

Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects and a leading Johannesburg architect, their topics being "The Town Planner", "The Architect", "The Artist", "L'Esprit Nouveau" and "Epilogue" respectively.

Other symposia worthy of note were the one on Architectural Education organised by the Council of Architectural Students in 1969 and attended by the teaching staffs and students of the Schools of Architecture of the Universities of Natal, Cape Town and Pretoria, and those held jointly by the Department of Building Science, the South African Institute of Building and the Concrete Society of South Africa in 1975. Furthermore, since 1973 the Wits Town Planning Students' Association with the guidance of staff members of the Department of Town and Regional Planning, has organised a series of lunch-time lectures and an evening lecture as part of Town Planning Week at Wits. Prominent speakers are invited to give these lectures which have included the themes "The Pressures of Urbanization and Planning for Underprivileged Communities" (1976) and "Focus on Planning: When Rural Blacks move into Urban Areas" (1977).

Congresses, Conferences and Summer Schools

In the educational field, the Wits School of Architecture and, since the early Fifties, the Faculty of Architecture have actively participated in arranging, organising, accommodating and holding functions in the form of congresses, conferences and summer schools. Notable amongst these was a Town Planning Congress at Wits in 1938 organised by the Students' Architectural Society, again with the brilliant and indefatigable Kurt Jonas as the driving force behind it. The speakers were B A Farrel and Dr S Biesheuvel of the Department of Philosophy at Wits, W G McIntosh of the Department of Architecture of the University of Pretoria, Professor L W Thornton-White, Head of the Department of Architecture of the University of Cape Town, R H Kantorowich, a student in the School of Architecture of the University of the Witwatersrand and N L Hanson, a former architectural student of that University and, as a practising architect in Johannesburg, the initiator, together with R D Martienssen and W G McIntosh, of the modern movement in South African architecture. Their respective themes were "The Sociological Approach to Town Planning", "The Psychological Approach to Town Planning", "The Task of the Architect", "A Survey of 20th Century Town Planning", "A Model Native Township for 20,000 Inhabitants" and "A New Business Centre for Cape Town". The proceedings were published in the August and September 1938 issues of the South African Architectural Record with an introduction by Kurt Jonas, Chairman of the Students' Architectural Society

at Wits, a foreword by Mr H R Raikes, Principal of the University and a message to the Congress by Dr J H Hofmeyr, Minister of Education. One of the main features of the Congress was a set of proposals for Native Housing, produced by five students, P Connell, C Irvine-Smith, K Jonas, R H Kantorowich and F Wepener for the BArch degree. The proposals were in the form of a joint thesis which was published by the Witwatersrand University Press in 1940, thus enabling them to reach a wider audience. In 1952 and 1953 two summer schools were arranged by the Science Committee of the Institute of South African Architects and the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors in collaboration with the Faculty of Architecture at Wits, the topics being of a technical, aesthetic and professional nature. And in 1957 another summer school was held at Wits where it was officially opened by the Principal of the University, Professor W G Sutton under the chairmanship of C M Sinclair, President-in-Chief of the Institute of South African Architects, the speakers being Professors J Fossler of Wits, P Connell of the Natal University College, G Quine Lay of the University of the Orange Free State and Mr F L Sturrock, a leading Cape Town architect and lecturer at the University of Cape Town School of Architecture, their topics being "A Critical Review of Contemporary Architecture in South Africa", "A Critical Survey of Contemporary Architecture in Natal", "A Critical Review of Contemporary Architecture in the Orange Free State", and "A Critical Review of Contemporary Architecture in the Cape", respectively.

In 1962 the first conference on Town Planning Education was organised by the Faculty of Architecture and held at Wits, where it was resolved that there was then a need for at least one and preferably two full-time degree courses in town planning in South Africa.

