

HARPER

## HARPER No. 3161 CONVECTOR Gas Radiator

Handsome in appearance and highly efficient in operation, the Harper 3161 Gas Radiator works on the convective principle with a governed gas consumption of 18 cu. ft. per hour. Eminently suitable for hearing offices, shops, flats and houses, it is available for delivery in crackle black or coin-age bronze finishes. Full details on application.

JOHN HARPER & COMPANY LTD. . ALBION WORKS . WILLENHALL . STAFFS. London Office : Chandos House, Buckingham Gate, S.W.I Phone: ABBey 3184 .







# Galvanized Mild Steel

#### in any Size, Gauge or Section

"HARCO" Mild Steel Gutters, up to and including  $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. plate, are supplied as standard with pressed socket ends, as shown; thicker than  $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. plate riveted or welded butt straps are supplied.



The section illustrated indicates a few of the patterns we manufacture. Any section can be made to suit customers requirements. When sending inquiries please state size, and gauge of material required.

G.A. Harvey & Co. (London) Ltd. Woolwich Road, London, S.E.7

THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for January 15, 1948

# Get your quota

#### THIS EASIER WAY

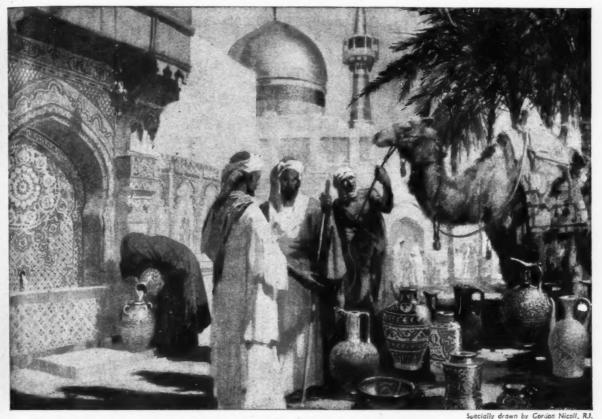
Y our bank offers a free service that enables you to invest your money in National Savings Certificates without trouble or effort. Whether you want to make a block purchase or invest a regular sum every month, you have only to sign a Banker's Order Form. The Bank will do the rest free of charge.

You can hold 1,000 of the new 10/- Savings Certificates—and they will become £650 in ten years' time. With Income Tax at 9/- this is equivalent to a taxable investment yielding £4 16s. 8d. per cent. If you are paying more than 9/- in the £ it is even more attractive.

Savings Certificates are a gilt-edged investment: ask your Bank Manager to tell you all about the easy way of buying them.

SAVE-The Bank Way

#### POTTERY THROUGH THE AGES ' NO. 11



#### PERSIAN AND ISLAMIC INFLUENCES

During the sixth century B.C., Persia annexed the Babylonian-Chaldean and Egyptian Empires; two hundred years later, Alexander the Great defeated Persia. There followed further vicissitudes, of which the Arabian-Islamic conquest of the seventh century A.D. and the Mogul invasion of the thirteenth century proved of outstanding cultural import. Throughout all these changes, Persian potters carried on the ancient Babylonian and Egyptian ceramic traditions, especially glazing and enamelling.

From the earliest years of Islam, Mohammedan merchants traded in the Far East and Chinese porcelain became a challenge and inspiration to Persian craftsmen and artists who—encouraged by the Caliphs—achieved great renown. Islamic pottery of the Near East forms an important link between eastern and western traditions. It is, in general, characterised by a soft loose-grained sandy body, of grey or buff earthenware, covered with a transparent siliceous glaze. In certain types of ware, tin was added to the glaze to render it opaque. Geometrical and arabesque decorations predominate, although the Moslem bias against depicting living creatures was not rigidly observed by Persian artists, who frequently painted scenes of court life and the chase, in a very delicate style.

Many Islamic glazes and mat polychrome enamels achieved a unique softness of colour and a subdued splendour that is peculiarly attractive. Near Eastern wares painted in black under a pale turquoise glaze are outstandingly beautiful and the Turkish pottery made at Isnik in the sixteenth century (often misnamed Rhodian or Damascus ware) is unequalled for its opaque tomato red, luminous blue, turquoise and aubergine-purple colourings. An unusual technique practised by some Persian potters was the "pierced'ware" in which parts of the design were cut away and the interstices filled in with clear translucent glaze.

The art of lustre painting with metallic pigments, fired in a reducing atmosphere, was a Near Eastern invention. The lustre vases and bowls of Rakka and Rhages are excellent examples of this technique which was used also with brilliant effect and splendour in the tile-work of mosques and public buildings.

It is doubtful if true porcelain was ever made in Persia but some of the Persian "blue and white" rivals Ming ware in appearance. After the Mogul invasion, Persian and Chinese ceramics influenced each other to an everincreasing extent.

DOULTON HOUSE · ALBERT EMBANKMENT · LONDON · S.E.1 Makers of Fine China and Earthenware, Porcelain Insulators, Laboratory Porcelain, Chemical Stoneware, Ceramic Filters, Sanitary Earthenware and Fireclay, Stoneware Pipes and Conduits, etc. WORKS: BURSLEM, DUDLEY, ERITH, HANLEY, LAMBETH, STOKE-ON-TRENT, TAMWORTH, NO BOILERS NO PIPES NO FUEL NO LABOUR NO MAINTENANCE WHATSOEVER LOW INSTALLATION COSTS ECONOMIC RUNNING COSTS GLEAN: SAFE: UNBREAKABLE THERMOSTATIC CONTROL

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Heater with these advantages

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#### SPECIFICATION BODY: Pressed Steel.

#### **ELECTRIC HEATING ELEMENT:**

Contained in a mild steel sheath and head, which is welded into the body, thus giving a perfect seal.

#### HEAT DIFFUSING MEDIUM :

A special heat-transfer mineral oil of exceptional stability and high flash point, which is hermetically sealed.

#### HEATER RATING :

Ranging from 0.5 to 2 kW.

VOLTAGE: From 100 to 240 A.C.

HEATING SURFACE: 20 sq. ft. per kW.

NORMAL OPERATING TEMPERATURE : Approx. 160°F.

#### AIR THERMOSTATIC CONTROL :

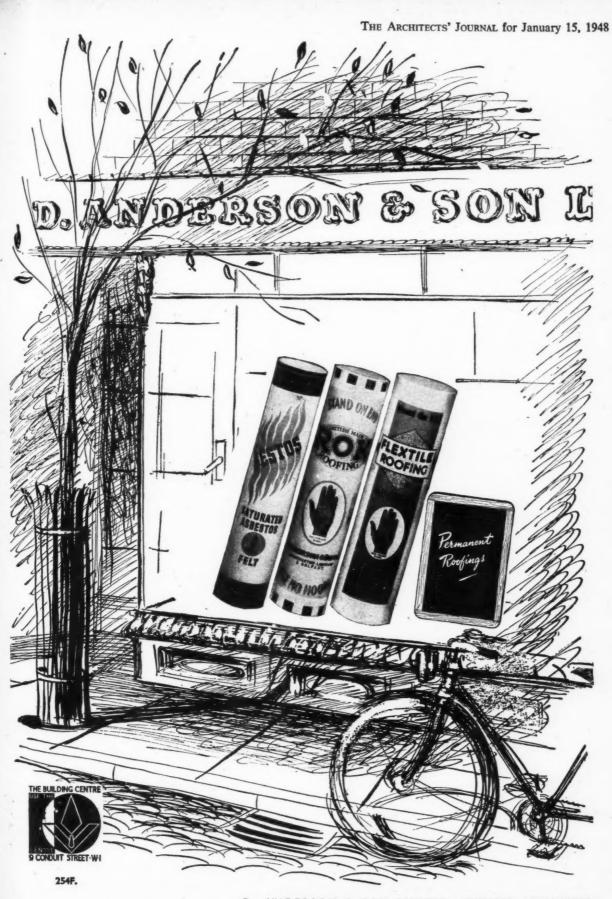
Can be provided and is recommended, to ensure the most efficient and economical operation.



PAT. NO. 542267



The use of hermetically sealed oil as a heat diffusing medium was originally conceived and patented by Hurseal. This trademark is your protection against inferior imitations.



D. A N D E R S O N & S O N LIMITED, STRETFORD, MANCHESTER Also at LONDON, BIRMINGHAM, BELFAST, GLASGOW, LEEDS, NOTTINGHAM vii

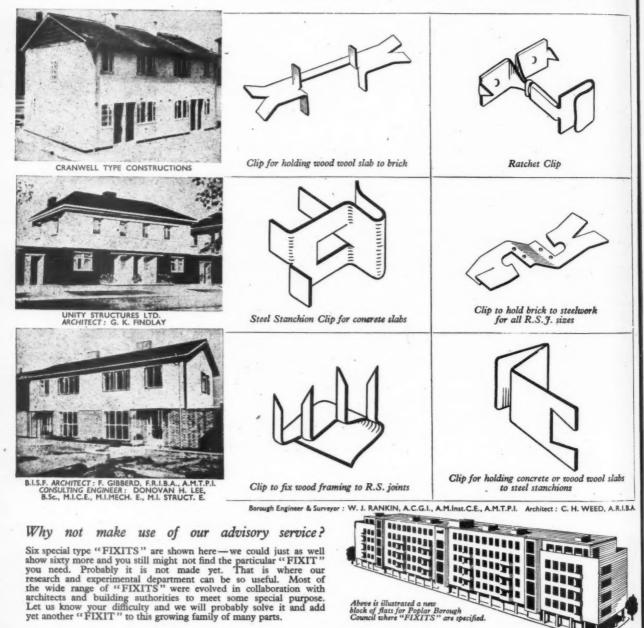
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## INDISPENSABLE IN MODERN HOUSING CONSTRUCTION ...



What is a "FIXIT"? It is one of an extensive range of metal parts produced specially for modern housing construction. Wherever cladding of special type is required, "FIXITS" will solve the problem. Already adopted by leading building authorities on many housing schemes including L.C.C., Surrey County Council, Poplar Borough Council, etc., etc.

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# Non-ferrous metals in all forms for all purposes



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CHEMICAL

INDUSTRIES LIMITED,

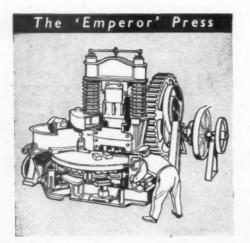
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THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for January 15, 1948



Given supplies of siliceous sand, lime and water, all you need to turn out large quantities of first-class bricks is the necessary equipment and information. As pioneers in the construction of plant and equipment for the manufacture of all types of non-plastic bricks, we are always glad to assist with advice and technical details. We supply a complete range of plant and equipment and

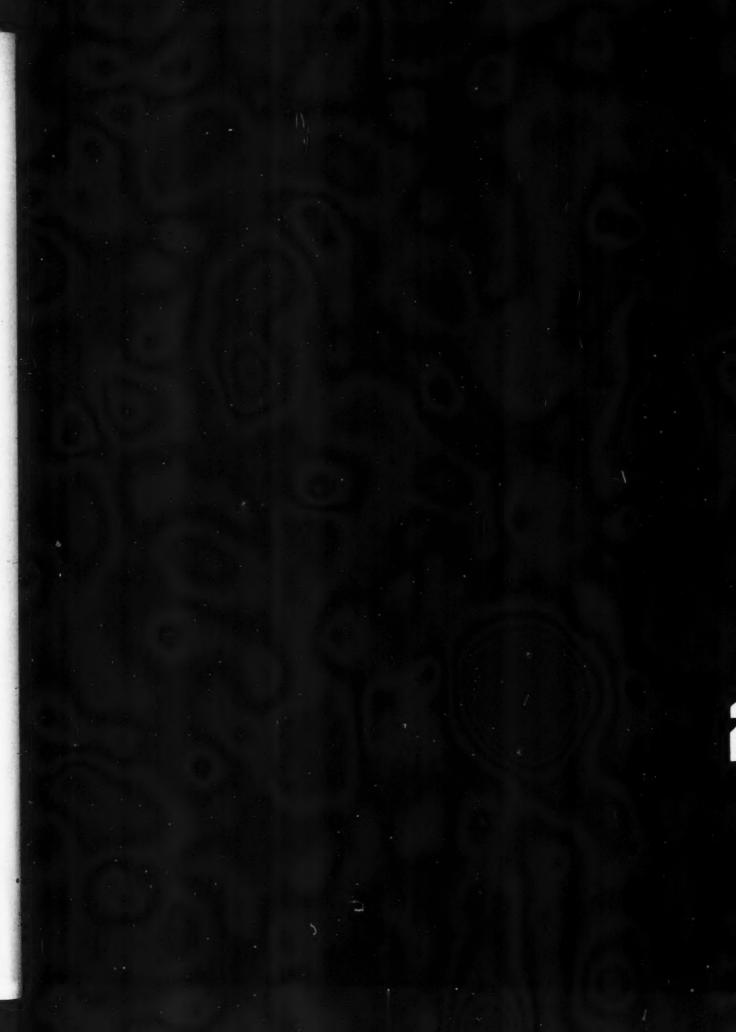


undertake the erection of complete brickworks, and hand them over in working order.

The 'Emperor' Press (illustrated on left) exerts a total working pressure of 200 tons and has a maximum output of from 2,500-3,000 bricks per hour.

# Sutcliffe Speakman

Sutcliffe Speakman & Company Limited, Leigh, Lancashire London Office : Godliman House, Godliman Street, E.C.4 Telephone : CITY 9284

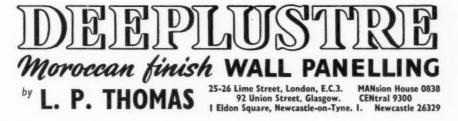




WALL PANELLING

NEW, attractive and economical form of interior decoration. It has distinct advantages over ordinary methods in that it is "ready made" in panels  $4ft. \times 4ft.$  and  $4ft. \times 3ft.$ , and therefore a speedy form of interior decoration, also lasting and fire-resistant. Made in Moroccan Finish, Flemish Glaze and Stippled Finish. The variety of colours available allows the architect wide scope in the choice of colour schemes. See overleaf for further details and method of fixing.

DISTANCIANE



# **DEEPLUSTRE** Wall Panelling

#### **Colours and Finishes**

DEEPLUSTRE Wall Panelling is available in the following finishes and colours

		Colour No.				Colour No.	
Moroccan	Finish	1	Cream/Brown	Stippled	Finish	9	Black
59		2	Cream/Gold		99	10	White
22	9.9	3	Cream/Green	23		11	Green
22	22	4	Ivory/Silver			12	Cream
		5	White/Black	Flemish	Glaze	13	Black
**	22	6	Black/Gold			14	White
**	**	7	Blue/Gold	**		15	Green
		8	Bronze/Black			16	Cream
Standard S	izes 4'>	<4' and 4'×3	3'				

### DEEPLUSTRE Bath Panels, Splashbacks & Wall Tiles

DEEPLUSTRE Panelling is also made in the following sizes for Bath Panels, Splashbacks, and Wall Tiles. Finish and colours being the same as described for Wall Panelling above.

BATH PANELS		Fronts Ends	
		$6' 0'' \times 2' 0'' 3' 0'' \times 2' 0''$	
		$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	
		5' $5\frac{1}{4}'' \times 1'$ $9\frac{1}{4}''$ 2' $0\frac{1}{4}'' \times 1'$ $9\frac{1}{4}''$	
		5' $0\frac{1}{2}'' \times 1'$ $9\frac{1}{4}''$	
SPLASHBACKS		$24^{\prime\prime}$ nom. $\times$ 18 <sup>''</sup> nom.	
WALL TILES		$6'' \times 6''$ Details of finishes on application.	

#### Fixing . . Hylustre Anodised Aluminium Cover Strips

Fixing methods must necessarily vary widely according to the wall surface to be treated, but we offer four extruded aluminium cover strip sections, as illustrated, for the provision of positive edge fixing at butt joints, internal and external angle joints. The dado capping

DEEPLUSTRE Wall Panels require no

regular attention, but may be cleaned with

warm water and soap. All soap should be

account should severe caustics or abrasives be used. Should it be desired at some

subsequent date to change the colour

scheme, DEEPLUSTRE Wall Panels may

be re-sprayed in situ with cellulose paint.

washed off with clean water.

section can be used for finishing the top of part height panelling, or making a finishing against floor and ceiling. Hylustre Aluminium cover strips are stocked with etched and silver anodised finish, but a limited colour range can be manufactured to order.



Diagrams are approximately half-size.

On no

#### Important Note

DEEPLUSTRE Moroccan Finish Wall Panels are manufactured with a "SHOT" finish, and to obtain homogeneous colour tone and texture over the whole of a panelled surface, it is essential that the direction of the "Way" of the material be kept constant. All standard Moroccan Finishes are in two colours, and generally, the darker colour should be placed towards shadow, and the lighter colour towards the main source of light.



Oil paint should not be used.

Maintenance

25-26 LIME STREET, LONDON, E.C.3. MAN: 92 UNION STREET, GLASGOW. CENtr I ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, I.

MANsion House 0838 CENtral 9300 I. Newcastle 26329





Control gear

- 18g mild steel wiring channel, stove enamelied
- Diffuser panels of 1" broad reeded glass lightly sandblasted
- End-cover of 19g copper sheet and  $1\frac{1}{4}^{*} \times \frac{1}{4}^{*}$  brass angle

FLUROLUME SERIES

**GENERAL** OUR AIM IN THE DESIGN HAS BEEN TO AVOID THE INDUSTRIAL APPEARANCE OF THE OPEN REFLECTOR AND THE LIGHT WASTAGE OF THE AVERAGE "DECORATIVE " FITTING. A HIGH LEVEL OF GENERAL ILLUMINATION (FREE FROM HADOW AND GLARE) WITH DIRECT UPWARD AND DOWNWARD LIGHT HAS BEEN PROVIDED.

#### MAINTENANCE

HAS BEEN CAREFULLY CONSIDERED. WELL VENTILATED CONTROL GEAR, LAMPS AND ALL INTERIOR SURFACES ARE FREELY ACCESSIBLE. HORIZONTAL GLASS PANES HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED AND SANDBLASTED FACES SLOPE TO MINIMISE DUST COLLECTION. FIXING IS SIMPLE.

#### CONTINUOUS UNITS

THE MAJORITY OF THE FLUROLUME SERIES, WHICH ARE ALL MADE IN TWO SIZES FOR 40W. AND 80W. TUBES, ARE AVAILABLE AS MULTIPLE UNITS TO FORM TROUGHS UP TO 60 FEET IN LENGTH.



#### FLUROLUME "H"



DOUBLE TROUGH UNIT. HEIGHT & 54" WIDTH 134" LENGTH 54" OR 66"

#### FLUROLUME "B"



Lighting Fittings

WALL BRACKET UNIT. **PROJECTION 7"** LENGTH 52" OR 66"

LTD



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43 PORTLAND ROAD, LONDON, W.11

MERCHANT ADVENTURERS TELEPHONE: PARK 4730/9639



**THE 'LEDA' RANGE OF LAVATORY LEGS** has many advantages over the lavatory stand. They are graceful and distinctive in design, simple to fix. They are supplied as single legs in three patterns—plain, with fixed towel rail, or with swinging towel rail, each pattern being available with circular or octagonal sections, with or without invisible height adjustment. Heavily chromium plated on brass, they are constructed to mount on a mild steel top-frame which is made in sizes to fit all standard basins. Thus it will be seen that the legs are interchangeable, can be arranged in a wide variety of



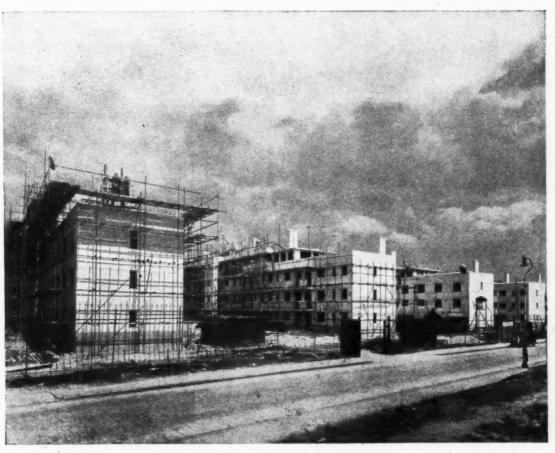
combinations, and are equally suitable for a range of lavatorles or for a single basin. Carrying the modern motif that distinguishes the range of which they form a part, 'Leda' Fitments are distributed only through recognised stockists, but descriptive literature is available direct from the manufacturers.

#### C, YOUNGMAN LIMITE

Bathroom Fittings Department,

WANDSWORTH WORKS, WANDSWORTH ROAD, LONDON, S.W.&. Telephone : MACaulay 2233 (7 lines) Telegnems : "Bildoplant, Claprood, London."

# WALLS OF WHITE CONCRETE



L.C.C. HOUSING SCHEME, BETHNAL GREEN, LONDON Under direction of Director of Housing & Valuer :- Cyril H. Walker, O.B.E., M.C., F.J.I., M.IM.I. & Cy.E., L.R.I.B.A. Contractors: Holland & Hannan and Cubitts, Ltd.

> The external walls of these reinforced concrete flats are faced, above plinth level, with a special white concrete placed in position, utilising a sliding steel shutter.

> THE CEMENT USED FOR THE FACING IS SNOWCRETE WHITE PORTLAND CEMENT



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THE LOUVRE

"SMITHS," the largest manufacturers of Clocks, Watches and Precision Instruments in the World, are always at your service to help you plan unified and efficient time-keeping systems for indoor and outdoor use.



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"EVERITE" ASBESTOS-CEMENT RAINWATER GOODS ARE NOW RECOGNIZED AS STANDARD BUILDING MATERIALS AND ARE REGULARLY SPECIFIED FOR ALL CLASSES OF BUILDING.

THEY REQUIRE NO PAINTING OR PROTECTIVE TREATMENT EITHER AT THE TIME OF FIXING OR SUBSEQUENTLY, AND THE CLEAN GREY APPEARANCE OF THE MATERIAL HAR-MONIZES WELL WITH EITHER BRICK OR STONE.

THE PIPES CAN BE SUPPLIED IN 10FT. EFFECTIVE LENGTHS, PROVIDING A VERY CONSIDERABLE SAVING IN LABOUR AND JOINTING MATERIALS.

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THEY ARE READILY CUT WITH AN ORDINARY SAW. LIGHTNESS, EASE OF FIXING AND THE FACT THAT THEY ACTUALLY HARDEN AND INCREASE IN STRENGTH WITH AGE, ARE IMPORTANT POINTS WHICH MERIT CONSIDERATION.



BRITISH STANDARD 569

TURNERS ASBESTOS CEMENT CO. LTD TURNER & NEWALL LTD TRAFFORD PARK MANCHESTER 17

# without waiting /

# "Service with Speed"

was Austins' pre-war motto, and even to-day we can boast of living up to it with some success.

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#### Standard Wood Casement Windows

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Austin workmanship applied to the EJMA specification guarantees that.

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Surprisingly low, thanks to Austin Works organization and the finest high speed precision machinery.

