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THE CUMBERLAND HOTEL

F. J. WILLS, F.R.I.B.A.
Architect
A reconciliation of the planning and design of the new Cumberland Hotel with past examples is of particular interest, as there has been of late intensified building of new hotels in England. It is in the United States, however, that hotel erection has boomed during the last decade or so (particularly during 1920-1930). In proportion forty American hotels have been built to one English if we except the last two years. By sheer experience through vast building operations America has brought hotel planning on to sound lines.

The Cumberland Hotel is the first popular-priced hotel in England to have a bathroom to every bedroom. Numerous hotels in America fully ten years ago were being planned at economic prices to have a bath to every room. While, therefore, this combination is the definite trend of the new hotel plan in England, it will be seen that it has already been considered as a set plan formula for all American hotels.

In the accepted formula for a hotel plan a functional analysis shows that space is allocated as follows:—

1. Public space.
2. Guest Room space.
3. Rental and sub-rental space.
4. Food service space.
5. General service space.

Public space consists of the usual non-income producing rooms as entrance halls, lounge, writing room and similar rooms. The Cumberland Hotel has in the way of public space—(1) Entrance hall with reception bureau adjoining; (2) the centre court; (3) the parlour or drawing-room; (4) foyer (to Carlisle Room); (5) the study or writing-room; (6) the foyer (to the grill room); (7) cloakrooms have been provided on both public floors, namely basement and ground floor. This in detail is the public space.

Although it is usually stated that the public space is of a non-income producing nature, it has to be pointed out that while the space indicated has been given over for the free use of the public, much of it is in fact income-producing. For example, the centre court, while being the main lounge of the hotel, is also used to supply drinks, sandwiches, teas, and similar services. The grill room foyer is situated between the grill room and digest, or cocktail-bar. This foyer can be fully utilised as a cocktail-bar annexe. Public space which can be used for income-producing purposes, as here exampled, shows extremely clever planning. It is to be noticed that the hairdressing saloons are placed adjacent to each other on the basement floor.

Guest room space includes the typical bedroom floors and any special rooms like sample rooms, suites, etc. The Cumberland Hotel has provided a thousand bedrooms. The fifth floor plan, as illustrated, shows approximately a hundred and twenty bedrooms, of which rather less than half are double bedrooms. As will be seen, these have been ranged around four courts (Courts used in this way are sound and practical and make for economic planning). The corridors are an important part of the bedroom floor. The usual width of corridors is seven feet. These as measured on the scaled plan as illustrated show a width rather under this.

Rental and Sub-Rental space is space provided for the use of shops or any area which is rented. As will be seen, frontage facing Marble Arch has been used for shop revenue purposes, with the exception of the entrance. Internally, just within the Marble Arch entrance, space has been given over to a chemist, tobacconist and newsagent. Internal space rented for this purpose is not only sound, on the grounds of revenue-production, but it is important for its convenience to the hotel.
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

TYPICAL BED ROOM FLOOR PLAN.
guests. It will be noticed that the external shop frontage which has been used for sub-letting purposes is that facing the Marble Arch. This street frontage is a continuation of the Oxford Street. Great Cumberland Place is used entirely for the hotel. This is logical. Street frontage space when used for sub-letting purposes is only practical when located in busy thoroughfares.

Food service space, in general, is space given over for restaurants, cafes, and similar, which is used for the service of food and drinks. It also covers the kitchens and similar service quarters. In the way of public food service space, the Cumberland Hotel provides the restaurant on the ground floor. There is an annexe to the restaurant, known as the Carlisle room. The centre court, as previously mentioned, is also used for light refreshments and drinks. The grill room and digest or cocktail-bar, with its foyer, is situated in the basement. The restaurant and grill room are about the same size. Both have service doors leading direct to kitchens.

General service space is the space which is used for mechanical equipment and similar, and service and linen rooms on the various bedroom floors. The mechanical equipment of this hotel is outside the purpose of my article, but it will be noted that each floor is provided with ample service space coupled with numerous linen stores. This is an important point to consider, as it makes for efficient hotel operation.

In general it can be said that the Cumberland Hotel plan is sound and commendable. It is, however, rather too economically planned, and it would have been wiser if the public rooms had been planned a little more freely.

The Marble Arch front is faced with Portland stone. The other three fronts are built brick with Portland stone dressing. The hotel occupies an island site. The Marble Arch elevation is similar to that of the building on the next island site. It thus forms a unified frontage which completes the site facing the Hyde Park. While the exterior of the Cumberland Hotel may be somewhat "flat" in design, that definitely cannot be applied to the interior. The interior becomes what is termed "exciting architecture." It excites the eye and the brain. In design it is modern and is the largest modernistic interior creation so far carried out in England.

On this score the hotel is particularly interesting. It forms a definite indication of the type of modernism that is to-day being evolved in Great Britain. The materials used were gathered from every part of the world. The woods used in the decoration, for example, were makore, weathered sycamore, blackwood, rosewood, ringwood, teak, jarrah, olive teak, macassar, ebony, figured teak, Australian walnut, orangewood, and, in addition, rare marbles of all kinds. It is therefore presented as an example of modern British architectural interior decoration.

The illustrations as reproduced clearly show the spirit of this modernism. The predominant decorative feature is the lighting. Lighting effects of all possible shapes have been specially designed. One thing has to be emphasised. The lighting is more powerful than the photographs show. The entrance hall and reception bureau are brilliantly lit. For example, the two thin parallel lines which act as a surround to the lettering are really one intricate system of lighting which can hardly be judged from the photograph.

While the wall surfaces may be plain (as in the entrance hall, bureau, the digest foyer), practically every main room has intensified lighting. For example, the grill room detail shows how much light has been used for one small corner of this room.

In the entrance hall a built-in fitment is the armchairs built solid, facing each other in one line, back to front. This idea was recently used in the Time-Fortune exhibit of the World’s Fair, Chicago. It is novel, and economical in space. The lobby to the entrance lift is rather pleasing in design.

