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THE SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTURAL RECORD

THE JOURNAL OF THE TRANSVAAL, NATAL AND ORANGE FREE STATE PROVINCIAL INSTITUTES OF SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTS AND THE CHAPTER OF SOUTH AFRICAN QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

XV

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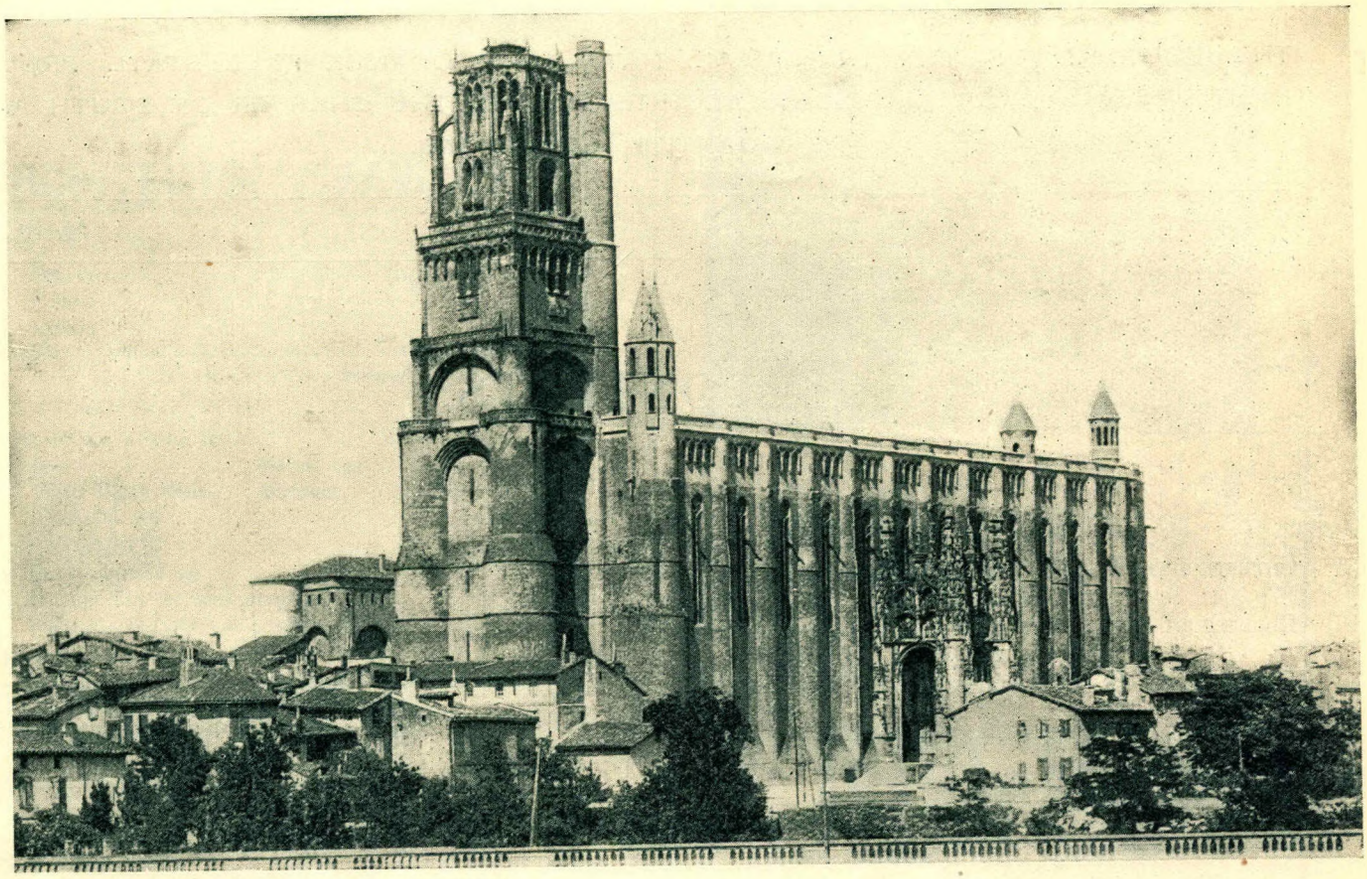


Albi Cathedral, Southern France.
erected c. 1282.
(see page 17).

THE SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTURAL RECORD

Vol. XIII. No. 57. MARCH, 1930.

COMPETITIONS, EXPERTS AND CITY COUNCILLORS.

The controversy over the Johannesburg Public Library has now been settled and it is interesting to record some of the circumstances which led up to this settlement and incidentally to comment upon the subject of competitions generally.

The City Council after a long and protracted controversy and in spite of a considerable amount of opposition from various public bodies selected a site, the wisdom of which selection only the future can decide. They then decided to inaugurate a competition for a new Library building which, we are informed, is also to include a large scientific and technological museum. The next step was to approach the Royal Institute of British Architects and invite them to submit the names of two or three experienced architects from which one could be selected to advise them and assess the competition.

The names submitted were Mr. H. V. Lanchester, Mr. A. Dunbar Smith and Mr. H. V. Ashley.

The Central Council of the South African Institute of Architects, representative of the four provinces of the Union, which were solidly behind them in this matter, protested against this action of the City Council, urging that there were in South Africa architects eminently qualified to render all the advice and assistance required and pointing out that although the South African Institute of Architects, which is affiliated with the Royal Institute of British Architects, had not been consulted in this matter, the impression might prevail in England that the negotiations between the City Council and the R.I.B.A. had been prompted by the South African Institute. Later we were informed that the City Council was recommended by its Library Committee "to accept the offer of Mr. E. Vincent Harris, C.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., stipulating for a fee of 2,500 guineas to pay one visit to Johannesburg (including travelling and personal expenses) to advise the Council on the schedule of accommodation, conditions of competition and also to assess the competition in England."

The Central Council of the Institute of Architects once again protested, pointing out the advantages of employing a South African architect as assessor mainly on the grounds that he would have personal first hand knowledge of local and climatic conditions and that a valuable stimulus would thereby be given to South African architecture.

This protest was followed by a memorandum submitted to the Library Committee as follows:

The Central Council of the Institute of South African Architects much appreciates the City Council's decision to promote a competition among South African architects with the object of obtaining a design for the new City Library which, in planning and conception, will be a credit to South African architecture and adequately meet all the demands of the community it serves.

The Institute is most anxious to assist the City Council to obtain its objective, and welcomes this opportunity of collaborating with the Library Committee to this end.

Strong representations to the Central Council indicate that the architects of the Union are very desirous that the control of such an important competition shall be in South African hands, and that the conception of the approved design shall be based upon the architectural traditions of the country of which eminent overseas visitors have said we can justifiably be proud.

The Central Council, nevertheless, whilst confident that the architects of the Union are capable of producing designs for the new Library which would compare favourably with designs submitted by a like number of architects anywhere in the world, yet is of the opinion that it would be in the City Council's best interests to incorporate in the schedule of requirements such conditions as may be recommended by any overseas architect who has specialised in modern library design.

It is realised that to send a South African assessor overseas personally to investigate modern library developments, may be at the expense of much valuable time, but, on the other hand, such an assessor, if sent overseas, could in a very short time successfully collaborate with one or more authorities on library design in the framing of the correct conditions of competition.

(N.B.—The adoption of this method will save considerable time to the City Council as against the proposal that Mr. Vincent Harris should visit Johannesburg, study local conditions, and then return to England for the purposes of receiving the competitive designs, answering competitors' queries, finally assessing the designs, and then returning them to South Africa).

It is the opinion of a considerable number of South African architects that an assessor from the northern hemisphere cannot be expected as successfully to adjudicate on designs most suitable for South Africa, as a South African architect. It is primarily for this reason that the following proposals are earnestly submitted:

(1) That the City Council appoint a South African assessor approved by the Institute. (The Institute will, if desired, gladly assist the City Council in such appointment).

(2) That the assessor so appointed be instructed to proceed overseas, after full consultation with the Library Committee, to confer with Mr. Vincent Harris and any other authorities deemed necessary, in the complete preparation of the conditions of competition so as to secure for the Johannesburg Library the most modern specialised features applicable to Johannesburg.

(3) That the amount of the assessor's fees under this proposal would probably be less than one-half the amount involved, should an overseas adviser-assessor be invited to visit South Africa.

(N.B.—In actual fact, what is required from the overseas advisers is the inclusion in the Johannesburg conditions of competition of those ideas, applicable to Johannesburg, which have been found to be best in modern library construction elsewhere).

A competition organised on these lines will, it is submitted with the utmost confidence, prove entirely satisfactory to the City Council and will be a most helpful stimulus to and recognition of South African architecture."

One of the points made was further emphasised in a letter to the City Council, namely, "that the appointment of an assessor chiefly experienced with the requirements of the cramped cities of the Northern Hemisphere, will not be in the best interests of Johannesburg. If this appointment is confirmed by the full City Council, then South African architects may feel compelled to study the English assessor's previous work and to model their designs on what is most likely to appeal to him. In other words, South African architectural traditions, and much that is best in South African architecture, will necessarily occupy a secondary place in the designs submitted if they are to be judged by an English assessor."

In spite of these protests we are now informed that the appointment of Mr. Harris has been decided upon.

We should like to know the real reason for this decision and why, in the first instance, the recommendations of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the leading professional body in the British Empire, were turned down.

Mr. H. V. Lanchester, V.P.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.B.A., President of the South Eastern Society of Architects, has not only designed and carried out many very important buildings in England, but has contributed many papers before the R.I.B.A. In collaboration with Captain T. A. Lodge, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I., he has recently designed the new University Buildings, at Leeds, in which is embodied one of the largest modern libraries in England.

The same firm has just been commissioned to erect the new Birmingham Hospital Centre, at the cost of £1,000,000. Of recent years Mr. Lanchester has spent a good deal of time in India on behalf of the Government and has thus a first hand knowledge of climatic conditions somewhat similar to our own. He is now engaged on the erection of a palace for one of the ruling princes, running into millions.

Mr. A. Dunbar Smith, F.R.I.B.A., who, with Mr. Cecil Brewer, has designed the famous National Museum of Wales, at Cardiff, in connection with which the firm carried out an extensive tour of Europe and America studying Museum and other similar public buildings. Mr. Brewer contributed a series of important articles on these buildings to the R.I.B.A.

Mr. Ashley, Vice-President R.I.B.A., F.R.I.B.A., has, with Mr. F. Winton Newman, erected many important buildings, including libraries, in England.

In discussing the question with the representatives of the South African Institute, the main argument put forward by the City Council appears to have been that the building of libraries was such a specialised matter that it was necessary to obtain the services of, in their opinion, the leading expert on the subject in England. It will be interesting to discover later what new developments have taken place recently in library planning and equipment which are not already known to architects in this country.

What may be suitable in a large provincial city in England is hardly likely to be suitable in a city like Johannesburg, and what an English Architect would seek for in America is something very different to that sought for by a South African architect.

The question of architectural competitions has always been one of our most serious problems, one to which the architectural profession has devoted a great deal of time and thought in order that the best results may be obtained. One wonders whether they are really worth while.

Do the results of our competitions in South Africa, more particularly those which have been adjudicated by overseas assessors, justify them ? Let us consider for a moment what they really mean. At least fifty to one hundred competitors enter for a large competition. The assessor is usually, as in this instance, forced upon them whether they like it or not. What are they to do ?

Are they to follow the dictates of their training and experience in this country and treat the matter logically with due regard to the underlying principles governing planning and design and more particularly with due regard to our climatic conditions which govern these principles, or are they to pander to the whims and fancies of an assessor, who may or may not be following in the footsteps of assessors in competitions for the past thirty years, the results of which have been so deplorable. It is almost as good as taking a ticket in the Calcutta or Delagoa Bay sweep.

It is for that reason that so few of our leading architects can be induced to enter for a competition. It certainly gives the younger man an opportunity, but even he cannot be expected to give of his best if an overseas assessor is appointed, brought up in the traditions of Northern Europe and naturally largely influenced by them.

Surely it would be better if the assessor were appointed by the competitors themselves and thus he would have the full confidence of the competitors.

Even at that late hour it might be suggested that a local architect should be appointed to act with Mr. Harris, but it is most essential that he should have the confidence of the competitors.

We are informed that our City Councillors are hard headed business men. Do they realise what is entailed in a competition. Assuming there are one hundred competitors entering for a competition for a building to cost £200,000.

Each of these competitors, under the absurd conditions usually imposed upon them, has to undertake a work which in the normal course of their practice would be equivalent to a fee of at least one and a half per cent. of the total cost. This means that work to the value of £300,000 has to be undertaken.

At the very least an expenditure of £10,000 to £20,000 is involved. Is it any wonder that the leading and therefore usually the busiest practitioners do not care to embark upon such a venture unless, as I have said, they have the fullest confidence in their assessor.

We have heard a great deal lately about experts and specialists in connection with this competition. It might be as well to consider this question. An expert is defined either as "one who is expert or has gained skill from experience," or "one whose special knowledge or skill causes him to be regarded as an authority, a specialist."

A specialist is defined as "one who specially or exclusively studies one subject or one particular branch of a subject."

With these generally accepted definitions before us the question naturally arises: Is a man who has won a competition and has been commissioned to tour America to study the latest developments in library planning necessarily an expert ?

For that matter can a man who has been commissioned to erect any type of building and is then sent to study similar buildings in other countries claim to be an expert ? In each case the answer would be in the affirmative if he had successfully put the knowledge thus gained into practice and was thoroughly conversant with the climatic factors which govern his design.

Everything depends on the man, on his training, his scholastic attainments, and whether he can approach a subject without a definite bias. One can quote many instances of failure in this respect, and again one can quote many more instances of success in which the expert has not been called in.

When the Government of the Transvaal decided to erect costly buildings in Pretoria, they did not appoint a man who was an expert in Government buildings. They selected a man who, by his scholarly attainments, his reputation as an Architect and his experience of the climatic conditions in this country, they considered most suitable. The result was, on the whole, eminently successful.

For the design of the new Johannesburg Railway Station, a type of building calling for far more technical knowledge than a public library, South African Architects have been appointed. We sincerely hope and we firmly believe that this building will rank amongst the finest architectural achievements of this city.

We all know the disastrous results which occured in Durban in connection with the erection of the grain elevators, due to the fact that the overseas expert was not aware of the local conditions, thus involving a loss of a quarter of a million. At the same time a great graving dock was being erected by South African engineers in close proximity which, as a result of their expert knowledge of our local conditions, was an unqualified success.

We are informed in the press that one of our City Councillors stated that they were not so much concerned with the outside of the building as the inside working.

What a statement to make and how pathetic if it is true. Our public buildings which are seen more often from the outside than the inside are the real reflection of our standard of taste. Granted that the planning must and does come first, the external treatment of the building runs it a close second.

