

# THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL



★ A glossary of abbreviations of Government Departments and Societies and Committees of all kinds, together with their full address and telephone numbers. The glossary is published in two parts—A to Ig one week, Ih to Z the next. In all cases where the town is not mentioned the word LONDON is implicit in the address.

IHVE	Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers. 49, Cadogan Square. Sloane 1601/3158
IIBDID	Incorporated Institute of British Decorators and Interior Designers. 100, Park Street, Grosvenor Square, W.1. Mayfair 7086
ILA	Institute of Landscape Architects. 2, Guilford Place, W.C.1. Holborn 0281
I of Arb	Institute of Arbitrators. Hastings House, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.2. Temple Bar 4071
IOB	Institute of Builders. 48, Bedford Square, W.C.1. Museum 7179
IQS	Institute of Quantity Surveyors. 98, Gloucester Place, W.1. Welbeck 1859
IR	Institute of Refrigeration. Dalmeny House, Monument Street, E.C.3. Avenue 6851
IRA	Institute of Registered Architects. 47, Victoria Street, S.W.1. Abbey 6172
ISE	Institution of Structural Engineers. 11, Upper Belgrave Street, S.W.1. Sloane 7128
LDA	Lead Development Association. 18, Adam Street, W.C.2. Whitehall 4175
LMBA	London Master Builders' Association. 47, Bedford Square, W.C.1. Museum 3891
LSPC	Lead Sheet and Pipe Council. Eagle House, Jermyn Street, S.W.1. Whitehall 7264/4175
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Whitehall Place, S.W.1. Trafalgar 7711
MOE	Ministry of Education. Curzon Street House, Curzon Street, W.1. Mayfair 9400
MOH	Ministry of Health. 23, Savile Row, W.1. Regent 8411
MOHLG	Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Whitehall, S.W.1. Whitehall 4300
MOLNS	Ministry of Labour and National Service. 8, St. James' Square, S.W.1. Whitehall 6200
MOS	Ministry of Supply. Shell Mex House, W.C.2. Gerrard 6933
MOT	Ministry of Transport. Berkeley Square House, Berkeley Square, W.1. Mayfair 9494
MOW	Ministry of Works. Lambeth Bridge House, S.E.1. Reliance 7611
NAMMC	Natural Asphaltic Mine Owners and Manufacturers Council. 94/98, Petty France, S.W.1. Abbey 1010
NAS	National Association of Shopfitters. 9, Victoria Street, S.W.1. Abbey 4813
NBR	National Buildings Record. 31, Chester Terrace, Regent's Park, N.W.1. Welbeck 0619
NCBMP	National Council of Building Material Producers, 10, Storey's Gate, S.W.1. Abbey 5111
NEFMAI	National Employers Federation of the Mastic Asphalt Industry. 21, John Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.2. Trafalgar 3927
NFBTE	National Federation of Building Trades Employers. 82, New Cavendish Street, W.1. Langham 4041/4054
NFBTO	National Federation of Building Trades Operatives. Federal House, Cedars Road, Clapham, S.W.4. Macaulay 4451
NFHS	National Federation of Housing Societies. 12, Suffolk St., S.W.1. Whitehall 1693
NHBRC	National House Builders Registration Council. 58, Portland Place, W.1. Langham 0064/5
NPL	National Physical Laboratory. Head Office, Teddington. Molesley 1380
NRDB	Natural Rubber Development Board. Market Buildings, Mark Lane, E.C.3. Mansion House 9383
NSAS	National Smoke Abatement Society. Palace Chambers, Bridge Street, S.W.1. Trafalgar 6838
NT	National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty. 42, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1. Whitehall 0211
PEP	Political and Economic Planning. 16, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1. Whitehall 7245
RCA	Reinforced Concrete Association. 94, Petty France, S.W.1. Abbey 4504
RIAS	Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland. 15, Rutland Square, Edinburgh. Fountainbridge 7631
RIBA	Royal Institute of British Architects. 66, Portland Place, W.1. Langham 5533
RICS	Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. 12, Great George Street, S.W.1. Whitehall 5322/9242
RFAC	Royal Fine Art Commission. 5, Old Palace Yard, S.W.1. Whitehall 3935
RS	Royal Society. Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.1. Regent 3335
RSA	Royal Society of Arts. 6, John Adam Street, W.C.2. Trafalgar 2366
RSH	Royal Society of Health. 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1. Sloane 5134
RIB	Rural Industries Bureau. 35, Camp Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19. Wimbledon 5101
SBPM	Society of British Paint Manufacturers. Grosvenor Gardens House, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1. Victoria 2186
SE	Society of Engineers. 17, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1. Abbey 7244
SFMA	School Furniture Manufacturers' Association. 30, Cornhill, London, E.C.3. Mansion House 3921
SIA	Society of Industrial Artists. 7, Webburn Square, London, W.C.1. Langham 1984/5
SIA	Structural Insulation Association. 32, Queen Anne Street, W.1. Langham 7616
SNHTPC	Scottish National Housing. Town Planning Council. Hon. Sec., Robert Pollock, Town Clerk, Rutherglen
SPAB	Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. 55, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1. Holborn 2646
TCPA	Town and Country Planning Association. 28, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2. Temple Bar 5006
TDA	Timber development Association. 21, College Hill, E.C.4. City 4771
TPI	Town Planning Institute. 18, Ashley Place, S.W.1. Victoria 8815
TTF	Timber Trades Federation. 75, Cannon Street, E.C.4. City 5040
WDC	War Damage Commission. 6, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.1. Whitehall 4341
ZDA	Zinc Development Association. 34, Berkeley Square, W.1. Grosvenor 663

## Standard contents

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

## NEWS and COMMENT

Stragal's Notes and Topics

Letters

News

Diary

Societies and Institutions

## TECHNICAL SECTION

Information Sheets

Information Centre

Current Technique

Working Details

Questions and Answers

Prices

The Industry

## CURRENT BUILDING

Major Buildings described:

Details of Planning, Construction,

Finishes and Costs

Buildings in the News

Building Costs Analysed

Architectural Appointments

Wanted and Vacant

No. 3299

[Vol. 127

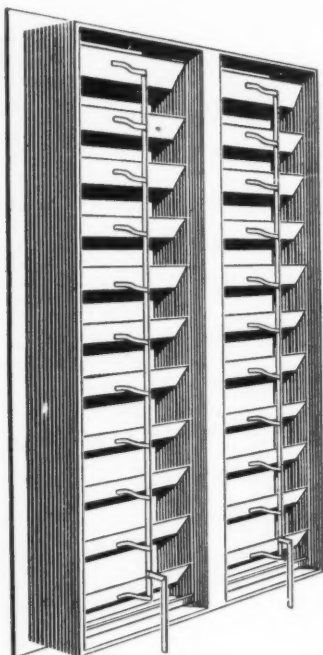
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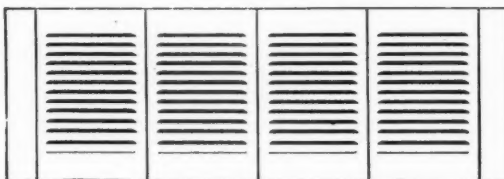


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(Right) Type LH 'Maxaire' Multi-louvred Panel with  $\frac{3}{4}$ " flange.

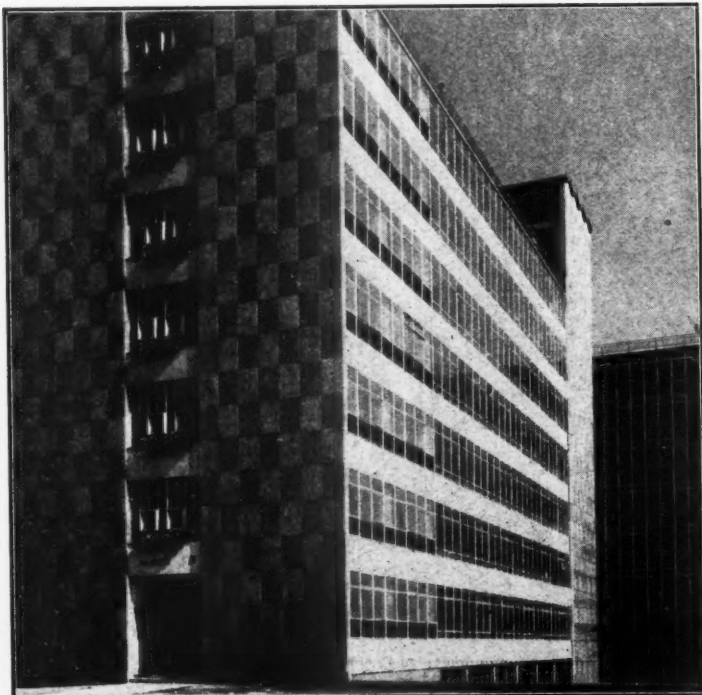


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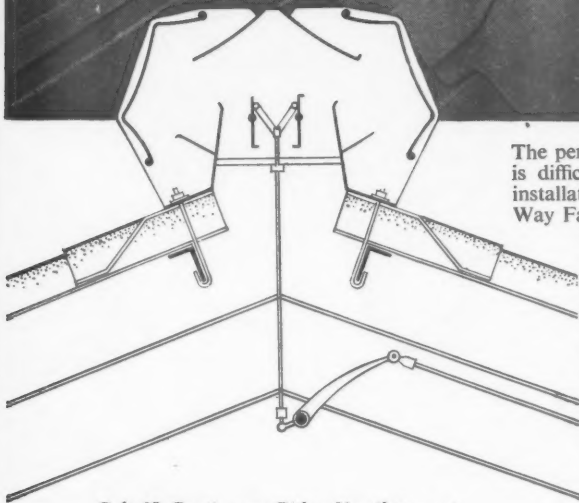
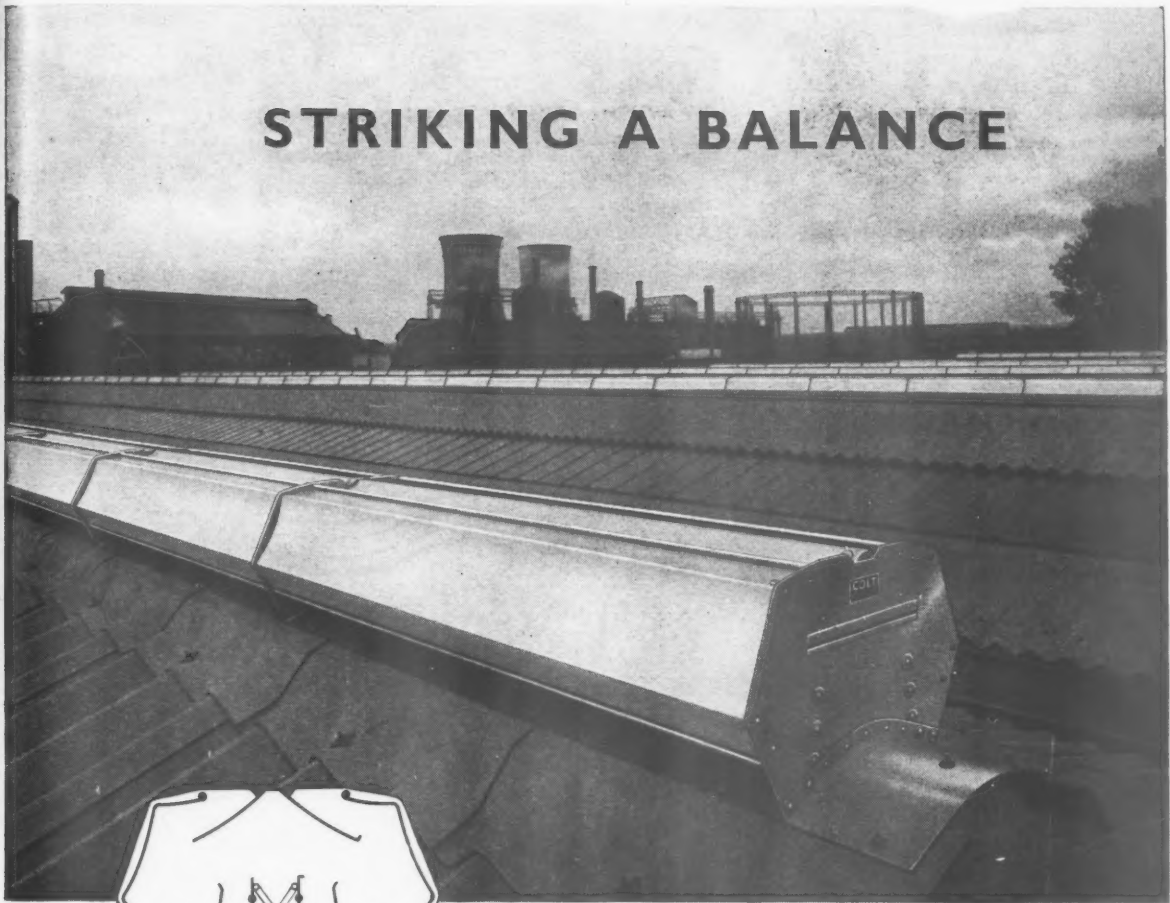
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## STRIKING A BALANCE



*Colt 9" Continuous Ridge Ventilators at Bailey Meters and Controls Ltd., Croydon, Surrey. Architect: Reginald Lone, F.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.C.S., F.R.San.I.*

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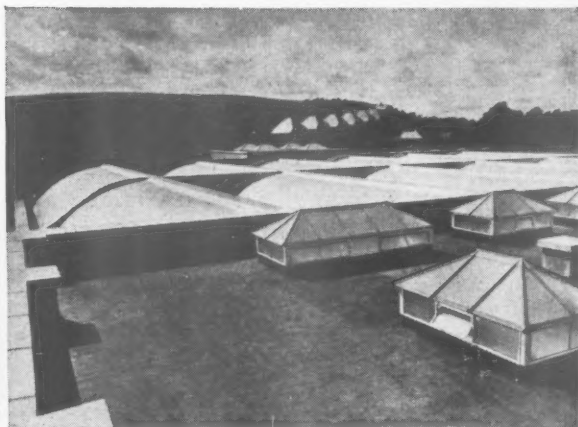
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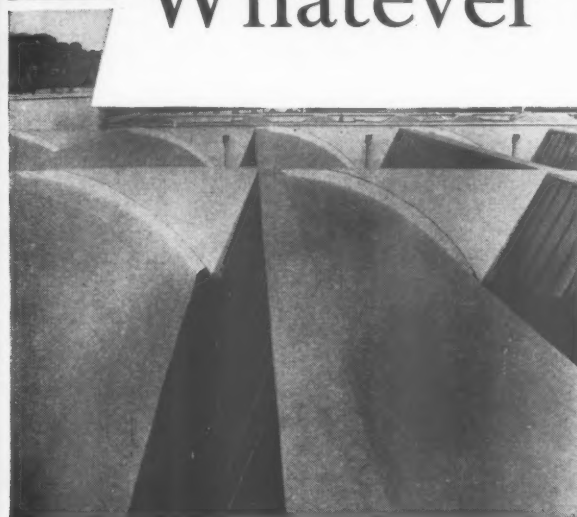
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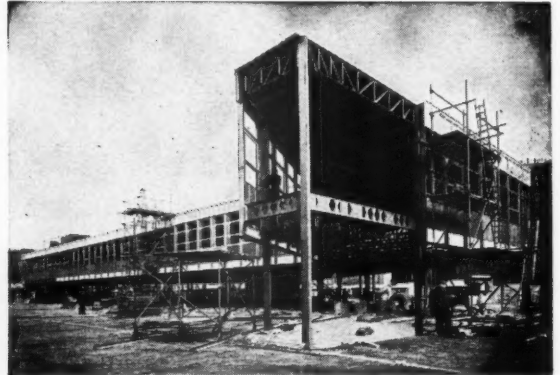
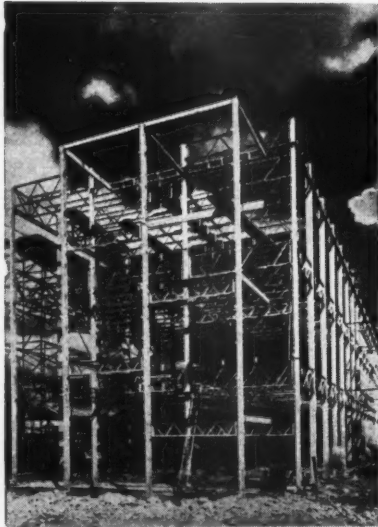
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M-W.66

# structural steelwork

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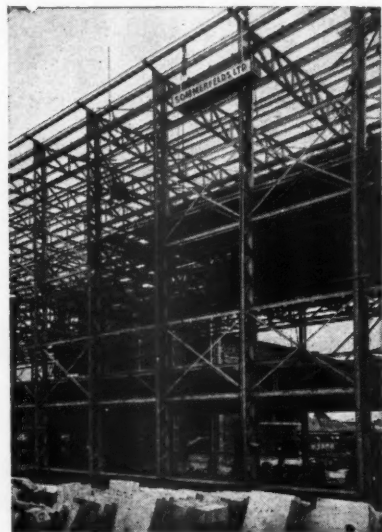
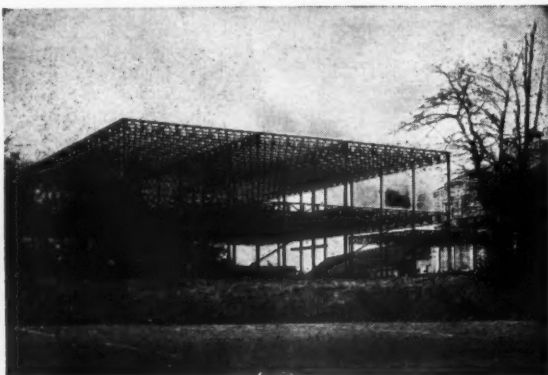


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Architect: E. Firth, F.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., City Architect.



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Architects: Messrs. J. Douglass Matthews & Partners.

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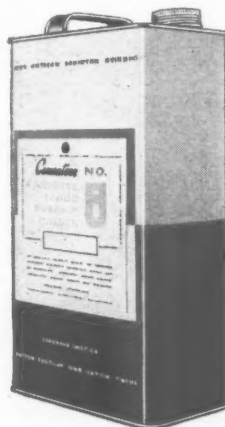
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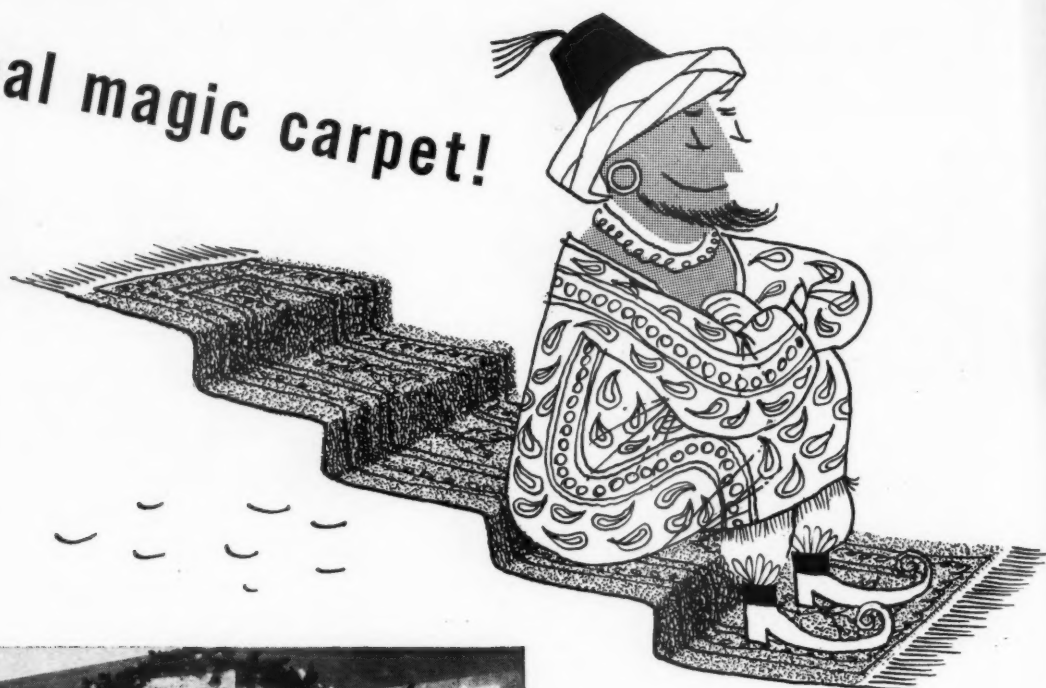
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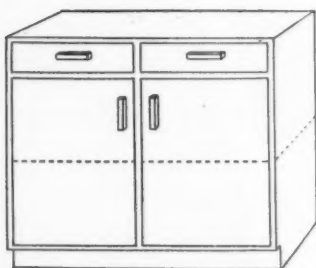
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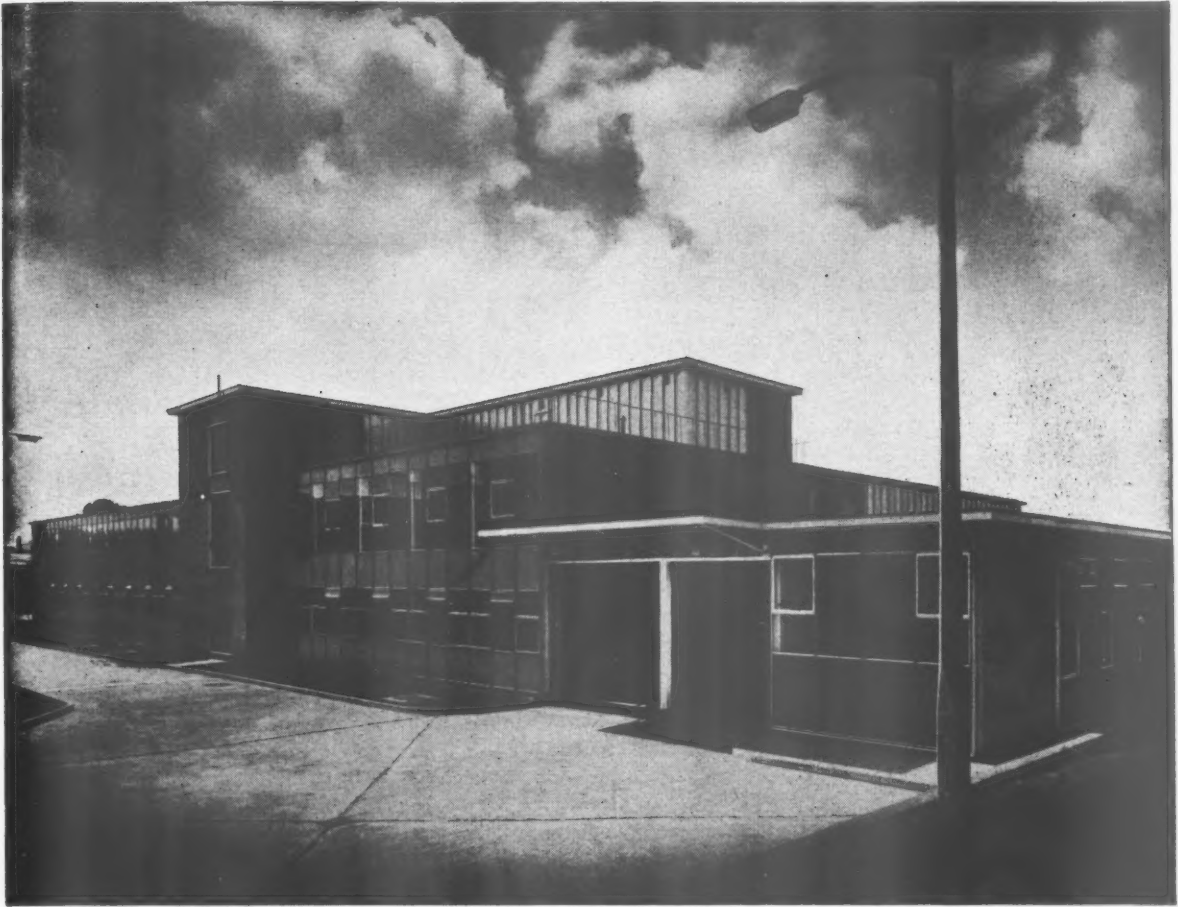
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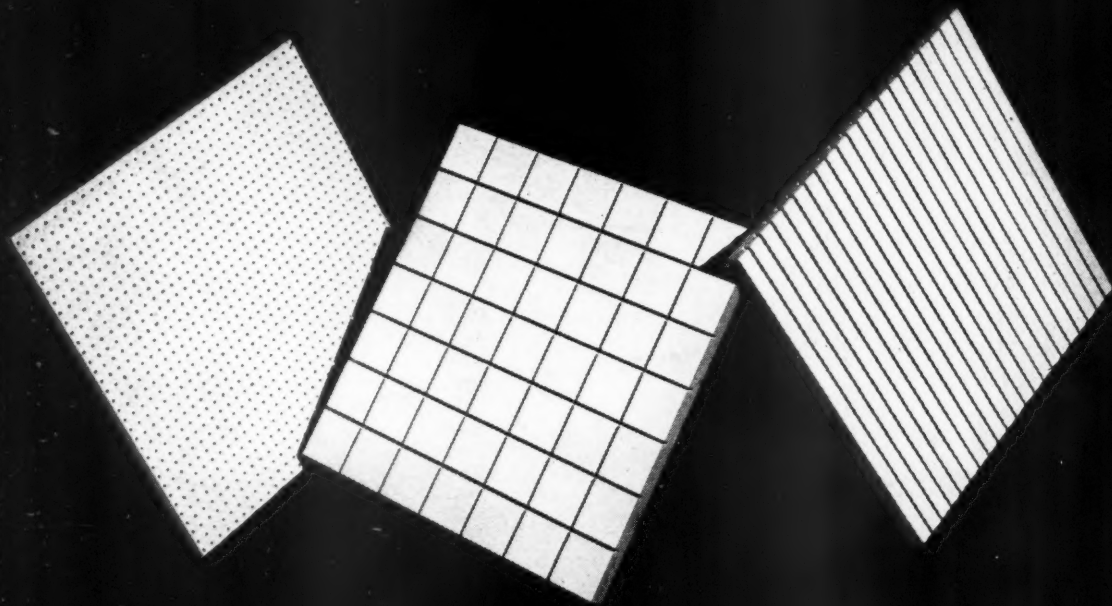
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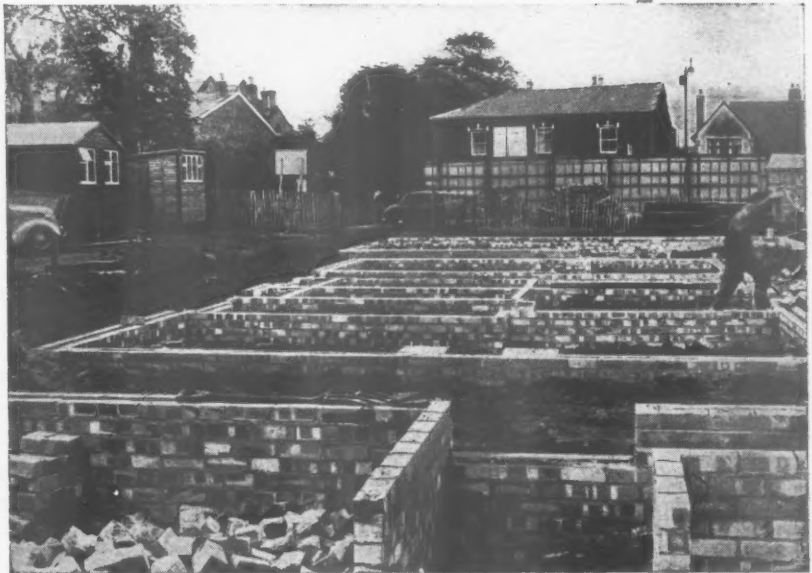
# BRICKS AND DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE

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## UTILE—the U-word for the U-wood

The panelling in the recently completed bar of Charrington's "Red Lion", Watling Street, E.C., is in solid Utile, a West African hardwood. (The counter, seen through our empty glass—thanks, we don't mind if we do—is Utile and Sycamore).

Utile is a close relation of the more familiar Sapele. If you're a Lifeman, you may like to know that its botanical name is *Entandrophragma utile*; if you want to be up-to-date on your finishes you really need to know about this and the other West African hardwoods.

### vital facts on Utile

Colour: Varies from a lightish to a dark brown.  
 Strength: Equivalent to Mahogany but harder.  
 Weight: About 40 lb./cu. ft.  
 Resistance to decay: Good.  
 Texture: Fairly close.  
 Workability: Good. Takes a high polish.  
 Principal uses: Interior decoration. Panelling. Shopfitting. Furniture-making. Flooring. Boat-building.

Other West African hardwoods include:

• DAHOMA	MAHOGANY
DANTA	MANSONIA
EDINAM	MAKORE
GUAREA	OBEICHE
IDIGBO	SAPELE

**UTILE**

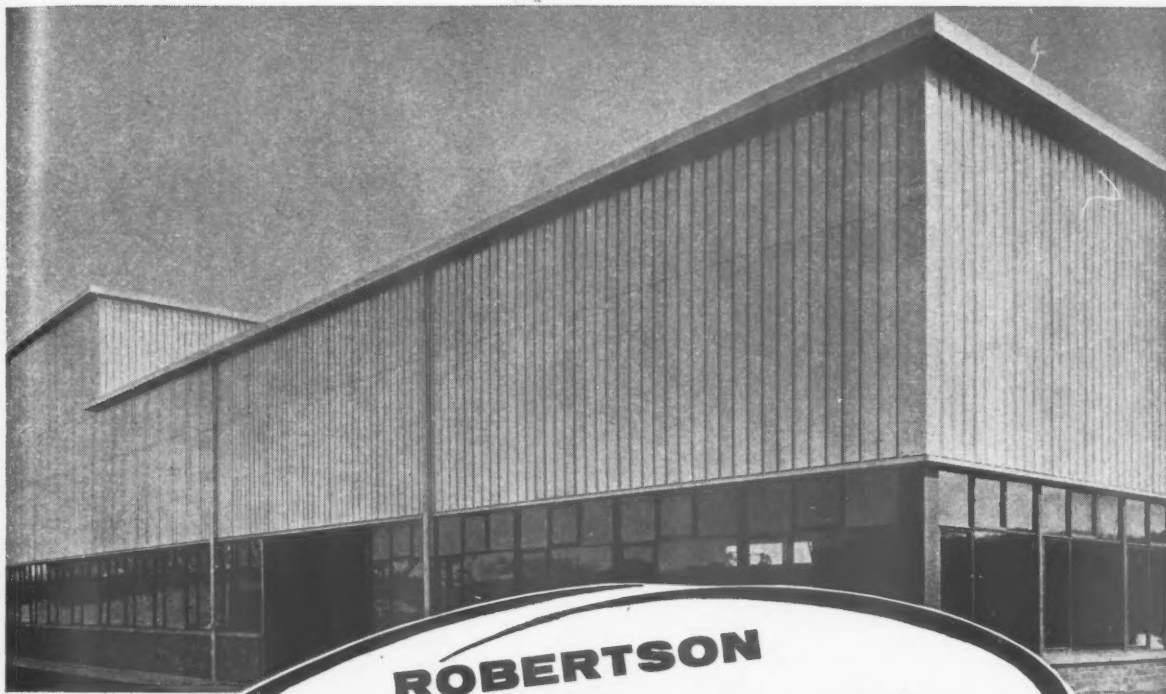


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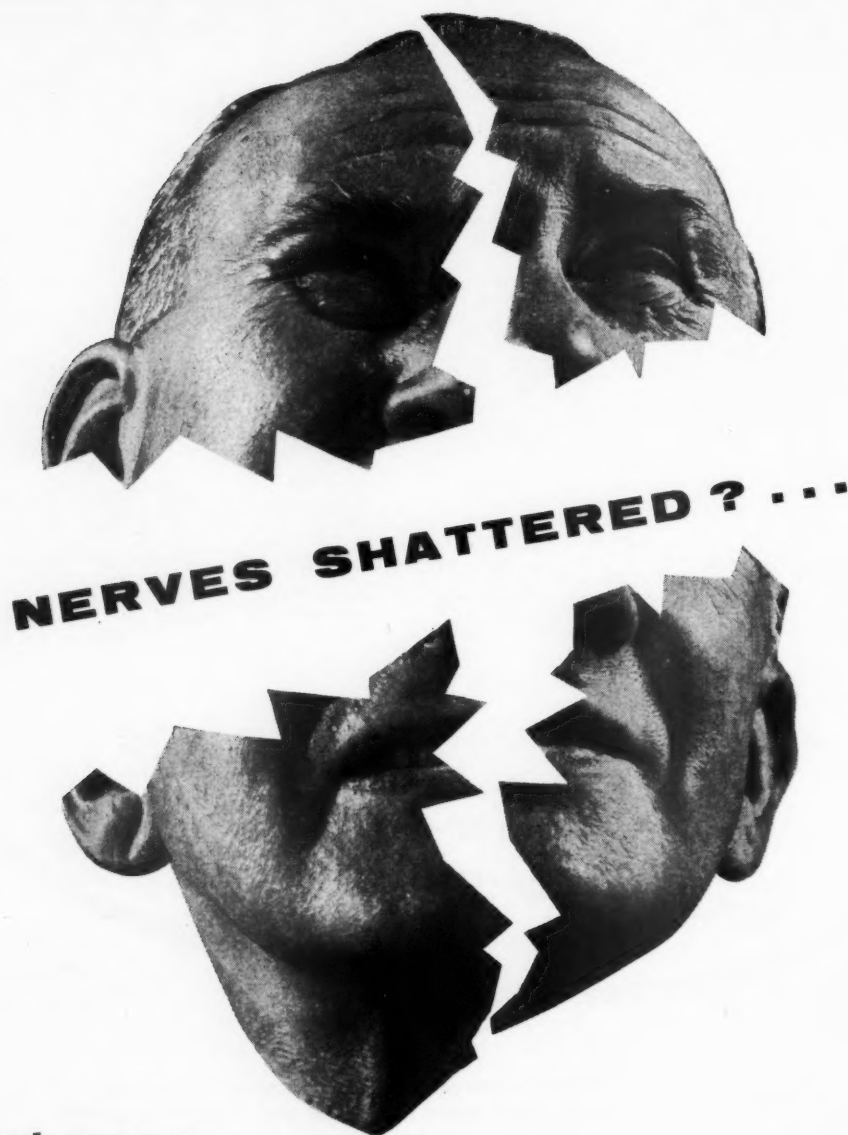
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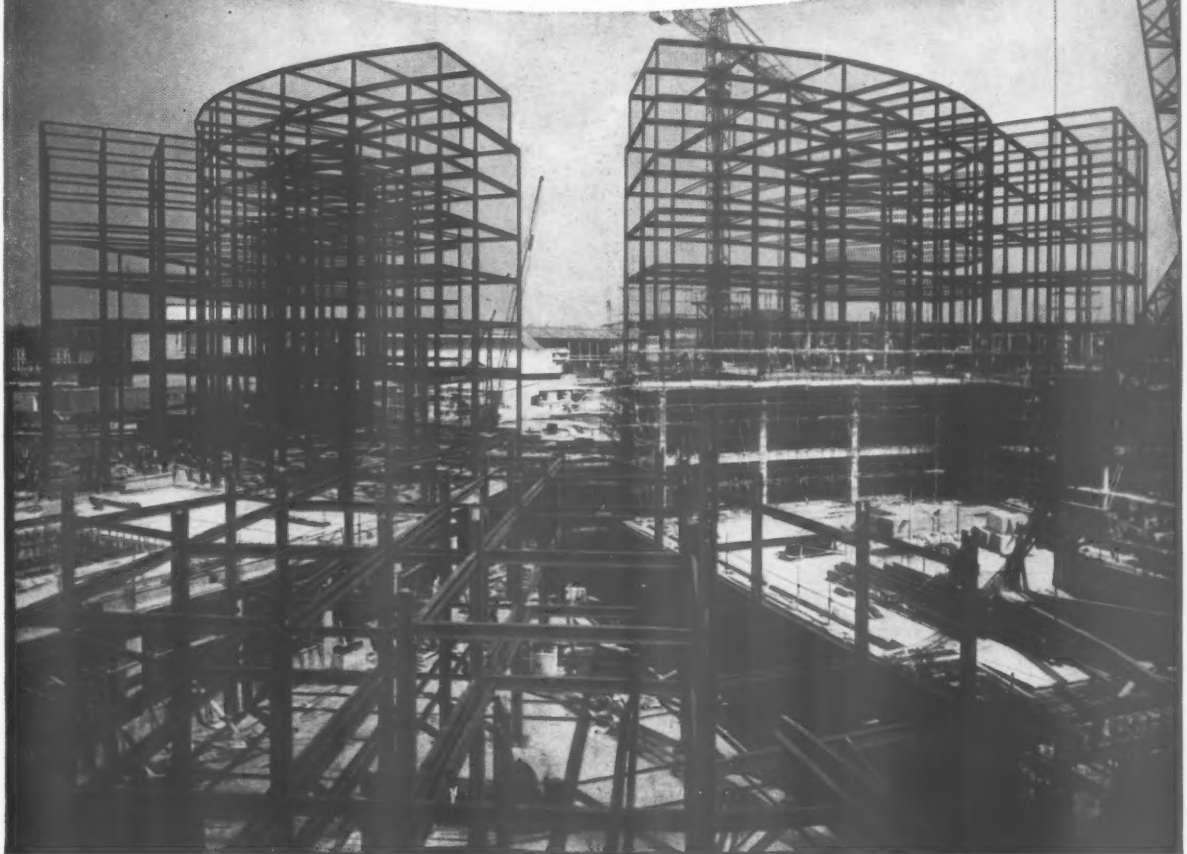
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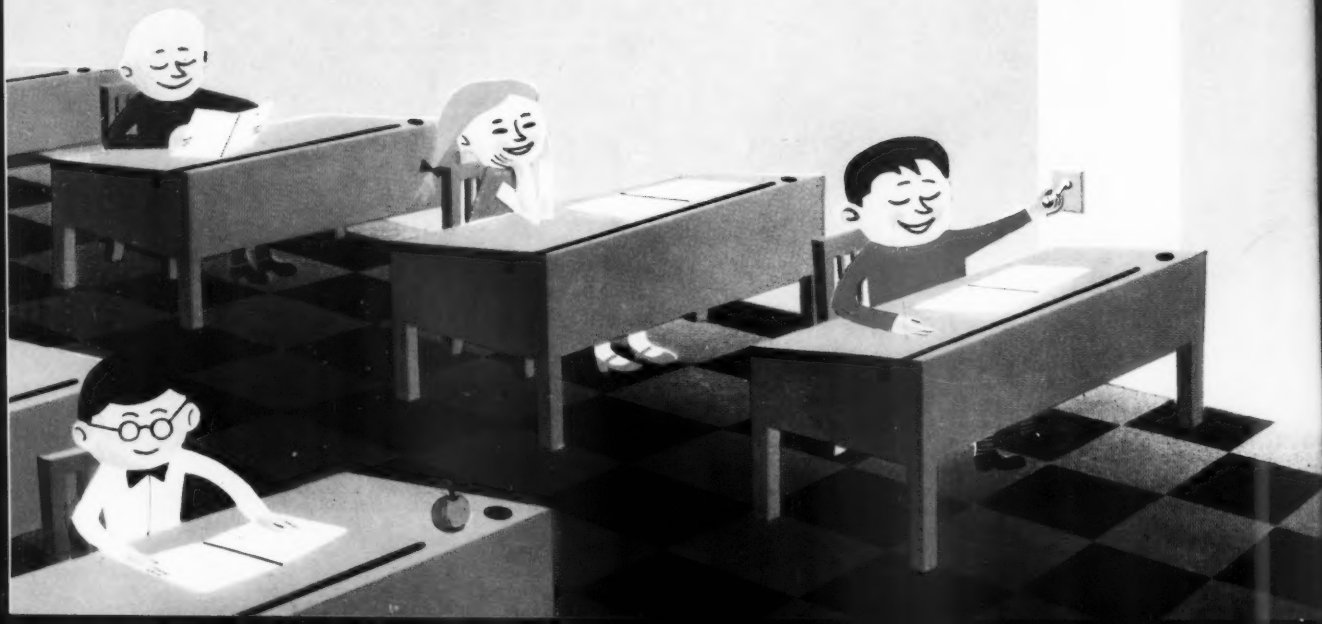
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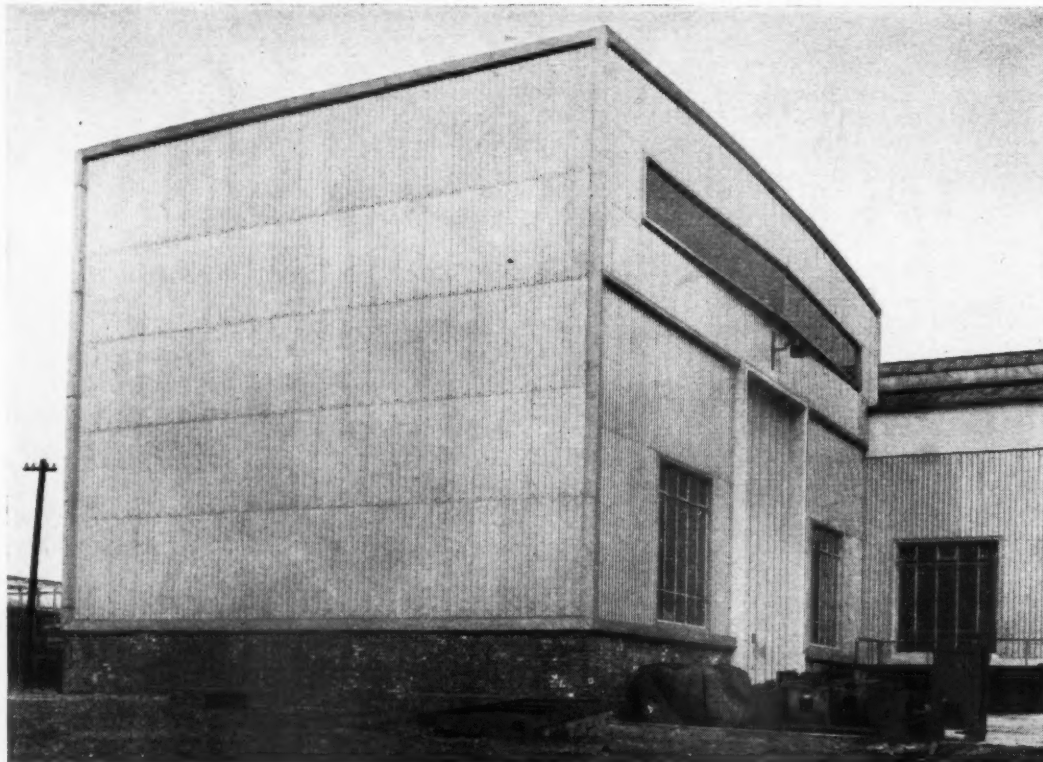
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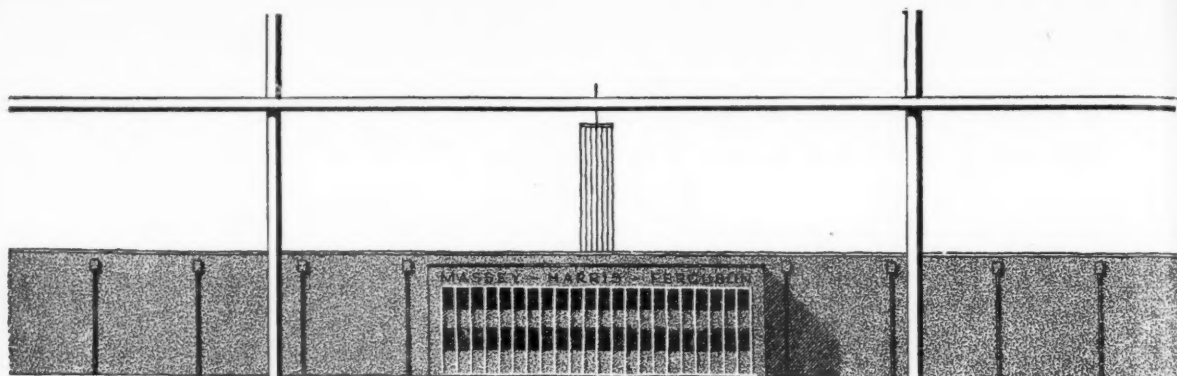
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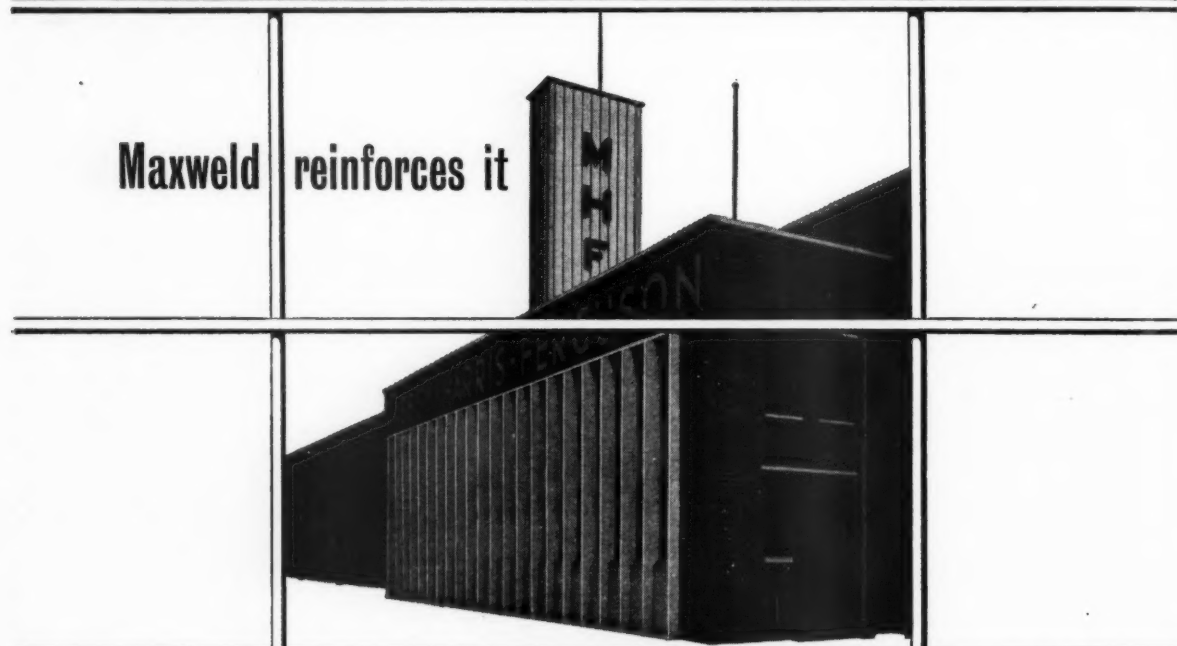
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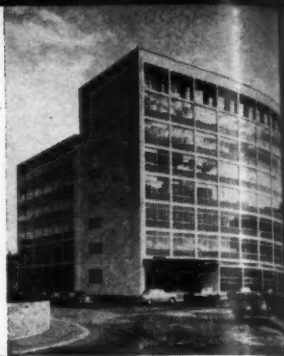
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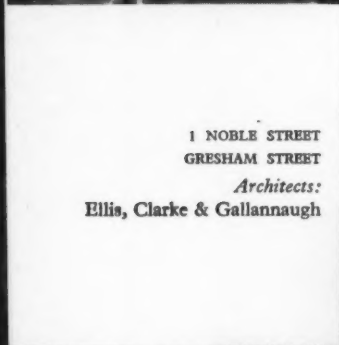
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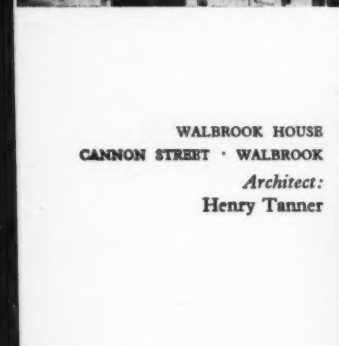
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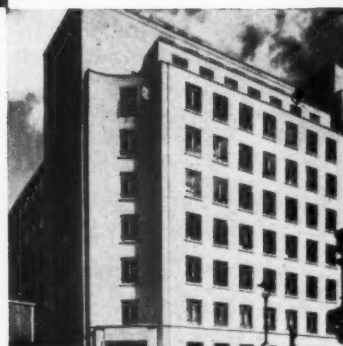
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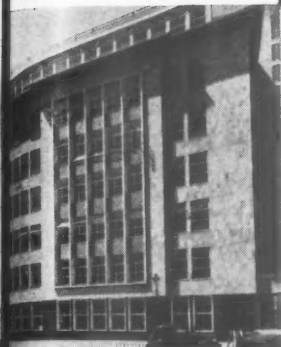
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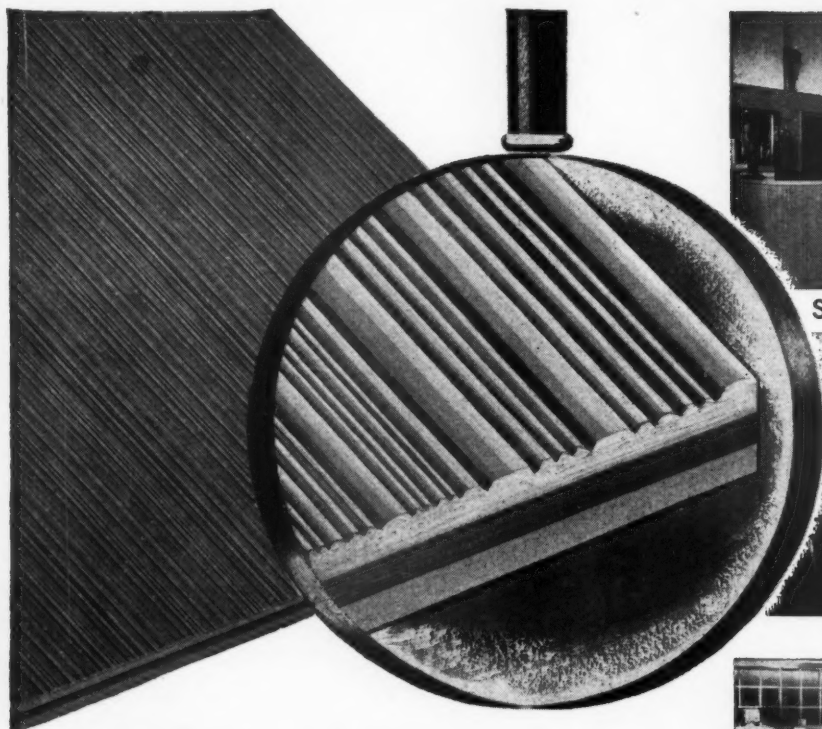