The centre court is lavish in its lighting effects. It is doubtful whether the furnishings will make a permanent appeal. It is in the restaurant where the various expensive woods in the form of panels and mirrors elaborated with decorative motives have been used. The Carlisle Room is simply treated with the exception of the powerful lighting effects. Although this is concealed lighting,
it is not diffused. The study, or writing-room, shows an idea in the use of having an octagonal table suitable for four people. In the parlour or drawing room, it will be noted that frosted glass screens have been used.

The digest, or cocktail-bar, is one of the most pleasant public rooms in the hotel. Of late cocktail-bar design has developed in a phenomenal manner. This will be still more intensified by the numerous bars which are being planned in the United States. Cocktail-bar design in France and particularly in Italy, is strongly advanced. In England, however, very little progress has so far been made in the development of this particular type of work. The cocktail-bar, as built in the Cumberland Hotel, is as modern as any cocktail-bar to-day existing in Great Britain.

The Entrance Hall, from Marble Arch.
The subject set for the Herbert Baker Scholarship was a Vice-regal palace in a tropical dominion such as the Belgian Congo. In this district, it was stated, the natives are skilled in iron and copper work; and thick walls, executed by native labour, are typical of the district. Indigenous materials are almost exclusively used. The site occupies a commanding position overlooking a lake towards the north, the country being thickly wooded. A natural terrace exists between the building and the lake, the ground rising gently towards the building. The main approach is from the south.

The building was to be partly single and partly double-storied and the following accommodation was required: a porte-cochere, entrance hall, reception room, ball room, banqueting room, large loggia, private dining room, breakfast room, study and library, kitchen, services, etc., bedroom suites for the Viceroy, staff and guests, and offices for the Viceroy and staff. Servants' rooms, garages, stables, military quarters, etc., were to be indicated on the lay out.

There were seventeen entrants for the preliminary competition, only four of whom were selected for the final.

The awards were as follows:
- First: R. A. Bruce.
- Second: E. Gordon Tucker (Hon. Mention).

The winning scheme consists of a great reception hall, cruciform in shape which dominates the whole composition in plan and elevation. Flanking it, on the west is the...
ball room, and, on the east, the stairs leading to the banqueting room, situated on the first floor. Beyond these stairs are placed the kitchen and necessary services.

On the first floor are the secretariat and private apartments.

The porte-cochere is somewhat restricted being only seven feet six inches wide and the approach for vehicles is awkward with its right angled turn.

The vestibule, ante room, cloaks and lavatories are awkwardly planned and badly lit.

At each angle of the main reception hall is a circular staircase twelve feet in diameter, the stairs being four feet six inches wide, giving access to the first floor. These stairs do not appear to be too well handled for a building of this nature and no lighting is indicated.

The reception hall is lit from semi-circular windows in each arm of the cross and through the eye of the inner dome.

The ball room is orientated north and south and is approached from the reception hall through a foyer. Doors on the western side give access to a formal sunk garden in which water has been introduced. It seems unfortunate that there is no direct access from the ball room to the main terrace commanding the view, the northern end of the room being occupied by the orchestra platform.

The main staircase to the banquetting room is lit from small courts, which also act as lighting areas to the kitchen and service. The stairs finish on a rather cramped landing, twelve feet by nine feet, at the entrance to the banquetting room, and no provision appears to be made for linking up this room with the other apartments on this floor.

The banquetting room is lit by three large windows overlooking the kitchen court, which give access to the various services. The main entrance doors to the banquetting room are flanked by openings similarly treated, but these merely act as borrowed lights to the staircase, a questionable arrangement.
FIRST AWARD

R. A. BRUCE
The principal bedroom suites on the first floor are well situated, the main suite opening on to a loggia. The arrangement of small pipe areas on the northern facade is questionable and might have been avoided.

The secretariat and staff suites are situated on the southern front. The approach to the Viceroy’s office up a circular stair and along a corridor is awkward, although additional access is provided by an external flight of steps.

The general mass of the building in elevation is very pleasant and the architectural treatment and details have been carefully considered.

The conception has obviously been inspired by the work at Delhi but there is little indication of skilled native metal work or native feeling as suggested by the words “Belgian Congo” in the conditions. The layout is somewhat stiff and formal.

The design placed second is excellent in general conception. The introduction of great courts flanking the centrally placed reception hall and seen from the main approach, the placing of the ball room and banqueting room overlooking the terrace from which the main view is obtained, are particularly good.

The porte-cochere is finely conceived and the entrance vestibule and cloaks are well arranged and flooded with light.

The reception hall, as shown, would not satisfy the conditions, but a dais on the western wall would make an ideal arrangement for the reception and circulation of guests.

The ball room is the central element of the north front and opens on to a great terrace with a fine vista to the lake.

The secretariat is well placed but the proportions given to the offices of the staff are not good. The author appears to have attempted to obtain a waiting space for each office. This could have been better attained by the introduction of small ante rooms.

The stairs to the first floor are scattered and not too well conceived, which results in long distances to be traversed to get from one part to the other.
The bedroom suites are placed on the first floor, the principal suite being well situated in the centre of the north front. The remaining suites seem to be unnecessarily complicated. The perspective sketch submitted, shows clearly the fine open treatment of the whole scheme and is definitely a bird’s eye view as required under the conditions.

The elevations and sections are refreshing and full of imagination and vitality. The Author has attempted to comply with the conditions which conjure up a vision of a central African State, rich, hot and mosquito ridden set amidst great tropical forests. For this reason he has attempted to give emphasis to the mass by a lofty tower-like structure which recalls the towers of the great Angkor Vat similarly situated on the borders of Siam.

The lay out is full of interest and indicates a great breadth of treatment and a vivid imagination.

The plan of the scheme placed third is scholarly in conception and the general arrangement works very well. The elevations and sections do not appear to be in character with the requirements and rather suggest an important public or government building to be erected on a town square. The presentation, particularly of the plan, is very good.