And it is in the selection of a design that this fact cannot be entirely overlooked. For that reason it is most essential that one of the most important factors governing Architectural design—the question of climatic conditions—should be thoroughly appreciated and understood. We have in this country a wonderful climate in which the qualities of breadth, simplicity and shadow values are of the utmost importance. Our sunshine imposes conditions upon us which are not and never can be experienced in Northern Europe. What, therefore, is the unfortunate competitor to do under the circumstances? If he follows his own dictates and appreciates and applies these qualities he is likely to be a loser. If he follows Northern European traditions he may again lose by it. One can instance more than one previous competition adjudicated by overseas assessors in which our climatic factors have been disregarded.

Referring to the inner working of a public library, what is it, we should like to know, that is so highly technical.

The first thing to be decided upon is the type of library which is required. Is it to be a circulating library as suggested by two eminent librarians, who recently visited Johannesburg? Is it to be purely a reference library as is, we understand, the new Manchester library, or is it to be a combined reference and lending library as at present, which may also house important scientific and technical collections? These are questions that must be decided upon locally and for that reason should be considered most carefully by all sections of the public likely to be concerned.

Assuming the present system is adopted, what are the highly scientific requirements for which only an overseas assessor can advise?

They amount to a few primary elements, known to any qualified practitioner, which can be arranged in a dozen different ways and largely influenced by the particular bias of the librarian in charge.

It is a well known fact that the most successfully planned libraries are those in which a skilful architect has worked in the closest conjunction with a librarian, who has made a close study of his subject and his clientele.

The two all important questions are the storage of the books and efficient yet economical control. With regard to the former there is a great divergence of opinion, some authorities preferring the horizontal as against the vertical arrangement. With regard to the latter a well known saying holds good in the case of libraries: "A building is not well planned if it cannot be economically run," and it is that factor which is all important in the planning of a library.

As for the fitments of a library these have been tabulated and brought up to date and published as recently as the end of last year. All this data is available in Johannesburg and not even a visit to America will provide the assessor or the competitors with anything new in this respect. Whatever suits the present librarian of any library is not likely to appeal to his successor and whatever appeals to an overseas assessor is hardly like to appeal to local competitors unless it is eminently suitable to our climate.

In what has been written there is no intention of belittling the capabilities of Mr. Vincent Harris as an architect. His work is well-known and appreciated by many of us.

It is the principle of employing overseas Architects to which South African Architects are opposed.

One feels that every encouragement should be given to local Architects and particularly to the younger Architects in this country, who are keenly anxious to develop their own traditions. Many of them have spent large sums of money on education and experience overseas and have travelled extensively in the search of knowledge only to find when an overseas assessor is appointed that they are up against old conservative traditions or prejudices.

Our City Councillors, mostly overseas men, are naturally prejudiced and it is the duty of the South African Institute of Architects to break down that prejudice as soon as possible. We feel confident that our newly established Institute will work to that end and see to it that, in the future, assessors appointed should meet with the whole hearted approval of the competitors, which they have rarely done in the past.

ROODEPOORT-MARAISBURG HOSPITAL

ASSESSORS REPORT ON COMPETITIVE DESIGNS.

This competition, which was open to registered Architects in South Africa, is interesting as being the first competition to be held since the Government's decision that in future this work, which of recent years has been carried out by the Public Works Department, shall be done by private practitioners.

Thirty-three designs were submitted, the assessor being Mr. J. S. Cleland, F.R.I.B.A.

The awards were as follows :—

1. Messrs. Cowin, Powers and Ellis, Johannesburg.
2. Messrs. Cowin, Powers and Ellis, Durban.
3. Messrs. Siemerink and Walker, Port Elizabeth.

The assessors' report is as follows :—

I have the honour to state that the thirty-three competitive Designs submitted for the above, together with the accompanying reports have been carefully examined and, after full consideration of the various points of detail of each design, I beg to advise that I place the designs in order of merit as follows :—

First Design No. 13
Second ,, No. 14
Third ,, No. 10

None of the Competitors have altogether realised the problem. A good number have planned on too elaborate and costly lines for a small hospital and many are too disconnected and scattered in their arrangements which would entail costly and inconvenient administration.

The proposals for future extension in most cases are not all they might be and take the form of extension or lengthening of wards, or separate blocks. The first would not give the separate wards that would be required as the hospital grows for medical and surgical patients and the second would again entail cost and inconvenience in administration.

Certain of the Competitors have very fair schemes if the Northern aspect had been to the front with the verandahs on that side, but as it is the patients face on to the Kitchen and Native Hospital which is not an ideal arrangement.

The First Design, No. 13.—Provides for a simple workable arrangement with well arranged European ward sections with free outlook. Main Kitchen and Operating Theatre not badly placed for all needs and Operating Theatre conveniently arranged so that Native patients are not brought into the centre of the main hospital. Lavatories, etc., are convenient and well ventilated.

Nurses Home and Native Section are simple and convenient.

The Nurses Home and Native Section could with advantage be brought closer to the main hospital and there are other matters of detail for consideration with this scheme as with all the schemes.

Second Design, No. 14.—Also provides for a well arranged European Ward Sections with clear outlook. Lavatories well placed and ventilated. Operating Theatre and main Kitchen suitably arranged for service. Nurses Home and Native Section on sensible lines. The Main Kitchen is a little close to the Entrance and the remarks as to siting of the Nurses Home and Native Section and matters of detail apply as for No. 13.

Third Design, No. 10.—I have found the greatest difficulty in assessing the third premium and have placed this design for the simple lines of the plan and well arranged European Ward Section with well lighted Entrance and Corridors, good ventilation to Lavatories, etc.

The Nurses Home and Native Section are on good lines. Nurses Home a little elaborate.

Of the other designs :—

Design No. 1.—(Size of drawings wrong size, 48in. x 36in.). This scheme is planned with main Entrance Offices, Main Kitchen and Nurses Home in the same block with Nurses bedrooms on first floor and staircase to same in main Entrance. The Ward block is a single storey building on fair lines. The Native Ward block is on somewhat full lines with the native servants accommodated on the first floor—a very undesirable arrangement. The scheme is too elaborately planned and is not considered to be on suitable lines for a small hospital. Future extension is not indicated.

Design No. 2.—The main principles of the scheme are right but it has been planned on too elaborate and costly lines and access to the European Wards from the main entrance is somewhat disconnected with a big length of corridor. The Lavatories of European Ward block are not very conveniently placed. Nurses Home is suitable but elaborate. Future extension as shown would only add to the length of corridors and difficulty of Administration.

Design No. 3.—Scheme too elaborate and disconnected with long open corridors and wrong aspect for verandahs. Only access to European Wards for patients is across the Verandah. Nurses Home is an elaborate two storey block. Scheme not at all suitable for a small hospital.

Design No. 4.—A simple arrangement, but certain patients rooms only have South light, and long internal corridor is not lighted. All traffic to Operating Theatre is through male section and the same would apply with future extension. More verandah is provided than necessary to the Ward block and to the Nurses Home. Native section is good.

Design No. 5.—This scheme is altogether too disconnected with access between the different blocks by open corridors which would be impossible in bad weather. Nurses Home and Native Hospital are too elaborately planned. European patients look on to the Native section, Kitchen, etc. Scheme inconvenient and costly. Covered ways and contingencies amount to £1,900 and Tower also would be expensive.

Design No. 6.—Not on bad lines but open Corridors unsuitable and there is some 364 feet of Corridor in main building. Lavatories not as open to the air as they might be. Sluice rooms too small. Staff lavatories unduly large, Native Hospital faces West and only has 4 ft. Corridor. Lavatories not convenient. Nurses Home not good aspect and Verandahs badly placed. Future extension as separate blocks would not be convenient. Scheme generally a little too elaborate and costly.

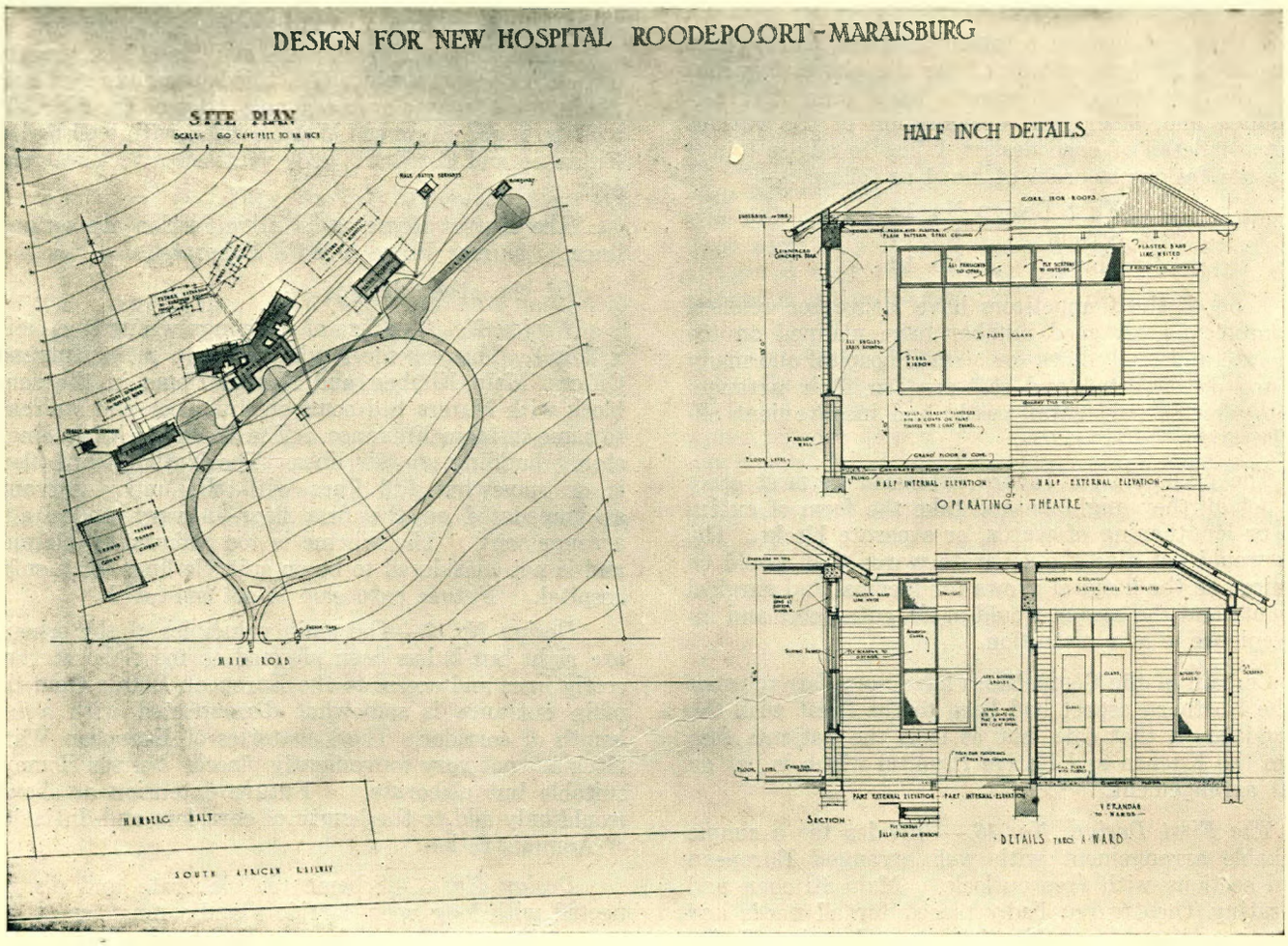
Design No. 7.—Main European Wards and Verandahs have wrong aspect. Private Wards a good distance from Ablution. Main entrance at side would mean all traffic past Women's Wards. Native Hospital and Nurses Home somewhat elaborate.

Design No. 8.—Scheme planned on somewhat elaborate lines and Sun Room (on South) and front Verandahs and unduly large staff lavatories add to cost. Main European Wards Verandahs not best aspect and private wards wrong aspect. Nurses Home and also Native quarters could have been on simpler lines.

Design No. 9.—Scheme very disconnected with open Corridors. Verandahs to the South with corridor between same and the Private Wards is not good. Nurses Home and Native Hospital expensively planned.

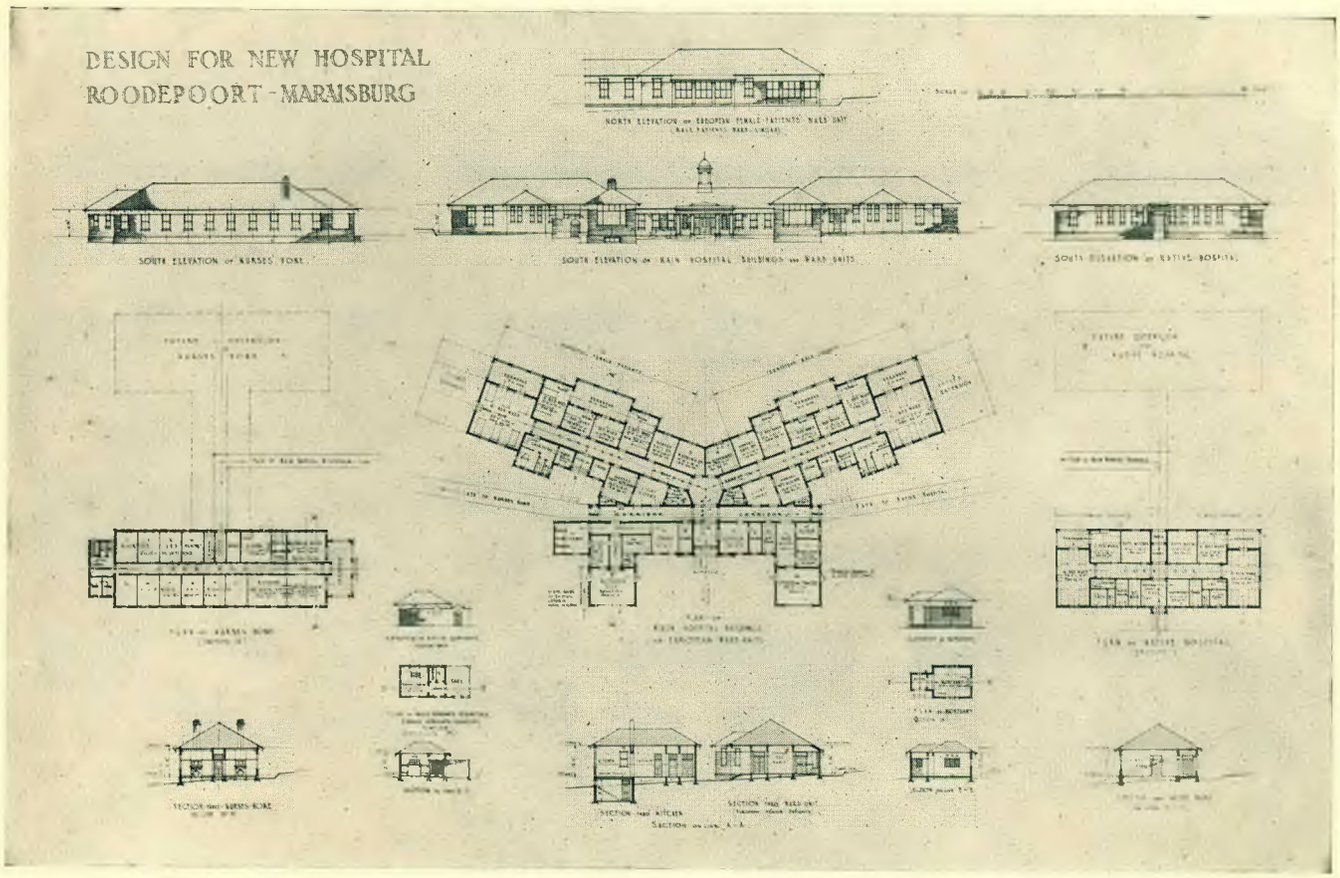
Design No. 11.—European Section overlooks Kitchen and Native Hospital. The arrangement is on straightforward lines but is somewhat cramped with narrow corridors and main European Wards and private wards wrong shape. Nurses Home and Native Section on simple lines, but the latter rather cramped in parts.