In 1965 and 1966 the School served as the venue for and actively participated in conferences of the teaching staffs of the Schools of Architecture in this country - then five in all, as the University of Port Elizabeth School of Architecture and Quantity Surveying including also Building Management, was not established until 1969 - and representatives of the Institute of South African Architects. These conferences were remarkable for showing that the architectural profession and the teachers as represented there were capable of reaching broad and balanced conclusions and short and long range views of their problems and the best ways in which to tackle and solve them and also for the leading role played by the Wits School and the architects who had graduated at Wits. In 1967 the School again served as the venue for and participated in a conference of the teaching staffs of all the Schools of Quantity Surveying in South Africa and representatives of the Institute of South African Architects and the Chapter of South African Quantity

Surveyors and the results of this conference were no less impressive than those of the two previous years.

Furthermore and also as part of the Wits Golden Jubilee celebrations in 1972, four conferences were held at the University under the aegis of the Faculty of Architecture, namely, that by the Building Industries Federation (South Africa) on "The Contract Document", those by the Department of Building Science on "Building Education" and on "Building Management" and that by the Department of Town and Regional Planning in conjunction with the Urban and Regional Research Unit on "Town Planning Education". In 1974 the teaching staff in the Department of Building Science contributed to the proceedings of the Building Research Congress organised by the National Building Research Institute and held in Durban. And in 1975 members of staff and students in the Department of Architecture participated in two conferences, one in Johannesburg and the other in Durban, on problems of housing.

In 1975, too, Professors Patricios and Schlapobersky organised a one-week course, "Planning Places for Living", for the Summer School held annually by the University's Institute for Adult Education and External Studies - now the Centre for Continuing Education - at Wits. This was a wide ranging course the proceedings of which have been published and are obtainable from the Director of the Centre for Continuing Education. They include contributions from psychologists, sociologists, economists, builders, black and brown community representatives, local authority politicians and officials, property developers and managers, engineers, architects and town planners.

It is also worthy of mention that since 1971 Professor Patricios has delivered over fourteen papers not only at town and regional planning symposia but also at various assemblies in this country notably twice at the Annual Congress of the South African Association for the Advancement of Science, at the Fifth Quinquennial Convention of the South African Institution of Civil Engineers, at one of the conferences of the National Development and Management Foundation of South Africa and also of the South African Geographical Society. The papers and lectures he has delivered at overseas conferences and institutions are referred to subsequently in connection with the Faculty of Architecture's international links.

Refresher Courses

Following the 1965 and 1966 conferences referred to above, and, indeed, in pursuance of some of the conclusions they reached, postgraduate refresher courses, often referred to as mid-career courses, have been organised from time to time by the Faculty of Architecture for the purpose of enabling architectural educators, practitioners and their assistants, and research workers, to keep abreast of scientific advances and technological trends. Notable amongst these were the course on "Aspects of Reinforced Concrete Technology" run in conjunction with the Portland Cement Institute in 1967; the course on "High Rise Building" in September and October 1969 and the course on "Building and Design Economics" in August and September 1972, both under the joint auspices of the Wits Faculty of Architecture and the Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects.

In September 1973 the University's Urban and Regional Research Unit, referred to below, together with the Department of Town and Regional Planning held a metropolitan planning workshop for officials from local, provincial and central government departments and in May 1974 the Unit and the Department arranged a workshop on plan evaluation techniques which was run by Professor Morris Hill of the Technion, Israel, for practising town and regional planners.

The Urban and Regional Research Unit

In the field of town and regional planning, the University's Urban and Regional Research Unit has, since 1970, when it was established as the successor to the former Urban Studies Committee, widened the aim of that Committee to "initiate, encourage and co-ordinate research projects which have a special bearing on the problems of the municipalities of the Witwatersrand", by including regional research and the analysis of the national space economy. In addition to collaborating with the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies in the use of a computer mapping technique developed by Harvard University, the Unit conducts seminars, enables special courses in the latest urban and regional thinking and methods to be run and assists public and private bodies wherever possible, its main object being that whilst research in planning should be of an academic nature such research "should be applicable to the understanding and solution of urban and regional problems of immediate social concern". Research undertaken by the Unit has therefore been concerned with such matters, for example, as land use and population trends in the Southern Transvaal, the social ecology of Johannesburg, the residential

component of the central area of Johannesburg and the planning implications thereof and the process of urban renewal in the South African context.

