by Mr. G. H. Rangeley, of Southport, and, if adopted, the building may well become the Retail Trade Parliament. Another resolution of importance is one criticising the Government's one-to-four ratio in the granting of building licences. It comes from the Greater London Area Council of the NCT and will be moved by Mr. F. Campbell, a member of the LCC. It reads: This Chamber views with great concern the decision of the Minister of Health to restrict the issue of licences for the building of private dwellings in the proportion of one to four as between private enterprise builders and municipal authorities, and expresses the opinion that such restrictions will militate against the provision of dwellings so vital to the well-being of the community.

Mr. H. C. Emmerson, Deputy Secretary and Director-General of Man-Power in the Ministry of Labour and National Service, has been appointed PERMANENT SECRETARY TO THE MINISTRY OF WORKS in succession to Sir Percival Robinson who has been appointed a Government director of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. Mr. Emmerson's appointment will take effect on May 13.



The Franklin Roosevelt Memorial Committee discussing plans for the erection of a monument to President Roosevelt. In front are Sir Harry Brittain and Sir William Reid Dick, who will be the sculptor. Behind (left to right) are: Mr. B. W. A. Gallannough (the architect), Colonel Clifton Brown (the Speaker), Lord Greenwood, Sir Campbell Stuart, and Mr. Waldemar J. Gallman.



Living Lace

Several examples of the value of trees and foliage as decorative foils to building have been published on this page. Here is another—a striking example of the use of foliage which has been allowed to grow in a new way

across the window pane in this room in Stockholm, and so to act with some of the practical purpose of net curtains in helping to provide privacy and yet at the same time as a highly decorative feature of the interior.

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The Council invites applications for the full-time APPOINTMENT OF LIBRARIAN OF THE RIBA.

Minimum salary £750 rising by annual increments of £25 to £1,000, less superannuation contributions. Some experience of special library administration and knowledge of architecture would be an advantage. Applicants should be not over 45 years of age. Forms of application and further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, RIBA, 66, Portland Place, W.1. Applications should be submitted not later than June 7, 1946, and be accompanied by copies of not more than three recent testimonials and the names of two referees.

★★★

Messrs. Herbert Jackson and Reginald Edmunds, F.F.R.I.B.A., of New Street, Birmingham, have WON THE CRYSTAL PALACE COMPETITION first prize of £2,000.

The second prize of £750 goes to Messrs. Eric Lyons and Roy Christie, of Mill House, Bridge Road, East Molesey, the third of £500 to Johnston, Lanchester and Lodge, of Woburn Square, London, and two prizes of £250 to Messrs. Edward Forshaw and Greaves, of Trinity-Street, Hanley, and Mr. A. D. Connell, of Mulberry Walk, Chelsea.

Experts met in London to look at some 1,000 designs for non-utility furniture submitted for inclusion in the Government sponsored BRITAIN CAN MAKE IT Exhibition, which opens in September at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Permits will be issued for the timber required for constructing the selected designs and from this range of furniture the final selection for the exhibition will be made. New furniture will be an important feature of the exhibition—displayed in furnished rooms and in nurseries, gardens, offices, and restaurants. There will be a complete freedom in the choice of materials for the furniture exhibits. It is anticipated that some of the furniture selected will be based on the war-time advances in new techniques and new materials. Non-utility post-war developments in all kinds of consumer goods will be shown at the exhibition, which is being organised by the Council of Industrial Design and financed by the Government. No space is being sold, for all exhibits are to be carefully selected to illustrate the best in British industrial design. Selections for other sections of the exhibition will be made later in the summer. The exhibits are to be chosen by experts drawn from a panel of selectors under the chairmanship of Lord Woolton. The selection committee for furniture consists of: Mrs. Margaret Allen, member of the Women's Co-operative Guild, and Chairman of the Housewives Panel of the Council of Industrial Design; John Hooper, O.B.E., formerly Assistant-Controller in charge of furniture services at the Ministry of Works, expert and author of books on furniture; Geoffrey Dunn, designer of furniture and an interior decorator; Christopher Hussey, a writer and authority upon architecture and furniture; Brian O'Rorke, architect and industrial designer (interior designer for ss. *Orion*); technical assessors (appointed by the industry to advise): Anthony Heal and Lucian Ercolani; secretary, F. Muller, of the CID.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES AND A SPECIAL LIBRARIAN

LIBRARIES live or die according to the vitality and awareness of those who make them, run them, and use them. At the one end of the scale are the repositories, penetrated now and then by the historian, but generally unrelated to the needs of their time and—even more important—to the resources of other libraries. At the other end of the scale are the real centres of information, pleasant to look at and to work in, displaying readily what information they can and giving information on that which they cannot provide, taking their place in the wider service of research by co-ordinating its bibliographies and indices, records and contacts, and in the best instances their direct personal services, with the resources and personnel of other libraries and information bureaux. Special libraries incline to liveliness, in any case, because they are used in the current practice of an art, a science, or a technique. And of all special libraries those of architecture and town planning are among the most generally used, for they cover such a wide field. To a school of architecture a working library is as essential as a teaching staff. The RIBA, godfather to the architectural schools in this country, and itself a learned society, appropriately houses one of the best special libraries in England.

Although it is true that the RIBA Library enjoys natural advantages, to which its central position in the architectural world entitle it, its peculiar distinction is due not only to its character and resources, but also to the mind and personality of Edward Carter, who has for so long been its presiding genius. He is now entering a wider field of activity of the same sort in UNESCO; but his influence will continue to be felt at Portland Place. The truth is that Mr. Carter was such a good librarian at the RIBA because he was so much more besides. The monumental *Catalogue* which he edited is only one of the proofs of his technical competence. Just as Dr. Johnson is remembered for other things than his Dictionary, Mr. Carter will be remembered for more valuable contributions to the life and work of his day than the *Catalogue*, or even the reorganisation of the RIBA Library, distinctive as these contributions are. For one thing, he is Chairman of ASLIB; and as the proceedings of the recent Conference show,* he is at the centre of an international organisation of technical and scientific character, which has already done much to forward the aims for which UNESCO is being set up. One cannot, therefore, regard Mr. Carter's departure from the RIBA as a loss to architecture; but there is no doubt that it will be a loss to a large number of architects. And it will be a loss of the most genuine kind, that will be felt eventually by many who have taken things very much for granted up to the present. For Mr. Carter's idea of information was a good deal more inclusive than that of most officers of institutions, and frequently embraced original research, encourage-

* See page 368.

ment and assistance, editing and annotation, and even introductions and hospitality.

When building other than housing again becomes a normal activity in this country a good deal of attention will be paid to Mr. Carter's ideas on the planning and equipment of research libraries. The whole range of thought on this subject can best be studied in the Conference Reports of ASLIB, whose destiny he has done so much to shape, and to whose distinguished wartime record—particularly in the field of microfilm—he so largely contributed. Members and students of the RIBA will also be grateful for the work of their domestic Library Reconstruction Committee, to whose labours, since November, 1943, Mr. Carter devoted a good deal of time. The future of the RIBA Library has been carefully thought out; and like all far-sighted officers, Edward Carter has thus insured against his own removal. Every architect, and many a visitor to the Library who is not a member of the RIBA, has good cause to wish him well.



The Architects' Journal

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N O T E S

&

T O P I C S

SIR HARRY ON WHY NO HOUSES

Sir Harry Selley, President of the Federation of Master Builders, has something of the bold hunting man's approach to current housing problems; he always takes his hedges as well as his brick walls at a gallop. For 3d. one can obtain his latest diagnosis of the problem Why No Houses? in a pamphlet* that sets out the facts pretty well at breakneck speed and offers a very familiar solution in a few lightening sentences.

* The Housing Problem. Statement by Sir Harry Selley, President of the Federation of Master Builders. (Aims of Industry, 12, Carteret St., S.W.1.)

Sir Harry's best points are destructive. He points out (a) that the Local Authorities had a large number of sites in their possession by the spring of last year, (b) that the number of employees in the building industry has been rapidly expanding, and (c) that there are large stocks of bricks and other materials in the country at the moment of writing. So, he argues with considerable force, sites, labour and materials cannot now be the bottleneck, though components may be. What then is the cause of the hold-up?

First, Sir Harry says, the "obscurity" of Government policy; this horse won't ride very much further, we fear. Whether Sir Harry likes it or not, that policy has been explained almost *ad nauseam* by now. Secondly, the fact that the Government has "forgotten" that pre-war 78 per cent. of houses were built by private enterprise without any subsidy whatever. Thirdly, "prefabricated houses are wholly undesirable" (Sir Harry in his big-hearted way does not trouble to distinguish between prefabricated and temporary housing—he takes them in the same jump. Fourthly, owing to the "encroachment of party doctrine" private enterprise is discouraged because it does not meet the demand for the low income ranges. Here Sir Harry surely ignores the licences that *are* being given for houses built for sale or to let by private enterprise, provided that they come within the necessary ceiling

of prices. Fifthly, Sir Harry tells us *ex cathedra* that the cost-plus system is a good system in itself except when interfered with by bureaucracy and red tape. Even the coalition Parliament thought differently.

Certainly private enterprise has a big part to play in the future house-building programme of this country. But is Sir Harry quite, quite sure that there is no doctrinaire prejudice in his side of the case? We should like to say a plague on both your houses—but that might be unlucky right at this moment.

What is the bottleneck? We wish we knew, but we can't help feeling that here and there a smoother running Government organization might help. It's surely time that the far from novel idea of one Ministry to deal with housing and planning as a combined operation should be reconsidered.

CHANGE OVER

After spending the war years in making radar equipment and Frazer Nash gun turrets, Ascots are once more producing water heaters in a big way, though they have by no means worked up to peak production. During a recent visit, Astragal was really more impressed by the research laboratories at Tolworth than by the factory. Here there is a big programme under way with much experimental work on the optimum composition of such things as tap washers and valve diaphragms, and a wide use of electronic methods to determine such things as the speed at which gas burners light. While this seems to be the sort of work which should be carried out by the gas industry as a whole, it is essential that it should be done, and it seems right to hope that a private firm which has the enterprise to do it will reap its due share of the inevitable benefits.

At any factory which is restarting peace-time production one always asks hopefully about new designs. Ascots have plenty of ideas, but what with building and testing a prototype, modifying it and arranging for large scale production, there is a gap of something

like two years before a new heater is freely available. So in view of the enormous demand the firm is at present concentrating on pre-war types.

A TEST OF TIME

Here and there, people are actually beginning to live in some of the various kinds of permanent prefabricated houses. Among them are the Swedish houses, which seem so far to be very popular among the new tenants. But the real test of all these new types will be time. Interesting therefore is the first-hand account I have had from a lady who owns a Swedish timber house called "Windywalls" which was built specially for her at Gatehouse-of-Fleet, Scotland, in 1937.

The house is built on the foundations of an old demolished cottage. It was thus impossible to build a standard Swedish house off the peg, and one had to be cut to fit. The house was delivered by one of the mills belonging to the Swedish Timber-House Export Association and was erected by local labour under the supervision of a Swedish foreman. It consisted of a heavier type of standard wall section and double glazing, the only structural variation, apart from adaptation of sizes, being the slate roof and the horizontal weather boarding.

The cost of the materials to the Swedish company for house and garage was £650, and the total cost worked out (with garage) at about £1,460 which was approximately equal to that of a

brick house of the same size, *i.e.*, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, four bedrooms, two bathrooms, cupboards, etc.

After nine years the house still pleases the owner, who says that it has proved very satisfactory and is much admired, not least by the workmen who built it. It keeps very warm with a minimum of heating in spite of being in an extremely exposed position. "Undoubtedly," she says, "the double windows supplied as a standard fitting are of tremendous benefit in gale conditions." The house is very dry. "It was once unoccupied for 15 months including a very severe winter. In spite of this no damage was caused through damp, though possessions stored in the existing stone part of the building became mildewed within a week."

"Some trouble has been experienced with leakage, however, round the brick chimney and also round the window frames. These leakages are probably caused by shrinkage of the timber and could presumably have been avoided by using lead flashings. The only other trouble has been with the exterior paintwork which refuses to remain white—the fault no doubt of the paint rather than the house."

So the moral for timber houses seems to be: Use double windows if you can afford them, and good paint if you can get it; and watch those joints round the windows and chimneys.

ASTRAGAL



A house built of Swedish prefabricated timber sections in Scotland in 1937 described by Astragal this week.



LETTERS

B. R. Davis,

National Secretary, Arch.SA.

P. A. Dannenbaum

G. B. J. Athoe,

Secretary, the Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors

The Work of the British Schools

SIR,—ASTRAGAL'S challenge is one we must accept, in the most friendly manner possible. I believe that work "as good or better" than that of the Poles has been, and is being, produced by British students; but it has never been published in one book.

However, unlike our Polish fellow-students we have no resources which would enable us to undertake such a publication. I therefore suggest that the Architectural Press should do it, and that Arch.SA. should co-operate by providing drawings, to be picked up from all the leading schools of Britain, on condition that we are represented on any body you might convene to make selection.

B. R. DAVIS,
Liverpool National Secretary, Arch.SA.

[The suggestion of Mr. Davis is an admirable one and will be given our careful and immediate consideration when Government restrictions enable more paper to become available.—ED., A.J.]

The 1951 Exhibition

SIR,—Quite apart from the fact that Hyde Park as a park is essential for London, surely an exhibition at so central a site would make the traffic problem insoluble. May a 17-year-old member of the new generation suggest the use of the 2,358 acres of Richmond Park as the exhibition site?

FIRST ALL-PLASTICS RAILWAY BUFFET CAR



The first all-plastics buffet car has just been added to the Southern Railway's London-Dover boat train. The car was formerly a Pullman coach but has been gutted and entirely re-designed. Walls, bar, partitions and table tops are all faced with Waverite laminated plastic material in pink, grey and cream. The designer is Mr. Richard Levin of the Industrial Design Unit of Bakelite, Ltd. Top right, the original standard Pullman coach. Below right, the coach during reconstruction. Top left, the bar compartment completed; the walls are in alternate grey and pink panels lined in dark grey and pink; the joints are covered with strips of oak; the bar itself is faced with Waverite, the front grey and the top cream, the angle pieces being of aluminium; along the bar top is a drawing of an old time train on a special impregnated paper pressed into the laminated plastics sheet during production. Below left, the lounge section; the settle fabric is a pink and white patterned asbestos material; this material is repeated in the wall surface by being pressed into the Waverite during manufacture; the window curtains are in translucent vinyl material.

As it is surrounded by large open spaces, its temporary loss would not be seriously felt. Incidentally, it would bring the exhibition visitors to Greater London's 'most beautiful town'.

For easy access, a temporary airfield could be arranged at the Old Deer Park or on Wimbledon Common, and special trains should be run from the ports and the provinces to Richmond and/or Norbiton stations.

Incidentally, could this opportunity be taken to build a permanent tower from which one can get a bird's eye view of London from Richmond Hill?

Twickenham

PETER A. DANNENBAUM

Wren—Pigeon or Falcon?

SIR.—If and when a site for the great exhibition of 1951 comes to be chosen, let us remember what happened when Hyde Park was chosen as the site for its 1851 predecessor. It was ordained that no trees should be cut down, with the result that sparrows disfigured some of the exhibits and also on one occasion, so it is said—and this is what brought matters to a head—paid unwelcome attention to the Prince Consort's hat. It was impossible to shoot the sparrows without breaking half the glass in the huge building. When Queen Vic-

toria explained the difficulty to the Duke of Wellington, he said: "Try sparrow-hawks, ma'am."

There is possibly an objection to a general battue of pigeons in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's Cathedral, the fabric of which is not improved by their pecking. One wonders, however, if the periodic release of falcons might not help to keep down a nuisance to visitors and a danger to the masonry of a shrine which survived scores of other raids by air.

G. B. J. ATHOE,

Secretary, The Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors.

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This is the third of the series of commentaries on the Government's housing returns, published by the Ministry of Health and the Department of Health for Scotland, and on the tables published in the Digest of Statistics which are being issued month by month. The object of the series is to supply a factual and unbiased interpretation of the official figures by an expert statistician. He covers such matters as the rate of provision of new housing, the amount of housing under construction, the labour position in intake and output, the materials position and progress in temporary housing.