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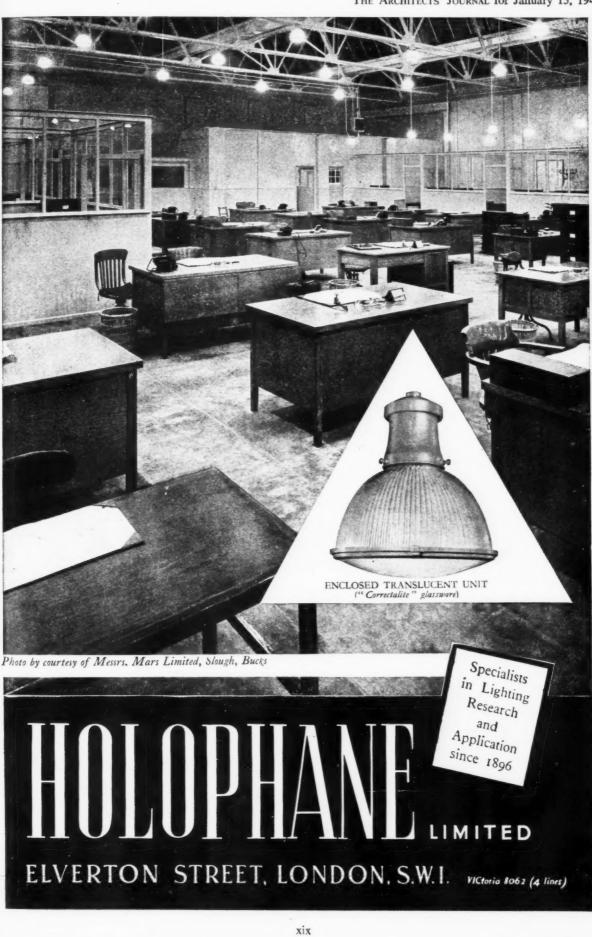
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AUSTIN-HALL GROUP OF COMPANIES AUSTINS OF EAST HAM LTD. LONDON E.6 GRAngewood 3444

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#### INCREASINGLY, IN PUBLIC SERVICES & PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS



# the Modern ELECTRICITY is carried universally via



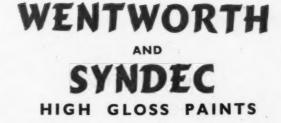
# CONDUIT TUBE

In the myriad of purposes to which, in the modern City, electricity is co-ordinated, more and more essential services are being safely conducted by Metallic Conduit Tube because of its consistent quality and high reputation for accuracy.

#### THE METALLIC SEAMLESS TUBE CO. LTD.

Ludgate Hill, Birmingham. Phone : CEN. 7167. Grams : "Flask", Birmingham. Sales Depots : London : 88 Goswell Rd., E.C.1. Newcastle-on-Tyne : St. John Street. Leeds : 5 York Place. Swansea : 1 Grove Place. Glasgow : 137a St. Vincent Street .

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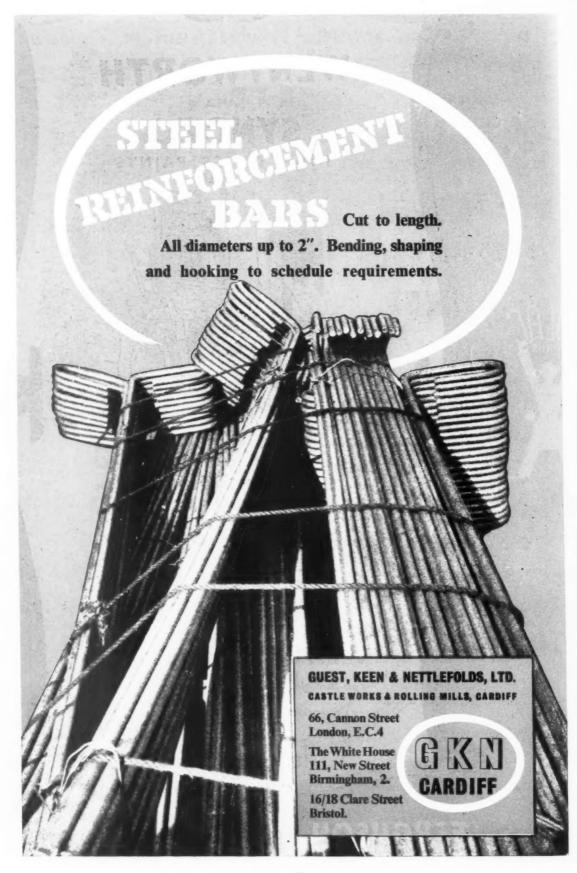


SYNDEC is laughing on the outside whilst WENTWORTH is glowing inside. It does sound rather like a popular song, but you should hear the songs of praise by the mixed chorus of painters and decorators! SYNDEC is recommended for exteriors and WENTWORTH for interiors. Two paints with but a single thought – quality, with all the features that a quality standard gives – glass hard glossy surface—fast to light—high cover —easy working—economy—durability and beauty.

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PAINT & VARNISH MANUFACTURERS. ABBEY ROAD BARKING ESSEX



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# The New Overhead LUMINOUS PANEL HEATER

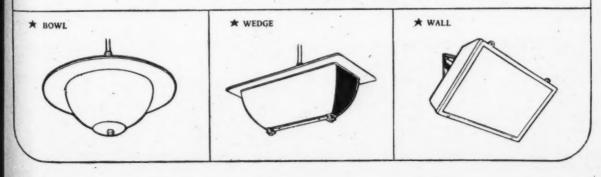
Comfortable and evenly distributed heat is quickly obtained with the installation of Bratt Colbran Overhead Radiant Heaters over the whole, or only part, of a building. Suspended from the roof or wall, they save floor space and direct unobstructed heat when and where required. Installation is economical and does not interfere with the use of the building. Control may be individual or in groups, manual or by thermostat. The four types, Bowl, Wedge, Wall (illustrated below) and the Luminous Panel are all silent in operation and each possesses its own special advantages.

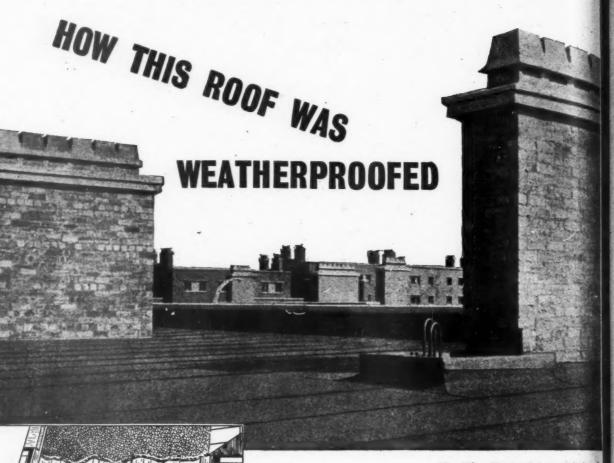
Overhead Radiant Heaters are suitable for a wide range of sites: churches, public halls, factories, workshops, schools, restaurants, shops, stores, offices, etc. Consult your local gas undertaking or write to us for technical advice on installation layout-

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Cover roof with Bituminous Roofing, the first layer or layers to be Saturated Asbestos Base Bituminous Roofing and the top layer or cap sheet to be Mineral Surfaced Bitumen Roofing. The bottom layer to be fixed for, say, 18" round the edges of the deck with hot Bitumen, and the rest to be "laid loose". The succeeding layer or layers to be bonded together with hot Bitumen. All laps to be 2".

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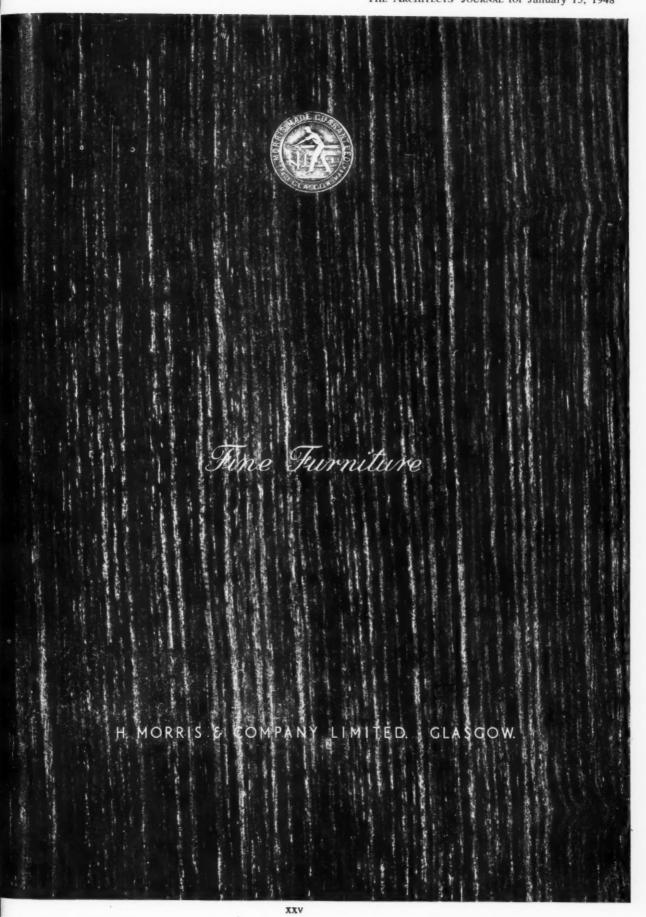
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The call upon equipment for electrical supply is heavy and increasing. When production and maintenance resources are strained it is more than ever essential to ensure safety and freedom from trouble by installing only the best obtainable transmission material.

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COPPER, the most durable, reliable and beautiful of all roofing materials, has been chosen for some of the finest buildings in

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Stockholm Town Hall, Southampton Civic Centre and the British Museum dome, one of the largest in the world. Yet with all the exceptional qualities that make it unsurpassed as a building material, copper is now relatively so inexpensive that it can be applied to low-cost building, for roofing and many other purposes, such as flashings, weatherings and pipe-work, very often with a saving of cost.



the world, among them Liverpool Cathedral,

The Copper Development Association will, on request, supply information and advice on the uses of copper in building to anyone genuinely interested free of charge or other obligation.

Enquiries to Kendals Hall, Radlett, Herts. (Telephone : Radlett 5616)

COPPER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION





## the women on Britain's conscience

It is to our credit that this country recognises the debt which it owes our women-both those who "managed along" at home and those who served in the Forces. Because we recognise this, we are undertaking the greatest housing drive in our history with the focus principally on the kitchen. Well, here is the appliance they have so patiently waited for; one they will be proud to possess and which you will be as proud to instal-lovely to look at, economical to fit and maintain, and supremely efficient-the "Signet".



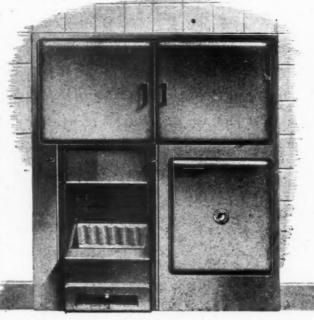
Heating: Convector fire, with 1,500 cubic feet radiant output and 1,000 cubic feet convection output. Closure lid of fire for all night burning, with complete safety. Closure lid of fire for all night burning, with complete safety. Cooking: The oven is 13½" wide × 16" high × 14" deep and is airheated, simple to adjust and no flues to clean.

Cooking: A large hot plate is fitted above the oven which will boil 2 pints of water in 5 minutes using flat bottom aluminium kettle.

Hot Supply 70-80 gallons per day. At full rating Water: of 5lbs. of fuel per hour, it will raise 11 gallons of water per hour-normal 100 °F.

Finish: Vitreous enamel in a variety of mottle finish. Economy: You will get at least four times as much useful heat from your solid fuel ration with this unit as you would from an ordinary combination grate.

The "Signet" will provide space heat-The "Signet" will provide space near-ing, cooking and water heating on  $I_2^3$ —Zcwts. of coal per week. In the summer time when you do not want to use the open fire the closure lid can be kept permanently down and the boiler consumption proportionately induced. reduced.



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Full particulars on application to:-



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THE CAMELON IRON CO. LTD., FALKIRK GRANGEMOUTH IRON CO. LTD., FALKIRK CONTROLLED FEDERATED FOUNDRIES LTD. ORGING IN'S BRITA HOUSING FITMENTS Modern joinery begins to take shape in the laboratory. The search for new and more decorative veneers and methods of seasoning; improved adhesives; more skilful use of the press and the bag; the introduction of nonferrous metals into construction cum decoration; bleaching, staining, polishing, and unusual finishes. All this research and experience is at the architect's service when he specifies:



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## INSULATION AIDS EXPORTS

We lay great emphasis on the fuel saved by insulating buildings but it is well to remember the other advantages also. Everyone knows that large cold areas of roof and walls must precipitate cold draughts (even in an airtight building) and that such conditions do not increase workers' efficiency. But many thousands of workers to whom the country looks for "increased output for exports" are still working under uninsulated corrugated roofs.

> Knitwear Factory for R. J. & A. R. Pitchers Ltd. (An associate of the Jaeger Co. Ltd.) Godalming, Surrey. Roof and gable walls lined by Specialised Construction, during occupation by the Hadley Clip method.



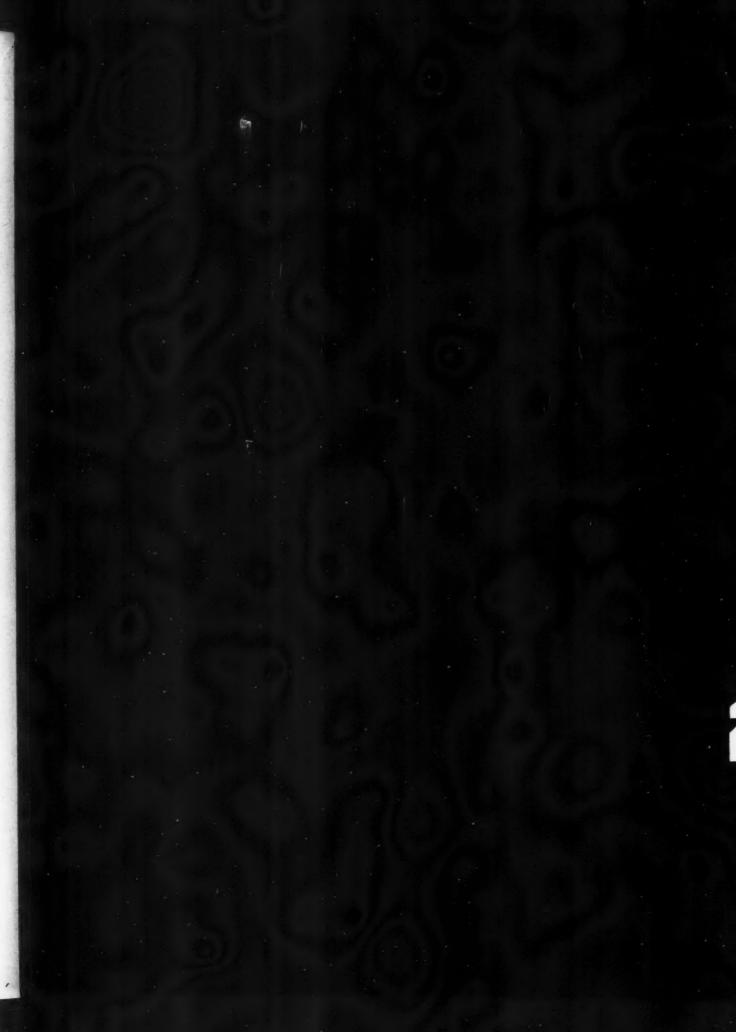
In this Knitwear Factory, engaged mainly on work for export, the skilled operators and their clever machines knit anything from "2 plain I purl" to the most complicated patterns requiring intense concentration. (George says he would sooner insulate a hundred roofs than have to learn the "hawser stitch" pattern). Workers and management alike are enthusiastic about the improvement in working conditions—cooler in summer, warmer in winter—and find them a direct contribution to better output for more exports.

"We lined their roof while they were working and didn't make them drop a stitch" says George.

Every factory without adequate insulation is a drag on national efficiency as well as wasting fuel. We can advise on all aspects of Structural Insulation and our Specialised Construction Department is fully equipped to carry out supplying and fixing complete. Your enquiries will be welcomed.



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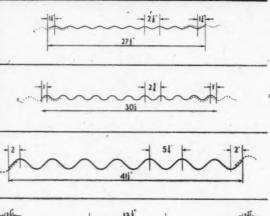
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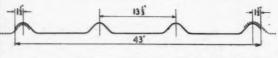
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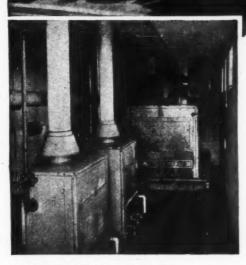


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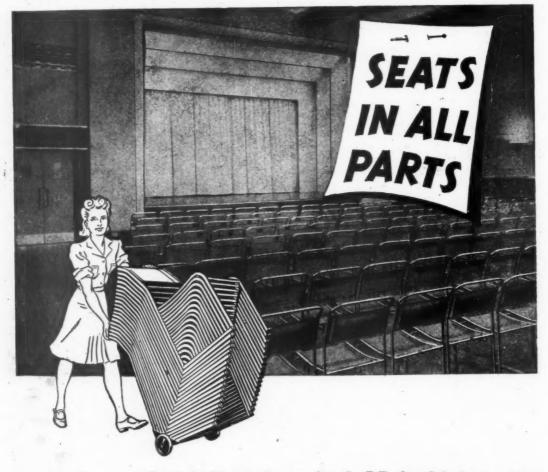
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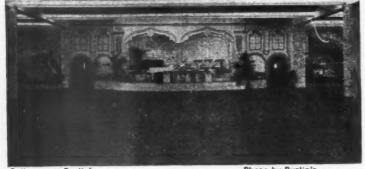
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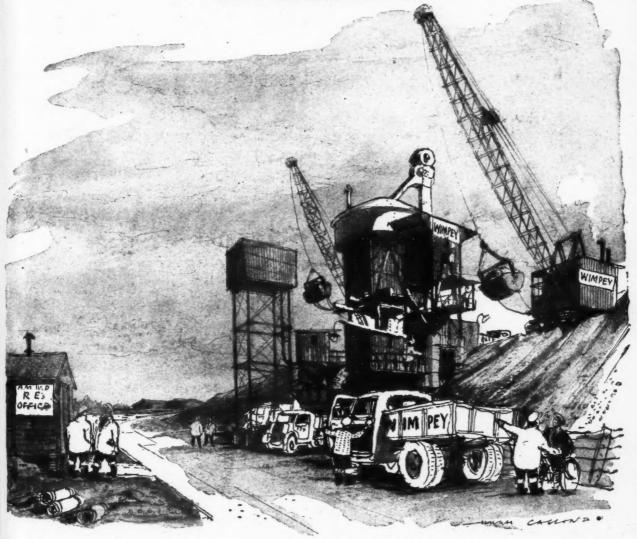
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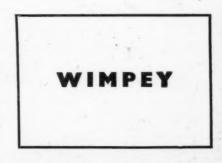
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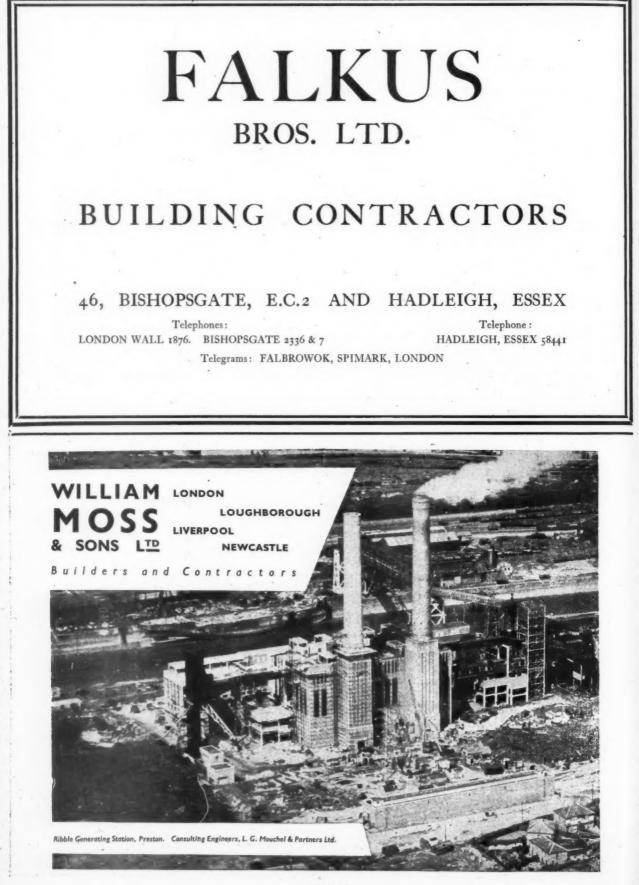
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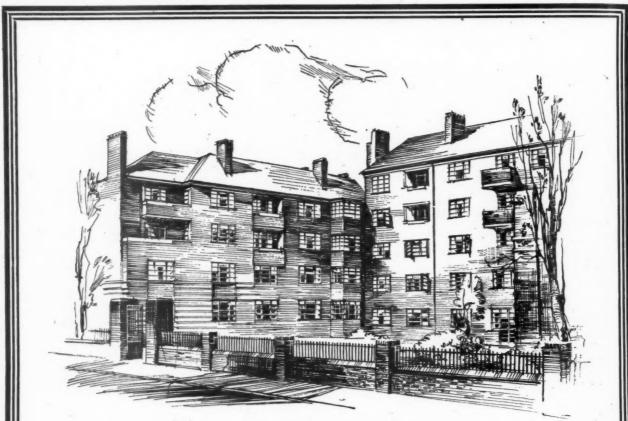
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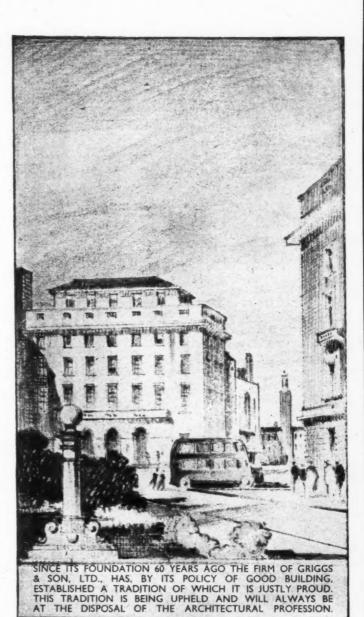
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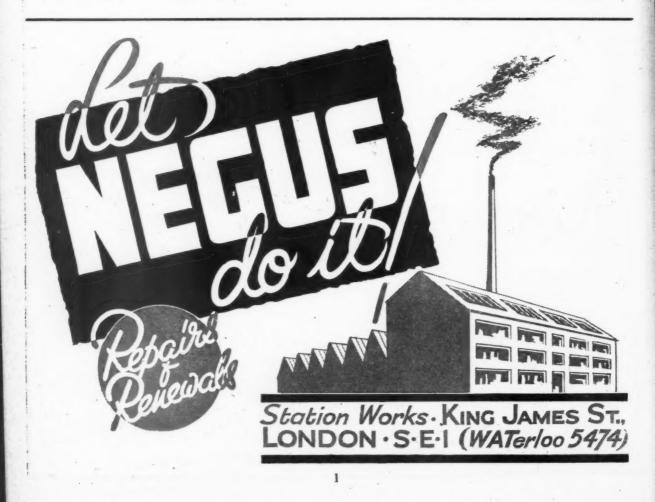
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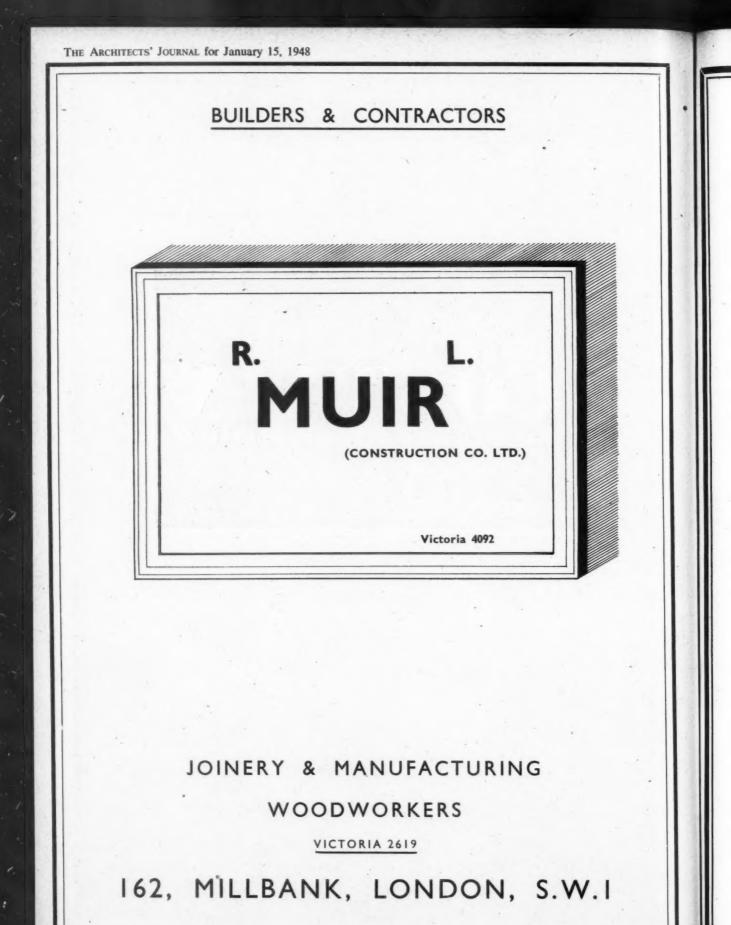