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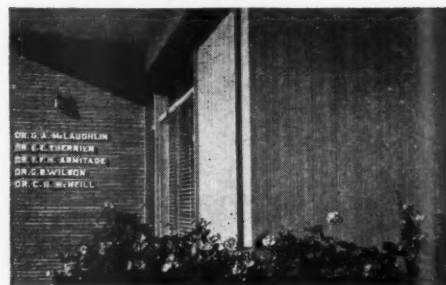
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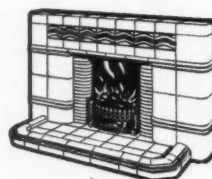
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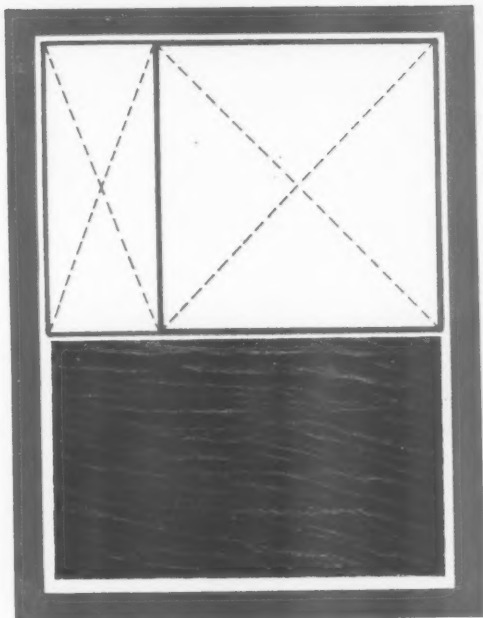
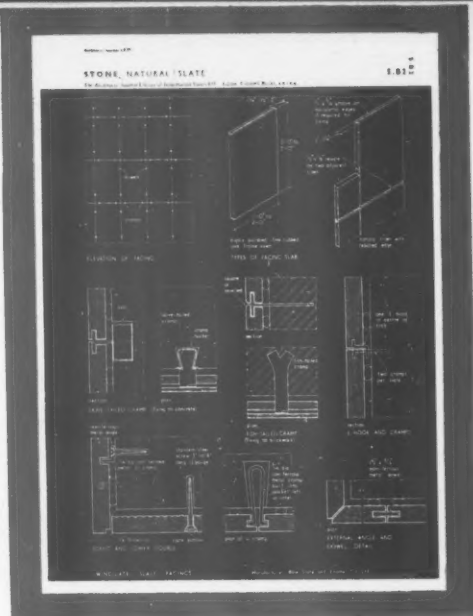
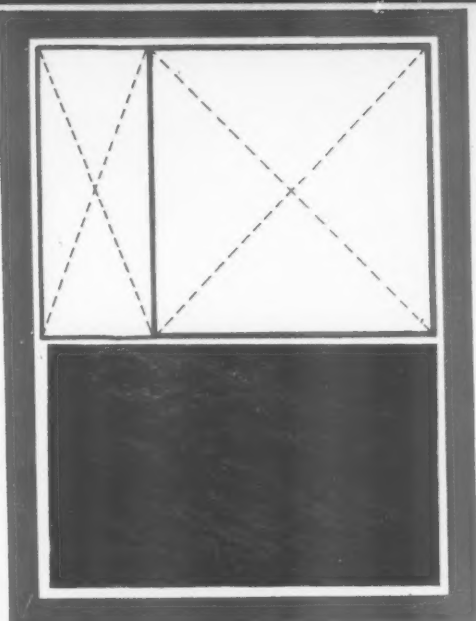
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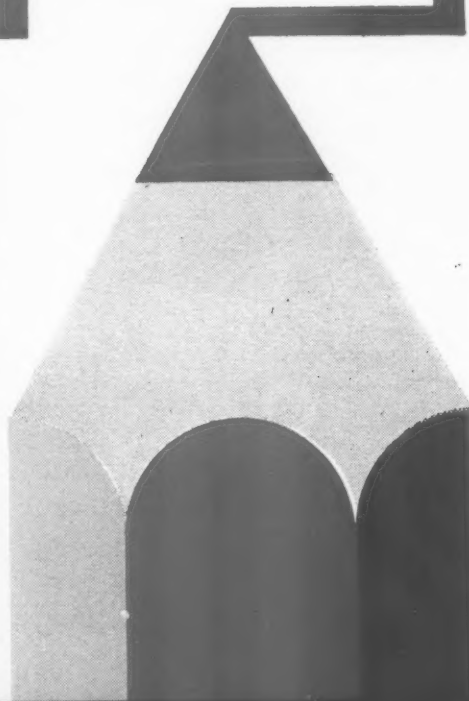
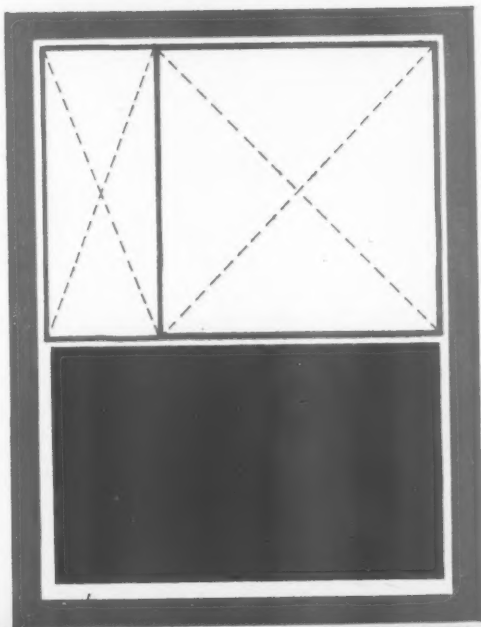




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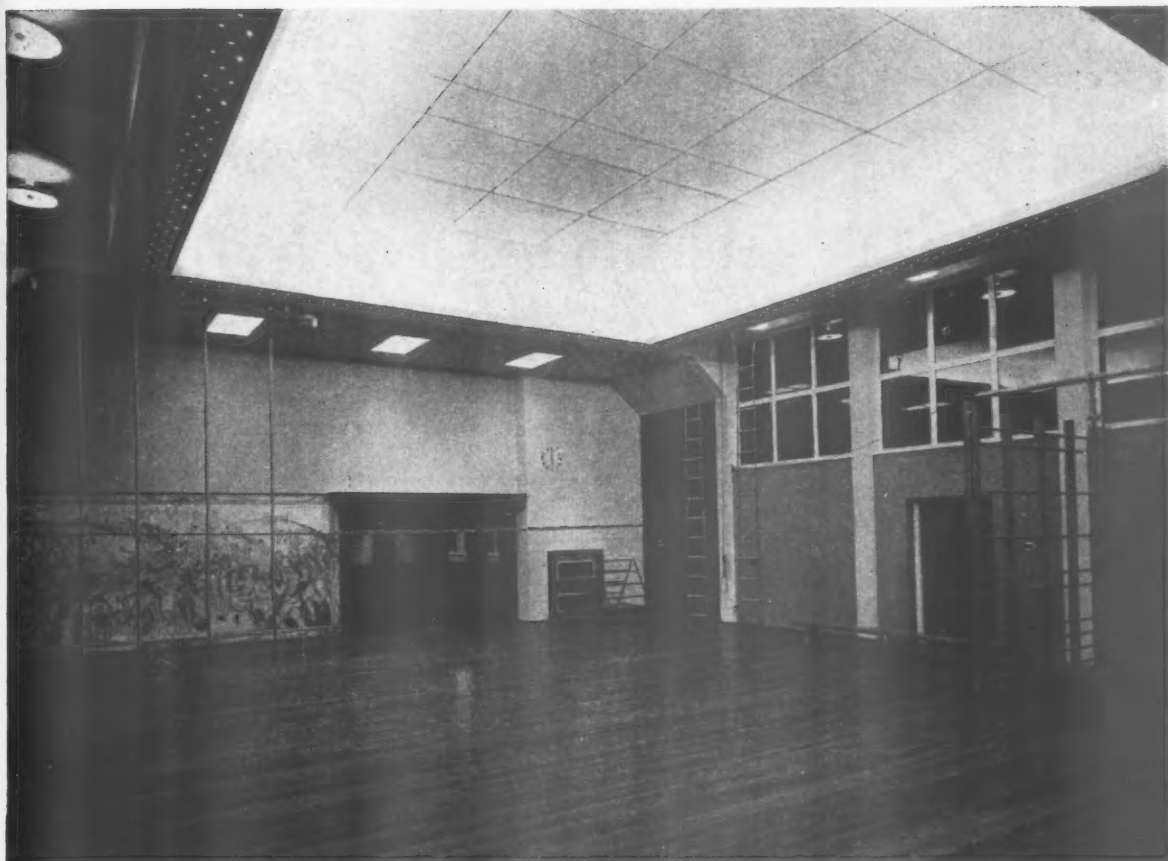






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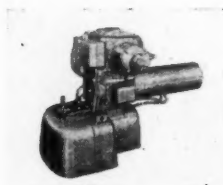
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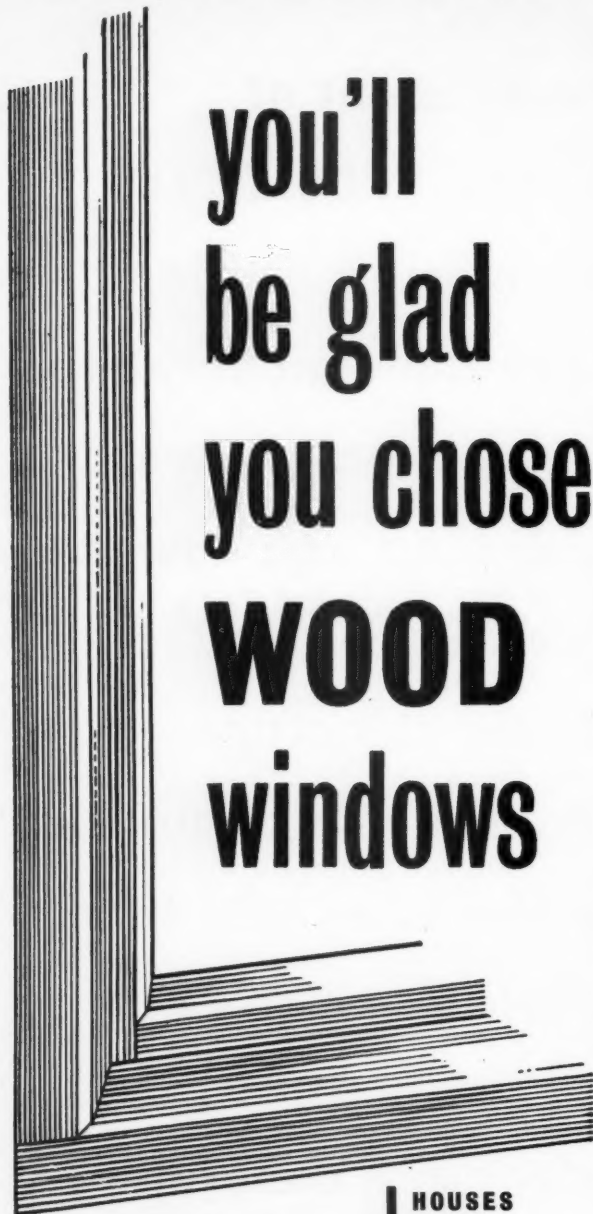
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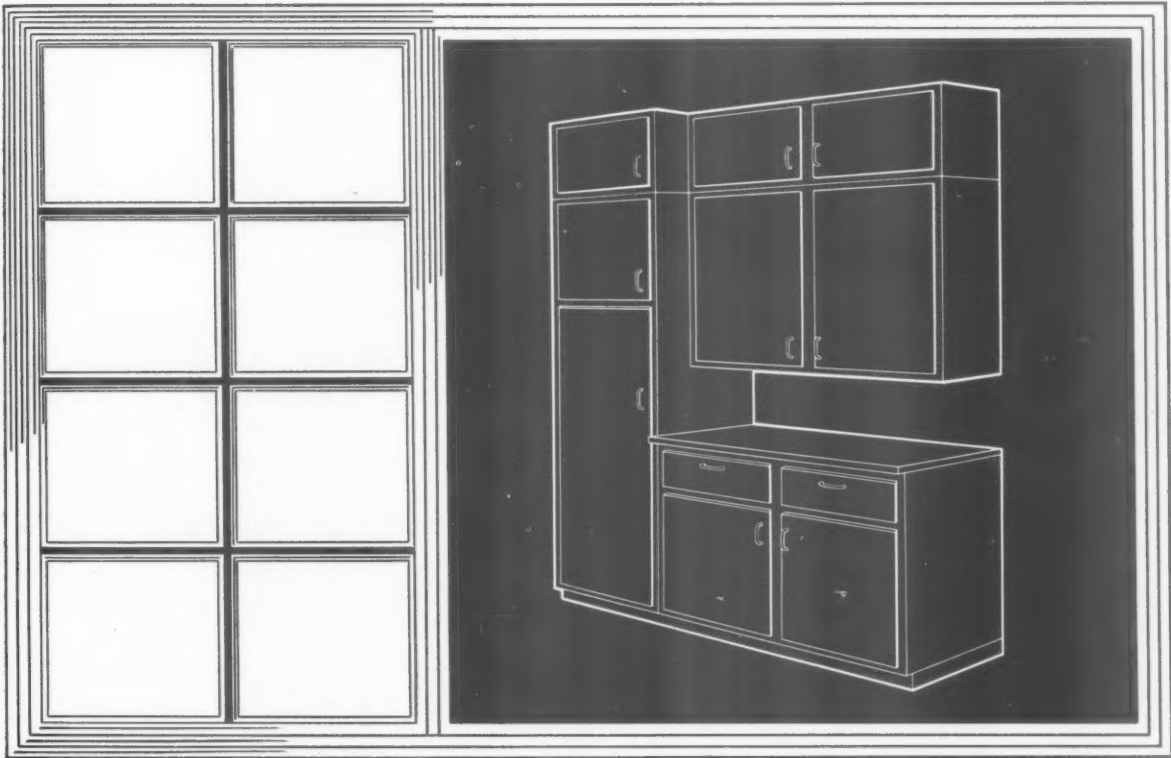
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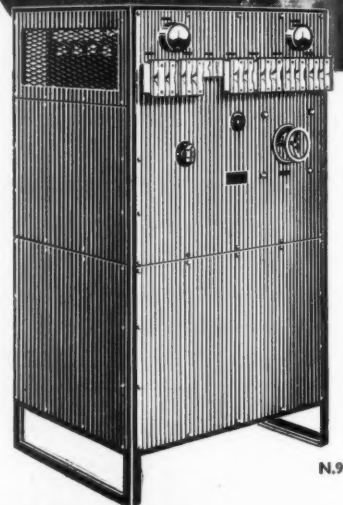
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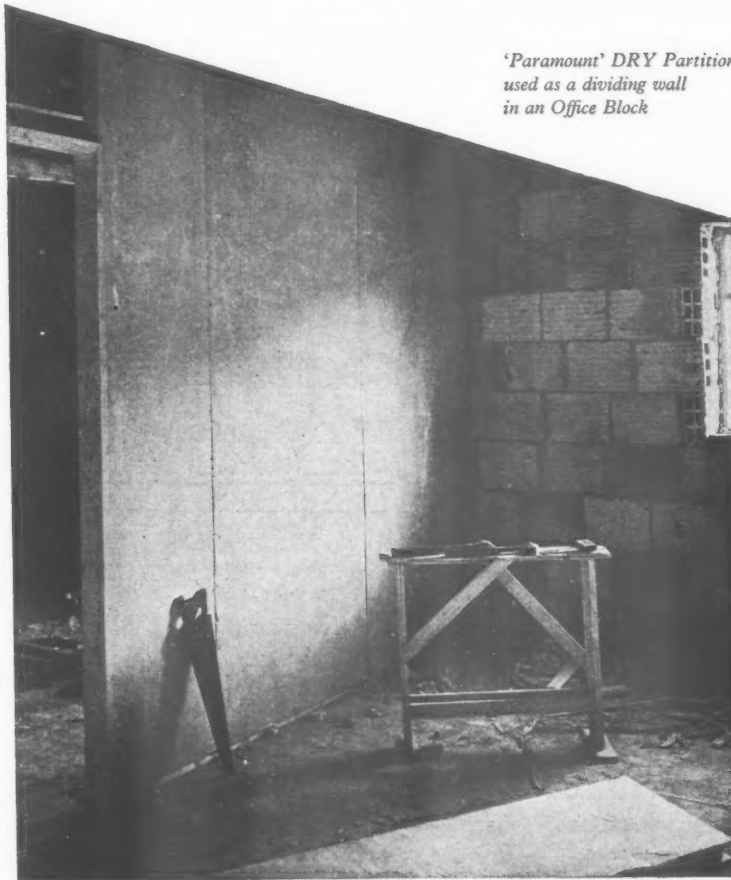
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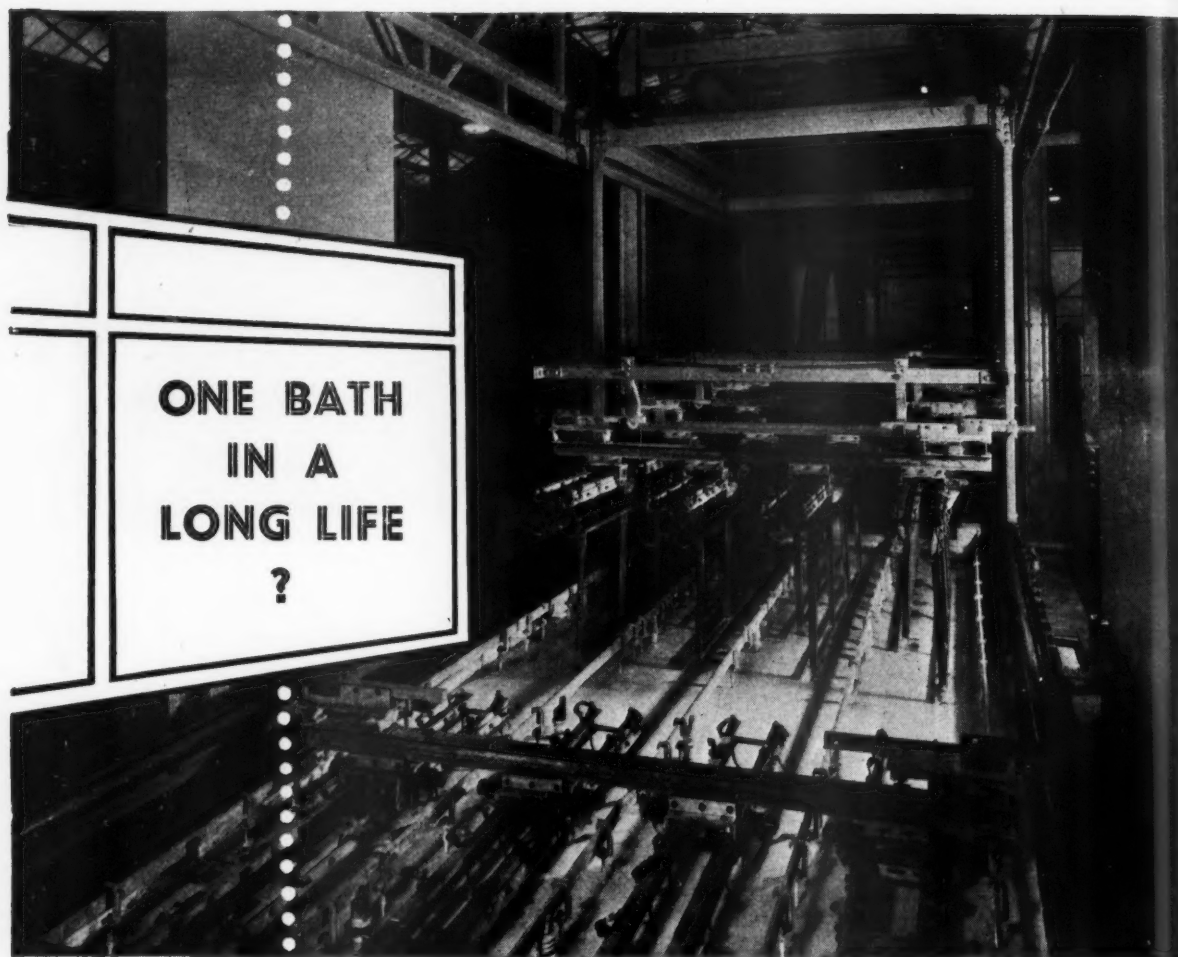
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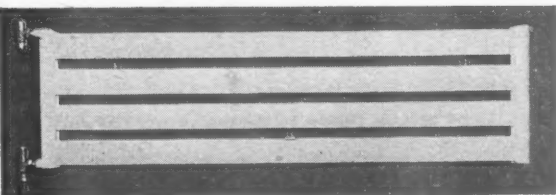
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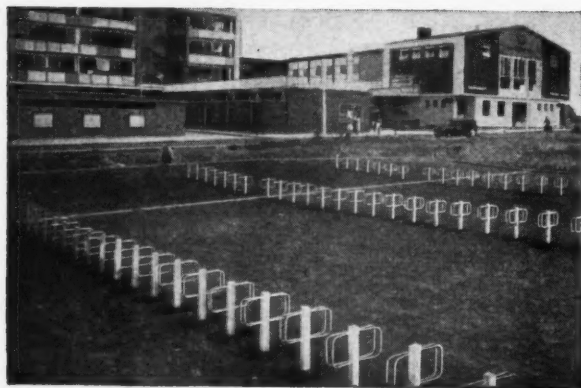
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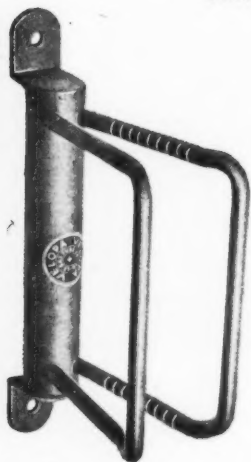
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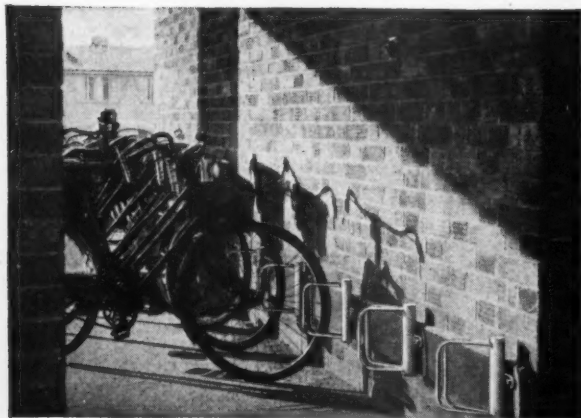
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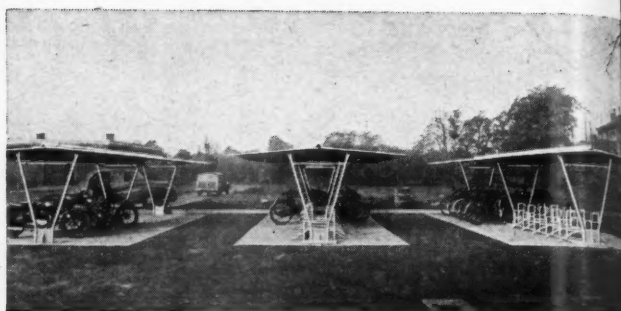
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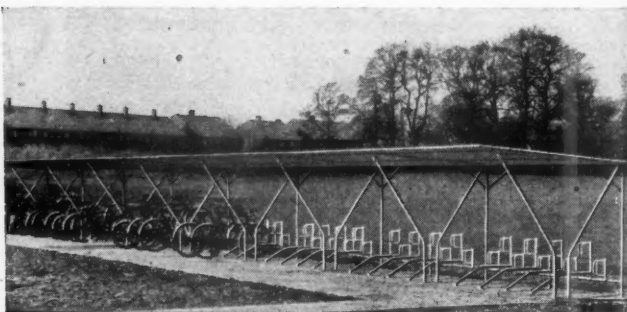
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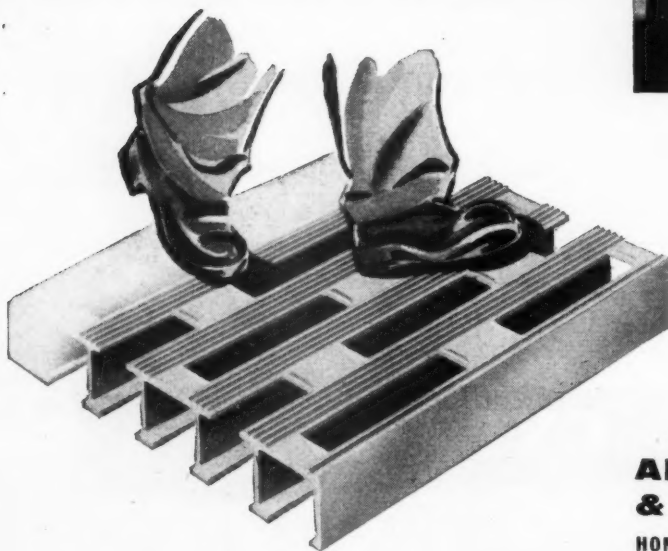
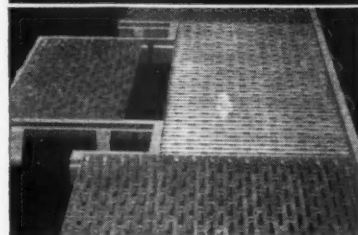
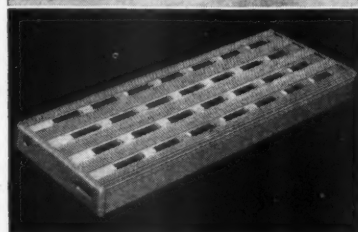
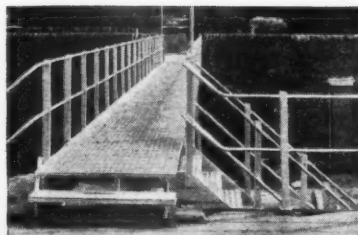
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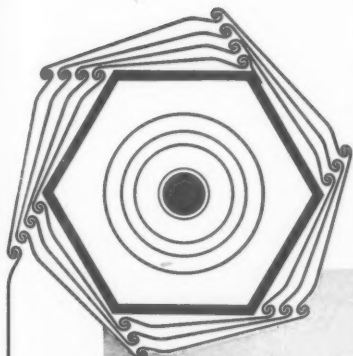
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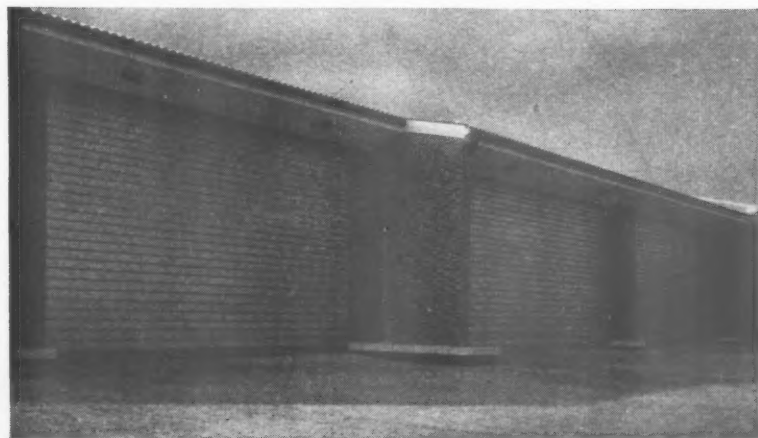
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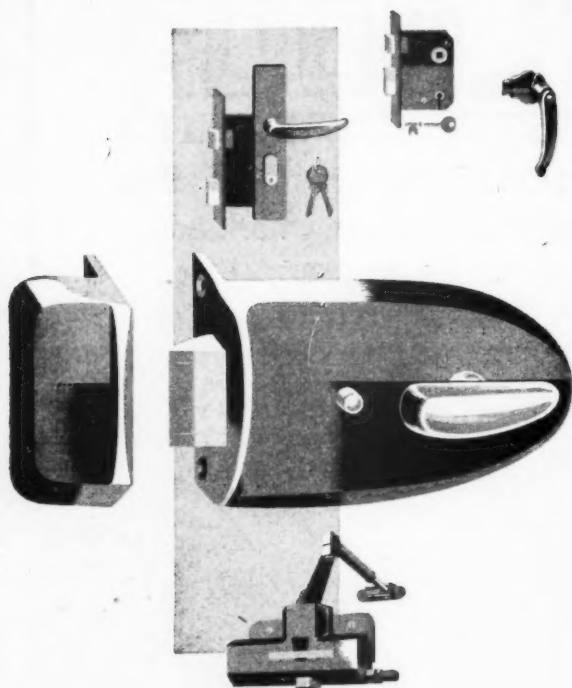


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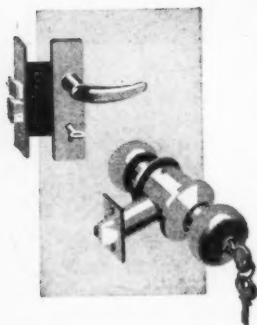
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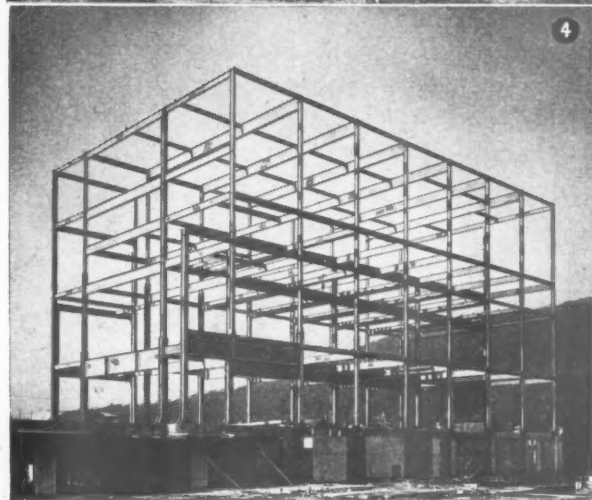
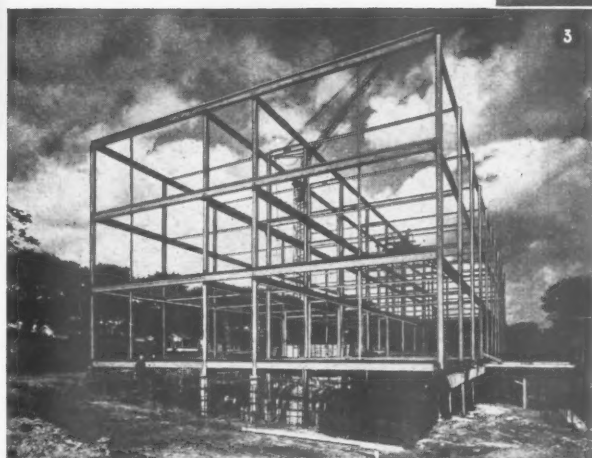
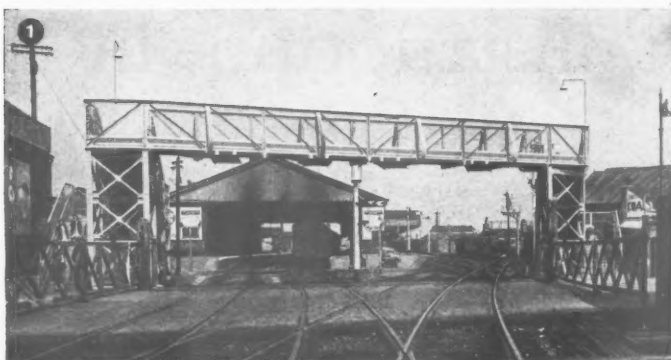
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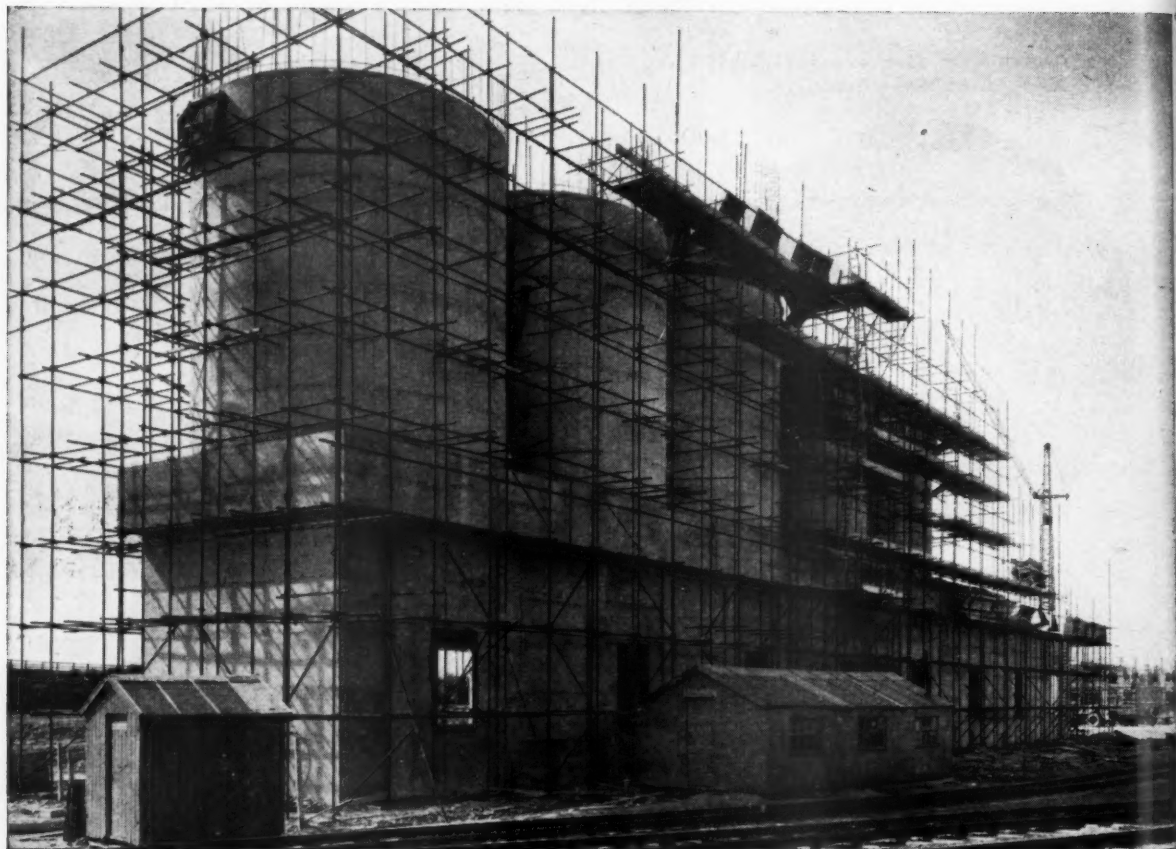
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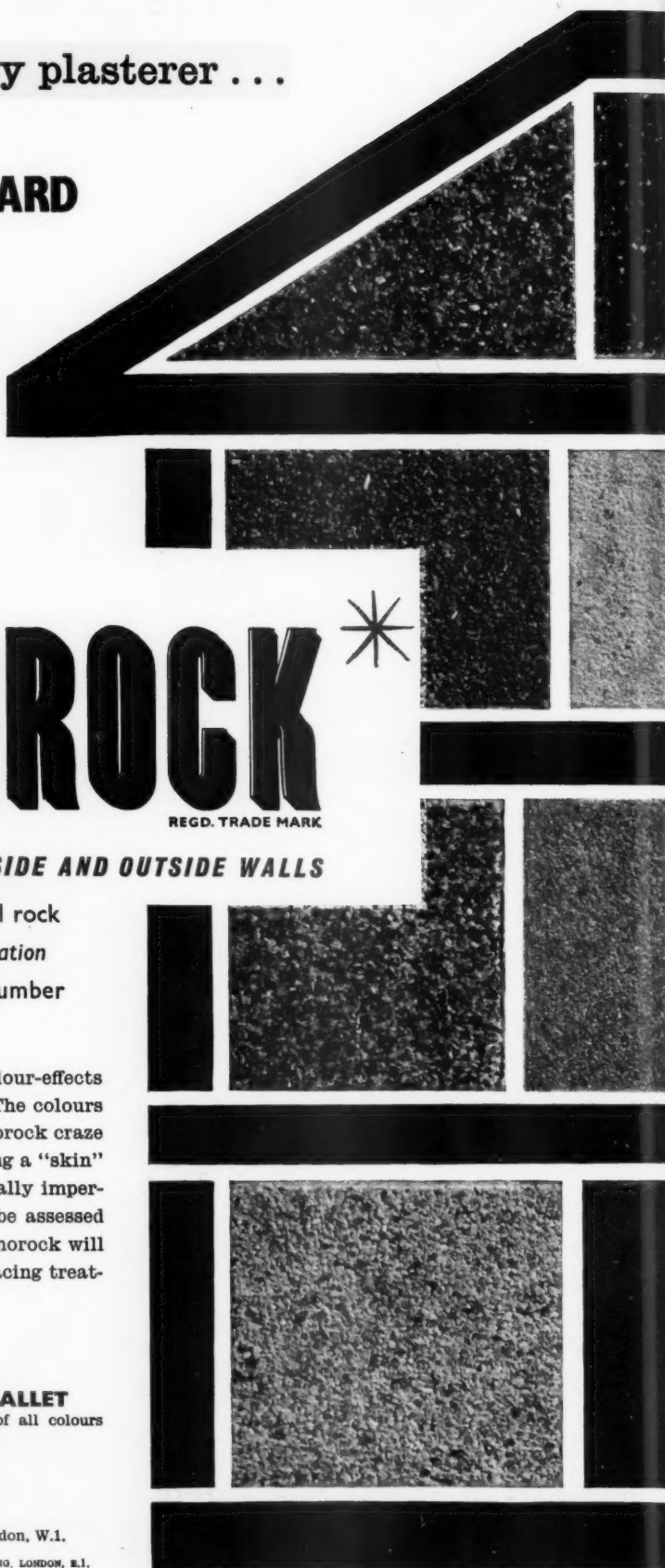
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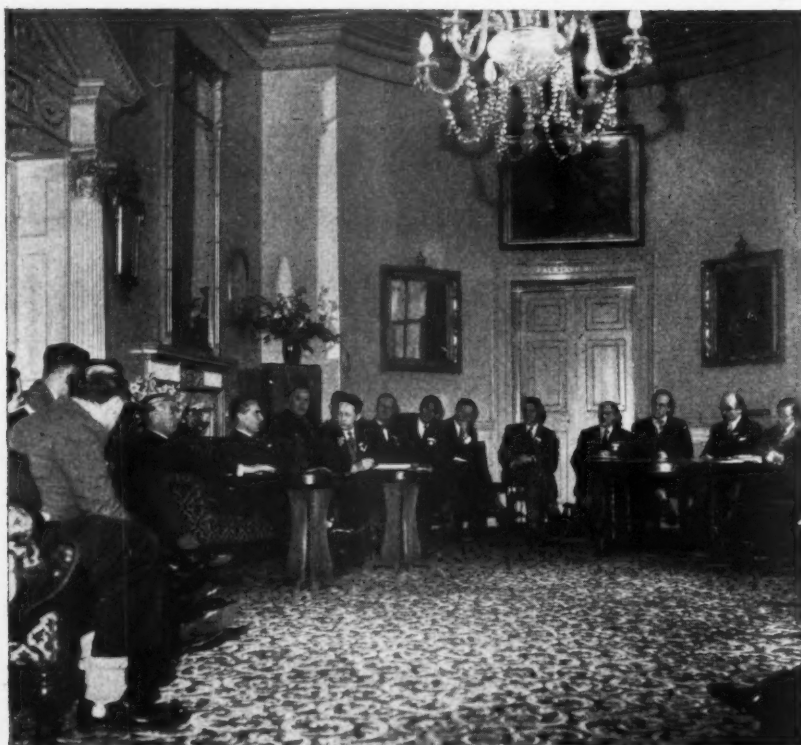
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### NOT QUITE CHARACTER

## THE NEWCASTLE CONFERENCE

All post war conferences of the RIBA have been run extremely efficiently, for which tribute should be paid to the RIBA official staff, who ensure that the host, the Allied Society, know precisely how it should be organized. It would be invidious, therefore, to say that last week's conference at Newcastle was more efficient than others, but it might be true to say that it achieved efficiency with less apparent strain than some have done. As might be expected, the numbers attending the conference was lower than last year, when Oxford could be guaranteed to attract a large crowd. There were in all almost 620 attending, of whom about 356 were architects (137 representing local authorities), the remainder being wives and relatives, the Press and representatives of local government.