Design No. 12.—Scheme on very fair lines, but a little expensively planned with Doctors Room and Waiting Room not asked for. A good deal of corridor and Nurses bedrooms on first floor (two storey buildings are



First Premiated Design.

Messrs. Cowin, Powers & Ellis, Johannesburg.



First Premiated Design.

Messrs. Cowin, Powers & Ellis, Johannesburg.

more expensive than single storey), with Nurses Bathrooms on ground floor. Native quarters adjacent to main building would not, it is thought, be very desirable. Native Hospital on good lines, but a little expensive and Native patients access to Operating Theatre through European ward section not good.

Design No. 15.—On simple lines, but Main European Wards wrong aspect, and one side Verandahs overlook Trades Entrance to Kitchen, Duty Kitchens and Rooms not in best position. Future extension to main block not indicated. Nurses Home right, but would be cold in Winter. Native Hospital somewhat elongated and very exposed for bad weather.

Design No. 16.—This scheme is on altogether too elaborate and disconnected lines with a great length of corridor and would be costly and inconvenient.

Design No. 17.—With this scheme Europeans overlook Native Section and Kitchen. Access to Operating Theatre from Native Section not best arrangement. Future extension would give a dead wall to the main wards. Corridors rather long. Nurses Home two storey would be costly. Native Section access would be very exposed in bad weather.

Design No. 18.—A very fair scheme, but Europeans overlook Natives and Kitchen and rather a lot of costly corridors approximately 348 feet. Nurses Home and Native section suitable. Scheme a little too costly.

Design No. 19.—Scheme altogether too elaborate and disconnected with great Entrance Hall.

Design No. 20.—Scheme too elaborate and costly for small hospital with great Entrance Hall.

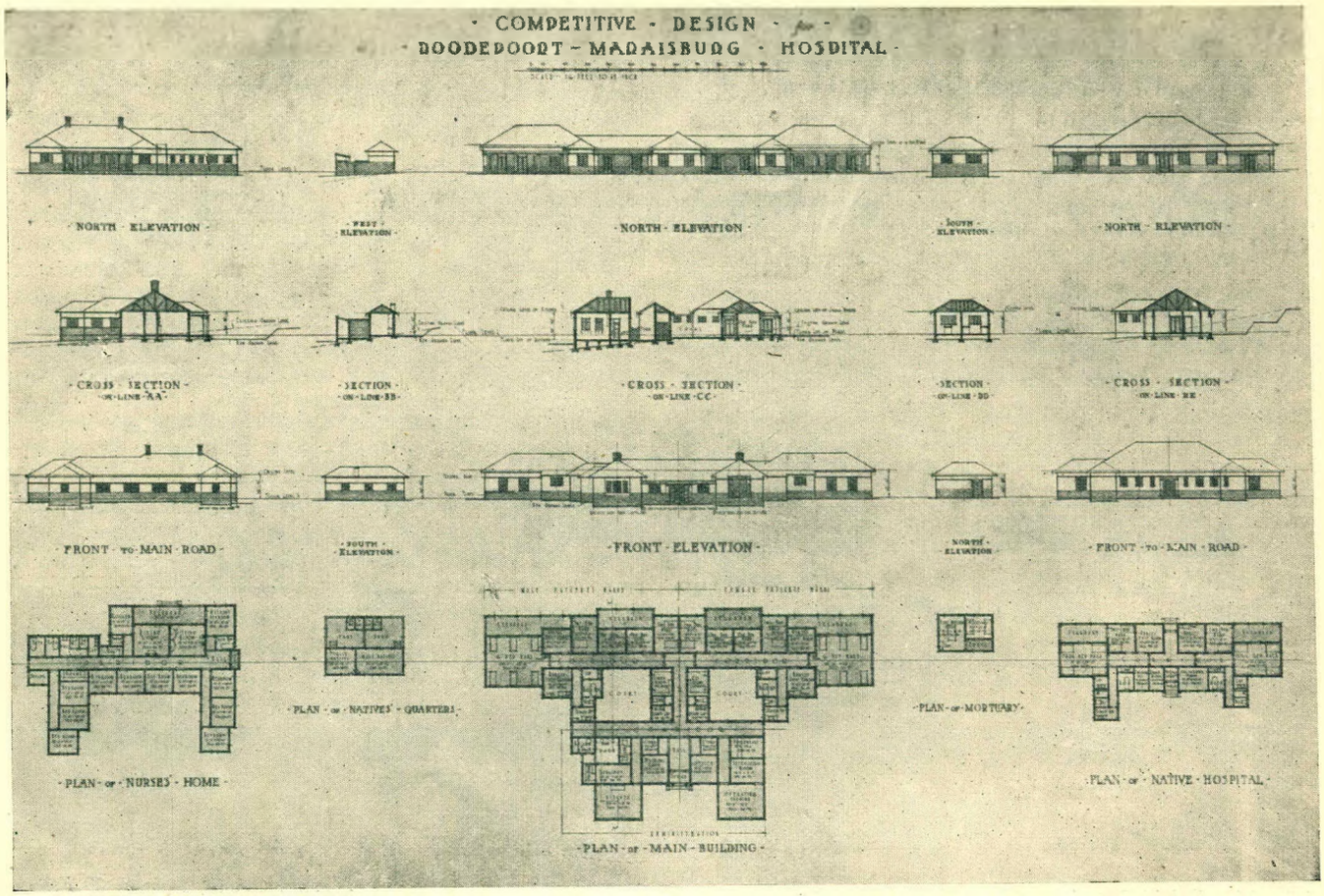
Design No. 21.—Scheme on good lines, but Ward Verandahs overlook Native Section and Kitchen. The whole a little elaborately planned with large lavatory accommodation. Nurses Home and Native Section a little expensive. Would have been a very fair scheme with aspect to the front and Verandahs reversed.

Design No. 22.—Scheme on fair lines, but again with ward Verandahs overlooking Kitchen section and Native servants quarters. A good deal of covered way.

Design No. 23.—Fair Scheme, but too elaborate with separate Verandahs and Verandahs both sides Main Wards. Entrance Hall rather large. Native section similarly elaborate and Nurses Home two storey which would be costly. Scheme too costly for small hospital.

Design No. 24.—Scheme too disconnected and costly with long inconvenient corridors and not correct ward aspect. Access to private wards through main wards bad. Not suitable scheme for small hospital.

Design No. 25.—Scheme on altogether too lavish lines with large Entrance Hall, etc., expensive excavation and retaining walls and Nurses Home not satisfactory in Main Hospital. Competitor himself states that "reductions can no doubt be effected."



Second Premiated Design.

Messrs. Cowin, Powers & Ellis, Durban.

Design No. 26.—Scheme too strung out with long costly corridors and Verandahs across the corridors from wards. Verandahs wrong aspect. Kitchen and Operating Theatres too far away from patients sections. The competitor states "that economies could be made in the corridors."

Design No. 27.—Scheme on altogether too elaborate and expensive lines with long expensive and inconvenient corridors, etc.

Design No. 28.—Scheme too extended and elaborate with long corridors and Nurses Home part of main Hospital. Double corridor in Administration section very unnecessary and costly.

Design No. 29.—Drawing not sent in on stretcher. Scheme quite unsuitable with no proper access to wards except along Verandahs and Ventilation not all it might be.

Design No. 30.—Not a bad scheme, but European Section overlooks Trades Entrance, Kitchen and Native Hospital. A little elaborate with approximately 428 feet of corridors.

Design No. 31.—Scheme too disconnected and inconvenient with long covered ways approximately 500 feet, which would be difficult in bad weather. Arrangement generally somewhat costly.

Design No. 32.—Plan on simple lines, but main Corridor would be dark, and Kitchen bad for service. Female European Wards look on to Native Hospital. Verandahs round large wards not good and certain wards not right aspect. No report was received with this scheme.

Design No. 33.—Scheme provides for good ward blocks, but somewhat disconnected with long open corridors which would be inconvenient in bad weather and for supervision. Nurses Home a little elaborate.

J. S. CLELAND,
Assessor.

24/12/1929.

REVIEW AND CRITICISM.

A careful study of the Conditions of Competition and the site plan make it clear that the competitors were faced with a very knotty problem.

The site which lies to the north of the railway line at Hamberg Halt has a fairly steep slope from North to South. The view to the South and South East is attractive, the outlook to the North being up the hillside. The contours run diagonally across the site from West to East.

The only approach is from the Main road on the Southern boundary.

The main requirements were as follows:—

Administrative Section;
Main Kitchen;
Wards for European Male Patients;
Wards for European Female Patients;
Operating Theatre
Native Hospital (a separate building) with wards for Male and Female patients;
Nurses Home;
Native Servants Quarters.

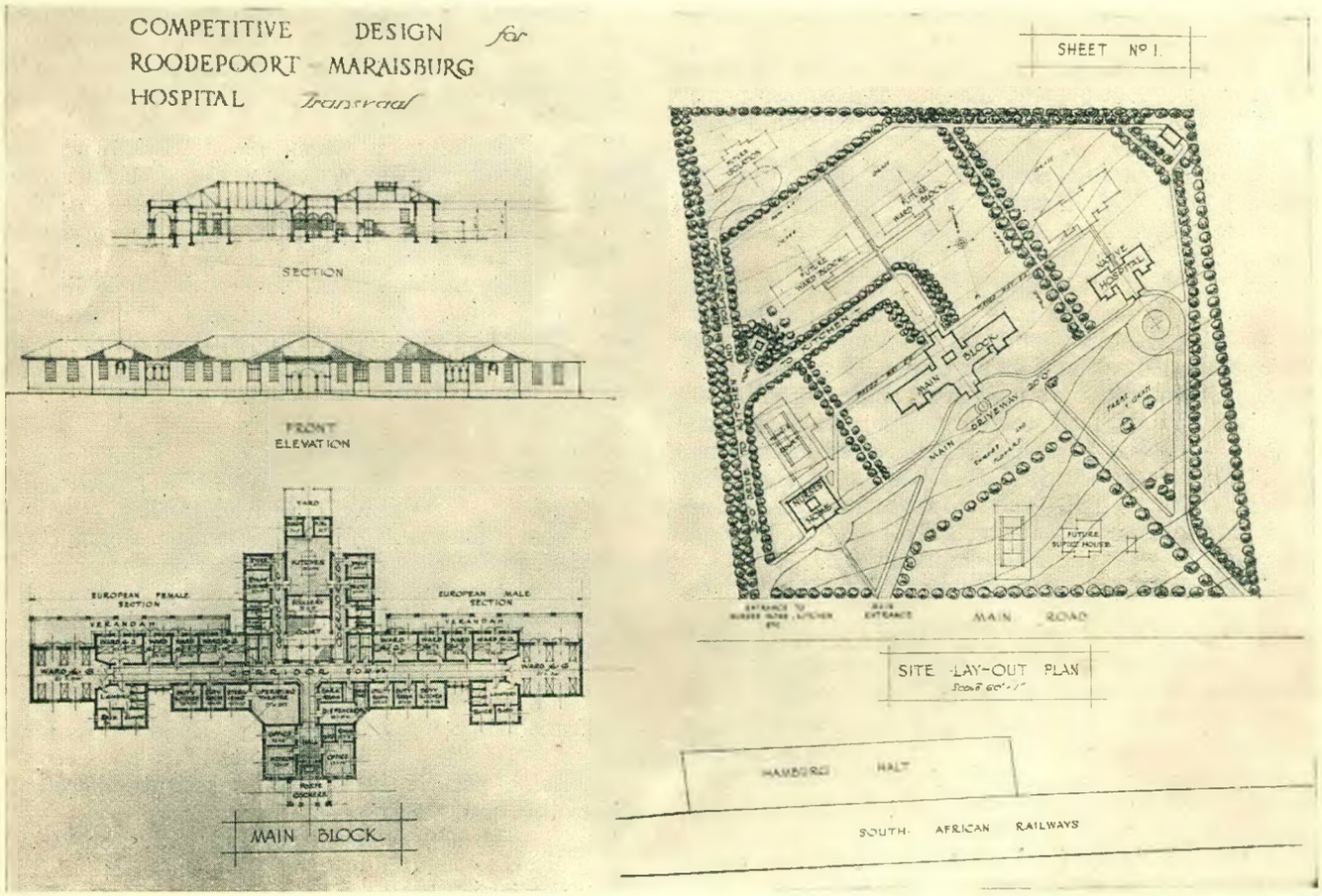
The Main Kitchen had to serve both European and Native hospital and, presumably, the Nurses Home. The Operating Theatre had to serve both European and Native Hospitals and "should have South lighting." It was suggested that "the scheme should be planned on extensive lines so that all sections could be extended from time to time as desired without interfering, in any way, with the convenience of the rest of the Hospital," and further that "the most desirable main aspect for Patients' rooms is North. Good broad verandahs should be provided to Patients' rooms, but it is desirable to leave one window side of the large wards unobstructed to light and air."

The cost, including drainage, heating, hot and co'd water, electric light and bells, equipment, ventilation and fencing, was to be £14,000. It will be seen from the foregoing that it was no easy problem, the competitors being faced with a very awkward site and a very limited sum of money and it would be interesting to know what such a hospital, under similar circumstances, would have cost if carried out by the Government.