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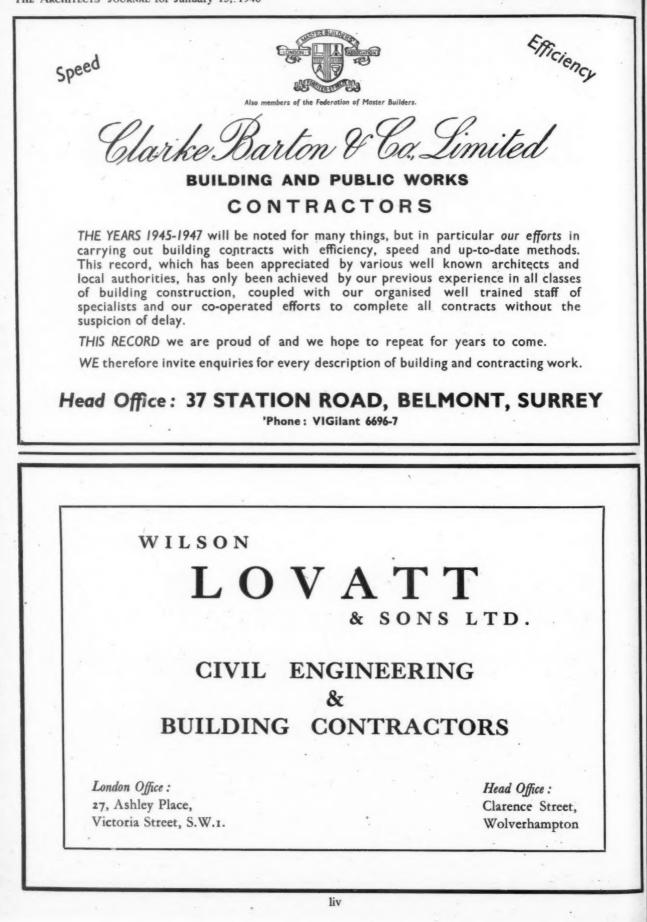
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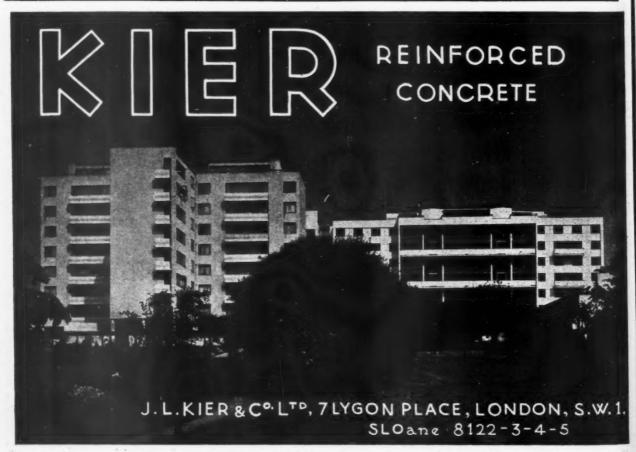
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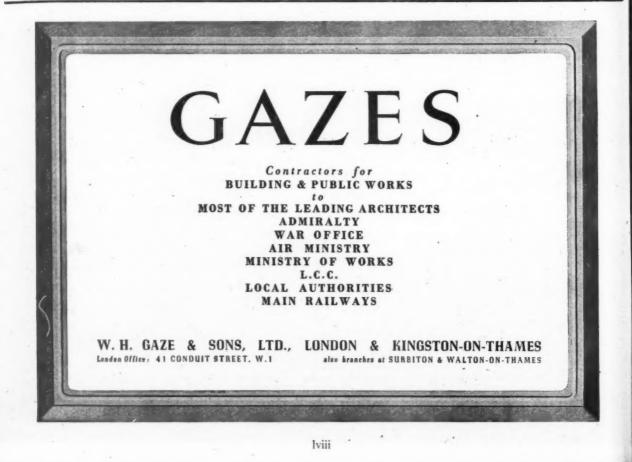
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order." Subscription rates : by post in the U.K. or abroad, £1 155. od. per annum. Single copies, 9d.; post free, 11d. Special numbers are included in subscription; single copies, 15 6d.; post free, 15. 9d. Back numbers more than 12 months old (when available), double price. Volumes can be bound complete with index, in cloth cases, for 155. each; carriage 15. extra. Goods advertised in the JOURNAL and made of raw material now in short supply, are not necessarily available for export.

## DIARY FOR JANUARY FEBRUARY AND MARCH

Titles of exhibitions, lectures and papers are printed in italics. In the case of papers and lectures the authors' names come first.

GLASGOW. H. G. Jenkins and J. H. Bowtell. High Voltage Fluorescent Tubes. At the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders, 39, Elmbank Crescent, C.2. (Sponsor, IES.) 6 p.m. JAN. 15 L EICESTER. Newer Heat Exhibition. At the Museum and Art Gallery. (Sponsor, CUJC.) UNTIL JAN. 18

LONDON. Mrs. M. Pleydell-Bouverie. Housing in US as I Saw It. At the Housing Centre, 13, Suffolk Street, Haymarket, S.W.1. (Sponsor, HC.) Buffet lunch 12.45 p.m.-1.15 p.m., 2s. 6d. Talk 1.15 p.m.-2.15 p.m., 6d. JAN. 20

Exhibition of Art, Chiefly from the Dominions of India and Pakistan. At the Royal Academy Galleries, Piccadilly. An exhibition of sculpture, painting, textiles, jewellery, furniture. 10-7. Sundays 2-7. Admission 1s. 6d. UNTIL FEB. 29 Charles Dalton. Crisis Politics for Town Planners. At the Planning Centre, 28, King Street, W.C.2. (Sponsor, TCPA.) Buffet lunch, 12.45 p.m.-1.15 p.m. Lecture, 1.15 p.m. JAN. 15

Midwinter Madness. New Year party and dance. At Caxton Hall, Westminster. (Sponsor, Polytechnic Architectural Students' Society.) 7.30-11.30 p.m. JAN. 15

Kenneth Holmes. Museums and Industrial Design. At the RSA, 6, John Adam Street. W.C.2. (Sponsor, RSA.) Buffet lunch, 12.30 p.m., 3s. Jan 15

IASS Annual General Meeting. At the IAAS, 75, Eaton Place, S.W.1. (Sponsor, IAAS.) 6 p.m. JAN. 16

Hotel, Restaurant and Catering Exhibition. A section will be devoted to hotel and restaurant design and construction. At Olympia. (Sponsor, Trade and Technical Exhibition, Ltd.) JAN. 16-24

S. M. Reisser. The Welding of Bridges and Buildings: At Manson House, Portland Place, W.1. (Sponsor, Institute of Welding.) 7.30 p.m.

Ing.) 7.30 p.m. Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' Agricultural Conference. At 12, Great George Street, S.W.1. Morning session, 11.15 a.m. Afternoon session, 2.15 p.m. JAN. 20

F. J. Osborne. Planning Developments Abroad-USA. At the Planning Centre, 28, King Street, W.C.2. (Sponsor, TCPA.) 6.15 p.m. JAN. 21

Building Contractors' Plant. The Problems Associated with Its Use. A course of eight lecture discussions. Jan. 21, J. F. Eden, Introduction. Jan. 28, Sir George M. Burt, The Contractor's View (i). Feb. 4, W. Barker, The Plant Manager's View (i). Feb. 11, A. G. Raven, The General Foreman's View (i). Feb. 18, Howard V. Lobb, The Architect's View. Feb. 25, Norman E. Wates, The Contractor's View (ii). March 3, H. E. Hodgson, The Plant Manager's View (ii). March 10, A. G. Buck, The General Foreman's View (ii). At the LCC Brixton School of Building, Ferndale Road, S.W.4. 7.0 p.m. Wednesday evenings.

JAN. 21-MAR. 10 A. Bristow. Community Centres. At the IAAS, 75, Eaton Place, S.W.I. (Sponsor, IAAS.) Tea 5.15 p.m. Lecture 6 p.m. JAN. 21

Dr. K. W. Mantner. The Design of Structures in Areas Subjected to Mining Subsidence. At 11, Upper Belgrave Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor, ISE.) 6.0 p.m. JAN. 22

Sir Frank Stockdale. Recent Planning Developments in the Colonies and Detailed Description of West Indian Schemes, by R. J. Gardner-Medwin. At the RIBA, 66. Portland Place, W.1. (Sponsor, RIBA.) 6 p.m. JAN. 27

F. B. Botham. Municipal Industries. At the Housing Centre, 13, Suffolk Street. S.W.1. (Sponsor, HC.) Buffet lunch, 12.45 p.m.-1.15 p.m., 2s. 6d. Talk, 1.15 p.m.-2.15 p.m.

Arthur Ling. Planning Developments Abroad-USSR. At the Planning Centre, 28, King Street, W.C.2. (Sponsor, TCPA.) 6.15 p.m. JAN. 28

MANCHESTER. Exhibition of Painting and Lettering. By John Stanley. At the Municipal School of Art. UNTIL JAN. 24 NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. J. Bodger. Kitchen Equipment in Industrial Canteens. At the Institution of Mining and Mechanical Engineers, Neville Hall. (Sponsor, IHVE.) 6.30 p.m. JAN. 20

#### COMPETITIONS

Competition for War Memorial at Liverpool. The Imperial War Graves Commission invites designs in competition for a memorial to be erected on the promenade at Liverpool to the Missing Naval Auxiliary Personnel of the Second World War. Open to architects who are ex-serving members of His Majesty's Forces. Assessor: Edward Maufe. Premiums: £100, £60 and £30. Last day for receiving designs, January 16. Jan. 16.

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44.D2 Rufflette B/L Curtain Track

- Building Abroad, Some Achievements of 1947. By Robert
- Illustrated by Hugh Casson ... 67
- The Year in the Building Industry. By Ian Bowen ... 73

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.

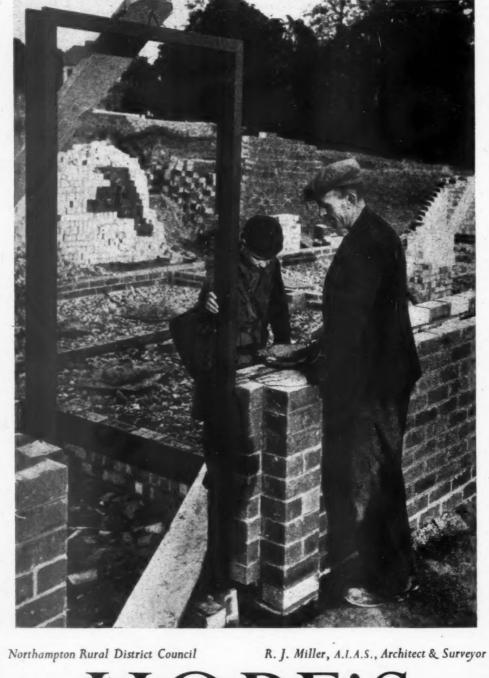
\* means spare a second for this, it will probably be worth it.

\*\* 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.

#### \*

Mr. Silkin, has made two draft orders designating as the sites of proposed new towns 4,260 acres at WELWYN GARDEN CITY and 2,340 acres at HATFIELD. If they are confirmed Hatfield and Welwyn Garden City will be developed as new towns for 25,000 and 36,500 inhabitants respec-tively. Mr. Silkin proposes, in view of the closeness of the two communities, to appoint two development corporations with identical membership to develop them as twin towns. They will be instructed to keep the towns absolutely distinct, with a green belt between them. The Welwyn Garden City Company had planned to carry through the expansion, and it may be that they could have found the resources to do it. Nevertheless it seems to the Minister that the time has come when the private company should be replaced by a public body. The Minister thinks it undesirable that a private company, however public-spirited, should, by virtue of its ownership of most of the land and wildling he in a pacifician to determine the buildings, be in a position to determine the character of a whole town and the living conditions of the majority of its inhabitants. Such power, it seems to him, should be vested in a body representing the people. A public inquiry will be held if objections to the Minister's orders are received before February 7, 1948.





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This powe was level NEW YEAR ISSUE. This issue of the JOURNAL contains the usual New Year features, beginning with Astragal's Review of the Year and tribute to outstanding personalities. Sir Charles Reilly contributes his usual article on the buildings of 1947. Once again circumstances compel him to deal mostly with buildings in the design stage rather than buildings already completed. Incidentally, this is the twenty-second occasion on which Sir Charles Reilly has contributed this feature to the A.J. New Year issue. Since there were not many British buildings completed in 1947, another article deals with the buildings of the year abroad and is illustrated by a selection of the most significant work of 1947 in Europe and America. Though foreign travel has been temporarily stopped, 1947 saw many architects pay their first visit abroad since the war and gain first-hand impressions of post-war Europe. One such architect was Mr. Hugh Casson, who contributes to this issue an Italian travelogue, illustrated by his own sketches. The issue ends with a summary of the building industry's achievements in 1947, by Professor Ian Bowen, the A.J.'s industrial and economic consultant.

MR. GORDON STEPHENSON M.C.P., F.R.I.B.A., HAS RE-SIGNED his appointment as Chief Planning Officer (Planning Technique) of the Ministry of Town and Country Planning on his appointment to the Chair of Civic Design at Liverpool University. Mr. R. T. Kennedy, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., formerly Senior Regional Planning Officer (Acting) (Planning Technique), has been promoted Chief Planning Officer (Acting) with effect from January 5.

The crypt chapel, the first part of the NEW GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL to be put into regular use, has been dedicated by the Bishop of Guildford. The foundation-stone was laid by the Archbishop of Canterbury on July 22, 1936. It was hoped that the first part would be opened for services in 1941, but the war de-

layed and then stopped the work when about one-third was completed. Guildford is only the third cathedral—Liverpool and Truro are the others—built in this country by the Church of England since the days of Wren. Mr. Edward Maufe is the architect for the building.

The Minister of Health has ordered the EXPIRY OF THE CAPITAL GRANT payment in respect of non-traditional houses. In future, non-traditional houses will only receive the same subsidies as those of traditional construction. Local authorities are to determine which of the non-traditional types they would like to adopt, having regard to their suitability and availability.

The Central Electricity Board has abandoned the proposal to build a GENERATING STATION AT ROTHERHITHE and is seeking a site elsewhere. The Board has reviewed its programmes of generating plant extensions in the light of cuts in capital expenditure and a number of projected extensions have been postponed. They are: Scotland: Portobello. N.W. England and N. Wales: Carrington, Bolton, Whitebirk. Mid-East England: Sculcoates, Skelton, Grange, Lincoln, Thornbill. Central England: Meaford. S.E. and E. England: Battersea. S.W. England and S. Wales: Carmarthen Bay.

Owing to the shortage of steel, the Minister of Health has decided to DISCONTINUE BUILDING IN STEEL FRAME CONSTRUCTION. This affects the systems given in the following list. BISF, number of tenders approved, 29,782, number completed, 10.645; Cussins, 1,074-148; Hill, 1,091-125; Steane, 226none; Trusteel, 974-42. This does not affect the size of the programme as a whole, and local authorities are to complete their housing programmes with other approved systems of construction.



This view of St. Paul's from the South Bank will remind readers of one of the town planning controversies of 1947, the building of a power station at Bankside, opposite the cathedral. Strong criticism of the proposal by the Dean of St. Paul's, the LCC and many others was over-ruled by Mr. Silkin, Minister for Town and Country Planning. This recently taken photograph shows the site as it is now, levelled and ready for the foundations of the new power station.



### Charles W. Key: Minister of Works

As usual the Minister of Works contributes the Foreword to our New Year issue. This year the signature of Charles W. Key, M.P., appears at the foot of it for the first time. He became Minister in February last in succession to Mr. George Tomlinson. Born in 1883, the son of a Chalfont St. Giles brickfield labourer, Mr. Key was a London schoolmaster from 1905 till 1940, a career only interrupted by military service in the first world war. In 1940 he entered Parliament as Labour member for the Bow and Bromley Division of Poplar. In his third speech in the House he had the distinction of seconding the reply to the King's speech. An Alderman of the Poplar Borough Council and three times Mayor, he held the chairmanship of the Metropolitan Boroughs' Standing Joint Committee from 1934 to 1941. When war broke out he was Chairman of Poplar Civil Defence Committee and Deputy ARP Controller. Under his direction the Borough's civil defences were so well organised that, though ten thousand houses were destroyed and practically every one of the surviving thirteen thousand houses damaged, fatal casualties averaged no more than one per incident. In the 1945 General Election he was again returned for the same constituency and became Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health. As a cricket enthusiast he at one time played regularly as a slow spin bowler for Sir Francis Meynell's Nonsuch Team. In 1917 he married Florence Adams, a fellow school teacher, whom he met as a working colleague in Stepney. His wife, too, has long been an active worker in the socialist cause and at one time edited the Journal of the National Union of Women Teachers. M F

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### MESSAGE TO THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL FROM THE MINISTER, THE RIGHT HONOURABLE CHARLES W. KEY, M.P.

I am glad to have this opportunity of conveying my New Year's Greetings to the readers of the Architects' Journal. There is no doubt that 1948 is going to be a difficult year for architects and for the building industry. It is essential that we should continue to expand our exports in order to obtain the food and raw materials on which our standard of life depends. New industrial building, therefore, has had to be severely restricted in order to release steel and other resources for the export industries. I fully appreciate the difficulties which now confront all who are concerned with the building industry, as a result of the decisions which the Government has found it necessary to make. I have every confidence, none the less, that the present difficulties will be overcome, and that before long the building industry will once more be able to turn its splendid resources to the task of reconstruction on the home front. Meanwhile I hope that it may be possible to continue with the preparation of plans for future work so as to facilitate ultimate recovery. The improvement of our skill and development of our resources and techniques must also go on. The establishment of the Advisory Council on Building and Civil Engineering Research and Development is a clear expression of the determination of all concerned, the industry, the profession, the scientists and the Government, still further to improve the technical and scientific resources of the industry for the tasks which still lie ahead.

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# ASTRAGAL'S REVIEW

# 1947

#### 7 ANUARY

It was without regret that most of us watched the raddled and wheezing figure of 1946 lumber off into the wings. How were we to guess, as we rustled our programmes in antici-



patory relish, that the next turn would leave us even more fatigued, frustrated and unsatisfied? Certainly the scenery upon which the curtain of 1947 rose was familiar enough. A strike in Smithfield; violence in Palestine; acrimony at Lake Success; Mr Arthur Lewis, M.P., opening up round 1 against the Savoy Hotel. It seemed like 1946 all over again. Housing limped along, its curve of progress long deserted by the whirling line of rising costs. Only 70 BISF houses had been finished out of 14,000 begun, and in Surrey model pigstyes were being rented out at £1 a week to picked tenants. The new House of Commons had reached damp-course level, but some new houses in West Drayton at the same stage of construction were being pulled down as nobody had remembered that the new Heathrow runway had been planned to pass that way. "Britain Can Make It," described by Sir "The Importance-of-Being " Ernest Benn as " a circus which would hardly have been tolerated in a fifth-rate Continental city," had closed its doors behind its 11 millionth visitor and we all dragged home to our unstreamlined kitchens and unscientifically heated hearths. Though every domestic scuttle bore visual evidence that Mr. Shinwell was leaving no stone unturned (or unsold), there remained some doubt as to whether an igloo is any warmer than the normal British home.

#### FEBRUARY

This month the earth collided with a minor planet, which left a small scar and a quantity of suitably red deposit in the heart of Siberia. More effect was felt here from an indus-

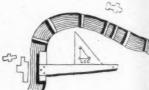


trial catastrophe as swift and deadly as the blizzard which largely caused it. The tiny land of Britain was frozen. Transport was paralysed; factories closed; homes and offices unheated; pipes (except apparently in the prefabs) almost

universally frozen. House-building dropped to its lowest post. war level. In the melancholy silence which lay like a coat of ice over the country the only sound to be heard was that of Mr. Shinwell eating his words. Out of the greyness whirled two White Papers like snowflakes. The first announced for 1947 a Housing Target of 240,000-provided, it added cautiously, the materials were available. [It did not reveal that 12,000 families were by now squatting in Service camps.] The second, which aimed to deal with the economic crisis, analysed our predicament with great clarity, but put forward no heroic measures for our salvation. Architects who had planned to hang on, whatever the cost, so as to be ready for business in 1947, began to suspect that they must hang on a couple more years-or take a salaried job if they could find one. Advertisements showed that local authorities were all at their wits-end for trained staff, and it looked as if the profession was unobtrusively becoming as nationalised as the coalmines.

#### MARCH

From the grip of ice Britain passed under the rule of Lord Thaw-Thaw, and widespread floods added to the havoc left by the February frosts. The planners, however, noses to



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boards as usual, were still as busy as beavers. Despite a legal set-back over Stevenage, corporations were set up for Crawley and Hemel Hempstead. Regional Controllers were appointed by MOTCP. A new town was announced for Aycliffe, Co. Durham. The LCC published its imposing plans (consultant Charles Holden) for the South Bank. This included new Government offices and a National Theatre, but excluded ah, innocents—a power-station. Caught by the fashionable fever, the Cabinet threw a planner into the economic works in the person of Sir Edwin Plowden.

The opening of the Ideal Home Exhibition, with houses at the newly increased prices of £1,300 and £1,400, recalled its predecessor in 1938, where a family bungalow could be obtained for £175. Meanwhile, organised building labour continued to press for a wage increase (though the rise in cutput promised in return for the last raise had not been fulfilled), and remained as muddle-headed and obstinate as ever over the problem of incentives to output.

Mr. Henry Wallace came over on a lecture tour. The Queen Elizabeth ran aground. Mr. John Gloag celebrated his silver wedding, and the name of Max Intrator was mentioned daily in Bow Street.

#### APRIL

The timber shortage was now so desperate that it threatened to render the housing programme out of date barely two months after it had been set. Such timber as was available

could only be obtained through a nightmare tangle of conflicting authorities. After two years the building snarl-up could no longer be blamed upon the faults of the Coalition Government, many and serious as these faults were. It was clear that, though the Government always boasted that at least they had a plan, this plan was, in fact, hopelessly unrealistic. Too many houses were being begun and not enough finished. Moreover, local authorities, the chosen instrument, were taking half as long again to finish a house as the private builder. The licensing system remained full of inconsistencies. [One local authority granted a licence for a specialist h.w. installation but refused to allow cold water to be connected to it.] The production of building materials was ill co-ordinated, while increased output and increased wages were locked, it seemed, in motionless combat.