Generally the drawings are not quite up to the standard one would expect in a competition of this nature. This point might well be stressed in future as otherwise one feels that it might encourage candidates to take a line of least resistance in the general presentation. The first Baker scholar set a very high standard both in design and presentation and one would like to see this maintained.

G.E.P.
As we passed Bastia, a youth wearing a black shirt and holding an immense drake under his arm was knocking at a fine Renaissance door.

Later in the church of Santa Maria Degli Angeli we saw Pilgrim women walking through the oratory of St. Francis, fumbling with their rosaries, stroking and kissing the very stones of the sacred place.

Assisi itself was hot and white with dust.

From a distance it had been hard to believe that the buildings were not an organic part of the hill they crown, and here, the narrow streets, trod by a donkey or an occasional peasant, seemed carved into the hill rather than the buildings built beside them.

It was a relief to walk into the monastery of St. Francesco and gaze in the gloom of the church at Giotto's frescoes and at a fine altar supporting six voluptuous candlesticks. Giotto's frescoes beautifully emphasise the form of the dome. Cimabues crucifixion is likewise a magnificent composition.

Later I walked down steep sloping streets with flower pots of flowing geraniums clamped to the walls and passing through an arch looked down over a stretch of Italy's warm undulating lands, meandered over by
white roads passing stone tile-roofed cottages and all was silent but for the chirrup of crickets and the distant barking of a dog.

**Fascist Exhibition.**

It is difficult to imagine art in any of its manifestations evincing more sheer psychological power than it did in the recent Fascist Exhibition in Rome. It was immense.

The theme was the history of Fascism. One walked from room to room of huge abstract compositions of intense symbolism, portraying in photographs, posters and models, first the ghastliness of war with banners and the rugged heads of soldiers, then Mussolini—statues of him—bas reliefs of him, large, small, in wood, in plaster, in bronze or his profile in shining steel and his name everywhere—written across a ceiling a hundred times, growing ever larger, like a voice growing from a whisper to a shout—Mussolini! Then a wall of hands raised in obeisance, and a mighty chain cleft by a bloodstained sword. We walked about silently, sometimes almost faint at the awful power of it all. The illusion was complete—the walls were windowless—the atmosphere humid and tense.

Then came the most unforgettable room of all—in memory of martyrs of Fascism. It was a low room and circular, dark and full of the air of sanctity. Below our eyes the walls were hung with countless flags and pennants lit by an ethereal blue light. Above were diminishing rings of illuminated letters spelling “Presente!” “Presente!” always “Presente!” We tiptoed round the huge cross in the centre while into the room, from some unknown source, flowed a voice, dim and afar-off, singing a noble song.

We could but salute as we left.

**Tivoli.**

With the short time at our disposal Tivoli, to us, meant the Villa d'Est and there we spent our precious hours.

From the heat of the midsummer day, we passed through the villa nestling above the dark green cypress tops, then down into the shady garden growing cooler at every step as we heard the sound of falling water and the chirrup of crickets. Everywhere was moss, green and cool and mosaic pavements and grottoes where the air was cool as the water itself—and water falling all round—from a line of jets climbing to regular heights or falling lazily on to lush foliage—water dispersing itself in every imaginable caprice, now rising high in a slender jet, now spreading itself in a delicate fan, or bubbling over rounded forms or yet again spouting up from bowls like little flickering candles. Above all a majestic jet striving to climb above the cypresses.

Imbued with the bliss of our own cool comfort we looked down from a parapet over the heat of the outside world, but turned away again as if afraid to waken from some cool sweet dream.
Annual Meeting.

Minutes of the Seventh Annual General Meeting of Members of the Transvaal Provincial Institute held in the Council Chamber, Kelvin House, 100, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Thursday, the 15th March, 1934, at 5.30 p.m.

PRESENT.


The Chairman declared the meeting duly constituted. Notice of meeting was taken as read.

BALLOT FOR COMMITTEE.

The Chairman asked any members who had not voted to hand in their ballot papers and then declared the ballot closed.

Messrs. H. R. Skelly, I. Wayburne and J. R. Gibbs with the Secretary were appointed scrutineers and the names of ninety-five members who had voted were called out and checked with the register.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Chairman then declared the meeting adjourned until 8 p.m. so as to enable the scrutineers to count the votes.

On the resumption of the meeting at 8 p.m. the following additional members attended: Messrs. N. I. Finkelstein, S. Lewis, and H. Simonsen.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

The Chairman received the report of the scrutineers and advised that there was a tie for the twelfth place on the Committee between Messrs. A. R. Martin and D. L. Nurcombe. Lots were drawn and resulted in Mr. D. L. Nurcombe being elected.


The Chairman expressed the thanks of the meeting to the Scrutineers for their work in counting the votes polled.

MINUTES.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 14th March, 1933, and the Special General Meeting held on the 8th April, 1933, which had been circulated to members were taken as read and confirmed.

STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS.

In submitting the accounts, Mr. N. T. Cowin, Chairman of the Finance Committee said:—

Mr. President and Gentlemen,

I have been asked to deal with the Financial Statement and I am pleased to do so. Mr. Allen Wilson has occupied this exalted position for many years and he has always handled the matter very ably and I am sure we all regret that he does not figure as our Chancellor of the Exchequer to-night.

Finance is a most important matter in all walks of life, in fact to many it is an ever present nightmare which makes life a burden but I am pleased to say that in our case during the past year there has been no necessity to implore the Bank Manager to grant us “facilities” for an overdraft or to ask our creditors to “give us time.” We can congratulate ourselves on this as I am sure all our members have not been in such good standing; many, I know, have made a great effort to pay their dues and we appreciate this act of loyalty to our Institute.

I am sure that we are to see a great era of building in this country which has already begun and I trust that we shall soon forget the last few lean years in the prosperous times ahead.