Future extensions had to be considered hence competitors had to decide whether to adopt a fairly open or compact scheme. It seems obvious, however, that the wards, both European and Native should be arranged on the upper or Northern portion of the site and the Administration and Kitchen as centrally as possible on the South, where they could be conveniently served from the Main road. This obviates taking service roads past the wards and leaves a large area open for layout and future extension to the North.

The Native Hospital, being a separate building, would naturally be placed on one side and the Nurses Home on the other, so arranged that they too could be conveniently served from the Main road and the Kitchen. The Operating Theatre having to serve both European and Native Hospitals and requiring South light would necessarily be arranged on that side of the central block, most convenient to the Native hospital.

Further the contours are such that in order to avoid great expense in levelling or arranging the buildings on different levels with steep communications, they would best be arranged diagonally on the site following the contours.



Third Premiated Design.

Messrs. Siemerink, Walker & Lane, Port Elizabeth.

The majority of competitors placed the Kitchen to the North of the European wards thus, to a large extent destroying the outlook from these wards.

It was not possible in the hurried survey that was made to study detail hence the main elements only have been considered in the following criticisms.

The authors of the winning design (No. 13) have evidently considered the question of cost as much as possible. The plan is compact consisting of a central block which contains the Administrative Section, Kitchen and Operating Theatre on the South and, the European wards on the North. The arrangement of services from Kitchen and Operating Theatre is questionable as these have to cross the main entrance hall.

The Nurses Home on the West balances the Native Hospital on the East, each of these buildings being single storied. The planning of the Nurses Home is not altogether satisfactory consisting as it does of a long passage, a continuation of the entrance hall, with rooms opening off both sides and bathrooms, etc., at the end.

A little more interest might be given to this building, more especially as it is the one permanent residential building on the site.

The elevations group up fairly well, though the architectural treatment of the entrance is somewhat forced.

The design placed second (No. 14) has a similar general arrangement to the first premiated design. The central block is opened up by the introduction of two large internal courts, which might, of course, be used for service, otherwise the same criticisms of No. 13 apply with regard to service from Kitchen and Operating Theatre. The plan of the Nurses Home is more interesting, but the arrangement of its kitchen and service is questionable.

The third premiated design (No. 10) also consists of a compact central block balanced by the Nurses Home and Native Hospital on either side and with a small open court in the centre of the central block. The arrangement of the Kitchen on the North is not satisfactory as the service has to be taken round the Nurses Home on the Western boundary and cuts across the view from the European Female wards. The Operating Theatre is awkwardly arranged in an angle of the building at the junction of all services and service to it from the Native Hospital necessitates native patients being taken along the service corridor from the Kitchen and across the entrance hall. The Nurses Home and Native Hospital are placed at some distance from the central block, which is a questionable arrangement.

Of the remaining designs the following were of interest :—

No. 2.—In this design the Administration and Kitchen are placed in the central block with Nurses Home and Native Hospital on either side. The European wards to the North are linked up by two covered ways on either side of an open court, the Operating Theatre being arranged off the eastern covered way. The main block is somewhat muddled in plan, the European wards are well planned and the service from Native Hospital to Operating Theatre is conveniently arranged.

No. 6.—The general arrangement of this scheme has much to recommend it. The central block consists of the Administration (centrally placed) Kitchen and Operating Theatre on the South, with a link from each of these to the European wards on the North, thus forming two large open courts. Thus direct service from Kitchen and Operating Theatre to the wards is possible without cutting across the entrance hall. The Native Hospital and Nurses Home are arranged on the West and East respectively and would have been better placed if reversed. The orientation of each of these blocks is not satisfactory, but could quite conveniently be made so.

No. 7.—Another fairly satisfactory solution with Kitchen, Operating Theatre (centrally placed) and Administration on the South of the main block which also includes the European wards. The Native Hospital and Nurses Home are placed East and West respectively. The planning of the latter is good.

No. 12.—In this scheme, which also has much to recommend it, the main block consists of a somewhat deeply recessed central portion with Nurses Home and Kitchen flanking it. The European wards are to the North linked up with two covered ways, thus forming a central court on the North side of which the Operating Theatre is placed. The European wards are served by a long and not very well lit corridor. The Native Hospital is to the East.

No. 25.—An interesting but expensive scheme in which advantage is taken of the slope to place the service entrance, Kitchen and Nurses Home at a lower level approached from the South and the European Hospital and Administration over, approached from the North. The Native Hospital is on the West, approached from the upper level.

No. 27.—The arrangement of the various units is well considered in this scheme although somewhat scattered. The central entrance, a large corridor hall, is flanked by the Administration on the West and the Kitchen on the East, both placed at an angle. From these covered ways lead to the Native Hospital (North West) and European wards (North East) which are linked up by a covered way, on the Southern side of which is the Operating Theatre. The Nurses Home is to the South East, conveniently placed for service from the Kitchen and access from the Main road.

No. 33.—A very open plan with ample light and air to all parts, each unit being well arranged.

The assessor is to be congratulated on the amount of time and consideration given to each individual design as indicated in his report.

Administrator's Notice No. 112.) (19th Feb., 1930.

MUNICIPALITY OF JOHANNESBURG : BUILDING BY-LAWS AMENDMENT.

The Administrator in Executive Committee is pleased, under the provisions of section *one hundred* of the Local Government Ordinance, 1926, to approve the amendment of by-laws set forth in the Schedule hereto.

T.A. 106.

SCHEDULE.

Municipality of Johannesburg : Building By-Laws Amendment.

Delete section 14 (*b*) and substitute therefor the following new section :—

"14. (*b*) No wall covered with iron or other sheeting shall be erected so as to be visible from a "business street." No wall covered with iron or other sheeting shall be framed with wood. No wall of any building on a curtilage wholly or mainly occupied by dwellings of the domestic or tenement class shall be covered with iron or other sheeting whether such buildings be intended for habitable purposes or not,"

THE HERBERT BAKER ARCHITECTURAL SCHOLARSHIP.

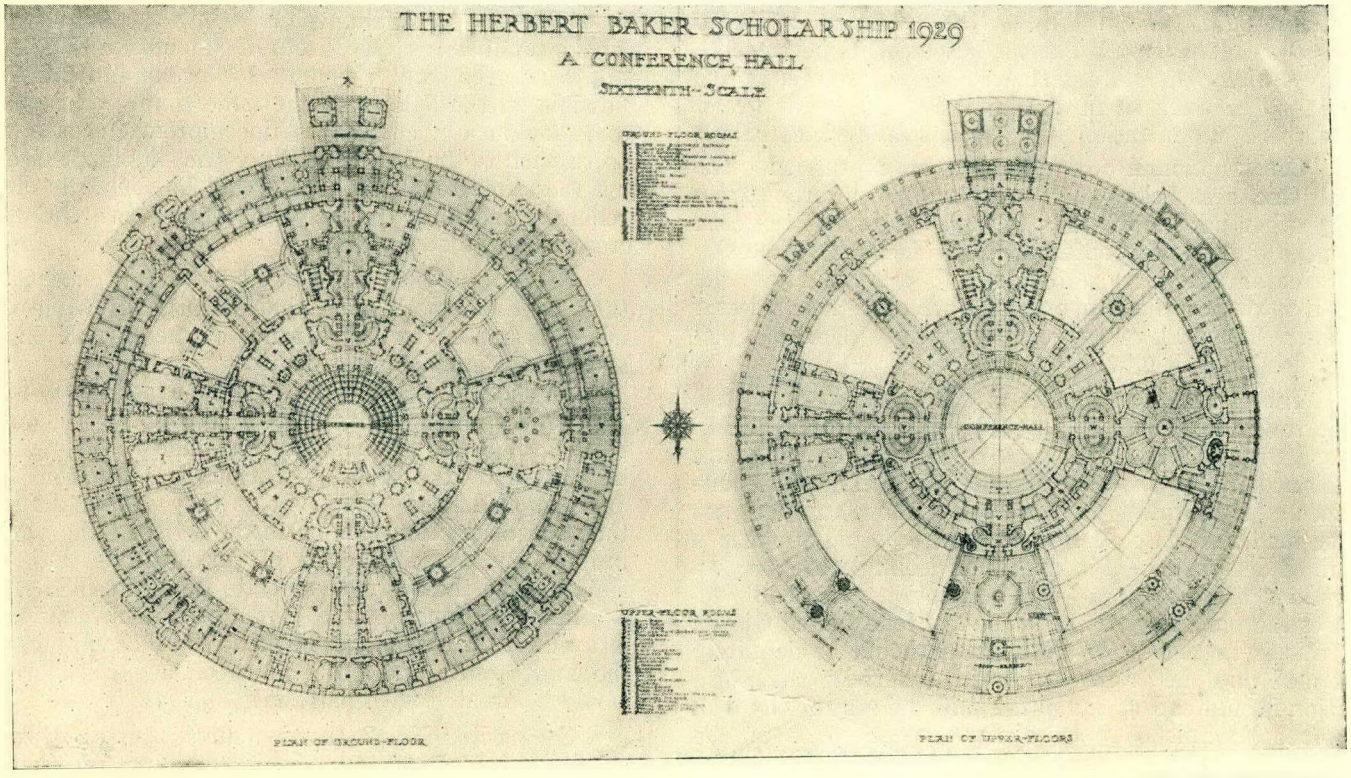
The Trustees of the Baker Scholarship, on the recommendation of the Assessors, have awarded the Scholarship to Mr. N. M. Eaton.

All three entrants, selected to take part in this competition, submitted sets of drawings, which were evidently the results of great effort. After examining the three sets, the critic's first thought is that the result would have been better if the preliminary stages had received more attention even at the sacrifice of the completion of the drawings. It is very important that intense thought should be devoted to the study and development of the scheme. The three competitors started with good schemes, but failed to develop them fully. The competitors should study M. le Corbusier's proposed plan for the Palace of the League of Nations, at Geneva, which is based on simplicity and reason, two qualities completely lacking in the designs submitted.

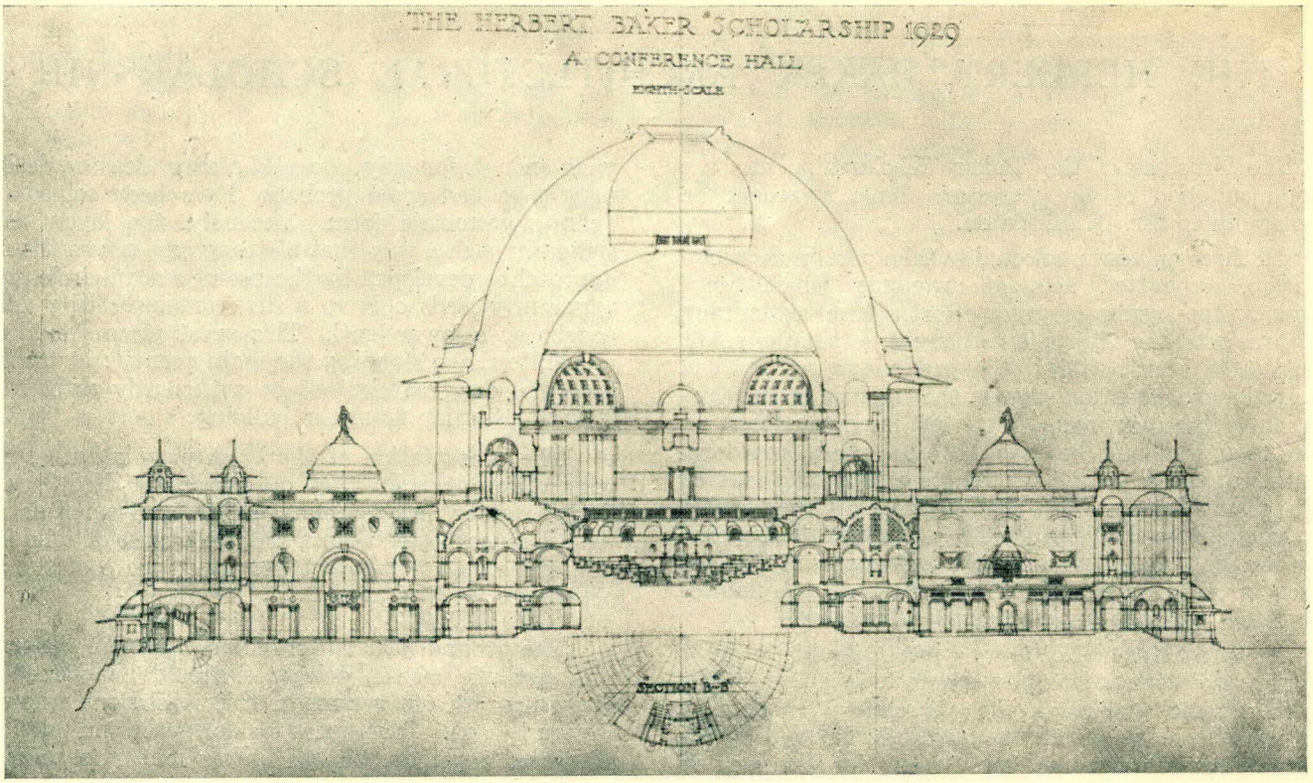
The drawings of No. 1 are without doubt the most inferior; no attempt has been made to improve on the sketch scheme. Though the approach on a definite central axis is to be commended, the lay-out of his scheme fails for two reasons: firstly, for the lack of form of the approach to the open place. Possibly the designer wished to widen gradually his approach to the place, which cannot be done by producing a bottle-neck. With a little thought the competitor could have visualised the confusion reigning when cars, entering four abreast from the place, reach the narrow opening wide enough for only two. Whatever idea the designer may have had could probably have been solved by a definite geometric form. Secondly, the layout is designed in such a way that a strong axis across the main approach is developed by the use of a semi-circle, which apparently leads only to a lift, communicating with a gazebo on a lower level. This great place should have a definite shape stopping the main-avenue: at the same time the design must not be sufficiently arresting to attract attention from the building.

The presentation of the block plan is crude, being very different from that of competitor No. 3, which though faulty, has a feeling of life. A small detailed plan is much better than a shapeless mass of solid black ink, and would not have taken much more of the competitor's time to draw.

The ground floor suffers from tightness generally: the vestibule of the delegates should be opened and given breadth of treatment, this is obvious when the section is seen. Entrances for delegates and public are all placed together, though undue confusion might be avoided by efficient police control: but there is a great objection to the stairs that mount straight from the green doors of the public entrance. The administration has no vertical communication unless the officials are allowed to mingle with the dignitaries: a staircase should be placed in the block assigned to that purpose.



The Winning Design. *Mr. N. M. Eaton.*



Mr. N. M. Eaton.