The two discussions on the conference papers were held at the Lecture Theatre of the Literary and Philosophical Society, whose headquarters were in Westgate Road, close to Central Station and the Royal Station Hotel. Only a little way across the street was the conference headquarters in the Old Assembly Rooms, and here were held all the conference events save the garden party, naturally, and the exhibition of work by the members of the Northern Architectural Association, which was on view at the Laing Art Gallery, about three-quarters of a mile away. Even luncheons were served at the headquarters each day, obviously necessitating a tremendous amount of administration and furniture moving, as each meal was followed by reception, dance or dinner. Fortunately the assembly rooms are architecturally almost equal to such prolonged usage. They were built in 1776 to a design by a local architect, William Newton. A dark grey stone façade with a central bay of four large Ionic columns, has been applied to a dull brick box, but the interior is a pleasing arrangement of spaces, and the main room is impressively large, lit by clerestories, and covered with Adam-like plaster-work. The colour schemes,



*The study group in progress at the Old Assembly Rooms, Newcastle, under the chairmanship of W. A. Allen. The two speakers, Professor Sir William Holford and Professor Robert Matthew can be seen seated on left. Speakers were discussing the lines on which the discussion of the papers was to continue on the second full day.*

of cream, shocking pink, and gold is very dreary, and the roughly tinted medallions in the plaster work are just vulgar. Even so, the main assembly room is greatly preferable to the other ill-decorated rooms, each desecrated with modernistic bars. The approach to the Assembly Rooms, consisting of a semi-circular sweep of road round an area of pink granite chippings and crazy paving was a perfect example of subtopian design, from the gaunt lime trees, all of them having had their upper branches

sheared off to an even height of 20 ft. or so from the ground, to the blot-shaped flowerbed in asphalt, near the entrance containing yellow wallflowers and two yellow tulips. It would be nice to report that the conference architects felt their way through this concrete example of a Gordon Cullen demonstration of how-not-to-do-it with their eyes shut. Unfortunately the majority appeared to be as oblivious as any layman of this example of the wrong sort of character in a town.



*An exhibition of post-war architecture in the area of the Northern Architectural Association (arranged by the Association in conjunction with the Civic Trust) is on view at the Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle. It commemorates the NAA centenary. Left, two exhibition committee members, H. S. Wood (the designer of the exhibition) and D. W. Chalk, examine a model for a local airport project made by students of the Newcastle School of Architecture.*

On the evening before the conference started the architectural students of King's College, Durham University, showed commendable initiative by holding a brains trust. William Allen, Sir William Holford, Bruce Allsopp and Percy Johnson-Marshall were the brains called upon to spend about two hours discussing seven or eight questions which ranged from hoary favourites such as:—Is architecture more an art than a science? or, should architects and sculptors be encouraged to collaborate? To the new-fangled poser: Should architects participate in the all-in service? (Answer: They should.) Question: Then is the RIBA doing anything about it? (Answer, from the normally loquacious William Allen: "Yes.")

As customary, there was an informal reception, which also took place the Wednesday evening before the conference started. This was a perfect occasion for Londoners to greet each other with cries of surprise, and for regular conference attenders to note that the other regulars were looking even older, or even more prosperous, than last year. The crowd, and the hospitality, was such that although Northumbrian pipes were played, and sword and clog dances performed, not a murmur of sound penetrated from one room to another, so regrettably a number of guests missed seeing these added and fascinating entertainments.

On Thursday morning the conference members assembled on the hard wooden benches of the Literary and Philosophical Society's lecture theatre. The floor is steeply raked and the benches disposed in a semi-circle before the lecturer's table and the lantern screen. The walls are partly panelled and hung with portraits in oil, of presumably, early Newcastle philosophers—certainly their narrow canny eyes and pendulous noses suggested a Tyneside origin. The room was artificially lit by cubic light fittings looking like gigantic glowing lumps of sugar. A chalk notice at the door announced: Brit. Achi. Meeting. The clock had stopped at 12.

A friendly Lord Mayor, plump, pink, bald and witty, gave a leisurely address of welcome, confessed to knowing nothing about architecture, but did not forget to congratulate the Newcastle city architect on his work, and, in particular, his design for the new technical college. Kenneth Cross, the president, thanked the Lord Mayor, welcomed delegates from America, New South Wales and Malaya, and reminded the audience of the debt everyone owed to the NAA for organizing the conference. Donald McIntyre, the president of the NAA, replying, said that the president's words inspired and ensured that the conference would be a success. He asked the audience to visit the NAA's architectural exhibition and suggested that the RIBA place a claim for it to be exhibited at Portland Place.

Professors Sir William Holford and Robert Matthew then introduced their papers (which had previously been distributed to the members of the conference) and showed a considerable number of slides. Holford showed

views of St. Andrews, Tenterden (Kent), Winchelsea, Rye, Regents Park, Bath, Hull Coventry and Canterbury, Honolulu (an example of a main street which might be anywhere), Philadelphia, Cape Town, Brazil, and of his proposals for the St. Paul's precinct. Robert Matthew showed, amongst others, views of suburban Edinburgh, Quarry Hill (Leeds), various unnamed wartime designs for town-centres, Spence's laboratories at Liverpool and offices in St. Martin's Lane, Cumbernauld New Town, East Kilbride, Hatfield, Cwmbran, Roehampton (LCC), Sheffield University, Tile Hill, Coventry, and the New Barbican. Holford's slides were largely either historical examples of different types of architectural character, or examples of good and bad town planning. Matthew's illustrations were suggested as mainly examples of architectural character. Neither speaker attempted at any length to define different types of architectural character, or to distinguish precisely the difference between good and bad character, but limited themselves largely to illustrating and describing good and bad examples of town planning and design. No doubt on very reasonable grounds they did not attempt any definitions of character or to say how it could be obtained. Indeed, they were more or less the first and last users of the word "character," subsequent speakers being content to discuss education in civic design, town planning, the effect of the motor car on the town, planning control, administration, density and tree-planting.

After lunch a number of architects particularly interested in the subject of the conference, *Character in the Architecture of Towns*, met under the chairmanship of William Allen to decide what form the discussion should take the next morning. Under his excellent guidance a rough grouping of topics was arranged.

On the afternoon of the Thursday the traditional garden party was held. This consisted, strangely, of just a service in Durham Cathedral, followed by tea in the vast Monks' Dormitory, stuffed with manuscripts and fragmentary stone crosses, and a tour of Durham Castle. If an unconventional party, it was an absolutely splendid way of spending an afternoon, and could only have been improved if each new visitor had remembered to take his Pevsner guide with him.

In the evening there was the usual civic reception and dance. Friday morning showed an only slightly depleted audience, anxious to open a discussion on the previous day's papers. Provided one was not expecting a detailed discussion on architectural character, the speeches were of a fairly high standard and a number of architects had come with slides to illustrate their points. For a moment it seemed that the American representative was going to provide a third paper for discussion, but he was prevailed upon to pause and let the rest of the audience chip in. His points on the need for designing buildings to be seen from the air, on relying on climatic conditions for the provision of character in town design, and on the lack of wisdom in planning car parks in Newcastle because they just allowed more cars into the centre, were however, worth noting. Percy Johnson-



*At the Inaugural Meeting held on Thursday morning in the lecture theatre of the Literary and Philosophical Society, Newcastle. Donald McIntyre, president of the Northern Architectural Association, is welcoming delegates. Left to right, the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, Alderman J. W. Telford; Kenneth M. B. Cross, and C. D. Spragg. Below, left, at the civic reception and dance held at the Old Assembly Rooms on Thursday night; Tony Abbott and Dorothy Wilkinson. Below right, the grounds of Durham Castle, the scene of the garden party. Jeffrey Aronin official observer for the AIA from New York photographs his mother (right), Mrs. Joseph Aronin, mayor of San Antonio, Texas, and Mr. and Mrs. D. Wise (he was chairman of the handbook and publicity sub-committee, she is a practising architect).*



*At the informal reception held at the Old Assembly Rooms on Wednesday night. Left to right, H. Wharfe and Mrs. Wharfe, Mrs. Fielden and F. Fielden, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.*





Marshall emphasized the importance of the time-factor in planning, and the need for architects to understand the process of local government. Bruce Allsopp compared a neat, precinctual, car-less Greek village with a road-dominated rebuilt Le-Havre. Clifford Culpin extolled the virtues of cul-de-sac, semi-Radburn planning.

Donald Gibson emphasized that Coventry was a success despite expert advice and cited numerous examples of where expert opinion had been against the various features which were now extolled in the Coventry centre, such as: the pedestrian precinct, offices over shops, varied floor surfaces. Fello Atkinson came closest to the subject of character when he emphasized the importance of the silhouette in city skylines, particularly when the modern slab-block has usually a "dead pan" outline. London byelaws, he warned, may make unlively masses.

Alexander Steele, of Edinburgh, pointed out users of existing buildings were encouraged to maintain outworn buildings because they provided, or could provide, a higher plot ratio than a new building. He wanted architects to join planning committees.

E. T. Ashley Smith (Kent County Architect) asked Allied Societies, by exhibitions and meetings, "to create a climate to support planning." Professor Holford, speaking during the discussion, emphasized the need to deal with motor traffic either by pedestrian precincts, or by having pedestrian and motor circulation at two levels. His quietly spoken bombshell was the statement that he didn't think the Ministry of Transport had a policy. The MOT can't say what will happen in five years' time: their strategy of communication is inflicted on them by the budget.

The afternoon of the Friday was devoted to tours of Newcastle and the surrounding countryside. In the evening the conference dinner was held, when Kenneth Cross, the president, congratulated the NAA on the hundredth anniversary of their association, and on the quality of their architectural exhibition, which, in collaboration with the Civic Trust, they had put on display at the Laing Art Gallery.

Two other events should be noted; the first is one more example of the completeness of the careful planning for the conference by members of the NAA: the publication of a most interesting special number of *Planning Outlook*, the journal of the Town Planning Department of Durham University, which contains excellent articles on subjects related to the conference theme. The other event of note was the holding of a Special Congregation of Durham University at Newcastle on the Saturday, at which honorary degrees were conferred on the following:

D.C.L.: Kenneth Cross, M.A., the President, and Donald Gibson, C.B.E., M.A., at present the county architect for Nottinghamshire, previously architect of Coventry, and recently appointed to be director-general of works in the War Office.

M.A.: Donald McIntyre, President of the NAA, and C. D. Spragg, C.B.E., Secretary of the RIBA since 1945.

## The Editors

### CONFIDENTIAL: DON'T READ THIS

**C**RITICISM of the RIBA, and of the allied societies, so often arises not because they are doing the wrong thing, but because, as far as the average member is concerned, they appear to be doing nothing at all. This is at least partly due to the extraordinary urge felt by official staff and committee men to keep all their work and discussions secret. There would seem to be two reasons for this. First, if everything is stamped secret and confidential, and therefore can be talked about only by "insiders," there is less chance of argument and dissent from the "outsiders" and therefore life is very much easier and more restful for the officials. (Easier, that is, except at occasional A.G.M.s). The second reason is less tangible, but membership of a secret society and possession of secret information which the men beyond the pale don't have seems to satisfy the individual's power complex. Unfortunately, secrecy breeds opposition. If, therefore, there is anything to learn from recent events, it is the need on the part of the RIBA and its committees, and Allied Societies, to fight against the inborn tendency to have a quiet life and to keep everything confidential. If all these bodies looked at their reports and deliberations afresh they would realise that, apart from, say, periods of actual negotiation with outside bodies, virtually *nothing* need be considered confidential.

### EDUCATION: THE FULL REPORT

On page 772 we print the report of the Oxford Conference. This confirms the bold proposals commended in our leading article of May 8. The future student will go (with a GCE at A level) to a full time, fully "recognized" University or advanced Technical College course. His teachers are to be men of considerable experience in practice or research. There will be interchanges with other faculties (economics, sociology, science) and a good deal of post-graduate study. In other words, training for architecture is to become more on a par with training for medicine or engineering. What the conference has done is to outline a new *system* of education which should surely have the support of the whole profession.

The next question that the Board of Education will have to face when they come to implement these proposals is what the *content* of the new system should be? What kind of knowledge and skills should the future architect command and what sort of contractual position vis-à-vis clients and the industry will he hold? The content of present training is too academic and too isolated from the industry (the report briefly recognizes this) and the consequence has been a rather uncertain public confidence in the architect's ability to control costs or to appreciate the client's economic problems.

It is clear that decisions about the content of education must be linked with forecasts as to the nature of future practice. Will public service grow, will private practice diminish, will more architects go into industry (to take leading positions)?



Will the team gradually replace the pyramidal organisation? The controversial proposal for a class of "supporting technologist" assistants who would not be architects in name is clearly a recognition that education's present aim—every student a potential principal—will not do any more. But we cannot decide what skills this "NCO" class should command—or even whether they are necessary at all—until we have decided what skills the architect himself should possess, and in what contractual position he will exercise them.

Without such a re-appraisal of education's content, the move into the universities might only weaken the already slender ties between the schools and "real life." If, on the other hand, it is decided that the future architect must have a better grasp of costs, manufacture, erection, and specialist techniques, that his education does not finish at age 24 or 25, but is something that continues throughout life, then the schools of architecture could enormously enrich and unify university life as well as enhancing the architect's public prestige.



#### BRUSSELS AND CRITICISM

*The Builder* has come out with a fierce attack on J. M. Richards for adversely criticizing the British contribution to the Brussels exhibition. Of course, anyone has the right to disagree with Richards's views, but what puzzles ASTRAGAL is *The Builder's* reasons for objecting to his giving them in a recent BBC talk. Says *The Builder*: it (Richards's talk) "must have created a curious impression on listeners abroad, unless, of course, it

was accepted as just another piece of British self-depreciation . . . one is left wondering just what is the BBC's policy in relation to British architecture and architects. Perhaps Sir Ian Jacob will tell us." That sounds very like a suggestion that it is part of the BBC's job to make sure that anything British is reported on favourably—a form of censorship that would be quite intolerable. Doesn't *The Builder* realize that the BBC's high reputation abroad derives from the fact that political or propaganda considerations have never been allowed to influence what is said?

*The Builder* makes another curious statement about the same BBC talk: that Richards ought to have mentioned that good numbers of people were visiting the British Pavilions—as though that provided an answer to his criticisms of the design. Apart from the fact that the number of people who enter an exhibition building to see what's inside gives no indication of whether or not they liked what they saw, *The Builder* is surely wrong in saying that to attract visitors is "the object of the exercise."

If it were as simple as that, a pavilion full of dancing girls might do the trick. But visitors must be attracted in a way that leaves them with the right impressions and conveys effectively the right information. This isn't neces-

sarily best done by pandering to the most popular taste, and trying to please those simply seeking to be entertained.

#### THE LATEST FROM THE EXHIBITION

In previous weeks ASTRAGAL has passed on opinions on the Brussels fair. He could now, if he wished, give some of his own, having just paid his first—and highly enjoyable—visit since the opening. But he won't anticipate the special number of the JOURNAL on the exhibition, which is appearing next week. Here, however, are one or two up-to-date impressions:

\*

Attendance seems to be very good. Even on a weekday, with the weather uncertain, the place is full though not uncomfortably so. Of the foreign pavilions, by far the most popular is the American—crowded all the time, owing, perhaps, not only to the charm and light-heartedness of interior but to the appeal of the non-stop fashion-parade and the fact that there are lots of places to sit down. Other pavilions provide sitting space only on café-terraces, etc., but foot-weary visitors often want to sit when they don't want to drink.

\*

The next most crowded pavilions seem to be the Russian, French, Dutch and Swiss. Britain is doing pretty well, though it's difficult to tell what this signifies because the British Government pavilion is not labelled. Many people seem to be going into it out of curiosity without knowing whom it belongs to.

\*

At the time of the opening much was said about failures to be ready in time. A great deal has been done since. The enormous (and badly overcrowded) French Pavilion is now almost finished. The defiantly "different" Italian Pavilion is completely ready. One must assume that the very well designed Spanish Pavilion is finished too, because no work seems to be going on inside, though there is hardly anything in it. But it should be said that when Spanish dancers are performing on the raised stage in the middle, and the stepped-up floor all round is serving (as it is designed to do) as an auditorium, one is no longer conscious of the emptiness of the building.

Don't fail to go to this exhibition, but take plenty of money with you. And if you want to eat as cheaply as possible, in the most pleasant environment, try the German Pavilion.

#### GEMS FROM EAMES

The recent, all-too-brief visit of Charles ("Chairs") Eames gave many of us a first chance to see America's most brilliant designer with our own eyes, and hear him with our own ears—though some of you had to make do with the electronic eyes and ears of TV. On this occasion the ears had it, without a doubt, and ASTRAGAL can only hope that some devoted tape-recorder addict has got as much as possible of the master's wisdom transcribed for posterity. Here are a few samples from memory.

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*On students.* "It's gotten to be so that if you ask a student to sharpen a pencil, he says, 'Is there a course in pencil-sharpening?'"

*On an all-round education.* "This 'Whole Man' business is a fraud, you must know at least one discipline right through."

*On answering silly questions.* "If I was to tell you straight off without thinking, I should simply tell you what I thought last time I *did* think about it—and I might not agree with that now."

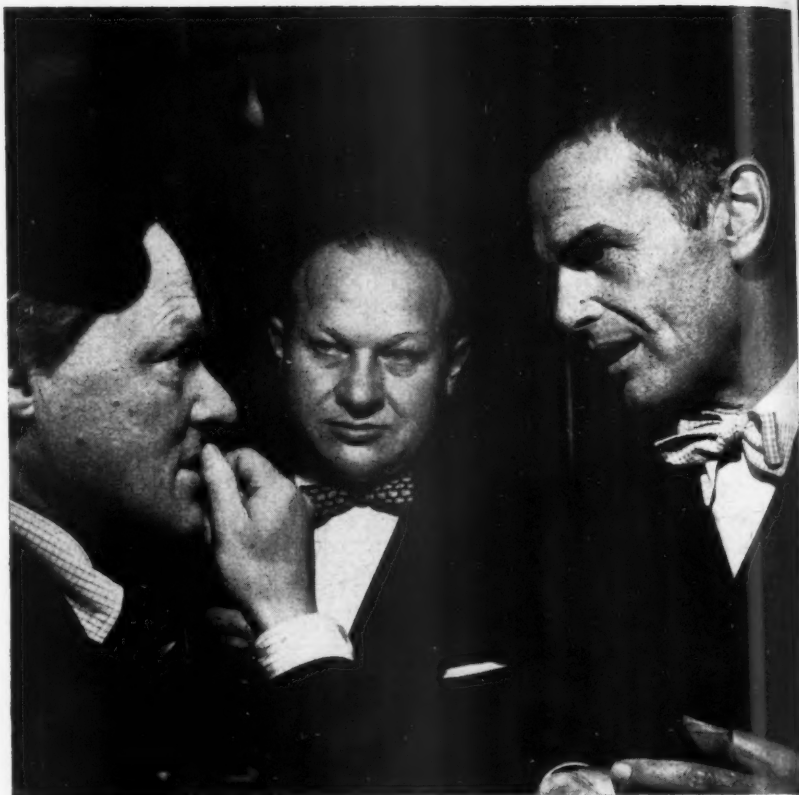
*On conformity.* "The point about conforming is not that it makes you successful, but it helps avoid immediate failure."

And one wifely comment from Ray Eames:

"At home I would never dare sit on a chair!"

#### BANQUETS AND BRICKBATS

Stanley Farrow, once an AJ Guest Editor, is having a busy year. Last week a colleague of mine suffered, if cheerfully, from the lavish entertainment Mr. Farrow dispensed, once as a member of Howard Farrow's (celebrating their fiftieth anniversary this year), and once as President of the LMBA giving a lunch to the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Denis Truscott. On the last occasion Stanley Farrow made a short, sensible speech, pertinent to the occasion. The Lord Mayor's reply was a lamentable bit of nonsense.



*Sir Hugh Casson, left, talking to Charles Eames, right, at a recent party given by the ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW in honour of Eames at their offices in Queen Anne's Gate, Centre, Stefan Munsing, the cultural affairs officer at the U.S. Embassy. See "Gems from Eames."*

Having pointed out that British building had a reputation second to none (which one can hardly prove or disprove), Sir Denis said that he wished he had as much confidence in the skill of British architects as he had in British builders. He praised County Hall and Waterloo Bridge as admirable examples of "20th century architecture," and advised people to study what is done abroad, particularly in Scandinavia, in "aesthetic appearance" and in the use of modern materials. Here is complete contradiction: County Hall and Scandinavia can never be related in 20th century terms or in the use of modern materials.

\*

ASTRAGAL doesn't mind Lord Mayors criticizing architects—it shows that their eyes aren't completely blinded by banquets and big business—but please will they get their facts straight first.

#### BETTER DESIGN TRAINING WANTED

The winners of this year's Royal Society of Arts bursaries do not inspire much confidence in the future of British industrial design. Their work

shows for the most part a gadgety approach to design and a deplorably low standard of presentation and draughtsmanship. Most architectural schools could produce better work from students of comparable age and experience. Designers in countries where industrial-design standards are higher, such as Denmark, Sweden or Germany, are usually architects—or at least they have the advantage of an architectural education.

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There is no really satisfactory design course available in this country, and the RSA might well consider using the money it spends in giving unexceptional students glorious holidays abroad (mostly £150 a bursary) on the more useful task of improving design training generally.

\*

Many of this year's juries commented on the lack of discipline on the part of some candidates who failed to comply with the requirements of the tests. This does not augur well for the relationships between these people and their future employers.

ASTRAGAL.

## RIBA COUNCIL ELECTIONS

*The Candidates' Statements*

*Twenty-four candidates for election to the Council of the RIBA have responded to our invitation to send in a short "election address," and about half of them have sent in their photographs. Whether this will prove to be a help or a hindrance to them only the ballot box can tell; but we are sure that it is valuable for candidates to state their views on the acute problems affecting the Institute and the profession. The replies, which are printed in alphabetical order, grouped hierarchically as Fellows, Associates and Licentiates, are from the following:*

J. M. Austin-Smith (F)  
Clifford Culpin (F)  
Harold Conolly (F)  
A. Douglas Jones (F)  
Peter Dunham (F)  
A. G. Sheppard Fidler (F)  
Leonard C. Howitt (F)  
D. Plaskett Marshall (F)  
R. Duncan Scott (F)  
Ralph Tubbs (F)  
A. W. Cleeve Barr (A)  
Brian Bunch (A)

J. Eastwick-Field (A)  
W. G. Howell (A)  
Harry Judson (A)  
Robert Paine (A)  
C. H. Bingham Powell (A)  
Geoffrey Powell (A)  
C. H. Simmons (A)  
Thurston Williams (A)  
Hugh Wilson (A)  
W. N. Oliver (L)  
Harold A. Rolls (L)  
R. A. Simons (L)

## Replies from Fellows:

J. M. AUSTIN-SMITH writes: In the space which is at my disposal I can only deal with what I consider to be the main groupings of the issues which the RIBA must tackle. I think there are three such groupings:

1. To improve the standard of architecture.
  2. To improve the nature of the service provided by architects.
  3. To improve the status of the architect.
- The issues involved in the first group are concerned with education and must of necessity be of a long-term nature. It is vital however to define the long-term policy since upon this depends the validity of the decisions taken in the day to day running of the Institute. The raising of the standard of entry to the profession, a much higher standard of qualification, the problem of the assistant category, and the emergence of the architectural technologist, are among the issues which must be tackled. The issues in the second group must be largely influenced by the ever-changing

social and economical climate within which architects must work. This will entail overhauling and, if necessary, bringing up to date such matters as the Code of Conduct and the fee structure. The introduction of new methods will also be necessary and would include such matters as management training at all levels and the compilation of a Code of Architectural Practice. The issues in the third group largely solve themselves if the problems in the preceding groups are surmounted. Nevertheless, an incredibly dynamic approach to public relations is a major issue. This by itself however would be only a holding operation. The other factors must be tackled at the same time if a positive advance in the standing, and remuneration of the architect is to be achieved.

CLIFFORD CULPIN writes: The RIBA should immediately engage itself with: Internally, *streamlining*. The tempo of the Institute's work must be accelerated to have

some relationship to life "outside." A bright idea fed into one end of the slow-turning Committee/Executive/Council machine does not emerge at the other until months later when often the opportune moment for action has long since passed. The RIBA plods on while the stream of modern life goes swirling by. How can the speed-up be achieved? I don't know! One must get "inside" to find out.

Externally, *salesmanship*. Although restricted by the limitations of our Charter, we really must start actively "selling" the Architect to the public. Unless we overcome some of our precious professional inhibitions in this direction, we shall be dangerously handicapped in our battle with "packaged services" and other challengers. Concurrently with this drive, however, we must find some way of dealing with those of our members who by one piece of gross inefficiency can undo months of patient work on "public relations."

HAROLD CONOLLY writes: The big issue is how to preserve unity. Splinter groups will get us nowhere. The RIBA is ours—yours and mine. If we don't like what it does, we should say so—but stay members. No other body will do as well for us, anyhow.

The Council should consider immediately all ways possible of improving inter-professional relations, to inform members what it has done and why—and quickly, by such means as, e.g., press conferences, more readable articles in a re-cast *Journal*, and by more personal links with provincial members. We need a quick follow up of the results of the Oxford Conference on architectural education, not only on intake, training and post-graduate research, but on far wider implications. And we must urgently continue discussions on qualifications with overseas societies.

Next, there is finance. One thing is certain, the Institute must go carefully for a bit. A good time, surely, not only to watch expenditure, but to streamline administrative machinery and staffing.

The Sheppard Committee must continue, and even enlarge its scope, and all means available should be used to obtain better status and pay for the salaried member.

Other urgent problems which call for study are: (i) The Constitution of the RIBA and relationships with allied societies, and (ii) architects and directorships.

DOUGLAS JONES writes: Writing these notes for the ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL seems to me to be a bit like political canvassing—or trying to make one's case seem better than it is.

What one really has to say is roughly the same as the next chap, though one's interests may be slightly different. In my own case my chief interest lies in education, which is natural as I have been Head of the Birmingham School of Architecture for 11 years. Architectural education is a subject that is now in the centre of the political arena. Major changes in this field which, I think, are overdue, have been blocked by an attitude of *laissez faire* of which most of us





Left to right: J. M. Austin-Smith, C. H. Bingham Powell, J. Eastwick-Field.

have been guilty as members of the RIBA, but now that strong proposals have been put forward at the Oxford Conference, action seems to be on the way.

To me, one of the most encouraging things that has happened at the RIBA for many years is the publication of the *Ad Hoc* Committee's report, produced under the chairmanship of Richard Sheppard, on "Professional Status." The attitude of mind that is reflected in this document is the one that I would like to see in evidence at the RIBA.

PETER B. DUNHAM writes: "Better Architecture by Architects" and "More Architecture for Architects"; very briefly I consider that these are the aims on which the RIBA should concentrate.

The Institute should play a more positive rôle in improving the efficiency of the architectural service provided by its members, by running or instituting courses, printing pamphlets, etc. Also, more emphasis should be placed on this subject in the education provided by the architectural schools.

This improvement is essential to command the public's esteem, which is sometimes lacking, and to provide more building work for architects. The time is now opportune for architects to obtain more work from the speculative builder, to the benefit of the builder, the architect, and especially the landscape. That builders are receptive and co-operative was demonstrated at the recent Housing Symposium, and I am sure that a vigorous follow-up will at last produce results in a field of building that is a disgrace to our profession and the building trade.

Despite the Institute's present financial difficulties, a bold policy of publicity, propaganda and public relations generally must be followed. Finally, the Fellowship class must be made to mean something. Despite the enormous increase in members generally, the number of Fellows remains the same. Presumably the suffix "F" is considered a mark of senile decay instead of prestige and experience. Steps should be taken to attract Associates, whether in official or private practice, to become Fellows, so that Fellowship is looked upon as a hall-mark of experience and ability that would command a higher salary. An increase in subscriptions from this source would help the Institute and relieve the demands on the Associate,

who should be regarded, as his title infers, as the junior member of the profession.

A. G. SHEPPARD FIDLER writes: I believe that the prime task of the RIBA is to support and press on with the work of improving the professional status and efficiency of the profession. The *Ad Hoc* Committee has pointed the way—action is now required in the shortest possible time. Every opportunity should be taken, in the field of public relations, to establish the place of the architect in the community so that his work is appreciated, understood, and required. This is especially necessary in these days of high pressure, big business enterprises, and it is essential for the profession to be well organized to meet the challenge. It may be necessary for the Scale of Professional Charges and the Code of Professional Conduct to be carefully re-examined in the light of rapidly changing conditions.

All efforts should be made to ensure that the architectural work of Local Authorities should be under the control of a qualified architect, who should be the principal officer in charge of his Department.

Another urgent matter concerns the training of architects. I believe the Council should give energetic support to all measures which improve and advance the standard of architectural training, and especially follow up the recommendations of the Oxford Conference.

Although as an official architect I am very closely concerned with all that affects the salaried members of the profession, I feel strongly that the members should not be divided but should work as a whole towards the highest standards of good architecture.

LEONARD C. HOWITT writes: Whether candidates for election to the Council of a learned society should indulge in what might be regarded as an "election address" is a debatable point. However, if the contributions invited by the *JOURNAL* succeed in reminding members of the RIBA of their duty to register their votes, that is sufficient justification for their publication.

The understandable limitations upon space make it impossible to refer to many questions which the Royal Institute should consider, and is, in fact, considering. As an

elected member of the Council since 1947 I have supported every action which in my considered opinion was in the best interests of the profession as a whole, and I have no regrets. As Chairman of the Salaried and Official Architects' Committee for most of the time, I have had particular concern for the interests of salaried members. However, I deplore any tendency to divide the profession according to the way in which we are paid and regard the interests of the whole as paramount.

I am in favour of higher standards for entry and qualification and have no patience with apathy and inefficiency. I believe that the conditions most favourable to good architecture exist when the architect is independent in relation to the client and the contractor, and consider that the architect should justify his claim to be the leader of the building team by heading a team of independent consultant engineers and quantity surveyors, accepting full responsibility and quoting an inclusive fee for the all-in service. I favour a fully elected Council chosen for their capacity to make their own decisions in the interest of the profession as a whole, and not as mere regional delegates with a parochial outlook.

D. PLASKETT MARSHALL writes: My main interest is, of course, in the welfare of those in private practice, but as the whole of the profession is indivisible, I would like to see greater co-operation, equality of conditions of service, and security within the profession.

I have made a study of the situation, and problems of the architect employed in private practice, and of the possibility of the establishment of a pension scheme, administered by the profession. I have, in fact, prepared a draft scheme which, with the help and co-operation of the profession, could give a degree of financial security to all in private practice.

I know and can sympathize with the problems and aspirations of the publicly employed architect, and I believe that the terms and conditions of employment of architects in public service should be negotiated at the highest level by the RIBA.

The RIBA should set out to provide guidance and assistance in the many day-to-day problems that face architects in private practice.

An increase in publicity to the work of the whole profession is essential. Collectively, the individuality and personality of the architect must be maintained.

R. DUNCAN SCOTT writes: In standing for election, I represent the view of the South Eastern Society of Architects, given by me to the Council in April, that the re-constitution of the Council is a "must."

I consider that representation should be based on regions, approximately coinciding with the existing Allied Societies structure, and that regions should vote for their own representatives. I realize that this would involve the formation of a London Society—which is long overdue.

This would give members the opportunity of knowing as persons, not as names, the men they vote for; would give an opportunity



for elected members of Council to meet ordinary members at Society level during each session; and would provide incentive to members to interest themselves in and work for the profession through the Allied Societies, which could only improve unity in the profession.

I consider that Allied Societies should retain their near autonomy under this new structure and not be branches of the Institute. They should be used, however, to disseminate views and decisions of Council amongst members, to collect views of mem-

textual Education to ensure that the standards of the schools of architecture in all parts of the country are equally high. I would also support proposals that a higher standard of general education should be required before commencing an architectural training.

I feel, too, that the Institute should more frequently make its voice heard publicly wherever buildings of architectural merit are to be destroyed or new schemes proposed of low aesthetic quality.

So far as practice is concerned, I would

General Meeting, for a full review of the Constitution of the RIBA Council and for changes in the method of election of its members and for the present financial situation to be re-examined to ensure that funds available and to be called for from members are used in the best possible way for the benefit of all.

In addition I think the Council should tackle the following:

1. The improvement of architectural education.

2. Wide publicity to make known the architect's contribution to modern life.

3. Encouragement by every means possible of the public to make greater use of architects.

Finally, I believe architecture is a noble profession and the furtherance of good architecture and good conditions for architects can be best obtained by showing the public by jobs well done that architects are worth employing and that as a profession we are united.

JOHN EASTWICK-FIELD writes: The RIBA is "apt to be regarded as a fuddy-duddy body" (*The Observer*, May 11). What a state of affairs! If the Institute is to have the respect of the public which it ought to have for the sake of the profession it must be seen to be an active body representative of and fully supported by its members. This, at the moment, it is not, and for that reason I am in agreement that the first step is for the Council's constitution to be altered so that all its officers and councillors are directly elected by the members.

I believe that in the immediate future the issue which the Council must regard as its most serious responsibility is the improvement of architectural education. It must see that the valuable work of the Oxford Conference is not wasted nor its recommendations shelved.

More recognition should be given to the fact that different sections of the membership have different interests and steps must be taken to deal with the particular problems arising from them: there are, for instance, quite distinct problems, not adequately dealt with, associated with (a) private practice; (b) senior official appointments (in the face of opposition from other professions); (c) assistant architects in both official and private offices.

Generally, in order to obtain the support of the membership which is so sadly lacking, the Institute could well be less detached, less "private and confidential"; and it could make better known what it does do in a more lively *Journal*.

W. G. HOWELL writes: The most important task facing the Council is to regain the confidence of the membership and to help re-establish trust amongst the various sections of the membership. It could be a disaster for architecture if the Institute were to be jeopardized by large numbers of young architects becoming fed up and resigning (or never joining) or by provincial architects feeling the Institute in London so remote that they withdrew their support. An atmos-



Left to right: A. W. Cleeve Barr, Clifford Culpin, Harold Conolly.

bers for transmission to Council, and to give opportunities to all members who are prepared to serve and work for the profession.

RALPH TUBBS writes: Although the Institute has many different functions to perform, I feel that perhaps its most important task is to raise the status of the architect. This, I am convinced, can only be achieved by working for the improvement of the standard of architects. I believe, therefore, that the Council should take a more positive interest in the work of the Board of Archi-

tecure every effort to ensure that bylaws are in line with contemporary knowledge and techniques.

With regard to the Institute's domestic policy, I would support an independent financial examination and review of organization and methods to see whether economies might be made without impairing efficiency. Expenditure should be concentrated where architecture will most benefit. I would also support steps to ensure that as many members of Council as possible are democratically elected by postal ballot.

## Replies from Associates

A. W. CLEEVE BARR writes: The most immediate issues to be faced by the RIBA, in my opinion, are those which were the subject of the resolution, which I put forward at the recent AGM, viz:

1. To put the financial affairs of the Royal Institute in order, and in particular to ensure that all effective professional and public activities are not sacrificed to the mistaken policy of paying off the mortgage on the new building quicker than we can reasonably afford;

2. To reform the constitution of the Council to make it more democratic and more representative of the feelings of the majority of members.

Having begun to put its own organization and affairs in order, I suggest that the RIBA should face up to the following issues:

1. Raise the education standards of entry to the profession, particularly in science subjects, and press for early joint training of architects, builders, engineers and surveyors;

2. Introduce post-entry training courses on such subjects as contract management, cost

control, building types, services in buildings, problems arising from the introduction of new materials and techniques, etc;

3. Define more clearly in the code what services the public should expect architects to perform in return for their fees—to stop the scandal of the few black sheep who produce little more than a dubious eighth-scale;

4. Give every support to the proposed local government architects' society;

5. Endeavour to abolish the practice of aesthetic controls by planning authorities over the work of any qualified architect.

BRIAN BUNCH writes: I offer myself for election to the RIBA Council at the invitation of the Council of the Northants, Beds, and Hunts Association of Architects, who consider that the RIBA Council would be more representative and better able to serve the interests of the profession as a whole if it included more architects from the provinces.

I support the need, expressed at the Annual

phere of frustration and mistrust has grown up over the last few years, until to the majority of the profession the Council has become a "Them," a remote in-board club, thought, unjustly but understandably, to be responsible for and indifferent to all our troubles. The Council's lack of sensitivity to this atmosphere was chiefly responsible for the eruption at the AGM.

In order to restore morale the Council must:

1. Show willingness and determination in implementing the Barr-Cox amendment;
2. Take active steps to bring into effect the recommendations of the Oxford Congress;
3. Work out and put before the profession a policy for the evolution of the Institute over the next few decades;
4. Allow the student voice to be heard on the Council (no taxation without representation!) possibly by having a corporate member nominated and voted for by student members.

HARRY JUDSON writes: I am glad to respond to your invitation to address a few words to voters. The first thing they should realize is that only 10 seats, out of a total Council of 70 members, are to be filled by direct election each year.

I would like to see the decision of the AGM, to review the organization and business affairs of the RIBA, extended to include also a comprehensive report on the membership, organization, areas, activities and finances of the Allied Societies and Branches. I believe that this would disclose a chaotic state of affairs and would show some Societies and Branches to be practically moribund. Large numbers of members remote from London are virtually cut off from

Technical and Clerical Services. I have had some previous experience of this work as a member of the staff side of the Yorkshire Provincial Council of this body.

As the post-war period recedes and building conditions become stabilized, architects are being judged less on promise and more on performance. The quality of service given by architects, however employed or remunerated, must be continually raised and satisfaction must be given by the production of buildings not only of good design, but within the estimated time and cost and economical in maintenance. It is part of the work of the RIBA to facilitate the achievement of this, for upon it depends the future of the whole profession.

ROBERT PAINE writes: Apart from the major issue of reform for which we voted at the AGM the Institute should concern itself to get more of the general volume of building work into the hands of the profession. Not merely is this desirable for the nation's self-respect: if architects as a whole can be made to prosper a climate will be created in which many desirable improvements may be brought to pass. This means advertising, not only of the subtle kind which benefits the already lucky ones, but widespread, forthright and effective. Advertisement today is no shame but a downright necessity for survival in competition and it should not be impossible to put over something which dukes and dustmen (Transport and General Workers Union) patronize and house-agents commend. Two conditions are requisite—a worth-while product and ample funds. To secure the one and guarantee the other should be the Council's main concerns.

for election, and think that the RIBA Council should work hard to ensure the success of the Society of Local Government Architects.

If your annual subscription does not give you value for money, don't resign but vote for reforms! A new Constitution should be written to give more Proportional and more Regional Representation before the next election.

In numbers Associates are to Fellows as 6 to 1, but on the Council as 6 to 12 and on the chief committees as 6 to 42; Licentiates are even less represented. Should not all Local Societies hold their annual general meetings after 6 p.m. and elect their representatives at the RIBA by ballot by post? Can public relations be improved? Should the Secretary tour the world again? Are the profits of the *RIBA Journal* small because advertisers suspect that few care to read gobbledygook? Should not an Intermediate exam cater also for draughtsmen who do not intend to become architects? Should not standards of entry be raised?

I say: "Ignore all candidates who have been canvassed by Local Societies or nominated by, or prominent at, the RIBA!"

GEOFFREY POWELL writes: The principal objective of the RIBA in my opinion is the improvement of architecture in this country. The greater part of present building compares badly with that in a number of other countries and has resulted not only in the loss of opportunities provided by bombing, but in the positive, if gradual spoiling of our cities and country towns. The main cause is the low level of aesthetic interest and ambition both in client and architect, and the solution, although a long-term one, lies in education. It is, therefore, this aspect of the Institute's work that I regard as of primary importance. The Institute is making great efforts to obtain popular recognition and wider employment for the qualified architect. While this will have some effect as a short term measure the need for popularizing the architect arises because the general standard of architecture is not sufficiently high to sell itself.

C. H. SIMMONS writes: This year I have been nominated for election by the RIBA Council and the County Architects' Society. Thus, one might infer that I am not strictly confined to the "official lobby" if, indeed, such a thing exists. I naturally deplore the idea of a divided profession and I have during the post-war years liberally shared the load of my office with practising architects. This experience, coupled with my knowledge of salaried office affairs, has given me an insight of both organizations, particularly the remuneration and status of the key architects who form the sound core of our profession. I am keenly interested in the RIBA *Ad Hoc* Committee and the survey it is preparing, and I would identify myself vigorously with these pursuits. Status is today's *cri-de-coeur* but we shall not have it simply by shouting for it. The idea of the "whole man"—artist and businessman—is neither the public's nor the industry's conception of us because in the past we have not given this conception to



Left to right: W. G. Howell, D. Plaskett Marshall, Hugh Wilson, C. H. Simmons.

participation in RIBA affairs. (Such members can, however, vote in these elections and it seems inexplicable that so many neglect even this simple duty.)

I support the formation of the proposed Local Government Architects' Society and the taking of all possible steps, in collaboration with other professions, to secure a voice in the National Joint Council for Local Authorities Administrative, Professional,

This is not for one moment to suggest that the Institute should cease meanwhile to be a "learned" society nor on the other hand why it should not do something about all those chipped cups.

C. H. BINGHAM POWELL writes: I have been nominated by members of the staff of Surrey County Council as their candidate



Left to right: A. Douglas Jones, A. G. Sheppard Fidler, Ralph Tubbs, Leonard C. Howitt.

It is apparent that much good work is being carried out by the committees of the Institute, but there is a need for some reorganiza-

tion of Council procedure to enable prompt action to be taken to bring the work to fruition.

THURSTON WILLIAMS writes: My resolution, calling on the Council to take steps to obtain more adequate representation for salaried architects, was passed at the 1955 Annual General Meeting. Since then there have been some advances to this end, in the setting up of the *Ad Hoc* Committee, the appointment of a secretary for professional relations and the formation of a local government architects' society. But I still consider that there is much to be done by the Institute on this issue.

This year the AGM found it necessary to discuss the failure of the Council to plan the Institute's affairs. It is even more vital than three years ago that the issues raised should find immediate reflection in the policies of the new Council. I agree with those members who made it clear that to restore confidence in the leaders of the Institute immediate and urgent action is required.

I support wholeheartedly the amendments, approved by the AGM, calling for a review of the Institute's administrative and financial policies: reform of the present unrepresentative Council and inadequate by-laws. I also believe that consideration should be given to the means of increasing the number of open competitions and the methods of advising clients on the choice of architect.

HUGH WILSON writes: The financial policy and organization of the RIBA must be placed on a sound basis and for the present the resources of the Institute should be concentrated on a limited number of objectives of fundamental importance to the well-being of the profession. In my view these should include:

(a) Architectural education. The work started at the Oxford Conference must be continued to ensure that architects are suitably trained to fill their vital rôle in relation to the building industry.

(b) The status and financial reward of the architect.

(c) Public relations. Of great importance to architects, this work must not neglect relations within the profession and in the industry.

(d) The rightful place of the architect in town planning. Only in this way can many of the Subtopian horrors be alleviated.

G.