Not all was melancholy, however. The Gorell Committee recommended the preservation of the Regent's Park Terraces, the exhibition of French tapestries opened at the V & A, Mr. Silkin won the Stevenage appeal and designated Harlow in the flush of victory, the ban on house-painting was lifted, and there were a few Cabinet changes. Most people, however, to whom the speeches of all politicians are merely an ill-wind which blows nobody good, remained more interested in the Soviet brides, the Messina girls, and the new false bosoms, nicknamed "Outlaws." Remember why?

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By now even Mr. Bevan was forced to admit that the housing target would not be reached. The returns showed that in the first three months of 1947 only 20,000 houses



had been completed, less than the monthly total required to keep pace with the programme. The reasons officially put forward-they were genuine enough-were the February fuel crisis, the abnormally severe weather and shortage of timber. Not admitted, but equally guilty, were our over-optimistic planners, whose programme was out of date even before the Stationery Office had had time to print it. In defence of his Ministry, however, Mr. Bevan showed justifiable pride in his housing achievement compared with that of 1919-1921, and reminded us that since building controls had been lifted in the USA, rising costs had brought the American housing programme virtually to a standstill. Nor was planning in much better shape. The blitzed towns were becoming impatient to the verge of desperation: The Service departments continued to smash and grab. The LCC were at loggerheads with the City of London and making hay out of Abercrombie's green belt. Finally, Mr. Silkin, after handling the TCP Bill debate with great skill and sincerity, agreed to that monument of unplanning, the Bankside Power Station. The publication of the Holford-Holden City plan came as a welcome contrast to this melancholy tale of frustration and shortsightedness. Admirably written and presented, it put forward a skilful solution to the traffic problem, suggested new methods of controlling density and daylighting based on principles worked out by the Research Division of MOTCP, and showed throughout that great rarity, an imaginative visual policy.

#### JUNE

To those ignorant of hard currencies and disinterested in the convertibility of sterling, things began to look a bit brighter this month. In the warm sun, which heralded the hottest



British summer for years, the dollar crisis was no larger on the horizon than a flying saucer. Housing figures jumped to

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10,000 per month. A joint committee of MOW, MOH, BOT and the building industry succeeded in simplifying the licence form, and the RIBA gathered happily over the steaks and nylons of Dublin. MOTCP issued a memorandum on the Report of the Advisory Committee on London Regional Planning, supporting their main contention that somehow or other the growth of London must be stopped. How London can hope to succeed by persuasion where Moscow failed by decree it is hard to see, and it seems likely that the contingent of 40,000 persons which comes every month to London will not greatly decrease. In the general atmosphere of good will the India Independence Bill passed through its final stages, Sir Hartley Shawcross admitted that he always gave his butter ration to his baby, and Mr. Schroeder, a New York fireman, rang up Mr. Molotov in Moscow and had a friendly man-toman chat with him. The only cloud in the sky was the Coventry Cathedral dispute, which was rattling through a series of long Trollopian crises, culminating in a victory of the RIBA over the Harlech Commission.

#### JULY

Although it emerged in an unusually acrimonious housing debate that the programme was now running at two-thirds its allotted pace, the Ministers concerned refused to admit

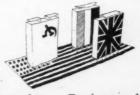


that output was low, nor would they produce the figures which surely would have proved that houses were in fact costing much more than the officially approved limits. The Times was not so reticent. "The building industry," it said, with a sharp rap on the knuckles for all of us, " is of all industries the least progressive and most wasteful. It is indifferent to innovation and backward in management and welfare." Obviously we all needed a holiday, for the news was fairly discouraging on every front. Mr. Clough Williams-Ellis resigned from the Stevenage Corporation the same month as the first advance construction party started work. The Soviet trade talks broke down, war continued in Indonesia, there was an epidemic of air crashes, another strike at the Savoy and the Burmese Cabinet was assassinated while in session. [Curious that shamefully persistent lack of surprise which always accompanies the shock of hearing that a politician has been murdered.]

The return of Eros to Piccadilly, however, was suitably accompanied by the official announcement of the Royal engagement, and this news, coupled with good weather and plenty of cash in most of the pay packets, made the dollar crisis merely an irrelevant bore. Even the threatened loss of American films was accepted without much protest. Who cared if Hollywood became Loss Angeles?

#### AUGUST

Throughout the blazing midsummer heat the crisis thickened like a thundercloud. Ministers flew to and fro from their holiday resorts like flying saucers, burning up our dollar-



bought petrol with magnificant insouciance. Foreign travel (except for invalids and MPs) was totally barred; pleasure motoring reprieved only until October. Timber suffered the

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unkindest cut of all. Potato rationing was threatened, capital expenditure slashed still further. Housing and schools survived for another year, but for architects generally the outlook was not encouraging. Enviously they mulled over the published plans of UNO buildings—Frank Lloyd Wright may have described them, in a cable to the AJ, as "a monstrous commercialised tombstone for the graveyard of peace," but at least they were going to be built. New Towns were to be certain casualties in the economy drive, and there was small hope for Mr. Gibson's excellent suggestion that rather than parcel out inadequate supplies of labour and material in an attempt to be fair to all it would be more instructive and much more exciting to concentrate on one of the towns, finish it, and use it as a reference and test case.

The need for increased output in the building industry became even more urgent, and in an attempt to remove all obstacles to the setting up of incentive schemes Regulation 56AB was repealed and the priority system for building materials was revised and simplified. There were, however, two displays of national resilience to cheer the heart. The first was the triumph of Enterprise Scotland and the Edinburgh Festival. The second was the opening up in Hiroshima of an Atom Café and an Atomic Bookshop.

#### SEPTEMBER

The announcement that capital expenditure was to be cut by two hundred million [half a million being put aside for our new embassies in Rome and Rio] was a nasty clip for the



building industry, but criticism was mostly to the effect that the cut came too late and was inadequate. It was still, after all, only a cut in what we had intended to do. We still proposed apparently to spend more money than we had, and anyway to most people, for whom a crisis meant unemployment and the dole, this particular version was so far not much to worry about.

Now we were poor however and, faced more often with stronger temptations, traditional British standards of reliability and honesty became harder to maintain. The gaoling of an MP, the expulsion of another, the reprimanding of a third, the announcement that over 2,000 articles had been pinched from the House of Commons restaurant, coupled with an epidemic of bad railway accidents, seemed to support the view that corruptibility among politicians and inefficiency on the railways was no longer a prerogative of Latin races. There remained, however, three items of news to cheer us—the reopening of the Soane Museum, the successful CIAM conference at Bridgwater, attended by representatives of 18 countries, and, best of all, the relief at hearing that the Government of Monaco has at least reached the bottom of its in-tray and declared it was no longer at war with the Axis.

#### OCTOBER

This month the Building industry accepted, through the National Joint Council, the principle of incentives, based upon a scheme designed to permit any man to earn at



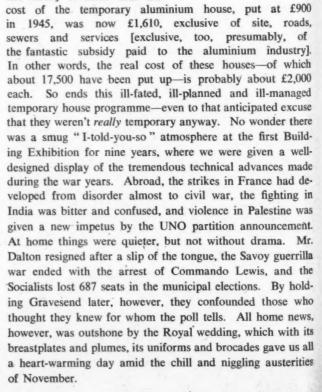
least 20 per cent. above his basic wage rate. It was sensibly

agreed that the scheme should run for at least two years and that once a bonus rate had been agreed for a particular job it should not be altered till that job was finished. Having at last worked out a way of getting on with the job, the industry found itself in danger of having no job to get on with.

The Cripps' cuts which followed the Cabinet changes were as severe as they were necessary, and though housing and schools escaped comparatively lightly, factories, public works and the New Towns received their expected push down the ladder. Let's hope the Government planners have learned their lesson by now and will not disrupt the building programme more fiercely than they must, for building is not an industry which can be shut off and turned on like a tap; also that they will in future integrate their new programme more closely with the building materials industry and particularly with the desperate timber position. The RIBA organised a most successful Schools Conference, the MOH an equally successful conference to put over the Airey house, the Cominform was re-established in Belgrade, and the AJ launched its new series of Information Sheets. The Holford-Holden City plan received an unofficial blessing from Mr. Silkin [but less enthusiasm from Mr. Barnes], and the Daily Express suggested closing down MOTCP for two or three years. The death was announced of John Dower, upon whose personal researches the National Parks report is largely based, and to whose enthusiasm and ability the National Parks themselves will be a worthy memorial.

#### NOVEMBER

During the summer Mr. Edwin Gunn was put in the dock and fined for letting the cost of a  $\pounds 1,200$  house rise to  $\pounds 1,595$ . This month Mr. Key [out of the dock] revealed that the



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The principal event this month was, of course, the centenary of the AA, celebrated in a three - day programme of pantomimes and conferences, banquets, visits, receptions

DECEMBER



and dances, the spirited informality of which admirably carried on the AA tradition. [For even on its hundredth birthday it is the vitality and resilience of the AA which we admire and not the creaking dignity of a dotard.] From beginning to end the party went with a bang, and its success reflects great credit upon the industry of the organisers and upon the loyal affection of the many hundreds of members and guests who attended. The rest of the month was spent in preparing for a merry Crippsmas, getting used to the cuts and trying to discover how many little pigs were going to black market. Mr. Key refused to answer questions alleging a decline in output in the building industry, and Mr. Bevan -busy in his Harley-Street-quinade with the BMA-likewise refused to give the average figure for the cost of a traditionally-built house to-day. Perhaps the Research Committee, set up this month by MOW, will get busy on these two interesting problems.

The LCC approved the Bankside Power-Station drawings, the Birkenhead Plan was published, the Harlow Model exhibited. Plans were announced for a dispersal scheme of exhibitions for 1951, and for the present there was Van Gogh at the Tate and India at Burlington House. Led by Mr. Maurice Webb, 165 MPs, having voted themselves higher salaries not so long ago, voted to decrease the Royal allowances. So ended 1947, a year crowded with aspirations, endeavours and great occasions, but remembered more, perhaps, for its failures, discomforts and defeats. The curtain falls upon the deserted conference table, with its circlet of four empty chairs, upon the sound of violence from India, Greece and Palestine, upon the smell of disintegration from Europe, upon the chill of hard times at home. Once again, don't think it hasn't been fun—because it hasn't.

# PERSONALITIES

Astragal's vote for personality of the year goes inevitably to the Architectural Association, a 1947 centenarian, but still spry and adding yearly to its faculties; runner-up is Mr. Samuel Clipsam, inventor of PYROC and the potential saviour of the British building industry.

Astragal also doffs his hat to Lancelot Keay and C. J. Mole (Knights), Sir Ernest Simon (Baron), Messrs. Fairweather, Ryder and James Gardner (OBEs), Gordon Russell and Frederick Jackman (CBEs), and Robert Goodden (RDI); to Howard Robertson, President of the AA and British architect for UNO, and to Charles Key (MOW); to Professor Richardson (Gold Medallist); and John Gloag (Silver Weddingist); to University builders Graham Dawbarn (West Indies) and Maxwell Fry (West Africa) and to National Theatre designers Brian O'Rorke, A.R.A., and Cecil Masey; to the architectural department of the Kingston School of Art and the town

#### THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for January 15, 1948 [53]

planning Department of Durham University; to Robin Darwin, principal of the Royal College of Art, and Gardner-Medwin, Chief Architect, MOH Scotland; to fledgling Professors Ian Bowen, Gordon Stephenson and Christopher Tunnard; to Major Athoe (21 years with IAAS) and to Bannister Fletcher's History (13th edition); to Messrs. Tweddell (Harlow), Ablett (Hemel Hempstead) and Holliday (Stevenage); to Messrs. Holden and Holford for their City Plan and Edward Antrobus for his traffic plan; to Aneurin Bevan, who confessed to liking living under thatch; and to Sir Waldron Smithers, who wants the new House of Commons to be lit by fluorescent lamps; to exhibition designers Basil Spence (Enterprise Scotland), Robin Day and Peter Moro (Jet Propulsion) Cockade (Tea Centre); in congratulation to the new editor of The Architect and Building News and to his new cover design and in commiseration with Horizon upon its lamentable Ugly Buildings Competition; to the City of Birmingham and the Borough of Woolwich for leading the housing drive, and to the County of Herts for its energetic architectural department; to the Georgian Group for its Soane party and to Queen Anne upon emerging from her blast protection; to the RIBA for its performance over Coventry Cathedral and also for beating the AA at cricket, and to the AA students for their South Bank exhibition projects and their centenary conference; in farewell to Clough Williams-Ellis and in welcome to Sir Thomas Gardiner; to new Royal Fine Arts Commissioners Henry Moore and John Summerson, and to veteran artistes Mae West and Mistinguett; to the National Trust upon acquiring Knole and to John Betjeman for saving White Horse Hill from the Post Office; to the organisers of the CIAM Conference and to the designers of the British Domestic Design and Czech Architecture Exhibitions at the RIBA; to Arcon for seeing 41,000 of their houses completed in two years, and to Mr. Lamont for giving half a million dollars to the Canterbury Cathedral restoration fund; to A. M. Chitty for his travels to Turkey and Italy in the cause of planning and to The Architectural Review for its Westminster Precinct Plan; in sympathy with Edwin Gunn for his ill-luck with the licensing laws and in no sympathy with Dr. Summerskill for her lecture on cheeses; in gratitude to the producers and casts of "Oklahoma" and "Annie Get Your Gun" and in admiration of the equally energetic Sea Scouts who last summer swam the English Channel in relays; in respect to forger Van Meegeren and financier Max Intrator for fooling so many people for so much of the time, and to hon. auditor John Summerson for seeing that we are not being fooled by the RIBA accounts; to Dublin for its food, Paris for its long skirt, and Ealing Broadway Station, design centre for the GWR; to Wallace Harrison, chief architect for Uno, and to Aspro for declaring -no wonder!-a 50 per cent. dividend; to Monty for deserting the Coldstreams for the coal seams, and to Manny Shinwell for doing the reverse; to Oswald Milne, Mayor of Hampstead, and Hartland Thomas, now of the CID; to F. J. Osborn upon his departure for the USA and to Professor Abercrombie upon his arrival in Hong Kong; to Le Corbusier for getting a free ticket to the AA conference; to Frankie Reynolds, of Georgia, just elected Miss Spirits of Gum Turpentine for 1948; and finally to the London School of Economics, which has apparently opened-was it defiance or desperation or just the wheel of fashion?-a chapel in which its students may worship.



"A lot of thought has clearly been put into the disposition of these Administrative Offices." The model of Harlow Town Centre designed by Frederick Gibberd.

Once again Sir Charles Reilly's annual article ing boards rather than with completed buildings.

on the year's work is compelled by force of cir- But all the projects he criticises are real ones on cumstances to deal with work still on the draw- which work has begun or is expected to begin shortly.

#### THE YEAR'S WORK BY PROFESSOR SIR CHARLES REILLY

WHAT with the war and then with the restrictions on building, there is little doubt that the private architect, relying on private clients for his living, has not for centuries, indeed since his became a separate profession from that of the master builder, had such a poor time over so long a period. It is no good now his meeting his friends on the golf links and hoping that some fat job will eventuate, for it certainly will not-at least, not in the old way. The days of the large country house are over for everyone, and I cannot help hoping also those of shops and offices all built differently from their neighbours to advertise individual concerns. We may still be 80 per cent. private enterprise, but that 80 per cent., as far as the exteriors of new buildings are concerned, will, one is pretty sure, have to conform to general schemes of neighbourliness. In that way the times ahead would appear to be very much like those of the eighteenth century, when no one thought of building to himself or to his client alone as far as the exterior went.

The street, the square, the terrace and the neighbourhood were all considered as consisting of related buildings, as were the materials used in them. No one thought of designing or using anything alien merely to be prominent. Looking at the centre of any of our big commercial cities built in the latter half of the nineteenth century and the early years of this the exact reverse seems to have been the case. Each building tries to call attention to itself at whatever expense to the community. If those days are over, as I think they are, so much the better for our towns if not for the private architect as we have known him in the past.

What then of the future? I do not think this is so black, indeed not black at all, for I think it promises really great things. The architect however must change with the times. He must realize in the new world the individual client will stand out less and less and the community as a possible client more and more. He must learn indeed to serve both at the same time. The great town planning schemes everywhere to-day look in the same direction. More and more they suggest not uniformity but an expres-sion of the community at its best. More and more do they suggest that the future work of the architect will be on a larger scale covering sites of a much greater area than formerly. One hopes that when the time for building comes round again the suc-cessful architect in our great cities will, like his Russian colleagues, have whole streets to design or sections of streets, rather than individual buildings here and there, and one more how the security will be and one may hope that the results will be better. I imagine such streets, picturesque because modern and functional with variety in their unity, being put up to competition and a future Nash being discovered in every town. One has indeed only to think of the original Nash and his Regent Street, with its variety in unity, which some of us saw and all know, and then think of the present all know, and then think of the present hotch-potch to realize what we must achieve and what we must avoid. The New Towns, each designed as a whole, under a separate architect, should indeed be a good indica-tion of what may happen. That two of the architects and two of the town planners of these new towns are Liverpool men I may perhaps, as a proud old man, be allowed to mention mention

It was indeed always one of my aims at Liverpool to place as many of the best students as I could in the way to reach public positions, an aim in which Sir Localet Keny energy heland. They had Lancelot Keay greatly helped. They had all lived in a real university, meeting at lunch and in their hostels, young nuclear physicists, engineers, lawyers, and so on raining for other professions, and had the widened outlook that such contacts imply. The establishment of the first Department of Town Planning in England in the Liverpool School led, of course, in this direction. Many indeed through it got great positions where they are doing grand work individually and at the same time helping forward fine architecture. There is J. H. Forshaw, for instance, first as architect to the Miners' Welfare Committee, who designed and built the great range of Pithead Baths and Institutes, still, I think, the finest range of modern buildings in the country (and giving for the first time, as far as I know, full credit on paper to his assistants), then as Architect to the LCC, and finally, now, as Chief Architect to the Ministry of Health with a great hospital system to design as well as approving for Government grants every housing scheme in the country. Think of the power for good, a man like that has and how Governments as well as lesser bodies will seek his advice. Then there is Robert Gardiner Medwin, another Liverpool fellow, in the same position in scotland, while others are Borough Architects up and down the country in great towns like Manchester, Southampton, Newcastle, Leicester, and Westminster, to mention but a few. Perhaps there being so many Liverpool me in such positions to-day is in deed the main reason why I am so optimistic over the future, but I do not really think

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The general appearance of the sections of our towns that are about to be rebuilt when the crisis lessens will, of course, in the first instance be in their course, in the first instance be in their hands, just as I hope the rebuilding of the City of London, as well as its replanning, will be in the hands of Charles Holden— I wish he were from Liverpool-and of that other Liverpool man Professor Holford. Then there are others in the wider sphere, which the aeroplane makes possible, like Maxwell Fry with apparently the whole of West Africa under his charge, for its larger buildings as well as for a University, Shirley D'Alvis building the greatest University in Asia, a residential one at that, in Ceylon, and R. P. S. Hubbard, who, with his partner, at least when our Government was in control, was helping to spend on building the £30,000,000 the Government granted for rebuilding purposes, probably the biggest architectural commission in the world at the present moment. These latter, you may say, and rightly, are private architects, but they are private architects working for Governments. They have been appointed by Governments who more and more, it seems to me, in the future will have great works to commission and who must rely for works to commission and who must rely for advice on whom to appoint on the able architects already in great public positions, and when good architects are advising the Government, less and less will there be any need for the private architect to visit golf course except for the pleasure of the game. This is roughly why I am hopeful for the future both of architects and architecture. Once more, as in the 18th century, with the municipality taking the place of the great landlords, we shall design and build in a larger, simpler manner, with all william Crabtree is a good example of this and one for which the money has, I believe, already been voted.

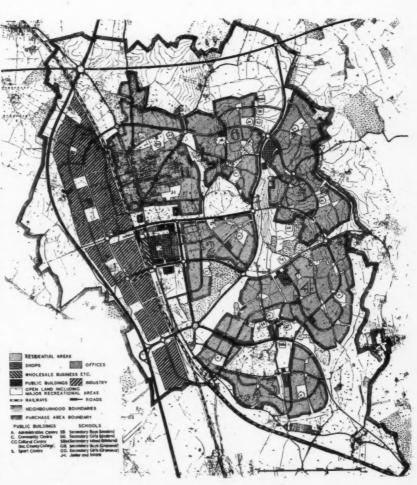
Let us begin our survey of actual work with the outline plans of the New Towns as the most important things which have been published. It should be remembered that these towns are part of a definite policy of saving the countryside by preventing the spread of London in all directions, and later on of the other big towns too, a policy which looks like succeeding now, though our former rulers have failed from Queen Elizabeth onwards. It will be noticed that all four are

planned adjacent to the great motorways recommended in Sir Patrick Abercrombie's Greater London Plan and, though they are all situated on railways too, it looks as if in the future it is supposed these motorways will be the main approach. There are, in some cases, also, aerodromes near by and most of them provide landing spaces for helicopters.

Let us start with Stevenage, purposely designed in outline, I imagine, as a model by Gordon Stephenson at the Ministry of Town and Country Planning. Stephenson has now returned to Liverpool as Professor of Civic Design. The site is a gently rolling one. The industrial area is in one long piece placed for the whole width of it west of the railway which runs along that side of the site. This means the residential areas are all east of it and some people will have to walk or go by bus a couple of miles to their work, and very could too for those who can stand it. I good, too, for those who can stand it. hope the prevailing wind is not from the that it is. The old town, surrounded and protected by a green belt and treated as a neighbourhood unit, is, I think, a good idea. It is thus preserved in a way that no sort of private enterprise could do. Indeed, the latter would destroy it in 50-100 years. In addition there are five other neighbourhood units, each with its open space, its neighbourhood shops and junior and infant schools. These units are separated from each other by wide

green stretches, in some of which are the secondary schools. Immediately south of the old town and next the railway and the station are the administrative and the main shopping centres, the chief architectural opportunities. There is a large central park and the country itself is well within the boundary to the east and west. Altogether it is an easy plan to read, which may be taken, I think, as some evidence that it is a good one.

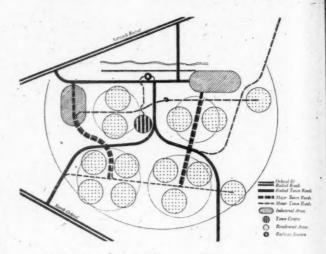
The neighbourhood units, each for some 10,000 persons, have not yet been planned or broken up. To my mind, it is a mistake to call anything of this size a neighbourhood unit—Abercrombie's term—for clearly you cannot in any real sense have any neighbourly feeling to 10,000 people. Lewis Mum ford told me the maximum of real neighbourliness was 1,000, and it is for between 500 and 1,000 that I have planned my own little communities round greens, centring on the village pub, now, of course, called a club. No doubt something of the same kind will appear here and in the other new towns when these 10,000 units come to be planned. At Stevenage, very happily, this will be the work of Clifford Holliday, who is the Chief Staff Architect and Town Planner rolled into one now that Gordon Stephenson has retired. Very wisely he has appointed, too, one of our best draughtsmen and younger architects, Peter Shepheard, also like himself from Liverpool, as his second in command. I expect great things from these two men both



" It is an easy plan to read, which may be taken, I think, as some evidence that it is a good one." The Stevenage plan by Gordon Stephenson.

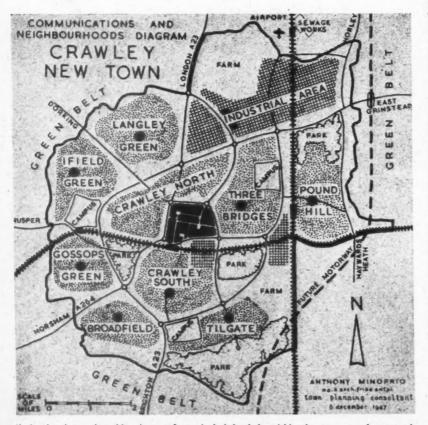
#### 56] THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for January 15, 1948





"What Gibberd obviously likes is a group of well separated villages as the basis of his town, yet he rightly says in his report that all parts must have a sense of civic dignity and of belonging to a whole." Diagrammatic plan of Harlow new town:

"The plan is full of pleasant incidents with large areas of parks, gardens, water and trees." Plan for the new town of Hemel Hempstead by G. A. Jellicoe.