Public Lectures

To the aforementioned work and activities must be added the public lectures which the Wits School and the Faculty of Architecture have organised from time to time over the years. Notable amongst these was Rex Martienssen's address on "Architecture and Modern Life", under the auspices of the Students' Architectural Society at Wits in 1929, which was published in the December 1929 issue of the South African Architectural Record, in which he introduced South African architects to the modern movement in architecture; the paper on "This Modern Sculpture" read by the South African sculptor W de S Hendrikz to the Students' Architectural Society at Wits in 1934; Heather Martienssen's public lectures on Art and Art Criticism in 1944; her lecture on "Space Organisation in Architecture" and Professor J Fassler's lecture on "Some Aspects of the Future of the Planning of Johannesburg", both in 1951, and an illustrated lecture on "Cape Dutch Architecture" by teachers in the School of Architecture to matriculation art students also in 1951; the lectures on historical aspects of architecture and the fine arts by Professor, later Sir, Nikolaus Pevsner in 1952 whilst he was Slade Professor of Fine Arts in the University of Cambridge and again in 1961 whilst he was Head of the Department of the History of Art of Birkbeck College, University of London; Sir William, later Lord, Holford's address on "The Pedestrian in the City" in April 1961, under the joint auspices of the Institute of South African Architects and the Wits Faculty of Architecture; Professor Roy Kantorowich's Robert Howden Memorial Lecture on "Architecture as I see it", under the joint auspices of the Faculty of Architecture and the Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects, also in 1961; a lecture on design in architecture and the ancillary arts in 1962 by Sir Hugh Casson, the then Vice-President of the Royal Institute of British Architects; a lecture on the social significance of architecture by Richard J Neutra in 1966; and the Wits Golden Jubilee series of lectures on "Building and Design Economics" held under the joint auspices of the Council of Architectural Students and the Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects, in 1972.

A number of public lectures have also been given in the field of town and regional planning, notably that on "The Planning of the New Capital of Chandigarh", delivered by Professor N S Lamba, of the College of Architecture, Punjab University, Chandigarh, in 1972; that on "An Overall Landscape Master Plan for Johannesburg", delivered by Mr D Lovejoy, Vice-President of the International Federation of Landscape Architects,

in 1974; that on "Land Reclamation", delivered by Mr B Clouston, landscape planner, England, also in 1974; those on "The Cultural History of Man in Britain" and "Man, Time and History", delivered by Professor P Coltman of the Department of Regional Planning, University of Texas, Austin, USA, in 1975; that on "The Dangers of Delay in Planning Control and Development" delivered this year by Sir Desmond Heap, Past President of the Royal Town Planning Institute of Great Britain; that on "The Role of the City in the Third World" by Professor B Harris of the Department of City and Regional Planning, University of Pennsylvania, USA and that on "The Changing Role of the Planner in Britain", delivered by Mr J Boynton, President of the Royal Town Planning Institute of Great Britain, also this year.

In connection with the organisation and holding of public lectures mention must also be made of the inaugural addresses delivered by newly appointed incumbents of Chairs in the School of Architecture and Quantity Surveying and subsequently in the Faculty of Architecture, such addresses being features of the academic life of the University which in the case of all four departments of the Faculty of Architecture have been occasioned by extraordinarily large public audiences. The first of these addresses was given by Professor G E Pearse in 1922, his subject being "Civic Architecture", in which he stated his attitude to architecture and to architectural education. His successor, Professor J Fassler, did not deliver an inaugural address so his address in 1922 was followed only in August 1967 by Professor E W N Mallows's address on "Physical Planning, A Social Process"; in December 1967 by Professor D M Calderwood's address on "Education for the Construction Industry"; in June 1970 by Professor W D Howie's address on "Architectural Education"; in May 1975 by Professor C Walker's address on "A Philosophy of Quantity Surveying"; in August 1975 by Professor N N Patricios's address on "Urban Planning: Its Basic Aims"; and in August 1976 by Professor A d' A M Guedes's address on "Fragments from an Ironic Autobiography". With the exception of Professor G E Pearse's address which was published in the June 1922 issue of 'Building', all of these addresses have been recorded or published in brochure form and are available for reference in the University's archives.