The desire for symmetry is trivial, an equally satisfactory result could be obtained by replanning this vestibule. The committee-rooms are placed in the tower, and not in close proximity to the offices as they should be. The Press enter by a loggia which could well be used as a retiring room for the delegates—a lack of consideration when the Press is noted for its pertinacity. If reception rooms are rooms meant for receiving, the distance between them and the vestibule is too great, and the communication is by means of dark corridors.

Constructionally, the plan has no expression. The wall thickness below the tower is little different from any other portion of the structure: the same criticism applies also to the Conference Hall itself. Of necessity a greater thickness is required to carry a high wall than a low, or the supports of a greater than a lesser span. This lack of expression deprives these plans of any aesthetic delight.

The elevation to the sea is discordant in character. The tower looks like the modern water towers seen in any journal dealing with ferro-concrete. The wings are designed in the manner of the South African Renaissance. It is difficult to understand how any designer imagined that two such discrepancies could produce a unified design. He is incapable of dealing with the proportions of the wings—the rustication practically reduces the remaining wall surface to a fenestrated frieze: if this is intended, the rustication should be definitely stopped and the frieze developed, otherwise the rustication should end at the plinth and the rest of the wall surface be finished with ashlar. The cause of the trouble is that the ground-floor windows are not in the same scale as the windows of the other two floors. Their arches rise so high that they force the other windows into the roof. The front elevation which contains nine elements, when five would have sufficed, also suffers from lack of scale: behind the colonnade the screen has no character, but lacks force and grandeur since it suggests large domestic windows. The author tries to design the top of his columns in a modern manner, but he produces the base from Roman stock. Can he not appreciate the painter's advice to have as few colours as possible on the palette at the same time? The pylons, too, show lack of character—uncompromising slits with no relation to the door beneath. The slits in themselves are most uninteresting. It would be simple to obtain relief by marking the various levels where the stairs cross the window-openings.

Of the sections there is little to say except that they have no more scale than a large drawing-room, which is caused by the absence of measurable objects and lack of surface treatment.

The presentation of this set of drawings is weak. The rendering would have been better carried out in monochrome and studied for tone-values. This can be illustrated by the plan. Various water-washes have been applied to the plan, but as they are all the same tone, no distinction can be made between the various units. By a careful study of varying tones it is possible to give the desired values to the units in the plan—communications can be given prominence by being left white, the climax can be made significant by having the most tone; and units of secondary consideration would be treated with half-tones.

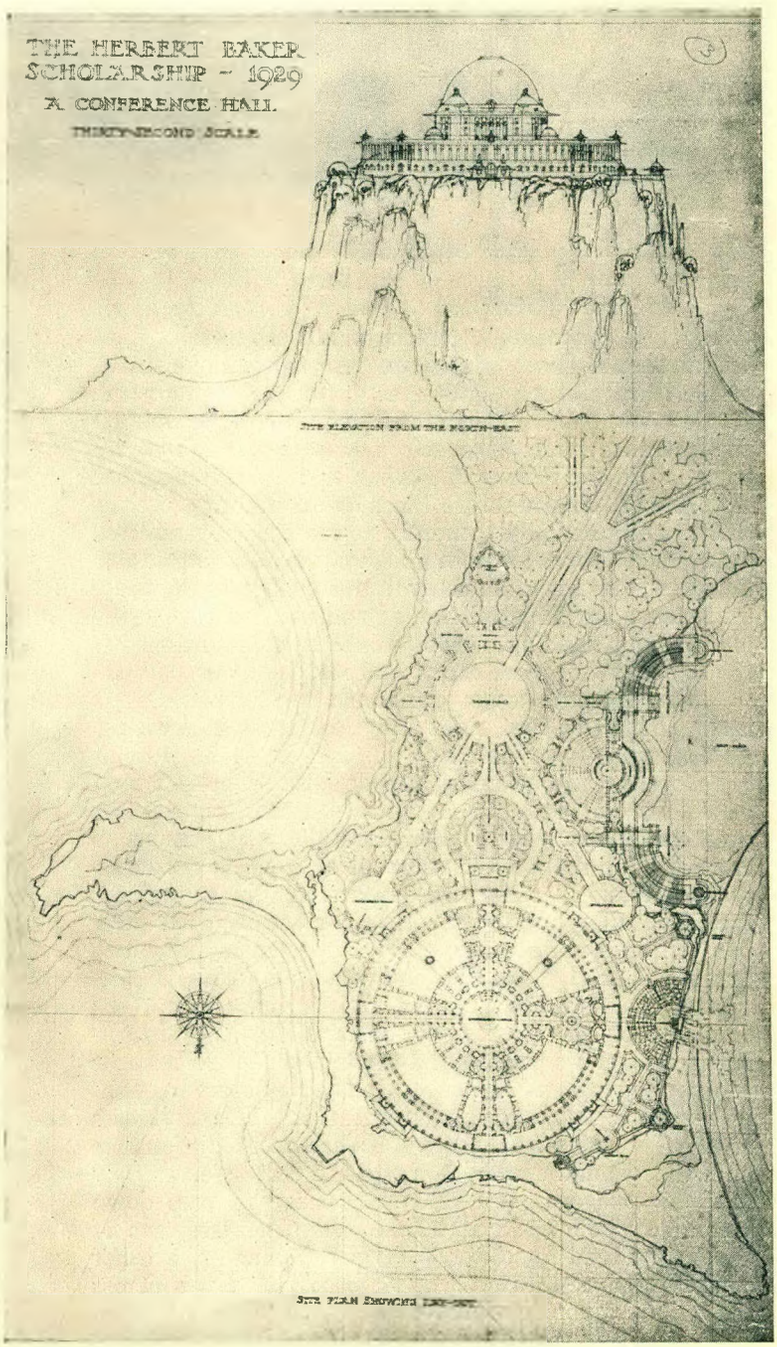
Competitor No. 2 shows a much better grasp of architectural elements and his handling of them in elevation is very good. His knowledge of planning is very elementary with no imagination to remedy this

deficiency. The block-planning shows that he has some knowledge of the gyratory system of traffic, but he uses no imagination in the development of his scheme. He gives us no feeling of a climax being created—one arm is the flow and the other the return just like a hot-water system with the Conference Hall in the place of a cistern. He would have done well to study the lay-out of such open places as the Place de la Concorde.

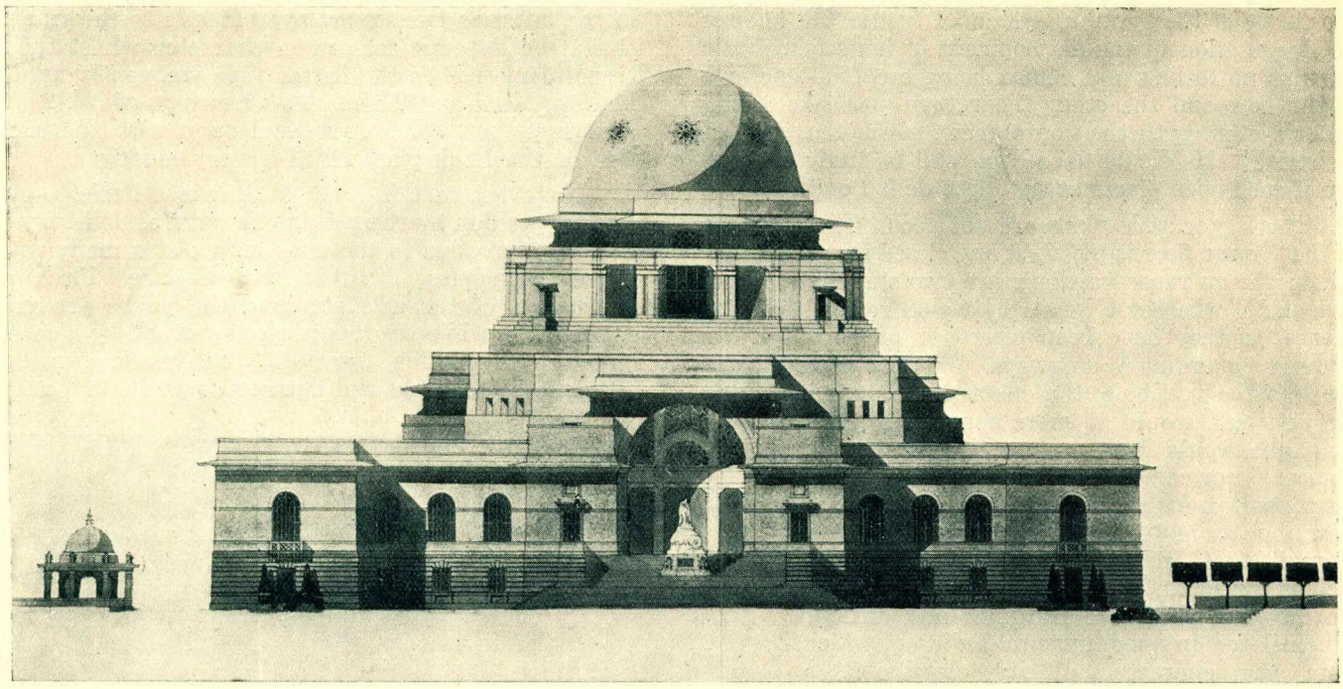
The larger scale plans are not good. The entrance on the ground floor is too tight and closed in. On either side of the entrance vestibule are two staircases, but it is doubtful whether a passer-by would realise their existence, as they have been placed in rooms which are entered by ordinary doorways. If they were opened out into the vestibule, the effect would be much finer, the vestibule would be more spacious and the staircases would be given architectural significance. For some occult reason the designer has placed all his staircases in rooms. Vertical communications like staircases should be as prominent as any horizontal communications such as corridors. All the corridors in this plan are internal, therefore badly lit and difficult to ventilate. In a monumental building, which, from the character of its elevations, is obviously designed for a sub-tropical climate, open courts and loggias would obviate these dark passages and help to obtain adequate ventilation. The reception rooms are well-placed, but suffer from lack of architectural form and they require opening-up. There is a definite idea of grouping the executive and administrative departments and the retiring rooms, though the designer has failed to emphasise the more important rooms: the general arrangement also is confused—further study would have avoided this. This plan is well expressed and it is possible to realise how the dome is carried—the shapes designed as expedient to lighten the main supports of the dome are very annoying. The plans of this set of drawings have not the bravura of the elevations, but they possess the basis of a monumental piece of work. Time is short in these competitions, but time spent in study is well spent—a well-studied plan looks well and appears inevitable.

The elevations of No. 2, especially the elevation of the main entrance, form some of the best work in the whole exhibition. The way it builds up to a pyramidal mass is very fine. The side masses flanking the main entrance would have been better if set farther apart. The side elevation has a certain quality of restlessness caused by a story of round-head and flat-head windows in juxtaposition, surmounted by a story where the same treatment is continued, but in reverse positions, so that a round-headed window appears over a flat-headed window and *vice versa*. The front elevation is much better and shows the value of a more decisive treatment of the fenestration. The sections are mediocre, failing to sustain the interest roused by the elevations, Little can be said about them except that the character of the internal dome is not sympathetic to the external shell; the latter is eastern in character whilst the internal dome recalls the flatter type frequently used by McKim, Mead and White. The drawings of No. 2 form a pleasant set, being fresh and crisp with the exception of the block plan which is very muddy.

No. 3 has sent in a set of drawings liable to overcome opposition by their dramatic nature. The lay-out is very attractive to the eye, but violates many established principles. From the Grande Place the approaches of the delegates and the public are given equal value, while the dignitaries approach by a central circular way which provides good traffic conditions where least required and detracts from the effect that



Mr. N. M. Eaton.



Design placed Second. *Mr. R. A. Bruce.*

should be produced by a monumental approach. The design should show which are the most important—people, delegates or dignitaries. In the theatre, the people being more important enter by the more important entrance whilst the actors have a subsidiary entrance. In the Houses of Parliament, the members are more important, therefore the monumental approach is theirs, and the public, merely tolerated, are admitted by a small door. But in this scheme it is impossible to appreciate any such central idea. The lay-out contains too many fanciful shapes which often repeat the plan of the building, which would be more intense if the lay-out were more direct and severe.

The sixteenth scale plans are most difficult to read—though at first sight they look most interesting. As the walls have not been blacked in, it is difficult to follow the intentions of the designer, who, for that very reason, fails to appreciate something of the greatest import. By looking carefully it is possible to trace in plan section the walls which have no constructive expression. They are surely too thin to support the dome, they may be adequate for the internal shell, but the external dome is carried on a mass not much greater than that for the enceinte wall. This the designer has failed to realise. The organisation of the plan is involved—the designer betrays himself by resorting to a legend of almost the whole alphabet to describe the various rooms. In such a plan the observer ought to be able to follow the working easily. The staircases of the delegates and the public are most difficult to find: they should open directly to the vestibule: as they are, the delegates and the public have to pass down a corridor from the vestibule to the staircases, one of which is placed opposite an open court and the other opposite the restaurant. The beautiful views across the sea are given to offices whereas the principal reception rooms and the retiring rooms have no better aspect than the internal courts. All the rooms placed on the external walls have small windows, which do not encourage the desire to look out. Above the ground floor there is a circle of columns that acts as a screen against any possible view being seen from the rooms facing on the court. Reverting to the subject of presentation it would help if the section lines had been indicated on the plan and for the drawing of the upper floors it should be stated where the floor sections have been taken.

The elevations do not build up to as fine a mass as those of No. 2 though it must be conceded that his elevations do possess certain imaginative qualities lacking in No. 2. The main dome is supported by some very solid half domes—the junction between them being very crude; when two such large planes meet, a small member should be introduced to define the two planes. The entrances through the podium wall have no central motive: the two lodges with their large cornices crush the entrance way, the cornice separating the semi-circular head from the rest of the door-way. Sir H. Baker's entrances to the Legislative Building at Delhi would repay studying: they are simple and serve as excellent portes cocheres.

The scale of the external has been well retained internally, namely in the Conference Hall though the approaches are not satisfactory, the repeated use of the arch form on all possible occasions produces a very restless effect. The domes in these approaching wings are very unsatisfactory, lacking in any significance. There appears to be no reason for their repeating form.

If only the plans had been blacked-in, there would be nothing to which to take exception in what, otherwise, is a very fine set of drawings, which will repay studying for the technique of presentation. Architecturally this set is full of errors, which should have been avoided: but despite all that it has a certain style.

J.T.L.

NOTES FROM AN ARCHITECTURAL STUDENT IN EUROPE.

St. Raphael, South France,

February 2nd, 1930.