## Replies from Licentiatees

W. N. OLIVER writes: I have on many occasions made propositions at the Allied Society Conferences which have in due course been put before Council. Some of my suggestions have been accepted, others have been rejected, and as the Council are the only people in a position to hear each side of the case I have always been satisfied with their ultimate decision.

I hold the principle that it is wrong to pre-judge any subject or anybody who is sitting in a position of deliberation until one is actually there themselves and can hear both sides of the question. Under the circumstances I would prefer to refrain from comment upon the Council of the Institute until, if elected, I am in a position to judge first hand.

HAROLD A. ROLLS writes: The issues with which I feel the RIBA should be primarily concerned can be briefly summarized as follows:

1. The improvement of the status of the architect:

(a) By taking immediate and positive steps to endeavour to improve the Registration Act, which in its present form shackles, instead of protecting, the architect.

(b) By the improvement of the educational system, particularly on the "business" side, to better fit the young architect to compete with the high pressure salesmanship encountered on all sides today.

(c) By taking more effective action in the task of educating public taste in architecture, especially in the fields of domestic and small industrial building, and

(d) By taking rational steps to keep the intake of architects in step with the demand for architectural services.

2. The improvement of the RIBA:

(a) By taking every possible opportunity of increasing the usefulness of the Institute to

the ordinary member.

(b) By stimulating to the utmost interest in the Local Associations, so that as far as practicable every member has direct contact through his Association with the Institute, and

(c) By reorganization of the Council to give increased representation from the Local Associations.

R. A. SIMONS writes: I am 54, and have spent some 25 years in the study and practice of architecture in different parts of the country before joining the staff of BRS in 1945.

I believe that architecture as a profession, if it is to realize the greatness of its future, must adapt itself to changing conditions. The *Ad Hoc* committee is doing good work towards improving the position of architects but there is more to be done. Reform in education is one of the major questions of the day but a more urgent problem is to define the rôle of the architect in our modern society. He has an important part to play in private practice, in official service, in research and development, and in industry; each of these calls for its own specialized training, and his education must be adjusted accordingly.

Among the difficulties that bedevil the architect in his work is the multiplicity of controls—regulations, orders, bye-laws, forms—which he must satisfy. The unification and simplification of these is a matter requiring the unremitting attention of the Institute.

The domestic problems of the Institute are far from overwhelming. They show the need for reform within the Institute itself, but reform must follow careful consideration. Hasty action in the panic of the moment would do more harm than good.

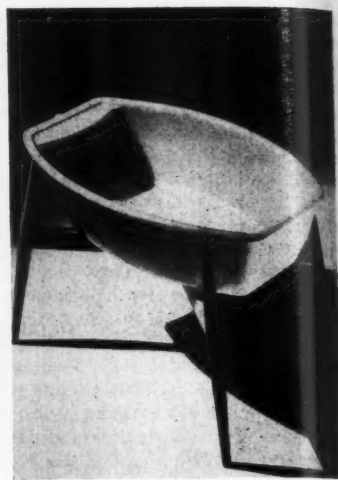


Of the twenty designs selected this year four can be called "outstanding" with some degree of justification. Left to right: This Knifecut Pruner made by Wilkinson Sword Limited is an example of functional efficiency, sturdy construction, which is comfortable in the hand and light in weight. It is one of a series of fine tools designed by Hulme Chadwick, a designer who is also an extremely competent gardener.

Ekco's "Superbath," designed by M. O. Rowlands, is a good example of a logical combination of materials. The polythene bath is supported on a well-detailed polished timber folding stand, which can also serve as a support for a carry-cot.

This distinguished set of cases in leather was designed by K. H. Paterson for S. E. Norris & Co. Ltd. Remarkably light in weight they are a challenge to the newer materials being used for air-luggage. The handles are particularly interesting and an altogether fine feeling of quality is achieved.

Straightforward solutions of problems are invariably the best and this design by Robert Welch for J. & J. Wiggin Limited is no exception. A stainless steel toast rack of pleasing simplicity. Only its name "Olde Hall" is suspect.



## FAR FROM 'OUTSTANDING'

*John and Sylvia Reid review Designs of the Year, 1958*

The job of the Council of Industrial Design is to encourage good design in British industry. It has had a considerable effect so far and will doubtlessly increase in power and influence as the success of the policies it encourages become more and more apparent. A year ago the Council took the courageous step of selecting a number of products which had been exhibited during the first years existence of the new Design Centre and labelled them "Designs of the Year." The actual selection was made by a panel of Royal Designers for Industry.

This year, encouraged by last year's success, 20 "outstanding designs" have been selected. If it is assumed that "outstanding" means what the Oxford dictionary says it means, then the task of finding 20 such designs is unlikely to meet with much success. To label too many things as outstanding is to lower the standard below the level at which the selection remains interesting. That this has happened this year is evident from the poor notices in the popular press and the general lack of interest that has been aroused. The technical press and design magazines are naturally interested in the selection, but the idea of the project is surely to interest the general public in design, not merely to appeal to the professionals. A collection which is safe is also non-controversial, and to succeed the collection must be bold, advanced and controversial. What better result could there be than letters from members of the general public to the press protesting about the choice? If sufficient enthusiasm could be aroused we might see the day when people send in their own alternative choices for the top 10 or 20. A really controversial choice would greatly stimulate interest in

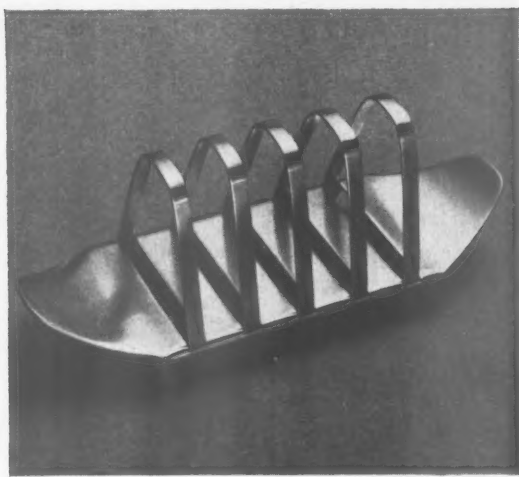
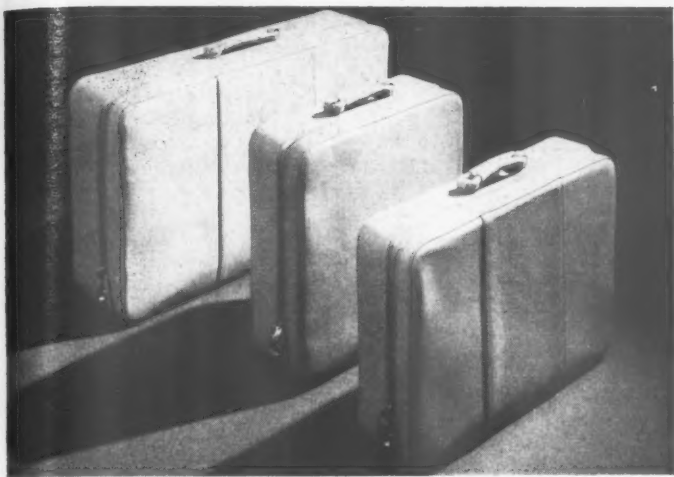
design generally. It is to be regretted therefore that only about four of the items in this year's selection can really be called "outstanding." Of the rest the majority are good of their kind but safe and unexciting, whereas one or two of them should never have been chosen and mental reservations about them are apparent even in the judges' reports.

This year the judges were Sir Walter Worboys, Chairman of the CoID; Noel Carrington, publisher, printer and typographer; Geoffrey Dunn, Chairman and Managing Director of Dunn's of Bromley; Wyndham Goodden, Professor of Textile Design, Royal College of Art; and Jack Howe, architect and industrial designer. They also advise the Council as members of the Design Index Selection Panel.

All products shown in the Design Centre during 1957 were eligible for selection, other than those items which had previously won an award. However, if a selection of designs is going to be labelled "... of the year, 1958," some further qualification is surely needed. Some of the designs were circulating in 1956 and one is even illustrated in *Designers in Britain 5*, which deals with work carried out during the period 1954-56! This must surely be generally confusing, especially when several very interesting objects which definitely appeared during the last year and have, as far as one knows, been shown at the Design Centre, have not been selected.

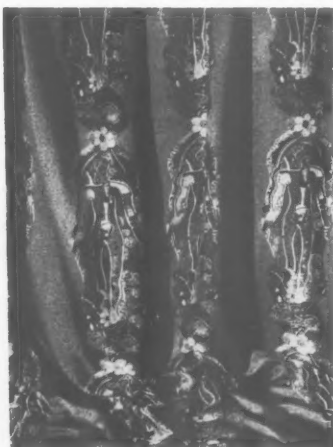
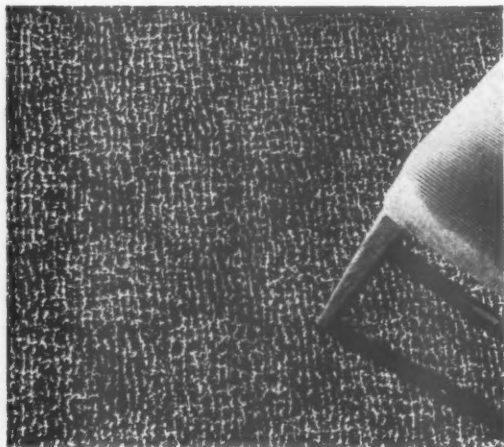
Come on CoID—a practical object is not necessarily a dull one, as can be seen by any visitor to the Design Centre, so let us have a more exciting and controversial choice next year, even if it means that there are only five designs of the year.





The designs are exhibited rather shyly, it appears, in a small space at the back of the Design Centre. Surely the shop window end in Haymarket would have been the best place? The Duke of Edinburgh again visited the exhibition and presented certificates to the lucky manufacturers. Arrangements for this year's visit were

an improvement on last year's, which were strongly criticized by the JOURNAL. This year, instead of being kept in the background the designers stood near their work and all had the opportunity of meeting the Duke. They also received copies of the certificates presented to the manufacturers.



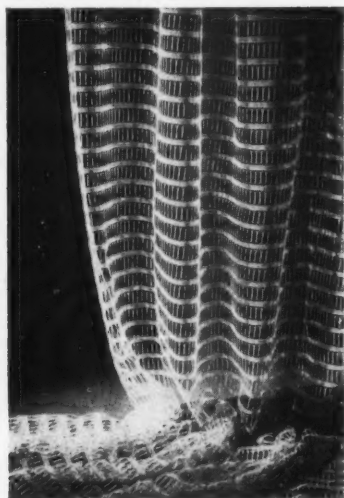
Far left: this Wilton Broadloom carpet "Artkurl," made by William C. Gray & Sons Ltd. and designed by the company's design staff is an example of one of many similar overall patterns which are now available.

Left: a woven textile "Adam" designed by Keith Vaughan and made by Edinburgh Weavers. This is a large scale pattern designed by a modern painter and translated into a woven fabric with great competence, but surely a design of this sort is better printed.



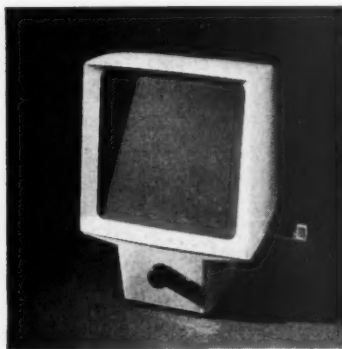
Far left: this enameled cast-iron ovenware is designed by David Queensbury for Enamelled Iron & Steel Products Company. These casseroles are nicely shaped, pleasantly coloured, and can be brought straight from the oven to the table, but the sizes are so small that it is difficult to imagine what useful purpose they can serve in the average kitchen.

Left: this printed textile "Minster" is also made by Edinburgh Weavers, but to a design by Humphrey Spender (architect). The design is described as being derived from traditional stained glass (!) and is again the result of the work of an artist who is primarily a painter.



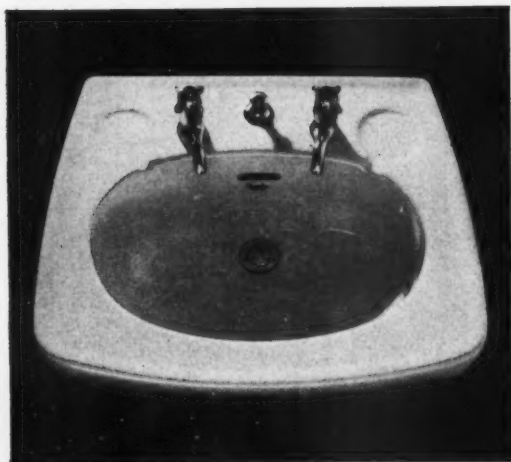
Far left: "Vision Net" lace curtaining made by the Clyde Manufacturing Company and designed by F. J. Hobden with the firm's design staff. This design shows signs of fresh thinking in an old industry.

Left: "Hiflo" No. 65 Bibcock made by the Barking Brassware Co., Ltd., and designed by the company's design staff.



Far left: this tableware is made by Ridgway Potteries Ltd. and designed by Tom Arnold (shape) and Par Albeck (pattern). To quote from the Judges' report "The Judges recognise that the pattern itself breaks little new ground . . . 'The shapes are modest and very traditional'—how then can this be outstanding?"

Left: the "Vistavú" slide viewer is made by Rank Precision Industries Ltd. and designed by H. R. Stapleton, assisted by H. Upjohn. This slide viewer is the size of a small television set and by no means inexpensive. It has a pleasant workmanlike appearance, but it lacks refinements such as magazine loading which its American counterparts have.



Far left: this pleasant shaped lavatory basin called "Carlton" is made by Shanks & Company Ltd. and designed by their design staff. "The Judges chose this bracketed version since the pedestal normally supplied appears to have been designed by another hand, being rather clumsy for so elegant a basin."

Left: a paraffin oil convector heater made by Tailan (Aycliffe) Ltd. and designed by the company's design team. This is a pleasant enough design but even the Judges commented that "Further thought should have been given to the design of the feet and also the maker's nameplate which, though decently small and unobtrusive, could be improved."



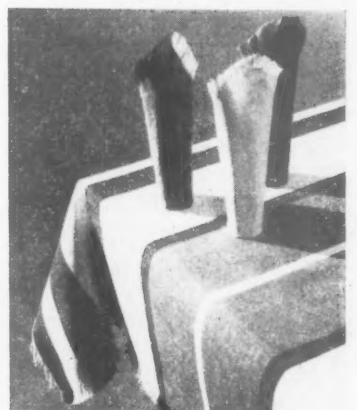
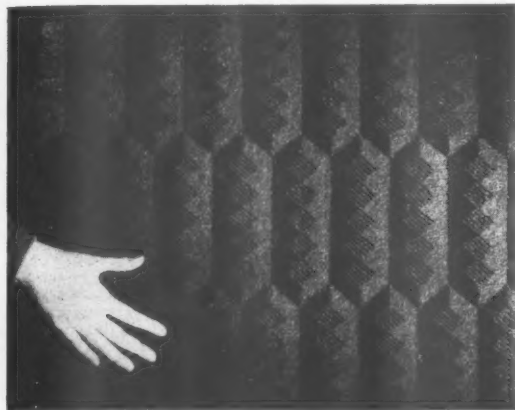
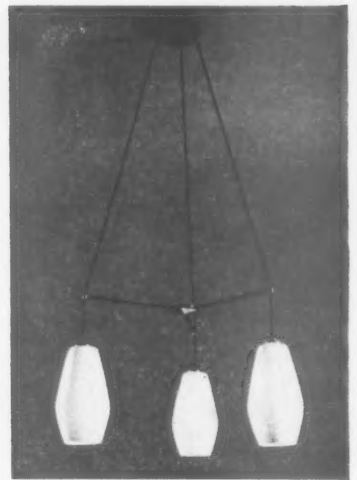
Left: the "Hamilton" sideboard made by Arcite Shine Limited and designed by Robert Heritage. To quote again from the Judges' report "Note the attention to detailing, particularly the contrasting textures and timbers. These give it, in a twentieth century idiom, something of eighteenth century elegance without in any sense looking backwards."

Right: the wallpaper "Phantom Rose" made by The Wall Paper Manufacturers Limited designed by Audrey Levy. This again is a pleasant design, well drawn and well executed, but with little claim to being "outstanding."

Far right: a pendant light fitting from "Satina" range of AEI Lamp and Lighting Co. Ltd. designed by Nigel Chapman of the AEI design team headed by L. H. Hubble. According to the Judges it is often hard to distinguish one lighting fitting from another, and this example is no exception. Surely the selection of highly derivative work is not to the credit of either the Judges or the Council.

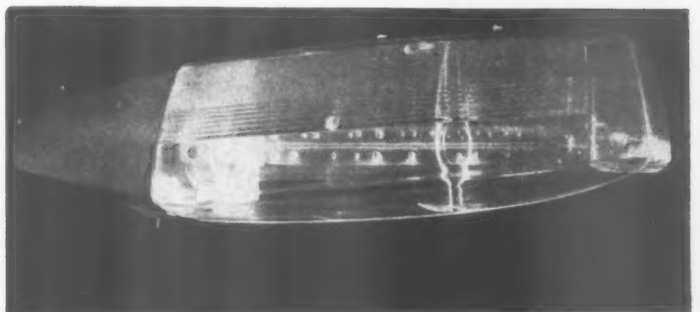
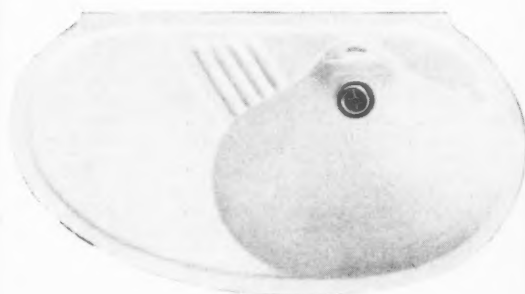
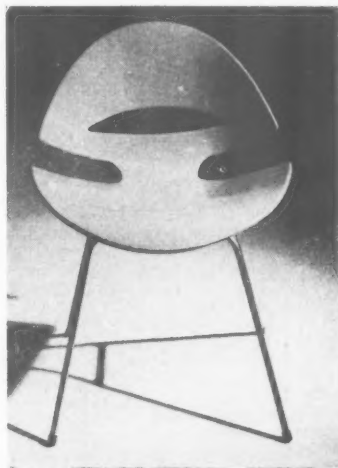
Below: Axminster body carpet, "Royal Gobelin" made by Tomkinsons Limited and designed by Neville and Mary Ward (architects), and one of a range of related designs by these designers. Below, centre: "Taperback" chair made by Stafford Furniture Limited and designed by John Neville Stafford. This angular looking chair does not even pass the first test that all chairs must pass. It is most uncomfortable and its selection is to be wondered at.

Below, right: "Riviera" tablecloths and napkins designed by A. Ingham for John Shields & Co. (Perth) Ltd.

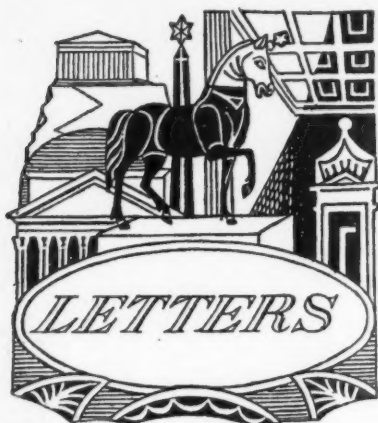


### But why not these?

Everyone will form his own opinions on the "Outstanding Designs of 1958," but here just for the sake of argument are four designs the judges might have chosen—(a) Why not this chair (right) designed by Frank Guille for Kandya Limited, surely the outstanding chair of the year? (b) And then there is the Adamsez Lotus Basin (below), a piece of functional design that points the way to more interesting solutions of the lavatory basin design problem? (c) Or this watering can (far right), surely one of the most progressive steps in plastic gardening equipment? Designed by M. O. Rowlands for Ekco, it in no way detracts from his excellent baby's bath, but which is the more "outstanding"? (d) And as for lighting fittings, why not Richard Stevens' street lighting lamp for Atlas (below right)? Chosen by the C.O.I.D. to represent British Industrial Design at the 11th Triennale where it was awarded a Gold Medal.







*Clifford P. Howells, A.R.I.B.A.*

*Fred W. Pooley, F.R.I.B.A.*

*W. G. Howell, A.R.I.B.A.*

*S. W. Milburn, F.R.I.B.A.*

*Richard Sheppard, F.R.I.B.A.*

*Chairman RIBA Ad Hoc Committee*

*John Whitehead, Student R.I.B.A.*

*Paul Ritter, A.R.I.B.A.*

*Martin Sylvester*

*Frederick Hiorns, F.R.I.B.A.*

## Revive Local Chapters

SIR,—I agree wholeheartedly with the opinions of Mr. Cleeve Barr in your issue of May 1, but I feel that the cleavage between membership and Council goes very deep and must be tackled not only by electoral reform but also by strong action at local Chapter level to establish some degree of effective contact between the elected representatives and the general rank and file member.

We must attack vigorously the apathy that afflicts the local Chapters. It is all very well to have lectures and visits but it is appalling to realize that there is not a single local meeting—from my own experience—at which the views of the members are consulted about matters of great moment which are being dealt with in the central Council. This is, in my opinion, the main cause of the revolt of the younger Associates against the Council. The Council is—it is obvious that it must be—completely out of touch with the opinions and feelings of the great bulk of its members. Locally it is said that the interested member can become a member of the local Committee but this is not sufficient. The local Chapter must organize business meetings so that its representative on the Council can know how to act in the interests of the general member—not just the Committee.

The RIBA must be the only national body which has no properly organized method of ensuring that the Council knows the members' views. In most other bodies the elected representative discusses at local meetings the subjects on the Council agenda and reports to members on the Council's discussions. In this way the local member has a sense of participation and

Council is properly controlled; objections to its proposals can be voiced and objections raised in a democratic manner.

At the present time the Council concocts all sorts of schemes, completely "in camera" and it is not until the "fait accompli" is announced in the *RIBA Journal* that the poor member has any idea that such proposals have been mooted much less actually approved. This again leads to a fatalistic and apathetic "head against a brick wall" feeling in the member.

I am hoping to effect some revision of this attitude locally, and if any members of the Institute living locally read this and agree with the ideas expressed, I would like to hear from them, whether they are members of the local Chapter or not.

CLIFFORD P. HOWELLS.

Walton-on-Thames.

## RIBA's Serious Failure

SIR,—Congratulations to Cleeve Barr and Anthony Cox for successfully moving their resolution at the Annual General Meeting. This was achieved because these people had the courage of their convictions and took the risk of making themselves unpopular with the powers that be. The pity of it is that it had to be done in public and the unhappy domestic issues dragged into the national press.

The same result could have been achieved if the 33 elected members of the Council had had the same courage and done exactly the same thing at any one of the private Council meetings which took place during the session.

These elected members (even if they are in a minority) cannot be absolved from their responsibility for the present financial policy of the RIBA. Many of them have served on the important House and Finance and Executive Committees. It is clear that they have not directed their minds to the domestic matters of the RIBA.

Election of members by the ballot box will not in itself solve our problems unless those who are elected are prepared to devote a good deal of energy to the less glamorous aspects of RIBA work.

FRED POOLEY.

Aylesbury.

## The Frosty Welcome

SIR,—By nine o'clock last Wednesday it became all too plain that our inability to ventilate our views at the RIBA by calling a special general meeting was matched by our inability to ventilate a general meeting. Everyone was so plainly looking forward to getting out into the sweet smell of Portland Place (and across to the Windsor Castle) that I decided not to raise what is, in any case, rather a minor domestic issue compared to the major issues which face us.

I wanted to urge the Council to consider whether it would not be better rather than having a "Finance and House" Committee, to treat these two aspects of our affairs separately. Everyone seems very concerned that we should set our house in order, and I would like to see this done by having a House Committee to deal with all matters concerning the use of the premises, thereby leaving the Finance Committee more time to think about Finance—no bad thing, considering recent events.

This thought proceeds from a feeling that the dear old White Elephant of Portland Place somehow lacks the congenial atmosphere most of us would like to find at the headquarters of our profession—not only as a physical environment, but in its catering, facilities and reception.

We must make up our minds whether or not any changes that may be made in furniture or decoration should aim at trying to embalm as a sacred relic the taste of the mid-thirties (surely a rather depressing thought). Whatever is to be done must be done as part of a long-term policy.

It depresses me beyond measure to hear the new dining room referred to as the New Canteen. This is symptomatic of an attitude, conjuring up gloomy vistas of spam and bruised lettuce. Surely we want a dining room which will serve up food we could be proud to offer a guest (which is not the case at present) and what is more a range of choice from a good sit-down lunch to soup, bread and cheese at a price that students (and impoverished architects like your correspondent) could afford. This needs really imaginative catering.

The present enquiry and reception arrangements are very sad (always with the honourable exception of telephone enquiries, which are dealt with in a highly civilized manner). I was queuing up recently to buy a form of contract, and noticed ahead of me an elderly architect who (it transpired) had come up from the country to ask advice about fees. He was asked to wait, and when someone eventually came, the interview was conducted standing in that chilly hall. Some time later I left the building, and saw the poor old gentleman sitting forlornly leaning against the Gold Medallists on that agonizing seat with his feet dangling two inches from the floor. Whether he was still being dealt with, or had just collapsed from rage or sorrow, I never found out. What would we feel like if we were treated like this when we went to see our solicitor or bank manager? In those of us who live in London, familiarity with this situation has bred contempt and ultimately indifference, but it must be pretty dim for members coming up from the country. Surely we could devise a more humane way of looking after visiting members.

There are many such matters which need attention if Portland Place is to become the kind of headquarters for the profession that we can look to with affection and visit with pleasure. Surely here is a place where some of the women members (who are woefully under-represented on RIBA committees) could bring their civilizing influence to bear. I am convinced that effective action cannot be expected while consideration of these matters shares an agenda paper with our financial problems.

W. G. HOWELL.

London.

## Loyalty

SIR,—I write to congratulate you upon your leader under the heading of "Perceptive Loyalty." A most important factor in connection with the future well-being of architecture is to have a strong and progressive RIBA. Despite recent criticism, the RIBA have done a magnificent job of work for the profession in the past, and I feel sure with the support of all members will continue to do so, and I think your leading article gives very helpful guidance in the present rather difficult time.

S. W. MILBURN.

Sunderland.

## Deferred Credit

SIR,—In your issue of April 24, *ASTRAGAL* was good enough to give credit to Gordon Ricketts and, by implication, to the Ad Hoc Committee for the recent success in getting tax relief on professional subscriptions. I want to point out, however, that negotiations with Inland Revenue, culminating in this success, have a pretty long history. The RIBA, for instance, took a prominent part in a joint deputation to the Treasury in 1949, and in 1951, submitted a memorandum on the subject to the Royal Commission on the Taxation of Profits and Income.

In this, and similar, moves, the Secretary, RIBA, and his staff as well as the Salaried and Official Architects Committee were directly involved. While, therefore, the Ad Hoc movement has taken the matter over in the past year or so, it is fair to say that we have been lucky in simply being "in at the kill." Long term credit therefore



belongs to Bill Spragg and to the various members who have fought for so long for this concession.

RICHARD SHEPPARD,

London.

## Architecture, Or Snobbery?

SIR.—The worst of people who have been to a university is that they are quite unable to believe that people who haven't can really be any good. I once read an article on Robert Adam by a member of the staff of a university who blithely stated that Adam was trained at Edinburgh University.

I cannot agree with your suggestions that all the schools of architecture should be incorporated in universities or similar institutions, nor that all architects should have to train as full-time students in the schools. I think it is an advantage that there should be many ways of qualifying and people should be free to choose which they prefer. Each method provides a check on the working of the others.

As to incorporating all the schools in universities, I think independence is a good thing. I suppose the AA School has the highest reputation of all and it is independent and proud to be so. Many of the dearest schools are in universities and in my experience those who trained in them are not noticeably more imaginative or knowledgeable than evening students of polytechnics or people who taught themselves and passed the external examinations.

Not everyone is happy under the day to day supervision of teachers, and the fairly uniform styles in the various schools are due as much to the compulsion to conform as to voluntary emulation. The proposal to abolish the external examinations would also keep out for ever those people who did not have the opportunity of going to a school, or who wished to switch from a related profession (like Mies van der Rohe) or who fell foul of their studio master (and studio masters are far from infallible). This does not concern only a handful but from my experience quite a proportion of the profession. A system similar to that which you are advocating operates now in Russia, which is not exactly leading the architectural world, and in France, where the only architect with an international reputation is Le Corbusier, who was not trained as an architect.

The pioneers of modern architecture had nothing but scorn for the "academies." Have you already forgotten their struggles? Don't let us sacrifice architecture to snobbery.

JOHN WHITEHEAD.

London.

## Education Reform

SIR.—I am very pleased with the support Eric Heaf gives to my recommendations, knowingly or not, for the reform of architectural education (AJ, November 22, 1956). Such of his sentences as, "the staff should direct not discipline" and "the only compulsion should be the student's enthusiasm," show basic agreement with my point of view and make sense only if we revise, as we both suggest, the techniques of teaching and learning deeply engrained.

The facts are so very simple:

1. Not enough is learnt, methodology is virtually ignored.
2. Students learn more and better if they learn with enthusiasm.
3. Enthusiasm comes with things relevant to the student's interests.

And so the merit of Mr. Heaf's suggestions, and my original proposals, become obvious: they increase the relevance of the work, so they increase the enthusiasm. And this, as we have seen, leads to the significant increase in quantity and quality of

learning which are the basic requirements.

Two teachers of some experience think similarly on this point and have gone to the trouble to make their views known. Progressive psychological evidence shows them unquestioningly right. And it is of further interest that similar proposals come from one who was a brilliant student during the self-same years at Liverpool, in which I was a very ordinary one. I submit that our suggestions are indeed "an immediate remedy" and practicable "alternative."

PAUL RITTER.

Nottingham.

## One-Coat Logicote

SIR.—In your issue of May 8, Eric Heaf delivers himself of his plan for architectural education with a simple assurance seldom experienced outside Corb-writings or party political broadcasts. He states: "We must define the end product, ascertain the most suitable raw material and then evolve a production process."

Scraping off the one-coat Logicote with which his thesis is decorated, one finds that he is recommending less theoretical instruction in schools in favour of more practical work. This is precisely why some people (including myself, after two years at the AA), have decided against school training and instead pursue the laborious system leading to the External examinations which, it appears from the AJ, are now viewed with general disfavour.

If I may, with reluctance, consider myself a potential "end product" (revolting term!), is it really impossible to devise an examination which will decide whether or not I have reached a standard of architectural education high enough to entitle me to call myself an architect? If such an examination can be devised, why is it necessary to insist that all architects be school trained?

I find myself here in line with John Basing (AJ, April 24) and his plea for a reformed Special Final. But a further point is that architectural education differs from other technical educations, such as that required by the medical profession, in that creative design is involved, and this is a subject which should be studied at length and without haste. It is therefore unwise to place a time limit on the period of education. Eric Heaf agrees with me on this. But since the present inadequate school syllabus extends over five years, reformation must extend this time further to achieve the satisfactory "end product." Who, but a dilettante of the age of elegance, can afford to spend more than five years at a full-time school? If the reformed school thus becomes a part-time institution, with its students working in offices when not at school, it would then seem that we are back where we started.

Some of us, ignorant illegitimates (architecturally speaking) that we are, attend lectures and courses now, and attempt, in divers ways, to develop our abilities in an atmosphere free from the particular standardised aesthetic individual to each architectural school. It is a way followed with success by some of the Great Ones.

MARTIN SYLVESTER.

Upton-on-Severn.

## LCC Extension

SIR.—Somewhat belatedly my attention has been drawn to an article in your JOURNAL of April 17, on the above subject. From my standpoint the good points you raise are marred by several references to the "Giles Scott" building—which is certainly a mistake, and with which I will first deal.

When the London County Council acquired the York Road Site, I was invited to a small, "all-party," meeting of three Leaders (with Sir George Gater, the Clerk) and was

asked if I would personally undertake the design and carrying-out of an extension building, corresponding in length with the County Hall itself. This I was glad to agree to do. In the preceding 20 years or so, several designs of mine had been exhibited at the RA, and published by your contemporaries and in your own journal. My design for the Extension was duly made, and approved by the Council. Later—in the working-drawing stage—a confirmatory opinion was obtained from Sir Giles Scott, with some suggested modifications of detail that were valuable. But the general design was not altered.

I showed it, in due course, to Sir Edwin Lutyens (then P.R.A.), whom I had the good fortune to know, and he asked me to send the drawing to the Academy, which was done. I venture to think that to refer to this as "the Scott design" is unjustified and misleading. The correct attribution of buildings is important.

As to the vandalistic addition now tacked on to the North end of my uncompleted building, I can hardly do better than repeat J. M. Richards's own words—that this "senseless cliff of solid looking stonework" (both "intolerably vulgar" and unrelated to my design) "puts into reverse the policy of enlightened development the LCC has been pursuing" on this site. It is, indeed, impossible to understand why the obvious opportunity for completing the North end of the original (unified) design was not at once accepted. The rooms on all floors of that building are perfectly lighted.

Finally, the London County Council, with its long sustained tradition of good planning and building, has been put in an entirely false position. It is deplorable that the premier municipal body of this country, with its previously unbroken record of exemplary work, should now be saddled with the entirely unmerited disgrace of this ill-judged addition to its buildings.

FREDERICK R. HIORNS.

The Editors write:

The JOURNAL is very pleased to have this letter from Mr. Frederick Hiorns, one-time architect to the LCC, now aged 82 and living in retirement in Devonshire. His name as well as that of Sir Giles Scott was mentioned in the article in connection with the rear blocks of County Hall, but readers will be interested to know that the current impression that the elevations were largely Sir Giles's work is incorrect. Mr. Hiorns's endorsement of J. M. Richards's criticisms of the extension call for no comment.

## DIARY

**Brussels Exhibition.** Talk by Charles Hadfield. At the RSA, John Adam Street, W.C.2. 2.30 p.m. MAY 28.

**Form and Pattern in the Biological World.** Talk by Professor C. H. Waddington. At the AA, 34, Bedford Square, W.C.1. 8 p.m. MAY 29.

**Nicholas Hawksmoor and the Baroque Town Plan.** Talk by K. Downes. At the Courtauld Institute, 20, Portman Square, W.1. 5.30 p.m. JUNE 3.

**In Planning a new Factory the Plant Engineer and not the Architect should have the Final Authority.** Debate between E. C. Stephens for the Plant Engineers and Geoffrey Monro for the Architects, with W. J. Dickie in the Chair. At the RSA. 7 p.m. JUNE 3

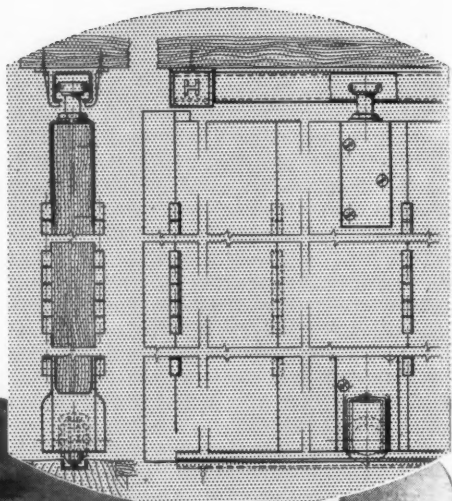
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## COMPETITIONS

### Toronto City Hall

The following eight competitors have been selected to take part in the final stage of the competition for the Toronto City Hall: I. M. Pei & Associates, New York; Frank Mikutowski, Minnesota; William B. Hayward, Michigan; David E. Horne, Toronto; John H. Andrews, Harvard University (Australian); Perkins & Will (A. A. Hoover and J. D. Lothrop), New York; Viljo Rewell, Helsinki; Halldor Gunnlogsson & Jorn Nielsen, Copenhagen, Denmark.

### Auschwitz Memorial

The following seven competitors have been selected to take part in the final stage of the competition for a memorial at Auschwitz concentration camp, Poland: Oskar Hansen, Jerzy Jarnuszkiewicz, Julian Palka, Lechoslaw Rósin, Edmund Kupiecki and Tadeusz Plasota, Warsaw; Julio Lafuente (Spain), Pietro Cascella and Andrea Cascella, Rome; Marcello Mascherini and Roberto Costa, Trieste; Alina Szapocznikow,

Jerzy Chudzik, Roman Cieslewicz and Boleslaw Malnucrowicz, Warsaw; Maurizio Vitale, Giorgio Simoncini, Tommaso Valle and Pericle Fazzini, Rome; Helmut Wolff, Berlin; Andrzej Jan Wroblewski and Andrzej Latos, Warsaw.

Altogether 626 projects were submitted to the Jury (of which Henry Moore is the chairman), and 11 of them were from Great Britain.

## ABS

### Need for More Support

The Annual General Meeting of the Architects' Benevolent Society was held on May 7. In presenting the Annual Report, Howard Lobb, the Hon. Secretary, said that although the ABS had been given an increase in grants last year of £700, the grants to beneficiaries were barely adequate and at some future date it would be necessary seriously to consider raising the amount we were able to give.

The first six tenants had moved in, with the completion of the first stage of the building project at East Horsley, and the estate had been given the name of Frenchlands Hatch. The official opening would be on June 25. The President, Kenneth Cross, said in his speech that the second stage was held up for lack of funds.

During the last year, said Mr. Lobb, special efforts had been made to make the work of the ABS known to architects throughout the country and he said how grateful they were to the help given by the local representatives. He also wished the meeting to record a vote of thanks to the technical press who were always so co-operative in publicizing the work of the Society. He also wished to thank the members of the Ball Committee for their hard work which had resulted in a profit of £3,400, and Mrs. Montgomery for giving the stall at the Building Exhibition where they were able to sell their Christmas cards,

and for a very generous donation of £630, being the rebate on special tickets issued to architects.

Through the unavoidable absence of H. S. Goodhart-Rendel through illness, the financial report was presented by Michael Tapper, who welcomed the increase by about £600 from subscriptions. But he said that from a profession where there were some 20,000 names on the Register of Architects, a subscription list of 2,000 was too small. He asked members present if they could persuade other people in their offices and in their societies to subscribe, referred to the tax rebates available from subscriptions under covenant and recommended this method of payment.

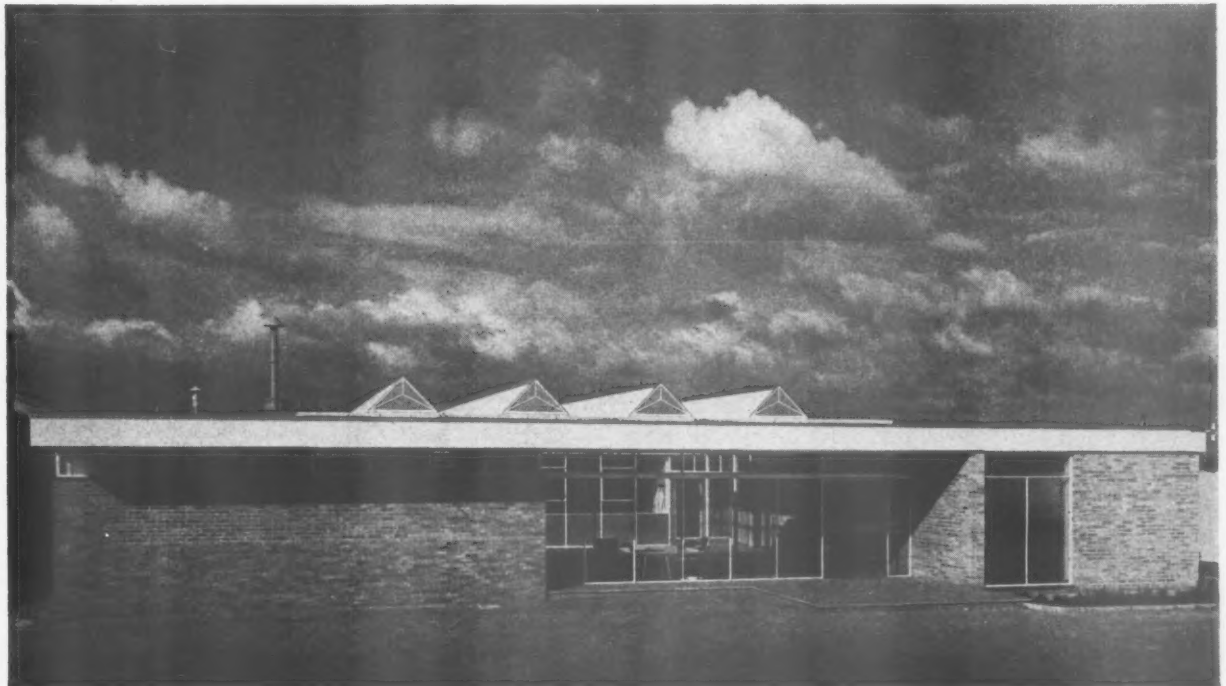
The Report and Balance Sheet were approved. It was also agreed to invite C. J. Epril to become a Vice-President of the society in recognition of the work he had put and was putting into the raising of money for the ABS, and also that Miss Solly, who had been elected an Honorary Associate of the RIBA, should be invited to become a Vice-President of the ABS. Kenneth Cross agreed to become a Vice-President when his term of office as President ended, and Basil Spence, the new President, will be asked to become President of the ABS.

## TCPA

### New Town Growth

A statement by the Town and Country Planning Association on the future of new towns, sent to the Minister of Housing and Local Government, points out that there are two stages in the growth of a new town. The organized movement of people and workplaces to the town should stop at a point well short of the intended maximum population. After this, for some years the natural increase will be at a much higher rate than the average, because of the large number of young families. Thus, a town whose popula-

*This factory for the British Diamond Wire Die Co. Ltd., at Poole, Dorset, was designed by Farmer and Dark (architect in charge, E. M. C. Butcher) and has a very neat space-frame roof construction which will be the subject of a Working Detail in the JOURNAL. The building itself will also be cost-analysed in a later issue.*





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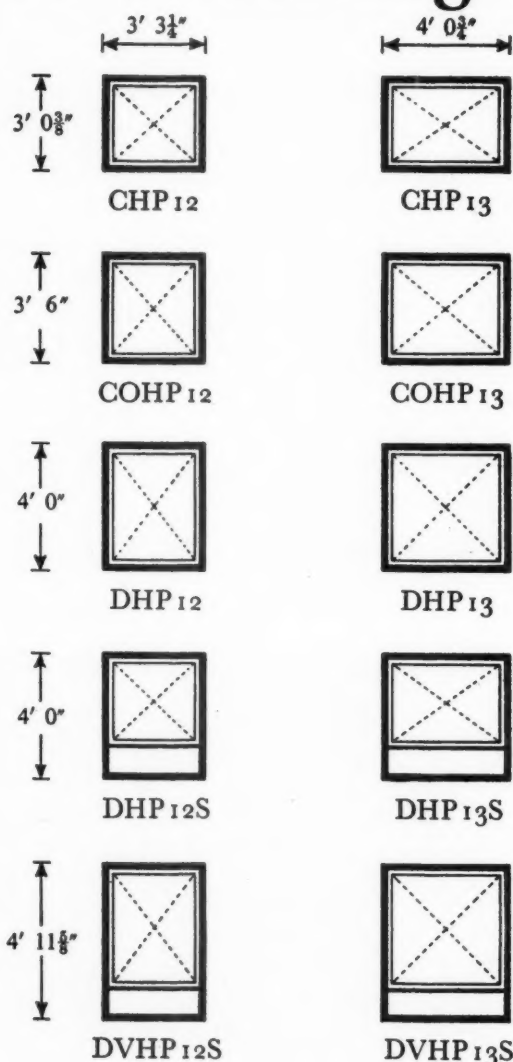
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tion is to be 80,000 ought to stop organized immigration at say 60,000.

In the second stage, provision of homes, jobs, shops, schools, would have to be made for the still-growing population. In addition, during this stage, civic and community buildings, swimming baths, playing fields, assembly halls—too few of which would have been provided in the first stage—should be added. In some towns, there would be a need for much redevelopment of the older parts around which the new town has been built.

Thus, for a long time (perhaps up to 15 years) co-ordinated development of employment, housing, and public and community services will be required. The TCPA recommends that because of the major job still to be done, new town development corporations should be kept in being during the second stage. The Government having announced its intention to set up a central agency to own the new towns, the Association finds it difficult to see the advantages in this unless it would free the administration of the new towns from Treasury control.

It also suggests that, as a new town approaches the end of the first stage development, the corporations of new towns near each other might in some cases be amalgamated in order to retain a highly qualified staff. The unity of freehold ownership in the public interest should be maintained, and surplus revenues on new towns should be used for the benefit of the local communities.

## ARCHITECTS TO PAY

### Contravention of Byelaws

A firm of architects who failed to get a waiver of byelaws that were infringed by alterations to a house were found liable to pay £126 damages and costs, while succeeding in a counter-claim for £155 fees, in a lawsuit in Westminster County Court in which judgment was given last week. The plaintiffs were Townsends (Builders) Ltd., who sued Cinema News and Property Management (Samuel Harris) for £150 for work and materials supplied. The plaintiffs claimed to be indemnified by the third parties, David A. Wilkie and Partners, the architects, who claimed fees.