The Faculty of Architecture has also contributed to the annual Careers Lectures which since 1964 have been organised and held on the campus by the Convocation of the University of the Witwatersrand for the information of Standard Nine and Standard Ten pupils of the schools in Johannesburg and on the Witwatersrand. These lectures involve all four disciplines in the Faculty and are given by the Heads of the Departments or their

deputies and by members of the four professions for the education and training of whose entrants the Faculty is responsible, the Faculty Secretary usually being in attendance to answer any queries with regard to the Faculty's requirements.

The Students' Role

As is self-evident in this account of the work and activities of the School and of the Faculty of Architecture of the University of the Witwatersrand, especially in their extra-mural context, the students' contribution thereto has always been a most generous and effective one and its importance over the years cannot be overestimated. For in the final analysis, it is largely the students who through their courageous effort to improve standards of performance and conduct during their years of education and training at Wits have made the Wits School and the Wits Faculty of Architecture the foremost educational centres of their kind in Southern Africa and, indeed, celebrated throughout the world. In this connection it is of special interest to note that as a corporate body in the University, namely, the Council of Architectural Students, they have themselves for many years contributed book prizes for presentation at the Faculty's annual prize-giving and exhibition of students' work.

In their doing so it is evident that their view has been and rightly remains consonant with that appropriately expressed by the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University, Dr G R Bozzoli, in his address at the annual prize-giving ceremony of the Faculty of Architecture held in the Dorothy Susskind Auditorium on 1 April 1977. On this occasion, which was the last of such occasions for Dr Bozzoli in his official capacity, because he retires from office at the end of 1977 after serving for nine years as one of the most distinguished and memorable Principals and Vice-Chancellors of Wits, he said, *inter alia*,

"One might ask why prizes are awarded and whether it is a good idea to award prizes at all. My own attitude is that it is very much worth while to reward quality, and particularly quality of labour and effort. I know that there are able students who coast along gaily, doing all the necessary things, and ultimately floating out of the University with the degree imprint on them. I know also that there are others whose natural intellectual gifts have been perhaps less generously bestowed, but who through sheer hard application and endeavour come out very well, and sufficiently well to win awards of the kind we are here to grant today. Fortunately, there are also some of the intellectually gifted who

put all they can into their university commitment - study, games, student leadership - these persons are the stars. I think that prizes definitely have a place in rewarding these two categories. But there is another reason for retaining a system of awarding prizes to students and graduates, and this is plain when one looks through the titles of the prizes. Names like Furner, Haddon, Burton, McIntosh recall the giants of the past and so we perpetuate their names in these prizes. Then titles like the Association of Quantity Surveyors, the Institute of Architects and of Town and Regional Planning, the Builders' Federation, the Brick Association - these are the interested parties and one likes to have them interested because without their interest and support the Faculty and the professions would suffer from a serious lack of interplay and co-operation. And lastly there are the prizes donated by our friends, inside the University and outside it, and these are greatly welcome because a university must have a sound body of friends, and the friends within the university are as important as the friends outside it."

It is hoped that such a view will always have a place in the minds and actions of the students of the Wits Faculty of Architecture. And it is hoped that despite the ever-growing pressure of work in their courses and of responsibility in their everyday lives as students, they will nevertheless again find time for such enterprises as they undertook during the Forties and Fifties in running a students' architectural journal, 'The Column', to reflect what they themselves are thinking and doing and also in organising and holding in the School of Architecture and on the campus lunch-hour and evening lectures by architects in Johannesburg and by members of the teaching staff of the Faculty of Architecture.