HOUSING STATISTICS

A MONTHLY COMMENTARY ON THE OFFICIAL RETURNS—3

by

Ian Bowen

By the end of March there were, in Great Britain,* 6,034 Permanent and 21,182 Temporary houses completed (including houses completed before July, 1945, as in previous commentaries). In addition, space for about 115,000 family units had been found by requisition, by conversion and adaptation of existing premises, by repair of war damaged premises, and by the provision of huts. Compared with revised figures for February, this represented an increase of 1,616 Permanent and 4,464 Temporary houses completed, and 8,500 family units for which additional space was otherwise provided.

RATE OF PROVISION OF NEW HOUSING

The following table shows how the number of houses provided each month is now increasing:—

TABLE I
Monthly Rate of New Housing Provided in Great Britain

	Six Months to January 31, 1946 (average)	February	March
Permanent Housing—			
Local Authority schemes	208	151	468
Private enterprise	260	652	1,148
Total Permanent Housing	468	803	1,616
Temporary Housing	1,839	3,967	4,464
Total (Permanent and Temporary) ..	2,307	4,770	6,080

* Technical Note: There has been some revision of the labour tables and definitions are now given. The total figures in the Returns are reconciled with the Digest of Statistics' totals. But there are still a few slips, e.g., the Scottish return still describes Great Britain as the United Kingdom, "workers aged 16 and under 64" is an incorrect definition for insured male employees aged 16 and under 65, and "houses provided since 31st March, 1945" seems to include temporary houses provided before that date. There is a discrepancy as to the number of private enterprise houses built in March between the figures in the Housing Returns and the Digest of Statistics; the totals quoted in the text are taken from the Digest of Statistics.

The figures still exclude any allowance for private enterprise building in Scotland; 178 such houses were completed there since January 1, 1945, but the dates of their completion are not stated.

While the figures are moving in the right direction, Table I does hardly more than indicate the very slow rate at which Permanent houses are so far emerging out of the "pipe-line." The substantial proportionate contribution of Temporary Housing remains very noticeable. How soon is this position going to change?

HOUSES UNDER CONSTRUCTION

At the end of March there were about 83,000 houses under construction in Great Britain, of which 65,000 were Permanent and 18,000 were Temporary. Now the monthly rate at which houses are fed into a programme tends, once the programme is well under way, to govern the monthly rate at which, after a period nearly equal* to the average period of production of a house, completions will occur. During March there was an increase of 17,000 Permanent houses under construction, and also of 1,000 Temporary houses under construction, plus another 1,000 odd in the number of temporary housing sites on which slabbing work was in progress, or where slabbing work had been finished but erection not yet started.

HOUSES BEGUN

During March, 25,000 houses were begun, divided as follows:—

TABLE II
Houses on which Work Began in February and in March. (Great Britain.)

	February	March (to nearest thousand)
Permanent Housing—		
Local Authority schemes	7,000	11,000
Private enterprise (approx.)	8,600	8,000
Temporary Housing	5,300	6,000
	20,900	25,000

Thus the number of Permanent houses begun in March was 3,400 larger than in February, and the gain accruing to the Local Authorities was 4,000. The important point to observe is that, assuming an average rate of completion of seven months, Permanent houses will be finishing at the rate of 16,000 a month in September, and 19,000 a month in October of this year. They will presumably by then be beginning at about double that rate. This is an indication of the future demand for materials. By July or August, Permanent houses should be finished as fast as Temporaries.

THE LABOUR POSITION

During March, the Effective Operative Labour Force (i.e., males aged 16 and over included in the returns from employers to the Ministry of Works) increased by 58,000, the total being 797,000 at the end of the month.

Labour employed on War Damage Repairs to houses declined during the month by 17,000 according to the Digest of Statistics, by 5,000 according to the Health Department's Returns, a discrepancy that is not explained.

Table III makes an attempt to combine results from the two sources and to show where the increases of labour had effect.

TABLE III
Analysis of the Increase of Labour, February-March, 1946

1. Preparation of Housing Sites	+ 2,500
2. Erection of Temporary Houses	+ 500
3. Construction of Permanent Houses	+ 18,000
4. Conversions and Adaptations of Houses	No change
5. Other Work	+ 54,000
6. Decline in War Damage Repair to Houses	- 75,000
Net Increase	+ 58,000

Items 3 and 4 in this Table are based on the Digest of Statistics' version of the figures; the Housing Returns show an increase of 22,000 in the numbers engaged on conversion and adaptation of

* Nearly but not exactly equal, because in a rising programme the work is not always organised to produce a constant rate of construction.

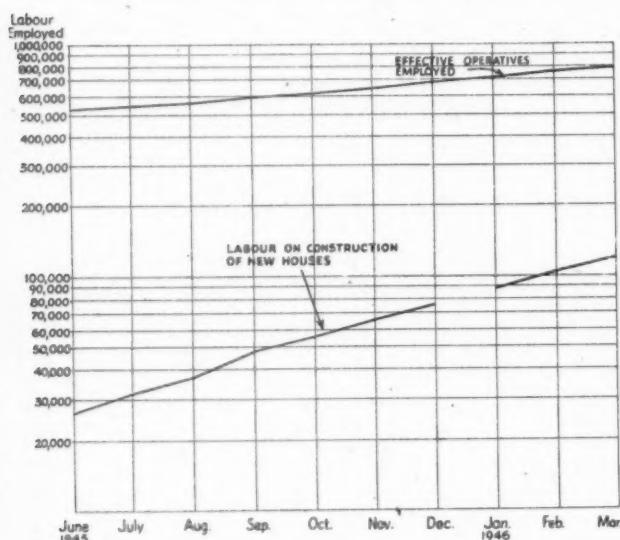


Diagram 1: Building and Civil Engineering operators employed (males aged 16 and on). Top, the total employed; below, those employed on new housing construction only. The labour on construction of new houses applies to Local Authority schemes up to December, 1945; thereafter the total is shown.

houses; both agree that the March figure for this item was 95,000 men employed. They produced 1,406 houses adapted in March in England and Wales on an average of 1,322 for three months, and this figure related to the labour force employed works out at an average of 0.018 houses produced per month. The 1,616 Permanent new houses produced in March in Great Britain can be roughly related to a labour force of 71,500 engaged on this construction, which gives a factor of 0.023 houses finished per man per month. There were, moreover, many additional new houses fed into the new housing programme, so the comparison understates the output of new housing; it is thus abundantly clear that the conversion and adaptation of houses is relatively wasteful of labour, although this programme may use relatively less materials.

Unemployment numbered 18,000 at the end of March. Some rise was to be expected, and the figure is only 2 per cent. of the labour in the industry; nevertheless a continued rising trend in the summer months would be disquieting, and might call for temporary concessions in licencing.

EARLIER STAGES IN PERMANENT HOUSING

Enough figures are now accumulating to give some indication of the lags involved. Conclusions at present must be tentative, but it is worth noting that, in England and Wales there were 35,000 "Tenders Approved" for house erection by Local Authorities at the end of December, 1945, while the number of sites on which construction had begun was not so high until the end of March, i.e., the lag was about three months. But construction was beginning more slowly than the monthly rate of approval of tenders, and the lag here was widening.

The most remarkable figure is that which reveals (by difference) that 29,000 house-sites were finished by means of Advanced Preparation of Housing Sites, in England and Wales, in March. This must be the fruition of work done for many months previously. Some 43,000 new sites seem to have been fed into this scheme during March, and there were 78,000 sites awaiting development concurrently with the construction of houses. It would perhaps avert later delays to begin advanced preparation work on some of these.

In Scotland development work was begun on an additional 3,100 house-sites only, and some 400 sites were completed. Here the development of sites is not keeping up with the rate at which construction work is beginning.

TEMPORARY HOUSING: GREAT BRITAIN

At the end of March the broad picture was that 21,000 temporary houses had been completed, and on nearly 40,000 (cumulative and including the completed houses) the work of erection had begun. The difference (18,358 in exact figures) represents of course the numbers under construction. What do these figures mean in respect of past performances and future prospects?

Changes in the lag between commencement and completion since

February, 1945, can be roughly measured as varying between 12 and 17 weeks. Thus one would expect the whole of the 40,000 houses begun to be finished by 11-17 weeks from the end of March, that is between June 15 and August 10. Can this rate of completion be achieved?

Rates are best studied on the Diagram II, which shows the official figures of houses begun and completed in each month since February, 1945. The rate of finishing in each month tends to be about 3 months in arrears of the rate of starting. Finishing at about 6,000 a month average from April-June inclusive would seem feasible enough from the diagram, so the whole of the 40,000 should be done well within the above-mentioned time-table.

This substantial programme, after many a difficulty, is at last increasing to a reasonable rate. The lesson of these figures is not to expect too much in the first 9-12 months of any constructional programme; but another lesson is the necessity of planning for components and for the full scale monthly output of the programme a considerable way ahead. Will the permanent pre-fabricated programme be dovetailed into the temporary one so that the organization, at last in full swing, can carry on with its momentum, or will the teething troubles have to be faced all over again?

Very few laymen fully realize the scale of the operation, or what size or type of organization is needed to turn out houses at 6,000 or 12,000 a month, to a set standardized pattern. Such an organization can be brought together only very slowly; it may be the key to a substantial part of the housing problem of 1947 and 1948, and should not be lightly dissipated.

MATERIALS

All materials for which figures are available showed an increased output in March. Bricks at 179 millions were coming out at a higher monthly rate than any annual average figure since 1942. Gas and electric cookers improved to the rate of 39,000 a month. But these figures are deceptive if not related to the huge maintenance demand (which is substantial both for primary materials and for fittings) as well as to the demand for new housing. Arrears of maintenance work are one of the main causes for anxiety in respect to future materials' supplies.

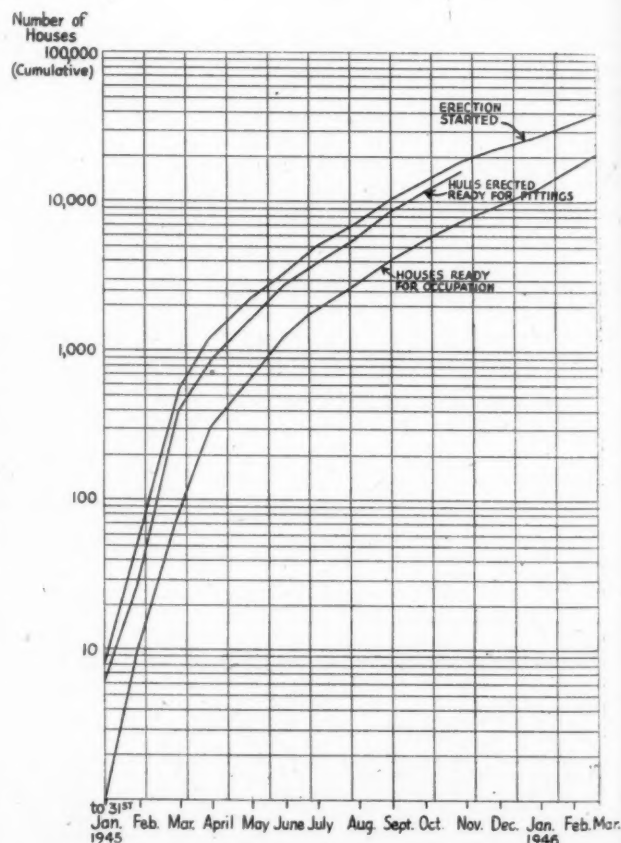


Diagram II: Erection and completion of temporary houses.

PHYSICAL PLANNING SUPPLEMENT

An Exhibition of the new Plan for Birkenhead, prepared by Professor Sir Charles Reilly and N. J. Aslan, is now being held in the Williamson Art Gallery at Birkenhead. The Merseyside Plan, published in 1945, included Birkenhead within the Central Merseyside area and the Port of Liverpool. The new Plan for Birkenhead proposes a comprehensive scheme for the improvement and redevelopment of this important Merseyside town. A review of the Plan is given below, followed by an explanation of the Hexagonal Planning proposed for some residential areas, by Professor Sir Charles Reilly, which, interesting as it is, receives some editorial criticism in the captions to the illustrations. Above, a view of Birkenhead from the air, showing the entrance to the Mersey Tunnel. Photo: Aerofilms Ltd.

B I R K E N H E A D

**A NEW PLAN BY SIR CHARLES REILLY
AND N. J. ASLAN**

In spite of the consciously formed layout a hundred years ago of practically all the main streets of Birkenhead, which is hardly a century old, little effort was made at the time to segregate and define the different users for the various areas. Equally wide streets led everywhere. At the two ends of the town, however, the contrast in the existing users is marked. At the north and north-east there is industry in docks and shipyards, while in the west and south-west the richer classes have their residential quarters. In between these there exists a mass of very mixed users with the inevitable congestion, especially in the eastern and north-eastern areas adjacent to or near the industrial region of the town. The new Plan for Birkenhead takes account of two main aspects—Birkenhead as an independent unit, a well-balanced, harmonious whole; and Birkenhead as an important component of the Merseyside Region and the most important centre in Wirral.

housing

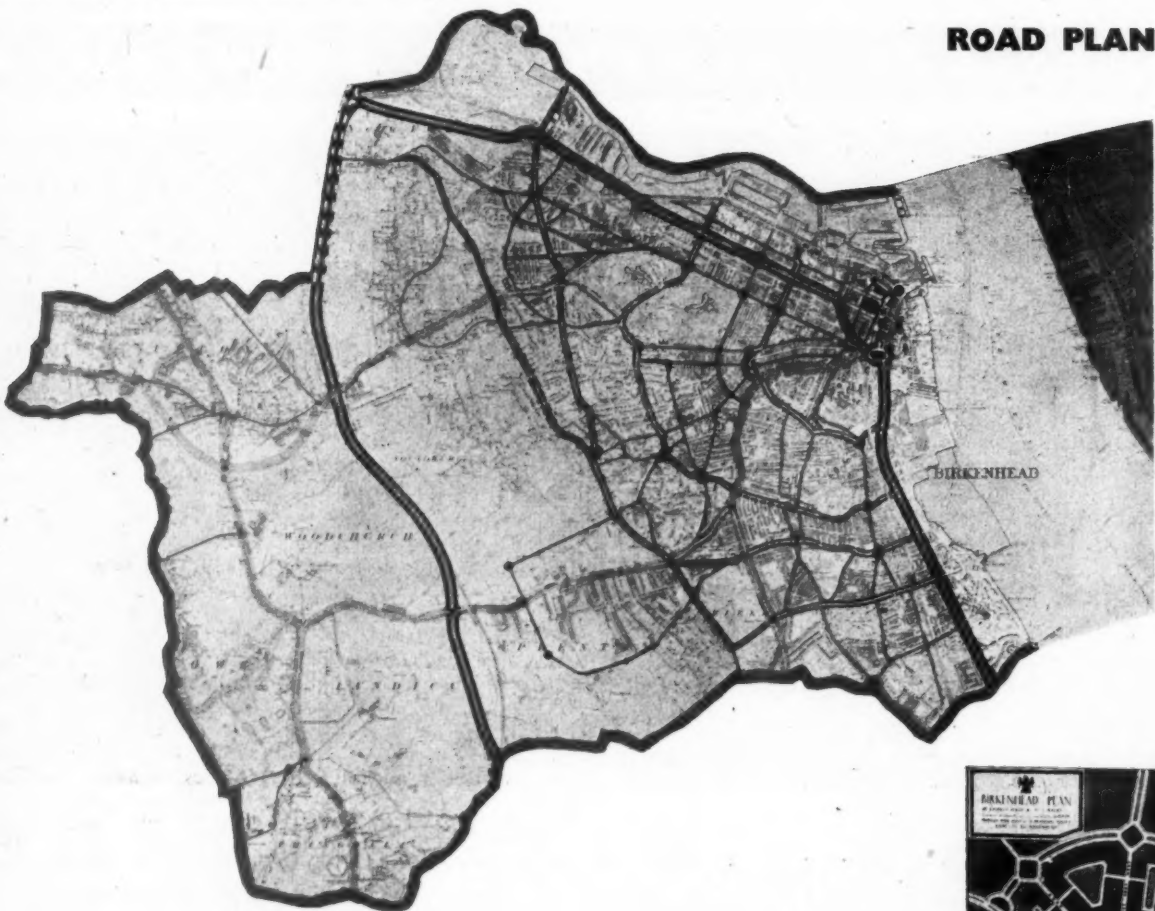
The majority of dwellings in the eastern, central and north-eastern areas, all near to the industrial and business centres of the town, have long since passed their useful life, and most of these substandard dwellings are at a very high density; some of them are at over fifty to the acre. A reconstruction scheme is proposed for these areas to be carried out in blocks.