" Another interesting thing is two farms included whole within the town-real country in real town." Plan of Crawley new town by Anthony Minoprio.

in architecture and planning, which, in my opinion, ought never to be separated when working on this scale.

Hemel Hempstead. The consultant town planner in this case is G. A. Jellicoe, the wellknown landscape architect, and as one would expect, the plan, if rather strange in some ways as a plan, is full of pleasant incidents with large areas of parks, gardens, water and trees. In this case, too, one can see the town for the trees, which is not always possible in a landscape architect's planning. Of course, in this new plan, Jellicoe had cer-tain difficulties. Out of his 60,000 persons, 20,000 already exist, and in houses one would probably sooner not see. As a site, however, the land seems steeply contoured and crossed by two river valleys, and that should suit him. Two industrial areas are planned, one to the north-east on a level site where de-velopment has already begun, and a small area partly outside the site where the Apsley and Nash Mills already exist. Elsewhere on the site Jellicoe characteristically says it does not seem desirable to locate industry, not only because of the topography, but in view of the deterioration of the landscape values which it would inevitably involve. There is a central area, including the old town, a modern commercial area, a civic centre with lake and water garden and two zones for terraces and flats. Beyond this central area are seven residential neighbourhood units separated from one another by parkways. The shopping street in the old town is kept to pedestrian traffic as a bazaar street—a good idea this-and so is the market to which it leads. The great thing, however, is the market to which it leads. The great thing, however, is the new shopping street facing the elaborate water garden and, like Princes Street, Edinburgh, has shops on one side only. This garden begins with a big lake on the edge of which, reflected in it, stands the Civic Centre. From this lake the water garden starts providing isolated eiter for public huidings, gruph as art isolated sites for public buildings, such as art gallery, library, museum, a repertory theatre --how good it is to find that in every plan! each surrounded on three sides by a stream with the main shopping street of the town on the fourth. This seems to me the most imaginative suggestion yet made, if it is most not too grandiose for a town of this size, and,

of cou stream great from 1 it mu coe's where for in Harl advan Frede Why maste outsie know Gibb plann Twee The the east from broc do v likes as t says sens a W burg thir less whi at 1 Is that to pro wha goc Tw fro Ac Ce the bu in dif str an To str Fr co ( th sk th to m to w a a a of course, suits the site with its valleys and streams very well. For the rest, there is a great central park such as one would expect from the author, and it will be noted, not that it much matters, in what a lordly way Jellicoe's plan overlaps the Ministry's boundary where he wants it to. A good many houses, for instance, seem to be outside it. *Harlow*. The plan for this is more advanced and detailed, and, like anything by Frederick Gibberd, of the greatest interest. Why the AA ever let him give up his headmastership is one of those mysteries people outside that sacred enclosure would like to

Harlow. The plan for this is more advanced and detailed, and, like anything by Frederick Gibberd, of the greatest interest. Why the AA ever let him give up his headmastership is one of those mysteries people outside that sacred enclosure would like to know. Fortunately for this town, Frederick Gibberd appears to be both consulting planner and consulting architect. with Noel Tweddell ex Manchester as staff architect. The site is the most open of all with only the little village of Harlow in the northeast corner. The planner, therefore, apart from topography, which included the Toddbrooke Valley running east and west, could do what he liked. What Gibberd obviously likes is a group of well separated villages as the basis of his town, yet he rightly says in his report that all parts must have a sense of civic dignity and of belonging to a whole, and quotes Bath, Oxford, Edinburgh, and Florence in this connection. His thirteen neighbourhood units are nevertheless separated by tracts of open country which look to average two hundred yards at least in width.

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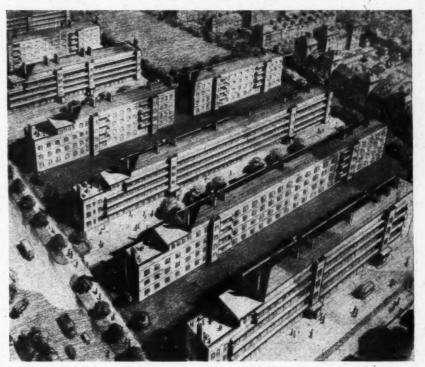
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which look to average two hundred yards at least in width. Is this country 40 be farm land, though that hardly looks like Civic Design, or is it to be ornamental gardens such as Jellicoe provides? It will be very interesting to see what he does with it—something very good, I am sure—when the detail arrives. Two great wedges of country are driven in from east and west. Though the Civic Administration Centre and the Shopping Centres, near the railway which bounds the site on the north, from their balanced buildings, look dignified and indeed seem so in the development suggested, one has some difficulty in reconciling this to these great stretches of country. Does one wear gaiters and knickerbockers till one reaches the Town Centre and there keep a change of striped trousers; black coats, and hard hats? From Neighbourhood Unit 13 to the Town Centre it will certainly be a nice long country walk.

country walk. On the highest point, which is happily in the Town Centre, Gibberd has placed his skyscraper administration building. I like the idea very much of one tall building to symbolise the unity of the new town and mark where it stands, but I wish it were a tower, perhaps a star-shaped one, on plan which would look alike from all directions and not a big flat suitcase on end. I wish all the new towns had such towers to call attention to themselves and to the age in which they were conceived. I am sure the necessary natural lighting could be devised in some much more monumental shape. I wish too this high building were next the artificial lake near by to be reflected in it, as is the Civic Centre, which I take to be a club. A lot of thought, however, even at this stage, has clearly been' put into the disposition of these Administrative Offices, Art Gallery, Restaurant Band Stand, Exhibition Hall, Library, Museum, Theatre, and one cannot criticise their arrangement fairly without much more knowledge. I notice, for instance Gibberd says all these things should overlap and be fused and that it should be a natural thing for the office worker to pop into the Art Gallery in his lunch hour, Culture in the New Towns should be pursued unconsciously and become part of the general life. All must agree to that. It is a fine ideal. I am all for anyone who is convinced that if human nature is given the opportunities, it can be moulded to something better.

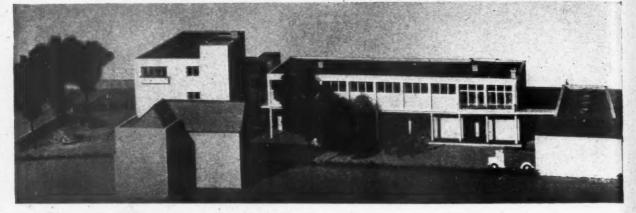
moulded to something better. Last and latest is *Crawley*. Although its planning started well after the others, as it has Anthony Minoprio as Consultant Town



"It must be a pretty dull life living in these long cliffs of artificial stone, facing a parallel cliff." LCC flats in Bethnal Green.

> "I give him an A for his shopping street at Southampton the shops being entered from one side, the flats from the park at the back." Project by William Crabtree.

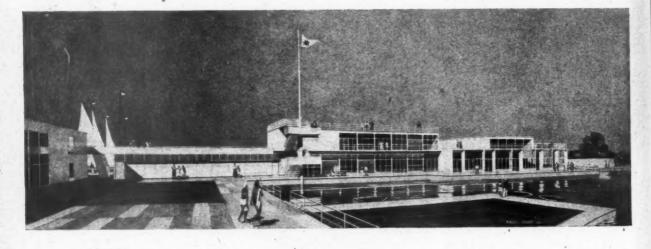
Planner and Alwyn Sheppard Fidler the Rome Scholar, as Architect, both from Liverpool, no doubt it will soon catch up. (After the recent boom of the AA one must mention Liverpool occasionally.) The site is a gentle rise from north to south, where it abuts on the Tilgate Forest. Two railways cross it, the London to Brighton going due north and south, and the other, the London to Horsham, a little unfortunately, going east and west and right through the centre of the town with the station abutting on Crawley old town. This latter is to be largely rebuilt but with the line of the old High Street kept, and lies with three residential units and a couple of parks within a central ring road following for half its length the present Crawley by pass. Outside this are the industrial area to the north crossed by the Southern Railway Line, and six other neighbourhood units. A new point in this plan, and one which will give architectural opportunities, is that while the infant and primary schools remain in their 58] THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL for January 15, 1948





"Christopher Nicholson deserves an A for his animal hospital and an A+ for his village centre with its long sweeping lines." Animal hospital above, village centre on the left.

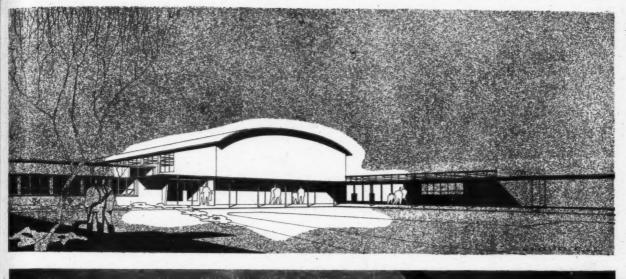
"Eric Lyons and G. Paulson Townsend deserve an A, too, for their fine club and yachting centre with a block of flats for Horning." Perspective below.

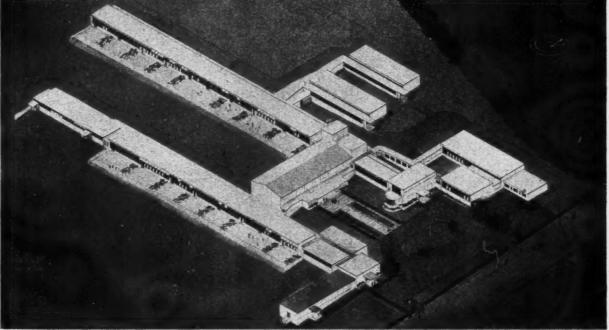


neighbourhood units, there are three campuses, or campi, of considerable size, for the secondary, grammar, and technical schools which, in this way, can share swimming baths, gymnasia, and that sort of thing, and with their playing fields side by side provide further open spaces. I can see Sheppard Fidler doing grand things with them and with the new Town Centre, which is to be next the old town. Another interesting thing which this merest outline plan shows is two farms included whole as they stand within the town-real country in real town. This allows the parkways

dividing the neighbourhood units to be much narrower than at Harlow, and yet allows everyone to know what country life is like close at hand. The whole town is surrounded by a green belt which includes an airport. It is a little smaller than the other three, designed for a balanced community of 50,000, not 60,000 persons. Having eiven so much space to the new

Munity of 50,000, not 60,000 persons. Having given so much space to the new Towns as the most interesting things of the year, I find I have only left myself 1,000 words for the rest of 1947 work. I feel like being a schoolmaster again and giving A, B, C, etc., to each of the designs examined. I will begin anyhow by giving a D-to the Valuer of the LCC who, in spite of a protest from the RIBA, has taken the place of the LCC Architect for housing. The prison-like flats at Bethnal Green are not well planned in my view, though they do give certain obvious facilities like drying rooms and play rooms half-way up for children. They each have four long balconies passing the living and bedroom windows from stair to stair. Perhaps the LCC thinks this is a help to communal life, for there are no communal rooms, and, as in all the LCC estates, the tenants still their lector if the these must long part Wo On Crawh for this the wife stall less





"There is a large central courtyard flanked by two gymnasia blocks for games, with cloak-rooms on either side, and music block and assembly at the far end." School at Pinner by C. G. Stillman, Middlesex County Architect, top. Bottom, a mixed school at Redhill designed by S. H. Loweth:

still have to rely on the near-by pub to meet their neighbours. The rents, too, are col-lected, I am told, in the Victorian way as if the LCC had never heard, like the rest of the world, of Octavia Hill. Apart from these amenities, if such they can be called, it must be a pretty dull life living in these long cliffs of artificial stone and facing a parallel cliff opposite. I should imagine Wormwood Scrubbs to be far pleasanter. On the other hand, I give A + to William Crabtree and his partner for his triplex flats, which abolish these long corridors except for one in the centre of the building at the for one in the centre of the building at the third floor level which passes no windows; they have flats too of a great variety, some with an upstairs and some with a downstairs hall or room, and yet are 10 per cent. less in volume and probably 8 per cent.

cheaper. I give him and his partner too an A for his shopping street at Southampton, now that I have discovered the two tiers of shops under the blocks of flats, hardly to be seen in the perspective, the shops being entered from one side, the flats from the park at the back park at the back.

Christopher Nicholson deserves an A for his Animal Hospital and an A + for his village centre with its long sweeping lines. I am a little afraid that, like O'Rorke, he may soon be offered an Associateship of the Royal Academy, but I trust, like his famous painter father, Sir William, he will have the courage not to join that provincial institution, the harm done by which I have seen both in Liverpool and India. Eric Lyons and G. Paulson Townsend de-serve an A, too, for their fine club and

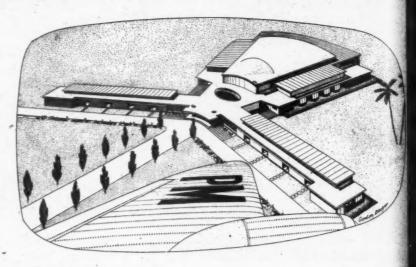
yachting centre with a block of flats—a little out of scale perhaps—in which to sleep when the sea is too choppy, a thoughtful addition to a yacht club, which they have prepared for Horning. An A or A + goes, of course, to Stillman for his comprehensive school for boys and girls at Pinner. There is a large central courtyard, flanked by two gymnasia blocks for games with cloak rooms on either side and music block and assembly hall at the far end, while on either side beyond the cloakrooms are the arms facing south for classrooms. It makes a grand straightfor-ward plan and will look a fine composition from the air. How splendidly he and the President of the RIBA confute the current foolish ideas about the work of civil ser-vants! Mr. Loweth's mixed school, too, for 340 infants and an equal number of boys and

girls, designed, I see, by R. F. Green—a kindly touch that on the drawing, giving the name of the actual designer—is a somewhat smaller composition and running north-east and south-west. I suppose there is no need for wings of classrooms at right angles.

It is good to see these days a building by an Englishman for India. Perhaps under the new régime this may happen more often. Peter Moro has designed a laboratory for fossil plant research at Lucknow which, from its plan and its expression, well deserves an A.

Messrs. Farmer and Dark have designed some electric generating stations which are simple and straightforward. With fine plain surfaces and long vertical lines, yet they do not look like cathedrals, and for that alone they deserve an A. They have not apparently —nor has anyone yet—found a better shape for cooling towers. If we only did not waste coal heating the upper air with them, but used the heat more economically, say in housing, they would not be necessary at all.

They would not be necessary at all. Finally, I have kept a fine perspective on the grandest piece of Whatman paper I have seen for many years, of a design for flatted workshops at Dover with an exhibition hall alongside, by R. F. Nickson, Sir Patrick Abercrombie's architectural partner. What an excellent sort of partnership that sounds! Anyhow, this design is another A.



"Peter Moro has designed a laboratory . . . for Lucknow which well deserves an A"; above.

"Messrs. Farmer and Dark have designed some electric generating stations which are simple and straightforward"; Right, power station at Little Barford.







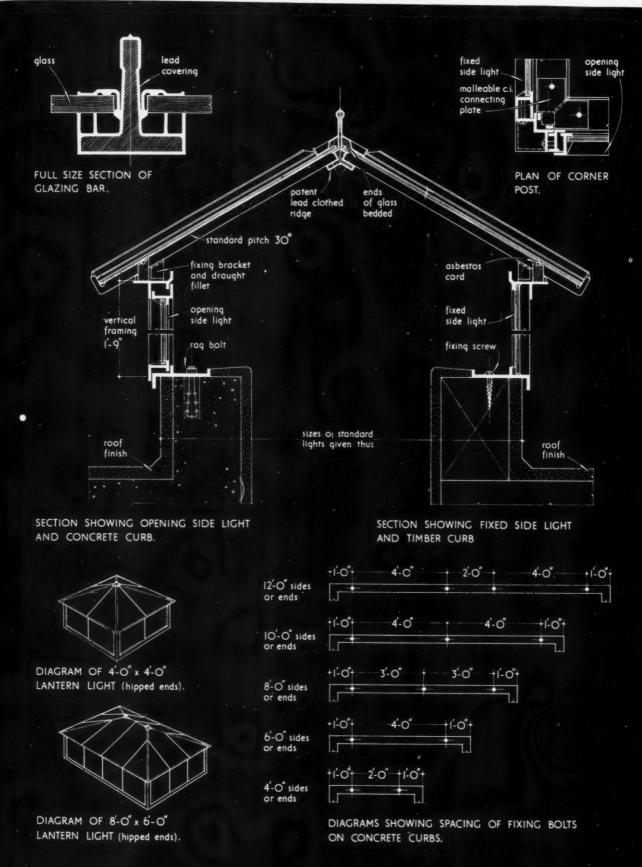


#### ROOFLIGHTS METAL

Architects' Journal 15.1.48

The Architects' Journal Library of Information Sheets 31. Editor: Cotterell Butler. A.R.I.B.A.

24.JI



#### 24.J1 CHALLENGE STANDARD LANTERN LIGHTS

This Sheet describes Challenge standard lantern lights. The construction shown is applicable to all types of lantern light, whether standard size or purpose made. The principle of construction is the use of single sections for each member; built-up sections are avoided.

#### Construction

Ail roof glazing sections are of lead covered steel and side light sections of rolled steel. Ventilators are double weathered and hung on cup pivots.

#### Design

*Ends*: The light can be supplied with either hipped or gabled ends.

Ventilators : These may be horizontally centre hung or bottom hung.

Normal Ventilation : The number of opening lights in each long side is given in the adjoining table.

*Extra Ventilation*: All side lights in each long side are arranged to open.

#### Sizes

The table gives the standard sizes of lantern lights available, the code numbers for ordering and the number of opening side lights for normal ventilation.

Code numbers	Size overall finished curb	No. of opening side lights
SLC44	4 ft. 0 in. × 4 ft. 0 in.	1 single pane
SLC64	6 ft. 0 in. × 4 ft. 0 in.	1 single pane
SLC84	8 ft. 0 in. × 4 ft. 0 in.	1 double pane
SLC104	10 ft. 0 in. $\times$ 4 ft. 0 in.	2 double panes
SLC124	12 ft. 0 in. × 4 ft. 0 in.	2 double panes
SLC66	6 ft. 0 in. × 6 ft. 0 in.	1 single pane
SLC86	8 ft. 0 in. × 6 ft. 0 in.	I double pane
SLC106	10 ft. 0 in. × 6 ft. 0 in.	2 double panes
SLC126	12 ft. 0 in. × 6 ft. 0 in.	2 double panes
SLC88	8 ft. 0 in. × 8 ft. 0 in.	1 double pane
SLC108	10 ft. 0 in. × 8 ft. 0 in.	2 double panes
SLC128	12 ft. 0 in. × 8 ft. 0 in.	2 double panes
SLC1010	10 ft. 0 in. × 10 ft. 0 in.	2 double panes
SLC1210	12 ft. 0 in. × 10 ft. 0 in.	2 double panes
SLC1212	12 ft. 0 in. × 12 ft. 0 in.	2 double panes

Note: If extra ventilation is required the letters XV should be added to the code numbers, *e.g.*, SLCXV44.

Compiled from information supplied by :

#### The British Challenge Glazing Co.

Address : Marshgate Lane, Stratford, London, E.15. Telephone : Maryland 4161 (7 lines)

Telephone : Maryland 4161 (7 lines). Telegrams : Astragal, Phone, London.

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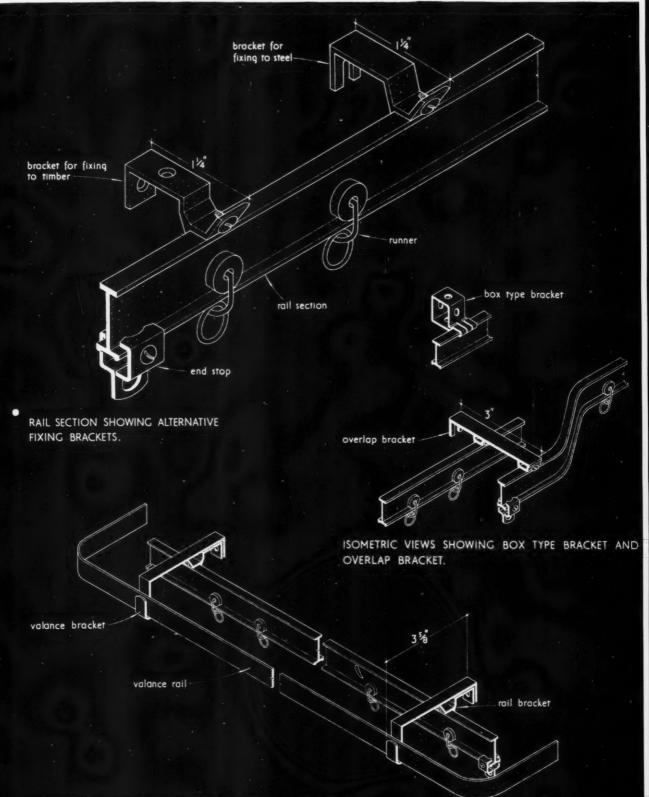




#### FITTINGS CURTAIN FITTINGS

Architects' Journa: 15.1.

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ISOMETRIC VIEW SHOWING ASSEMBLY OF RAIL, BRACKETS AND VALANCE RAIL.

44.D2

14. D2

#### 44.D2 · RUFFLETTE· B/L CURTAIN TRACK

This Sheet describes the Rufflette B L curtain track. The isometric view at the top of the face of this Sheet illustrates the main components and shows alternative types of fixing bracket for application to timber or steel window frames. The arrangement is such that the curtain rail can be taken down intact by releasing the front screws, leaving the brackets in position. The centre view gives a detail of the overlap bracket and the lower view shows an assembly complete with valance rail and brackets.

#### Applications

Timber window frames.: The B/L type brackets are drilled to suit either top or face fixing. They should be screwed in position before the rail is fitted.

The box type brackets permit the fitting up of the rail as a complete assembly. They are slipped on to the rail before fixing.

Steel window frames: The brackets are slotted to slip over the heads of screws fixed into the tapped holes provided in standard steel windows. They should be screwed in position before the rail is fitted.

#### **Runners and End Stops**

The number of curtain runners should be three to every foot and end stops should be fitted to each track length.

#### Specification : Material and Finishes

The track and fittings are corrosion resisting and are available in the following materials and finishes. *Curtain track* : Solid brass, folded steel or aluminium alloy; brass, satin nickel and florentine bronze finish. *Runners* : Brass nickel plated.

*End stops* : Pressed steel, brassed or zinc plated. *Brackets* : Solid brass, or brassed steel. *Valance rail* : Solid brass, steel or aluminium.

#### **Trade Name**

These products are manufactured under the trade name  $\cdot$  Rufflette  $\cdot$  Brand.

Compiled from information supplied by :

Thomas French & Sons, Ltd.