As far as student work and student attitudes of mind are concerned, it is felt by the present writer that this is neither the place nor the time to record the developments and changes that have taken place over the years in the School and subsequently in the Faculty of Architecture at Wits. But what is notable in this context is that except in the years of the radical change which was brought about by Rex Martienssen and his teaching at Wits from 1931 until his untimely death in 1942 - twelve revolutionary but highly constructive and significant years in the history of architectural education and development in South Africa - neither the School nor the Faculty of Architecture at Wits has been a nursery of revolution. We hear the word revolution often enough in our Schools of Architecture. The word comes easily to the tongue, it is easily bandied about and

revolutions of all sorts from the 'palace' variety to that of student groups are always being threatened. But a revolution should not be irresponsible and if we realised how difficult it is to have a real revolution, we might use the word far less. The notion of conflict, movement and change as a motivating force in the conduct and development of all of the four disciplines in the Faculty of Architecture, despite such persuasion to the contrary as may obtain today amongst some members of the teaching staff if not also amongst the students, is not peculiar or exclusively attributable to the present generation of teachers and students in the Faculty but will continue to be such a force only as long as ideas and the role of ideas are recognised, understood and used as the basis of historical change. It is to the great credit of the Wits School and the Wits Faculty of Architecture that this notion has in fact been the motivating force in the development of the curricula, syllabi, techniques and methods of teaching and examinations etc., and also in the education and training for which they have been solely responsible ever since they came into being.

It was with a profound and urgent sense of history and, indeed, also of destiny, that as the most remarkable and memorable teacher of architecture this country has produced and as a towering personality in the architectural profession of this country, Rex Martienssen addressed Professor G E Pearse in particular, and the gathering in general, at the fifteenth annual exhibition and prize-giving of the Wits School of Architecture in 1939 and said, *inter alia* :

"Those of us who saw the architectural courses being developed experienced something that can only exist once in the life of an institution. Changes were made to meet inadequacies as they arose, and the training was in no way cut and dried, but at the back of every move I can say today that you were inspired with only one objective : to equip men with the highest sense of responsibility towards their art. Today the younger architects (no longer so very young) can look back on a period of expansion and of exploration that has ultimately flowered into the School as we know it today. One recalls certain landmarks and influences. Our enthusiasm for the work of Baker and Lutyens. The drawing out in meticulous detail of the Italian Palazzi, the setting out of the Orders (which I note are still with us) The move up to Milner Park coincided with the appointment of Stanley Furner to the teaching staff of the School. Of his able and broad viewpoint the students of the Twenties should always be grateful. Earlier enthusiasms were reinforced by new discoveries. I think it was he who introduced into the School the famous and awe-inspiring

portfolios of "Monuments Antiques", who set up standards of clarity and honesty in architectural planning, and who directed attention to the masterpieces of Greek architecture To the students I would say : Your tradition is still a young one. It is safely established, but it cannot flourish without sustenance. Individual responsibility must go further than individual proficiency. There is a collective core in a School such as this which is as real as it is intangible. And there should be a corporate striving towards ideas which go beyond competitive success. . . . Even if you accuse me of uttering platitudes, I must urge you to make your five years of study as vigorous, as crowded and as enquiring as you possibly can. They are years into whose mood it is difficult to return once you have left for the field of responsible expression. I don't have to tell you that architects are always students - they do not finish their training at one specific point - but the days that are free of economic pressure, that can be wholeheartedly given up to experiment and to pure research are lamentably few. They are too few to be lightly dissipated, and I urge you to make them productive. . . . The pooling of resources, the criticism and collaboration that are the outcome of the disinterested attitude, and that are feasible in a school of preparation such as this must be the basis upon which the new outlook is to be founded. If the beginnings which we now see of this attitude in the School can prosper, then we have a real opportunity to see a profession that is not occupied solely with its own problems but with the wider responsibility of service to the community Architecture in its highest achievement is a reflection of the keenest intellects, and the student today is indeed fortunate to be able to avail himself of the teachings of the great initiators, Le Corbusier, Gropius, and Mies van der Rohe. Finally - preserve a sense of the meaning of the term "classic", but keep your thought independent and undulled by routine. Avoid complacency - for success quickly stagnates. Never relax your enthusiasm for your art. Be fearless in experiment (even in the face of lecturers) and keep always before you a vision of the purpose of architecture."