As soon as a new block of houses is built, the population of one of the substandard blocks is to be taken *en masse* to the houses in the new dwellings, and reconstruction started at once on the empty site. In this way existing communities will not be so completely broken, loneliness will be avoided and friendships maintained. Meanwhile new housing schemes further afield will be carried out, such as at Woodchurch, to take the overspill for these and other areas. The proposed new densities will not allow for the rehousing of all on the reconstructed sites except in special cases, but the plan, suggested for certain districts, of three-storey buildings consisting of a two-storey maisonette above and a flat below, each with its garden and front door at ground level and approached from different sides, allows for rehousing at a density of one hundred persons to the acre in fairly spacious and airy surroundings. To-day the greatest congestion is in those areas near industry and the docks, where overcrowding in some cases reaches the high pitch of over two hundred persons to the acre. Under present conditions of planning and building this has resulted in low health standards and increase of disease in these areas. A solution for this overcrowding which avoids flats yet maintains proximity to work, is given in the scheme showing hexagonal planning which provides communal centres and open spaces and avoids all overspill. By this and other schemes it is hoped to put an end to the squalor of these areas for ever. Those who have to move out will be received in intake areas such as Woodchurch.

industry

Birkenhead, depending mainly on its docks and shipyards for employment, has had in the past the great fluctuations so sorely remembered. During the decade which preceded this war the town had a higher percentage of unemployment than the average for the country as a whole, or even for

ROAD PLAN

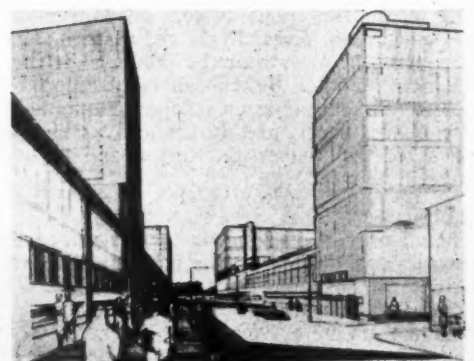


Above, the proposals for the Road System in the new Birkenhead Plan, arterial roads being shown by the broad dark lines. Left, the Civic Centre and Commercial Area, showing the Bus Station placed adjacent to the Landing Stage. Right and below, plan and perspective view of the Town Shopping Centre.

CIVIC AND COMMERCIAL



SHOPPING CENTRE



Lancashire. A more balanced local economy, giving better average family incomes, is therefore necessary, and it can only be brought about by attracting new industries of types unaffected by seasonable fluctuations and depressions; the land and facilities required have been provided for in the new Plan.

civic and shopping centres

The position of the business centre of the town has always been well related to the industrial and residential quarters. Its more squalid areas, however, have had to be replanned. After careful consideration it has been determined to maintain the Civic Centre where it is, but to give it enlarged quarters and better facilities. If an amalgamation of the various Boroughs and District Councils of Wirral comes about, the slopes of Bidston Hill towards Wallasey are suggested as the most suitable spot for the new Civic Centre. The present chief shopping centre of Birkenhead round about Grange Road has suffered greatly through its proximity to Liverpool. As it is to-day, it is not worthy of so large a town. For similar reasons it loses the possibility of serving its natural hinterland of Wirral. Grange Road, although blessed with the absence of through traffic, is not adequately equipped either with services or amenities; these are provided for in the new Plan in the form of a Shopping Centre. It is also proposed that the Wirral long-distance bus station should be placed at the end of the eastern vista of Grange Road, which if rebuilt as suggested, with the series of tall glass sentinel blocks for stores, would make a tempting vista to shoppers immediately on their arrival in the town.

traffic

Birkenhead has always been a pocket where the bulk of its traffic, industrial dock traffic, has had to come in and then to go out again the way it came in, that is mainly along New Chester Road. When in Birkenhead such traffic has found its own favourite short cuts to reach its destination. The gridiron plan of wide roads has helped this process so much that there is hardly a wide route in the heart of the town free from heavy vehicles. It is to-day a common sight from the portico of the Town Hall to see a string of multi-ton lorries, fully loaded, wind their way round the Square to get to or from the docks. The arrival of the Mersey Tunnel made the situation still worse. The Plan shows a solution

for the traffic problems by a method offering a direct and easy access to the motorist from the time he enters Birkenhead until he arrives at his destination. For example, the large oval place formed at the Tunnel Entrance and the sunken road beside the railway from it to the docks and the new Industrial Area.

open spaces

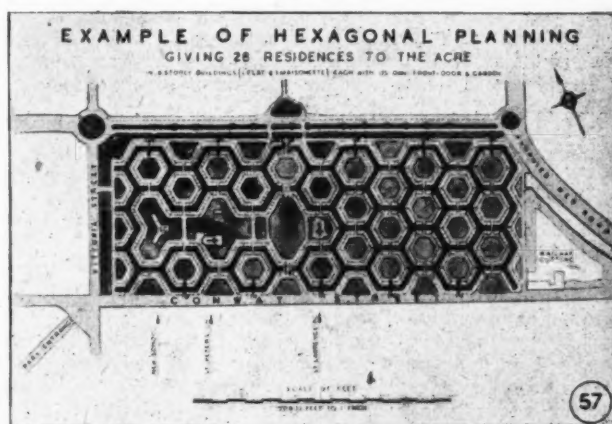
Birkenhead has large open spaces well over the average for similarly sized towns, but they are not well distributed. Further open spaces, largely in the form of green wedges and belts, are proposed for this purpose. These, where possible, have been designed to protect and preserve the special character of the district where such exists. A riverside walk is proposed so that the town can once again see and enjoy its river. Largely for the same purpose, a tall glass café and dance hall, readily seen from the Liverpool Landing Stage towards which it would shed a path of light, is suggested for a site on the river next to the Woodside Ferry already occupied by the Corporation. A large new hotel overlooking the river is proposed for an island site at Woodside which could take Great Western passengers on the greatly quickened services from London that that railway admits are possible. Those sailing, for instance, by Birkenhead liners would naturally stay there. Small open spaces and recreation grounds within the residential areas are largely lacking. Such open spaces, varying in size from half to four acres, are proposed and distributed evenly over the dense residential areas so that practically every child will have an open space where he or she can play with the neighbouring children just outside the home under the eyes of the mother.

An Academic Centre, a Theatre and Amusement Centre, local Community and Shopping Centres, Schools, Hospitals, Sports Centres, Baths and Bus Stations have been studied and proposals are made for their needs. The solutions suggested for Birkenhead's difficulties and the proposals for her development are, on the whole, long-term proposals, though much can be done at once. For the completion of the scheme a period of forty years is suggested. All that time building will in any case continue. The scheme is merely that it should in future be done to a plan and not in haphazard fashion.

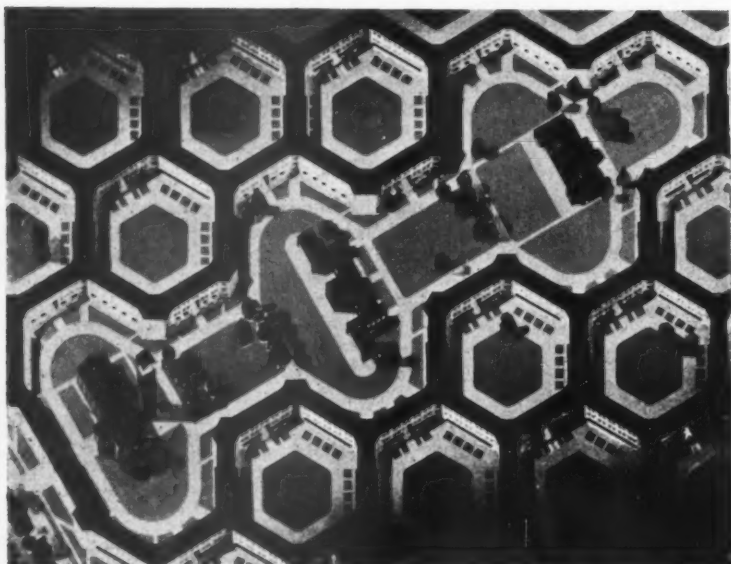
HEXAGONAL PLANNING DESCRIBED BY SIR CHARLES REILLY

The Hexagonal Planning Scheme is included in the Development plan for Birkenhead which my colleague, Mr. N. J. Aslan, and I have prepared and submitted to the Corporation. The Scheme shown in the accompanying illustrations was suggested as an alternative to a rectangular one for part of the dense residential area between the Birkenhead Docks and the Birkenhead Park, which will be further reduced when the space between the Docks and Price Street is given up, as suggested, to industry. It is an area crossed by long, dreary, wide, straight streets of more than a mile in length and recrossed by shorter ones at right angles. These streets were laid out in the early part of the nineteenth century for the same good class development as Hamilton Square, where the Town Hall is, but a slump in values prevented more than the roads being then carried out. The result to-day is that between streets 60 feet wide there are now large rectangles of small houses in slum conditions, sometimes reaching to as many as fifty-five cottages to the acre. If, however, the roads are included, the result is reduced to between twenty-eight and twenty-nine to the acre.

The obvious method of development to give light, air and space, and yet to maintain the same number of people on the site, highly advisable in the case of persons largely engaged in rapidly unloading ships, as they arrive, would be by the erection of flats. The north country population generally, and especially in Birkenhead in this dock area, where it is largely Irish and Roman Catholic, do not take kindly to flat conditions. Experiments in them in Birkenhead have not been happy. What seems to be needed is that each residence should have its own front door at ground level with a little



The Hexagonal Planning proposed for some residential areas in the Birkenhead Plan. Here, the restrictions of geometry have too forceful an influence on the layout; as Mumford says in his *Culture of Cities*, "the function of geometry in planning is to clarify and guide. Like every other type of useful abstraction, it must be conditioned by facts and give way to facts when the latter point to some aspect of life that has escaped the formula." The grid formation, typical of many plans throughout the ages, has proved to be too limiting a factor on the many diverse needs of a free community.



private patch of garden. Two schemes are put forth in the Report therefore, each for three-storey blocks of buildings with a flat on the ground floor entered through its little garden on one side of the block and for a maisonette on the first and second floors entered from its garden and front door on the other side of the block. One scheme is a rectangular one which retains the main roads as they exist with their services and gives twenty-three residences to the acre and the other the hexagonal one shown with its twenty-eight to twenty-nine residences, together with numerous communal rooms and communal gardens in addition to the private ones. This latter scheme, by putting Birkenhead's abnormally wide streets to other uses, rehouses everyone without any overspill.

The advantages claimed for the scheme in the Report are:—

(1) The pleasure of living in large architecturally shaped courts 205 ft. across, which is big enough to enclose the present Birkenhead Town Hall with space to spare.

(2) The angle of obstruction from the bottom of the lowest windows in each court over the opposite building is only seven degrees with the horizontal, which means the lowest windows get more than 83 degrees of sky, and those higher get more still. The hexagon, too, is the best shape of court to give sunlight to the maximum number of windows. By making all the living rooms stretch from one hexagonal court to another this is still further ensured.

(3) The 28 ground-floor flats and the 34 maisonettes to each big court, all facing one another, are enough to make a pleasant community, neither too big nor too small.

(4) Each hexagon provides at the corners six large rooms for garages, nurseries, club rooms and laundries.

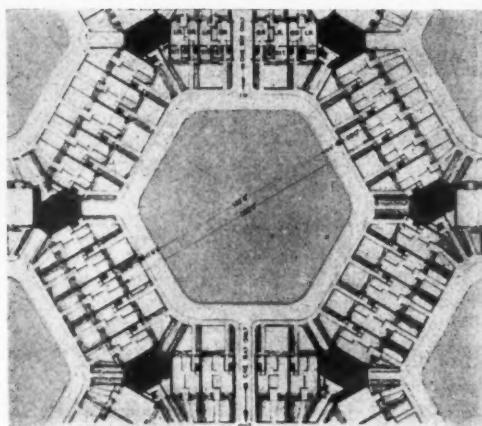
(5) The maisonettes are not all of one size. Those next the carriage entrances have two extra bedrooms over them, while those at the six corners are larger still. It is suggested that in one of these latter maisonettes an elected warden might live with his windows overlooking three courts. These six maisonettes, however, above the corner rooms have no private gardens.

(6) The large communal grass space in the centre of each court is big enough for a fine group of trees in the centre, or for two full-size tennis courts with ample space between and run at backs and sides. The latter is mentioned mainly to show the size. Some courts could well be given to bowls, others to children's playgrounds. With grass, the courts are large enough and the buildings low enough to keep down the noise of children playing. As proved at Plymouth, the grass mowings with suitable drying apparatus can be made a source of revenue.

(7) In order that each tenant may hang out washing in the

HEXAGONAL PLANNING

Left, a bird's-eye view of the Hexagonal Planning System referred to by Sir Charles Reilly, and below, a ground floor plan of one unit. A criticism of geometric planning is that it tends to give too simple or arbitrary a form to complicated human functions, controlling future needs without fully understanding them or being able to anticipate them.

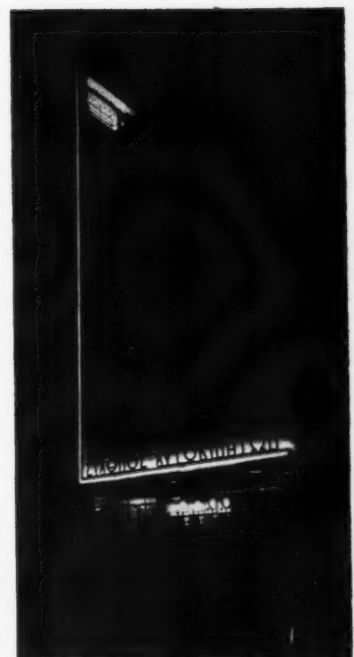
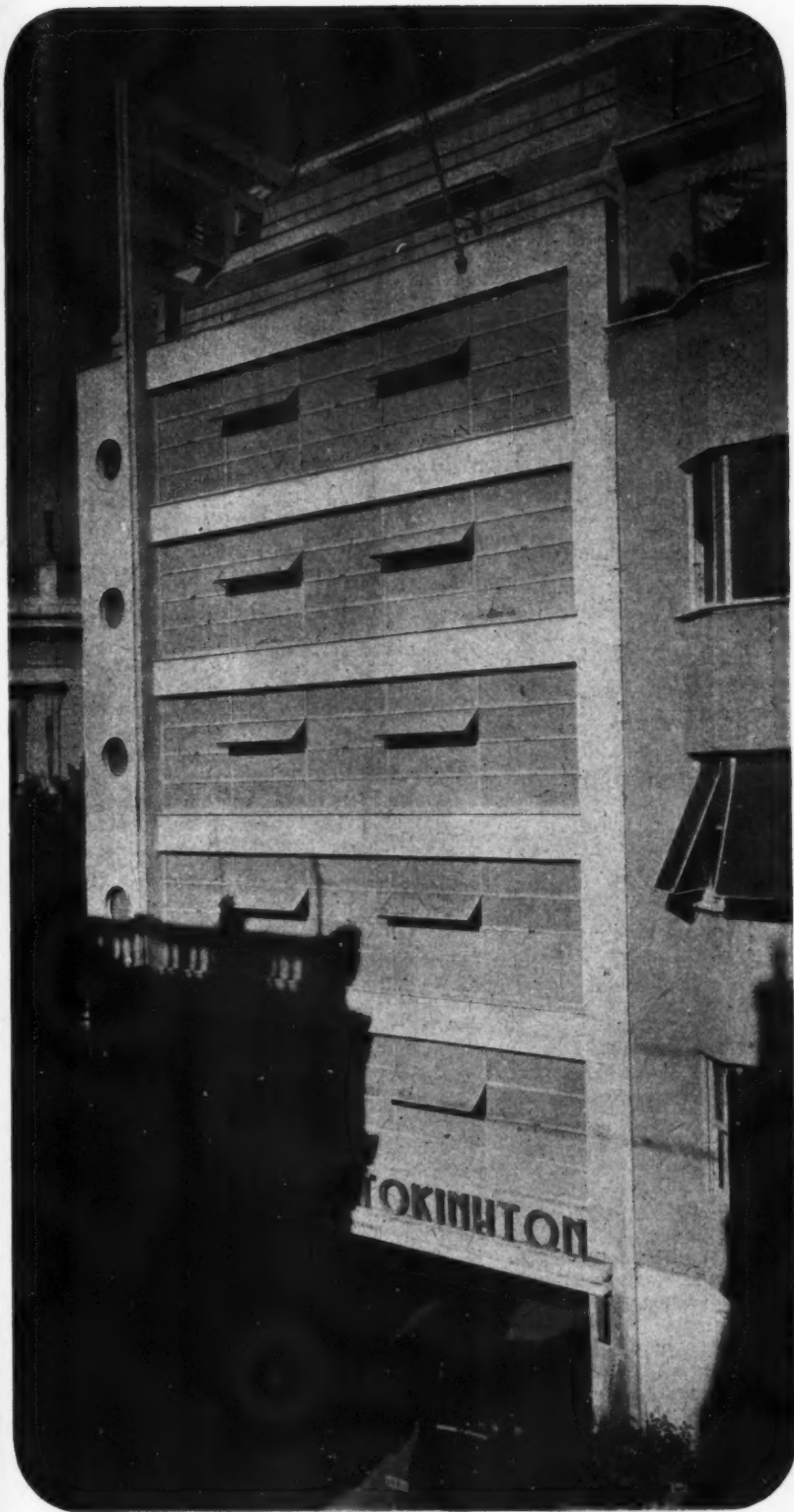


open air on Mondays a concrete post with hook is placed at the end of each garden, to which a line could be attached and taken to a hook in the house wall. The reinforcement of these concrete posts could well be a copper tube which could supply water to the vases they carry. In this way flowers could be grown out of reach of the children and watered regularly by merely turning on a tap. The range of these vases full of flowers, seen against the colour-washed walls, will outline the shape of the courts, and give a charming effect. These posts, too, could act as lamp posts with lights under the vases. We suggest that these hexagonal courts with their interesting shape, their gardens and communal lawns and trees, decorated as suggested, and with six large communal rooms for different purposes, will raise very much the standard of urban living for those for whom they are designed, and at little extra cost, if any.