<b>Telephone</b> :	Chester Road, Manchester, 15. Blackfriars 1887 (10 lines). Rufflette Manchester.
	152-162, Oxford Street, W.1. Museum 5558-9

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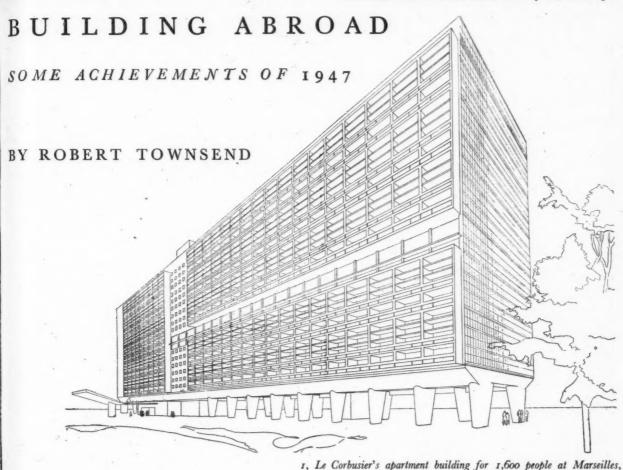
Copyright Reserved. The Architects' Journal Library of Information Sheets. Editor: Cotterell Butler, A.R.I.B.A. IN conf 85 6 a s butt cent such rebu Con at have som Son alre Th opp Brit hop pag sele var 10 trat pha son of COL day suc Un

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IN the British Isles building work during the last two years has been confined to housing schemes, classified as "traditional" and "pre-fab," with a sprinkling of austerity bread-andbutter buildings, schools, training centres and school dining-rooms, with such isolated examples of jam as the rebuilding of the bombed House of Commons and some nice stone walls at Buckingham Palace. Architects have, none the less, allowed themselves some fantasy (aided by their clients). Some of the results have been discussed already in the pages of this issue.

That architects in other countries have opportunities at present denied to Britain will, it is believed, stimulate hope, not excite envy, so on these pages are illustrated a characteristic selection of the buildings achieved in various countries during the past year or so. They have been chosen to illustrate some of the more significant phases of architectural development in some half-dozen or so countries; few of them are of types of buildings that could be contemplated in England today. It may even be argued that some, such as the large private houses in the United States, are socially undesirable to-day. But the architectural qualities they possess need not be confined to

such luxurious types. Le Corbusier himself has constantly used the slogan "une maison—un palais" to indicate his attitude, and Frank Lloyd Wright makes the same point in his phrase, "in architecture there are no trivial circumstances." The focal point of architectural discussion over the whole world is perhaps the question of quality, and these examples are chosen to illustrate architectural quality as manifested in buildings for widely differing purposes.

Ever since he wrote Vers une Architecture, Le Corbusier has ceaselessly urged that the only rational form for workers' housing is vast blocks of flats, making use of every technical achievement for the comfort of the inhabitants. Denied the possibility of building such a housing unit, Le Corbusier has hitherto concentrated on refining theoretical projects; now, at last, a contract for the erection of une unite l'habitation by Le Corbusier, I, has been approved by the French Government and construction has started. When this great building has been completed there will be an opportunity to see how well-founded are the ideas for which it will form a manifesto. In this building Le Corbusier has applied his "Modulor" scale,

based on the golden section, in every detail. The building will house 1,600 people and provide them also with restaurant, shops, library, club, and other "home extensions."

now under construction. Its proportions are dictated by Le Corbusier's "Modulor" system; he regards it as the culmination of his life's work.

> While the building at Marseilles will make use of modern technique to achieve a high standard of comfort with "super density," Richard Neutra's house for Mr. Kaufmann in the Colorado desert, 2, has made use of similar technique to make life supportable for a wealthy client in an unfavourable climate. The architect has used forms and textures contrasting strongly with the desert and its vegetation. In his winter quarters known as Taliesin West, in the Arizona desert, 4, Frank Lloyd Wright has also used materials native to the area, and has combined them to make a dwelling and working place that is indigenous and yet could have been built in no period but our own. This building houses all the activities of the Taliesin Fellowship, consisting of Wright and his thirty-odd apprentices, during several months of the year.

> The Geller House, **3**, designed by Marcel Breuer, once more makes use of natural materials, timber and field stone, but in a highly sophisticated manner. While Wright puts his materials to-

> > E



2, House by Richard Neutra in the Colorado Desert ; the southeast view showing the use of desert plants as garden decoration.

gether in such a way that they almost appear to have grown so, the effect of Breuer's work is one of carefully studied effects. The sprawling plan satisfies the requirements of the client who wished his children to have their own independent quarters. The guest rooms detached from the main house is a familiar arrangement in the United States.

While the Wright influence is everywhere apparent in US domestic architecture, eclecticism reigns in most other types of building. The influence of eminent architects seeking refuge from persecution in Europe has, however, begun its leavening work, and in this the buildings for the Chicago Institute of Technology, 5, by Mies van der Rohe, will play their part. Here everything is in contrast to the work of the organic school. The utmost severity in treatment, no warmth, no movement, no richness, but a bare intellectual refinement studied with minuteness and precision. The very simplicity is apt to give a false idea of the scale of these buildings. The occupants may well feel humbled and subdued in such an atmosphere, where almost every human element has been eliminated.

Nowhere in the world has architectural activity been so vigorous during the last few years as in Brazil. Numbers of important public and private buildings are completed every year. Here the influence of Le Corbusier is paramount, and his oft-expressed basic principles of contemporary architecture are all to be seen. From the welter of new buildings, two small ones have been chosen; first, a holiday house for the employees of the King Insurance Company of Brazil, 6, designed by the Roberto brothers and entirely characteristic of contemporary Brazilian work, for all the features are there: pilotis," sunbreakers, glass walls, and two characteristic Brazilian features. coloured ceramic tiles or azuleijos and gardens designed by Roberto Burle Marx. The hostel, which is 40 minutes away from Rio, is designed to accommodate the employees and their families during their 20 days' holiday. The families visit in rotation, no charge is made, and there are also arrangements for week-end visitors.

In contrast to the work of Mies van der Rohe, the Brazilian architects are not afraid of curvès, as is shown by the well-known buildings designed by Oscar Niemeyer at Pampulha. This little pump-house at Araxa, 7, designed by Francisco Bolonha, shows an equally bold use of curves. The building houses pumps for raising the medicinal water from the sulphur mud and salt ponds which surround the pump house. Again the characteristic *azuleijos* have been used as a wallsurfacing material; they were designed for this building by the ubiquitous Burle Marx, who again laid out the garden. 3, Ho US view pla onl lan

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While Brazilian architects have outdistanced the rest of the world in the enthusiasm with which they have learnt the lesson of *l'esprit nouveau*, in Scandinavia, whither so many architects began turning in the 'twenties, a change is coming on the architectural scene. Sven Markelius, whose concert hall at Helsingborg is justly famous, has in the house which he built for himself at Kevinge, near Stockholm, **6**, proclaimed himself an adherent of the "new empiricism." Of this development, another of its adherents, Sven Backström, says, "Today we have reached the point where all the elusive psychological factors have again begun to engage our attention. Man and his 3, Marcel Breuer's Geller House, Long Island, USA; the south-west view showing the informal planning on one floor only and the naturalistic Indecedung landscaping.

4, Taliesin West, by Frank Lloyd Wright, the desert home of Wright's Taliesin fellowship, largely built as well as designed by his own othermises apprentices.

southration.





habits, reactions and needs are the focus of interest as never before. To interpret such a programme as a reaction and a return to something that is past and to pastiches is definitely to misunderstand the development of architecture in this country." This house of Markelius' is built in prefabricated units and is planned with a nice regard for the functional requirements of the programme.

The Hotel and Town Hall at Karlskoga, 9, by Sune Lindström, is another example of the same tendency.



5, One of the finished blocks designed by Mies van der Rohe for the Illinois Institute of Technology at Chicago. The complete scheme will consist of nineteen buildings.

6, Holiday hostel on the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, designed by Marcelo, Milton and Mauricio Roberto.

The Swedes have developed the idea of running a hotel as a municipal enterprise, and in this example the hotel and the town hall are combined in one building, making civic entertaining a simple matter and giving council employees a chance to take their morning coffee unobserved. The building has a rectangular internal courtyard. The longer walls are faced with wood shingles, while the shorter walls are rendered; altogether a simple, unostentatious, homely building.

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Far from homely is the Town Hall at Sollerod, in Denmark, 10, the work of Arne Jacobsen and Flemming Lassen. A competition was held for this building in 1939, and it may be that the newest ideas had not reached Denmark at that time. The town hall building is to form part of a larger group to include a library and a cinema. The stark bleakness of the elevation is not much relieved by the wall covering, which is of a greenywhite Norwegian marble. The tilting back of the top of the walls to form a sort of marble covered cornice in reverse gives a curiously truncated effect to the building. The completion



of the group and the addition of planting and garden lay-out may eventually humanise the whole scheme.

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Surrounded by warring nations, Switzerland none the less avoided occupation by one or other of the belligerents, and building work, though slowed down, was carried on. The Burgerspital at Basle, II, is the largest and most important hospital building to have been built for some time. It is questionable, however, whether it may not also be one of the last to be built to such dimensions. While it is admitted that the comfort and convenience of doctors, nurses, administration and students has important repercussions on the comfort of the patients, on the whole the tendency in the past has been to design hospitals from the administrative, technical point of view and only indirectly and in detail from the patients' point of view. There are indications that the giant hospital is on



7, Another example of the imaginative, curvilinear style of modern architecture that is being evolved in Brazil; the pump-house at Araxa, by Francisco Bolonha.

8, Sven Markelius's own house near Stockholm; it illustrates the deceptively informal style, now coming to the front in Sweden.



the way out, and certainly, if recent developments in Sweden are extended, there will be no more big hospitals, where patients may feel themselves imprisoned in a vast institution. None the less, the Burgerspital, designed by Bauer, Brauning, Leu, During and Vischer, has many of the qualities that have made Swiss architecture known throughout the world. Straight-forward and clear in design, the technical aspects are most thoroughly studied and the quality of the workmanship excellent.

In contrast to Switzerland, the eastern European countries-Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Rumania and Yugoslavia-were all occupied and pillaged during the war. With their towns and economies in ruins, they have started to build again, but no longer on the haphazard plan of individual private interest, for the survival of the nation demanded a more comprehensive approach. There is everywhere, if returned travellers are to be believed, tremendous constructive work going on. The framework for future cities, towns and villages is being laid. Construction, however, is limited as yet to the provision of the most urgently needed accommodation, though more ambitious projects are many. The scheme for a hostel at Horni - Litvinov, in Czechoslovakia, 12, must symbolise them all. The mark of the Pensions Building at Prague is upon this great block, designed to house factory workers. So far the new humanism has not seriously modified the familiar approach.



9, above, the town hall, and municipal hotel, at Karlskoga, Sweden, by Sune Lindström. It exemplifies the more formal style of Swedish work.

10, Denmark's version of the modern Scandinavian style : the town hall at Sollerod, by Arne Jacobsen and Flemming Lassen.

11, The enormous facade of the Burgerspital at Basle, Switzerland, by Baver, Brauning, Leu, During and Vischer.

12, The still uncompleted project for a factory workers' hostel at Horni-Litvinov. Czechoslovakia, by V. Hilsky and E. Linhart.



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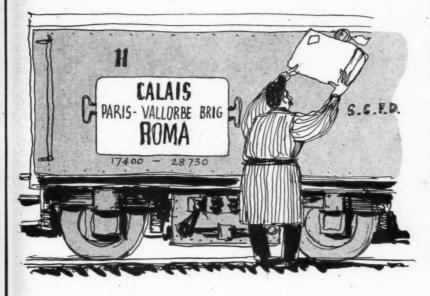
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# ITALY REVISITED



## WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY HUGH CASSON

A BOVE the patched ruins of Calais Maritime a loudspeaker cleared its throat. "Passengers are invited," it brayed "to take advantage of the gangways." Eagerly we all obeyed. The Canterbury was almost the last liberty boat ashore before England battened everyone below decks for the winter, and the sense of halfguilty release was almost palpable. The boat-train crept through the fallen masonry of the town and was soon rocking frenziedly across the Pas de Calais.

I

At the Gare de Lyons three coachloads of pilgrims waited at the head of the Rome express. Through the steamed-up windows their faces peered as benignly as the headlamps of buses in a fog. At Dijon a thin drizzle was falling, and, to the accompaniment of faint horns from the shunting yard, a black-clad family bade tearful farewells in a haze of "pinard." At Vallorbe the pilgrims, unshaven now and less benign, were disconnected and whisked importantly away, their lapel buttons glittering triumphantly. Two hours later we followed them down the valley to Lausanne. Under grey skies Switzerland presented its familiar trimmed and shaven face, stretching away into the mists as tidily as an expensive golf course specially maintained for indefatigable Anglo-Saxon feet.

Over the lake the clouds lifted a little and new scenery was shifted in. By Brig the transformation scene was fully set and lighted. The canvas crags beetled, the torrents fell, the cowbells called. High among the pasteboard pines a few tiny chalets nestled. They looked sweet and innocent enough, but Ruskin has told us otherwise. "Here." he wrote of them, " is torpor and the darkness of calm enduring . . . neither hope nor passion of spirit, neither advance nor exultation. Black bread, rude roof, dark night, laborious day, weary arm at sunset, and life ebbs away." Miserably we averted our eyes. Perhaps they've got electric light by now, we said, or even radios.

Two changes and then, lashed to the tail of an electric "rapido," we hurtled through the inter-war conference belt. At Stresa we saw again for a second our pilgrims on a terrace. They were clasping picnic bags and gazing at the glassless roof of Milan Station. After the blue skies and sunshine we had left in England, every drop seemed to glitter with particular spite. Between trains there was time to see in the cathedral a priest in a confessional making notes with a Biro and to gape at the new hotel under construction in the cathedral square. It will be airconditioned, they said, and apparently without windows.

Next morning we watched the dull Lombardy plain, pricked with pylons and poplars, rocking past our windows at 80 m.p.h. After Bologna progress was slower, the signs of wardamage more frequent. Burnt-out rolling stock rusted by the line, every bridge was being rebuilt, and once in a copse glinted the ivy-covered skeleton of a bomber. Down the last bit of valley into the Florentine plain the scenery changed. In the pale, watery sun it looked like a golden valley above Stroud. There were the same woollen mills cramped within the steep hillsides, the same stone villages stuck like patterned wallpaper above the curving river bank. Soon the well-known silhouette of Brunelleschi's cathedral could be seen, competing for the place on the skyline-like most of the world's great monuments to-day—with gas-holders and chimney stacks. The sun had strengthened. In the suburban streets beside the line shutters were closed against the midday glare, and they were selling olives, figs and lemons on the station platform.

### FLORENCE

The Uffizzi closed; the Michael Angelo library locked; windows in the Duomo still blacked out; scaffolding in the Pazzi chapel and the Baptistery —but still, as always, too much to see. Acres of frescoes, miles of inlaid pavement stretched before the glazing eye and failing foot. At first it seemed that a city so rich in masterpieces could be no more enlivening than a high-class Italian cemetery, with every monument decked with photographs and labelled



The Pitti Palace



Behind the Duomo, Florence

with a concise description of the deceased.

But Florence is no place of the dead. It is rather a place of concourse and conversation, of ceaseless business in the street and pleasant promenade. Here is urban life at its best, city culture at its height, with all its formalised routines and emancipated elegance. Wheeled traffic exists, but is properly treated as a convenience and not as a tyrant permitted to disrupt the city's fabric. All day-and for most of the night, too-life rattles through the narrow stone-paved streets like a noisy mountain stream, and even the spirited clamour of horns and tram bells is submerged below the perpetual thunder of Florentine conversation. In the evening the pace quickens. In front of the café tables the parade marches and counter-marches as at the hand of some de Mille, the smart young men suèdeshod and corduroy-coated, the girls dark - spectacled and scarlet - taloned. Children hop and chatter like sparrows round the G.I.s in their ritzed-up jeeps. Outside the restaurants squat the flash American cars—" looking like whales with their toe-nails painted "—each with its knot of admirers. "Molto

elegante," they murmur, as they enviously inspect the precision-built "Free - Styling," the black - lighted "Flite-Glo" dials, the wrinkle-resistant "Robo-Top," the "Prest-O-justment" front seats. A policeman with cheekbones of Gielgud sensitivity presides gracefully over the scene, and above him tower the buildings of Florence, "frowning," as Adrian Stokes has said, "not with hostility but with a haughty doubt."

The days slipped by, each with its complement of places to see: the dullish cathedral; Giotto's top-heavy campanile, which Charles V said should be covered by a glass case (this backhanded compliment has been also applied to the Albert Memorial); St. Maria Novella, with its hard-boiledegg-green frescoes (reached through turnstiles made in Southwark); Michael Angelo's Medici tombs, smaller in scale than imagined; Della Robbia plaques [Pater's "fragments of the milky sky "]-the layer-cake palaces of Alberti and Michelozzi; the magnifi-cently arranged museum of the Bargello; the Pitti Palace-" brother heart to the mountain from which it is rent "; the Ponte Vecchio. whose bomb-

damaged approaches are now being rebuilt; the English cemetery where lie Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Mrs. Holman Hunt and Walter Savage Landor, who lived and died in Italy but hated Italians ("I would rather follow my daughter to her grave," he said, " than to her wedding to an Italian suitor "); everywhere dominant the bubbling genius of Brunelleschi, who did more for Florence even than Giotto, Raphael, or Donatello—or even than Michael Angelo himself.

How fortunate that Brunelleschi was placed second to Ghiberti in the famous competition of 1399 for the Baptistery door and that his disappointed ambitions drove him to seek supremacy instead in the field of architecture. As for the famous doors, upon which the winner spent a lifetime, assisted by Della Robbia, Donatello, Masaccio, Polliaulo and Ucello-what a team of glittering pioneers!-they were removed for safety during the war and have not yet been rehung. By chance it was discovered during the move that they were not bronze but gold plated, and the museum authorities are busy restoring them to their former and unsuspected glory.

We applied to the Director of Antiquities for permission to see these doors. In his office, bells rang and telephones shrilled endlessly. Messengers ran in and out. It seemed more like the nerve-centre of an oilcombine than one of those cells congested with thought in which our museum officials at home seal themselves up so firmly. Armed with passes, we were admitted to the workshop. It was a confused and exciting spectacle. Drawings and plaster casts lay about. A workman was repairing a bronze altar front, another was busy with a section of coloured marble pavement, a third was mending a wood crucifix. It was like one of the gold-smiths' "botteghe" in which so many of the great Florentine artists were trained. In the centre, supported upon scaffolding and surrounded by basins of chemicals, stood the doors. Two of



The museum workshop, Florence







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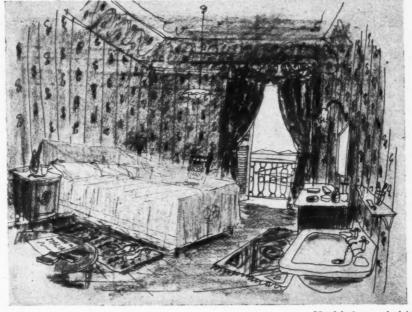




them were still untreated, the newly revealed gilt of the two others glittered beneath the skylight. Michael Angelo once said these doors were beautiful enough to be the Gates of Paradise, but purists have since complained that Ghiberti stretched the bounds of plastic art too far, and that modelling so fluent, tender and ingratiating is out of character with the material of which it is wrought. Now that this material is known to be not stern bronze but gold, these critics are confounded, and when the doors are rehung it seems likely that the daily crowd of sightseers will rival those which used to collect in 1425 when the first pair were unveiled.

### ASSISI

Here, surely, is the ultimate in picture postcard picturesque. You can almost hear Clovelly and Les Baux, Rothenburg and Monemvasia grinding their cobblestones in envy at so pre-eminent a rival. To walk around this village, which clings like a bleached and crumpled cloth to the slopes of Mount Subasio, is to pass as through a series of gilt frames into the water-colours of your grandmother's drawing - room. Bougainvillea - draped fountains and white oxen, petunias, and staircases which twist up between walls so patched and cobbled that scarcely a stone remains of the original fabric,



Hotel bedroom, Assisi

build up with practised ease into compositions so banal that sketchbook and camera alike are hopelessly defeated. Nevertheless, there is more in Assisi than a packet of postcards. The Giotto frescoes in S. Francesco may have to compete bravely with a hampink floor and an overpoweringly decorated roof, but they survive triumphantly, and the sculpture on the façade of San Rufino is surely matchless.



St. Peter's from the Vatican Terrace



Villa Medici, Rome

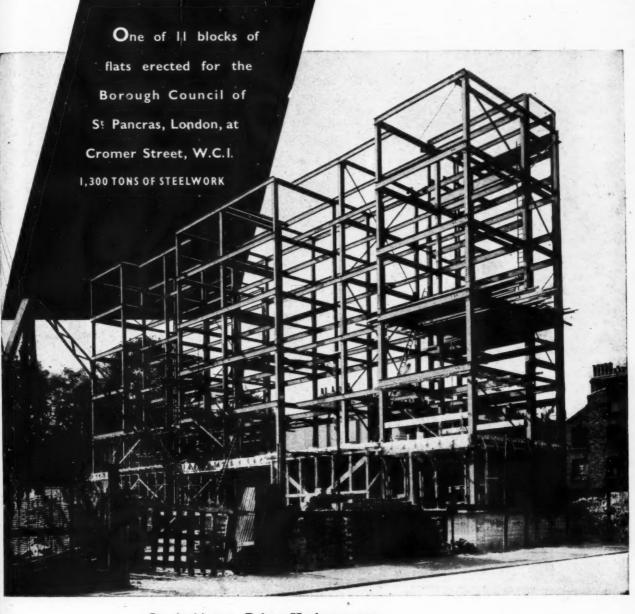
### ROME

The road to Rome from the north crosses a landscape very like the Transvaal. There is the same palecoloured, gently-rolling veldt dotted with scrub and pylons, the same cloud shadows spreading like stains across a cloth, the same diamond brilliance of light. Only the miniature towns crouched like little sun-struck sandy cats on every hilltop, their watchtowers and campaniles pricked and sleepily alert, reminded us we were in Italyand, of course, the universal cypress. An unsatisfactory tree this, weak and over-simplified in silhouette, like a cheap wallpaper frieze, its foolish shape suited to more trivial emotions than the traditional ones of grief and melan-choly. The outskirts of Rome itself choly. might be those of any modern city. Filling stations and tramlines, hoardings and isolated blocks of tenements, factories, cemeteries, and vacant lots thicken and eventually coalesce into a street. The bus, its horn wedged down with a dead match, blared through the Borghese garden and pulled up in a cloud of spray blown from the fountains at the foot of the Via Nazionale.

Of Rome's monuments it is hardly possible to write. Saint and scholar, prince and historian, artist and poet, all have done their best, and Rome, "city of smells and bells, urinals and quirinals," must be the most described city in Europe. On the whole, the combined picture from expert and amateur is not inaccurate. To us the Colosseum was as large, the Farnese as cliff-like, the Sistine ceilings as miraculous, the Baroque churches as exhausting, the ruined forums as untidy and unimpressive (even to a Sharrawag), the women as elegant as we had been told. We had two reservations: first, the Early Christian basilica churches, with their cool ranks of columns, seemed to have received less attention than their due; and, secondly, the inside of St. Peter's was, at first sight, something of an anti-climax. Anderson has described this disappointment. "There is built up in the mind's eye," he writes, "a vague outline, dim and grey and huge, stretching into an interminable perspective, and overarched by a dome like the cloudy firmament. Some of this effect is produced by St. Paul's in London but when you push aside the heavy mattress at the door of St. Peter's there is little or none of this feeling, and the first impression is of cheerfulness and colour . . . and that the building is not so vast as had been expected." The so vast as had been expected. truth is that its vastness is camouflaged by the size of the units of base, column and cornice, which are inflated here to unprecedented dimensions. (Outside, the capitals are 10 feet deep and the statutes on the parapet 19 feet high.) The eye cannot at first appreciate such distortion of human scale, and it is



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A tightrope walker prepares his apparatus for an evening performance above the ruins of Tivoli

only after looking many times that

reality begins to catch up with

The Florentine routine of sightseeing, strolling, shopping and café idling was quickly resumed. The guide, speaking successively in four languages, which

all sounded alike, hustled us along

without mercy. He showed us the vacant balcony-so familiar in pre-

war newsreels-of the Palazzo Venezia

stone-jewelled doorway

imagination.