Peter Boydell, counsel for the plaintiffs, said that Samuel Harris, a surveyor and a director of Cinema News and Property Management, employed Townsends to carry out interior alterations at 92, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea. The work started in November, 1952, and finished in March, 1953. The alterations included the conversion of a living room into a bathroom with a water closet; the room already had two doors and by that conversion the byelaws were infringed. On another floor there was already a bathroom with a water closet, and a second door was put in: this again infringed the byelaws.

Stanley Townsend, surveyor and estimator employed by the builders, said that in January, 1953, his foreman told him that the Chelsea public health inspector was raising a query with regard to the byelaws. He was surprised, and spoke to Mr. Brandsgrove, acting for the firm of David Wilkie and Partners, whom Mr. Harris had engaged as architects. On January 30 the plans were sent to the public health inspector at Chelsea by Wilkie, who asked for a waiver. Mr. Townsend said that nobody suggested they should stop the work. During 1953 and 1954 Mr. Harris made complaints about the work done, but it was not until a meeting was arranged between the parties in November, 1955, that Mr. Harris suggested that the byelaws had been infringed.

M. A. B. King-Hamilton, for Mr. Harris, suggested to Mr. Townsend that he did not mention anything about the contravention of the byelaws to Mr. Harris until March 3, "I put it to you that Mr. Wilkie and you had slipped up, and as you were



First prize in the Commons. Open Spaces and Footpaths Preservation Society competition for footpath signs to be erected on the South Downs in reconstructed stone has been awarded to R. J. Cowell (design on left). The joint second prize winning designs (centre and right) were by R. S. Edmundson and B. H. Loxston.

both anxious to cover up the mistake you did not say anything about the byelaws to Mr. Harris early in January." Mr. Townsend replied: "The infringement was mentioned to Mr. Harris in January."

Henry Francis Leacock, public health inspector, Chelsea Borough Council, said the trouble would never have arisen if plans had been submitted before the work was started. Where architects were employed it was the custom for architects to submit plans, and it was usual for the builder to give 24 hours' notice in writing to the public health inspector of his intention to commence work.

Samuel Harris, giving evidence, said he left the whole matter to his architect, Mr. Wilkie, and he was not aware of any breach of the byelaws until May, 1953. "After the breach of the byelaws had been discovered, Mr. Wilkie said he would try to put the matter right," said Mr. Harris. "He got into touch with the council with a view to getting a waiver, but failed."

Cross-examined by Mr. David Gardan for Mr. Wilkie, Mr. Harris denied that Mr. Wilkie mentioned the bye-laws in the early stages of the discussions. He also denied that he knew of the byelaws and was leaving it to Wilkie to get a relaxation. The first time he became aware that anything was wrong was in a letter he received from Mr. Wilkie dated April 7, 1953.

Henry Walker Everett, of Chepstow Place, Bayswater, a bookkeeper employed by Harris and Gillow, surveyors, cross-examined by David Gardham (for David Wilkie and Partners), could not remember having a conversation with the foreman, or Mr. Brandsgrove, about bye-laws after the work had been started. The first he heard that there was any breach of byelaws was in a letter received from Mr. Leacock on March 4. "I reported the matter to Mr. Harris but I cannot remember what he said."

David Archibald Wilkie said he was a past-member of the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects and a former member of the LCC. He said councils regarded the bye-laws as a guide and applied them according to the class of property. Sometimes the local authorities relaxed the byelaws in special circumstances.

"When Mr. Harris outlined to me the alterations he wanted done, I expressed surprise that he should want to spoil such a beautiful room," said Mr. Wilkie. "But Mr. Harris replied that Mrs. Harris was a very sick woman and he wanted the alterations done to suit her in her declining years. I do not remember what I told Mr. Harris, but there can be no doubt that I must have told him that the proposals were not in accordance with the bye-laws. I told him there must be a ventilated lobby between the bathroom and the bedroom, but he strongly objected to that suggestion, because he said Mrs. Harris must not have another door to go through."

"I communicated with the District Surveyor, but not with the Public Health Inspector in the first instance, and forms

relating to drainage went to Chelsea Town Hall on January 2, 1953. I mentioned to Mr. Harris that the local authority were not satisfied but he would not let me send in any plans showing a lobby separating the bedroom from the bathroom. At no time did Mr. Harris complain because the alterations were not done in accordance with byelaws."

M. A. B. King-Hamilton, Q.C., for Property Management Ltd., asked Mr. Wilkie: "Does your Institute permit you to carry out a contract in contravention of the byelaws?" Mr. Wilkie replied: "No, but there is no doubt we were all wrong."

Mr. King-Hamilton: "Would it be right that Townsend, Harris and you conspired to bring about a breach of the byelaws?"

Mr. Wilkie: "Yes—if you like to put it that way. Mr. Harris is a very persuasive man."

Cross-examined further, Mr. Wilkie said: "This particular byelaw is normally a thing one gets away with." He had told Harris from the start that his proposals did not comply with the byelaws—but that in certain circumstances the byelaws were relaxed, and they might be able to get a relaxation in this particular case. "Mr. Harris, who was the blue-eyed boy in those days, replied 'Of course you will.'"

Peter Boydell (for the builders): "Would you agree that the greatest single error in this case was your failure to return the drainage application forms promptly to the local authority?"—"I would not put it as high as that."

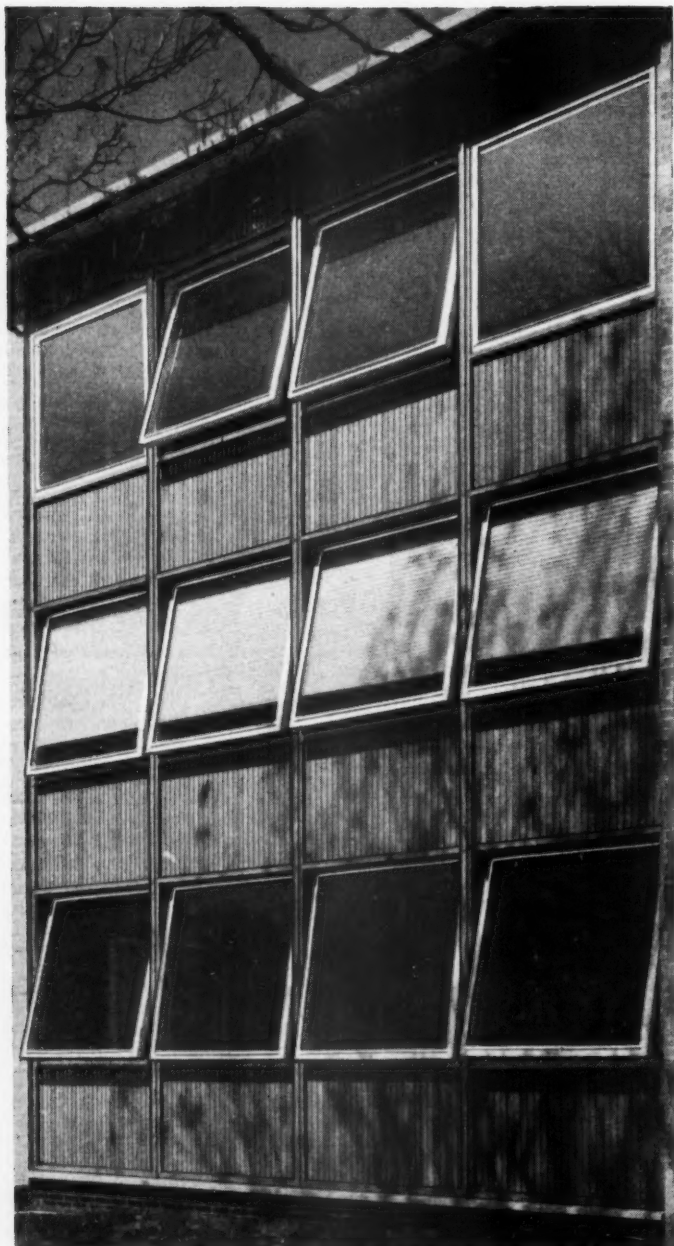
Replying to his counsel, Mr. Wilkie said: "There was no question of a conspiracy. I was hoping all the way along that I was going to get a waiver."

Giving judgment, the Judge, Sir Edgar Dale, said Townsends did the work and had done nothing wrong, so far as their contract with Harris was concerned. "I think they were perfectly justified in relying upon Wilkie," he said. "I do not think Townsends had any knowledge of the breach of the bye-law until after the alterations to the bathroom had been completed. Townsends had carried out their part of the contract and were entitled to payment."

"I have come to the conclusion that Harris is entitled to be indemnified for any loss which has resulted from work authorized by Wilkie in breach of the bye-laws. Wilkie was in full control of the work and I think the trouble arose because he authorized it to be started before the sanitary authorities had given their approval. The trouble resulted from Wilkie not sending in the sanitary notices and plans when he should have done."

Judgment was given as follows: £150 for plaintiffs, with costs, against the defendants; judgment for the defence against third party for £126 damages, and costs of third party proceedings; judgment for the third party on his counter-claim for fees of £155. Third party proceedings by the plaintiffs were dismissed with costs against the plaintiffs.

## CURTAIN WALLING



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We are prepared to make a limited number of awards to an aggregate of £400, with a maximum for each award of £40, to students. They will have to supply the architects' and, if need be, the manufacturers' working drawings, and to supplement these with a rough pencilled drawing of each detail, annotated in English, and to fill in a questionnaire which we will provide. We have found that it is virtually impossible to be sure about all the finishes and fixings and other minutiae unless one goes through the motions of drawing a detail out and, as it were, of writing a sort of specification in reverse.

Students will also have to obtain a photograph from the architect or commission one from a professional photographer at the JOURNAL'S expense.

In addition to whatever award we may make, we will pay a further six guineas for any detail which is ultimately published in the JOURNAL. Students who wish to apply for an award must write in to the Editors stating where they are going, the nature of any contacts they may

have in the places they are going to, any particular buildings they wish to detail or architects they wish to visit, and how they propose to surmount the language difficulty. They should also indicate whether they are asking for an award to travel to their destination and back, or to enable them to stay there longer, or whether their proposed visit is dependent on a grant which will cover all their expenses.

All applications should be accompanied by a letter from the principal of their school of architecture or from one of the principals of their firm, and must reach this office not later than the first post on Monday, June 9. The Editors will base their decisions (which will be final) on the likelihood of useful material being produced.

**(b) for architects: payment (larger) by results only**

We are not offering payments to help architects to go abroad, but we will pay a fee of eight guineas for any detail published, plus expenses incurred in getting photographs, whether published or not. Architects are asked to write in and tell us their plans before they go. The Editors reserve the right to refuse any material submitted.

*We print below the outline report prepared by Sir Leslie Martin, the chairman, on the conference on Architectural Education held at Oxford from April 11 to 13. On May 6 the RIBA Council accepted the report and approved its six recommendations in principle. The report was referred to the Board of Architectural Education for consideration on May 19, so that the Board could submit as soon as possible recommendations for implementing the proposals, and its proposals on those matters of Institute policy for which the Council is itself responsible. Readers will note that, while the report summarises the arguments put before the conference, it is not a full report in the sense that it does not attribute any arguments to any specific speakers.*

## RIBA CONFERENCE ON ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

### *Report by the Chairman, Sir Leslie Martin*

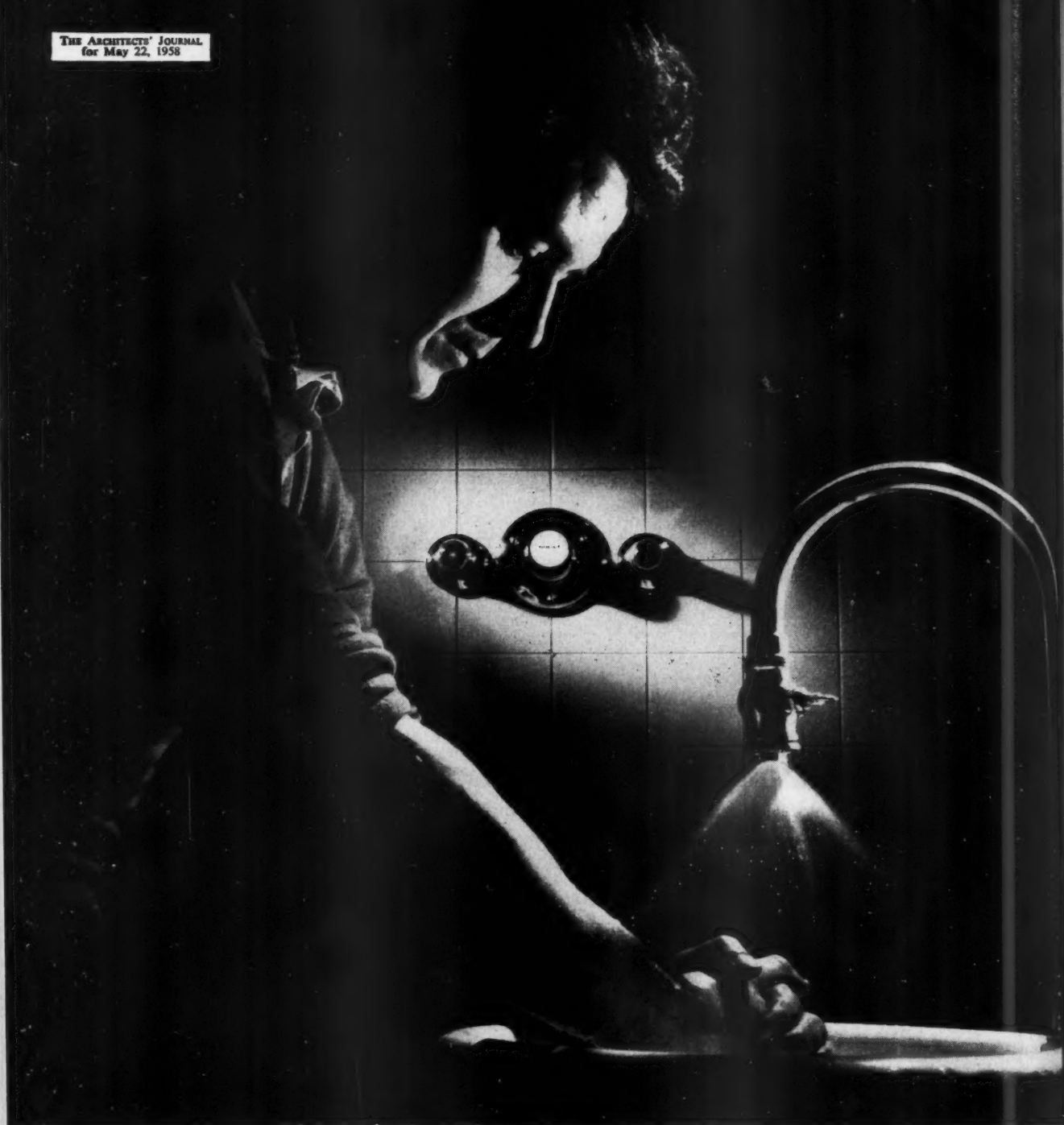
The proposal to hold a Conference on Architectural Education had its origin in the Council of the RIBA. During discussions of particular reports from the Board of Architectural Education it became clear that there existed a general feeling that all the related aspects of the subject should be fully explored. This, it was suggested, might be done at a Conference and it was considered that it would be an advantage to the Council to have any views or ideas which such a conference might produce. Consequently, a recommendation was made in 1956 that a Conference on Architectural Education should be held not later than the Spring of 1957. To allow time for adequate preparation, April, 1958, was finally agreed.

A Conference Organizing Committee was set up by

the Board of Architectural Education. This Committee had several objectives. First, it was considered that any conference should draw together as much relevant factual information as possible. Second, that the discussion should bring out as much informed opinion as possible from people interested in widely different aspects of Architectural Education. Third, that the discussion should be frank, and, finally, that if possible, some line of action should emerge.

In order to achieve these objectives the Committee decided to circulate preparatory papers giving a general background both of fact and opinion. In order to concentrate the discussion which was bound to be extensive it was felt that invitations to the Conference would have to be limited. Invitations were,





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therefore, sent to people inside and outside the profession who were known to have views to express. The Conference Committee was aware that in taking this selective action valuable contributions might be excluded. It hoped, however, that it had achieved in its selection an effective cross-section of opinion and interest. The range of subjects to be discussed formed another difficulty. These could certainly not be covered in any single session. But a limited number of people could perhaps spend longer periods together. It was, therefore, decided to hold a weekend conference at Magdalen College, Oxford, on April 11, 12 and 13.

An outline programme was drawn up in order to give some form to the debate. After an introductory session to discuss the programme, the conference was divided into three main sessions. These covered broadly:

1. the needs of the profession and the community and the desirable standards;
2. the means of education, the routes of entry into the profession and the standards that are being and could be achieved;
3. developments of advanced training and research.

The Conference was attended by 50 members. They made their contributions as members of the profession with interests in public or private offices of various kinds. They represented industry and local authorities, the teaching institutions, building and the associated professions. Several visitors from abroad and from the Commonwealth also attended. Their discussion forms the basis of these notes.

### The 1924 Congress

The last Congress on Architectural Education was held in 1924. At that Congress, Professor Budden gave an outline of the system and policy of Architectural Education in this country\*. "The real qualifying work," he says, "is to be done by the Schools which can offer a full-time course extending over a period of five years. Into this category come the principal University Schools, one Independent School and a School of Art. Though the pupilage system has practically passed in most of the larger centres of population it still lingers in certain localities. To meet the needs of these districts complementary courses are available." These courses are given in Schools of Art and Technical Colleges and consist of part-time and evening training. Students taking these courses qualify by External Examination.

The 1924 Congress clearly places the emphasis on full-time training in "Recognized Schools." Training elsewhere exists to meet the needs of a dwindling minority. It can be carried out as and when the need arises in Institutions which differ from each other in origin and intention.

This general conception was reiterated in 1943, when the Special Committee on Architectural Education, in referring to the decline of pupilage and apprenticeship said: "In the meantime the RIBA must main-

tain its own system of qualifying examinations for the benefit of those who, for one reason or another, have not passed through a 'recognized school'."\*

What these statements recognize is that two main types of training have been set up—one inside a full-time School leading to exemption, the other outside these schools and designed to assist students to take the RIBA Examinations externally. But what these statements fail to recognize is that although pupilage may decline the numbers of students taking the external examinations may, for various reasons, continue to increase.

In fact, in 1957, 486 students qualified at Recognized Schools and as many as 417 took the RIBA External Examination. In the same year 3,764 students were attending Final and Intermediate Schools and 3,342 were taking courses in Listed and Facility Schools. This latter figure does not include those who prepared themselves for examination independently (for example, by correspondence courses).

### Ways of qualifying

Students of Architecture can, in fact, prepare for qualification in a number of different ways and in increasing numbers of institutions. There are now in the United Kingdom 21 Recognized Schools, five Intermediate Schools, nine Listed Schools, 32 Facility Schools and a considerable number of institutions offering courses in Architecture. Numbers of students range from 500 in the larger schools to seven at the other end of the scale. The aims of training and the standards reached in these schools differ widely. So do the standards of entry and the quality of instruction.

But all students taking these widely different courses have one object—to qualify and to become Registered Architects. Numbers have risen sharply since the war. Corporate membership of the RIBA stood at 8,218 in 1938. It had risen to 10,706 in 1948, and it now stands at 18,175. Over half the profession has probably qualified since the war. This increase may continue irregularly but on average at a rate of about 500 a year, which might lead to an ultimate total of something approaching 30,000 architects.

Factual evidence of this kind†, supported by a considerable amount of information on the structure of the profession, formed the background to discussion. This dealt with the development of Architecture as a Public Service and what the public expects of the architect. It touched the changing nature of architectural practice and the technical standards that are now required. These demands and standards were in turn related to the standards of entry and training and to the ultimate and desirable level of performance in the profession. The ultimate purpose was repeatedly stressed. It was that the profession should attempt to improve its standards of competence at all levels. Any move in this direction must start with the standard of entry. Although the level of entry to a course in a University School can be high, the normal minimum standard

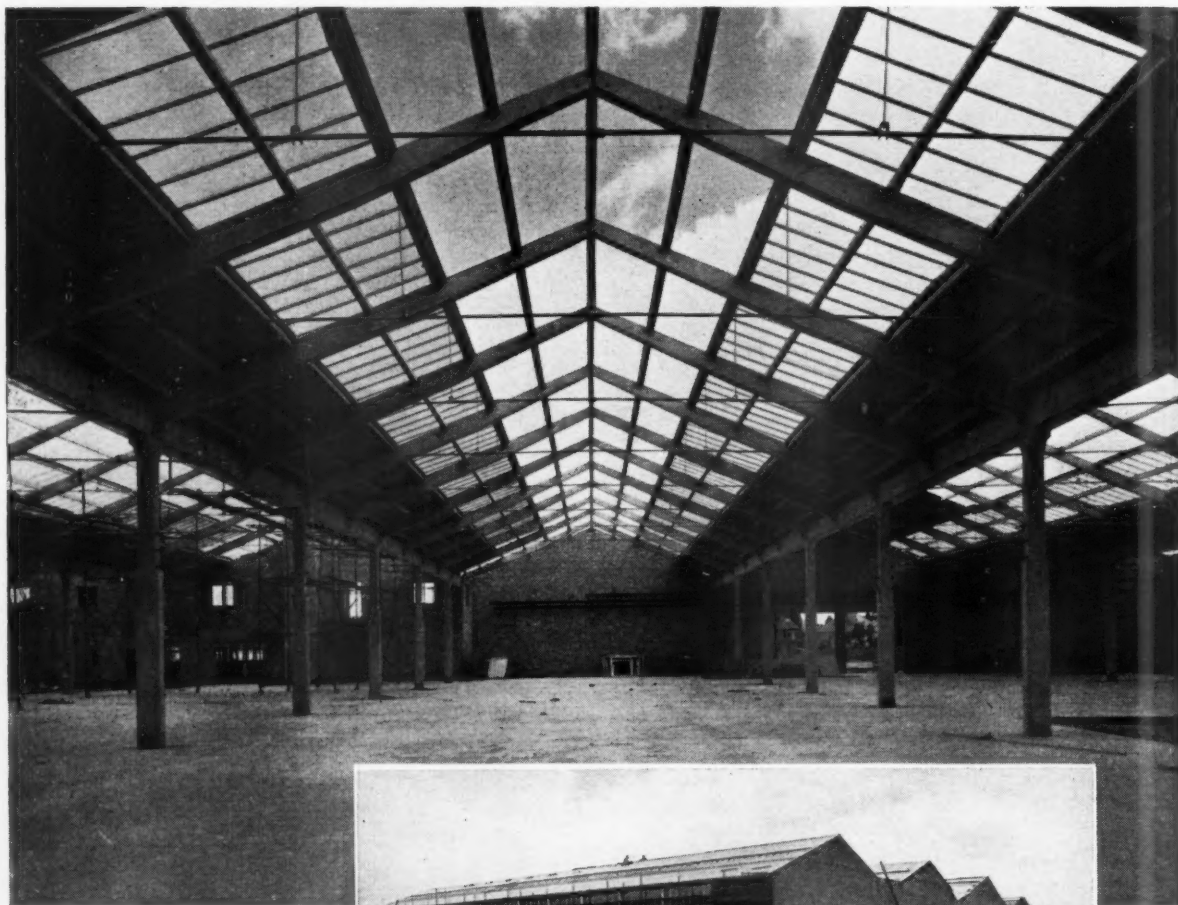
\* Book of Proceedings of the International Congress on Architectural Education, 1924.

\* Report of the Special Committee on Architectural Education, 1943.

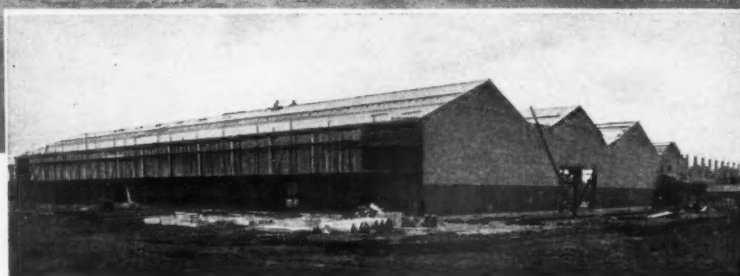
† The Conference emphasized the importance of the statistical information which is now being gathered by the RIBA.

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elsewhere (five passes at "O" level) is far too low. Plenty of evidence to illustrate the depressing effect of this low standard was forthcoming. In one county, for example, "a student at a grammar school who wishes to become an architect is advised to leave as soon as the five basic subjects at 'O' level have been obtained."

The reason given for this is that he would be wasting his time and public money to stay on in the sixth form. Representatives of secondary and higher education pointed out that there are now plenty of competitors for the best boys from Grammar and Public Schools. At present the entry standard for architects is well below that required by other professions, for example, doctors, dentists, pharmacists, veterinary surgeons, metallurgists, not to mention undergraduate entry to a university and the entry standard for the Higher National Diploma in Building.

As one speaker quoted: "The question that arises is how far can a great profession, statutorily responsible for its own education, afford to have an entry standard below that which a good mind may nowadays be expected to attain. It is an issue which the profession may prefer to face sooner than later, for in the next few years (with an increase in the number of 18-year-olds available) it could seize the opportunity to select candidates rather than to accept what material presents itself." The architectural profession will need every artifice to catch anything like a fair share of this increase.

#### **Raise entry standards**

A sharp improvement in the standard of entry is urgent. This, in turn, would rapidly have repercussions throughout training and ultimately throughout the profession. The difference between an "O" level pass at 16 and an "A" level at 18 is not just a difference of educational standard. In the second case, as one speaker said, "the mind is two years older and more developed." "I cannot believe," he said, "that in one case a course of five years is long enough or in the other that five years is required."

Among the conditions that flow from a uniform and higher standard of entry are the following:

First, it makes possible at once a much higher standard of training in all practical and theoretical subjects. Second, the higher standard and range of study replaces training for a common level by the possibility of developing diversified interests as the student moves through his course. If architects are to hold their own in a developing field of technology this is, in itself, highly important.

Third, the development of a higher standard in undergraduate study leads naturally to the important field of post-graduate study.

Fourth, experience confirms that a good mind absorbs knowledge extremely rapidly. This fact would have repercussions on the length of theoretical training that is necessary and might open the way to new developments in training.

One issue, however, cannot be avoided. The raising of the standard of entry for all students who intend to qualify as architects is likely to lead to a consideration of the desirability of other and complementary forms

of training—not leading to Registration—but equipping the student to take his place as a valuable member of the building team.

#### **Entry level at 16 for technologists**

In the discussion on this matter the following points emerged. The fact is that there exists in the profession a demand for highly competent technical assistants. If we are to reach a higher standard of training for the architect and, at the same time, provide competent technologists then we should recognize this distinction in our training. If the entry level for the architect is to be an "A" level at the age of 18, there is a case for an entry level at 16 for those who will train as supporting technologists.

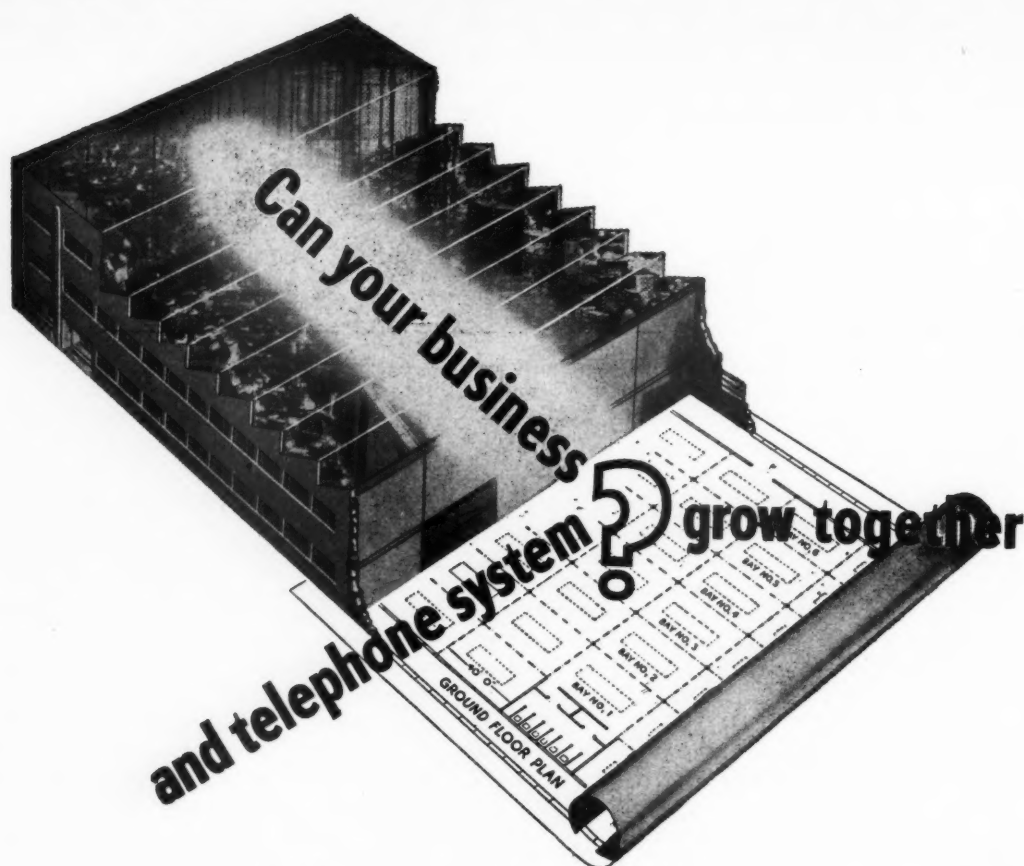
The precise form of this training of the technologists will need careful study. The possibility of basic courses and combined forms of training with other building technicians may be considered. There is, in fact, interesting precedent: speakers from Denmark and Sweden gave comparisons, and reference was made to similar developments in other professions (engineering, for example). Although the "A" level standard of entry for all intending architects was insistently pressed, several speakers mentioned the desirability of providing the opportunity for outstanding students who have started their training as technologists to move into an architect's course providing always that the required standard has been reached.

The Conference followed this discussion by a consideration of the means of education. This consideration centred on the types of school and the main objectives of training. Although the content and the curriculum was discussed, it was obvious that the Conference could not give this detailed consideration.

Three types of school were discussed: the Independent School, the University School, and the Local Authority School of various kinds. These were considered from a number of points of view including standards of entry, facilities for training, opportunities for the development of training and post-graduate work, staffing and the development of links with actual practice.

#### **The major schools**

For the large Independent and University Schools it was stated that the qualification requirement at entry (judged either by examination standard or combined examination and probationary period) was high. A student taking a degree course, for instance, must reach "A" level in two or more subjects. A student who fails to show promise in the early stages of his course can be excluded. (The probationary period should mean what it says. Consideration of exclusion from a course at Intermediate level is far too late.) Schools of this type are free to develop their courses well beyond the range of the RIBA syllabus, and within the Universities the opportunities for collaboration with other Faculties can lift the content of the course to a very high level. This opportunity for the interchange of ideas between men of different interests and



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experience is of the greatest importance to both students and staff. This interchange can occur at undergraduate and post-graduate level. The background of the university influences the school: the School of Architecture, in turn, can influence the understanding of architecture in the university itself and in the minds of undergraduates who may well be its future patrons. A strong case can be made for the development of schools of architecture in universities and for the transfer to universities of schools in other institutions. The characteristic feature of architectural education is that it involves widely different types of knowledge. From the point of view of the university this raises two considerations. If architecture is to take its proper place in the university and if the knowledge which it entails is to be taught at the highest standard, it will be necessary to establish a bridge between Faculties; between the Arts and the Sciences, the Engineering Sciences, Sociology and Economics. Furthermore, the universities will require something more than a study of techniques and parcels of this or that form of knowledge. They will expect and have a right to expect that knowledge will be guided and developed by principles: that is, by theory. "Theory," as one speaker said, "is the body of principles that explains and inter-relates all the facts of a subject." Research is the tool by which theory is advanced. Without it, teaching can have no direction and thought no cutting edge.

In spite of the strong arguments for university schools, it was clearly recognized that several institutions outside the universities were capable of developing their training to a university level. Experimental developments in schools of advanced technology would give these institutions the opportunity of advancing those aspects of architectural education which are proper to their framework and of adding to the variety of skills that are required of the architect.

In contrast with the standard that such courses can achieve there is the picture of training in a great many institutions offering tuition in architecture. There are, of course, good "recognized schools" and bad "recognized schools." There are equally good "unrecognized" schools and bad ones. The difference between the good schools in each category is, however, also a difference of opportunity. One is free to develop its courses, the other is restricted by the requirements of training for an external examination, and the whole concept of part time and evening training.

#### Facility schools

The difficulty in the "unrecognized" facility schools starts at the outset. The facility school can develop in any institution at which a reasonable number of candidates present themselves for part time and evening training. This number is generally recognized as 10 but can be lower. There is an initial difficulty where students already engaged in offices arrive for training without even the necessary "O" level standard. Training takes the form of preparation of testimonies of study: 32 drawings have to be approved by RIBA examiners. If they are not approved the reason is not clear to the student. There is no time to develop courses beyond the level of the RIBA External Examination requirements. Immediately before the

examination the students concentrate exclusively on revision. Although only 40 per cent. may pass, eventually, after repeated attempts, 90 per cent. may finally succeed. This, said one speaker, "is not education, it is cramming."

The very multiplicity of "unrecognized" schools with different standards militates against the raising of the level of architectural education in these institutions. To this is added the confusion that comes from a lack of any clear indication of what is required by the profession. The raising of the standard of entry to a high level would be a welcome indication that the profession wishes to raise its standards of training for architects. The profession must decide whether anything approaching the desirable standard of architectural education can be achieved by part time and evening tuition\*. If not, then the profession should say so.

The freedom from the restrictions of training by testimonies would allow some schools to advance their training to the level required for architects. Where this is impossible or inappropriate a parallel policy of training in building technology would give some institutions the possibility of building up new and useful courses for this purpose. The ultimate object should be that all schools worthy of providing the improved standard of training required by the architect should be recognized schools. The unrecognized school is an anachronism.

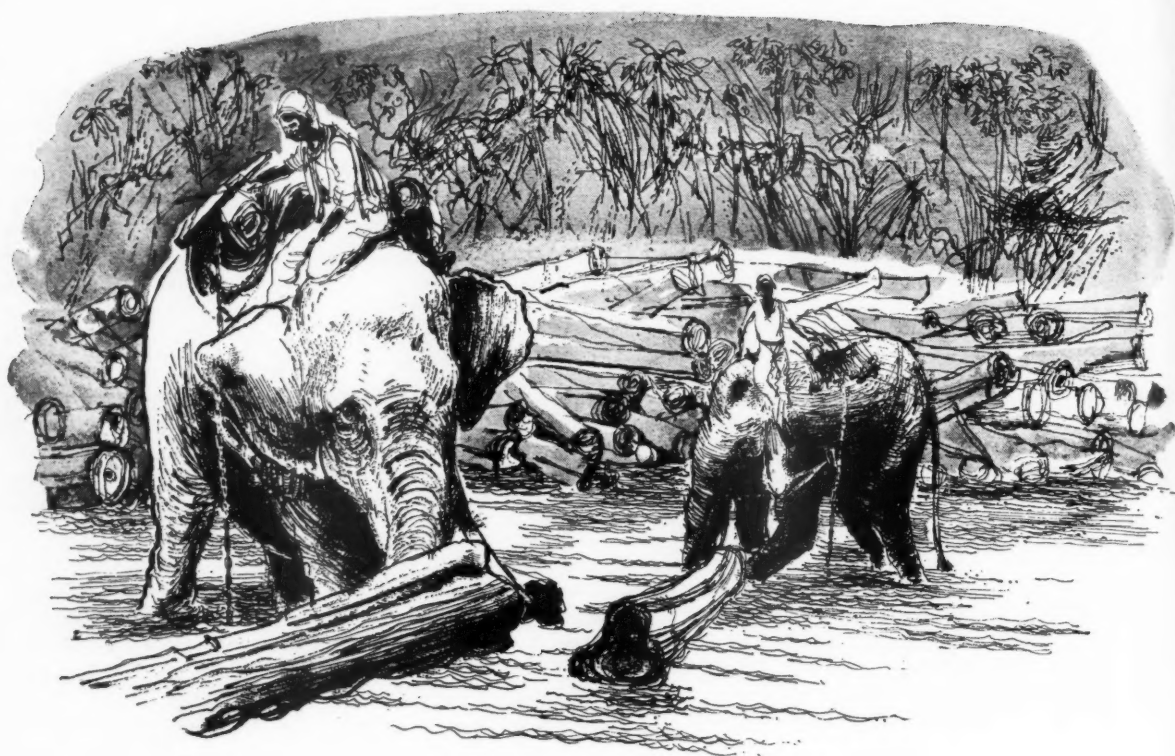
#### Lead from profession

A clear lead must come from the profession. It must not only give a lead. It must play its part in architectural education. It can do this in several ways:

*First*, staffing. The difficulties of staffing schools are of two kinds. On the one hand there is the danger that the promising student may find himself promoted to teacher without any really adequate period of practical or research experience or even any understanding of teaching. On the other hand, schools have also relied on young people who are starting practice and who may use a teaching salary as a basic income. These people may bring enthusiasm: but when their practice is established they go. What is necessary is an arrangement which brings into teaching architects with creative ability and extensive practical or research experience so that they may add to the fund of knowledge that is available in a school. This can be assisted by the link with post graduate research. But it also requires a readiness on the part of able practitioners and specialists to take their place from time to time as teachers. It is simply no good for the profession to complain about the standard of education when those who have become skilled practitioners feel unable to collaborate.

*Second*. If the student's complete course of training is to have any realism this means that at some stage he must be brought into the closest possible touch with all the requirements of practical building. The best way to achieve this is for him to be associated with a building project and the profession must recognize this as a necessary step in architectural education. This can be done in two ways. It can be achieved by

\* The "sandwich" course which is developing in some schools is deliberately excluded and is discussed later in paragraph 31.



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the development of the "live project" as a school subject. This has already been pioneered in one school and is in operation in others.\*

The other possible arrangement is through the operation of combined or "sandwich" courses. These are being developed in several schools and are proposed in others. The "sandwich" course is *not* part-time training. (One conclusion on which the Conference was emphatic was that the part-time course must go.) The sandwich course which is proposed in schools which carry out full-time training is a means of breaking down the barrier between training and practice. This is done by alternating periods of training in a school with periods of *training* in an office. The collaboration in training by the office itself is essential to the success of any scheme of this kind.

### Advanced training

In its consideration of the question of advanced training the Conference had before it a paper† which stated in its preface "Knowledge is the raw material for design." "It is not a substitute for architectural imagination: but it is necessary for the effective exercise of imagination and skill in design. Inadequate knowledge handicaps and trammels the architect, limits the achievements of even the most creative and depresses the general level of design."

The advancement of knowledge is not merely an ornament to a profession—it is its duty. This is the means by which the competence of the profession as a whole can be advanced. It is essential to improvement in both teaching and practice that a limited number of people should at some time devote themselves to advanced post-graduate study and research. Work of this kind is steadily increasing in volume. In addition to the main centres where it has developed, the BRS, the Ministry of Education and the Nuffield Foundation, important developments are now taking place in Universities in which this type of work may become progressively more established. The pioneering work of these centres of research has indicated the range of study that is required. In addition to the study of the space and functional requirements of building types, studies of building design in relation to daylighting and town planning, the prefabrication and industrialization of building and the special problems of tropical building are now being followed up.‡

Work of this kind can be conducted as pure research but is more likely to take the form of investigations which involve inter-related studies: for example, the inter-relation between architecture and social needs, the physics of environment, etc. Studies at present being conducted in this country already involve extensive contact with other disciplines: on the side of the means of production architects are at work with structural engineers, mechanical engineers, production

engineers, management and time study experts: on the side of the needs of buildings they co-operate with clients, sociologists, psychologists, physicists, physiologists.

The very nature of this pattern of co-operation makes post-graduate work in architecture a suitable subject for development in the universities where, so far, the main developments of post-graduate study have largely concentrated on Historical Research which, indeed, they have carried out with distinction.

The evolution of post-graduate studies of this kind is a natural extension of higher standards of training within the schools. These studies are the means by which students of diversified interests extend their own minds and the boundaries of knowledge. They also build up the specialized knowledge which is always replacing and reinforcing the generalized knowledge of practice.

By the development of post-graduate study, the profession can provide itself with the higher technical ability and knowledge that it requires. Above all, it can advance and re-invigorate its teaching.

These discussions clearly led to a series of important considerations. Many of the matters discussed are issues which can only be effectively studied over a period of time but there were certain issues which the Conference considered to be urgent, critical and essential safeguards to the future of Architectural Education. These matters arose from many aspects of the discussion and eventually crystallized into the following recommendations for action:

### Recommendations

1. The Conference unanimously agreed that the present minimum standard of entry into training (five passes at "O" level) is far too low and urged that this level should be raised to a minimum of two passes at "A" level.
2. The Conference agreed that courses based on Testimonies of Study and the RIBA External Examinations are restricting to the development of a full training for the architect and that these courses should be progressively abolished.
3. Ultimately, all Schools capable of providing the high standard of training envisaged for the architect should be "recognized" and situated in Universities or Institutions where courses of comparable standard can be conducted.
4. Courses followed by students intending to qualify as architects should be either full-time or, on an experimental basis, combined or sandwich courses in which periods of training in a school alternate with periods of training in an office.
5. It may be that these raised standards of education for the architect will make desirable other forms of training not leading to an architectural qualification, but which will provide an opportunity for transfer if the necessary educational standard is obtained.
6. The Conference regards post-graduate work as an essential part of architectural education. It endorses the policy of developing post-graduate courses which will enlarge the range of specialized knowledge, and will advance the standards of teaching and practice.

\* Birmingham School of Architecture; R.W.A. School of Architecture, Bristol; University of Cambridge School of Architecture.

† *Deeper Knowledge: Better Design.* R. Llewelyn Davies.

‡ The whole question of the architect's contribution to Town Planning needs special consideration.



## REINFORCED CONCRETE FACTORY

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*The prize winners were:*

*First prize (£1,000): Joseph Mendleson and John Henry Charles Lamb, of Joseph Mendleson and Partners (London), who worked in association with Z. L. J. Woloszczuk and R. B. Wilcox, of Chamberlain and Partner consulting engineers.*

*Second prize (£500): E. H. Eames (Tewin Wood, Herts), P. G. Frome, P. Drew, P. H. Saunders and J. D. Morris, who worked in association with Z. L. J. Woloszczuk and A. B. Szulc, of Chamberlain and Partners, consulting engineer.*

*Third prize (£250): Cyril John Bromley, Paul Sutherland Buckhurst, Gary Valentine Hansen, John Richard Peverley (London students). Consulting engineer, K. Szmidt.*

*The assessor was Edward D. Mills, assisted by Ove Arup and Partners, consulting engineers, and Leslie W. Clark, quantity surveyor. The following is their report:*

Detailed comments on the premiated schemes together with general comments on the competition are set out in this report.

*Design Number 78*, which was awarded First Premium, is an excellent all-round scheme, the authors having considered the conditions of the competition with great care and produced an attractive and workable solution. The detailed planning is excellent and the arrangement of units has produced a simple, practical circulation and an effective architectural massing. The separation of various functions has been exceptionally well considered and, in particular, the external circulation of the various forms of traffic is highly commended.

Great care has been taken in considering future extensions, which can be added in any order without spoiling the appearance of the factory or reducing the amenities. The extensions would have no adverse effect on the architectural character of the scheme. The authors have made a careful study of the day lighting of the manufacturing area and have achieved an excellent standard of illumination throughout the manufacturing space.

The division between the manufacturing area and administration has been well defined, and care has been taken to arrange for easily accessible services, which run through a central duct.

The drawings are clearly and neatly presented, with a comprehensive report and excellent structural details.

The elevations of the building are simple, but effective. Considerable use has been made of exposed aggregate precast concrete slabs, with small areas of patterned blocks to create interest.

The general layout and landscaping has been very well considered. The buildings sit

comfortably on the site and would be an attractive addition to any industrial area.

*Structure:* The chief item of interest in the structure is the 84 ft. Warren girder spanning the main manufacturing area. This consists of triangular precast units which are tied together by prestressing and lifted into position in pairs of girders to form monitors. Although 84 ft. has been shown in the design, the unit construction would enable the span to be varied over wide limits.

The detailing is elegant and practical. It is very free from projections and other protuberances, which so often mar the appearance of precast structures.

The remaining structures are straightforward and unpretentious, in fact, all the structures are characterized by simplicity of design.

*Estimate of cost:* The overall estimate of cost is quite realistic and it would appear that the authors have given more than the average care and consideration to this aspect of the competition.