When the buildings adjoin one of the long roads as at Conway Street or Price Street, the monotony of long, straight streets, lined with little cottages, is replaced, as one of the illustrations shows, by views into large half hexagons with their grass centres and by the blank ends of buildings which, already lit on two sides, provide fine spaces for large modern murals of carved brickwork. On one of the shorter cross roads these half hexagons can be adapted to admirable shopping centres. Where schools or churches are needed the leaving out of one or more arms of the hexagons provides, I suggest, pleasantly shaped spaces for these buildings, as can be seen from the bird's eye view.

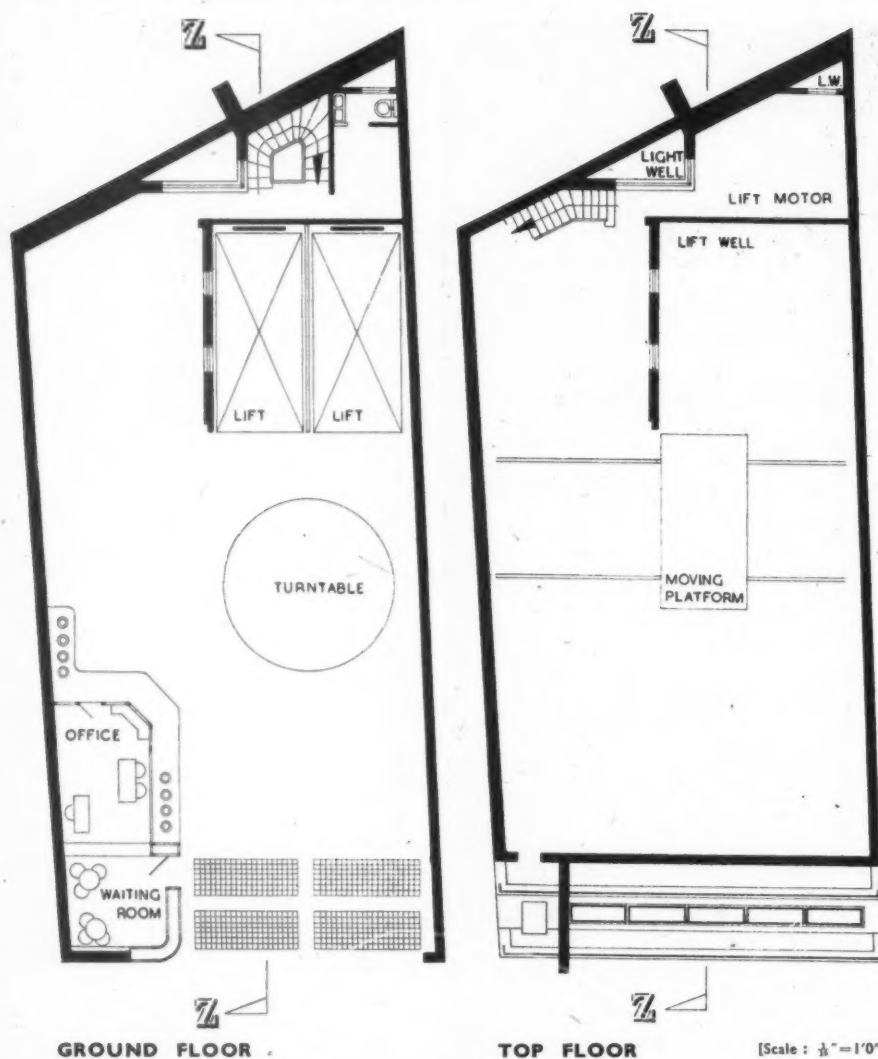
The traffic for vehicles is in one direction only through one set of hexagons and in the opposite direction through the next. Where the roadway passes under a building it will be seen a 3-ft. footway is provided on either side of it. Pedestrians would have in addition, if needed, diagonal ways from hexagon to hexagon through the garages and other communal places. No doubt, however, once the principle of a large honeycomb is adopted for small, dense urban areas, many other solutions besides the one shown here will be discovered. The economy seems to lie in utilizing the road space for safe playgrounds instead of unsafe ones and in providing close at hand the possibility of many communal conveniences such as crèches, laundries, garages, clubrooms and possibly communal kitchens and restaurants as well.

Left, the main elevation by day. Below, the same elevation by night. Lettering and illumination act both as advertisement and beacon, and were incorporated in the design from the beginning.



LIFT GARAGE IN ATHENS

DESIGNED BY R. KOUTSOURIS



LIFT GARAGE
IN ATHENS
DESIGNED BY
R. KOUTSOURIS

This building in the centre of Athens was erected just before the war by Reno Koutsouris, President of the Greek Association of Architects, and is here published for the first time. Mr. Koutsouris is one of the three Greek architects who are now visiting this country under the auspices of the British Council.

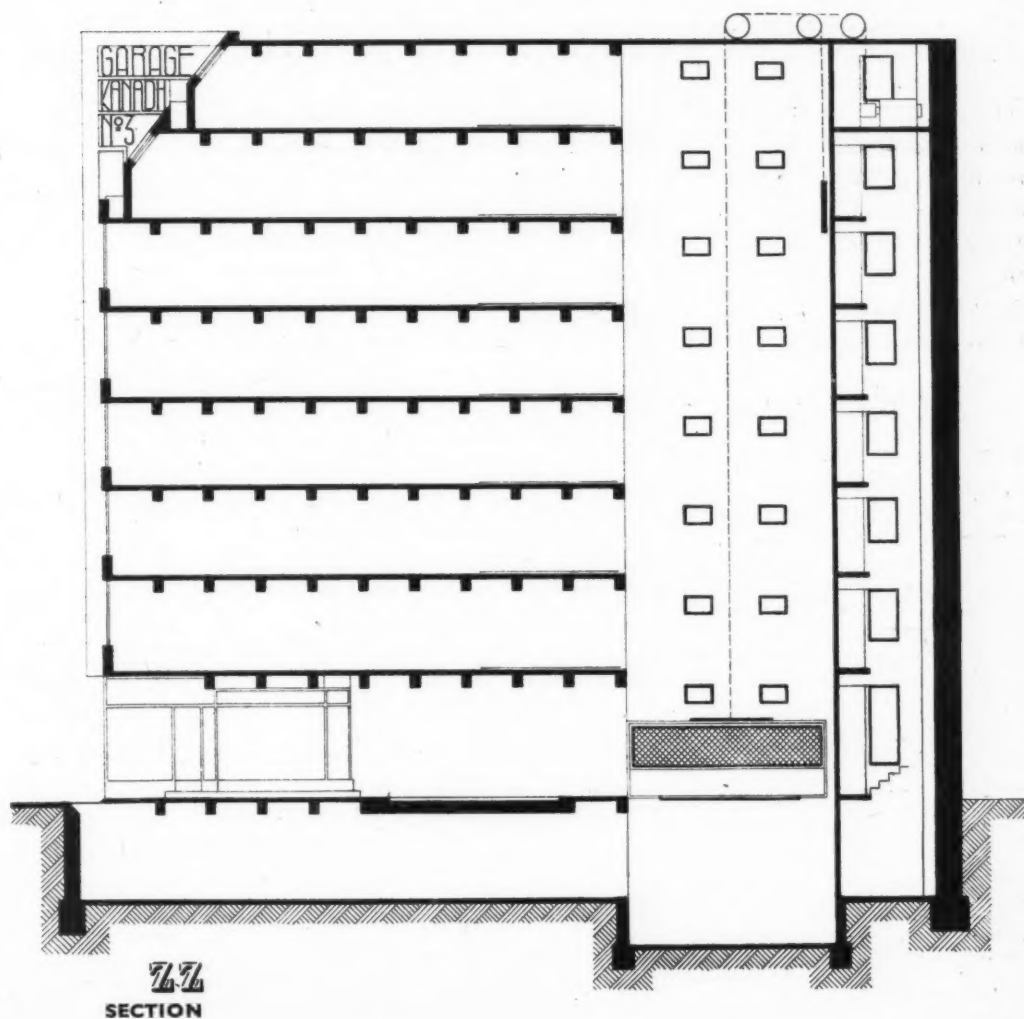
The structure is of reinforced concrete, the windows on the main elevation being of wire-reinforced glass. The basement, where cars are washed, is lit by circular glass pavement lights in the ground floor. The basement is the only part of the building which is artificially ventilated, the rest of the building being naturally ventilated through the windows and through the circular vents which can be seen on the photograph on the previous

page, showing the main elevation. The building is so designed that cars can be manoeuvred with their engines off. Engines can be switched off as soon as the cars reach the turntable on the ground floor. Thereafter, with their doors locked, they can be moved on this circular turntable, thence into one of the two lifts. On reaching one of the upper floors the cars are pushed out of the lifts on to platforms which move on rails across the building. When the platform is in the right position the car is pushed off to its final resting place. The movement of cars is thus extremely simple and risk of fire is considerably reduced. The moving steel platform runs on rails sunk into the floor; its wheels project well above the level of the platform, which lies only

one centimetre above the general floor level.

The garage is designed to hold 100 private cars. For publicity purposes and as a guiding light, the name of the garage along the top of the main entrance and at the top of the building, are illuminated at night. The lettering and lighting were incorporated as part of the design from the beginning. The lettering above the entrance and at the top of the building are linked by a vertical projection; this holds a strip light which also continues horizontally along the entrance lintel.

The two top floors of the building are recessed in accordance with the town's zoning laws. Little space is lost on the top two floors as the bonnets of the cars can be pushed under the sloping windows.



Below, view of ground floor from the drive-in, with waiting-room, office and petrol pumps on the left.



INFORMATION CENTRE

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

PHYSICAL PLANNING

2541

Planning and Climate

PLANNING AND CLIMATE: CLIMATES OF REGION, LOCALITY AND SITE, AND FACTORS IN LAYOUT. *A Geddies. (Association for Planning and Regional Reconstruction, Report No. 38, 1946, 5s. 0d.)* Sources of information on regional climate in Britain. Health and climate. Climatic survey work of value to planners. Charts and diagrams. Useful list of references.

1. Climatic Data

"In order to guide their choice of situation and site, planners should be able to take account of the factors of climate. . . . They should also be aware of the broad principles by which climate may be modified by layout, with good results or bad."

A considerable amount of climatic data is available on the national-regional scale, but less so for localities and sites. There exist also special site surveys which have been undertaken by the Meteorological Office for housing purposes. In addition, local knowledge as can be supplied by lorry drivers, farmers and gardeners, is valuable.

Among references specified are the maps in preparation by the Meteorological Office for the Ministry of Town and Country Planning covering England and Wales, and Scotland. These maps will provide a foundation for long-term national planning by selecting significant factors, e.g., data as to growing seasons to assist in the co-ordination of rural land-use, or knowledge regarding snow cover during severe winters to help in planning of road location and protection, and in the development of upland areas.

For correct siting and site planning such factors as insolation or actual sunshine, visibility or fog, ground frost, temperatures and humidity, and winds should be examined and mapped by selecting a number of observation points and applying principles to topography in detail. Information of this kind, shown on a large-scale map, would considerably facilitate the choice of sites, particularly for housing.

2. Health and Climate

The knowledge of how climatic distribution affects health is not yet what it should be. The report gives some very interesting observations on respiratory diseases found in large towns, in localities of intense fog with frost.

As planning is team work it should be the duty of the planners, when a site has been provisionally selected for development, (1) to ask the topographical climatologist to assess the climatic factors, and (2) to request the Health Officer to forecast the effects of these upon the health of families, school children, and workers, or of the patients in a proposed hospital or sanatorium.

3. The Planner's "Eye" for Site Climates

The planner should be able to tell from

the look of a site, and with the help of local reports, whether it is necessary or not to obtain expert advice on climatic data for choosing a site and laying it out. The report gives two sets of survey examples demonstrating simple techniques of site reconnaissance, one dealing with rural conditions, and the other with site climates in urban conditions.

Under Rural Conditions six detailed examples are provided under the following headings:

(a) Air Temperature Readings Down a Hill Slope.

(b) Frost Hollows, Fruit Trees and Human Comfort.

(c) Local Climate and the Growth of Trees.

(d) Downhill and Hill-Top Winds, and Frost.

(e) Maps of Autumn Temperature Distribution in one Locality.

(f) Winds and Shelter.

Under Urban Conditions three examples are given dealing with:

(a) Large Cities.

(b) A Riverside Location.

(c) Ridge and Hollow.

Finally some notes are provided on Technique in Layout of selected sites with special reference to shelter from wind.

2542

Coventry

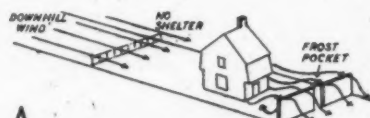
THE COVENTRY TENTATIVE PLANNING AND REDEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS. *E. H. Ford. (Journal of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers, February, 1946, p. 267.)* Detailed account of present state of planning proposals. Illustrated by maps, diagrams prepared for public exhibition. Co-operation with other authorities. Traffic census, ring roads. Survey of special problems.

STRUCTURE

2543

New House Construction

TO-MORROW'S HOUSES. *Edited by John Madge. (Pilot Press, 18s. 0d., 330 pp.)* Contributions by various



A
HARMFUL EFFECTS LIKELY TO FOLLOW FROM PLACING A CONTINUOUS WALL OR HEDGE BELOW A HOUSE & GARDEN WITHOUT PROVIDING SHELTER ABOVE, SO CAUSING A FROST POCKET WHERE IT IS LIKELY TO DO MOST HARM AS A RESULT OF 'DOWNHILL WIND' OR 'KATABATIC WIND'

Climatic factors in layout to suggest possible effects of walls and hedges upon critical temperatures. Diagram from Planning and Climate. See No. 2541.

authorities to convey "a sound picture of what changes are now practicable and necessary to the advancement of house design."

Aluminium Alloys by Dr. West—elaborate physical data but rather uncritical advocacy of the material; *Plastics* by Dunning and Wiseman—outline of types and uses plus good notes on plastics as soil stabilisers and for paints and coatings; *Timber* by Francis Lockyer—prefabricated houses, plywood, connectors, seasoning and fireproofing; *Prefabrication* by Dex Harrison—an excellent section with an interesting historical outline: the *Steel Framed House* by Donovan Lee—an entirely objective and unprejudiced review of current methods; *Lightweight Concrete* by Dr. Konyi—factual and informative with much practical information; *Airoh House* by Greville Collins—the house itself and its development from the early years of the war; *Six Houses* briefly described, Braithwaite, BISF, Howard, Jicwood, Keyhouse and Orlit; *Natural Lighting*—an article too short to be really useful; *Electric Lighting* by A. D. S. Atkinson—a plea for better lighting standards with a brief reference to fluorescent tubes; not enough technical information; *Heating* by L. J. Fischer—illustrations of a few new fittings, notes on district heating and plumbing units with convected warm air supply; *Sound Insulation* by Dex Harrison—excellent planning notes which would be even more useful with fuller constructional details; *Electrical Equipment* by Owen Pawsey—notes on wiring including ring mains, cookers and equipment generally.