I hope that you have all read the Financial Statement in the Committee’s Report; it needs little explanation from me. The main item for comment is, I think, arrear subscriptions, £782 6s. 3d. This is really enormous and members might say points to laxity on the part of the Finance Committee. I can give an assurance that every effort has been made to collect these arrears; tact, persever-
ance and a little humanity is necessary in dealing with this matter and the Committee has given sympathetic consideration to every case. Some relief I am sure must be given in certain cases and writing off arrears must be considered. I definitely am not in favour of suing any member unless he ignores the requests for payment and refuses to recognise his obligations and make an offer of payment however small.

LEVIES TO CENTRAL COUNCIL.

In the balance sheet the amount shown as owing to the Central Council is £277 13s. 8d. but £95 6s. 9d. of this is to be written off, being levies on subscriptions charged to members up to the end of 1931 which have not been paid. Since then levies by the Central Council are computed only on subscriptions paid. The formal approval of the Central Council to the writing off of this £95 is awaited and the amount due will thus be reduced to £182 which has since been paid.

BALANCE OF PROMOTION EXPENSES DUE BY CENTRAL COUNCIL.

With regard to the amount of £192 8s. 9d. being balance of Promotion expenses due from the Central Council it is suggested that this be left in abeyance for five or six years, and this point is now being considered by the Committee. The object of holding this over is to enable the Central Council to consider the possibility of a reduction in members' subscriptions and levies.

JOURNAL.

It is remarkable that it has been possible to finance the journal from time to time—it is a hand to mouth existence but it has served since its inception, and with better times I have no doubt we will be able to get an improved banking account and financial position.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

The Benevolent Fund is not administered by the Finance Committee. It is gratifying to note that there is not a shortfall, thanks to the assistance from members during the year.

GENERAL.

The Financial position is sound as Cash and Cash Assets at the end of the year amounted to £280 against liabilities of £190, or a surplus of £90. £400 of accumulated funds are invested in the Journal, earning interest at four per cent per annum.

The Journal Account showed a small deficit at the end of the year but revenue for 1934 is increasing and the January and February issues show a satisfactory surplus.

In conclusion I should like to thank all members of the Finance Committee for their valuable help during the year and also express my appreciation of the great assistance of the Secretary.

Mr. Allen Wilson in moving the adoption of the Accounts expressed thanks to Mr. Cowin for taking on the duties of Chairman of the Finance Committee, and said that though members had gone through bad times things now seemed better. He was pleased to see the growth of the Journal. With regard to the holding up of repayment of the amount due by the Central Council, he bowed to the decision, but did not see any object in reducing the amount of members' subscriptions as, in his opinion, those members who to-day failed to pay five guineas or three guineas would continue to fail to pay four or two guineas and the Institute as a whole would not benefit.

Mr. Dowsett in seconding the motion for the adoption of the accounts pointed out that it was not intended to surrender the claim for the £192 8s. 9d. from the Central Council but only to wait a little longer for it.

In reply to Mr. Howden who asked what assets the Journal had to cover the £400 lent by the Institute, Mr. Cowin explained that the main assets were cash in hand £86 6s. 2d. and amounts due by advertisers £309 4s. 0d.

Mr. Fleming asked if the Journal should not provide a sinking fund to replace this £400; and Mr. Cowin in reply said that the Finance Committee had not lost sight of this point and as times improved it would be borne in mind.

The Accounts as submitted were duly adopted.

COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Mr. Cowin in moving the adoption of the annual report included a hearty vote of thanks to the President and Committee for their work during the past year. This was seconded by Mr. Nurcombe and agreed to.

The Chairman thanked members on behalf of the Committee and himself.
AUDITORS.

On the motion of Mr. Allen Wilson, seconded by Mr. Harrison, Messrs. Alex. Aiken and Carter were reappointed auditors and their remuneration for the past audit was fixed at Ten Guineas for the Institute Account and Ten Guineas for the Journal Account.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Gentlemen,

To-night brings to its close my year of office and I want to thank you all for the honour you conferred upon me a year ago in electing me, while overseas, as your President. Further, I wish to thank most sincerely each individual member of the Committee for his generous support and sympathetic assistance during the past twelve months. No President could wish for more loyal support than that I have received.

I also would like to express my appreciation for the work done by the members of the various sub-committees and I would particularly refer to the work of the Finance Committee in the first few months of the year. It was a time of great economic depression and of considerable financial strain. The task of collecting subscriptions from the members was not an easy one and required considerable tact, sympathy and firmness. Their work was well done. Last, but not least, I must thank Mr. Gordon Leith for carrying on the duties of President during my absence overseas.

This year three of our members have resigned from the Committee, Mr. J. Lockwood Hall, Mr. Harold Porter and Professor Pearse, all of them past presidents. I feel sure that all present will join with me in thanking them for the years of willing service given to the profession. As a member of the Committee of several years standing, I cannot speak too highly of their work on your behalf. With the resignation of Professor Pearse I feel we have lost an important link with the University and I trust that this link will be re-forged in the near future.

It is with deep regret that I have to record the deaths of Messrs. N. L. Brampton, C. A. P. Gerntholtz, J. G. Laver, Walter Reid, and J. H. Vincent. In each case your Committee expressed its sympathy. In Mr. Walter Reid we lost an old servant of the profession. He was the first President of the Association of Transvaal Architects and was again President in 1910 and 1915. He was also a Trustee of the Benevolent Fund until the time of his death.

I want to take this opportunity of welcoming Messrs. C. E. Cawse, P. S. Dykstra, A. C. Fair, John Fassler, A. R. Martin, W. Percik, H. W. Reid, C. J. Slade, J. Corrigal, E. G. Tucker and T. N. Duncan as new members and wish them every success in their professional careers. The younger generation have great opportunities and we must look to them to carry on and, let me say it, improve the traditions of our profession and we must look to them to build up a finer esprit-de-corps in our ranks. This is one of the crying needs of our profession to-day. We must in some way construct a more united front to the world and obtain from the public a respect which I feel to-day is perhaps not what we should wish. I am speaking frankly, perhaps too frankly, but I do feel the need for more co-operation and less fierce competition. Architecture in the past has had a fine tradition, let us not trample it in the mud of commercialism lest it be lost. And believe me, gentlemen, it is a grave danger.