The manufacturing and storage areas together work out at an average of 2s. 3d. per foot cube or 50s. per foot super, and the administrative offices, canteen, lavatories, first aid centre and boiler house, etc., at an average of 4s. per foot cube or 74s. 2d. per foot super, including services but excluding equipment and outside works.

The breakdown of cost under the various headings also indicates that considerable thought has been applied to the apportionment of the total cost and the provisions for outside works are consistent with the requirements under the conditions of the competition.

*In Design Number 44*, which was awarded Second Premium, the general planning has been well considered, and the detailed planning of the individual units shows consider-

able promise. The disposition of the main units of the factory result in a pleasing massing of the elevations, and circulation, both inside and outside the building, has been carefully studied.

The single entry and exit from the secondary road would need further thought, as this might lead to congestion at this point. The planning of the car parking, cycle parking and garage accommodation appears to be a little congested and no parking arrangements are planned adjacent to the office entrance for casual visitors. This could, however, be simply remedied by replacing the grassed area with a small private car park. The detailed planning of the canteen, office entrance and office block is exceptionally good and would produce pleasant and workable areas. The relationship of lavatory and cloakroom accommodation to the manufacturing zone is well arranged, although the structural system employed results in two rows of columns in a comparatively narrow area, which might prove to be a limiting factor.

The general layout is good and the provision for extensions has been carefully planned, together with the landscaping, which would be attractive and would not be interfered with when factory extension became necessary.

The expansion of the offices has been catered for by the addition of a further floor, and whilst this is possible, it would be both expensive and inconvenient. An improvement would have been the construction in the first stage of half the two-storey office block, which would at the same time have given a more interesting character to this elevation of the building.

The elevations generally are simple and attractive, but consideration of certain details would produce marked improvements. For example, the roof lights to the manufacturing area could have been stopped before they reached the external edges of the building, giving a firmer line to the factory roof and eliminating awkward glazing areas on the East and West elevations.

Considerable use has been made of textured precast concrete panels, while the scheme generally relies upon precast units for its structure.

*Structure:* The structure calls for little comment. By adopting a small span the structural problem has been virtually eliminated, and has been solved by the simple use of precast units. The detailing is clean and the structure is unobtrusive.

*Estimate of cost:* In design Number 44, the total floor area and cubic content of the buildings are somewhat lower than in the average design submitted and taking this into account, together with the considerably smaller span in the manufacturing and storage areas, it is logical that the overall estimate of cost should be less than that for the winning design.

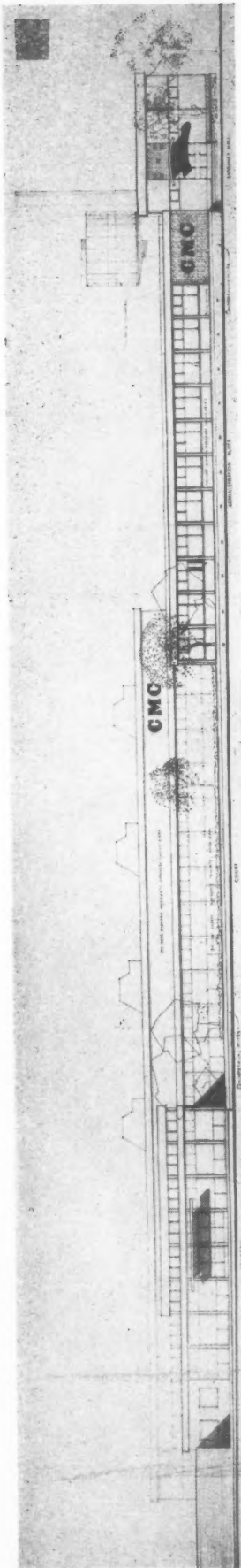
The individual rate prices, however, are reasonably comparable. The manufacturing and storage areas together work out at an average of 2s. 4d. per foot cube or 51s. 7d. per foot super, and the administrative

*Continued on page 786*

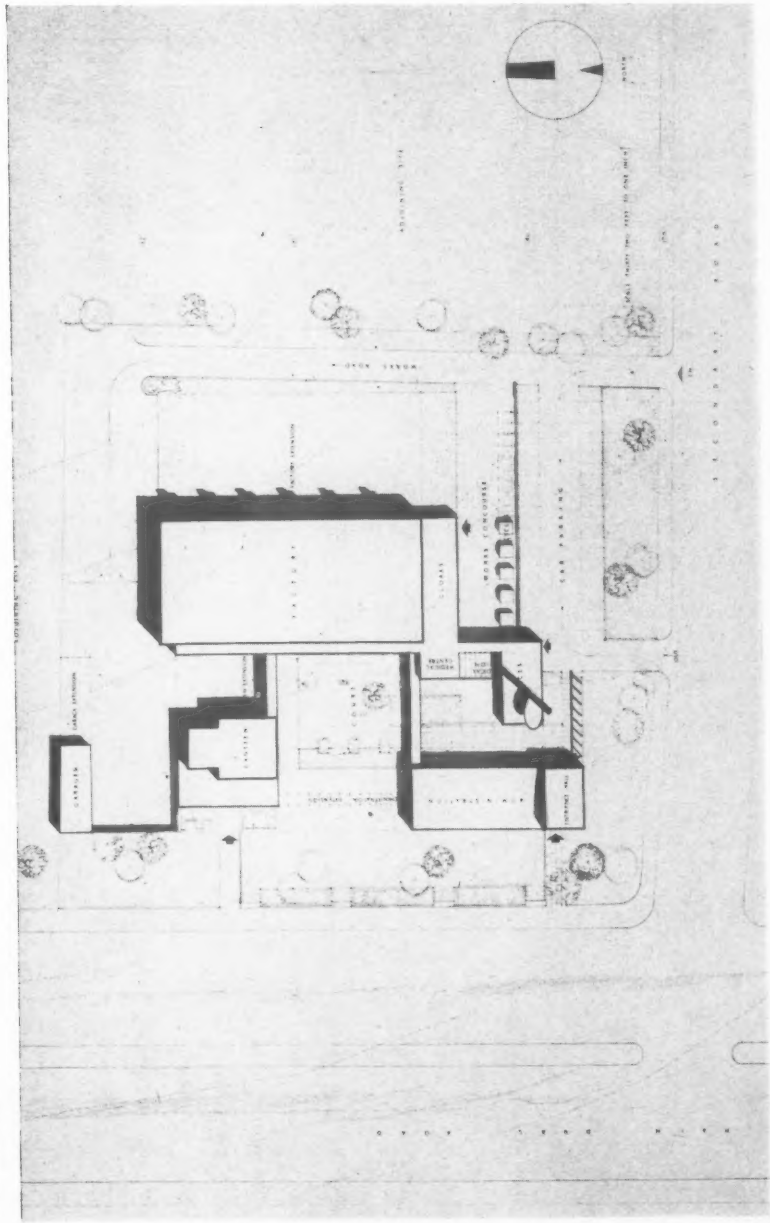


# Reinforced concrete factory competition:

FIRST PRIZE-WINNING DESIGN BY JOSEPH MENDELSON AND J. H. C. LAMB



West elevation



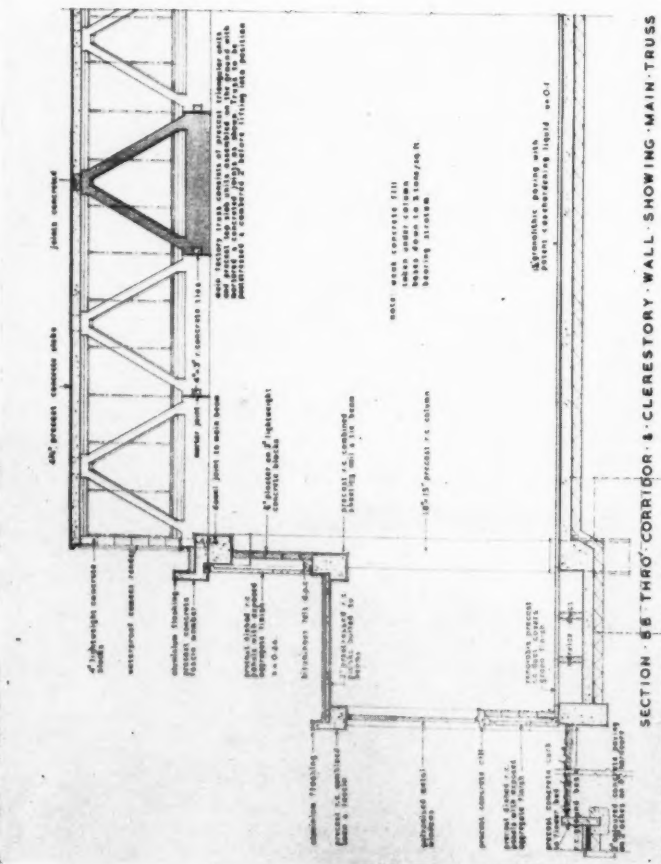
Site plan

This design was submitted in association with Z. L. J. Woloszczuk and R. B. Wilcox, of Chamberlain and Partner, consulting engineers. The main factory block is sited north-south to give the aspects required by the special monitor roof-lights. The administration and canteen blocks are each linked to it by corridors and the three buildings form a large courtyard, closed on the fourth (main road) side by a covered way. A long-span factory structure has been chosen to give uninterrupted floor space; this consists of concrete space-frame girders made of precast triangular units assembled and prestressed on site, being joined at the top by precast planks and at the bottom by ties at 6-ft. centres. No unit weighs more than 7 cwt., and since the space-frames occupy the depth of the monitor lights, the flat parts of the roof are kept to the minimum clearance level. Precast purlins span the 18 ft. between adjacent space-frames and in turn support 6-ft. long channel-reinforced woodwool slabs. After assembly the space-frames (which span 84 ft. in the design shown, but may be used for spans of from 60 ft. to 90 ft.) are lifted on to the T-shaped columns. The other blocks have a main structure of long-span prestressed

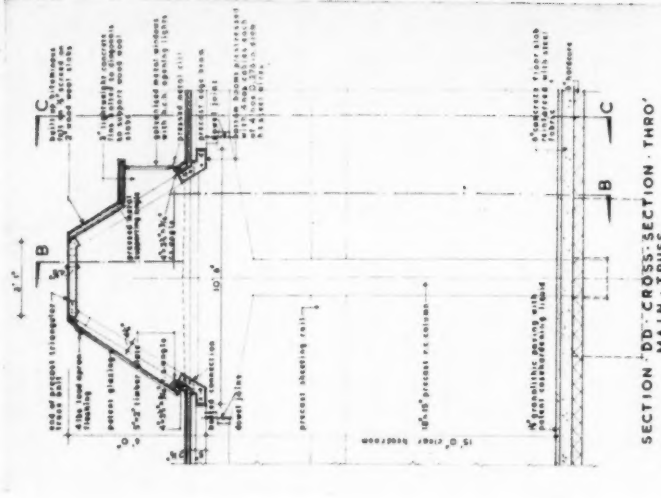
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# Reinforced concrete factory competition : FIRST PRIZE-WINNING DESIGN BY JOSEPH MENDELSON AND J. H. C. LAMB continued

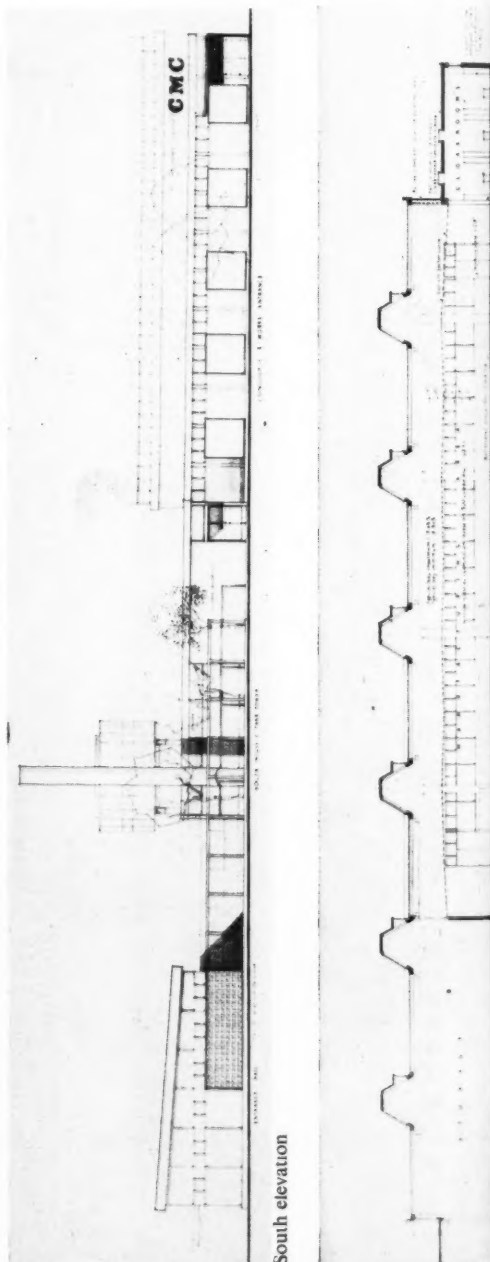
beams at 3-ft. 6-in. centres with woodwool slabs spanning between. External cladding on all blocks is mainly of precast dished interlocking panels with coloured exposed aggregate; this runs across the face of the factory structure but is used as panel infill in the other blocks, and is backed up by a skin of lightweight concrete blocks, plastered. Artificial lighting in the factory block is provided by cold cathode fluorescent tubes on continuous trunking, at 12-ft. centres both ways, and at 2 ft. below purlin level. The woodwool ceilings are painted white for good reflection. Heating in the factory block is by overhead unit heaters.



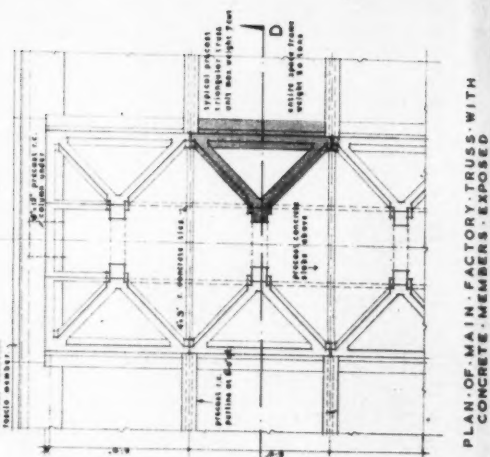
SECTION BB THRO' CORRIDOR & CLERESTORY WALL SHOWING MAIN TRUSS



SECTION DD THRO' MAIN TRUSS

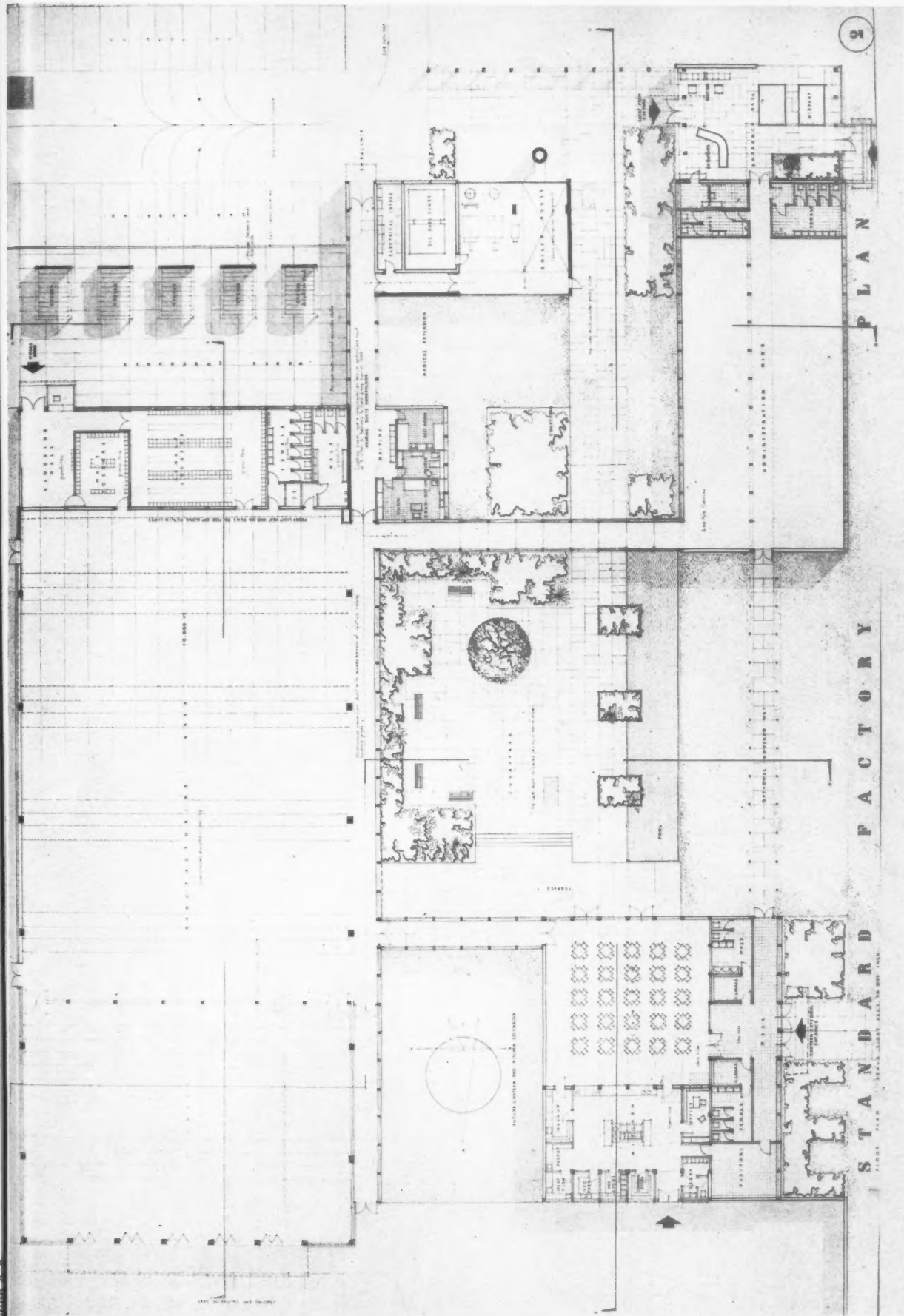


South elevation



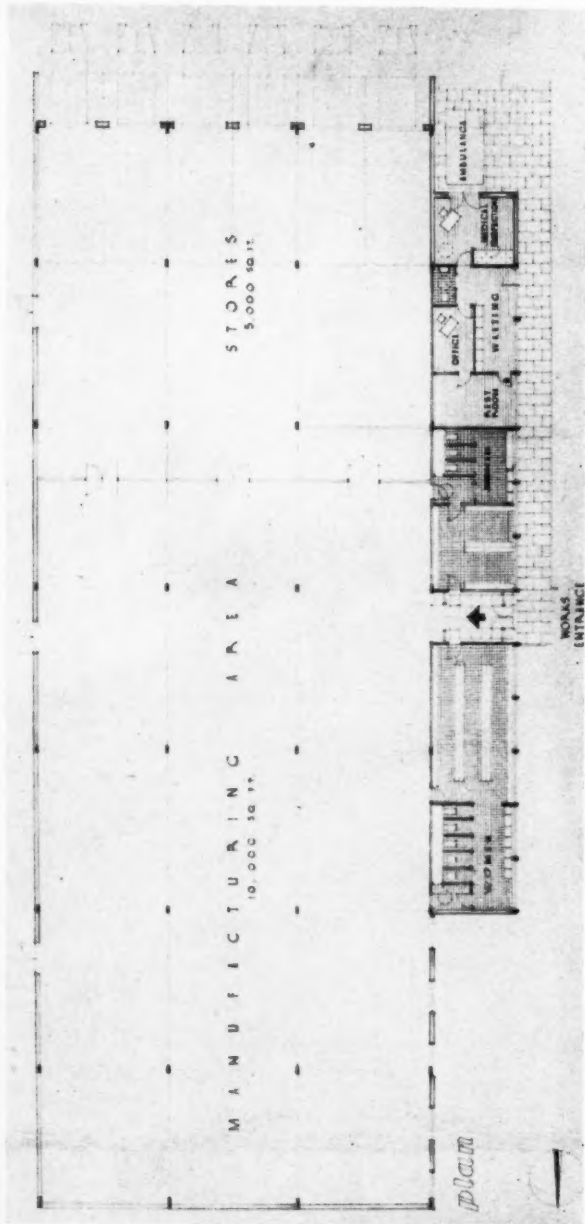
PLAN OF MAIN FACTORY TRUSS WITH CONCRETE MEMBERS EXPOSED

PLAN OF MAIN FACTORY TRUSS WITH  
CONCRETE MEMBERS EXPOSED

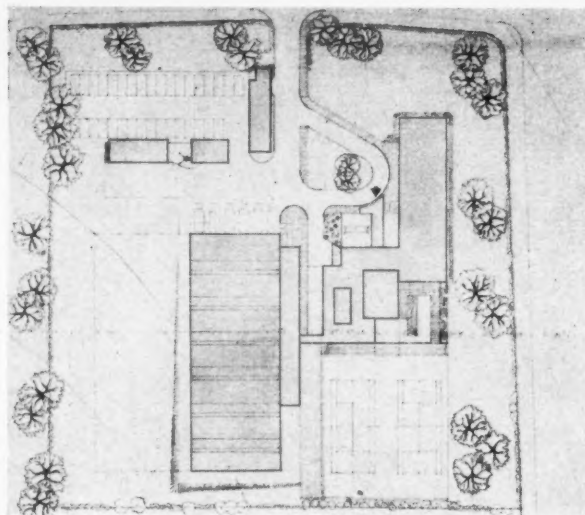


Ground floor plan

Reinforced concrete factory competition: SECOND PRIZE-WINNING DESIGN BY E. H. EAMES

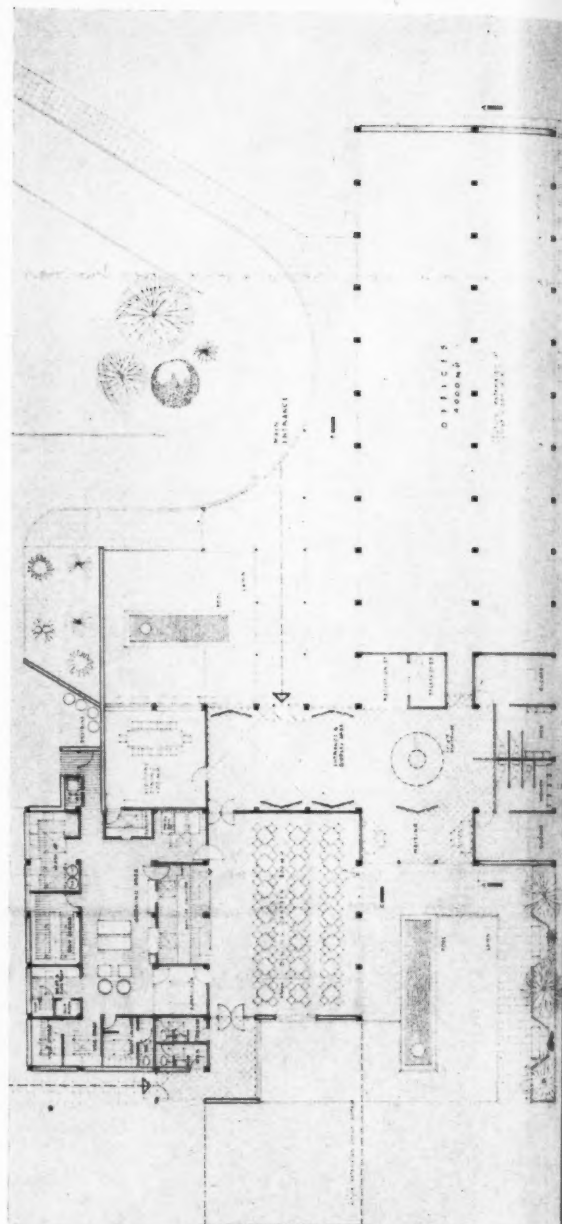


Ground floor plans: above, factory; below, offices and canteen



Site plan

This design was submitted by E. H. Eames in association with P. G. Frome, P. Drew, P. H. Saunders, J. D. Morris, and Z. L. J. Woloszczuk and A. B. Szulc of Chamberlain and Partner, consulting engineers. The buildings are sited for ease of extension, with the factory block running north-south to suit the monitor roof-light system. The main factory structure consists of frames of precast balanced cantilevered posts and pin-jointed rafters, with reinforced-concrete purlins spanning 25 ft. at 10-ft. centres between frames. The roof is of asbestos cavity decking. The walls consist of an outer skin of textured precast panels 3 in. thick, 10 ft. high and 6 ft. wide resting on the floor and slab secured to a precast edge beam at



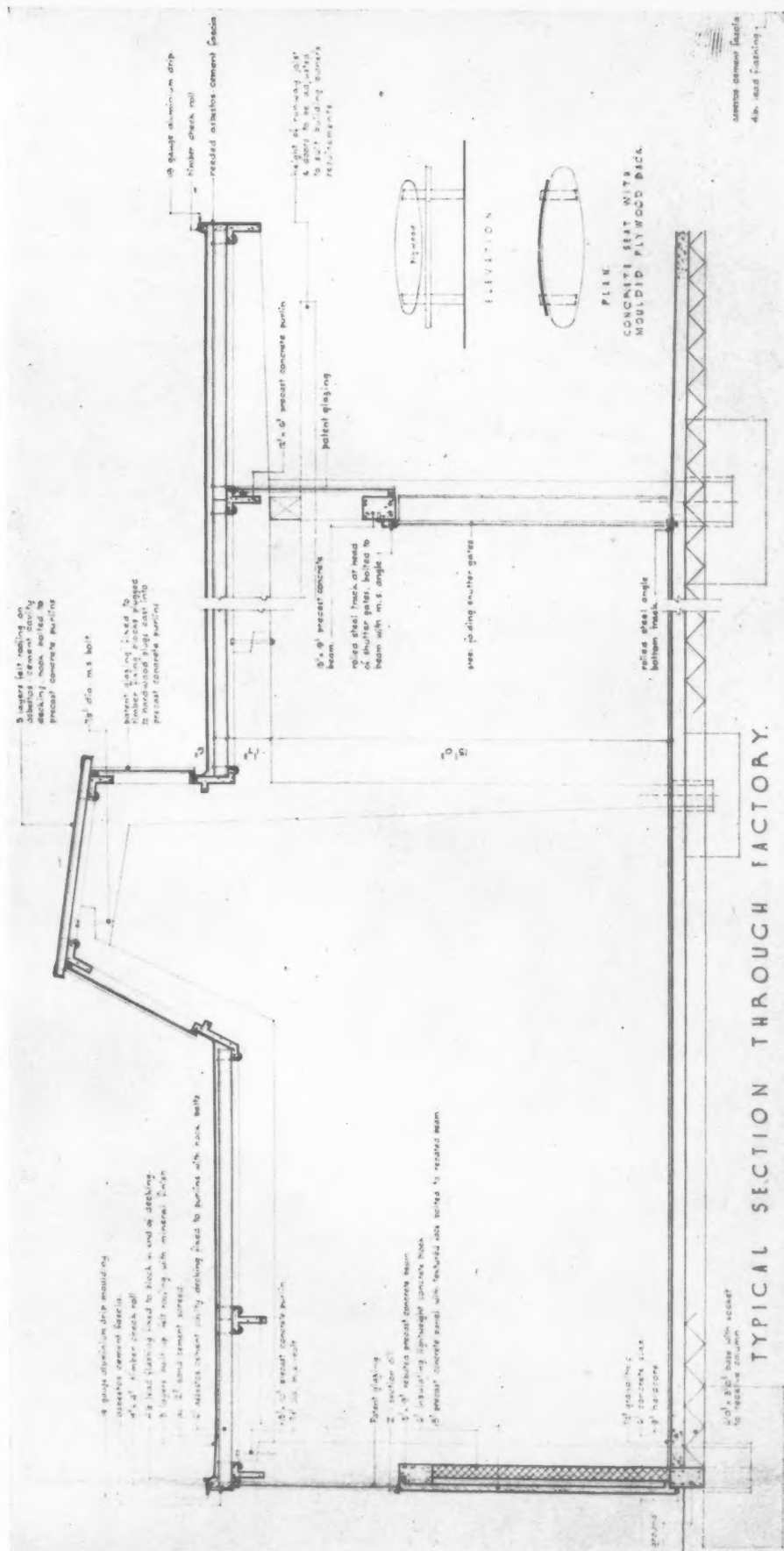


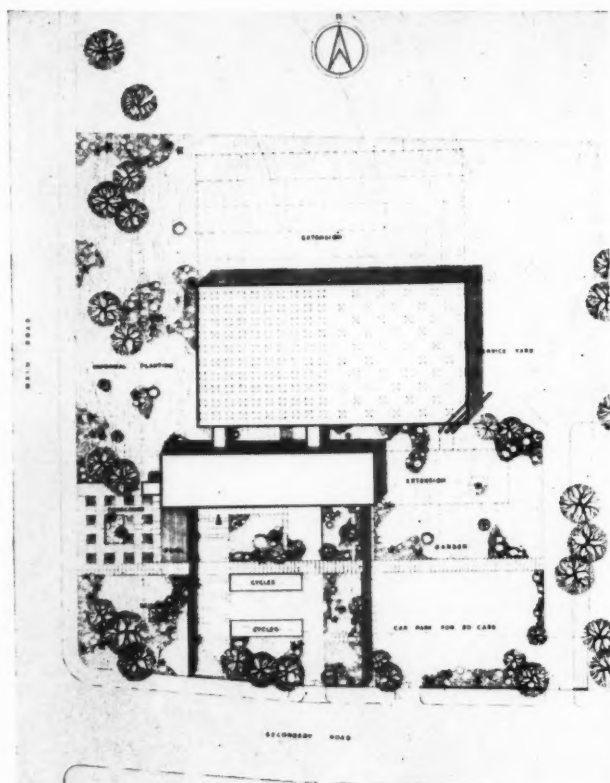


West elevation



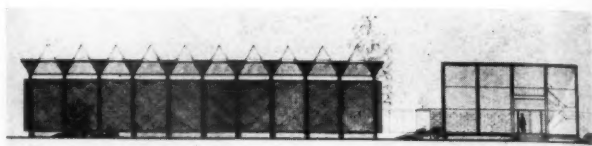
The top, and an inner skin of lightweight concrete blocks. The administration and canteen building has a roof of in-situ flat strips with 10-in. hollow pot slabs between to give a level soffit.



Reinforced concrete factory competition : **THIRD PRIZE - WINNING DESIGN** BY J.

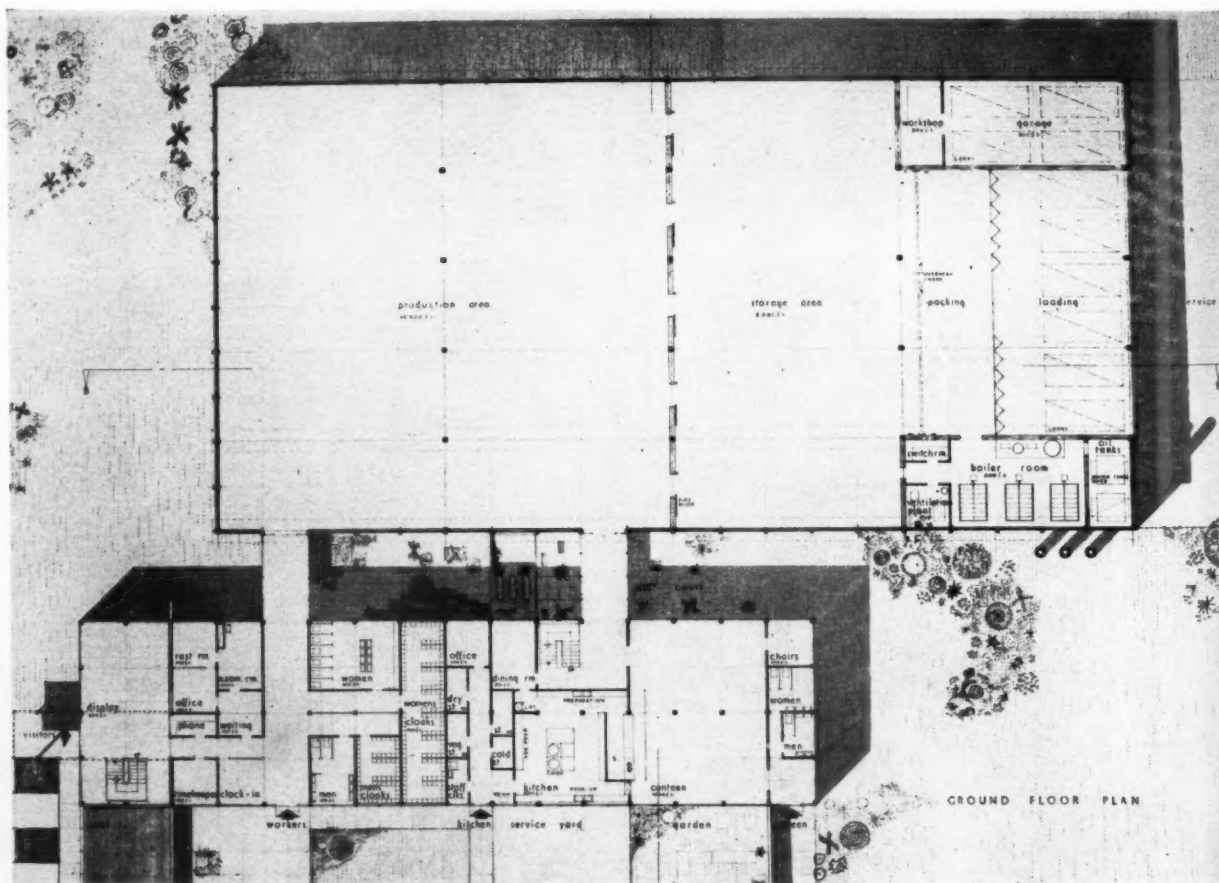
Site plan

This design was prepared in association with K. Szmidt, consulting engineer. The boiler house and garages are included in the main factory block, all other accommodation being gathered together in a two-storey subsidiary block; the two buildings are quite different in character. The factory block runs east-west, but its siting is not conditioned by the daylighting system adopted, which is of pyramidal metal-framed roof-lights 5 ft. square. Precast space-

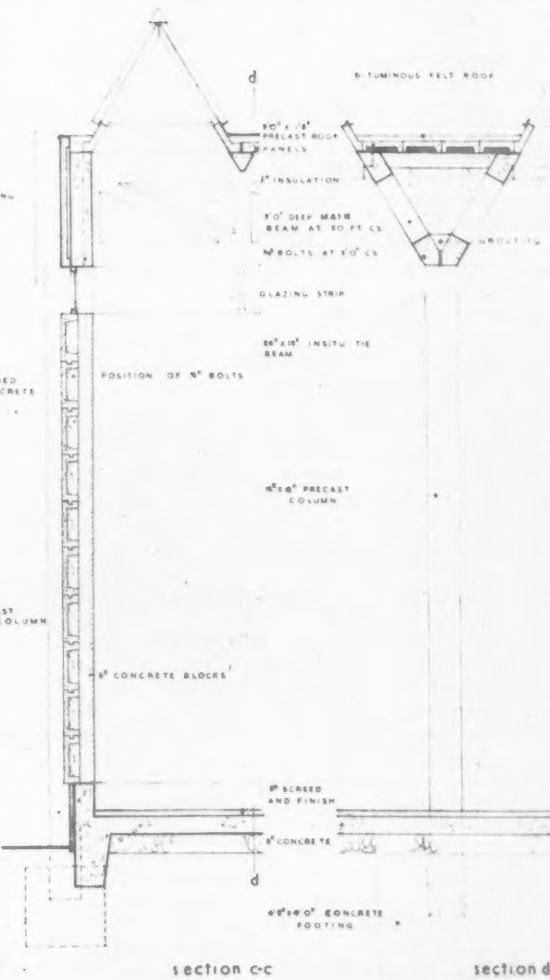
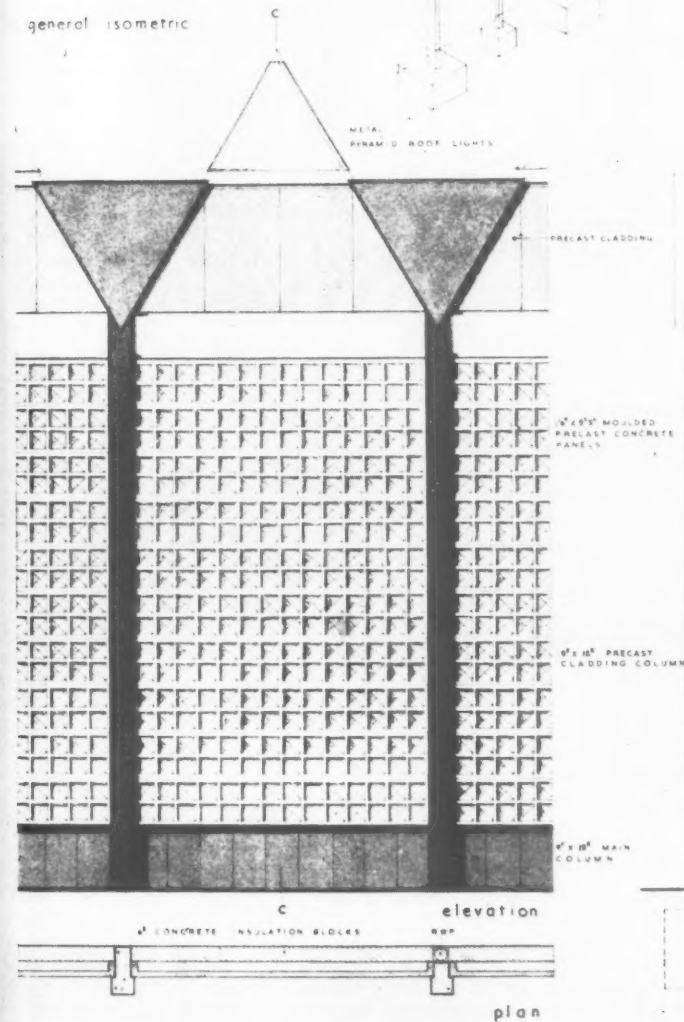
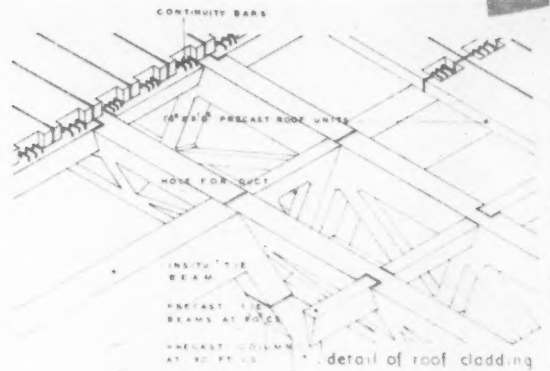
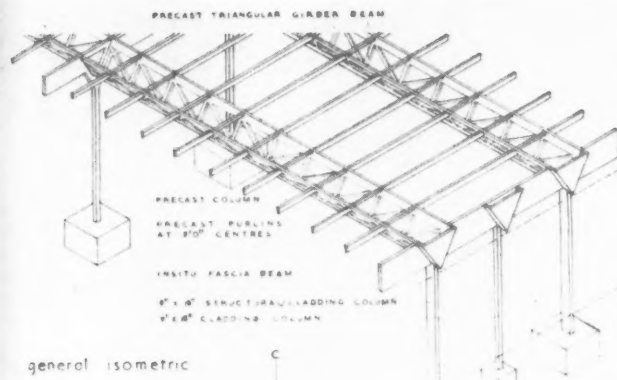
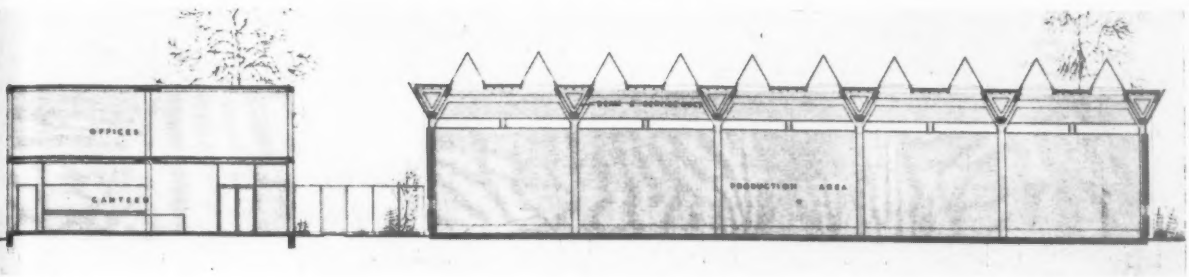


West elevation

frame girders spanning 50 ft. at 20-ft. centres form the main factory structure; these carry precast purlins at 5-ft. centres with concrete plank units as decking. Walls are profiled precast panels backed up by lightweight concrete blocks. The subsidiary block has precast columns at 10-ft. centres, precast edge beams and an in-situ spine beam; small precast secondary beams at 2-ft. 6-in. centres with woodwool slabs and in-situ topping form the first floor and roof. Cladding to this block is of clear and obscured glass.



BY J. R. PEVERLEY, C. J. BROMLEY, P. S. BUCKHURST AND G. V. HANSEN





**Reinforced concrete factory competition: assessor's report continued from page 778**

offices, canteen, lavatories, first aid centre and boiler house, etc., at an average of 4s. 6d. per foot cube or 67s. 7d. per foot super.

Here, too, the authors appear to have given more than average care and consideration to the apportionment of the total cost, with reasonable provisions for the outside works.

*Design Number 63*, awarded Third Premium, is unquestionably the most elegant architectural solution submitted, and both in design and presentation has great sensitivity of approach.

Unfortunately, in spite of an extremely compact plan and very well considered and attractive layout, a number of practical faults are obvious, which prevented it from being more highly placed. In particular, the planning of the cloakroom/canteen block would require further consideration, particularly in view of the condition laid down that all departments of the factory should be capable of 100 per cent. expansion. This area could not be expanded without complete duplication, which would obviously be uneconomic in the case of the canteen and kitchen. These areas are, in any case, regarded as small, even for the first stage development. Although direct communication is provided between the manufacturing area and the cloakrooms and canteen, the relationship of workshop and lavatories should be reconsidered, in order to provide direct access from the cloakroom or to the canteen. Lavatory and cloakroom accommodation generally appears to be rather cramped, and would be difficult to operate with a large number of people.

The general arrangement of the factory is logical, and expansion could be made without any serious interference with the first-stage building.

External circulation for both pedestrian and wheeled traffic has been very well considered, and the landscaping carefully studied, to give a simple, but very effective, arrangement of planting and gardens.

The system adopted for day-lighting the factory area is both expensive and doubtful in sufficiency. The scattered arrangement of individual roof lights would tend to produce eye-strain and would need serious reconsideration.

The elevations of the buildings are notable for their extreme elegance. Great care has been devoted to the use of textured surface and patterned precast concrete slabs, particularly on the manufacturing block, which combine with the simple elegance of the exposed frame of the administration block. The general grouping and massing of the units has been extremely well handled, and the building would make a noteworthy addition to any industrial development.

*Structure:* The structure of the main manufacturing area is unnecessarily complicated, and there is no justification for the space-frame main girders. They are not practical for use as pipe ducts, as it would be almost impossible to get the pipes in. The roofing of precast units is heavy, and the insulation

on the underside instead of on top.

The structure of the administration block is also unnecessarily complicated, and it would appear that a cast *in-situ* floor would have met the problem much more simply.

*Estimate of cost:* Whilst the overall estimate of cost for design Number 63 is fairly comparable with those for the designs placed First and Second, the apportionment under the various headings is quite unrealistic. For example, the total cost of foundations up to ground level is given at approximately £12,000, the superstructure cost at approximately £26,000 and the cost of heating and hot water at approximately £25,000. This means that the superstructure costs are unrealistically low and the heating costs are extremely high. With regard to the heating costs, a reasonable sum is included under each section of the buildings and, in addition, a very large sum is included under boiler house, sufficient to cover the cost of the complete installation. Overall, however, the manufacturing and storage areas together work out at an average of 1s. 6½d. per foot cube or 41s. 9d. per foot super, and the administrative offices, canteen, lavatories, first aid centre and boiler house, etc., at an average of 4s. 8d. per foot cube or 67s. 10d. per foot super. The rather low price per foot cube for the manufacturing and storage areas is due to the large cubic capacity in relation to the floor area. Although insufficient care and attention appears to have been given to the detailed estimate, having regard to the architectural and other merits of the design and to the fairly reasonable overall estimate of cost, it was considered that design Number 63 was worthy of the Third Award.

#### **General comments**

It is obvious from the number of entries submitted for this competition (96) that it has created a considerable amount of interest, and it has produced an outstanding winning design, with a number of interesting schemes which have been awarded premiums or have been given careful consideration by the Assessors.