EQUIPMENT

2544

School Desk

ANTHROPOMETRICS AND THE SCHOOL DESK. *Research Handbook No. 1. (Educational Supply Association, Stevenage.)* Scientific approach to design of furniture. General introduction. Results of investigations in schools by medical officers and others. Some enclosures and recommendations.

Although not of direct interest to all architects, this booklet is of considerable general interest to anyone connected with furniture design and is of special interest to those responsible for furnishing schools. Although the authors have collected many opinions and some documented evidence, they state that they consider it most important that steps should be taken to obtain more data both by properly designed questionnaires to Medical and Educational Authorities and by direct anthropometrical investigations. They particularly deprecate the common practice of plotting desk and seat heights against age rather than size of pupils.

It is particularly interesting to note that there seems no doubt that one of the chief factors in short-sightedness in many school-



A. Geddies, 1944

Insulight hollow glass blocks are practical and decorative, and can be employed very effectively by the architect and builder. (Some excellent examples of their use are illustrated here.) In housing, they are particularly recommended for internal panels, and for doorway surrounds, staircase panels, terrace screens and so on.

INSULIGHT

hollow glass blocks now available in quantity

Simply stated, the advantages of Insulight hollow glass blocks are these :—

Light transmission with diffusion and privacy.

Good thermal insulation.

Good sound insulation.

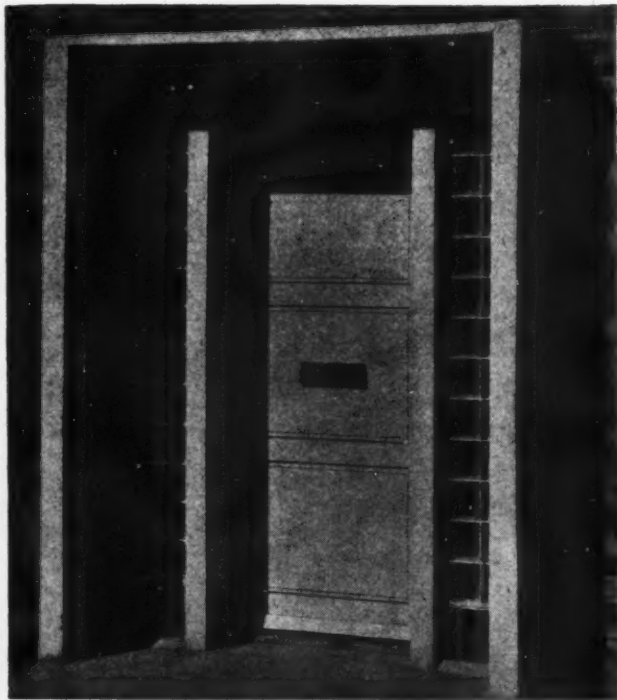
High resistance to fire.

Economy in maintenance.

Insulight hollow glass blocks can be laid without difficulty. Simple fixing recommendations, incorporating up to date practice, are available. Copies of reports on tests carried out by the Building Research Station will be provided upon application.

Insulight hollow glass blocks are made by **PILKINGTON BROTHERS LIMITED**, of St. Helens, Lancashire, whose Technical Department is always available for consultation regarding the properties and uses of glass in architecture.

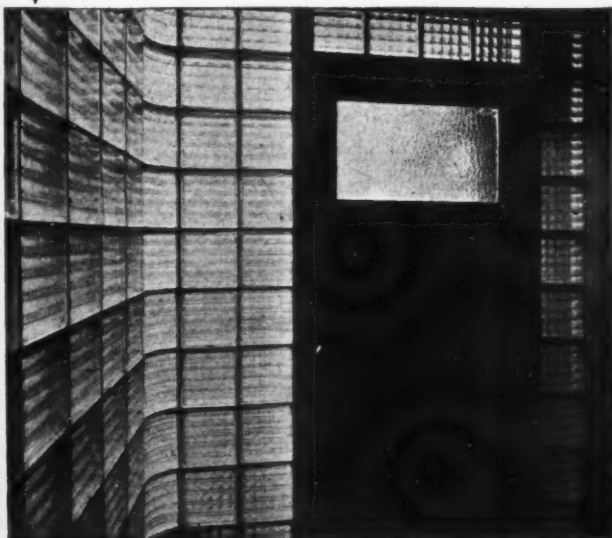
LONDON OFFICES & SHOWROOMS AT 63 PICCADILLY, W.1. Telephone : Regent 4281, where architectural students may get advice and information on all questions relating to the properties of glass and its use in building.

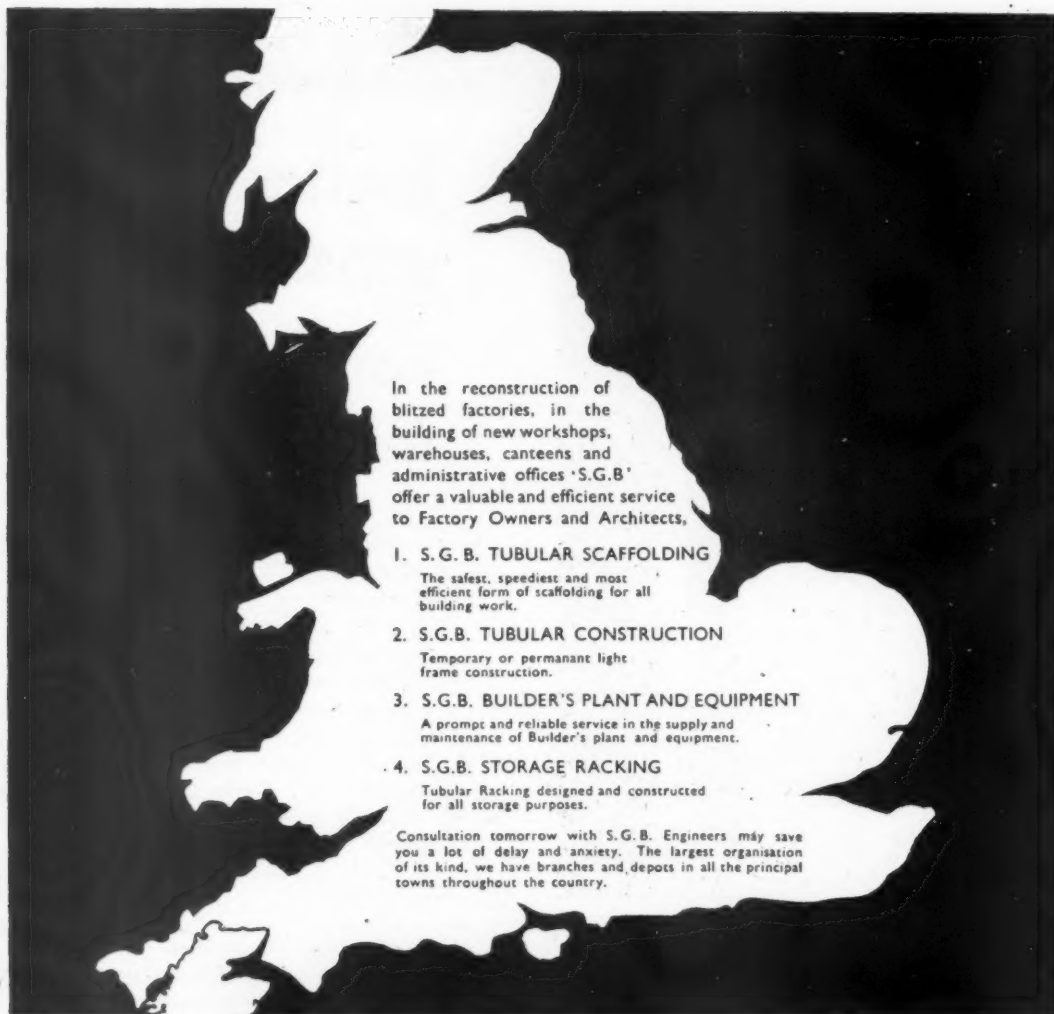


Examples of the way in which Insulight glass blocks bring well-diffused light into halls and porches.

↑ Ministry of Housing Scheme, Herefordshire.
Architect: G. A. Jellicoe, F.R.I.B.A.

↓ Interior and exterior views of porch in housing estate, Glasgow.
Ronald Bradbury, Ph.D., F.R.I.B.A., A.M.P.T.I., Housing Director, Glasgow Corporation.





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children is the adoption of improper sitting attitudes. This brings in classroom planning as well as desk design, and there is a real need for controlled investigations to determine how far such eye defects are due to bad posture and how far due to bad lighting.

There is an interesting survey of the history of the sloping top or desk as compared with the flat top or table.

Existing data on desk and seat dimensions are given, nine sources of information being compared.

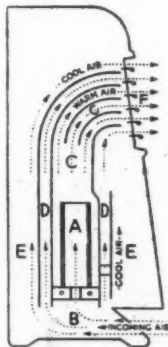
The whole booklet is rather more a review of existing data than a statement of what should be done, but, nevertheless, valuable suggestions are given.

HEATING and Ventilation

2545 Electric Heater

THERMOVENT ELECTRIC HEATER. *Trade Literature.* (E. K. Cole, Ltd.) Post-war models of electric converter heaters of built-in or free-standing type.

Main features of pre-war models are retained. The element operates at "black" heat. The grill is illuminated by two 15-watt lamps, which give a glow and also act as a pilot light. Thermostatic control can be included.



The Thermovent electric heater. Top, section through a standard heater. Below, a model for setting into the wall. See No. 2545.

2546 Soot-Fall Investigation

SOOT-FALL STUDIES FOR NEW YORK CITY. Joe Siegel and Benjamin Feiner. (*Air Treatment Engineer*, February, 1946.) Report of soot-fall investigation. Tables showing monthly variations and district variations. Comparative figures for other USA towns. Table of analysis of solids deposited. Graph relating soot-fall to temperature and rainfall.

2547 Service Unit

ALL-PURPOSE SERVICE UNIT FOR SMALL TWO-STORYED DWELLINGS. (*Architects' Journal*, March 14, 1946.) Heating, cooking and hot water unit by Building Component Producers Association in conjunction with British Coal Utilization Research Association. Fire in living room to burn any type of coal. Oven heated by warm air. Auxiliary cooking by electricity. Converted warm air heating to bedrooms.

PLUMBING and Sanitation

2548 New Sanitary Products

NEW PRODUCTS FOR 1946. (*Plumbing and Heating Journal, USA*, January, 1946, p. 76.) Review of sanitary appliances, plumbing fixtures, pipe joints, tools, etc., said to be new to American market this year. Manufacturers' claims for each item given in detail. Products illustrated.

2549 Public Health Act

PUBLIC HEALTH (DRAINAGE OF TRADE PREMISES) ACT, 1937. B. Robinson. (*Journal of the Institution of Municipal & County Engineers*, March, 1946, p. 297.) Factory waste disposal problem.

Its effect on planning of virgin areas. Working of the Act examined. Duties and rights of the Local Authority. Summary of discussion.

The exact rights of the actual or prospective factory owner to discharge wastes into public sewers have remained obscure since the passing of the 1937 Act. This is an important paper, as it examines the working of the Act in detail, and puts forward the point of view of the local sewerage engineer, confronted with the duty of dealing with trade wastes which may be difficult and expensive to treat. It is argued that planning schemes may not have sufficient regard to possible sewerage difficulties in zoning areas for industrial development. The analysis of the Act is clear, and should be useful to all concerned with such planning problems.

The printed discussion is also of interest, as it provides concrete examples of the kind of local problems that arise in connection with trade wastes.

2550 Cast Manhole Covers

CAST MANHOLE COVERS, ROAD GULLY GRATINGS AND FRAMES. *British Standard 497: 1945 (British Standards Institution, 3s. 6d.)* Qualities of cast iron or steel. Quality of finished castings. Tables, diagrams, of weights and dimensions. Bituminous protective coating. Loading tests. Inspection at works. All Standard covers to be marked. Manufacturer to supply certificates.

Covers and gully gratings are classified as heavy, medium, and light grades, for use in carriageways, footpaths, etc., and domestic premises respectively. It is noteworthy that for heavy duty in roads the circular cover has been omitted in favour of the triangular cover with "3-point" support. It is felt that the latter is the only type which can be fully relied on to be non-rocking. The introduction of standard loading tests to be applied to all covers and gully gratings sold as British Standard is to be welcomed.

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.

2551 Town Planning Schools

Q I should be glad if you could give me information on the following two points in connection with the Town Planning Schools:—

(i) Are they open to any professional person interested in Town Planning, or to nominees of Local Authorities and Ministries only?

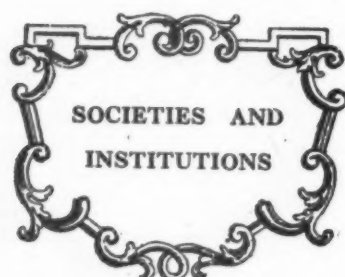
(ii) From whom can I obtain information as to forthcoming schools?

A So far as we know any person interested in town planning would be permitted to attend any of the town planning summer schools.

We suggest that you should write to the Town Planning Institute, 18, Ashley Place,

London, S.W.1; the Town & Country Planning Association, 28, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2, and the Association for Planning & Regional Reconstruction, 7, Bedford Square, London, W.C.1.

You may also see announcements of other summer schools in the forthcoming events column of the Journal.



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.

ASLIB

Conference

At the RIBA, 66, Portland Place, W.1. One-day conference organized by the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux on THE PLANNING AND EQUIPMENT OF SPECIAL LIBRARIES. Speakers included: Dr. W. Bonser, Birmingham University Library; K. Povey, M.A., F.L.A., Librarian of Liverpool University Library; B. Fullman, B.Sc., 'A.R.I.C.', Information Officer, British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association; Verner O. Rees, F.R.I.B.A.; E. J. Carter, B.A., A.R.I.B.A., Librarian of the RIBA.

W. Bonser: I will now put forward a scheme for a modern University library building which avoids common defects, but which includes what I consider to be the essentials to ensure efficient working. Though taking many points from the schedule which I drew up for Birmingham, it would be equally applicable in other cases. I have omitted such obvious things as cloak-room accommodation.

GENERAL PLAN AND SYSTEM

A University library should be divided into two main parts, Reading Room and Stack (apart from rooms for the Library staff, the storage of less-used books, and rooms for special purposes). There should be only one public entrance, with a counter to control it, but other entrances should be provided for

the use of the Library staff, for goods and for emergency in case of fire. The catalogue, the administrative rooms, and a room for the exhibition of current parts of periodicals should be as near as possible to the entrance, but inside the counter-control.

ENTRANCE HALL AND CONTROL-COUNTER

The entrance hall should provide show-cases where books and manuscripts of special interest may be exhibited.

The control-counter should be in, or immediately beyond, the entrance hall. Besides controlling access to and egress from the building, it should also answer all external inquiries, and receive the post and all books which are returned to the library.

The counter must be designed to ensure that the noise caused by the necessary talking, etc., of the counter staff and visitors shall not disturb the quiet of the building in general and of the reading-room in particular, if it is adjacent.

The counter-enclosure should be fitted with an adequate number of shelves for sorting the books as they are returned; parking space should be provided for book-trolleys, and a lift should be placed in or near it to enable the loaded trolleys to be conveyed to the different floors of stack and store without congesting the ground-floor corridors.

ADMINISTRATIVE ROOMS, ETC.

(a) General. The administrative suite should be provided with a system of internal telephones to all parts of the building, as well as to other departments of the University. These rooms should be compactly arranged on one floor.

(b) The Card Catalogue should be immediately beyond the counter-control and where most immediately available for all concerned. It should not be in the way of traffic or readers.

(c) The Catalogue Room should be immediately adjacent to the catalogue.

(d) Staff Rooms should be provided for the Librarian, Sub-Librarian, Assistant-Librarians, Librarian's Secretary, Typists and Junior Staff when not engaged on the counter.

(e) Binding Room. This should be situated next to the goods entrance, and should have an annexe for storage of packing-cases, etc.

(f) A Library Staff Common Room, to include facilities for making tea.

(g) A Library Committee Room.

(h) Rooms should also be provided for other amenities such as production and storage of Microfilms, Photostatic Reproduction and Dark Room, storage of Lantern Slides, etc.