We are staying a few days at this delightful place before making for Florence. It is mid-way between Cannes and Hyères—and the Mediterranean warmth and mildness are a pleasant change after our chilly driving from the north. There is a small harbour with a beach that sweeps round in rather a charming curve—embracing at its end a sort of "place" with trees. My window looks over these trees—with the sea on the left, and the snow covered Basses Alpes on the right. The hotel is French, and not intended for the sun-seeking Englishmen who venture rather selfconsciously into the south for warmth. We have seen several, clutching their continental editions of the Daily Mail, and doing their best to preserve their Englishness in spite of the difficulties of manner and custom. The more pretentious palazzi face on to the official sea front—which is rendered correspondingly uninteresting. There is a monotonous sameness about large seaside hotels. At Scheveningen, Brighton, Folkestone or Muizenberg. They are all the same. And there is something pathetic about people who set out deliberately to "have a good time" at the sea. They are back in routine so soon. And when the routine stops, they are at a complete loss for something to do. They prowl round the lounges like some exotic museum creatures, and, no doubt, wonder why they ever left home. The French are rather jollier on holiday. There were two or three parties having lunch at our hotel to-day. They had evidently motored down to the sea for the day. And even if some of them looked as if they had stepped out of a Rowlandson drawing—how much sunnier was their latin gaiety. And how they enjoyed every dish—doctoring and discussing it, and relishing their wine in a way that we cannot understand. It is a fundamental difference in temperament—and after all, it is visible in art as well as manners. Compare André Gide with Galsworthy. Or Renoir with Watts. We prefer to droop where they rejoice.

It was interesting too, to notice the differences in the towns as we travelled south. Architecturally the change was gradual. At Poitiers there were a few flat roofs with Roman tiles. And the windows were wider apart. And between Poitiers and Angouleme—at Les Maisons-Blanches and Les Negres were some delightful farmhouses with hipped roofs—very flat, and with a simple, broad, wall treatment. The windows had plain shutters of a pale green, and the walls were rough cast with brown and yellow pebbles,

The South breathes more freely than the cramped North. Beauvais is frankly mediaeval. Versailles, St. Germain, and Rambouillet are classic. Formal and static. But the South is latin. Languorous and sprawling—like an unselfconcious child bathing in a stream, naked. But only the villages are charming,. Perigueux, Angouleme, Poitiers and Albi are drab and depressing. Sunday in Perigueux is charged with a heavy middle-class atmosphere that defies description. The road and the villages have been our main interest, the towns are much alike. Beauvais we liked, because of the cathedral. St. Germain with its orderly rows of grey shutters and level cornices, was delightful as we drove through it in the afternoon sunshine.

It is difficult to sort out one's impressions—they crowd so rapidly on one another, and in a few days we see so much. Chartres cathedral—with its towers rising out of the mist as we approached it from a narrow street. With its exquisite windows, like rich designs on black velvet. Albi from across the Tarn, rising up in a magnificent group from the green bank. With its burnt sienna brick—and the olive green and brown tones which frame it. Perhaps Albi is the finest thing we have seen. Or Beauvais. The scale of Beauvais seemed incredible as we approached it. It is a glorious conception. There is something so precious about the slender drum-like apse rising up, protected, in the embrace of the great flying buttresses. The forms of Beauvais are architecturally perfect.

There are dozens of places to tell you about. But it would take days to write. Richelieu—where we made a special pilgrimage. Richelieu with its wonderful gateways and charming fountains. We came to Richelieu from Poitiers and Chatellerault. Down a long avenue of poplars, then round a bend under great lime trees, and through the Porte de Chatellerault. There was a little sun to warm the old buildings, and the trees were a wonderful colour. A sort of wine red. We had tea in the Grande Rue—and strolled into the courtyards of the houses—I think one is illustrated in Simpson. The town must have been glorious when it was first built. So crisp and vigorous, with its creamy stone and slate roofs—and brown brick chimneys. But now it is sad and dead. Like a tree that has been broken in a storm and left through the years with its wounds unhealed.

And there is Nimes in its hot valley. Exactly like Pretoria on a Sunday. We photographed the Arena and the Maison Carrée. The latter was not exciting. But the Pont du Gard, where we had a picnic lunch on our way to Avignon, is finer than one would think from photos. There was a wonderful sense of embracement as we drove along the side of the great arches. They feel like those in the Baths of Caracalla. The stone is warm in colour, almost apricot—and has a rich texture.

And on a distant hill is perched a perfect village. Like a Canaletto—the same parchment and creamy-brown tones, and the horizontal cubes of colour (roof and walls), and the one vertical emphasis of the church tower. The surroundings must have appealed to the Romans when they built the aqueduct. Stony hills with olive-greenish growth—quite classic in character.

And there are our small "discoveries," the churches at Larochebeaucourt and La Douze. The formal house outside La Bugue. The farm group between Perigueux and Cahors. And the village, viewed through poplars at Sainte-Maure-de-Touraine.

I had meant to tell you of our visits to the National Gallery and the British Museum—to St. Paul's and Chelsea Hospital. Of our pilgrimage to Groombridge in Kent to see Groombridge Place. Of the oast houses and Kentish roads. Of London, and Britannic House by Lutyens. Of St. Magnus the Martyr near London Bridge. Of St. Bride's Fleet Street. Of our adventures on the road from Boulogne to Carcassone. Of our chilly night at a village hostelry—where we slept over the garage, and had a fight with the gendarmerie about our lights. But that will have to wait. I am afraid this is already a dreadful jumble of half digested impressions. But writing *en route* is difficult.

We cover a fair mileage every day—and the driving combined with the study of buildings leaves one tired at night—so we go off to bed soon after dinner. We have done about a thousand miles in France. We motored from London to Folkestone after visiting Penshurst, Sevenoaks, Chiddingstone, and other places in Kent. And started motoring again from Boulogne, skirting Paris and making Albi more or less our turning point for the South. From here we hope to go to Genoa, then Florence. The roads are splendid—and France makes an ideal place for a motoring holiday. Attention is good—there is always ample garaging, and prices are moderate. We are paying 50 francs each, here, *en pension.* Our car is a two seater Morris-Cowley, 1928. Our luggage fits snugly in the back—so we are compact and portable, stopping where we like; and according to the interest.

Florence, Sunday, 22/2/30.

We have returned from our visit to Rome—and leave Florence for Venice the day after to-morrow. The Sunday afternoon peacefulness of Florence is delightful after the rush and noise of Rome. We feel quite settled here, and are loath to move away from the Piazza della Signoria with its brown and weathered Palazzo Vecchio—and the great white David. We shall miss Brunelleschi's brownish-red dome floating like a great bubble over the town. We shall miss the slow olive green Arno, and the misty days—with patches of gold sunlight. And above all we shall miss Michelangelo's .work. The unfinished slaves in the Galleria Antica e Moderna. The exquisite Madonna and Child in the New Sacristy. And the wonderful drawings still preserved in his own house. I am sending you a photo of the fanciullo, standing against Michelangelo's Bacchus. But it gives you only a small idea of the superb features—exquisitely modelled, and of the beauty of the lips and curly hair. Florence has been wonderfully rich for us—but Hanson is telling you about it all, so I will go back to my diary and tell you about our coming into Italy.

As a child one expects every country to be quite different from the one next it. Different coloured ground, different trees, different houses, different people. Everything different. And here it is really true. Here on the sea—between the sea and the hills inland we crossed from France to Italy. We left the old town of Menton and drove up a steep road. A shady narrow road with a stone wall on one side. And everything was still and warm in the sun—at mid-day. In the stillness the road paused at a ravine. Just before the bridge. We stopped at the bridge. It was peaceful, only an old man in a black suit playing a guitar and singing softly. At the office on the side of the road we cleared our papers and drove across the bridge. We drove away from France, from everything French. From the bronze and olive green hills that curved into the blue water. From the primitive Mantegna hills that curved and turned with the coast—that joined the pregnant sky with the hard azure sea. We drove away from Cannes with its air of elegance. With its plage and sunshades and sleek cars. From Nice, the larger vulgarised Cannes. From Monaco with its endless tramlines. From Menton. Shady, rather charming Menton with its great stretch of sea front. Menton with its old town of plaster houses scrambling up the hillside. Pink and brown and parchment walls with green shutters. And washing hanging from the windows.

From all these—past the dark cypress tree and the wall—across the bridge, across the ravine we drove into Italy. A cheerful fellow passed our luggage and checked our car numbers. A young man in greenish khaki—with gold and green trimmings at his collar and sleeves. An Italian, laughing and cavalier. With a soft felt hat and feather to match his uniform. And black leggings and boots. Somewhere above us, on the warm hill, cocks were crowing. All in the sun. While we were filling in the forms a low red Lancia flashed up the steep road. A low rakish car, clinging to the road, secure and wide. Up the white dusty road. A man and a girl dashing up and down the road in the car—joyfully. And the smiling fellow in khaki glanced approvingly—possessively, as they passed with their rumbling loud engine. How right the Lancia is on Italian roads. Its low red body and wide mudguards. How it fits the white road, a quick red dot winding up the mountain side. The other cars look high and clumsy after it. The Lancia is the quick blood of Italy. Burning in the sun, on the white road between the sea and the hills. Between the old houses, and under the low archway it darts—something quite different, quite new.

Then we followed the red Lancia in the dust. Men were making the roads—in a cheerful haphazard way, so we bumped over the stones. The hills were quite different from the copper hills of France. They were green and brown. Brown terraces of dry stone, cunningly laid, with the dull green banks of carnations above. A terrace of brown alternating with a bank of green—all the way up the hillside. The sea on one side, and the carnation hills above the road, and bending into great amphitheatres. Green and brown, green and

brown—like some ribbed material stretching to the sky. And then through Ospedaletti—the centre of the carnation growing. In the Italian sun—through San Remo and along the sea. And to Oneglia, at dusk. Narrow streets widening every now and then into luminous squares. Pinkish squares in the evening, open to the southern sky. Tall facades with great colonnades screening the shops. Tall buildings with level cornices cutting the luminous sky. And darker below, with small dark groups of people lingering in the gloom against the walls. To the outskirts of the town where the road widened to the sky. To the sky, and to the sea again. Here is our room with two tall windows facing the sea and the harbour. High above the sea, above the foaming breakers beating on the steep shingle below. Here we can breathe—above the closed town.

We went to Rome by train. We might have been in South Africa—at the Cape. The mild winter sunshine on the clayey countryside and the gnarled stumpy vines made a chaste tapestry between the hills. The first thing we saw in Rome was Bernini's Fountain, in the Piazza Barberini. The great old triton with his conch, and the three dolphins are fine in the green spray—splashing and flowing over their worn forms.

The little Temple of Vesta was charming against its bank of dark cypresses. With its strip of green lawn—cool and soft in the evening. The old roof rests so snugly on the crumbled marble columns. Like an old man sagging in his chair by the fireside—trying to get the warmth. It is rather pathetic now. And the Pantheon too, is so battered and self conscious. As if it feels too old to be jostled by strange new people. It does not fit, but lives painfully on. But inside its great beautiful dome—bounding almost from the floor—is tranquil. There is no strangeness here, no age or time, but only an eternal spaceless calm. We walked past the Cancelleria to Sangallo's house in the narrow Via Giulia. A noble house for an architect—the Palazzo Saccheti. I had looked forward so much to seeing it, and was not disappointed. For me it is the most delightful house in Rome. So calm and reposeful in the afternoon shade. With its rich lofty walls of clay-coloured brick, and strong accents of mellowed travertine. Everything has been done with loving care—he has modelled it, but with what restraint. We had a glimpse through the great doorway of a charming courtyard, with a garden beyond. And while we paused there, an old gardener came into the cool enclosure of the courtyard, wearing a green smock. An echo of the garden outside, and of the Tiber beyond.

We were fortunate in our visit to the Baths of Caracalla. We arrived there just before sunset, and as it turned out, after the closing time. But we persuaded the attendant to let us in, and had the whole place to ourselves. Were able to reconstruct the scene without discord or interruption. It was a classic evening too. Mild and calm—quite still. With a blue sky and banks of rose clouds. And here and there the crumbled brickwork covered with earth and a rich light green. We walked from one great room to another, marvelling. With the great full arches open to the evening sky, and stretching upwards and round in a massive curve. And the rich surface pattern of the narrow bricks—row after row endlessly reaching up. We moved about as in a dream, embraced and complete in our isolation.

REX MARTIENSSEN.

PROFESSIONAL NEWS.

THE CAPE PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1929.

Membership.—The membership of the Institute at the close of the year consisted of one hundred and ten Practising, forty-two Salaried, three Absentee and four Retired Members—a total of one hundred and fifty-nine. Losses of membership have been balanced by an equal number of accessions, hence the numerical strength of the Institute remains the same as it was a year ago.

We regret to have to report the decease of two of our members, W. E. L. Thompson, of Simonstown, and W. J. McMillan, of Cape Town.

Meetings.—One Annual General Meeting and fourteen Committee Meetings were held during the year.

Financial.—The financial Position of the Institute is set forth in the Statement of Accounts accompanying this Report. From this it will be seen that the year's operations have resulted in a net loss of £37 9s. 7d., with a corresponding reduction in the Capital Account.

Despite this loss the position of the Institute is quite sound, its assets exceeding its liabilities by the sum of £151 4s. 3d.

Early in the year we disbursed the Sum of £339 13s. 6d. being a refund of fifty per cent. of the amounts contributed by our members and others towards the expenses of promoting the Bill.

Your Committee has again to make reference to the severe strain upon the Institute's financial resources occasioned by its contribution to the funds of the Central Council, which amounted, as will be seen from the Income and Expenditure Account, to £289 10s. 9d., or forty per cent. of the total subscriptions payable in respect of the year under review; to which a further £52 10s., paid by way of Registration Fees, might be added.

The monetary obligations of the Institute to the Central Council under the Act are fully realized and will be faithfully discharged, but your Committee feels very strongly that the present scale of expenditure incidental to conducting the affairs of the central body imposes a tax upon Provincial Institutes that is crippling their activities and depriving their members of benefits that they might enjoy if the Institute's spending powers were greater. It is due to the Cape's representatives on the Central Council to record the fact that they have consistently, although unsuccessfully, endeavoured to obtain a reduction of the levy to a figure that would lessen the burden upon the Constituent bodies.

The Central Council.—Two Meetings of the Central Council were held during the year, one in April and the other in October. At the former meeting this Institute was represented by Messrs. Ritchie Fallon and Walgate, and at the latter meeting by Messrs. Ritchie Fallon and Hawke.

Your Committee takes the opportunity of thanking these gentlemen for their excellent services on the Council, services involving a great deal of hard work and the sacrifice of much of their time in the interests of their profession.

Local Committees.—The Local Committees established at Port Elizabeth and East London continued to function, and the services rendered by them are very much appreciated by our Eastern Province members and by your Provincial Committee.

Your President paid a brief visit to these centres in November last, and discussed with the Committees matters appertaining to the Institute.