During the past year your Committee has devoted considerable time to the question of Government and Provincial work. The greater part of the burden is being carried by the Central Council. However, in October of last year the representatives of the four Provincial Committees met at Bloemfontein to give evidence before the Provincial Finance Commission on this question. Previous to the hearing granted, the representatives of the four bodies met and discussed their various views to enable them to present a united front. The work done was, I think, very valuable and our thanks are due very largely to Mr. Moerdijk for his energetic and efficient work in this matter. The result of the work done by the Central Council and by your Committee has borne fruit in the Competitions for the Magistrates' Courts at Maritzburg, the Provincial Home, Rietfontein and the Magistrates' Courts at Johannesburg, the conditions of which latter have not yet been published, and other work given out by this Province. While on this subject, I feel we should express our appreciation for the sympathy to our aspirations shown by the ex-Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr. Smit and his staff.
Our Journal has had a successful year considering the depressing outlook during the first few months. In deference to many criticisms of its old format, the cover has been changed and more capitals have been used. Our very sincere thanks are due to Professor Pearse and Mr. Martienssen. Speaking from the experience as editor of the Journal while still a quarterly issue, I perhaps realise more than most of you the enormous work entailed in producing a monthly magazine. The Editors, I know, are longing for more material and I appeal to you all to assist in this respect. The Journal is, I think you will all agree, an asset to the profession and deserves all the support it can get.

For some time past your Committee has felt that a gulf of misunderstanding was growing between our body and that of the Master Builders. To remedy this, an unofficial round table conference was arranged between ourselves and representatives of the Master Builders to discuss points of misunderstanding, which your Committee feels was very successful in removing some of the misunderstandings which existed between us. Various matters were discussed including Tender Envelopes, P.C. items in Bills of Quantities, Tendering without Quantities and the Standardization of Bricks. I think I can say that the Builders' opposition to the last point has now disappeared and we hope in the immediate future to take up the whole question and I hope reach finality.

The question of Finance has been fully dealt with by the Chairman of the Finance Committee and I am glad to say that our position is a sound one and considering the difficult period we have passed through this should be a cause of satisfaction. The Benefvolent Fund Investments now stand at £710. Of this £514 is invested in Union Loans and £140 with the Alliance Building Society. Contributions during the year amounted to £83 8s. 0d. and the thanks of the Institute are extended to those members who so generously supported the fund. I would appeal to all members to support this fund generously in time of building prosperity. It is in times of financial stress that calls are made upon it and then it is difficult to collect money. Its value cannot be denied but in times of building activity it is apt to be forgotten. Bad times will come again—let us be prepared. I feel this is a very important point which I hope you will all bear in mind.

I think you will all wish to join in congratulating Mr. Bruce on his success in the Baker Scholarship which is well deserved. The generous gift of Sir Herbert Baker to the profession is of tremendous value to us. It forms a magnificent climax to the students' life. It is something to aim at, something to strive for. Our students need encouragement and I sometimes feel that as a profession we tend to forget the school at Milner Park. Architectural Education and the welfare of the student is or should be one of our major interests. Are we doing all we can to support the excellent work being done by Professor Pearse and his staff? Could we not take a more personal interest in the Students' activities, social and professional? The students themselves are somewhat to blame in their lack of publicity, but I do think that more support might be given by the profession to the public lectures arranged at Milner Park by the Architectural Students' Society and to the Annual Architectural Students' Ball. A school tends to the Academic unless in constant touch with the Practitioner. In reference to this, it has been suggested that on the night of the students' ball we should arrange a dinner beforehand.

The Institute is represented on the local Town Planning Association. This body has been doing very valuable work during the past few years and its activity is largely responsible for the New Town Planning Ordinance which should have far-reaching consequences to our larger towns. The appointment of a firm of Town Planners of international repute to make a Civic and Regional Survey of the reef is a matter of great interest to architects and those interested in the welfare of Architecture.

Before drawing these rambling remarks to a close, I feel I must mention the interest and friendship expressed by the R.I.B.A. towards this Institute during my short stay in London last year. As your representative, I attended one of their monthly banquets and general meetings. I was delighted and surprised by the warmth of the welcome and the close sense of contact. May it long continue.
I think you will all agree that the dinner and dance at the French Club was a great success and our thanks are due to Mr. Gordon Leith for the excellent organisation of it. I hope we shall be able to have more of these occasions in the future, for some reason they appear to be more popular than general meetings.

The poor attendance at these general meetings is, I feel, a serious aspect in the life of our Institute. Friendly constructive criticism and suggestions are essential to the satisfactory running of our profession and the views of members outside the committee are necessary to general satisfaction. However, I am preaching to the converted.

Finally, I want to thank our Secretary Mr. A. S. Pearse for his energetic and sympathetic assistance during my term of office. Without his constant help the position of President would indeed have been a very onerous one.

Once again, gentlemen, I thank you.

Professor Pearse in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring president for his very interesting address said that in Mr. Furner the Institute had a tower of strength in the carrying out of his duties and in meeting the Government and Provincial Authorities.

With regard to the Journal, though his name appeared as Honorary Editor from month to month he really had little to do with it and must express his appreciation to Mr. Rex Martienssen for his strenuous and noble work in this connection; it was due to his working on the Journal that he was not at this meeting. He thanked Mr. Furner, the President for the most excellent work he had done and for his great interest and sympathy in all the work of the Institute.