ROOMS FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES

(a) Current Periodicals Room. This should be as near as possible to the entrance, so as to save the time of research workers.

(b) A large room for the More Valuable Books, including a small Strong Room.

(c) A room for exhibiting large Plates in Palaeography, etc.

(d) A Map Room.

READING ROOM

There should be only one Reading Room, for the use of undergraduates. It should be preferably on the ground floor. It should be architecturally effective with good natural lighting. No book-cases should be more than seven shelves high, and all should be arranged round the walls so as to ensure complete supervision; if the number of books thus provided for is insufficient, a light gallery should also be provided, as at the University College, Swansea.

STACK

Each storey of the stack should be of small area (perhaps 100 ft. by 50 ft.) so as to concentrate material, but it should be serviced by lifts. Easy staircases, such as those in the Cambridge University Library, should also be provided. No storey should be more than 8 ft. high, so that all books can be reached without the use of ladders. All gangways should be at least 4 ft. 6 in. wide

so as to ensure ease in seeing the books and to avoid congestion. All floors should be solid and noiseless.

Passages should be provided on each side of each storey of the stack and small tables placed at least at every second window in the better-lighted corridor. This, I consider, a better provision for readers than carrels, as it allows of more supervision. Each table should be provided with a small bookshelf and also with a plug for the use of a microfilm projector. The other passage should be for the unobstructed passing of book-trolleys and for general traffic.

Wash-basins should be liberally provided in all parts of the stack. Small rooms should be provided on each floor of the stack for staff use, for holding of seminars, and also for using a typewriter or calculator, the walls being made sound-proof in each case.

Books which are seldom used, but cannot be discarded, also duplicates (useful for exchange), should be housed either in the top floor of the stack or in the basement.

Finally, the building should be so designed that alterations and additions, especially in the stack, are possible without causing disorganisation.

K. Povey: Many librarians and library users have strong views for and against alcoves. In my opinion, they should not be an end in themselves—they prevent a generous vista of books and seats; they create difficulties of supervision, and the conflict between the interests of seated readers and those consulting books behind their backs is detrimental to either kind of study. The choice between alcoves and wall shelving, with or without a gallery to increase the book space and to give importance to the room, really depends on the relative space required for books and for readers, and the readers come first. In a residential college where much of the reading is done in private rooms, the number of library seats required will be far less than in a town college with a large non-resident student population which expects to use the library as a communal study between lectures and in the evenings. In a library which is likely to grow, it seems wise to adopt the wall plan from the beginning, so that what was originally the whole library may eventually become the general reading room, with most of the books in an adjoining store, for which a site should have been reserved in advance.

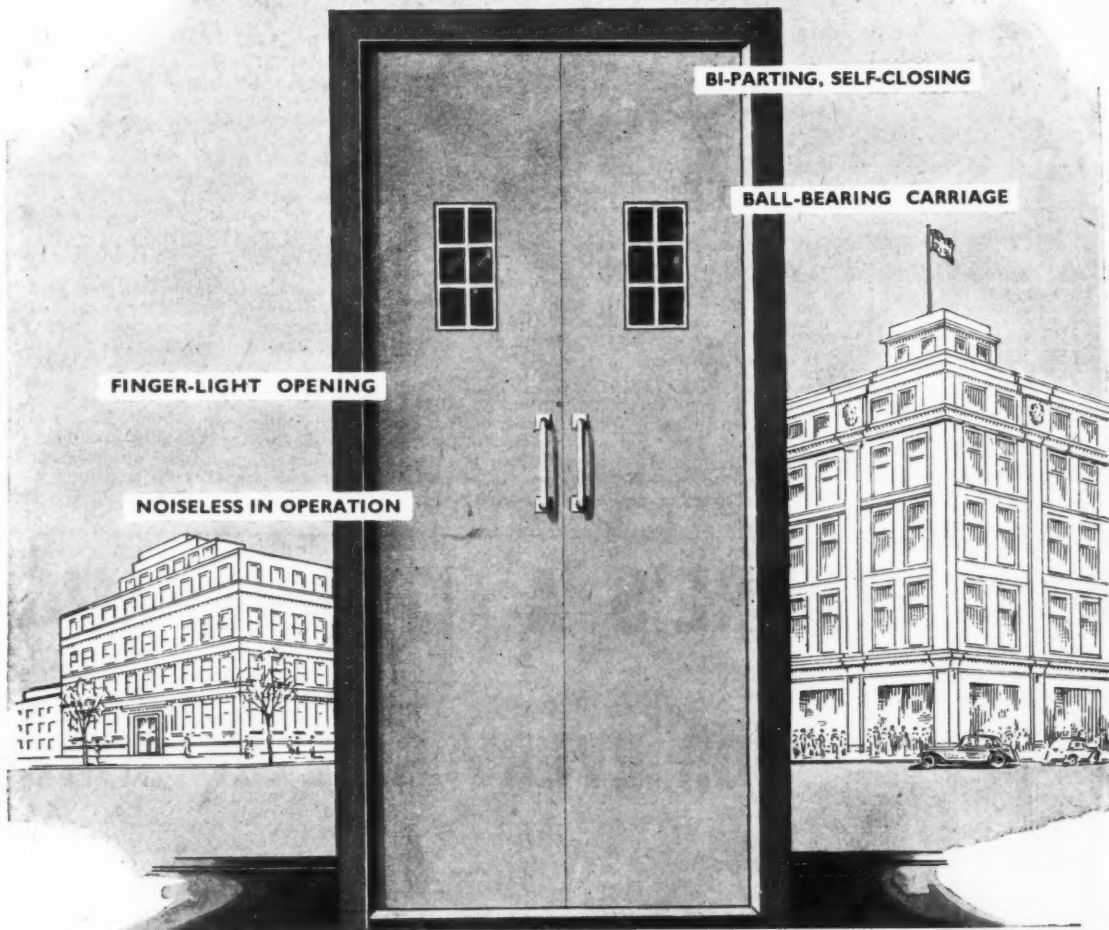
I must suppress much that I should like to have said about the importance, especially in a modern university, of providing good accommodation and a handsome exhibition room for rare books—nothing is more conducive to the library's reputation in the lay mind, and such an external reputation will redound to the benefit of its ordinary work by creating confidence in the minds of its regular users. I conclude by questioning the popular belief in the unqualified virtues of free access to the shelves, and in the positive undesirability of any other method of book-delivery, which has had so profound an influence on the planning of most recent libraries. It is said that looking in vain for a book that someone else has borrowed has a beneficial effect in introducing you to other books you do not want. I submit that this procedure is a wanton waste of time and a negation of exact scholarship. Shelf access is invaluable for an occasional survey of materials by all students, and is indispensable to the steady research worker. But, in my opinion, the inclusion as an integral part of a university library of a lending department for common text-books is a more fruitful policy than the easy assumption that one kind of administration can suit the needs of every kind of reader.

B. Fullman: In the following notes I propose to give a broad outline, based on experience, of general principles and practice in the planning and equipment of libraries in research organizations and industrial concerns, in the hope

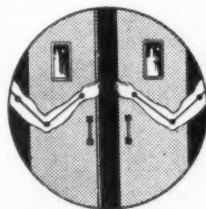
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that it may be found applicable to a wide variety of cases.

NOISE AND OTHER DISTURBANCES

People vary a good deal in the amount of noise they can tolerate. The French author Proust worked in a special noise-proof room. On the other hand, there are various large special libraries situated on main London roads. I have a suspicion, however, that even where readers seem to be quite comfortable in such cases, they must at some level of consciousness be devoting some energy to counteracting the effects of the noise. I remember a university department which was located on a tram route; the noise made life impossible, so the windows were doubled. Life was still impossible and, when I last saw the building, it was empty.

In every case, the location of the library must be considered in the light of all work in progress in the vicinity.

WEIGHT ON LIBRARY FLOORING

This is an obvious consideration to bear in mind. Books and papers in quantity are extremely heavy. Carter estimates that 1,000 books of mixed sizes weigh 18 cwt. A. E. Cummins, Librarian of the Chemical Society, thinks that Carter's estimate is too low, and suggests that for special libraries with large periodical holdings this figure should at least be doubled, i.e., 1 ton 16 cwt.

My experience is that, if cracks appear in structures anywhere near a library, it is always the library that is blamed; on the other hand, I do not remember hearing of any disasters. It would be wise (whether a new building or an old one is in question) to have this matter thoroughly argued out in each case.

GENERAL LAYOUT

I am treating the library as an information department. What are we to cater for in it? There are such matters as storage of literature and documents (including confidential or secret documents), quiet places for abstracting, translating, cataloguing, etc.;

places for telephone conversations and interviews (some people, including the present writer, can always be heard halfway down the street); facilities for reading microfilms; perhaps apparatus for photographic reproduction of documents.

Above I have indicated one reason for attracting readers to the library. There are others. If readers come frequently, routing of journals can be cut down, loaned material is taken away directly, and in other ways the burden on the assistants (who as a class are usually overworked, and sometimes treated without much consideration) is reduced. The library should therefore be made as attractive and comfortable as possible.

In the general layout various factors must be kept in mind: (a) Space, always at a premium; (b) Lighting; (c) Reduction of physical work in taking out and replacing material; (d) Places for librarians and readers.

Every inch of accommodation should be used to the best advantage, and all possible wall space should be used for shelving or other storage. In addition, where sufficient width is available, book stacks may be brought out from the walls, which, apart from providing extra shelving, divides the library into individual spaces closed or partly closed on three sides. This gives a certain amount of privacy, and slightly reduces noises arising in the library.

SHELVING

I am quite open-minded on the subject of wooden or steel shelving or furniture, for each of which various advantages are claimed. In regard to fire risks, steel would seem to be the most suitable. Carter has pointed out that in the case of shelving the use of steel is not necessarily advantageous from this point of view.

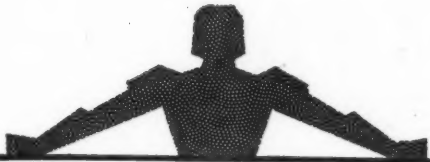
All shelving should be adjustable, not fixed. At this time of day it may be thought that this can be taken for granted; but there still are obstructionist views.

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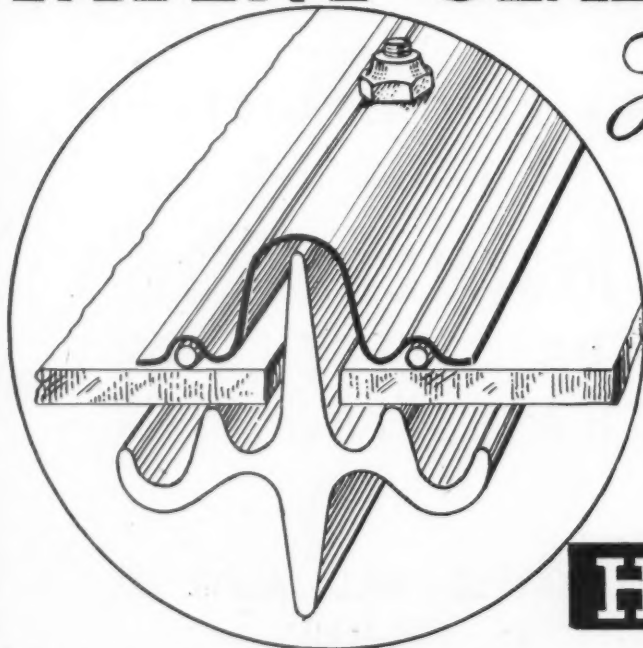
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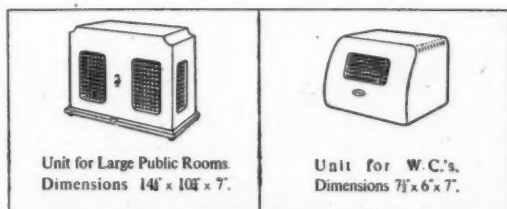
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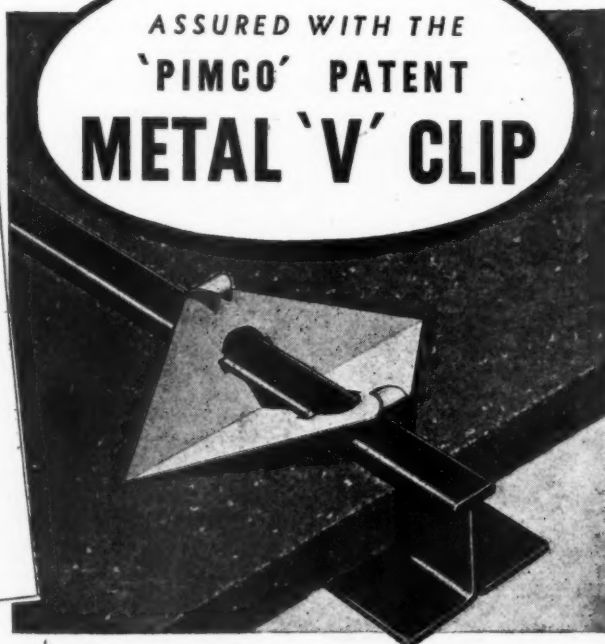
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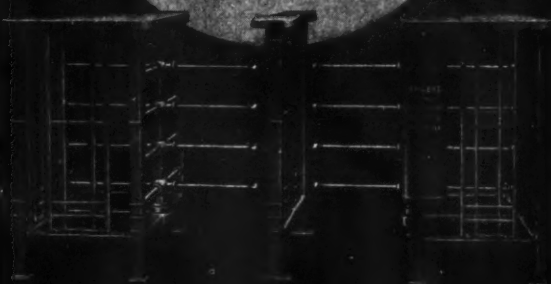
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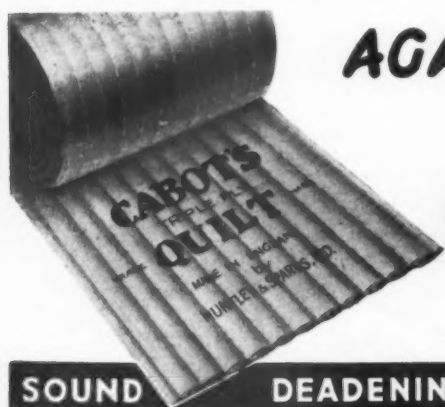
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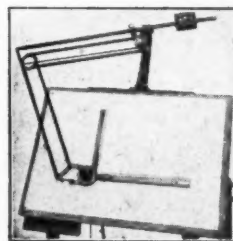
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Cementone

—an apology

Publication of the complete series of *Cementone Helpful Hints* in booklet form is, we are sorry to say, still held up by the paper shortage. To all the many readers of this paper who have written for a copy we can only apologise, and ask them to be patient.

Meanwhile; to help those who have been away on National Service and missed the earlier numbers of the series, we are proposing to re-print in these columns a selection of HINTS which have previously appeared.

The Cementone Handbook, a collection of practical technical data for Builders, Decorators and Contractors, is still in print. A copy will be sent on request.

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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.

Public and Official Announcements

Six lines or under, 10s.; each additional line, 1s. 6d.

THE INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS AND SURVEYORS maintains a register of qualified architects and surveyors (including assistants) requiring posts, and invites applications from public authorities and private practitioners having staff vacancies. Address: 75, EATON PLACE, LONDON, S.W.1. TEL.: SLOANE 5615. 991

STAFFORDSHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the following appointments, at the salaries stated:—
SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS: £400-£500.

JUNIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS (qualified to Inter-Standard R.I.B.A.): £300-£360.
JUNIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS: £200-£300.

ASSISTANT SURVEYOR (must be a member of Surveyor's Institute), for duties mainly in connection with land surveys: £400-£500.
SPECIALIST WRITER, with thorough knowledge of all building trades, capable of preparing specifications for new buildings and with knowledge of quantities: £300-£400.

Previous service considered in fixing initial salary. In addition, war bonus (at present £59 16s.) is payable. Appointment subject to Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. (Applications may be submitted by members serving in H.M. Forces.)

Applications, with copies of three recent testimonials, to be sent to the Architect, County Education Offices, Stafford.

F. A. HUGHES,
Director of Education. 579

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

BIRMINGHAM CENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE, SUFFOLK STREET, 1.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING.

Applications are invited for the full-time appointment as ASSISTANT TEACHER OF BUILDING CONSTRUCTION and associated subjects. Salary will be in accordance with the new Burnham Technical Scale.

Applicants should preferably be Associates of the F.I.B.A., with good professional experience. Conditions of appointment and form of application may be obtained from the College on receipt of stamped, addressed, foolscap envelope.