The competition has obviously encouraged collaboration between architect and engineer in tackling the important problem of factory design, using reinforced concrete as the main structural material, and examination of the schemes submitted reveals many interesting ideas which could be adopted for normal practice. On the other hand, it has also revealed a considerable misunderstanding of the nature and proper use of reinforced concrete in industrial building, particularly where precast units have been designed, in many cases, as concrete versions of a steel structure.

Too little attention has been paid, in a number of instances, to the important question of day-lighting, and the equally important problem of waterproofing roof structures, particularly those of peculiar shape and construction. Vulnerable points, such as the junction of roof lights and the adjoining roof area, have seldom been studied adequately, and the usual deficiencies of

weatherings and suitable treatment at the junction of one material with another suggest insufficient study of the many practical problems that arise in this type of building. Many competitors have failed to understand the need for a clear and simple circulation system in a factory, and the proper segregation of the various occupants.

The problem of expansion has not always been seriously considered, and in some cases the growth of the factory, as envisaged in the conditions, would completely ruin the architectural composition. On this particular point, the winning scheme has solved the problem brilliantly.

*Structure:* The impression gained from the various structural schemes submitted is that designers are creating their own difficulties. Too many schemes are full of "gadgets." It is a fact that no system in the building trade lasts very long unless it is very simple. It is also surprising that very few shell roofs have been proposed. They may be out of fashion, but the fact remains that the curved, thin shell is the classic solution to roofing in reinforced concrete. It may not be cheaper than a well-designed precast framework with lightweight sheeting for the roofing material, but it is certainly cheaper than the many schemes submitted with precast and other forms of solid roofing. It is a very difficult technical problem to join precast units together to produce a neat appearance and a strong joint. The use of a combination of precast units and *in-situ* ones has not been exploited sufficiently and is well worth consideration.

The general standard of structural solution is disappointing, and it is felt that designers should concentrate on making structures simple, rather than spectacular.

*Estimates:* Having regard to the fact that the Conditions of the competition laid down, within small limits, the overall floor area of the building, the main features of the various schemes submitted were the wide variations in the estimates of cost, varying by more than 100 per cent. between the lowest and the highest, and the considerable optimism of a number of competitors in the matter of estimating, or alternatively insufficient consideration given to the question of cost of the particular type of construction proposed. Many of the structural schemes submitted would be extremely costly, this fact not being reflected in the estimates concerned.

Of the many schemes initially selected on architectural and design merit for further detailed examination, the variation in estimating was not so noticeable, although the general tendency was to be on the low side. Considerable inaccuracies in some estimates would appear to suggest that this aspect of the competition was treated too lightly or that insufficient time was allotted to this part of the work. In one case, a comparison of the floor areas and cubic capacity of parts of the administrative section suggested storey heights of up to 100 ft., although, naturally, this was not indicated on the drawings. In the submission of any scheme, it should be borne in mind that the estimate of cost is quite important and that this should at least give a reasonably reliable indication of the probable cost of the work.



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working detail

WALLS AND PARTITIONS: 59

CURTAIN WALL: COLLEGE AT SLOUGH, BUCKS

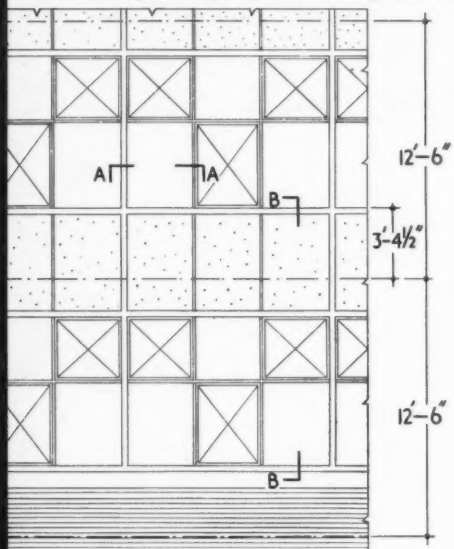
F. B. Pooley, Architect to the Buckinghamshire County Council



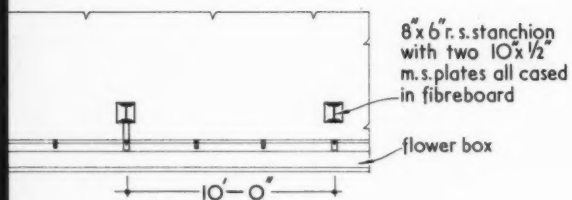
Architect-designed prefabricated timber curtain walls for multi-storey buildings are still comparatively uncommon. The frames in this case are of storey height and 10 ft. wide, the joints between frames being masked by the channel sinking incised in main mullions, heads and sills. The deep zinc flashing at the foot shields the brickwork from water falling off the curtain. As will be seen from the drawing, this design requires a back-up wall to meet the fire protection requirement.

CURTAIN WALL: COLLEGE AT SLOUGH, BUCKS

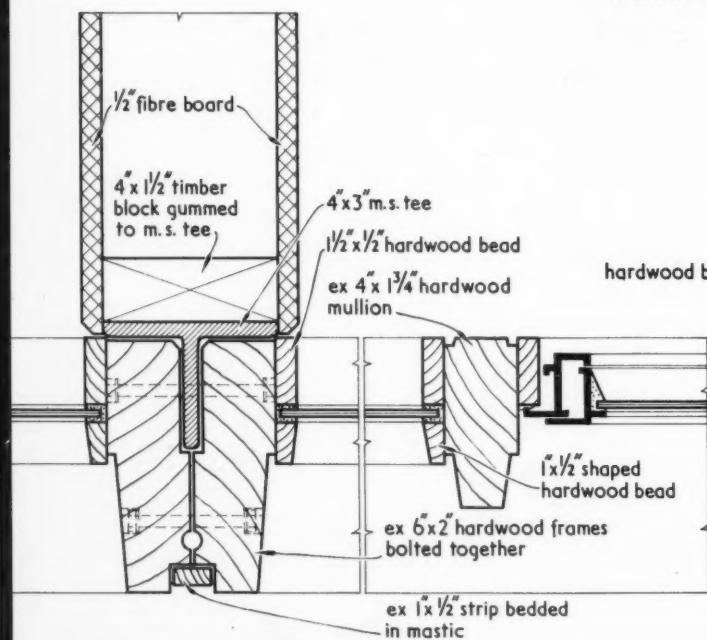
F. B. Pooley, Architect to the Buckinghamshire County Council



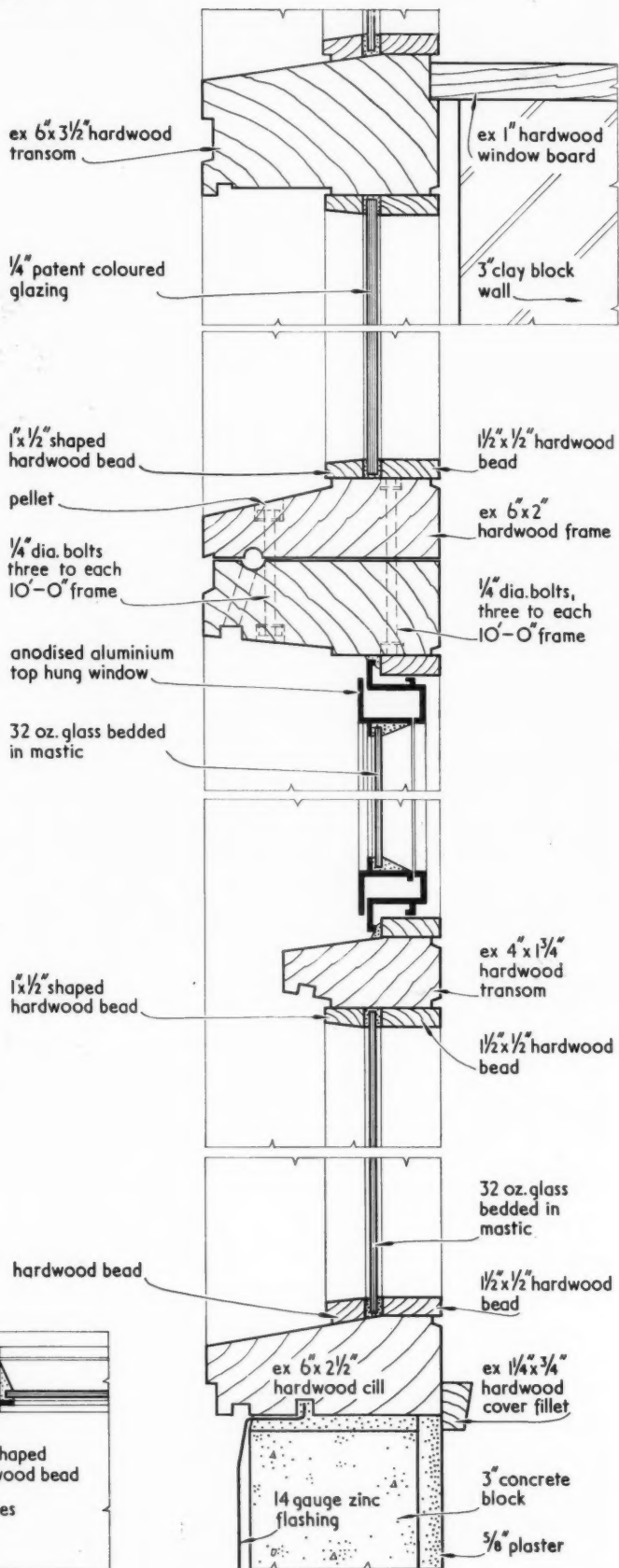
ELEVATION. scale  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$



PLAN. scale  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$



PLAN AT A-A. scale  $\frac{1}{4}$  full size



SECTION B-B. scale  $\frac{1}{4}$  full size



working detail

WALLS AND PARTITIONS: 60

KIOSK: STATION IN LONDON, S.W.1

Robert Maguire and Peter Whiteley, architects



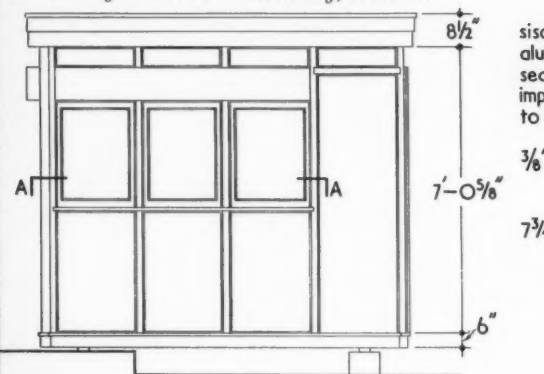
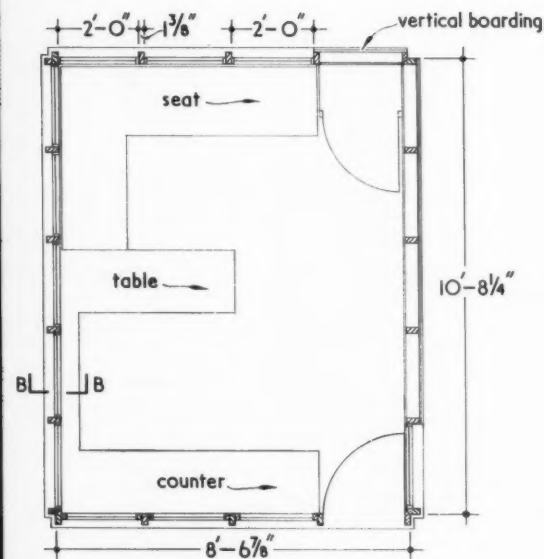
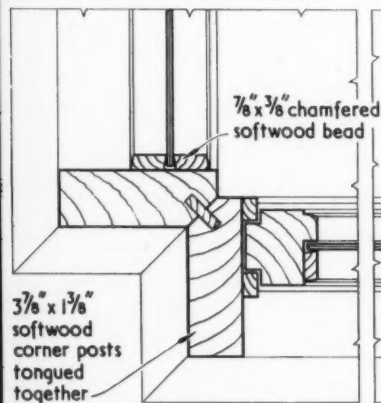
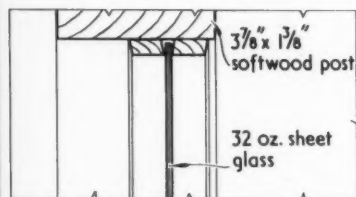
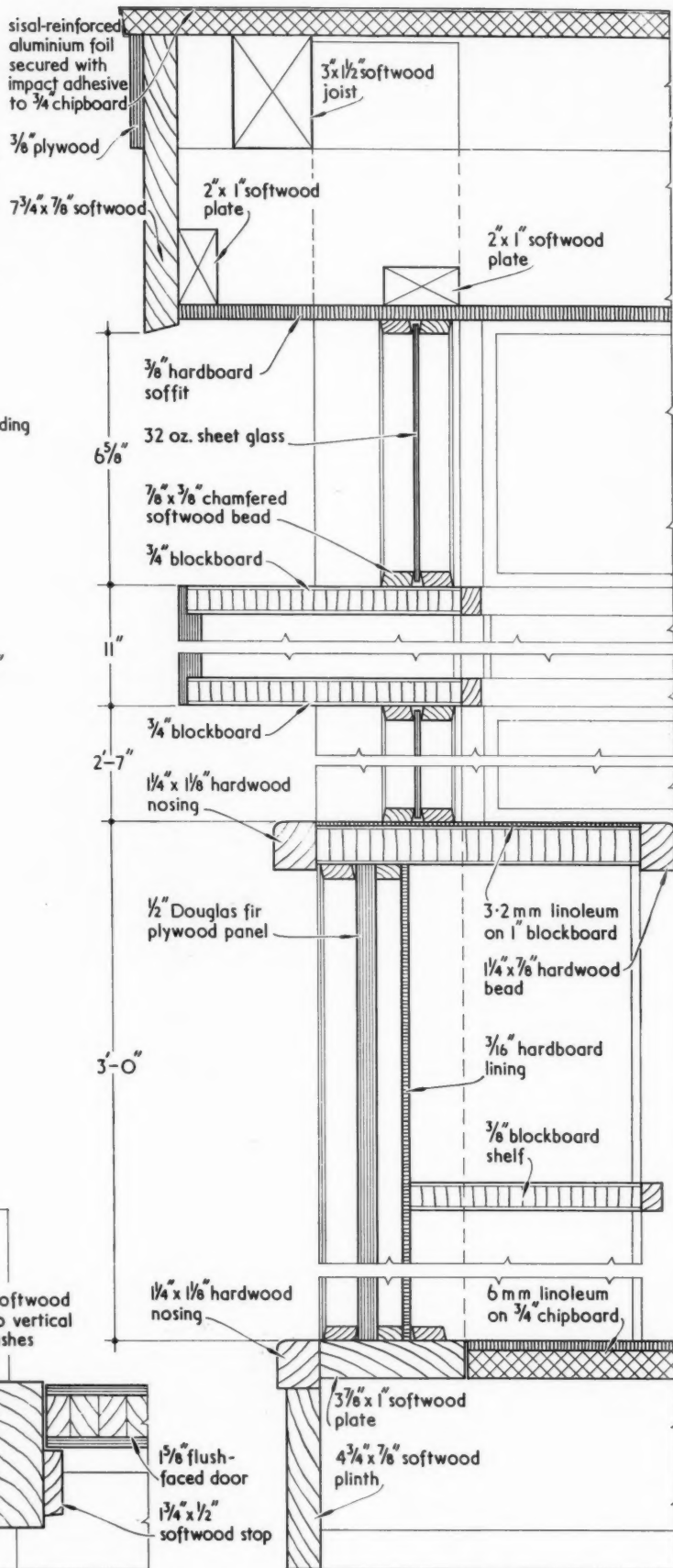
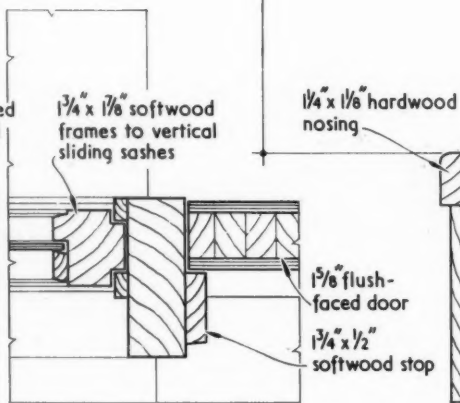
*This kiosk affords a good example of economical joinery detailing. Economy has been achieved mainly by cutting down rebated joints to a minimum. Note the use of the projecting fascia to serve as a back to high level shelving.*

## working detail

## WALLS AND PARTITIONS: 60

KIOSK: STATION IN LONDON, S.W.1

Robert Maguire and Peter Whiteley, architects

ELEVATION. scale  $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1' - 0''$ PLAN. scale  $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1' - 0''$ PLAN AT A-A. scale  $\frac{1}{4}$  full sizeSECTION B-B. scale  $\frac{1}{4}$  full size

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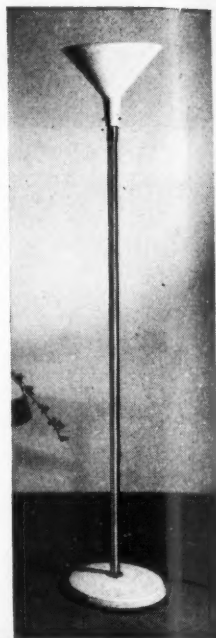


Illustrated are some samples from the comprehensive range of Mondolite lighting fittings, which supplement the wide variety found in the Versalite, Ultralux, Tubalux and Harlequin ranges.

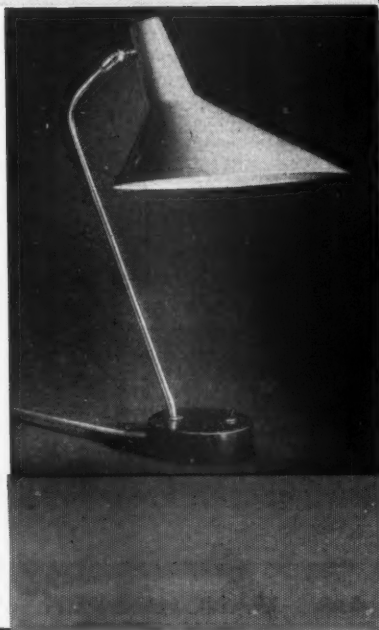
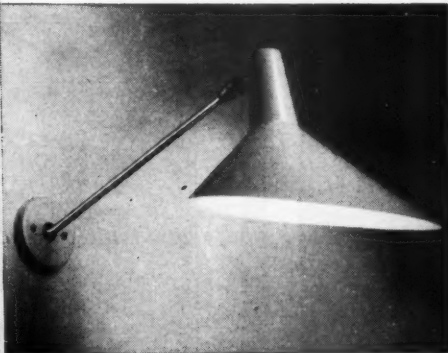
Many of these fittings, in pendant, bracket, table lamp and floor standard form, have been designed with new materials and the emphasis is on colour, simplicity of design, and interchangeability of units to provide a variety of alternative assemblies.

The majority of these fittings have already been approved by the Council of Industrial Design for "Design Review", and an attractive display of the units has been added to the Lighting Centre at Knightsbridge and the Liverpool showroom.

*An illustrated folder of these fittings Ref. No. TYL/11 is available on request.*



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## Announcements

### PROFESSIONAL

C. A. Broadway, A.R.I.C.S., has taken into partnership John Malyan, A.R.I.B.A. The title of the firm will be Broadway & Malyan, Architects and Surveyors, of 34, Baker Street, Weybridge.

Healing & Overbury, chartered architects and surveyors, have now opened a branch office at 7, Portland Street, Southampton (telephone: Southampton 24429). Trade literature and catalogues may be sent to this address, as well as to Cheltenham.

Moir & Bateman (incorporating S. Butterworth & Duncan) F./A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I. of Prudential Building, Rochdale, have opened a branch office at Pembroke, South Wales, and their address will be Barnard House, Pembroke.

Howard, Souster & Fairbairn, A.R.I.B.A., announce that the title of the practice will now be Howard, Fairbairn & Partners. This alteration is because I. Avann, F. C. Newton, and F. W. Wilson have been appointed junior partners.

Reginald Pianca, A.R.I.B.A., has resumed his appointment as consulting architect to the Government of the Union of Burma. The address is c/o National Housing, Town and Country Development Board, Box 254, Rangoon, Burma.

O'Brien, Morris & McCullough, B/B.A.R.C.H., have opened a branch office at 9, Ormerod Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol 9, and all trade literature and catalogues would be welcomed.

### TRADE

J. M. Robb, Manager of the Overseas Division, has been appointed General Manager Expandite (Australia) (Pty.) Limited and will be taking up the post in Australia about July. J. H. Humphries has been appointed Area Manager Scotland and A. W. Moignard, Assistant Area Manager for South East England.

Alec Plummer of Luton, a past-President of the Electrical Contractors Association (Incorp.) has been elected the Chairman of the National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting.

J. A. Hewetson & Co. Ltd., flooring specialists, of Marfleet, Hull, have appointed J. E. Mitchell as their representative in Lancashire and Cheshire.

Venetian Vogue Ltd., whose main factory is in Slough, have just opened a branch factory in Jordan Street, Glasgow, for the manufacture of their Sunway Vevo Blinds.

The Coal Utilization Council's new information centre at 39, Park Street, Bristol, which takes the place of their old one at Broad Quay, was opened on March 31 by the CUC President, J. Stanleigh Turner, under the chairmanship of T. L. Silvey, South West regional committee chairman. The opening ceremony was attended by members of the regional committee and the regional joint service committees and the guests included civic heads, local government officers, architects and builders, who afterwards were invited to inspect the premises.

J. O. de M. Hopper, Overseas Representative, Expandite Limited, Chase Road, N.W.10, left on May 12 to visit distributors in Italy and Yugoslavia.

A scheme, by which companies and firms engaged in the manufacture of building materials and components may, subject to certain conditions, join the National Council of Building Material Producers as affiliated members, was adopted by the Council at a special meeting held on March 25.

J. A. Crabtree & Co. Ltd. are holding an exhibition of their products at the Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, Glasgow, until May 24.

TDA has produced a wall chart dealing with various aspects of moisture in timber. Copies of the chart can be obtained from the Timber Development Association, 21, College Hill, E.C.4.

Midland Electric Manufacturing Co. Ltd., have appointed P. Dale to their London Sales Force.

British Plumber Limited announce that T. B. Dodson left the Company's service at the end of April, and that C. K. McConnan succeeded him as Sales Manager from May 1.

John Hampton Pawley, a Director of George Cohen Sons & Co. Ltd., died on April 15 at the age of 78.

The Pitch Fibre Pipe Association of Great Britain have retained the services of F. L. Barrow, M.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Struct.E., F.R.S.H., M.I.P.H.E., as Consultant. The appointment has been made in view of the growing importance of pitch fibre pipes for drainage and other purposes. Mr. Barrow will act as advisor to the Association on technical matters relating to the use of these pipes.

John Dale Acoustics Division have reduced their prices of Sanacoustic aluminium non-rusting trays by 10 per cent.

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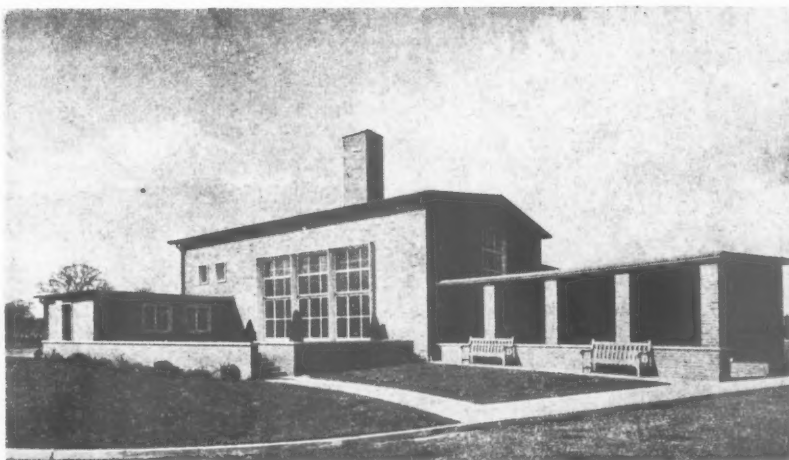
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Carson Bros. (Production) Ltd., wooden office furniture manufacturers are to move from their present Shoreditch factory to new premises in Honywood Road, Basildon, Essex. The move is expected to take place this summer.

The Mitchell Construction Company, the civil engineering firm, has become a Limited Company within the Mitchell Group of companies, D. D. Morrell has been appointed Managing Director.

F. Hills & Sons Ltd. have appointed two further distributors for Duramel, the Plastic-Faced Plywood: Ian Mac, Dougall Ltd., 20, Hillneuk Drive, Bearsden, Dumbartonshire (telephone: Bearsden 4283) and Dalmarnock Timber & Plywood Co. Ltd., Glasgow Road, Rutherglen (telephone: Rutherglen 2463).

Leaderflush Doors Ltd. have appointed Messrs. J. M. & J. Bartlett Ltd. Lombard House, Warwick Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2, to act as their distributors for Durham, Northumberland and the North Riding of Yorkshire.

An open invitation has been extended by Mm. Pennel & Flipo of Roubaix, France, to all architects and other interested persons visiting the Brussels Exhibition this year. This invitation is to visit the Pennel & Flipo factory at Roubaix in order to see the manufacture of their Bulgomme-Silence foam rubber based floor covering which has, during the last year, been available in Great Britain for the first time. Anyone wishing to take advantage of this invitation is asked to contact the United Kingdom Commercial Manager for Pennel & Flipo; J. B. Arnall of 13, Montpelier Road, Ealing, W.5 (telephone: Perivale 6550).

William Townson & Sons Limited, of Bolton have become members of The Natural Asphalte Mine-owners & Manufacturers Council.

British Resin Products Ltd. announce that the high density polyethylene which they are marketing on behalf of British Hydrocarbon Chemicals Ltd. will in future be sold under the trade mark Rigidex.

## Correction

The roof of the stand of Fibreglass Limited at the Factory Equipment Exhibition was covered in Snapdek Insulated Roof Decking, made by Snapdek, Limited, and not in Northern Aluminium's Snaprib as stated in our issue of May 1.

## TALL BUILDINGS

### *One approved, one not*

The Minister of Housing and Local Government has approved an outline application by Raglan Squire and Partners for a 33-storey hotel at Lancaster Gate, London. He has rejected an application by New City Properties (architects, Lewis Solomon and Kaye) for a 35-storey hotel in Park Lane, but has indicated that he would approve a tall hotel on this site if the plot ratio were reduced. In each case the plot ratio prescribed for the site in the Development Plan was 2 to 1. The ratio proposed for the hotel at Lancaster Gate was 3.7 to 1, that for Park Lane 8 to 1.

In his letter notifying the Lancaster Gate decision the Minister says.

"The Minister is satisfied that there is a need for more hotel accommodation in London, that this site is suitable for the erection of a large hotel, and that an hotel

of the size proposed need not give rise to any insuperable traffic problems. He sees no objection in principle to the erection of a high building on this site provided it is well proportioned. He does not think that the case for preserving the symmetry of the Victorian architectural composition of Lancaster Gate, already broken by redevelopment, is sufficiently strong to justify withholding permission on your client's outline application."

Accordingly, the Minister has granted permission subject to the plot ratio not exceeding 3.75 to 1, to the provision of a garage for 250 cars, and to approval of detailed design.

The Minister's letter on the Park Lane application says that he is satisfied that the site in question is suitable for an hotel, and that the existence of a large hotel on the site need not give rise to insuperable traffic problems. In his view, however, the proposal now before him would constitute a serious over-building of the site, and he thinks that it would be very detrimental to neighbouring properties. Even if the site were larger, he would be doubtful about the effect which such a building would have on Hyde Park; and while recognising that high buildings must be allowed and that the neighbourhood of the Park is particularly suitable for hotels which in the modern world may need to be built high, he would hope that a design would be produced which, while still being economic, would present a less massive appearance viewed from the Park. He adds that he would be prepared to accept a substantial increase over the normal plot ratio of 2:1 for the construction of an hotel on this site, and that he is prepared to agree in principle to a high building here.

The letter adds that the applicants may wish to discuss alternative proposals with officers of the London County Council, the Board of Trade, and the Ministry.



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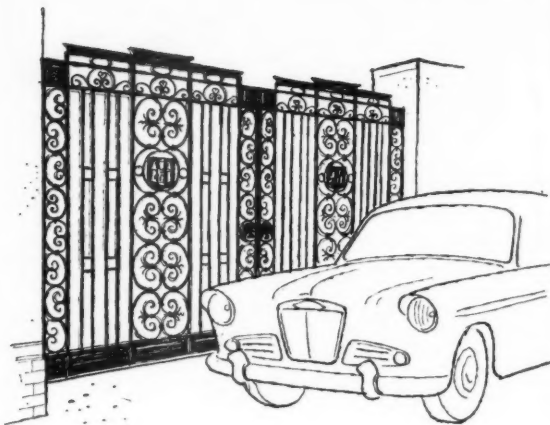
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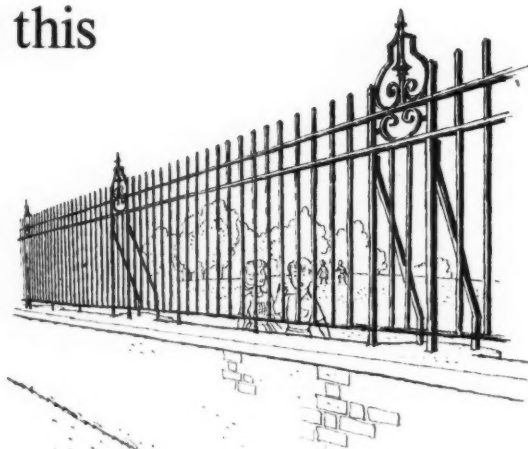
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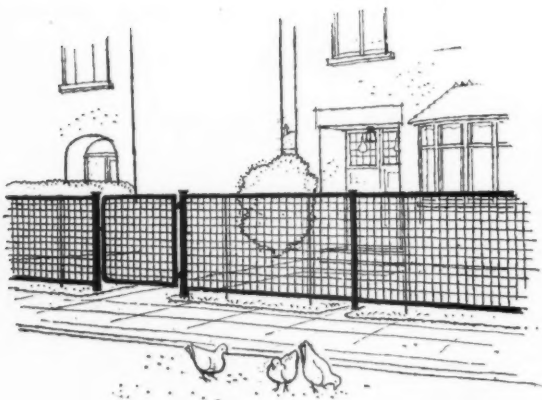
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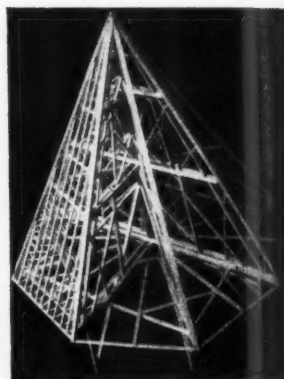
## MAY



Ove Arup's house in Highgate, by the Danish architect Erhard Lorenz.



Street side clutter, such as will be imposed on any architect's ideal vision if it is built in a town; from Kenneth Browne's article *Streetscape with Furniture*, the street in this case being replanned Notting Hill Gate.

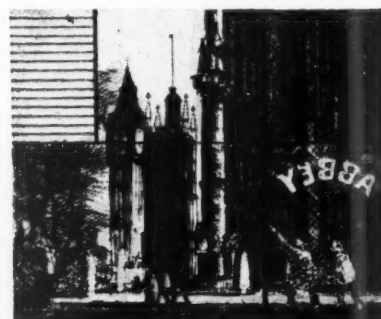


Great Gothic space-frame; Quentin Hughes' magnificent model to illustrate his article on roof of York Chapter House.

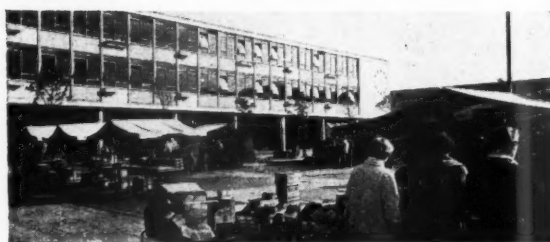
## JUNE



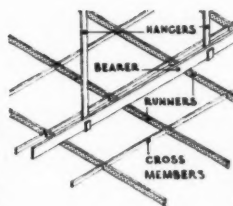
Town centre of Vallingby, above, and the market place of Harlow New Town, right; contrasts in animation from *Hubs Without Wheels*, a survey of two important new town centres.



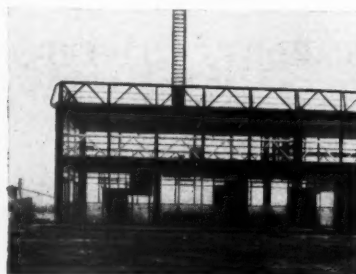
Building development in Victoria Street near the Abbey, touch off again the future of Westminster Precinct. This enfilade of the spires of Westminster highlights Gordon Cullen's proposals in *Westminster Revisited*.



## JULY

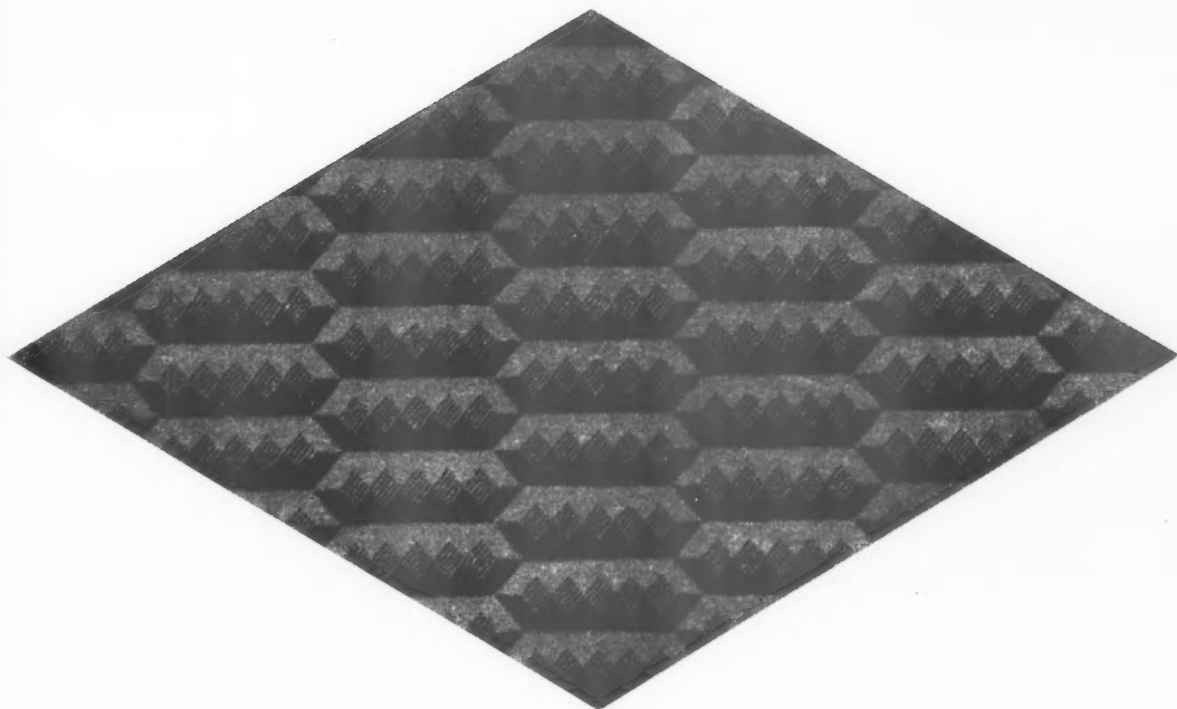


Right: overhead nomenclature; the designations of the parts of suspended ceilings, from the first of a number of articles on this new entrant in the field of prefabricated building elements. Below: Glass Cages at Gatwick; some of the new buildings at Gatwick airport are almost brutally solid, others are transparent glass and steel structures, all will be fully described in a special feature.



Below: Theatre in Coventry; a view across the auditorium of the newly-opened Belgrade Theatre. The interior of the National Film Theatre will also be given the full treatment in this issue.

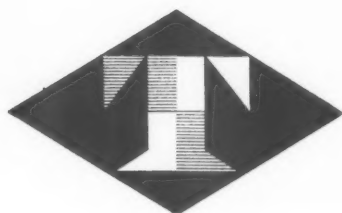




\* 1958 Design Centre Award goes to a

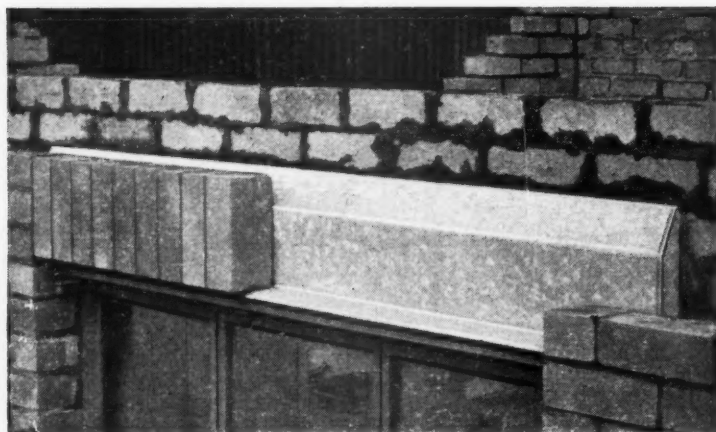
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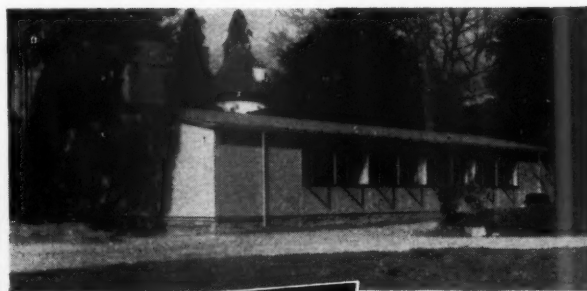
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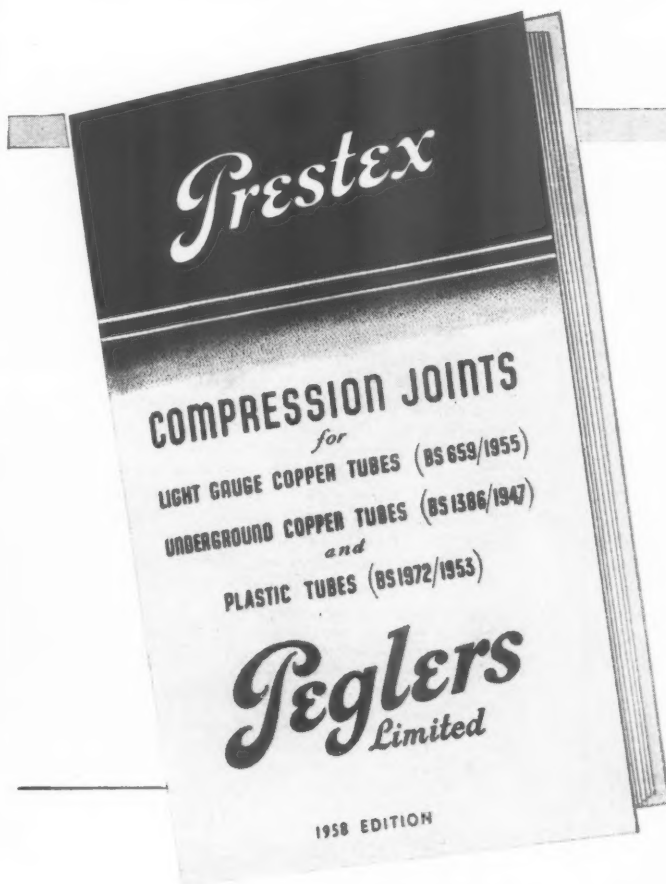
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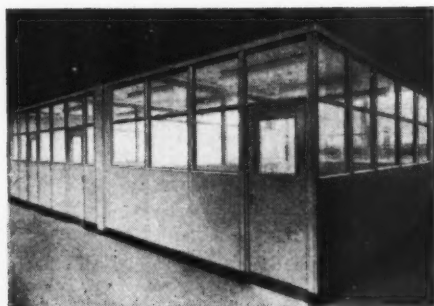