The vote of thanks was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Fleming said that all felt gratified by the work done during the past year. He noted, however, a consciousness that all was not quite well with the activities of the Institute and that things were not done which might be done. He instanced the Art and Education Committee which had met only once in the year and then only to deal with the Academy work; and no subject but the Academy had been referred to it. He thought it should be dropped as an Art and Education Committee and re-appointed in some new form to deal not only with Art and Education but some of the finer aspects of the profession not catered for except through the Journal. He suggested that the incoming Committee might look into what the R.I.B.A. was doing and what we were not doing. He suggested as a practical step a Committee of Activities or a Committee of Amenity or any suitable other name, which should make its chief object the points he had indicated.

The Chairman thanked Professor Pearse and Mr. Fleming for their remarks and members for the way in which they had passed the vote of thanks. He would like to say that Mr. Fleming had diagnosed very effectively a trouble which had been worrying him for some time and he felt that a new Art and Education or other Committee was a very good suggestion and would welcome discussion now if the meeting was willing.

Mr. Leith suggested that Mr. Fleming might help the Committee in this proposal for the formation of a new sub-committee. With a member such as Mr. Fleming who would give them a lead he would very much welcome such a new committee.

Mr. Cowin asked if Mr. Fleming would say in what way this suggested sub-committee could help. Education was now in the hands of the Central Council and could not be taken out of its hands. As regards Art, the Institute held the Academy exhibition each year and he might suggest that lectures be given at the Academy on some evenings during the exhibition. It was not fair to say that nothing was being done, the fault lay with individual members in not bringing matters forward. He hoped that these points would be dealt with by the incoming Committee.

BY-LAWS GOVERNING SIGNS AND HOARDINGS.

Mr. Fleming said that, arising out of the invitation of the City Council to this Institute and other Associations to attend a conference, delegates had attended the conference and were now preparing a report. The matter had arisen primarily from the application by an Advertising Company for extended scope, chiefly in lighting effects. The City Council was concerned and desired to reconsider its by-laws. The conference met and adjourned until the 20th April for consideration of the views of all bodies participating.
The representatives of this Institute were now engaged upon the preparation of a Memorandum for the consideration of the participants of the conference, and suggestions were invited from members towards this report.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Fleming for bringing this matter forward and asked members to voice their ideas or submit them in writing before the 20th of this month for consideration by the By-Laws Committee.

Mr. Dowsett said he would like to suggest that while the matter was most important from an artistic point of view members must be practical in their suggestions as business must be carried on.

Mr. Leith said it was obvious that signs could not be dispensed with entirely and in some form must continue to exist and this Institute should consider how to limit it. He objected to intermittent and running signs but saw no objection to some form of signs if the size and style could be regulated. He felt that the thanks of the Institute were due to the City Council for inviting delegates to the conference.

Professor Pearse said he supported Mr. Fleming who for many years past had brought up the matter of signs and hoardings. He suggested that the Provincial Committee should urge the City Council to endeavour to get some unanimity in advertising signs. Architects were as keen as anyone on the practical side. The Committee should appeal to the City Council to appoint a permanent Committee to deal with the control of advertising by lighting signs and if a properly unified scheme could be evolved this Institute would co-operate. He suggested that Mr. Fleming might put something together for an article in the Journal.

Mr. Fleming said that ideas from members should be forthcoming within the next few days as the memorandum must be ready by the 31st March, and the By-Laws Committee was meeting on the 20th instant.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

At the first meeting of the newly elected Committee, held on the 22nd March, Mr. G. E. Gordon Leith was elected President, Mr. V. S. Rees-Poole, Senior Vice-President, and Mr. G. Moerdyk, Junior Vice-President, for the ensuing year.

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THE CHAPTER OF SOUTH AFRICAN QUANTITY SURVEYORS


To Members of the Chapter.

Your Board has pleasure in presenting its Annual Report. The Board for the year under review (i.e., from March 15th, 1933, to March 10th, 1934), consisted of:


"Dual Practising" Members: Messrs. R. Howden and G. L. P. Moerdyk.

"Salaried" Members: Dr. E. J. Hamlin, Mr. R. J. C. Prentice, and Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis.

Mr. J. W. Cowling was unanimously elected President for the year, and Messrs. R. J. C. Prentice and G. Moerdyk, Senior and Junior Vice-President, respectively.

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BOARD MEETINGS.

During the year under review there were nine meetings (five ordinary and four special) of the Board, in respect of which the following is the attendance record:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. W. Cowling</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. J. C. Prentice</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. L. F. Borckenhagen</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. Howden</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. J. Laing</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. E. Puntis</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. Moore</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Moerdyk</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Bell-John</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. J. Hamlin</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. T. Babbs (Cape Town)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. E. McEnanem (Durban)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FINANCE COMMITTEE.

There were three formal meetings of the Finance Committee during the year, in addition to frequent consultation between the members and the Secretary.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The following members represented the Chapter on the Central Council of the Institute during the year:—


In terms of Regulation 5, Lt-Col. W. E. Puntis, in his capacity as Chief Government Quantity Surveyor (Alternate, Mr. A. W. Springthorpe), is one of the Union Government's two permanent Nominees on the Central Council.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND EXAMINATIONS.

During the year the Central Council enlarged the personnel of the Standing Committee on Education and Examinations, on which the Chapter now has three representatives:—

A. T. Babbs (Alternate, R. J. C. Prentice).
T. Moore (Alternate, W. E. Puntis).
W. E. Puntis (Alternate, T. Moore).

MEMBERSHIP.

The total membership of the Chapter, compiled as at January 31st, 1934, is one hundred and forty-three, composed as follows:—

“Solely Practising” Members ..... 31
“Dual Practising” Members ..... 41
“Salaried” Members ..... 42
“Absentee” Members ..... 3
“Retired” Members ..... 22
Honorary Members ..... 4

Included in the figure of one hundred and forty-three are three members (two dual practising and one absentee) whose names do not appear in the Institute's or the Chapter's publications because of the fact that their subscriptions have not been paid for at least three years (vide Regulation 35b).

NEW ENROLMENTS.