The last day for receipt of applications is 18th May, 1946.

E. L. RUSSELL,
Chief Education Officer. 582

COUNTY OF DEVON.

COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the following appointments:—

(a) ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, Grade E. Salary £530, rising by three annual increments of £20 to £590.

(b) ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, Grade D. Salary £450, rising by three annual increments of £20 to £510.

(c) TWO ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS, Grade C. Salary £390, rising by three annual increments of £15 to £435.

A cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s., is payable in addition to the above salaries. Applicants should be fully qualified, and have a sound experience in the design and maintenance of all types of buildings carried out by a large Local Authority.

Applications, stating age, qualification and experience, accompanied by not more than three recent testimonials, should be sent to the County Architect, 97, Heavitree Road, Exeter, not later than Saturday, the 18th May, 1946.

The appointments will be subject to one month's notice on either side, and to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. The successful candidates will be required to pass a medical examination.

A. J. WITCOMBE,
Clerk of the County Council.

The Castle, Exeter.
28th May, 1946. 612

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS AND SURVEYING ASSISTANT.

The Council invite applications for the following appointments to the permanent staff:—

Two Senior Architectural Assistants, Grade V (A.P.T. Division). Salary £480, rising to £530 per annum.

Two Architectural Assistants, Grade IV (A.P.T. Division). Salary £440, rising to £485 per annum.

One Surveying Assistant, Grade IV (A.P.T. Division). Salary £440, rising to £485 per annum.

The salaries will be in accordance with the Scheme of Conditions of Service recommended by the National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Professional, Technical and Clerical Services, and carry a cost-of-living bonus in addition, amounting at present to £59 16s.

Applicants for the Architectural appointments must have passed the Final (Associateship) Examination of the Royal Institute of British Architects or possess equivalent qualifications.

The Surveying Assistant must be a Professional Associate of the Surveyors' Institute or hold an equivalent qualification. Preference will be given to those applicants with experience in the design and construction of housing estates and multi-storey flats.

All the above appointments will be subject to the rules and regulations of the Council from time to time in force relating to officers; to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937; to termination by one month's notice on either side; and to the successful candidates passing satisfactorily a medical examination by the Council's Medical Officer of Health.

Forms of application may be obtained from the undersigned, to whom they should be returned, accompanied by not more than three recent testimonials, and endorsed with the name of the appointment applied for so as to be received not later than Saturday, 18th May, 1946.

Canvassing, either directly or indirectly, will be a disqualification.

ALAN MILNER SMITH,
Town Clerk.
Lewisham Town Hall, Catford, S.E.6. 596

COUNTY BOROUGH OF OLDHAM.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS.

Applications are invited for the appointment of Architectural Assistants in my Department.

The salary will be at the rate of £360 per annum, rising by three increments to £405, plus £59 16s. cost-of-living bonus.

The National Joint Council Scheme of Conditions of Service has been adopted in principle by the Corporation. Revised salary gradings in accordance with the scheme are at present under consideration, and the salary for these appointments will be affected by any improvement.

Applicants must be neat and capable draughtsmen, competent to prepare working drawings, take out quantities and prepare estimates. They must possess a recognised architectural qualification, and experience in a Municipal Office will be an advantage.

The appointments will be subject to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and the successful applicants will be required to pass a medical examination. Conditions relating to the appointment can be obtained from the undersigned.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, and accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, must reach the undersigned not later than the 24th May, 1946.

A. L. HOBBSON,
Borough Engineer and Surveyor.
Municipal Buildings, 75, Union Street,
Oldham.
30th April, 1946.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTHEAST-ON-SEA EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

MUNICIPAL COLLEGE.

Principal: P. F. R. VENABLES, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE AND BUILDING

(which is recognised by the R.I.B.A.).

Applications are invited for the following, to commence duties as from September, 1946:—

LECTURER IN ARCHITECTURE. Design and History of Architecture.

LECTURER IN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND ALLIED SUBJECTS. A.R.I.B.A. and/or A.M.I.Struct. and/or A.M.Inst.C.E. or equivalent. Salary will be in accordance with the Burnham Technical Scale.

Forms of application and fuller details of the posts may be obtained from the undersigned on receipt of a stamped and addressed foolscap envelope, and should be returned to the Principal as soon as possible.

H. BOYES WATSON,
Chief Education Officer.
Education Office, Warrior Square,
Southend-on-Sea.

29th April, 1946. 630

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.
Director: GEORGE DRYSDALE, F.R.I.B.A.

An ASSISTANT MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE is required to teach for 20 hours a week throughout a school year of about 40 weeks. Commencing salary will be based on the Burnham Technical Scale, and will not be less than £250 per annum. Additions will be allowed for appropriate professional qualifications and experience. The appointment, which will date from 1st September, is for the School Year 1946-47, but may be renewed from year to year.

Applications (no special form), stating age, qualifications and previous experience, and not more than two testimonials, must be sent to the Principal of the College of Arts and Crafts, Margaret Street, Birmingham, 3, and reach him not later than 13th May.

E. L. RUSSELL,
Chief Education Officer. 585

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOROUGH EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS (2).

Applications are invited for the above mentioned appointments, in the Education Architect's Department.

The salary in each case will be at the rate of £500 per annum, plus bonus (at present £50 per annum, and the appointments, which are permanent ones, are subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Acts.

Applicants should be members of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and have had experience in the design of Education Buildings.

Forms of application may be obtained from the undersigned, and should be returned, duly completed, not later than 24th May, 1946.

H. C. PERRIN,
Chief Education Officer.
Borough Education Office, "Springfield,"
Cliftonville, Northampton. 588

LINDSEY (LINGS) COUNTY COUNCIL.

Two Qualified Sectional CHIEF ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS wanted, in the Office of the County Architect. Salary will be £460 per year, Grade V, rising by two annual increments of £15 and one of £20 to £510, with cost-of-living bonus in addition on the Whitley scale, at present £59 16s. per annum.

Applicants should be experienced in the design and construction of schools and control of assistants. The appointment will be terminable by one month's notice on either side. The successful candidates will be required to pass a medical examination.

The successful candidates will be required to provide a car, and will receive an allowance for an 8 h.p. car on the Council's scale.

Application by letter only, accompanied by three recent testimonials, to be received by the undersigned not later than the 30th May, 1946.

PHILIP W. BIRKETT, A.R.I.B.A.,
County Architect.
County Offices, Lincoln. 632

BOROUGH OF WILLESDEN.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS.

Applications are invited for the appointment of:—

(a) One 2nd class ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, and (b) 3rd class ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS, in the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

The salary attaching to the post (a) will be Administrative, Professional and Technical Grade III of the National Whitley Council Scale for the London area, namely, £410 per annum by £15's to £455 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus. Candidates must be Associate Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects, or hold an equivalent qualification, and preferably have general knowledge and experience of architectural work in the service of a Local Authority.

The salary attaching to the posts (b) will be Administrative, Professional and Technical Grade I of the National Whitley Council Scale for the London area, namely, £350 per annum by £15's to £395 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus. Candidates must have passed the Intermediate Examination of the Royal Institute of British Architects or hold an equivalent qualification, and preferably have general knowledge and experience of architectural work in the service of a Local Authority.

The appointments, which will be terminable by one month's notice on either side, are subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and successful candidates will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications, together with copies of not more than three recent testimonials, should be forwarded to the undersigned endorsed "Architectural Assistant," not later than 10 a.m. Monday, 27th May, 1946.

Canvassing, directly or indirectly, will be deemed a disqualification.

W. T. PRIE,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Dyne Road, Kilburn, N.W.5.
1st May, 1946. 641

CITY OF SHEFFIELD.

PARKS, CEMETERIES AND ALLOTMENTS
DEPARTMENT.APPOINTMENT OF TECHNICAL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT.

Applications are invited for the post of Technical and Administrative Assistant in the above-named Department, at a salary of £535 per annum, rising by two annual increments of £20 and a final increment of £25, to a maximum of £600 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum.

Applicants should be experienced in planning and design (preferably parks and gardens), construction, surveying, estimating, etc., and preference will be given to those who possess suitable professional qualifications or hold an appropriate diploma.

The appointment will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government and other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1937, and candidates must have previous Local Authority service carrying a transfer value within the meaning of the Act, or otherwise be not more than 40 years of age. The selected applicant will be required to undergo a medical examination.

The conditions of service will be those ruling in the office of the Sheffield Corporation Parks, Cemeteries and Allotments Department.

Forms of application may be obtained from:—E. O. SADLER, P.A.S.I., F.R.H.S., Manager, Parks, Cemeteries and Allotments Department, 125, Norfolk Street, Sheffield, 1.

Canvassing or any communication with a member of the Council, either directly or indirectly, is prohibited, and will be a disqualification.

The latest date for receiving forms of application, which must be addressed to the undersigned, is 3rd June, 1946.

JOHN HEYS,
Town Clerk.
621

Town Hall, Sheffield, 1.

BOROUGH OF KING'S LYNN.

CHIEF PLANNING ASSISTANT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of Chief Planning Assistant, in the Borough Engineer's Department, at a salary (in accordance with Grade IV of the new National Joint Council scales), commencing at £420 per annum, and rising by annual increments of £15 to £465 per annum.

Candidates must be Associate Members of the Town Planning Institute or hold an equivalent qualification.

The appointment will be terminated by one month's notice on either side, and is subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. The successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Candidates when making application must disclose in writing whether to their knowledge they are related to any member of the Local Authority or to a holder of any senior office under the Authority.

Applications, endorsed "Chief Planning Assistant," stating age, qualifications, present and previous appointments and experience, accompanied by copies of two recent testimonials, must be delivered to the Borough Engineer, Town Hall, King's Lynn, not later than 27th May, 1946.

Canvassing, directly or indirectly, will disqualify.

FRANK G. REEVES,
Town Clerk.
619

Town Hall, King's Lynn,
26th April, 1946.

CITY AND COUNTY OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-
TYNE.

CITY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the undermentioned appointments:—

(i) SENIOR ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR. Salary £535-£600 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum.

(ii) ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR. Salary £460-£510 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus.

Candidates for these appointments must have had experience in the preparation of bills of quantities, specifications, estimates, and the settlement of final accounts on all kinds of building contracts.

(iii) TWO ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS. Salary £420-£465 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus.

The appointments will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and may be terminated by one month's notice on either side.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, and accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, should be addressed to the undersigned.

R. G. ROBERTS, F.R.I.B.A.,
City Architect.
617

18, Cloth Market, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1.
27th April, 1946.

BOROUGH OF GUILDFORD.

BOROUGH SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the following appointments on the permanent staff, in accordance with the National Scheme of Conditions of Service:—

(a) SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Salary A.P.T.5. £460-£510. Applicants must be Registered Architects, and have good practical experience of housing development and the supervision of housing contracts.

(b) BUILDING INSPECTOR. Salary A.P.T.2. £360-£405. Applicants must have good knowledge of building construction and the application of building bye-laws. Experience in the licensing of building work will be an advantage.

(c) PLANNING ASSISTANT. Salary A.P.T.1. £330-£375. Applicants must be good surveyors and draughtsmen, and preferably have a knowledge of town planning.

Preference will be given to applicants holding appropriate professional qualifications.

The salaries shown will be subject to the addition of war bonus, at present £59 16s., and the commencing salaries for appointments (a) and (b) will be fixed within the grades, according to the qualifications and experience of the successful applicants.

The appointments are subject to termination by one month's notice on either side and to the successful applicants passing a medical examination.

Applications, giving full particulars, accompanied by three recent testimonials and appropriately endorsed, must be sent to the Borough Surveyor, Municipal Offices, Guildford, not later than Friday, 17th May, 1946.

GERALD H. R. WILSON,
Town Clerk.
626

Municipal Offices, Guildford.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF FULHAM.

VACANCIES IN BOROUGH SURVEYOR'S
DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the undermentioned temporary positions in the Borough Surveyor's Department:—

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Candidates should be Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects or hold equivalent qualifications, and should be specially experienced in all stages of the design and construction of flats and other housing work, and should preferably have had general experience in the architectural work of a local authority. Salary scale £480-£515-£630 per annum.

PLANNING ASSISTANT. Candidates should be Corporate Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Institution of Civil Engineers, the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers, or the Chartered Surveyors' Institution, and should have had experience in site planning and in the preparation of statutory schemes under the Town Planning, etc., Acts. Preference will be given to holders of a recognised qualification or diploma in town planning. Salary scale £440-£515-£485 per annum.

In addition to the salaries quoted a cost-of-living bonus, which at present is £59 16s. per annum, is payable. The commencing salary in each case will be fixed within the scale, according to the qualifications and experience of the person appointed.

A form of application can be obtained from me, and should be returned so as to arrive not later than 31st May, 1946.

CYRIL F. THATCHER,
Town Clerk.
624

Town Hall, Fulham, S.W.6.
26th April, 1946.

SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of the following Temporary Staff, in the above-named Departments:—

Class II ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS, at a salary within the scale £310 per annum, by annual increments of £15 to £355 per annum.

Class II(a) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS, at a salary within the scale £360 per annum, by annual increments of £15 to £415 per annum.

QUANTITY SURVEYORS, at a salary within the scale £310 per annum, by annual increments of £15 to £415 per annum.

The commencing salaries will be determined by experience and qualifications. War bonus in accordance with the Council's scale to be paid in addition to the above salaries.

The successful candidates will be required to pass a medical examination by the County Medical Officer of Health.

Applications, stating age, training, experience, qualifications, position in regard to Military Service and length of time required to take up new appointment, together with copies of three recent testimonials, should be sent to the undersigned not later than the 18th May, 1946.

R. O. HARRIS, F.R.I.B.A.,
County Architect.
650

Park Street, Taunton, Somerset.
1st May, 1946.

BOROUGH OF ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA.

DEPARTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF HOUSING.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT.

Applications are invited for the above appointment, at a basic salary of £390, rising by annual increments of £15 to £435, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present approximately £60 per annum.

The appointment will be on the unestablished staff of the Corporation, terminable by one month's notice on either side.

Candidates must be qualified Architects, and should have had a thorough training in design and construction, and be experienced in the preparation of sketch plans, working drawings, specifications, particularly in relation to housing estates and buildings related thereto.

Applications must be made on the appropriate forms, which can be obtained at the address given below, and must be returned, together with copies of not more than three testimonials, before 12 noon on Saturday, the 18th May, 1946, endorsed "Assistant Architect."

Canvassing in any form is prohibited, and will be regarded as a disqualification.

H. FEDESKI, A.R.I.B.A., Dip.T.P.,
A.M.T.I.,
Director of Housing.

Town Hall Annex, 3, Regent Grove,
Leamington Spa.
1st May, 1946. 638

THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH
ARCHITECTS.

The Council invites applications for the full-time appointment of LIBRARIAN OF THE Institute. Minimum salary £750, rising by annual increments of £25 to £1,000, less superannuation contributions. Some experience of special library administration and knowledge of architecture would be an advantage. Applications should be not over 45 years of age.

Forms of application and further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, R.I.B.A., 66, Portland Place, W.1. Applications should be submitted not later than 7th June, 1946, and be accompanied by copies of not more than three recent testimonials and the names of two referees.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the following appointments:—

(1) THREE QUANTITY SURVEYORS. Preference will be given to applicants who have passed the Final Examination of the Surveyor's Institute, and should be capable of taking off, abstracting, billing of quantities, the adjustment and settlement of builders' accounts. The salary will be in accordance with the Council scales, which for qualified assistants over 29 years of age commences at £385, rising to £430 per annum.

(2) SIX ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS, who must be good draughtsmen, have a knowledge of building construction and some experience in design. Preference will be given to Students of the Royal Institute of British Architects. The salary in this case will be in accordance with the Council's scale, which for trained assistants at age of 22 commences at £165, rising to £310 at 32, and for qualified juniors £280 at the age of 24, rising to £330 at age 26.

(3) TWO CLERKS OF WORKS, one of whom will be required to supervise the erection of permanent houses by contract and the other to take charge of work on Corporation property and Insanitary Properties by direct labour. Inspection of premises for the issue of building licences will also be part of the duties.

Applicants for these two appointments should have a sound knowledge of the building trade, and should be capable of preparing schedules of materials required, and the supervision of men. The salary will be in accordance with the Corporation scale, commencing at £325, rising to £370 per annum.