Vigilance Committee.—This Sub-Committee met upon six occasions during the year, its activities resulting in the prosecution and conviction of three persons, who were found guilty of contravening Paragraph three of the Act.

It also dealt with several cases (fortunately neither numerous nor serious) in which it was alleged that certain members of the Institute had been guilty of unprofessional conduct.

The School of Architecture.—The number of Students attending the School is forty-one, of whom thirty are Probationers R.I.B.A., and eleven Students R.I.B.A. At the end of the year nine sat for the Intermediate Examination and three for the final.

At the end of 1929 application was made to the R.I.B.A. for recognition of the School.

The course has now been organized as a five year full-time University course, leading to the Degree or Diploma in Architecture. The evening classes will be continued until those who began their studies in that way have completed their courses, which will probably be the end of 1931. The standard of work is being maintained year by year, and compares favourably with that from other centres.

The Reference Library is being gradually increased and considerable equipment has been added during the year for the new Studios in Orange Street. The staff consists of the Director and six Assistants.

University of Cape Town.—The following address was presented by your President in connection with the Centenary Celebration of the University of Cape Town:

> "From the Cape Provincial Institute of Architects to THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN, Greetings and felicitations upon the occasion of its first Centenary.
>
> It is the desire of the Institute that fitting tribute should be paid to the noble work accomplished by the University of Cape Town since it was established a hundred years ago and to the beneficial influence it has wielded upon the destinies of South Africa during the whole of that period in the sphere of Education and Culture.
>
> The Institute also avails itself of the opportunity afforded by the occasion to make particular reference to the School of Architecture established at the University in 1925. For several years prior to that date the Institute has been conducting a School of Architecture and it was perhaps due to the existence of this School and the sacrifices that were made by the members of the Institute to maintain it that the claims of Architectural Education were brought to the notice of the University authorities ultimately resulting in their taking over the School. Be that as it may, the Cape Institute viewed with no little satisfaction the happy outcome of its pioneer work, and at this stage congratulates the University upon the progress that has been made by the School since coming under its control.
>
> The importance of the Architects' and Quantity Surveyors' Registration Act of 1927, in its relation to the School of Architecture can hardly be over-stated, and the advent of that measure so closely following upon the establishment of the School was most fortuitous. This and the appointment of the University of Cape Town, in conjunction with the Witwatersrand University, as the examining body under the Act are also matters upon which the University is to be congratulated.
>
> In conclusion, the Cape Institute ventures to express the hope that the time is not far distant when a Chair of Architecture will be founded at the University of Cape Town; this, besides benefitting the status of the School, would give fitting recognition to the national importance of the study and practice of Architecture."

The Royal Institute of British Architects.—Members of the Institute, and in particular those who were members prior to its incorporation under the Act, will learn with much satisfaction that your Committee successfully resisted a proposal that our affiliation with the Royal Institute, which dates back to the year 1907, should be cancelled.

It was finally agreed that existing alliances with Provincial Institutes should remain undisturbed, and be linked up with that of the Institute of South African Architects as a whole.

Under the auspices of the Royal Institute an International Exhibition of Modern Architecture was held in London, in March, 1929. The co-operation of this

Institute was enlisted and willingly given to the movement, a number of our members sending in specimens of their work for exhibition.

In terms of the constitution of the Allied Societies Conference, Mr. G. C. Lawrence, R.W.A., F.R.I.B.A., of Bristol, England, was asked and consented to represent the Cape Institute on the Conference for the Session 1929-30; our President also being an *ex-officio* member of the Conference.

General Meetings.—Some little time ago it was decided that general meetings of our members should be held from time to time, at which papers could be read and discussed and lectures delivered upon subjects of interest to the profession.

By the courtesy of the Institute of Government Land Surveyors the first of these meetings was held in July last, when Brigadier Jack gave a much appreciated lecture on the Ordinance Survey of Great Britain.

The Annual Dinner of the Institute held on the 7th February, of this year ranks as the second of these meetings.

Professor Pearse of the Witwatersrand University has kindly promised to address our members on the occasion of his next visit to the Peninsula, which it is hoped will take place at an early date.

The responsible Sub-Committee will welcome suggestions and/or papers from members for these meetings.

City of Cape Town Building Regulations.—A matter of great importance to our local members was dealt with towards the close of the year under review, *viz.:* the City Building Regulations. These are in process of much needed revision and at the invitation of the City Council your Committee prepared and submitted for consideration a large number of suggestions.

Amongst these was one in particular which, if adopted, will have far-reaching and beneficial results alike to the Profession and to building owners. The request was made that the terms "Architect" should be defined in the Regulations meaning " a person registered as a member of the Institute of South African Architects in terms of Act No. 18 of 1927," it being maintained as a reasonable propcsition that the recognition recently given by the State to the Architectural Profession should be reflected in the City's revised Building Regulations.

The Townships Ordinance.—At the invitation of the Provincial Administration similar action was taken by your Committee in relation to certain proposed additional regulations under the Townships Ordinance, which it is hoped were found to be helpful and acceptable.

The Herbert Baker Scholarship.—In July last the Trustees announced a competitive examination for this Scholarship. The preliminary competition took place in September, when eleven candidates sat and four were passed to enter for the Final Competition.

The Library.—The only addition made to our library during the year was "The Wren Society," Vol. VI., acquired by purchase.

The Architect, Builder and Engineer, the official organ of the Cape Institute, is published monthly and sent to all our members. By the courtesy of the proprietors space will be given in each issue of the Journal for the dissemination of information in connection with the activities of the Institute.

General.—Amongst the minor activities of the year may be mentioned the new Regulations governing Architectural Competitions, the banning of two competitions, the Cape Town housing problem, the registration of pupils and assistants and numerous applications for employment. A Register of Architects seeking assistants and of assistants seeking employment is kept in the Secretary's office.

Members are reminded that the Scale of Charges, in pamphlet form, it to be had from the Secretary at 3d. per copy. These form a very convenient means of bringing the tariff to the notice of clients.

Honorary Auditor.—It is your Committee's pleasing duty to again thank Mr. Fagg for his services as Hon. Auditor.

The Secretary.—Your Committee has again much pleasure in drawing the attention of members to the unfailing care and attention to detail shown by the Secretary, Major P. Milne Duncan, in his handling of the Institute's affairs and takes this opportunity of thanking him for his services during the past year.

Minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting held in the Argus Board Room, St. George's Street, Capetown, on 11th March, 1930.

Present.—Messrs. T. W. Stainthorpe, H. H. Woolley, C. H. Edwards, W. A. Ritchie Fallon, L. M. Earle, Watson Hall, H. J. Brownlee, W. J. Delbridge, E. Austin Cooke, C. P. Walgate, B. Mansergh, A. F. I. Forbes, F. K. Kendall, F. Hesse, W. Hawke, E. G. Hart, L. A. Elsworth, W. G. Fagg, L. Norman, and the Secretary.

The President, Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon, occupied the Chair.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Minutes of the 30th Annual General Meeting held on 12th March, 1929, were read and confirmed.

The Chairman declared the ballot closed and thereafter Messrs. Earle and Woolley were appointed scrutineers. The *ballot* papers having been dealt with in terms of the regulations, the scrutineers retired to count the votes.

The Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for 1929, were laid on the table, and on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Walgate, taken as read and confirmed.

Mr. C. H. Edwards raised a number of questions in connection with the report and accounts, all of which were explained by the Chairman. Mr. H. J. Brownlee referred to that part of the Report dealing with the Institute's contribution to the funds of the Central Council, moving in connection therewith the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Edwards and carried unanimously.

> "That it be a recommendation to the incoming Committee to continue the efforts that have been made to obtain a reduction of the levy payable to

the Central Council; that every endeavour should be made to secure for the Constituent Bodies complete local autonomy, subject only to the special powers given to the Central Council under the Act."

Mr. W. J. Delbridge moved a vote of thanks to the President, the Committee and the Secretary for their excellent services to the Institute during the past year. This was carried unanimously.

An Informal Discussion took place during the meeting in connection with the following matters:—

(1) the question of two partners of the same firm serving on a Provincial Committee: (2) R.I.B.A. moieties; and (3) the relationship between the School of Architecture and the Institute, which on the motion of Mr. Delbridge, seconded by Mr. Brownlee, is to form the subject of a discussion at the next general meeting of the Institute.

On the Motion of Mr. Austin Cooke, seconded by Mr. Stainthorpe, Mr. W. G. Fagg was re-appointed honorary auditor, and thanked for his past services in that capacity.

The Scrutineers at this stage of the prceedings reported the result of the ballot to the Chairman, who thereupon announced that the following members had been elected as the Provincial Committee for 1930/31:—G. Angelini, W. J. Delbridge, A.R.I.B.A., L. A. Elsworth, A.R.I.B.A., W. G. Fagg, L.R.I.B.A., W. A. Ritchie Fallon, A.R.I.B.A., W. Hawke, F.R.I.B.A., F. K. Kendall, F.R.I.B.A., B. G. L. Mansergh, A.R.I.B.A., and C. P. Walgate, A.R.I.B.A., A.R.C.A.

Before the Meeting was brought to a close the Chairman moved a vote of thanks to the Scrutineers, which was carried unanimously.

THE NATAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1929.

The Committe present the following statement of its activities during the past twelve months, being the Third Annual Report of the Natal Provincial Institute of the Institute of South African Architects.

It is with regret that the Committee has to report the loss by death of one of the Institute's members, Mr. H. J. Buckley.

During the year one member has resigned, and three members have been enrolled. The total membership now stands at forty-seven practising members; twelve salaried members; and two retired members.

It is gratifying to note that the Central Council has not found it necessary to raise the Annual Subscriptions for the ensuing year. The Subscriptions remain as follows:—Practising members, £5 5s. 0d.; Salaried members, £3 3s. 0d.; Retired members, £1 1s. 0d.

From the Revenue and Expenditure Accounts it will be seen that this Provincial Institute is in a sound financial position. Of the outstanding subscriptions shown in the Balance Sheet already a portion has been collected.

The year under review has been a strenuous one. During the session no fewer than fourteen Committee Meetings have been held, and have been well attended. Various matters concerning the profession have been dealt with.

It is to be recorded with satisfaction that the Institute has been consulted, and its advice sought by various local bodies, and every endeavour has been made to justify this confidence, either by co-operation, assistance, and in appointing one or more members to act on committees. Disputes between various parties have been amicably settled.

Mr. W. S. Payne was re-elected as this Institute's representative, with Col. G. T. Hurst as alternate, on the Central Council of the Institute, and these gentlemen have attended the meetings held in Johannesburg.

Col. G. T. Hurst is this Institute's representative on the Natal Technical College Council and Mr. B. V. Bartholomew was appointed to act on the Engineering and Building Advisory Committee of the College.

The Institute's thanks are due to these members for giving much of their valuable time to the various matters concerning this Institute.

Among other matters, consultation with the Town Council in connection with Municipal work being entrusted to private practising architects, instead of being done departmentally has been sympathetically discussed and the Committee is hopeful of gcod results.

The matter re alleged "Piracy" of salaried officials and salaried members of the Institute doing work of practising architects is receiving the attention of the Committee; and the Central Council is also in communicaton with the Union Government on this same subject.

During the year one prosecution, under the Act, has taken place, of an unregistered person holding himself out as an architect.

The strong opposition offered by this Institute has resulted in the cancellation, by the Durban Master Builders' Association, of the Endorsed Official Envelope for Tendering.

Certain amendments to the Rules and Regulations of the Act have been framed and will be included in a revised Book of Regulations, to be published shortly.

Proposed amendments to the Standard Conditions of Contract Agreement are being considered, but no final draft has as yet been completed.

Educational facilities in courses of architecture, and also a Degree course in architecture are now available at the Natal Technical College, Durban. Full particulars of these courses may be obtained on application to the Registrar of the College.

Provision for the Registration of students, pupils and assistants has been inaugurated by the Central Council, where a complete Register will be kept by the Institute in which the fullest information available of

students' qualifications will be kept. The members of this Institute are requested to co-operate in this matter.

During the year, two lantern lectures, under the auspices of this Provincial Institute, were given by Mrs. Antrobus, member of the British Association, and much appreciated by the general public.

The *South African Architectural Record* (the official organ of this Institute) has been delivered, gratis, to all members and no doubt much appreciated.

Thanks are due to the various Allied Societies for their Kalendars, received from time to time during the year.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The third Annual General Meeting of members of the Natal Provincial Institute of Architects was held in the Board Room of the Durban Chamber of Commerce, Salisbury House, Durban, at 3.30 p.m., Friday 14th March, 1930.

The President, Mr. W. B. Oxley, A.R.I.B.A., presided

Notice Convening the Meeting.—The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The President declared the Third Annual General Meeting duly constituted.

Minutes.—The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting having been circularised to all members were, on the motion of the Chairman, taken as read and confirmed.

Annual Report and Balance Sheet.—The Annual Report and Balance Sheet having been circularised to all members were laid on the table, and on the motion of Col. Hurst, seconded by Mr. W. S. Payne, were unanimously adopted.

It was moved by Mr. W. S. Payne, seconded by Mr. E. M. Powers, and resolved that the sum of £50 from the funds in hand be placed to the credit of this Institutes Investment account with the Building Society.

Election of Auditor.—Mr. J. E. Duff, F.S.A.A., was unanimously re-elected Auditor for the ensuing year.

Before vacating the Presidential Chair, Mr. Oxley extended a welcome to those present and in the course of his resumé of the activities of the Committee during his year of office said:—

Gentlemen,

Beyond the matters dealt with in the Committee's report which has been circularised to all members, there is very little to add. There have been fourteen meetings during the year, all well attended, at which matters chiefly of a routine character have been dealt with.

Our membership to-day stands at forty-seven practising members; twelve salaried members; and two retired members. Three new members have been enrolled during the year.

At the early part of last year the local Press promoted an open competition with a view to obtaining ideas for the future development of Durban. Three members of your Committee were invited to act with others as adjudicators. The bulk of the competition was, I think, rather disappointing. Town Planning and future development as such was almost ignored, owing doubtless to the lack of information and surveys of the districts surrounding Durban. Most of the competitors made harbour development their main objective. There is no doubt that the winning drawings showed many useful ideas for future development in this department.

One thing came out of this competition very forcibly, that is, the necessity for some programme for the future development of Durban and districts, especially in view of the fact that shortly the Borough boundaries will have to be widely extended. A regional survey is imperative otherwise haphazard development with lack of co-ordination will lead future Durban into further lamentable mistakes as regards planning, mistakes which will be irremediable.

This matter is one in which I feel our Institute of Architects as a body might give a lead and start a campaign to educate public opinion.