The Board has pleasure in recording, during the year under review, the enrolment of Messrs. H. F. E. Banks, J. D. Roos and R. J. Law.

RESIGNATIONS.

The Board records, with regret, two resignations, viz., Mr. D. A. McCubbin, who has rendered pioneer service to the profession of Quantity Surveying in South Africa; and Mr. W. D. Jones, of Uitenhage, C.P.

OBITUARY.

The Board has to record with deep regret the passing during the year of three members of the Chapter: Messrs. Walter Reid, J. H. Vincent and N. L. Brampton.

QUANTITY SURVEYING EDUCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The University of Pretoria, with its Five Year Degree Course and its Four Year Diploma Course, is the chief centre of Quantity Surveying Education in South Africa. The University of Cape Town inaugurates a Degree Course in Quantity Surveying with the term beginning in March, 1934.

An interesting development during the year is the appointment by the University of Pretoria, through the agency of the Institute's Standing Committee on Education and Examinations, of Inspectors to attend the Examinations in Quantity Surveying. To Messrs. J. W. Cowling and R. J. C. Prentice have been allotted the duties of such Visiting Inspectors.

QUANTITY SURVEYING STUDENTS.

The following figures indicate the numbers of Quantity Surveying Students attending the Universities of Pretoria and the Witwatersrand during 1933:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>University of Pretoria</th>
<th>University of Witwatersrand</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are, in addition, Quantity Surveying Students in other parts of South Africa, in the offices of practitioners, who are studying privately for the examinations of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution.

The Board has constantly had under consideration the position of Quantity Surveying Students. In this regard the Board has recorded its appreciation of the helpfulness of the Public Works Department and private practitioners in affording employment to certain Degree Students who have completed the first two years of their Course.

During 1933 the first Degree in Quantity Surveying (B.Sc. (Q.S.)) was conferred by the University of Pretoria on Mr. T. H. Louw, who passed with distinction. The Diploma
in Quantity Surveying was obtained by Messrs. B. A. Barker, G. B. McIntosh, and M. Wadge.

STUDENTS' PRIZES.
The Chapter's Gold Medal has not been awarded during the year under review. The Book Prize of two guineas (Second Year), and the Book Prize of one guinea (First Year), were awarded, respectively, to the following students:—J. W. M. Clark, R. J. McLaren.

TRANSLATION OF THE "STANDARD SYSTEM."
The manuscript of the translation of the "Standard System" into Afrikaans has been completed by Mr. G. Moerdyk, and it is anticipated that the translation will be made available during the year 1934.

CHAPTER'S FINANCIAL POSITION.
In drawing attention to the Chapter's audited accounts for the year, the Board feels it must re-emphasize the unsatisfactory state of affairs which has to be faced year after year because certain members do not pay their subscriptions. For the year under review a deficit of £99 9s. 6d. is shown, in explanation of which the following observations are offered:—

(i) Included in the deficit is an amount of £40 taken out of current revenue on account of subscriptions regarded as irrecoverable.
(ii) The total amount of unpaid subscriptions as at December 31st, 1933 (apart from amounts already written off as irrecoverable) is £190 1s. 0d., composed as follows:—

Owing by:—
"Dual Practising" Members £108 6 0
"Solely Practising" Members 15 15 0
"Salaried" Members .................................. 49 3 6
"Retired" Members .................................. 16 16 6
(iii) The amount of 1933 subscriptions receivable from members is £534 9s. 0d.
The actual amount of 1933 subscriptions received up to and including December 31st, 1933, is:—

From "Practising" Members £289 15 0
,, "Salaried" Members 116 0 6
,, "Retired" Members 15 15 0

£421 10 6

(iv) Resort has been had by the Finance Committee to legal proceedings, and in certain cases even to the issue of summons, as the result of which arrear and current subscriptions totalling £60 13s. 0d. have been collected during the year.
(v) Costs of administration during the year have been higher than usual, chiefly because of the necessity of representatives of the Board appearing before the Provincial Finance Commission appointed by the Union Government. The additional expenditure incurred in connection with the Provincial Finance Commission is approximately £30.

PROVINCIAL FINANCE COMMISSION.
In pursuance of its desire to improve and where possible to unify the position of the Quantity Surveying Profession in the four Provinces of the Union, the Board resolved that it was necessary to avail itself of the opportunity afforded by the appointment of the Provincial Finance Commission. The three points which the Board decided to submit to the Commission are detailed in pages thirty-nine and forty of the minutes issued to members.

Messrs. A. T. Babbs, R. Howden and T. Moore were appointed as the Chapter's delegates to appear before the Commission. Mr. Howden, unfortunately, was unable to proceed to Cape Town, where the Chapter's evidence was heard. A copy of the official record of the evidence given by Messrs. Babbs and Moore is in the possession of the Secretary, and may be seen at his office.

It is anticipated that the Report of the Commission will be published in the second half of 1934.

GOVERNMENT WORK.
The Board has submitted to the Central Council of the Institute recommendations whereby certain Union Government work may be entrusted to private practitioners, with due regard to safeguarding the position of salaried members of the Chapter.

ENGINEERING QUANTITIES.
Initiated by Dr. E. J. Hamlin, a Sub-Committee of the Board is investigating the position in South Africa with a view to (i) producing a Standard System of Quantities applicable to engineering projects, and (ii) encouraging the greater use of such Quantities.
STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR BUILDING TIMBER.

A Sub-Committee of the Board has had under consideration the question of standard specifications for building timber used in South Africa. It is confidently anticipated that definite developments in this respect will take place in the ensuing year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Various matters which have engaged the attention of the Board and its Sub-Committees during the year have not yet reached finality: e.g., Tendering without Quantities, Quantity Surveying Fees, Transvaal Provincial Quantity Surveying Work, Quantity Surveying Work as Applied to Public Bodies generally, and the question of appointing Joint Consultation Boards of Architects, Quantity Surveyors and Master Builders.