(4) TWO MALE CLERKS, with building trade experience. Applicants should have been trained in a builder's office, and should be fully conversant with the preparation of schedules of materials, checking of accounts, and should be capable of assisting the Quantity Surveyors in preparing estimates. The salary for these appointments will be in accordance with the Corporation clerical scale, rising to £240 per annum at age 27.

All the above are current basic salaries, with the cost-of-living bonus added thereto, and will be subject to adjustment to the national scales.

The persons appointed will be required to contribute to the Local Government and other Officers' Superannuation Fund, and to pass a medical examination.

Applications on the prescribed form, which can be obtained from F. H. Patterson, Esq., M.I.M. & C.E., Borough Engineer, Municipal Buildings, Swinburn Street, Gateshead, must be received not later than Monday, 27th May, 1946, endorsed "Quantity Surveyor," etc.

J. W. PORTER,
Town Clerk.
649

Town Hall, Gateshead, 8.

BOROUGH OF LOWESTOFT.

BOROUGH SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.
Applications are invited for the following appointments:-

(a) SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Salary of £395 per annum, rising by one increment of £15 to a maximum of £410, plus cost-of-living bonus (at present £59 16s. per annum).

(b) GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Salary £365 per annum, rising by one increment of £15 to a maximum of £380, plus cost-of-living bonus (at present £59 16s. per annum).

Applicants must possess recognised technical qualifications, and should have had considerable local Government or other experience.

Forms of application can be obtained from the Borough Surveyor, Town Hall, Lowestoft, and the completed application must be received by the undersigned not later than Thursday, the 23rd May, 1946.

The Ministry of Labour and National Service have given permission, under the Control of Engagements Order, 1945, for the advertisement of vacancy A (E.224X).

F. B. NUNNEY.

Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Lowestoft.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of a QUANTITY SURVEYOR, at a salary of £500 per annum, plus cost-of-living bonus, which at present amounts to £59 16s. per annum.

The post will be subject to the Local Government Superannuation Acts, 1937 and 1939, and will be terminable upon one month's notice on either side at any time. The successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

The appointment will be in accordance with the County Council resolution regarding appointments made during the war, and subsequently be of a temporary nature in the first instance. The person appointed will, however, be eligible to apply for appointment on the permanent staff when the resolution is rescinded.

Forms of application may be obtained from the County Architect, Shire Hall, Nottingham.

K. TWEEDALE MEARY.

Clerk of the County Council.

Shire Hall, Nottingham.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF EAST HAM.

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS.

Applications are invited from qualified persons for the temporary appointments of two Architectural Assistants (Grade C), in the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

Candidates must be Associate Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects, or hold an equivalent qualification, and have general knowledge and experience of architectural work in the service of a local authority.

The salary will be in accordance with Grade C of the Council's grading scheme for official staff, i.e., £420 per annum, rising by annual increments of £15 to a maximum of £465 per annum, plus war bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum, but the commencing salary may be increased, according to the qualifications and experience of the person appointed. The Council propose to apply the national salary scales, and the salary for this post may be subject to revision in the near future.

The appointment will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, to the Council's conditions of service for temporary official staff in force from time to time, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications on the form provided must be delivered to the undersigned, together with copies of three recent testimonials, and endorsed "Architectural Assistant," not later than 24th May, 1946.

Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification.

H. A. EDWARDS.

Town Clerk.

Town Hall, East Ham.

8th May, 1946.

646

Tenders

Six lines or under, 10s.; each additional line, 1s. 6d.

The Imperial War Graves Commission are prepared to consider tenders for the supply, engraving, and delivery of 1,000 headstones in Portland or Hopton Woodstone, such tenders to be delivered at the Head Office of the Commission not later than 10 o'clock on 22nd May, 1946.

Applications for forms of tender should be addressed to:-

THE DIRECTOR OF WORKS.

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION,
WOODBURN HOUSE, WOODBURN GREEN,
HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

645

Architectural Appointments Vacant

Four lines or under, 5s.; each additional line, 1s. 6d.

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

JUNIOR ARCHITECTURAL AND SURVEYING ASSISTANT required immediately; state age, qualifications, and salary expected; references.—T. H. Thorpe, F.R.I.B.A., 23, St. James's Street, Derby. 587

HEAD DRAUGHTSMAN—Position immediately vacant for suitable applicant in established drawing office, with opportunities for able and enthusiastic man; knowledge of garden construction, survey experience, and ability to prepare building working drawings, are essential. Apply by letter, stating age, experience, and salary required, to John Jefferies & Son, Ltd., Royal Nurseries, Cirencester. 586

JUNIOR ASSISTANT required; must be good draughtsman, with some knowledge of drawing office procedure, and prepared to undertake specialised diagram work in addition to architectural work.—Apply, W. M. Carter, A.R.I.B.A., Lloyds Bank Chambers, 4-5, King Street, Richmond. Tel.: Richmond 5222. 592

ASSISTANT required in well-established Country Practice; able to work up drawings from sketches and detail work; domestic, agricultural, and a little industrial; no housing schemes; salary around £4-25, according to ability, with good prospects. G. Forsyth Lawson, L.R.I.B.A., 25a, High Street, Banbury, Oxon. 597

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ARCHITECT'S OFFICE.

Applications are invited for appointments on the Temporary Staff of the Architect's Office as follows:-

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ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS.

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING ASSISTANTS.

ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

Salaries range from £250 to £465 per annum, according to ability, qualifications and experience, plus a present war wage of £72 16s. per annum.

Applications, which should give a brief outline of training and experience, to be sent to:

THE ARCHITECT.

Griffith House.

280, Marylebone Road, N.W.1.

or by telephone: AMBassador 3444—extension 21. 618

There are vacancies for:-

(a) GROUP ARCHITECTS, with experience in industrial and commercial work; applicants must be Associates of the R.I.B.A., able in design and construction and responsible; salary in accordance with R.I.B.A. scale, Grade 1.

(b) BUILDING SURVEYOR, with practical experience in construction, maintenance, repairs, decision in requirements, estimating, supervision and accounts, in respect of properties throughout the United Kingdom; initiative and knowledge of present conditions and regulations essential.

(c) ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR, fully qualified, with special experience in industrial work.

Salaries for appointments (b) and (c) to be on the recognised professional scale, according to qualifications and experience.

Applications, with full details of experience and copies of testimonials, to be delivered to the Company Architect, Fort Dunlop, Erdington, Birmingham, 24, not later than 20th May, 1946. 627

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required for busy country practice; good experience and varied work. Reply, stating experience, qualifications and salary to Pemberton & Bateman, F.R.A.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., 29, High Street, Evesham, Worcs. 620

SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required for Architects' office, Central London area; salary £500 p.a. Also young Qualified Assistant; office experience not essential; salary £6 5s. per week. Reply, giving full particulars, to Box 622. 622

QUANTITY SURVEYOR required; local surveys, measuring and checking builder's accounts, preparing and pricing war damage compensation claims; state age, experience, and salary required. Gelder & Kitchen, Architects, Hull. 623

CAPABLE Junior Architectural Assistant required immediately for practice in Bath, Som.; good draughtsman, knowledge of surveys, specifications, and war damage an advantage; state experience and salary required. Box 625. 625

SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS required; capable of taking complete charge of important contracts. Apply in writing, stating qualifications and salary required, to J. Stanley Beard & Bennett, F.R.I.B.A., 101/3, Baker Street, London, W.1. 628

TWO DRAUGHTSMEN (19-21 years) required in private practice; industrial and domestic surveys, working drawings.—Clark, L.R.I.B.A., 44, St. Russell Street, W.C.1. Museum 4400. 639

QUALIFIED ASSISTANT ARCHITECT required, to take charge of drawing office in Midlands; must be fully conversant with industrial buildings, and not afraid of responsibility; full details of experience, and when free to commence. Box 629. 629

ARCHITECT'S ASSISTANT required immediately; housing schemes; must be capable levelling, specifications, etc., and have car. Particulars and salary required to Fredk. S. Kett, L.R.I.B.A., Axminster. 631

VACANCY for qualified or experienced Architect's Assistant (27 to 36); good and neat draughtsman, knowledge of quantities (neat tracer); early partnership for suitable man; in country town; £416 per annum; bachelor preferred. Box 636. 636

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required immediately; factory work and housing. Apply, giving particulars of training, experience, and salary required, Adams & Edwards, F.R.I.B.A., 3, Brook Street, Stoke-on-Trent. 635

THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE require a Teacher to direct study of interior design, colour and presentation in the School; applicants need not be architects, but should be familiar with contemporary architecture. Applications, giving particulars of qualifications and experience, to be sent to The Secretary, The Architectural Association, 36, Bedford Square, W.C.1. 637

SURVEYOR'S ASSISTANT required (age 25-30); capable of cubing buildings for fire insurance purposes, and general routine duties; salary £5 5s. weekly. Box 76, c/o Mather & Crowther, Ltd., Brettenham House, Lancaster Place, W.C.2. 640

SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS required for industrial building work; should have had at least 5 years' practical experience, including design, specification, and supervision, preferably members R.I.B.A.; state age, training, and experience; required to work in London. Box 644. 644

SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required immediately; A.R.I.B.A., or equivalent standard. Apply, stating age, experience, and salary required, to Gray & Evans, 1-3, Eberle Street, Liverpool. CEN. 3000. 652

Architectural Appointments Wanted

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

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (26), probationer R.I.B.A., 3 years' practical apprenticeship in building trades, 34 years in London office, with experience of hotel, social centres, school and housing design, at present Capt. Army with 64 years' active service, released May, requires opening, with small salary, to enable restart; London area; good references. Box 389. 389

REGISTERED ARCHITECT, at present Staff Major R.E., expecting release September, desires appointment; Lancs, Somerset, Devon, Hants; aged 38; good general experience; extensive airfield construction experience, Government, departmental and military; pre-war private practice; preference (not fully sedentary) Local Government, civil engineering contractors, brewery, estate; salary by arrangement. Box 386. 386

ARCHITECT to Brewery, chartered, seeks change to South or South-West Coast or near; age 38; 12 years' specialization; either with Architect handling brewery or hotel work, with possibility of future partnership, or with another brewery. Box 387. 387

A. R.I.B.A. (Dip. Arch.), 25, requires appointment in Architect's office; Birmingham or Midlands area preferred. Box 393.

CAPT. R.E., A.R.I.B.A., now overseas, anticipates release H.M. Forces in August, 1946, and seeks employment as Teacher architectural subjects or as Assistant to busy firm, with view to partnership; West of England preferred. Box 391.

FOURTH YEAR Liverpool Student requires six months' office work in London, commencing August. Box 388.

A. R.I.B.A. (32) requires responsible position, preferably in London area; 11 years' all-round experience, including housing, commercial and public buildings, also work in Malaya and Australia; able to take charge of all types of contracts; salary £550 per annum. Box 394.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (26) would like a post in S.E. or Mid-Kent area. Box 395.

A. R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I. (age 31), ex-Capt. R.E., desires temporary or permanent position in London area; good general experience, particularly housing; own car; salary by arrangement. Box 397.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT offers spare-time service to Architects; London area; surveys; car available. Box 402.

JUNIOR DRAUGHTSMAN requires progressive position, London area; 3 years at school of building, also 1 year's experience in architectural drafting and surveying. Box 403.

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PROBATIONER, R.I.B.A. (24), ex-Petty Officer Writer R.N., requires employment in Architect's office, with view to qualifying; evening student; little previous experience, but would assist with clerical work. Box 405.

YOUNG Lady (22), 5 years' experience as Junior Architectural Draughtsman, requires permanent post; preferably in London. Box 406.

ENGINEER/DESIGNER (45), extensive experience mechanical, plant, and constructional engineering; industrial and domestic building, including pre-fabrication, desires permanent appointment or private commissions in development work. Box 407.

ARCHITECTURAL STUDENT in N. Ireland requires position in an office in or near Sheffield or Liverpool; probationer in R.I.B.A., and 3½ years' experience in Architect's office; suitable wages expected. Box 408.

EX-ROYAL ENGINEER OFFICER, recently demobbed after 6½ years' military service, requires situation as Architectural Assistant, in Portsmouth-Salisbury-Winchester area if possible, but not essential; qualifications include 7 years' of design and supervision of domestic and factory architecture, quantities, and estate planning, together with a knowledge of levelling and sewage schemes; military experience includes design of all types of improvised bridges, roads and buildings, including alterations and additions to existing premises; good knowledge of the design and construction of the new semi-permanent bridges over the River Rhine at Wesel and Cologne; excellent references. E. R. Lloyd, "Lancaster," Middle Street, West Harnham, Salisbury. 409

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ARCHITECTURAL and Town Planning Assistant (33), 12 years' good and varied experience, used to responsibility, requires post where planning work available; preferably in East Midlands or Eastern Counties. Reply Box 411.

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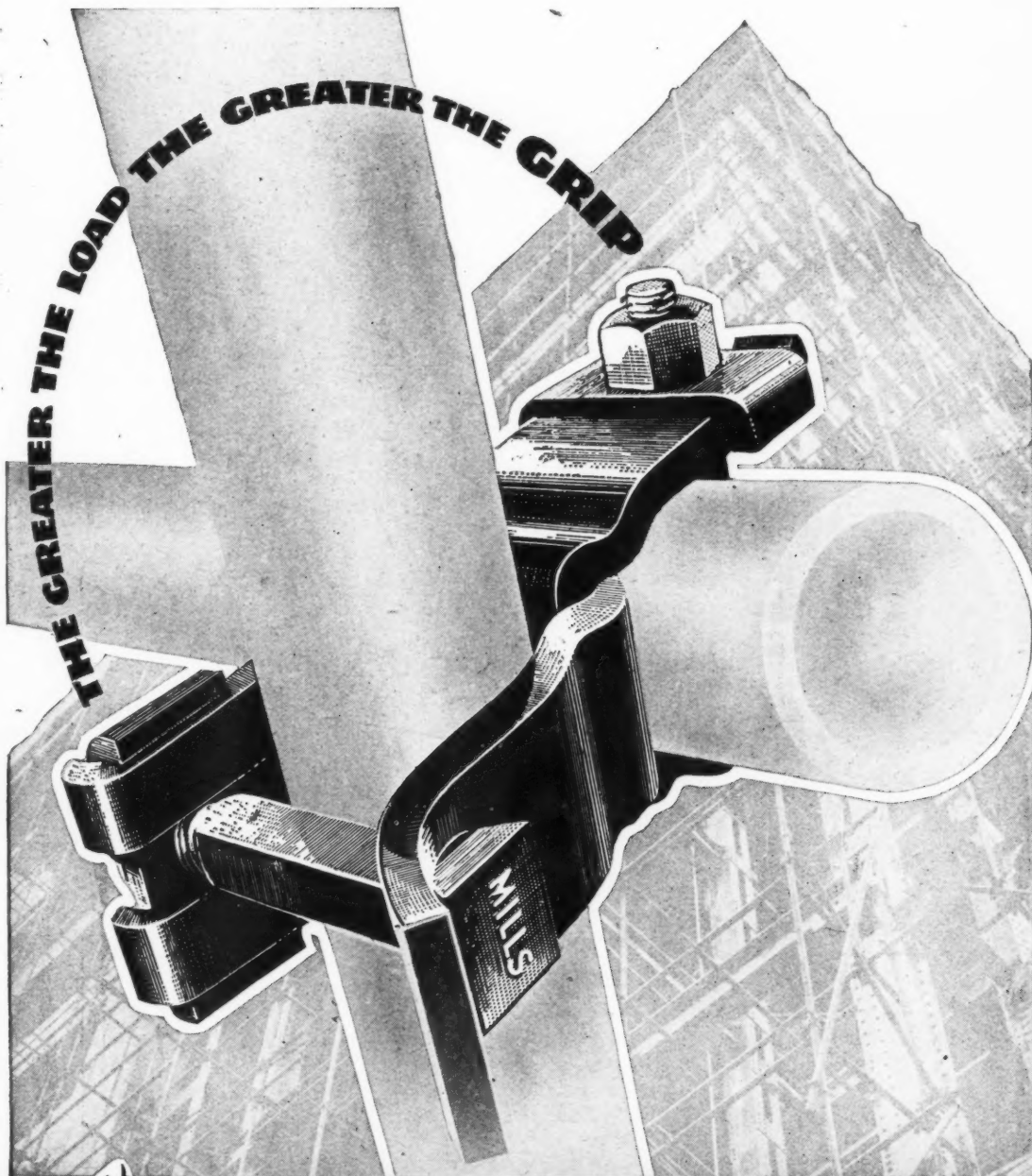
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