It was also with the same deep and pressing sense of history and of destiny that as Chairman of the Wits Students' Architectural Society, A A Pitt, who in later life was to become and is for the time being a Deputy Managing Director of LTA Ltd., one of the leading building and civil engineering construction financial companies in South Africa, wrote in "The Students' Forum" in the August 1949 issue of the South African Architectural Record

.... "It is inevitable that student work will show a certain lack of understanding in the use of architectural forms. This is inherent in its natural immaturity, and no doubt the pupils of Phideas used the Doric order in as inept a manner as the contemporary student sometimes uses the monopitch roof. Student work is always a reflection of one, or several, of the current trends in architectural thought. If some of the work of this School shows a lack of direction, it is surely because the world of architecture at large shows a similar uncertainty. In the years before the War, when the crystalline structure of Functionalism, or the exposition of an Organic Architecture, held out the bright hope of a supposedly infallible design Utopia, it was in many ways easier for the student to set himself an undeviating course. But in recent years, the feeling has grown that these doctrines are not in themselves sufficient. This is not due to doubts about their validity. It is simply because the initial exhilaration of revolutionary statement has expended itself, and we are left with the feeling that contemporary architectural thought has not yet achieved a mature philosophy. This uncertainty is clearly manifested in current architectural journals, in which, at one extreme, the champions of technical virtuosity regale us with foot-lamberts and decibels, and at the other, the philosophers bemuse us with Sharawaggi and New Empiricism. This same lack of direction is only too painfully evident in many of our local buildings. Since this condition prevails in the work of our architectural mentors, it is scarcely surprising that it manifests itself in student work. Nevertheless, this in no way absolves the student from striving for, or the School from fostering, a sense of discrimination. It is my opinion that throughout its history this School has, without resorting to the imposition of rigidly doctrinaire principles, succeeded in doing this. But if any moral is to be drawn.... it is that always, and especially at the present time, it should be the constant task of student and lecturer alike, carefully to distinguish the spurious from the significant in architectural design".

It is, above all, this real and urgent sense of history and of destiny with which the foregoing statements by R D Martienssen and A A Pitt are imbued, that gives the architectural thought which has emanated from the School and the Faculty of Architecture at Wits, particularly in the Thirties and Forties, its special claim to intellectual distinction.

Links with the Professions

As a matter of educational policy throughout the years of the University's existence, the

School of Architecture and Quantity Surveying, as a constituent department of the Faculty of Engineering and, thereafter, the Faculty of Architecture, since its inception in 1940, have always maintained close links with the professions as corporate bodies, namely, the Institute of South African Architects, the Association of South African Quantity Surveyors, the South African Institute of Building and the South African Institute of Town and Regional Planning. Indeed, the Heads of the Departments in the Faculty as also the members of the teaching staff have greatly contributed to these institutions by actively participating in their affairs and also by conducting their affairs as office bearers. In this connection it is worth noting that in the case of the four professional bodies here referred to, the past and present members of the teaching staff at the University of the Witwatersrand who have served these bodies as their chief office bearers are as follows :

President of the Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects

1930	G E	Pearse
1933	A S	Furner
1939	R D	Martiessen
1946	J	Fassler
1948	W D	Howie
1954	C M	Sinclair
1957	D M	Calderwood
1963	C M	Sinclair
1971	M D	Lennard

President-in-Chief of the Institute of South African Architects

1957	C M	Sinclair
1959	G P	Quail
1965	D M	Calderwood
1968	C	Walker
1975	M D	Lennard

President of the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors

1955	G P	Quail
1963	N R	Law
1967	C	Walker

President of the South African Institute of Building

1973	D M	Calderwood
1974	L J	Cohen
1975	T J	Olivier