BOARD'S THANKS TO PRESIDENT.

The Board cordially identifies itself with the appreciation voiced by Mr. Howden of the way in which the President (Mr. J. W. Cowling) has conducted the affairs of the Chapter during his term of office.

BOARD'S THANKS TO SECRETARY.

The Board once more has occasion to express its thanks and appreciation to the Secretary (Mr. J. S. Lewis) for his untiring zeal and sound judgment in the conduct of his duties during the past year.

The following have been elected as the Board of the Chapter for the year 1934-1935:

Practising Solely as Quantity Surveyors:

Practising as Architects and Quantity Surveyor: Mr. R. Howden, F.S.I.


OFFICERS FOR 1934-1935.

At the first meeting of the 1934-1935 Board of the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors, held at Johannesburg, on Saturday, the following officers were unanimously elected for the ensuing year.

President: Mr. R. J. C. Prentice, F.S.I. Pretoria.
Senior Vice-President: Mr. D. J. Laing, F.S.I., Johannesburg.
Junior Vice-President: Dr. E. J. Hamlin, D.Sc., F.S.I., Johannesburg.

The Chapter's two representatives on the Central Council of the Institute of South African Architects are Mr. T. Moore, F.S.I. (Pretoria), and Mr. A. T. Babbs, F.S.I. (Cape Town); with Mr. F. D. Hickman, P.A.S.I., and Mr. D. J. Laing, F.S.I., as their respective alternates.

R.I.B.A. Special Final Examination.

NOTICE OF DISCONTINUANCE.

Notice is hereby given that the Special Examination for Associateship, R.I.B.A. (open to candidates over the age of thirty), will be discontinued in South Africa as and from the November 1934 examination.

Candidates wishing to enter for the November 1934 Examination should communicate with the Registrar of the Institute of South African Architects, P.O. Box 7322, Johannesburg.

This notice is published with the authority of the Standing Committee on Education and Examinations of the Institute of South African Architects, and with the approval of the Board of Architectural Education of the R.I.B.A.

Mr. M. J. Heir, late Assistant City Building Inspector and Assistant City Valuer, has now started practice as an Architect at 19/20, Alliance Buildings, Johannesburg.

Members desiring to obtain copies of minutes of meetings of the Transvaal Provincial Committee may send in their names to the Secretary and these minutes will then be forwarded to them.
The organisers of the “Rand Daily Mail” Ideal Homes Exhibition invite architects, domiciled in the Union of South Africa, and registered under the Architects’ Act of 1927, to submit designs for an Ideal House to be erected in the grounds of the Witwatersrand Agricultural Society, Johannesburg, in connection with the Ideal Homes Exhibition, September 6th, to September 15th, 1934.

The site has a slight fall from South to North and the entrance is from the North. The building is to be a bungalow, costing £1,500 if erected with permanent materials. The accommodation required is as follows:

House: Entrance hall, living room, dining room (optional) three bedrooms, kitchen, pantry and bathroom.

Outbuildings: Garage, native servant’s room, shower and w.c., and a small washhouse for laundry purposes.

The structure to be erected will be constructed with temporary materials such as timber framing covered with asbestos or other sheeting which can be colour washed. It is suggested therefore that the materials used for the walls of a permanent structure should be brick plastered and colour washed.

Doors and windows of a standard size should be adopted as far as possible. The design of the roof is left to the discretion of the architect, but due consideration should be given to the question of erecting and removing same.

Designs, which must reach the undersigned not later than May 7th, 1934, are to be submitted on one sheet of double elephant drawing paper mounted on light card and any medium may be used for presentation. An estimate of cost and brief outline specification must be submitted with the design.

The successful competitor will be expected to supply complete quarter inch scale working drawings and supervise the erection of the temporary structure, for which he will be paid £50 apart from premium.

Premiums are offered as follows:

- 1st 100 guineas.
- 2nd 50 guineas.
- 3rd 25 guineas.

Drawings submitted must not give any indication as to the identity of the author, but a sealed envelope containing the author’s name and address must be attached to the drawings submitted.

The competition will be adjudicated by a jury of four architects and one representative of the organisers, and the decision of this jury will be final and binding.

The above conditions have been submitted to and approved by the Central Council of the South African Institute of Architects.

The Organiser, “Rand Daily Mail” Ideal Homes Exhibition. P.O. Box 1138, Johannesburg.

N.B.—The attention of Members is drawn to the fact that the approach to the house is from the NORTH and not from the South as stated in the Advertisements in the daily press.

Golf Notes.

The Dulux Cup.

On Tuesday, 20th February, one simply could not get a house built for love or money, the reason, of course, was that all the best architects and master builders were up at Kloof, playing for the Dulux Cup, presented to them by the Nobel Chemical Industries, in order to encourage their young ideas of golf. The tee square wranglers and trowel pushers were not in the best of form, and most of the cards afterwards looked like a Quantity Surveyor’s nightmare. Our old friend Chas. O. Taylor, however, managed to keep well down to scale and some exceedingly snappy stuff in the morning notched him a seventy-five nett, but in the afternoon he fell away a bit and allowed C. W. Harris to tie with one hundred and sixty; the play off went to Taylor.

Seeing that the clerk of the weather was in his kindliest mood and that the course had donned its best garb for the occasion, the remaining scores were a bit grim. Wee Willie and our Bert, of course, were in great form, hitting freely and scoring all over the course. Bert, especially being very effective with shots to leg. Their double centuries earned them well-merited applause as they came back to the pavilion carrying their-er-Clubs. The following is the full list of the scores:

- C. S. M. Taylor: 93, 103, 196, 36—160.
- C. W. Harris: 102, 102, 204, 44—160.

On second thoughts it would be kinder to leave the list at that.

Messrs. T. Moore and Mann, Quantity Surveyors, of 31-36, Connaught Buildings, Pretoria, have opened additional offices at 26, Geneva House, Johannesburg, Telephone No. 33-2492.