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In the baths of Caracalla a middleaged Middle Western voice broke into the harangue. "I once went round the Casino at Nice," it said. "Boy, was that luxurious!" A few visual memories remain: priests like half-folded umbrellas flapping inkily flapping inkily against the glittering stone; a baby having its nappies changed by a customer in a smart jeweller's shop, surrounded by the admiring staff; a man in basketware boots hawking an American fountain-pen; a party of nuns in a brand-new Chrysler station wagon, as triangular and aloof as chips of black and white marble in a fancy tin box; a pair of bootees hanging from a gigantic window in the Villa Medici; a tightrope walker erecting his net above the bombed ruins of Tivoli in preparation for an evening performance; a village band pomping outside the sunbaked gardens of Hadrian's villa; the bloodcurdling frescoes within the cool circumference of San Stefano Rotundo; a lonely English railway wagon on a Roman siding which bore the strange notice "Not to be worked between Baker Street and Finchley Road."

to-day and for once hurried ahead of

### **ISCHIA**

From the dust and rapacity of Naples we took a boat to Ischia, an island some miles north of Capri. (" Ah," said a local leaflet, describing Capri and Sorrento, "how suggestive is the atmosphere of these notorious rendezvous.")

Ischia, happily, is not yet as "notorious" as it should be. It still lives mainly on fishing and vineyards, and, though a few beach umbrellas sprout upon the tiny plage, the fishermen have not yet been ousted and villas do not yet outnumber cottages. But Ischia is doomed to be another Capri, and nobody, presumably, will mind less than the inhabitants. Already a



beneath. He took us to the English

cemetery and for a nine-hole round of churches. "Here," he said, pointing into the vaults of the Colosseum, "Oh-

so-very-wonderful-are the Christians' dungeons." (Or were they, as Pro-

fessor Reynaud's guide book says, the

refreshment bars, where twenty-nine

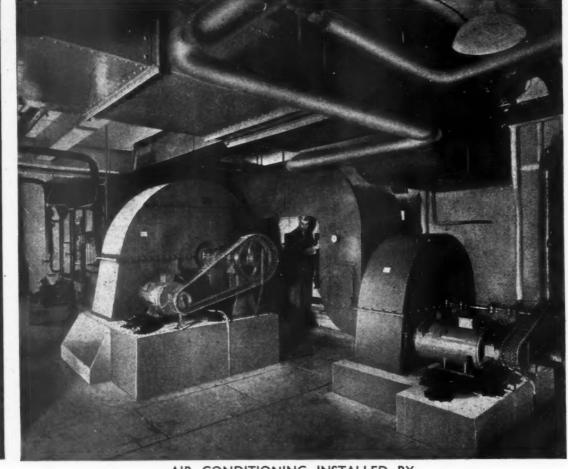
different sorts of cocktail were served during performances? Who can say?

We could only be uncomfortably cer-

tain of the use to which they were put

our guide.)

The plage at Ischia



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shop loaded with the latest antiques has been opened in the main street by an elegant woman who, on hearing they came from London, sighed "Ah, Harrods! ", and next year a new nightclub is threatened.

The days passed quickly in basking and bathing and basking again. We found here the smallest shop of our tour. It was a watchmaker's, and his frontage measured 2 ft. 3 in. wide by 5 ft. 4 in. high. We attended a film called "Orgasmo," featuring (of all people) Eugene Palette. It was all about ice-skating. We peered into the yellow hot springs on the beach, where village women lay and gossiped quietly for hours. We answered questions about Mr. Churchill—" ah l'indomibile"—who has replaced Mrs. Simpson as the most popular topic of Anglo-Mediterranean conversation. Too soon it was time to go.

On the steamer a G.I. prisoner sat with his military escort—two darkspectacled American M.P.s pumped with good food as tight and red as bicycle tyres. For two hours they sat without speaking and disembarked still in silence. On the platform at Rome the sleeping-car attendant puffed morosely at a little black cigar. (He was to accompany us to Calais and thence, without us, to Vienna.) "We are short staffed in Paris now," he said, " but, so few people are travelling, it doesn't seem to matter."

Two days later he waved sadly at us from the window of the empty wagonlit. Among the twilit ruins of Calais his brightly-lit, richly-panelled, warmlycarpeted little home — which had carried its precarious load of security across darkened Europe—looked as artificial, improbable, and fragile as Cinderella's glass coach.

# THE YEAR IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY

### BY IAN BOWEN

WHAT a year for the professional critics. Six months calling Mr. Bevan names because his programme was too small! Five months ditto because it was too large! One week's interval to vote for the even bigger programme of the "Industrial Charter"!

### THE CHANGE OF PROGRAMME

The year 1947 has made dupes of us all; of the Government, but also of the opposition, of the planners and of the planned. It has been the turning-point in the over-ambitious building programme, like the moment after the last war when the Addison programme had to be abandoned.

Worst aspect of this change from a "sky's-the-limit" target to capital cuts and retrenchment - an astonishing change in a ten months' period-is the insecurity that it inflicts on all those whose work is directly or indirectly connected with the building industry. The whole idea of a stable 10-12 years' programme, steadily building up in the first three or four years, an idea outlined in many official and unofficial pronouncements in 1945 (Coalition as well as Labour) seems in jeopardy. Yet on this idea depended the plans for their future careers made by tens of thousands of building apprentices, thousands of building materials producers, and certainly many hundreds of young architects.

EIRE

### IMPACT OF THE CUTS

For this increase of insecurity and of confusion the Government has to take the blame, since it is the ultimate planning authority. But it would be unfair not to point out that if a gamble was made and lost, it had the backing of the majority of all parties and interests. The capital cuts were forced on the country by external events. If American prices had not risen, and if a number of other unfavourable events had not taken place *externally*, the cuts would have been unnecessary. So perhaps the gamble had to be taken after all.

Planning is certainly the only basis for the change of gear. It is to be hoped that the reduction in building activity will be accomplished in as smooth a way as possible. An indiscriminate reduction in the amount of building licences would result in equally indiscriminate pockets of unemployment. The machinery of controlling building work regionally in accordance with the varying local resources is now going to be fully tested. Without any such machinery one can imagine the chaotic results of the forced closing-down of the spending programmes of Departments.

### SOME FRANK REMARKS ON PLANNERS AND ANTI-PLANNERS

The planners, as I see it, have done a moderately good job this year. But

they will need to do a much better one in the future; 1948 is probably the last twelve months' opportunity that they will have. If the goods are not delivered in 1949 and 1950, they will not have their subscriptions renewed. This being so, they must —both the back-room boys and the Ministers—speak more clearly and more openly on the programme. They must make the programme and the implied targets a reality; they are planners, and they must *plan*.

For instance, there ought to be a planning-room for building materials, so that the different industries could show and be shown their targets and achievements. There must not be a repetition of the failure to phase materials and building labour. There must not be a repetition of the over-licensing of small works, and indeed of small builders.

Then the anti-planners; let us be frank about them, too. They do not want houses to be produced in quantity, so as to make property too cheap. They do not want (most of them having comfortable incomes) to endure any "hardships," such as the reduction of their full coal allocation, or of their basic petrol rations, merely to provide the homeless thousands with an adequate shelter. The anti-planners and their innocent fellow-travellers (who genuinely believe in free enterprise) need to be prevented from creating industrial warfare.

And, lastly, I come to the lunatic fringe. These are the advocates of immediate and wholesale nationalisation of the building industry. Such critics of the industry overlook its many ramifications, and fail to appreciate the many simpler alternative methods of attaining their objectives. They may even stand in the way of the *partial* nationalisation of sections of the industry. But that must be a story for 1948.

### LOOKING FORWARD

The year 1947 has not been without considerable achievement. The amount of housing and factory building work then done has been remarkable, and may appear even more so in retrospect. In these articles on the programme it has been necessary to point out the failures as well as the successes; indeed, their main purpose must be to comment, to criticise and even to irritate rather than to instruct or to inspire. Even in remarking on the notable advance in building science that has taken place it has been difficult to avoid a censorious remark here and there, But, seen from the more distant viewpoint of Hull, I cannot help observing incontrovertible progress in the industry and in administration. I honestly believe that productivity and efficiency will show a notable rise, provided that the industry and the authorities stick to their proper jobs.

The form printed below is to assist readers requiring up-to-date information on building products and services. Complete and post it to The Architects' Journal, 9,11 and 13, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.I, and the advertisers listed will be asked to supply information direct.

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### Announcements

Consequent on the retirement, as from March 31 next of Mr. Ernest Jones from active management of the Standard Range and Foundry Co. Ltd., Builders' Merchants, Watford, Mr. George W. Sayell was appointed to the Board of Directors on January 1, and from April onwards will serve also in the capacity of Manager. Mr. Jones will continue as a Director in an advisory capacity.

The TenTest Fibre Board Co., Ltd., announce that arrangements have been made for Broderick Insulated Copper Roofing to be produced and erected by a separate company now in course of formation, to be known as Broderick Insulated Structures, Ltd. Mr. A. H. T. Broderick will be the Managing Director. All contracts and inquiries for Broderick Insulated Copper Roofing will be automatically transferred to the new company, which is also taking over the complete design and erection organisation. There will therefore be no break in the continuity of service. Pending completion of the registration of the new company, Mr. A. H. T. Broderick will be handling the insulated copper roofing business personally, and all communications and inquiries should be addressed to him at 41, Mount Hermon Road, Woking, Surrey (telephone No. Woking 1999). Mr. Broderick will still be connected with the TenTest Company in a consultative capacity.

Mr. Robert F. Wilson, Art Director of the British Colour Council, has just completed a tour of Canada and America.

A general meeting of members of the Institute of Registered Architects was held in Birmingham, and a Midlands Section of the Institute was formed. The area covered by the Midlands Section is approximately the territory bounded by, and including the towns of:—Stamford, Grantham, Nottingham, Derby, Oswestry, Welshpool, Hereford, Tewkesbury, Banbury, and Northampton.

Mr. Arthur Owen Carter, Director of Carter and Co., Ltd., Poole, Tile Manufacturers, and Managing Director of Carter and Co. (London) Ltd., asks us to announce that as from December 31 he has retired from all active connection with these companies.

The Wimbledon School of Art would be glad to receive any trade literature, information sheets, samples, catalogues, etc., at their Architectural Department, Merton Hall Road, S.W.19.

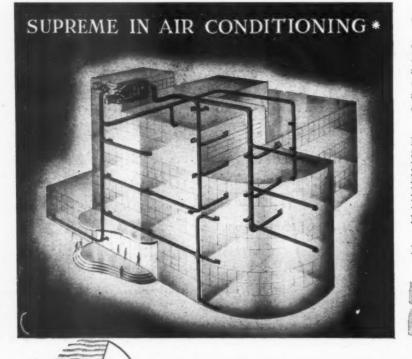
A Building Industries' Luncheon Club has been formed by a group of members of the Building Industry. It meets six times a year and there is an annual subscription of five guineas. Details may be obtained from the Honorary Organising Secretary, Mrs. M. Pleydell-Bouverie, 4, Manchester Square, London, W.1.

The Secretary of the Bartlett Society, Bartlett School of Architecture, University College, London, W.1, will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, etc., for the Library.

Library. Mr. E. A. Langham has relinquished his appointment as Sales Manager for the British Aluminium Co., Ltd., to take up a new appointment as General Manager in India.

India. Mr. William Wood, General Manager of Thos. W. Ward (Coal) Longbottom, Lid., Harvest Lane, Sheffield, has been appointed Assistant Managing Director. Mr. H. M. Moffat, General Sales Manager of Messrs. Vulcan Products Ltd., has now returned to this country after spending

Mr. H. M. Moffat, General Sales Manager of Messrs. Vulcan Products Ltd., has now returned to this country after spending nearly a year, on behalf of his company, in the African continent and the Far East.

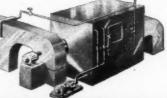


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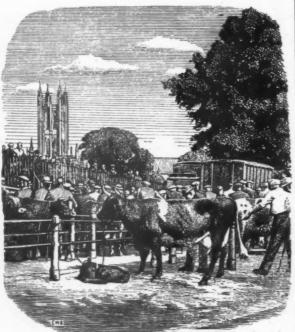
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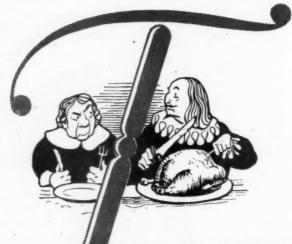
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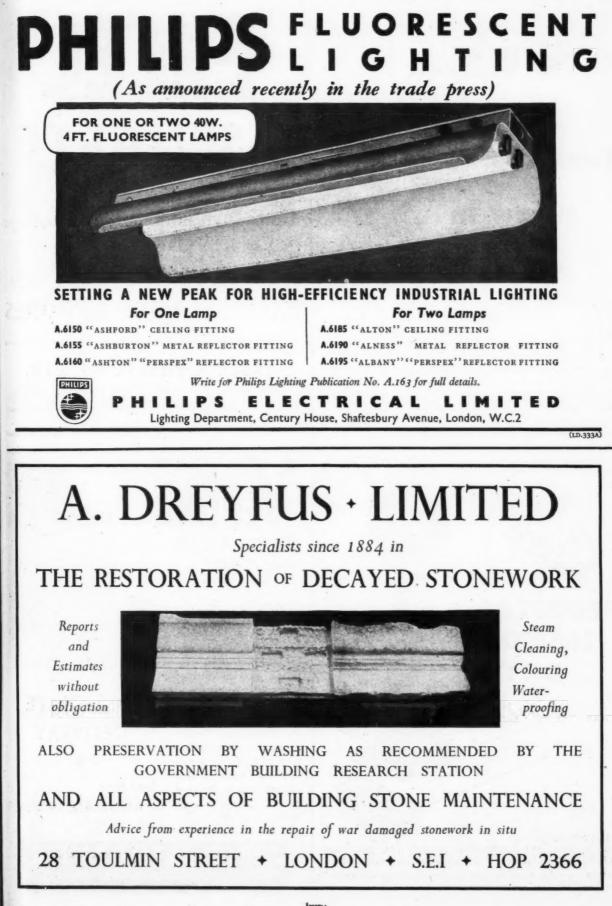
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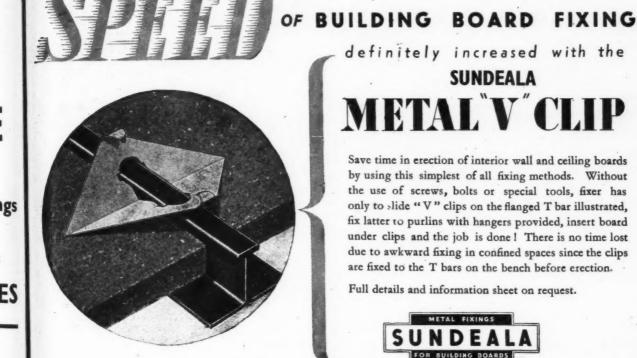


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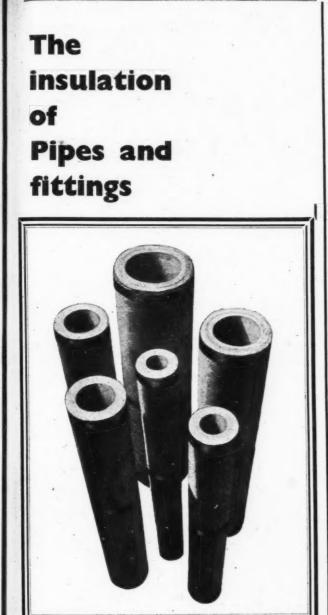
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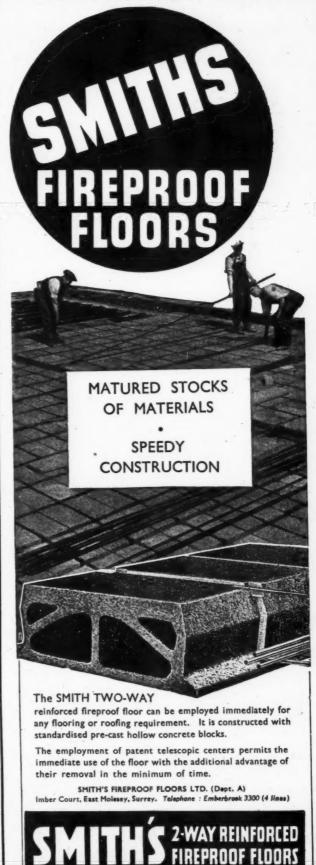
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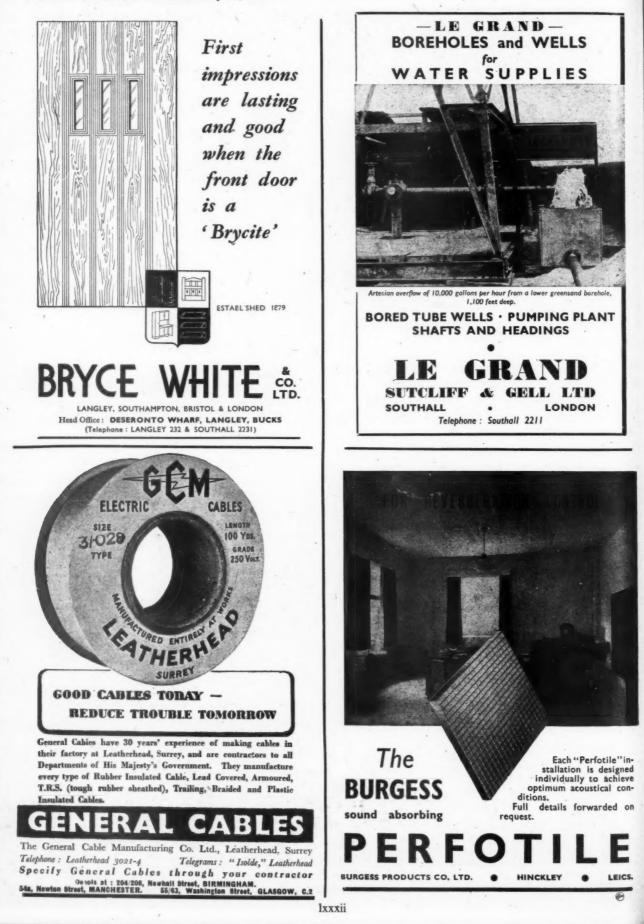
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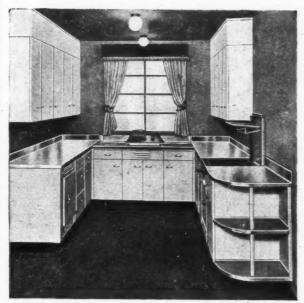
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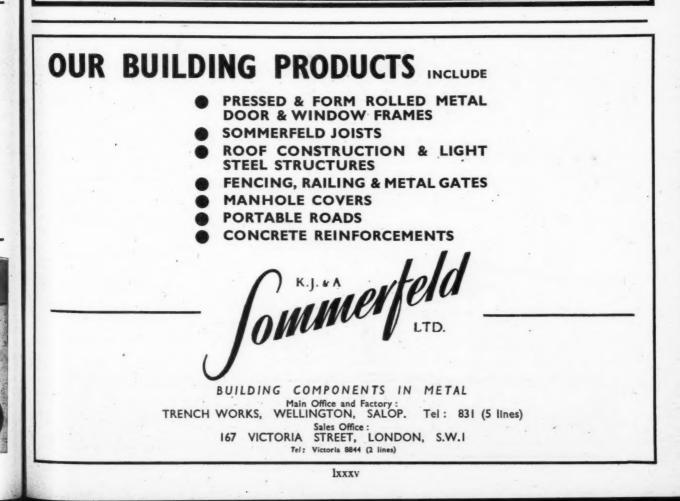


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V (2460-2510).
(b) ASSISTANT ARCHITECT. A.P.T., Grade III (2390-2435).
(c) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. A.P.T., Grade I (2530-2375).
Plus bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum. The appointments are subject to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, terminable by one month's written notice on either side, and subject also to the successful candidates passing squisfactorily a medical examination. Applicants should not be over 40 years of age (except in the case of applicants who are serving or have served in the Forces).
Candidates for (a) should be Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and thoroughly experienced in the design and layout of. and preparation of working drawings for. Municipal Housing.
Candidates for (b) should preferably be Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and have had good general Archi-tural experience and be capable of preparing working drawings of Municipal Housing.
Candidates for (c) should have had a good training in Architecture, and preference will be given to those who have passed the Intermediate examination of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Architects. Application forms, which can be obtained from the undersigned, should be returned complete on or before 30th Janaary, 1948. ANDREW RANKINE, A.R.I.B.A.. City Architect. 713

Guildhall, Kingston-upon-Hull.

GUIIGNAII. KINGSTON-UPON-HUIL. 713 BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD. ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPART-MENT. Applications are invited for the following per-manent appointments within the scale stated, plus cost-of-living bonus. at present £59 16s. (a) QUANTITY SURVEYOR, Grade V. Salary

(a) QUANTITY SURVEYOR, Graue v. Salas, 2460-2510. (b) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Grade IV (special maximum £480). Salary £420-£480. Applicants must have the recognised qualifica-tions and experience for the various appointments, which are subject to the provisions and condi-tions of service of the National Joint Council for Local Authorities'. Administrative, Pro-fessional, Technical and Clerical Services, and will be terminable by one month's notice on either side.

Applications, stating age, qualifications, present and previous appointments and general experi-ence, together with copies of three recent testi-monials, should be forwarded to reach the under-signed by not later than Tuesday. 27th January. 1948. Canvassing in any form will discualify. VINCENT J. WILLIS, M.I.Mun.E., Borough Engineer, Surveyor, and Architect. Th January, 1948. 733

Th January, 1945. 733 Th January, 1945. 733 CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES. Applications from qualified candidates are invited for the following post — ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required by Government of Northern Rhodesia. Public Works Denartment. for two tours each, 2-3 years in first instance. Commencing salary according to ex-perience. In scale 2500-2600 a year, plus cost-of-living allowance of up to f168. Gratuity £15-250 for each three months' service. Free passages and quarters. Candidates should have had experience in the general work of an architect's office. Including drawing and site surveying. Apply at once by letter, stating age, whether married or single, and full particulars of qualifications and experience. and mentioning this paper, to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4. Willbank. London, S.W.1, quoting M/N/17578 on both letter and envelope. 724

(1) ASSISTANT PLANNING OFFICER (1) ASSISTANT PLANNING OFFICER (2) SENIOR DIVISIONAL PLANNING OFFICERS, within the salary range £900-£1,000 a year. (3) SENIOR PLANNING

ASSISTANTS : (3) SENIOE PLANNING ASSISTANTS: £700-£800; £625-£700, and £535-£600 a year. (4) PLANNING ASSISTANTS: £420-£465 a

(3) SENIOR PLANNING ASSISTANTS: (4) PLANNING ASSISTANTS: £420-£465 a (4) PLANNING ASSISTANTS: £420-£465 a (4) PLANNING ASSISTANTS: £420-£465 a (5) CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: (6) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: £420- (7) DRAUGHTSMEN or DRAUGHTS- WOMEN: £255-£300 a year. All appointments will be subject to the terms and conditions of service of the National Joint Council, the appropriate cost-of-living bonus (£60 male, £48 female) being payable in addition to the salaries mentioned above; and to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. Persons appointed to the posts numbered 2 above will be outstationed in the vicinity of the following towns: -Blackburn, Bury, Liverpool, Manchester, Preston and Wigan. Some of the persons appointments will be to Headquarters of the County Planning Officer's staff at Preston. Candidates for positions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should preferably possess one or more of the following qualifications: - University Degree in Civil Engin- ering or Architecture, A.M.T.P.I. AM I.C.E. AR.I.B.A. M.M.Mun.E., P.A.S.I. For the appointment numbered 1 and one of the 'Senior Planning Asistari's posts (270-0.2000) preference wild be iven to condidates who possess an archi- tectury Qualification. In addition they must as bould have a thorough knowledge of the oppintment numbered 1 and one of the 'Senior Planning Kannot, Planning Chemes, and administration of planning schemes, andidates should state whether they wila to application

Clerk of the County Council. County Offices, Preston. TIS BOROUGH OF MALDEN AND COOMBE. BOROUGH ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT. APPOINTMENT OF TWO ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS (GRADE I AND GRADE I). Applications are invited for the above-men-tioned appointments, at salaries of £250×£15-£395 and £380×£15-£425 respectively, plus in each case cost-of-iving bonus, at present £59 163. Applicants should have had good general experi-ence, be good draughtsmen, and be engaged upon a course of training leading to a recognised archi-tectural qualification, and in the case of the Grade II appointment preference will be given to candidates who have passed the R.I.B.A. Inter-mediate examination. The appointment subject to the National Scheme of Conditions of Service. The successful candidates will be required to pass a medical examination and to contribute under the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1977. Applications, giving details of age. experimence

1937. Applications, giving details of age, experience and present and past appointments, with designa-tions and salaries, and enclosing copies of two recent testimonials, should be addressed to reach the undersigned not later than 24th Januagy,

1948. Canvassing, directly or indirectly, will be deemed a disqualification, and candidates must disclose in their applications whether, to their knowledge, they are related to any member or senior official of the Connell. HAROLD E. BARRETT, *Town Clerk.* Municipal Offices, New Malden, Surrey. January, 1948. 716

AMBLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL. APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Applications are invited from suitably qualified applicants for the post of Architectural Assistant to the above Council, to work under the super-vision of the Council's Surveyor. for a period of at least three years, with a view to permanency. The duties will include designing and super-intending the erection of the Council's houses and ancillary works, and the salary will be according to Grade V of the National Joint Council Scale as applications, stating age and experience. Mogether with not more than three recent testi-monials, should reach the undersigned on or before 12 noon on Saturday, the 31st January, 1948. R. J. HOGG.