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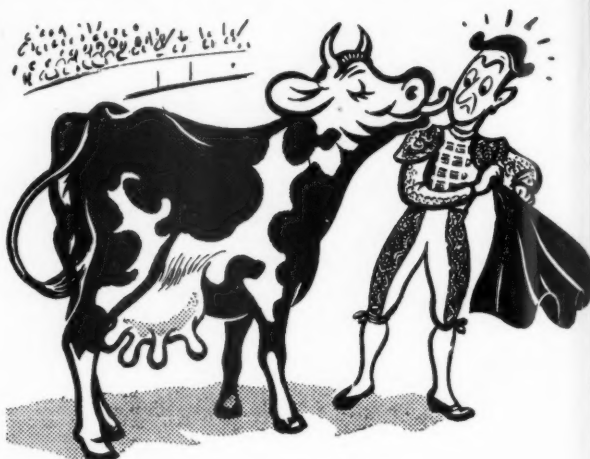
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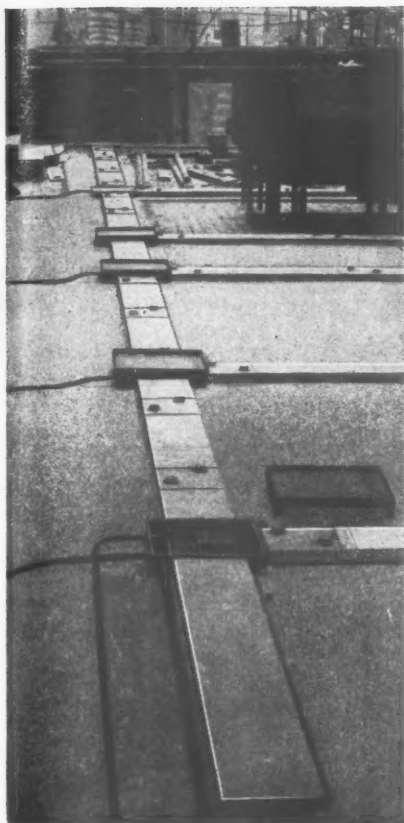
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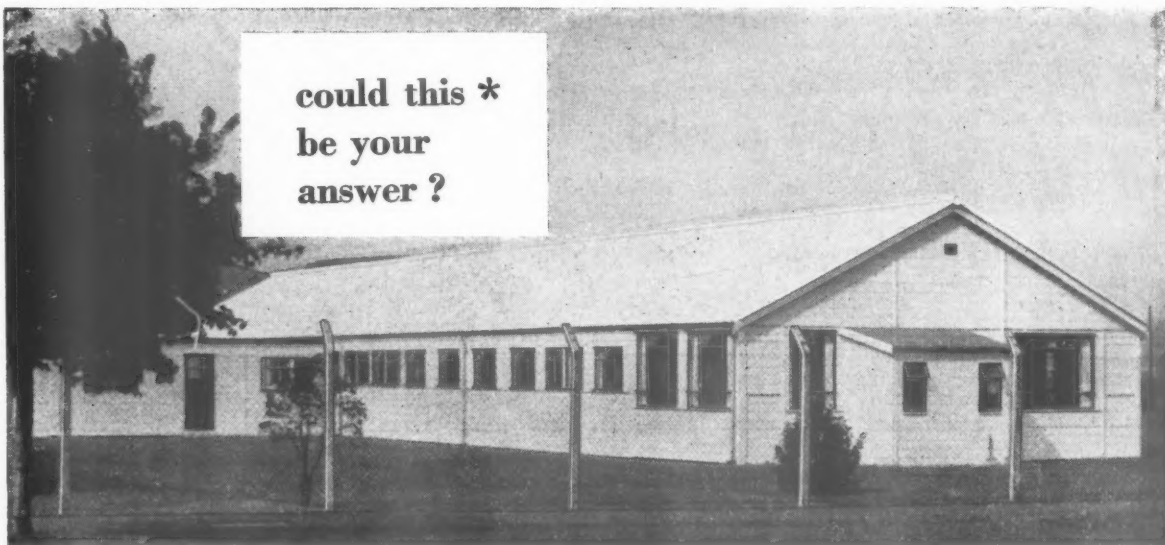
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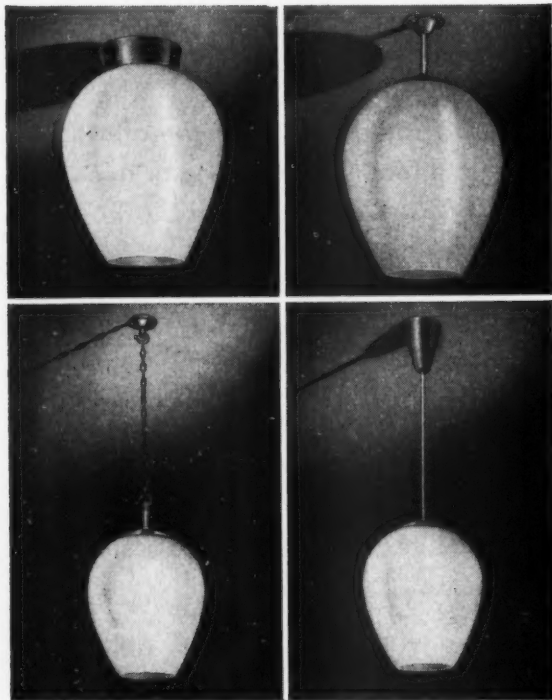
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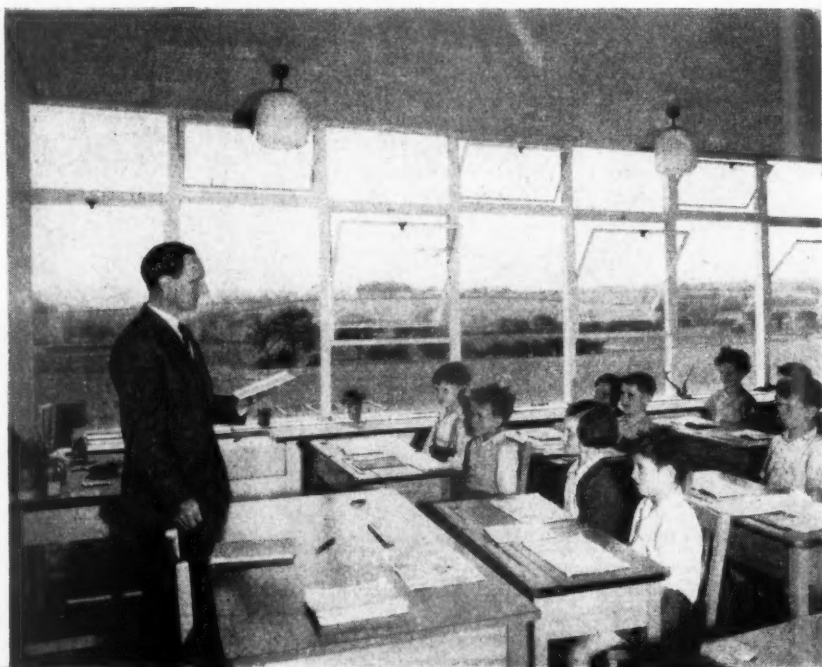
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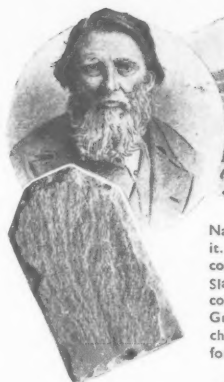
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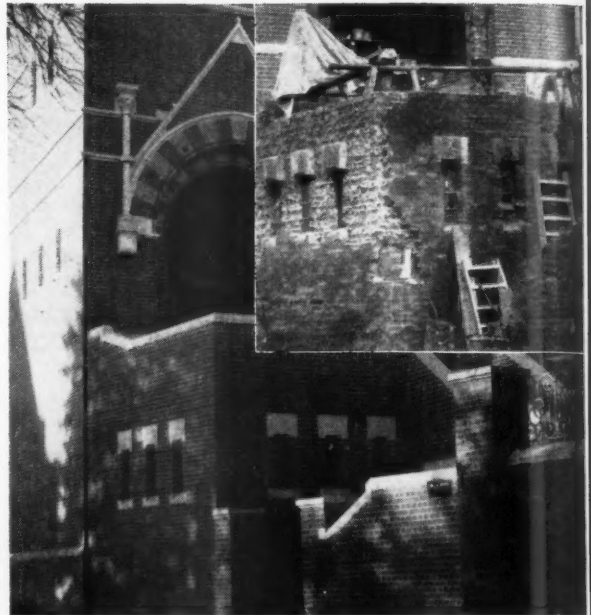
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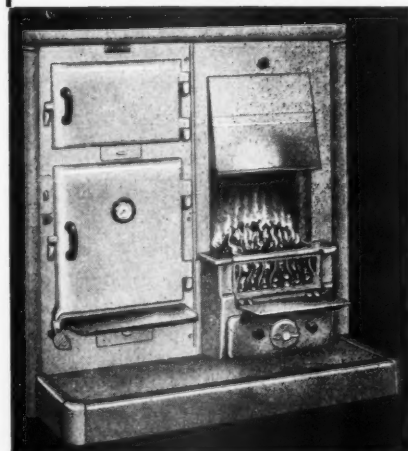
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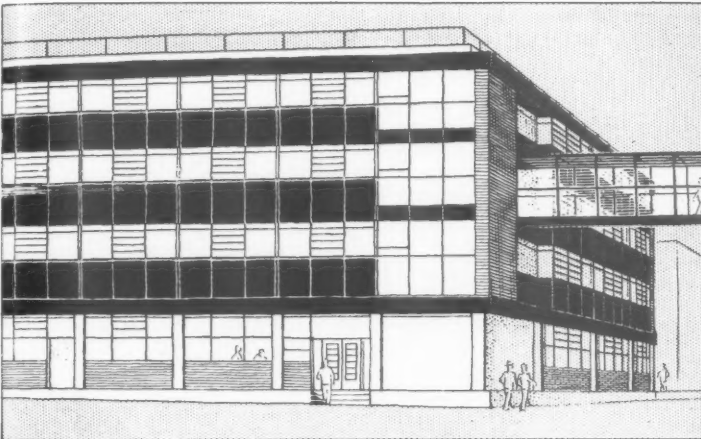
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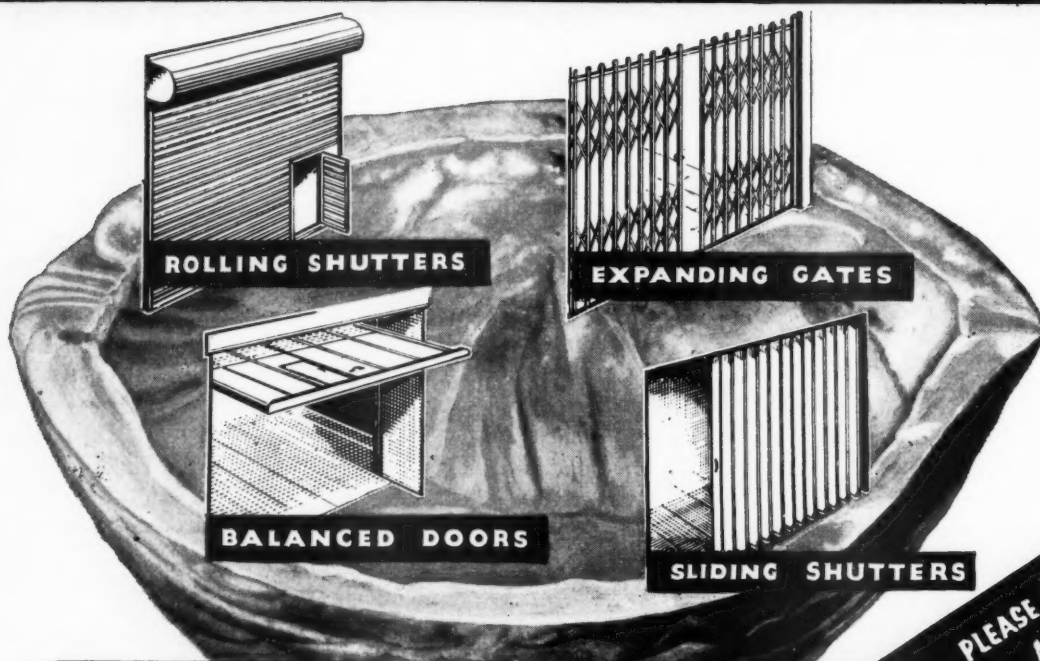
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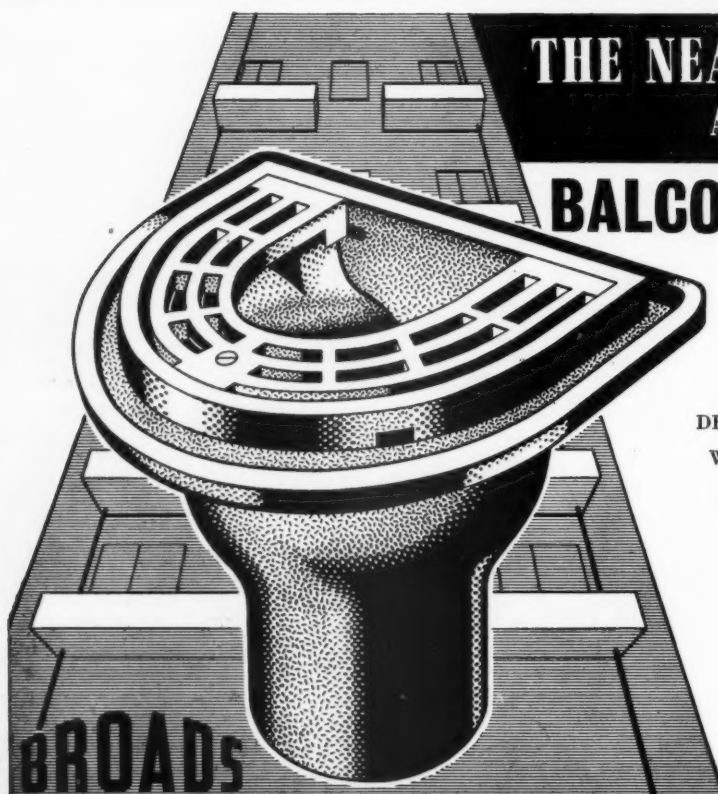
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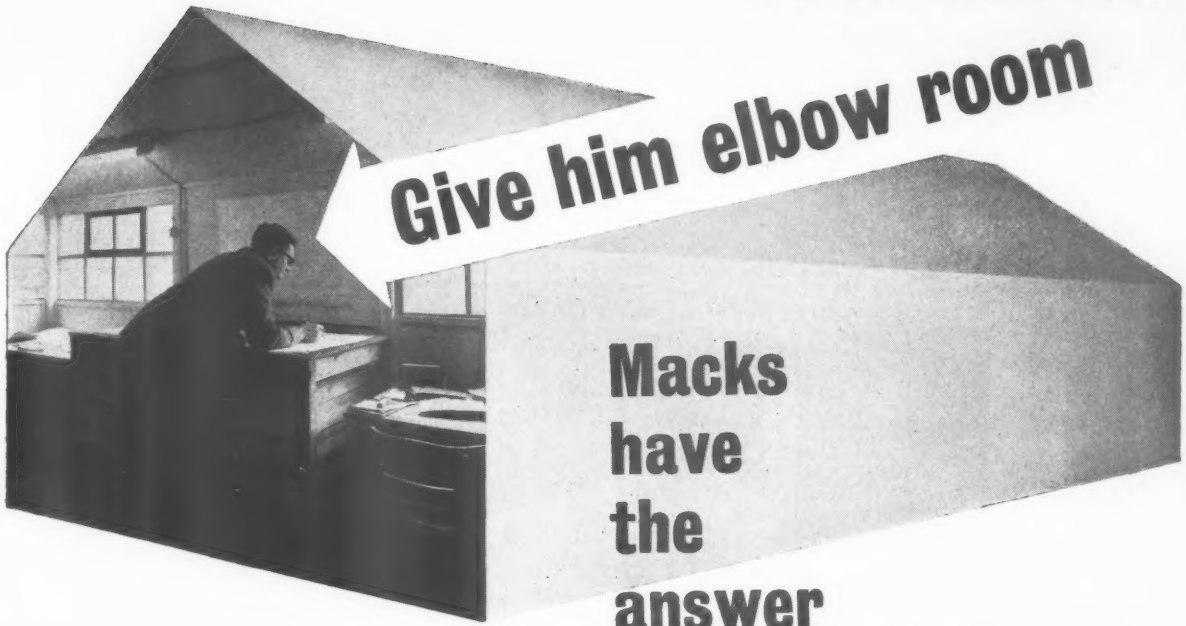
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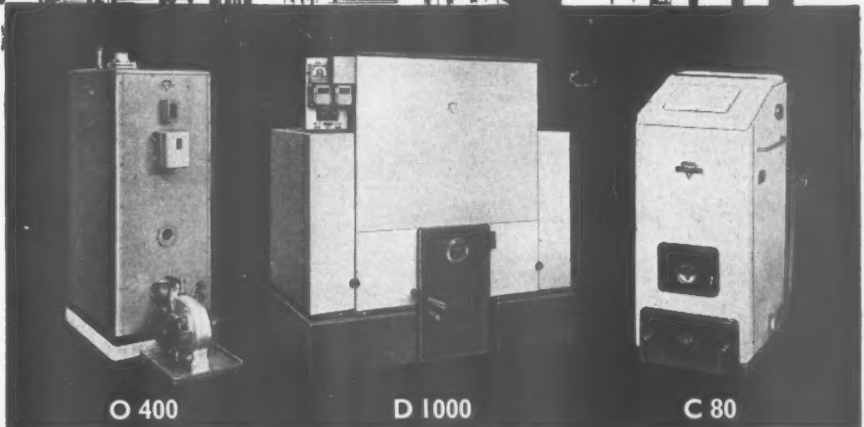
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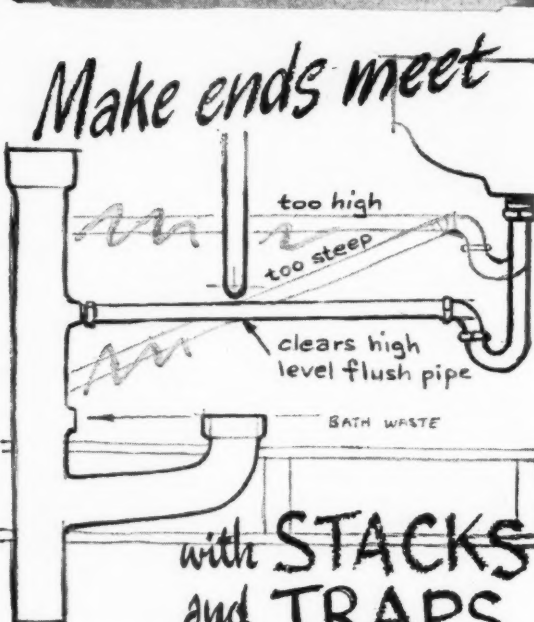
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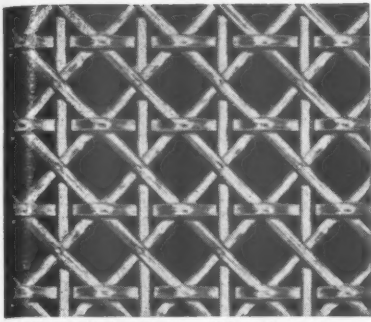
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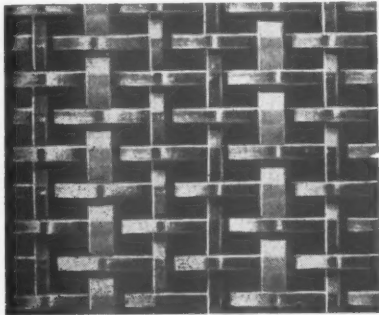
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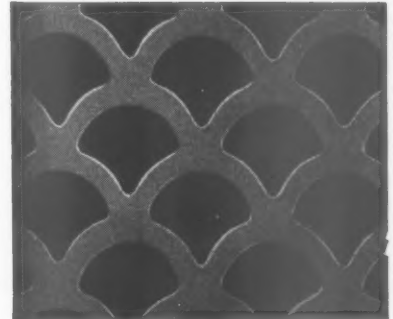
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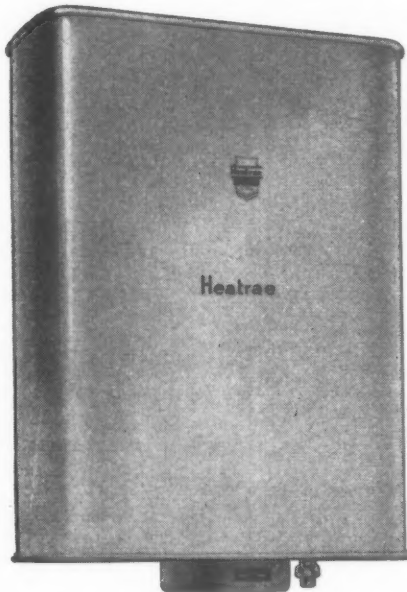
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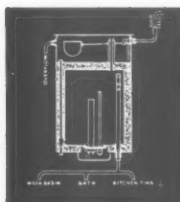
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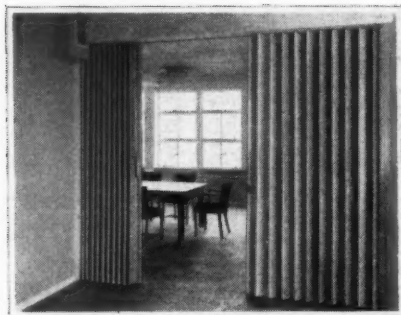


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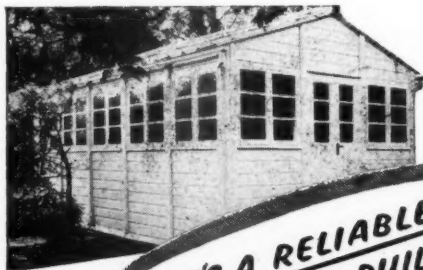


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(2) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT at a commencing salary within A.P.T. Grades 1 and 2 (£575—£845), according to experience and qualifications. Applicants should have passed the Intermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A.

There is a large programme of interesting and varied work covering redevelopment schemes and estate development, which includes housing, shops, hostels, etc.

The appointments will be subject to the National Joint Council's Scheme of Conditions of Service, and the successful candidates will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications stating age, qualifications, experience, present appointment and salary, and naming two referees, should be sent to the Estates Surveyor and Valuer, Guildhall, Nottingham, by Friday, 6th June, 1958.

T. J. OWEN,  
Town Clerk. 9465

### Guildhall, Nottingham. 9465

### NEWCASTLE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD ASSISTANT ARCHITECT—GRADE £700—£1,015

(P. H. Knighton, M.B.E., A.R.I.B.A., Regional Architect)

In connection with a large new hospital project, the Board invites applications for the above permanent (superannuable) appointment on the Headquarters' Staff of the Regional Architect in Newcastle.

Applicants must be Registered Architects. The commencing salary, within the Grade £700 × £25(3) × £30(1) × £35(6)—£1,015, will be fixed by reference to relevant experience and to age.

The post offers opportunity for gaining all-round general as well as hospital experience and for doing good-class work in an expanding department.

Applications stating age, qualifications, past and present appointments, present salary and details of experience and training, together with the names of three referees (of whom at least two should be architects) should be forwarded to the Secretary of the Board, Benfield Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, 6, not later than 28th May, 1958. 9459

### CITY OF CHESTER CITY ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT SENIOR PLANNING ASSISTANT

Applications are invited for this new appointment at a point on the Special Grade. The work will be mainly concerned with re-planning of Re-development areas, and also with some aspects of development control. Applicants should be A.T.P.I. and/or hold Architectural or other suitable professional qualification. Housing accommodation will be available for successful candidate, if required. Applications, with two testimonials, should reach City Engineer, 49, Northgate Street, Chester, by Wednesday, 28th May, 1958. 9438

ARCHITECTS INTERESTED IN DESIGN and building of Colleges, Schools, Health Centres and other public buildings are needed in the offices of the Architect, Essex County Council. Opportunities for recent graduates or those now completing fifth year who would like varied work of public importance in a rapidly developing County.

Salaries (a) between £750 and £1,030 for assistant architects with R.I.B.A. Final, and (b) between £575 and £725 for assistants at Intermediate R.I.B.A. Stage.

Apply H. Conolly, C.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., County Architect, Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex, and return form of Application by 6th June, 1958. 9515

### SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC

The Board of Governors invite applications for the following appointments for courses commencing in October.

LECTURER IN ARCHITECTURE. A 1st Year Studio Master. Qualifications: Diploma or Degree of a School of Architecture recognised for exemption from the examination of a Professional Architectural Institution.

LECTURER IN QUANTITY SURVEYING AND BUILDING CONSTRUCTION. Qualifications: Final examination of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, The Institute of Quantity Surveyors, The Licentiate Examination of the Institute of Builders, or equivalent.

Salary, incorporating all allowances—M\$1,600 × M\$50—M\$1,750 per month. (The Malayan dollar=2s. 4d. sterling.) Entry point according to qualifications and experience.

Appointment of overseas persons will be on contract for 3 years. Favourable Endowment Insurance Scheme; or arrangements to continue F.S.S.U. policy might be made. Accommodation, with heavy furniture, at a rental of M\$120 per month; free medical attention; free passages for overseas member of staff, wife, and up to three children under 18, on first appointment, leave, and completion of service; home leave at the rate of 60 days per year's service to be taken at the end of contract.

Application forms (4 copies) and further information obtainable from the Council for Overseas Colleges, 12, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2. Closing date: 20th June, 1958. 9502

### COUNTY BOROUGH OF BURNLEY

Applications are invited for the under-mentioned appointments in the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department:—

(a) PRINCIPAL ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, Grade IV (£1,025—£1,175).

(b) ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS, Special Grade (£750—£1,030).

(c) ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMEN, Engrs. Div., Grade III (£505—£565).

(d) JUNIOR QUANTITY SURVEYING ASSISTANT, Grade I (£575—£725).

Applicants for appointment (a) must be Corporate Members of the R.I.B.A., and must have had considerable experience in municipal work.

Applicants for appointment (b) should preferably hold appropriate qualifications, but the successful candidate may be placed in the A.P.T. Grade range up to and including Special Grade, according to qualifications and experience.

Applicants for appointment (c) must have experience as architectural draughtsmen and a good knowledge of building construction.

Applicants for appointment (d) must have a sound knowledge of building construction and experience in the preparation of quantities and the measurement of building work is essential.

PROVISION OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION MAY BE CONSIDERED IF REQUIRED, IN RESPECT OF APPOINTMENTS (a) AND (b).

Forms of application may be obtained from the Borough Engineer, 22-24, Nicholas Street, Burnley, to whom they should be returned not later than Wednesday, 4th June, 1958.

C. V. THORNLEY,  
Town Clerk. 9496

### COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE

Applications are invited for the position of CONTROLLER, Technical Section, Industrial Services Division (£2,268—£2,543).

Duties: Plan and control the work of the Section, including research and advisory work on physical working conditions and accident prevention in industry. Preparation of technical publications.

Qualifications: University degree in engineering or architecture, wide experience in problems of physical working conditions in industry; ability to plan research and to direct preparation of technical material for publication.

The appointee will be expected to have a good technical background, both academically and through practical experience in industry; familiarity with the problems of industrial working conditions, particularly in relation to accident prevention; a flair for planning and directing research; competence in directing the preparation of material for publications; and ability to lead a mixed team of technical specialists. He should also have the ability to secure the co-operation of outside bodies working in similar fields.

Conditions: The position is permanent and pensionable. It is located in Melbourne. First-class passages for the successful applicant and his family will be paid.

Enquiries and applications to Public Service Board Representative, Australia House, Strand, London, W.C.2, by 20th June, 1958. 9495

### CITY AND COUNTY OF THE CITY OF EXETER

Applications are invited for the appointment of STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING ASSISTANT on the establishment of the City Architect's Department, at a salary within the Special Grade, i.e., £750 to £1,030 per annum.

Applicants must be Associate Members of the Institution of Structural Engineers, or hold equivalent qualifications, and must have had considerable experience in the design of reinforced concrete and steelwork structures, such as for Schools, Public Buildings, etc.

The appointment will be subject to one month's notice on either side and to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Acts, 1937-53. The successful applicant will be required to pass a medical examination. Canvassing will disqualify, and applicants must disclose whether their knowledge they are related to any member of the Council or to the holder of any senior office under the Council.

Applications, stating age, qualifications, previous and present appointments and salaries, full details of experience, and the earliest possible date when available, should be sent to H. B. Rowe, F.R.I.B.A., A.M.I.Struct.E., City Architect, Municipal Offices, Exeter, not later than 7th June, 1958.

C. J. NEWMAN,  
Town Clerk. 9497

Exeter. May, 1958. 9497

### COUNTY BOROUGH OF WOLVERHAMPTON ASSISTANT required in the Town Planning Office of the Borough Engineer's Department.

Duties connected with Land Charge Searches, Property Acquisitions, and Development Control. Salary Grade A.P.T. I (£575 to £725).

Housing accommodation will be provided in approved cases.

Applications stating age, qualifications, training and experience, previous appointments and naming two referees to the Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Wolverhampton, by Wednesday, May 28th. 9485



**OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT**  
 Applications are invited for the appointment of **ASSISTANT ARCHITECT**, to take charge of projects in the Authority's Building Programme and to direct a number of other Assistants. An interesting variety of schemes is in hand, with ample scope for contemporary design. Candidates must be Members of the R.I.B.A. and should have had some years of practical experience, not necessarily in Local Government. Salary within A.P.T., Grade IV (£1,025-£1,375) and subject to the Local Government Superannuation Acts, 1937 and 1953, and to medical examination.

Applications, giving age, qualifications and experience, together with the names of three referees, should be returned to the County Architect, Park End Street Offices, Oxford, by the 30th May, 1958.

**GERALD GALE BURKITT,**  
*Clerk of the Council.*  
 County Hall, Oxford. 9485

**LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**ASSISTANTS** required in the Architectural Section of the Planning Department Headquarters at Preston. Salary Special Scale (£750-£1,030). Applicants should be qualified Architects. Planning experience is desirable but not essential. Duties include the design of housing layouts and central area re-development schemes, and the preparation of working drawings for houses, flats and shops.

Applications, giving age, qualifications, present appointment, experience, etc., and two referees, to County Planning Officer, East Cliff County Offices, Preston, by 2nd June, 1958. 9474

**LINDSEY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
 (a) **ONE SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT**, Special Grade (£750-£1,030). Applicants should be A.R.I.B.A.  
 (b) **ONE ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR**, Special Grade (£750-£1,030). Applicants should be A.R.I.C.S.  
 (c) **ENGINEERING ASSISTANT (HEATING)**, Grade A.P.T. II (£725-£845). Applicants should hold Higher National Certificate.

In special circumstances consideration will be given to starting salary above minimum of the grade. N.J.C. Conditions of Service. Canvassing will disqualify. Candidates must disclose in writing whether to their knowledge they are related to any Member or Senior Officer of the Council.

Applications, giving age, qualifications, experience, present post and salary, and the names of at least two persons to whom reference can be made, to be sent not later than 29th May, 1958, to the County Architect, County Offices, Lincoln. 9475

**PERTH AND KINROSS JOINT COUNTY COUNCIL** require an **ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT** for work on New Schools. The salary scale is A. & P. VI (£865-£935), with placing. Applicants should hold the A.R.I.B.A. qualification, and have had at least two years' experience since qualification. A house will be available. Particulars of appointment and forms of application from the County Clerk, P.O. Box 15, County Offices, York Place, Perth. Applications to be lodged by 2nd June. 9473

**CLERK OF WORKS** required at University College, Ibadan, Nigeria, to supervise substantial building contracts. Appointment on 18 months' contract in first instance. Salary: £1,100-£1,400 p.a., plus 10 per cent. gratuity. Part-furnished flat. Passages paid for appointee, wife, and three children under 11 years. Children's, car, and outfit allowances.

Detailed applications (six copies), naming two referees, to be sent as soon as possible to Secretary, Inter-University Council for Higher Education Overseas, 29, Woburn Square, London, W.C.1. 9482

**OFFICE OF THE RECEIVER FOR THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DISTRICT**  
**ARCHITECTURAL AND SANITARY ENGINEERING DRAUGHTSMEN** required. Starting pay (minimum 21 years) £550 to £755 per annum according to age and sex. Salary maxima £824 (women) £870 (men).

5 day, 42 hour week, paid leave, canteen facilities. Specialist experience will be an advantage for Sanitary Engineering Draughtsmen.

Applications stating qualifications (ordinary National Certificate or equivalent training), experience, age, and nationality to Room 578 (A.J.). Receiver's Office, New Scotland Yard, S.W.1. Do not send testimonials. 9506

**BOROUGH OF DARTFORD**  
 Applications are invited for the appointment of **PLANNING ASSISTANT**, Salary Grade A.P.T. II (£725-£845), commencing at a point within the scale, according to experience. A plus-age rate of £20 or £30 per annum, according to age, is also paid.

Applicants should have passed the Intermediate Examination of the Town Planning Institute.

Housing accommodation available.

Applications, giving age, qualifications and experience, together with the names of three referees, should be forwarded to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, The Bridge House, Dartford, by the 9th June, 1958. 9484

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF NORTHUMBERLAND**  
**COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT**  
 Applications are invited from Architects who have passed the R.I.B.A. Final Examination, and having considerable practical office experience for the post of **ASSISTANT ARCHITECT** on the staff of this Department. Salary according to qualifications and experience on Special Grade (£750-£1,030 per annum) with prospects of promotion to higher grades within the office in due course.

The appointment will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Acts, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Applications in writing, stating age, qualifications and previous experience, together with the names and addresses of two referees to whom reference can be made, to be forwarded to the County Architect, County Hall, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1, within 14 days of the publication of this notice. 9486

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**ASSISTANT ARCHITECT'S** required in County Architect's Department. N.J.C. Special Grade: £750-£1,030 p.a., plus London weighting (£30 if 26 years or over, £20 21-25 years). Commencing salary according to qualifications and experience. Should have Parts 1 and 2 of R.I.B.A. Final Examination. Prescribed conditions. Application forms (stamped addressed foolscap envelope) from County Architect, 1, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Dartmouth Street, S.W.1, returnable by 11th June. (Quote X.500 A.J.) Canvassing disqualifies. 9503

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE**

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ARCHITECT**  
 Applications are invited for appointments as **ASSISTANT SURVEYORS (Sites)** in the under-mentioned grades:—

(1) A.P.T. I (£575 + £30-£725);  
 (2) Special £750 + £40-£1,030).

Applicants for Grade A.P.T. I should have had good experience in surveying, levelling and plotting sites, and should be neat draughtsmen. Experience in surveying of buildings would be an advantage.

Applicants for the Special Grade should have had extensive experience in surveying, levelling and plotting sites, be neat draughtsmen and capable of taking charge of a survey team. Preference will be given to Associate Members of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Application forms with conditions of service are obtainable from this office, and should be returned not later than the first post on Tuesday, 10th June, 1958.

**A. W. GLOVER, F.R.I.B.A.,**  
*County Architect.*  
 Bishopgarth, Westfield Road, Wakefield. 9521

**BOROUGH OF BEDFORD**  
**APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR**

Applications are invited for the post of **ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR**, Grade A.P.T. II (£725-£845), in the Architectural Section of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Office.

Applicants should be experienced in the preparation of Bills of Quantities, Interim Valuations and Final Accounts for all types of housing work, and should have passed the Intermediate Examination of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors or Final Examination of the Institute of Quantity Surveyors. The office is in the charge of a qualified Quantity Surveyor.

The Council are prepared to assist in the provision of housing and pay removal expenses.

Forms of application and particulars of the appointment may be obtained from the undersigned and returned not later than Monday, 9th June.

**F. W. DAWKES,**  
*Borough Engineer and Surveyor.*  
 Newnham House, Horne Lane, Bedford. 9520

**OLDHAM EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
 Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons up to the age of 50 years for appointment as **SCHOOLS ARCHITECT** to the Oldham Education Committee. The salary is in accordance with Scale A for Senior Officers of Local Authorities (£1,160 per annum, rising by annual increments of £55 to £1,380 per annum). The appointment is subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Acts, 1937 to 1953, and the regulations made thereunder, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination. It is also a condition of appointment under the Council's Standing Orders that all employees must reside within a radius of 10 miles of the town centre. Forms of application and further details may be obtained from the Director of Education, Education Offices, Union Street West, Oldham, and applications should be returned not later than 7th June, 1958. 9519

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLACKBURN**  
 Applications invited for the established posts of **ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS** (2) within the Special Grade (£750-£1,030). Candidates must have the necessary qualifications and experience relative to the Grade. Applications stating age, qualifications and experience with not less than two testimonials to Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Blackburn, by Monday, June 9th.

**FRANK SQUIRES,**  
*Town Clerk.*  
 9460

**CITY OF BELFAST**  
 Applications are invited for the following positions in the Education Architect's Department:—  
**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**

Candidates must hold a recognised qualification in Civil or Structural Engineering, e.g. A.M.I.C.E. or A.M.I.Struct.E., and have some experience in the design of structural steelwork and re-inforced concrete, including foundation work, and should also have a practical working knowledge of site investigation and general experience of levelling work. A minimum practical experience of five years after qualifying, including three years' office designing, is also necessary.

Salary: £970 + £40-£1,250 per annum.  
**ARCHITECT, Class I** (2 vacancies):  
 Applicants must be registered and qualified by examination, and should be capable of supervising architectural staff. Preference given to those with experience in modern school designing and construction.

Salary: £970 + £40-£1,250 per annum.  
**ARCHITECT, Class II** (2 vacancies):  
 Applicants must be registered Architects with experience in general design and construction of modern buildings.

Salary: £620 + £30-£860 + £35-£1,000 + £40-£1,040 per annum.  
**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, Class I** (2 vacancies):

Applicants must have passed the Intermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A., and should have sound practical experience in design and construction and preparation of specifications.

Salary: £540 + £25-£665 + £30-£755 + £35-£790 per annum (under review).

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANT, Class I:**  
 Applicants should have a sound experience of the building trade and ability to prepare detailed reports, specifications and estimates in connection with the maintenance of buildings and drawings of simple projects.

Salary: £610 + £25-£660 + £30 + £25 + £30 + £25-£770 per annum.  
 Commencing salary will be fixed according to experience. Superannuation contributions approximately 6 per cent. of remuneration will be payable. Reciprocal pension arrangements exist between the Corporation and certain other Public Authorities.

Canvassing will disqualify.  
 Application forms, etc., are obtainable from the Education Offices, 40, Academy Street.

Completed applications must reach the undersigned by Thursday, 12th June, 1958.

**JOHN DUNLOP,**  
*Town Clerk.*  
 City Hall, Belfast.  
 15th May, 1958. 9511

**NORTH WEST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD**

**ASSISTANT ARCHITECT** required. Good experience of design and construction necessary, preferably in hospital work. Applicants must be Associate Members of the R.I.B.A. Salary scale £700 + £25 (3) + £30 (1) + £35 (6) - £1,015, plus £20-£50 London weighting. Commencing salary above minimum may be paid according to relevant practical experience appropriate to the post.

Whitley Council conditions, superannuable. Apply, stating age, qualification (with date) and experience, with names of two referees, to Secretary, North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, 11a, Portland Place, W.1, by 2nd June.

**CITY OF MANCHESTER HOUSING DEPARTMENT** require:—

1. **DIRECTOR OF HOUSING** (qualified Architect). Salary £2,445/£2,750 per annum.

2. **CHIEF QUANTITY SURVEYOR**. Salary £1,210/£1,380 per annum.

Further particulars and application forms (returnable by Monday, 9th June, 1958) from Town Clerk (F), Town Hall, Manchester, 2. 9483

**Architectural Appointments Vacant**  
 4 lines or under, 9s. 6d.; each additional line, 2s. 6d.  
 Box Number, including forwarding replies, 2s. extra

**TREHEARNE & NORMAN, PRESTON**  
 PARTNERS have vacancies for **ASSISTANTS**. Salary according to experience and qualifications. Apply: 83, Kingsway, W.C.1 (HOL 4071). 9401

**INTERMEDIATE standard ASSISTANT** required in small country practice on south Devon coast. Starting salary about £400 p.m. (if required) new unfurnished self-contained flat at nominal rent. Rate of advancement directly proportional to productivity. Prospect of responsible position with share of profits for right type, after probationary period. Conscientiousness essential. Write to Alec H. Joy, A.R.I.B.A., Victoria Place, Kingsbridge. 9381

**SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT** capable of making site surveys, preparing sketch plans and working drawings and supervising work in progress. Knowledge of shop fitting an advantage. Applications, stating age, experience, qualifications and salary required, to R. E. Akerman, F.R.I.B.A., Chief Architect, United Dairies, Ltd., 31, St. Petersburg Place, W.2. 9421



**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT** required approaching or at intermediate stage, salary arrangement, one day per week for studies. Plaskett Marshall, F.R.I.B.A., 59, Gordon Square, W.C.1. Telephone: MUSEUM 7176. 9385

**ASSISTANT ARCHITECT** required by private firm in Nigeria. Single man preferred. Eighteen-month tour in first instance. Passages, living accommodation, and car provided. Salary according to age and experience.—Box 9472.

**MAJOR PETROLEUM DISTRIBUTION COMPANY** require for their London office a fully qualified and experienced **SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT** for work on varied commercial projects, including Service Stations. Salary according to experience. Positions will be permanent and pensionable. Excellent working conditions, staff restaurant, sports club, etc.—Apply in writing, giving full details of age, qualifications and experience, to Box 9420. Replies can only be sent to those selected for interview.

**ASSISTANT**, passed Intermediate, required for interesting and varied work with fair measure responsibility. London practice. Box 9514.

**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT** required in good class West End practice. Neat draughtsman, with knowledge of detailing. Good prospects to gain wider practical experience. 5-day week. State salary required.—Box 9443.

**SENIOR and JUNIOR ASSISTANTS** required urgently, Architect's office, Maidstone, Kent. State age, experience, and salary required.—Box 9428.

**NORFOLK Architect** has vacancy for **PUPIL-IMPROVER**, with small salary to commence.—Reply with details to Box 9469.

**LANCHESTER & LODGE** urgently require **ASSISTANTS**, around Inter. standard.—Write full particulars, 10, Woburn Square, London, W.C.1. 9442

**LOUIS DE SOISSONS, PEACOCK, HODGES & ROBERTSON** have a vacancy for an **ASSISTANT**, preferably with experience in design and presentation of sketch schemes, etc. Write stating age, salary and experience to the above at 3, Park Square Mews, Upper Harley Street, London, N.W.1. 9501

**COMPETENT and experienced ASSISTANT** required for small busy practice in the West End. Shaw & Lloyd, 74, Great Russell Street, W.C.1. Museum 9693. 9514

**VINCENT BURR AND PARTNERS** urgently require another **ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT** of not less than intermediate standard. Great scope for future promotion. Large and varied practice. Salary according to experience. Apply by letter only to 85, Gower Street, London, W.C.1. 9513

**QUALIFIED ARCHITECT** required to open new department dealing with the design of industrial buildings, using standard Reinforced Concrete structures. Age limit 25-32. An excellent opportunity for keen, young and ambitious type. Box 9512.

**EXPERIENCED SENIOR and INTERMEDIATE ASSISTANT** required for expanding progressive practice. Salary £500 to £800 p.a. Written particulars from first-class applicants will be considered by Morgan & Carn, A./R.I.B.A., 2, Grand Avenue, Hove 3, Sussex. 9511

**QUALIFIED ASSISTANT** required. London private practice, varied work, prospects. Box 9509.

## THE ENGLISH ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED

**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS**  
TO work in their Architect's Department at Whetstone near Leicester. Work will include new Offices, Workshops, Canteens, etc., and applicants should be good draughtsmen with a good knowledge of construction. Previous industrial experience would be an advantage but is not essential. The posts offer good prospects to the right men and are permanent.

Please write giving full details of qualifications and experience to Dept. C.P.S., Marconi House, 335/7, Strand, London, W.C.2, quoting Reference AJ 1999A. 9500

**SIR PERCY THOMAS AND SON** require several **SENIOR and JUNIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS** in their Cardiff and Swansea Offices. Projects include Hospitals, Schools, Industrial and University buildings and good prospects are offered for men with initiative. Commencing salaries:—

Seniors—£900 per annum plus bonus; and Juniors—£750 per annum.

Generous holidays and good working conditions. Applications should be made giving full details of age, education, qualifications and experience and should state clearly the position applied for to "The Secretary," 10, Cathedral Road, Cardiff. 9492

**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS** required having two to three years' office experience for large West Central London practice dealing with Office Buildings, Laboratories, Hospitals, Medical Schools, and University work, etc. Salary range according to experience, £700 to £850. Yearly Bonus Scheme; Lunch Vouchers; and a five-day week. Apply Box 9494.

**JACK GODFREY-GILBERT, F.R.I.B.A.**, requires **ASSISTANT** able to take responsibility to help in small but busy private office with general practice. Apply in writing to: 3, The Broadway, Wimbledon, S.W.19. 9493

**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT** required by West End office. Salary up to £900 per annum according to experience. Five-day week. Please telephone REGENT 2055 for appointment. 9491

**SENIOR ASSISTANT** with two or three years' experience required by medium size Office in South Kensington. A good designer is essential. Interesting and varied work. Box 9490 or phone KEN 1242-4.

**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS** required by the National Coal Board in Edinburgh. Assistants Grade 1: Salary £715—£850 (exceptionally to £1,000), qualifications Intermediate R.I.B.A. with three years' subsequent practical experience or equivalent. Assistants Grade 2: Salary £595—£710, qualifications Intermediate R.I.B.A., but less than three years' subsequent practical experience. Exceptional applicants who have not passed the Intermediate R.I.B.A. may be considered. The point of entry will depend on qualifications and experience. Applications, stating age, education, qualifications, experience, present post and salary to the Divisional Chief Staff Officer, National Coal Board, 3, Eglinton Crescent, Edinburgh 12. 9477

**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS** required for Hospital and other work, some office experience necessary. Intermediate or Final standard, five-day week. Apply to Adams, Holden & Pearson, 38, Gordon Square, W.C.1. 9525

**ASSISTANT** required for busy small private office near Birmingham. Not below Intermediate standard. Salary £575 p.a. upwards according to ability and experience. Apply with full particulars. Box 9530.

**LOYDS BANK** have vacancies for **JUNIOR ASSISTANTS** aged between 16 and 23 in the offices of their Staff Architects at Birmingham, Leeds and Exeter. Selected applicants will be required to study to become Registered Architects, and gratuities and salary increases are obtainable on passing technical examinations. Permanent pensionable positions obtainable by selected applicants after preliminary trial. Progressive salary scale according to age and qualification. Apply in writing, giving particulars of age, education, experience, salary required, and if available for interview in London or one of the other offices named, to Chief Staff Architect, Lloyds Bank Limited, 71, Lombard Street, E.C.3. 9488

**YOUNG qualified ASSISTANT ARCHITECT** required. Must be neat and expeditious draughtsman. Capable of preparing designs and working drawings for new buildings and shop-fitting. Apply, giving age, experience and salary required, to Staff Architect, Prices Tailors Ltd., Cardigan Crescent, Leeds, 4. 9489

**WANTED immediately: qualified experienced ARCHITECTS.** Good salaries, excellent prospects for right men according to experience. Appointments vacant for Senior and Intermediate grades. Apply, stating qualifications, experience, etc., to J. C. L. Poulson, L./F.R.I.B.A., 29, Roper-gate, Pontefract, Yorks. Closing date for applications: 12th June, 1958. 9531

**EXPERIENCED ASSISTANT** required for permanent position in busy Architect's office capable of preparing sketch design working drawings and details. Salary up to £750 according to experience. Apply with full particulars to Messrs. J. W. Hammond, Chartered Architects & Surveyors, Lloyds Bank Chambers, Main Road, Gidea Park, Romford, Essex. 9528

**INTERMEDIATE standard ASSISTANT** required for permanent position, capable of preparing working drawings and details for wide variety of work. Apply with full particulars to Messrs. J. W. Hammond, Chartered Architects & Surveyors, Lloyds Bank Chambers, Main Road, Gidea Park, Romford, Essex. 9529

**J. W. BEAUMONT & SONS** require an **ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT** in their Manchester office. The work is varied and interesting. A contributory pension scheme is in operation. Please write giving full particulars to: 51, Mosley Street, Manchester, 2. 9527

**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS** of varying grades required for industrial and commercial architects in London. Three to ten years' office experience. Salary according to qualifications and experience. Reply giving details of age, experience and salary required to Box 9526.

## Architectural Appointments Wanted

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**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT** (24), Final R.I.B.A. standard, seeks a position in which he can gain experience in approximate estimates, specifications, supervision on sites, negotiations with various authorities, general office routine, and placing and management of contracts.—Box 9448.

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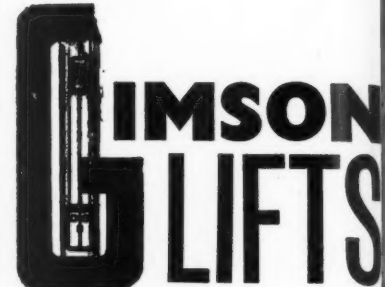
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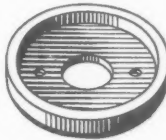


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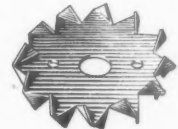


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