R. J. HOGG. Clerk to the Council. Council Chambers, Amble, Morpeth, Northumberland, 731

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF PADDINGTON. HOUSING DEPARTMENT. APPOINTMENTS OF CLEBICAL STAFF. Applications are invited for the following appointments to the permanent establishment of the Council, viz. --

Applications are invited for the following appointments to the permanent establishment of the Council viz.-(a) MALE SENIOR CLERK. This appoint-ment is in Grades I and H of the A.P.T. Division of the National Joint Council's Scheme of Con-ditions of Service, viz., 2360 per annum, rising by annual increments of £15 to £425 per annum (inclusive of London "weighting."), plus cost-of-living bonus (at present £59 16s, per annum). Candidates should be shorthand writers and have considerable experience, preferably in the office of a Manicipal architect, engineer or sur-veyor, particularly associated with extensive housing and building works under contract and by direct labour; be accustomed to the control of staff, employees' wages, and conditions of service; purchase and control of stores, tenders, contracts, and local government procedure. (b) SENIOR SHORTHAND-TYPIST (MALE OR FEMALE). This appointment is in the Clerical Division of the National Joint Council's Scheme, vis, for men £355 per annum, rising by annual increments of £15 to £390 per annum (inclusive of £12 to £304 per annum (inclusive of London "weighting"), plus cost-of-living bonus (at present £59 16s; per annum); for women £268 per annum, rising by annual increments of £15 to e-cont-of-living bonus (at present £59 ins; per annum); for women £268 per annum. (inclusive of London "weighting"), plus cost-of-living bonus (at present £69 ins; per annum); for women £268 per annum. Candidates should be competent shorthand-typists, preferably with experience in an archi-tect's or surveyor's office, and with supervisory experience over staff dealing with registration and fling; and typing of reports, specificationa, bills of quantities and accounts, including dupli-cating. The dual and and accounts including dupli-cating.

bills of quantities and accounts, including aupu-cating. Forms of application and conditions of appoint-ment can be obtained from me on receipt of a stamped, addressed, foolscap envelope. Applicants should state clearly for which appointment it is proposed to make application. Applications, accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, must be received by me not later than Saturday. 7th February, 1948. Canvassing, either directly or indirectly, will diamalify.

disqualify.

W. H. BENTLEY, Town Clerk. Town Hall, Paddington, London, W.2. 7th January, 1948. 735

The January, 1990. DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL. TECHNICAL ASSISTANT-SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT. Applications are invited for this appointment, at a salary in accordance with Grade II, A.P.T. Division, plus bonus. Duties will include :--(a) Examination of all plans submitted under Bye-laws and for Planning purposes and super-vision of the works under construction. (b) Examination of applications for Building Licences and report thereon to the Engineer and Surveyor.

Surveyor.

vor. Supervision of any building works carried direct or contract labour (other than

(c) Supervision of any building works carried out by direct or contract labour (other than housing schemes) for the Council. Preference will be given to applicants who have had considerable experience in a Municipal Engineer's office and who hold the Testamur of the Institute of Municipal Engineers or the R.I.B.A.

Engineer's office and who hold the Testamur of the Institute of Municipal Engineers or the R.I.B.A. The appointment will be subject to the Local Government Superannuation Acts, to the passing of a medical examination, and to the Conditions of the National Scheme of Conditions of Service. It will be terminable by one month's notice on either side. Applications, endorsed "Technical Assistant," staking age, experience and quali-fications, accompanied by three recent testi-monials, should be received by the undersigned not later than the 25th January, 1948. Canvasing, either directly or indirectly, will disqualify. H. D. JEFFRIES.

H. D. JEFFRIES. Clerk of the Council. 720

Pippbrook, Darking.

PONTYPRIDD URBAN Applications are invited for the appointment of SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT. at a salary of £650 per annum-the maximum of A.P.T., Grade VII. of the National Scale of Salaries-plus coat-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s, per annum. The appointment is subject to the pro-visions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, a satisfactory medical examination, and one month's notice on either side for termina-tion.

one month's notice on either side for termina-tion. Candidates must be Registered Architects and Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects, with considerable experience of Housing and Municipal Architectural Work. Form of application is obtainable from the Council's Architect. Mr. W. Ceil Evans, Muni-cipal Buildings, Pontypridd, Glam, and should be obtained by intending applicants. Applications in form required, together with copies of three recent testimonials, must be delivered, appropriately endorsed, to the under-signed, not later than Monday, the 9th day of February. 1946. Canvassing will be a disgualification, and can-didates must disclose any relationship to members of the Council. H. LEONARD PORCHER.

H. LEONARD PORCHER, Clerk of the Council. January, 1948.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF PADDINGTON. HOUSING DEPARTMENT. Applications are invited for the following poontments to the permanent establishment of a Council, viz.:appoin the Co

(a) BUILDING SURVEYOR. This appointments is appointment in Grade V of the A.P.T. Division of the National Joint Council's Scheme of Conditions of Service, vis., 2480 per annum, rising by two annual increments of £15 and one of £20 to a maximum salary of £550 per annum (inclusive of London "weighting"), plus cost-of-living bonus (at present £59 16e, per annum). The commencing salary may be fixed at a higher point within the grade, in accordance with qualifications and experience.

(at present £59 fas, per annum). The commencing salary may be fixed at a higher point within the grade, in accordance with qualifications and experience. Applicants should hold an appropriate professional examination qualification, and must be able to carry out the survey of properties, and report upon their suitability for development for housing purposes. They must be capable of adaptation, and conversion of large houses to multi-family occupations, and must be capable of preparing plans and specifications in respect of such work. (b) TWO ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYORS. The appointments are in Grades III and IV of the A.P.T. Division of the National Joint Council's Scheme, the commencing salary for which is 2410 per annum, rising by annual increments of & 15 to a maximum of 2485 per annum (inclusive of London "weighting"), plus cost-of-living bonna (as flowe). The appointments may be made at commencing salaries within the grades, according to the qualifications and experience of the selected candidates. Applicants must have experience in all branches of building work, and should be familiar with every aspect of a Quantity Surveyor's duties, including preparation of estimates, bills of quantities, and be able to measure up for interim and final certificates and to settle final accounts. Preference will be given to candidates possessing an apportiate professional examination qualification. (c) THREE QUANTITY SURVEYORS ASSISTANTS. These appointments are in Grades I and in final certificates and to settle final accounts. Preference will be given to candidates possessing an apportiate professional examination qualification.

"weighting "), plus construction above). The successful candidates will be expected to be capable of assisting the QUANTITY SURVEYOR in all his duties, and to have experience of those duties enumerated in connection with the appoint-ments (b) above. Preference will be given to applicants preparing for the examination of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (Quanti-ties Section).

applicants preparing for the examination of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (Quanti-ties Section). The above appointments will be subject to one controls notice on either side, and the successful context of the required to produce a certi-ficate of birth: pass an examination by the Council's medical examiner; and devote the whole of their time to the duties of their respective offices. The appointments will also be subject to the Conditions of Service of the National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Administrative. Professional, Technical and Clerical Services, and to the provisions of the Paddington Borough Council (Superannuation and Pensions) Acts. Applications, clearly indicating the appointments with salaries; should state age, qualifications and ex-tentionals, and should be delivered to me in an envelope endorsed with the designation of the post for which application is made, not later than Monday, 2nd February, 1948. Canvassing, either directly or indirectly, will disqualify. W. H. BENTLEY.

### W. H. BENTLEY

Town Hall, Paddington, London, W.2.

7th January, 1948. 734 SPALDING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL. ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT. Applications are invited for the following full-time appointments:----(a) TECHNICAL ASSISTANT. A.P.T. Di-vision, Grade III, of the National Scale (2390-£435), plus cost-of-living bonus (at present £59 16s. per annum). Applicants should have a sound and practical knowledge of architectural and quantity surveying work. The main duties will be to prepare Bills of Quantities. Estimates, Yaluations, and settlement of accounts in con-nection with the Council's Housing Schemes. (b) CLERK OF WORKS. A.P.T. Division, Grade III. of the National Scale (£390-£435), plus cost-of-living bonus (at present £59 16s. per annum). The successful applicants will work under the direction of the Council's Architect and Building Surveyor, and his main duties will be to inspect housing and severage works in progress. He will be required to provide and maintain a car. for which a travelling. allowance will be paid. car. paid.

paid. The appointments will be subject to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, and earliest date on which duties could be commenced if appointed, together with copies of two recent testimonials, must reach the undersigned not later than 27th January, 1948. L. FENNELL, Clerk to the Council. Council Offices, The Crescent, Spalding. Test

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL. COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT. Applications are invited for the following appointments:-ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, Grade V. Commencing salary £460, rising by annual increments of £15/220 to a maximum of £510 per annum, plus London allowance of £20, together with cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum.

annum. Preference will be given to applicants who are Associate Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and have had a good training and an adequate experience in the design and construction of modern buildings. JUNIOR ENGINEERING DRAUGHTSMAN, Grade 1

JUNIOR ENGINEERING Grade I. Commencing salary £330, rising by annual increments of £15 to a maximum of £375 per annum, plus London allowance of £20, together with cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s. per

with cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 15s. per annum. Applicants should be neat and accurate draughtsmen, with experience in the layout and design of heating, ventilating, hot water and electrical services of large buildings, and should be in possession of the National or Higher National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering. The appointments will be subject to the pro-visions of the Local Government Act, 1937, and the successful applicants will be required to pass a medical examination. Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, and accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, should be sent to the County, Architect, Surrey County County County Hail, Kingston-upon-Thames, not later than the Sist Janaary, 1948. It is desirable that applications should be accompanied by a small example of the appli-ant of the directly of indirectly will

accompanied by a small example of the appli-cant's work. Canvassing, either directly or indirectly, will discualify a candidate from consideration. The Council will be unable to provide any housing accommodation. and the successful applicants will be expected to make their own arrangements in this direction. DUDLEY AUKLAND, Clerk of the Council. County Hall, Kingston-upon-Thames. 717

Clerk of the Council, County Hall, Kingston-upon-Thames. 11 COUNTY BOROUGH OF FAST HAM. BOROUGH ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT. Vacancies exist in the following additional per-manent positions :-SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Grade A.P.T., VI. salary £555-£630. ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Grade A.P.T., IV. salary £400-£485. ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Grade A.P.T., IV. salary £400-£485. JUNIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. Grade A.P.T., II, salary £400-£485. BENIOR ASSISTANT PLANNING OFFICER. Grade A.P.T., Salary £400-£50. The above salaries are inclusive of the London allowance. Cost-of-living bouns. at present £55 168. per annum for men over 21. will be paid in addition. Salaries in excess of the minima of the grades may be paid according to the quali-fications and experience of successful candidates. The Council have in course of preparation a latree and varied programme of interesting works, which it is anticipated will not be afferted by the proposed reductions in capital expenditure. Monsing accommodation is not provided, but the Council will be prepared to consider applic-cases from persons of the dudies. Tring accommodation. Thus are and form of application (which must be returned by Monday, the 2nd Perpary, 1948) may be obtained from the under-signed. Canvassing in any form will disonalify.

Town Hall. Rast Ham, E.6. January, 1948. 720

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY OOUNCIL. COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT. ARCHITECTS AND OUANTITY SURVEYORS. Applications are invited from members of the appropriate Institutions for the following appoint-

CHIEF ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS. Salary 750-2850, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £750

2750-2850, puls cost-of-arms 259 158, p.a. SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS (Grade VII). Salary 2575-2650, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present £59 168. p.a. ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS (Grade V). Salary 2450-2510, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present 2650-2510, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present 2650-2510, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present

2500-2605, pla. ARCHITECTS (Grade II). Salary ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS (Grade II). Salary 2500-2605, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present

250-2405. plus cost-of-living bonus, at present 250-2405. plus cost-of-living bonus, at present 259 168. Draw and the second second second second present 259 168. p.a. FOUR OUANTITY SURVEYORS (Grade V). Salary 2460-2510, plus cost-of-living bonus, at present 259 168. p.a. ONE OUANTITY SURVEYOR (Grade IV). Salary 2420-2465. plus cost-of-living bonus, at present 259 168. p.a. Applicants need not have had previous Local Government experience. Applications, together with three references. should be addressed to the Clerk of the County Council. County Hall, Hertford. to be received not later than first post on 24th January, 1948. 759

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Canvassing in any form will disonalify. H. A. EDWARDS. Town Town Clerk.

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WILLIAM JONES, Clerk of the County Council. County Offices, Ruthin.

CITY OF BATH. CITY ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT. (1) Applications are invited for the following appointment, on the permanent staff of the City Engineer:-(2) UNQUALIFIED JUNIOR ARCHITEC-TURAL ASSISTANT (Grade Misc. I), £255-£300. (3) Cost-of-living bonus is payable in addition to the salary stated, at present £59 15s. per annum at 21 years of age. Under 21, according to age.

anum at 21 years of age. Under 21, according to age. (4) The appointment will be subject to the pro-risions of the Local Government Superannation Act, 1937, and the person appointed will be re-quired to pass a medical examination. (5) Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, together with copies of not more than three recent testimonials, ahould be sent to the City Engineer, Guildhall, Bath, not later than Jist January, 1948. J. BASIL OGDEN, There the set of th

J. BASIL OGDEN, Town Clerk.

Jist January, 1948.
J. BASIL OGDEN, Town Clerk.
Guidhall, Bath.
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The January, 1948.
Toy AL TECHNICAL COLLEGE, SALFORD, Principal: P. F. R. VERIMES, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.R.L.C.
PROINTMENT OF HEAD OF BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT.
Applications are invited for the post of Head of the Building and Civil Engineering Department of the College. Duties to commence as soon as possible. The salary is in accordance with Grade III for Head of Departments under the Burnham Scale of 2950×225-6160, plus other allowance, which if accepted will apply as from 184 April, 1948).
Cadidates should possess an Honours Degree, or equivalent, and should have had considerable will apply as from 184 April, 1948).
Tendistrial or professional experience in Building. Stractural, or Civil Engineering. Technical College. and some research experience, will be deministration of a department of a technical College. The applications.
Together, and some research experience, will be deministration of the appendiment of a technical College. The application.
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The COUNTY OF WARWICK.

COUNTY OF WARWICK. ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT. Applications are invited for appointments on the established staff as follows :--ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS, to be Members of the R.I.B.A. Salary £420×2 of £20 to £460 per annum.

the R.I.B.A. Salary £420×2 of £20 to £460 per annum. JUNIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS. Salary £365×3 of £15 to £400 per annum. ARCHITEGUTURAL ASSISTANTS. Salary £315×3 of £15 to £360 per annum. Crest-of-living bonus, at present £59 16s. per annum. will be payable in respect of each appointment. The appointments will be subject to the pro-visions of the Local Government Superannation Act. 1937, and successful candidates will be re-uired to mass a medical examination. Application forms can be obtained from C. H. Enkins, F.R.I.B.A., A.R.L.C.S. County Architet, Shire Hall, Warwick. Shire Hall, Warwick.

Shire Hall, Warwick.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF HUDDERSFIELD. Applications are invited for the following appointments, in the Borough Architect's Depart-

Applications are invited for the following appointments, in the Borough Architect's Depart-ment:— (a) SENIOR TOWN PLANNING ASSISTANT (Grades VI-VII), £535-2650. Candidates must have had considerable experience in all aspects of statutory planning, interim development control and planning procedure in general, and should be Associate Members of the Town Planning Institute, additional qualifications in Architecture or Engineering or Surveying will be an advantage. (b) TOWN PLANNING ASSISTANT (Grade V), 2460-2510. Preference will be given to candi-dates who are Associate Members of the Town Planning Institute and Planning Office experience is essential. (c) TOWN PLANNING ASSISTANT (Grade I), 230-2375. Applicants should have had interim development experience in a Planning Office, and preference will be given to candidates who are students of the Town Planning Institute. For each of the posts, in addition to the salary, a bouns, at present 259 16s. per annum, will be payable. Houses now nearing completion are being reserved, and will be made available for renting by the successful conditates. Conditions of service are those formulated by the National Joint Conncil, and the appointments are subject to the provisions of the Local Govern-ment Superannaution Act, 1937. The successful candidates will be required to pass a medical examination. Applications, appropriately endorsed, together with not more the provisions of the successful candidates will be mediated endorsed.

candidates will be required to pass a medical examination. Applications, appropriately endorsed, together with not more than three recent testimonials, should be delivered to the Borough Architect, High Street Buildings, Huddersfield, not later than the 31st January, 1948. Canvassing of members of the Council, either directly or indirectly, will be a disqualification.

HARRY BANN, Town Clerk

The Town Hall, Huddersfield.

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HARRY BANN, Town Clerk. 753

The Town Hall, Huddersfield.

LLWCHWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL. APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECT. Applications are invited from duly qualified persons for the whole-time appointment of Architect to the Council, at a solary in accord-ance with Grade A.P.T. VII, of the National Scheme of Conditions of Service (£75 to £650 per annum), plus cost-of-living bonus (at present 59 16s, per annum). The person appointed will be in charge of the Architect's Department, which is now being established by the Council, and his duties will be such as the Council may from time to time decide. Applicants must be Registered Architects, and have had good experience on general architectural work, including Local Authority housing. The possession of an appropriate professional quali-fication will also be of advantage. The appointment will be terminated by three months' notice in writing on either side, and subject to the provisions of the Local Govern-ment Superannuation Act, 137, and the successful applicant will be required to pass a medical ex-amination. The Council will also require the successful applicant to reside in the urban district. Subject to the foregoing, the conditions of appointment will be those on an appropriate of the successful Applicant by the successful applicant to reside in the urban

district. Subject to the foregoing, the conditions of appointment will be those contained in the National Scheme of Conditions of Service. Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience. must be delivered, with copies of two recent testimonials, to the undersigned, not later than 37d February, 1948. Dated this 9th day of January, 1948.

E. A. GRIFFITHS. Council Offices, West Street, Gorseinon, Swansea. 759 759

MINISTRY OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNENG. The Civil Service Commissioners announce vacancies for Senior Regional Planning Officers, Regional Planning Officers, Senior Planning Inspectors, Assistant Regional Planning Assistants, Grade I, on the permanent establishment of the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, to be filled by competitive interview. The inclusive salary scales for men, in London, are:--

SENIOR REGIONAL PLANNING OFFICERS :

£1,320×£50-£1,520. REGIONAL PLANNING OFFICERS AND SENIOR PLANNING INSPECTORS : £1,100×

£35-£1,320. ASSISTANT REGIONAL PLANNING OFFICERS AND PLANNING INSPECTORS:

£850×£30-£1,050. PLANNING ASSISTANTS (Grade I): £550×

12850×130-11.050.
PLANNING ASSISTANTS (Grade I): £550×
125-2800.
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28 and under 40 years of age on the light 1948. Further particulars, with full information on the duties of the posts, and application forms, may be obtained from the Secretary, Ministry of Town and Country Planning, 32, St. James's Square, London, S.W.1; completed applications must be returned not later than 28th February, 1948. 727

Square. London, S. W.i.; completed applications must be returned not later than 28th February. 727 CITY OF PETERBOROUGH. APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT. CITY ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT. TO ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT. Applications are invited for the established the City Engineer and Surveyor's Department, at a salary in accordance with Grade VI of the A.P.T. Division of the National Scale of Salaries, i.e., commencing at £535 and rising by annual increments £20, £25 to £600 per annum, plus a cost-of-living bonus at present £59 L6s, per annum. At the moment £1 per week is paid for official purpose. The appointment is subject to the provision of the Lot Government Superannuation Art. 1937, either side, and the successful applicant will be entired to pass a medical camination. Applicants, who should not be more than 40 wears of ace, should be Registered Architects applicant, who exposible to the City Engineer for administering, with the minimum of superiment consisting of architects, manifiliar with and reneer for administering, with the minimum of supervision, the Architectural Section of the Di-partment consisting of architects, manifiliar with and general Municipal work. Materiations, staling age details of qualifica-tions, and experience, together with copies of the undersized in a sealed envelope, and endorsed "Chief Architectural Assistant," mot and general Municipal work. Mater than 31st January, 1948. Canvassing, directly or indirectly, will be a disqualification, and candidates must disclose whether they are related to any member or senior officer of the concel. ARTHUR J. REEVENS Town Clerk.

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Signed not need that 1948. The Corporation do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. BERTRAM FINCH. Town Clerk. Town 732

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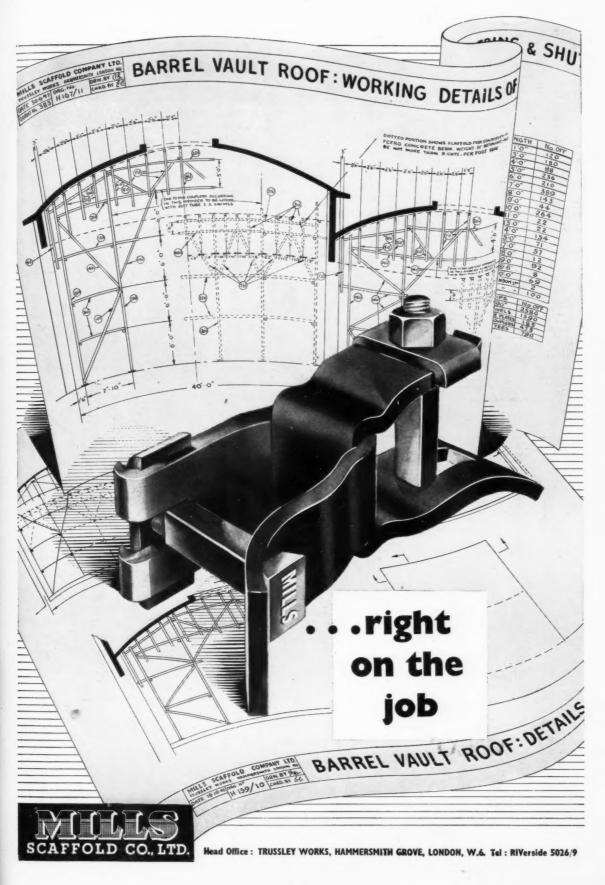
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