Another matter that must be of interest to members is that of the architectural education of pupils. As matters stand to-day, our pupils in Natal are at a great disadvantage to those in Cape Town and Johannesburg, in so far that they cannot get either a degree or a diploma on passing their examinations, unless they attend one or other of the Universities. A Natal boy who cannot attend the University, although he passes the same examination as the University boy, can only obtain a certificate as a result of his work. It is true that this certificate will enable him to be registered as an architect, but a more outward sign of his success should be possible. The result is that unless external students can obtain a Degree or a Diploma they will sit for the R.I.B.A. examinations, a proceeding which in some quarters is discouraged.

A movement is on foot to make it possible for the Natal University to grant Diplomas and Degrees in architecture. A fully qualified full time professor would have to be appointed and a complete course would be available. Practically a full course is available to-day, and it is hoped that authority will be given for the Natal University to grant Diplomas and Degrees in Architecture just in the same way that they grant Diplomas in Art and other subjects to-day.

Members will further this very necessary object if they will see that their pupils attend the classes already available. It is only by showing the Authorities that such classes are well attended and needed that they will consider this further question of Degrees. The matter is of tremendous importance, both for our present students, future students and the Architecture of Natal.

Gentlemen, at the close of our third year as part of the Institute of South African Architects I think that we can feel that the interests of Architecture and of our profession are not receding. There still remains a vast number of matters that must be tackled as time goes on. Matters affecting Architects, Architecture and the general public for whom we are in a measure Architectural Trustees.

It is not for the Committee only, whom you appoint each year, to do this work, but the co-operation by loyal support of the Institute of South African Architects, and of all members of this Provincial Institute particularly, that is needed.

Before closing I should like to thank my colleagues on the Committee for their loyal support accorded me during my term of office.

Their guidance and long experience has been of the utmost value, and has enabled us to get through our work. Our secretary has been, as usual, indefatigable and our thanks are also due to him.

New Committee.—Owing to no new nominations having been received, the Chairman declared the nine retiring members duly elected to the new Committee for the ensuing year, as follow :—Messrs. H. E. Chick, G. T. Hurst, F. J. Ing, R. N. Jackson, W. G. Moffat, W. B. Oxley, E. M. Powers, W. S. Payne and W. J. Paton.

The business of the meeting being declared completed, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the President on the close of his term of office.

ORANGE FREE STATE PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1929.

Minutes of the Third Annual General Meeting of the O.F.S. Provincial Institute of S A. Architects, held in the Ramblers' Club Committee Room, Bloemfontein, on Saturday Evening, March 15th, 1930, at 8.15 p.m.

Present.—Mr. H. G. de la Cornillere, President (in the Chair), Messrs. L. D. Cartwright, J. E. Fitt, H. Fyvie, N. Harvey, W. Rhodes-Harrison, J. P. Runham, W. W. Tonkin, W. M. D. Stuart, Fredk. W. Masey.

Apologies.—Apologies were read from H. J. Louw and H. A. C. Wallace, whilst C. W. Medlin was in Rhodesia, J. P. Hulshof in Kroonstad, J. Mason and W. F. Waldeck in Johannesburg.

Notice of Meeting.—The Hon. Secretary read the Notice convening the Meeting.

Welcome.—The President welcomed Mr. Norman Harvey as a recent addition to our numbers.

Minutes of Previous Meeting.—The Minutes of the Second Annual General Meeting were then read and passed.

Arising therefrom.—Mr. N. Harvey asked if Quarterly Meetings, as suggested, had been held, the answer being in the negative, and on being asked what happened in the Transvaal Mr. Harvey gave an outline of how the agendas were made and the nature of the meetings held.

It was decided that the incoming Committee should give such meetings a trial.

President's Report.—This was taken as read and the President thereupon declared it open for discussion.

Johannesburg Library.—The President alluded to the fact that the Johannesburg Municipality had met the S.A. Institute Conditions for competition very fully in regard to the Competition for the New Library. The Assessor for same would be Mr. Vincent Harris.

Bloemfontein Town Hall.—In regard to the Bloemfontein Town Hall he was certain all members would be pleased at the procedure of the Municipality in having, from the first, availed themselves of the advice of our President-in-Chief. The Assessor chosen was

Mr. Hawke, of Cape Town.

Journal.—The members, in regard to a Professional Journal to be issued monthly and to be the property of the S.A. Institute, expressed the hope that it would be a free issue to all members, *i.e.*, included in the amount of the present and future subscriptions.

Town Planning.—Steps for the formation of a Town Planning Association for the O.F.S., it was decided, should be one of the first moves of the new Executive and it was suggested that at that Meeting Mr. Tonkin be asked to read a paper and those of the Public who were thought to be interested in such a matter be invited to attend.

Such Meeting could be the first quarterly meeting.

Cheaper Housing.—This item was freely discussed, the President mentioning that the Executive had gone fairly thoroughly into the matter, but at the present time there seemed from the newspapers to be plenty of houses to let.

Mr. Tonkin thought the Town Council might hold a competition for design for houses for people on £25—£35 per month salary.

Mr. Runham mentioned that if competitors sent in from all over South Africa there was the difficulty of cost of building at the coast as compared to up-country to be taken into consideration.

A £35 income could procure a better and larger house at the coast.

Mr. Rhodes-Harrison asked what would be done with the prize drawings, would the Council present free copies to other Municipalities as they had done with the designs made in their City Engineer's Dept.

Mr. Cartwright was of the opinion that more pressing than positions of the £25—£35 individual, was the case of the really poor.

Discussion finishing, Mr. Tonkin expressed the pleasure that all present felt in the President's Report, it was full of interest and information and he proposed that it be adopted and bound with the Minutes. This was seconded by Mr. Runham and carried by acclamation.

Visits.—Mr. Rhodes-Harrison expressed the hope that more visits to new buildings of importance in Bloemfontein would be made, as for instance to the New Creamery.

Balance Sheet.—The Balance Sheet was considered satisfactory and on the motion of Mr. Rhodes-Harrison, seconded by Mr. Cartwright was adopted.

Numbers for Executive Committee.—The President explained that he had received a letter suggesting that the number of members on the Committee be increased (say to eight), by being fixed at five, there was only one salaried member.

Mr. Rhodes-Harrison, as the writer stated that with the District Engineer of the Public Works and the Architectural Assistant of the City Engineer, both being Salaried Officials a larger Committee would allow both these Gentlemen having places on the Committee and from their official positions such a state of affairs seemed to him advisable.

Mr. Cornillere explained that the Transvaal Committee represented five per cent. of the members. The Cape eight per cent. The reduced number on the Chapter Board seven per cent. and the O.F.S. representation was thirty per cent.

Mr. Harvey was of the opinion that the number should be raised to six.

After some discussion Mr. Cartwright asked if there might be a formal proposition for the number to be eight, and Mr. Harvey to move an amendment that it be six, and a vote then be taken.

Mr. Masey mentioned that the proposal if carried would not ensure the head of the P.W.D. and the City Engineer's Architect Assistant being elected, it only ensured two salaried members.

Numbers of Executive Committee.—It was decided that the question of increase of members and election to fill the same should be open for all members to decide on, by vote on the first and if carried by nomination and voting for the second and that for the first a Special General Meeting to be called.

Mr. Rhodes-Harrison to draft out his motion which would be circulated to all members on the notice calling the meeting.

Election of Committee, 1930-1931.—On completing their work the Scrutineers handed the voting list to the President who declared the following elected:—Fredk. W. Masey, H. G. de la Cornillere, H. Fyvie, H. A. C. Wallace, W. W. Tonkin, H. J. Louw, L. D. Cartwright.

Annual Dinner.—Mr. Rhodes-Harrison suggested that the Annual General Meeting be in future held at 5.30 p.m. to be followed by a Dinner with Guests of Honour, Mr. Fyvie supported the idea considering such would draw attention to our profession specially if a paper on Architect matters was read. Mr. Fitt suggested Town Councillors be invited to attend as Guests. Mr. Cornillere thought the new Executive should not only consider the idea but should bring up a tentative programme in good time for members to consider same. All present expressed their favour of the scheme.

Presentation.—The President then presented the Hon. Secretary on his retirement from that office with a silver rose bowl, inscribed, Presented by the O.F.S. Provincial Institute of Architects to Fredk. W. Masey, L.R.I.B.A., M.I.A., a founder of the O.F.S. Institute of Architects and for ten years Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

O.F.S. Member of the Central Council of the Institute of South African Architects.

1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930.

In doing so he stated that Mr. Masey, with whom he had been intimately acquainted for many years, and especially in the last ten, had always been the driving factor in the affairs of the Institute and the thanks of the whole Institute were due to him, he had sacrificed a great deal of time to the furtherance of architectural matters in the Province.

On receiving the presentation Mr. Masey stated that last year he had thanked them for the kind honorarium the members had voted, but on this night he was made still happier by the inscription on the bowl purchased with a portion of the honorarium, and that he had to thank the Executive Committee for the wording of the inscription which gave the present additional value.

The bowl had given the greatest pleasure to Mrs. Masey, and it would form a tangible reminder of the goodwill of the members round the table.

General.—Mr. Fitt drew attention to the ignorance of the members of the S.A. Institute of Architects on the matter of the finances of the Institute—he asked if the Central Council could not publish their Revenue and Expenditure Accounts and their Balance Sheet in the Year Book.

Mr. Masey stated that he would draw the attention of the Central Council to this matter.

President.—Mr. H. Fyvie proposed the appreciation of the Institute to Mr. Cornillere, the President, who he understood was vacating the Chair. At meetings he had always exhibited tact and conducted the work in a business like manner, he trusted Mr. Cornillere would not fade away into the distant offing, but would continue on the Committee.

Mr. Cornillere in reply mentioned the pleasure it had given him to occupy the post of President. He now thought it was time that another should occupy the Chair, he much appreciated the fine and nice way the members had always acted towards him.

Mr. Fyvie's proposal of appreciation of the work of the President was seconded by all present and together with thanks for the President's hospitality during the evening was carried with acclamation.

Auditor.—Mr. Cartwright proposed and Mr. Tonkin seconded that Mr. Mosley be appointed Auditor for the coming year and this was agreed to.

The meeting then terminated.

At a meeting of the new executive called immediately after the Annual General Meeting, Mr. Fredk. W. Masey was elected President; Mr. H. Fyvie (P.O. Box 491, Bloemfontein), Hon. Secretary.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Gentlemen,

It it with great pleasure that I welcome you here this evening to the third Annual General Meeting of the O.F.S. Provincial Institute of Architects.

Welcome.—I desire to welcome Mr. Norman Harvey of the P.W.D. On his transfer back to Bloemfontein from Pretoria, he at once signified to the Registrar his desire to be entered in the O.F.S. Provincial Membership.

Central Council.—Our relations with the Central Council are all that can be wished for.

Education.—It is a matter of great importance to us all that the Central Council has brought to a finish the negotiations with the Government Department of Education and the two Universities by which Architectural education and admission of Students to the Architectural Profession have been brought to a conclusion and co-ordination and conformity effected.

Pupils.—Of special interest to ourselves is the decision that in the future Architects may only take as pupils those who have Matriculated or have obtained Central Council's exemption from Matriculation.

The Central Council is now compiling a Register of Pupils and Students.

Competitions.—These are now wherever possible referred to the President-in-Chief and the Central Council and it has been decided that in all cases of approved competitions the Registrar will circularise every member on the Roll of the event.

Fire Station, Johannesburg.—This important competition drew the Municipality of Johannesburg and the Central Council in to close relationship by which the first draft of the "Conditions" was greatly improved.

Johannesburg Library.—In this connection also much good work was accomplished by the Central Council although in some details members of our profession are somewhat disappointed.

Bloemfontein Town Hall.—Our President-in-Chief visited Bloemfontein at the request of the Town Council and gave professional advice in regard to the proposed New Town Hall. Mr. W. Hawke, F.R.I.B.A., M.I.A., has been chosen and accepted the part of Assessor and will be responsible for the control of the competition. I am sure the courtesy with which the Bloemfontein Town Council conducted its negotiations with both Mr. Howden and Mr. Hawke is appreciated by us all.

Public Works.—We must congratulate the Central Council further in the recognition obtained from the Minister of Public Works that in regard to Hospitals and Universities the employment of the Union P.W.D. shall cease. The P.W.D. and Public Health Departments to be advisory to the Architects employed.

Prosecutions.—The Registrar has from time to time forwarded certificates of non-registrations to Public Prosecutors, and a number of persons have been fined for infringing our privileges. One of these cases was in the O.F.S., the prosecution was successful.

Year Book.—The S.A. Institute Year Book was first issued last year, and the next and succeeding numbers will be found increasingly useful.

Architectural Journal.—The Central Council in the coming year trusts to compose various interests with intention of publishing a monthly professional journal such as will fill the place of the quarterly Architectural Record. A monthly publication of this nature in the hands of every member of our profession will be of the greatest value in keeping news of interest to every Provincial Institute and the Chapter up-to-date.

In the above unified activities our Central Council is proving that our Parliamentary Act is far from being the useless document which some few of the Architectural and Quantity Surveying Professions would have us believe.

Our Act is not all we desire, it can and possibly may be improved at a future date, but my remarks show that a valuable Union has been achieved—and Gentlemen—Union means strength.

Fees.—I would again like to refer to the question of Architects' fees, and remind members that the full professional scale is passed by Parliament. We are no longer voluntary bodies, but established by Parliament. Legal opinion has been obtained by both the Central Council and the Cape Provincial Institute, and departures from our Tariff, if not notified to our Provincial Secretary, render a member guilty of unprofessional conduct.

Committee Meetings.—The Executive Committee met six times during the past year.

Town Planning.—At one of our Executive Meetings Mr. W. W. Tonkin attended and read an outline of the usefulness the Town Planning Association is proving in the Transvaal and elsewhere. He pointed out how advantageous it would be to the O.F.S. not only in Bloemfontein, but in regard to new Townships and Villages if such an Association were formed here.

This matter it is proposed shall be gone into thoroughly by your in-coming Executive, and a public or semi public preliminary meeting be called under our auspices.

The formation of such an Association would—if then undertaken—be an independent concern.

Cheaper Housing.—At the instance of Mr. Fyvie your Executive met and considered the question of action by Architects in order to bring about cheaper cost of houses for persons of moderate means. The subject was full of difficulties, but much good work was done in the discussion and recorded for future use if necessary, at the present time however advertisement pages of the Daily Press indicate no lack of houses to let.

Secretary.—Mr. Fredk. W. Masey, who has been our Hon. Sec. for the last ten years, finds himself unable to continue longer in this office which he has occupied with satisfaction to us and honour to himself—it will be my pleasure later in the evening to make a presentation to him on your behalf.

In terms of Regulation 84, the Executive Committee will have to appoint a new Hon. Secretary in his place.

At this juncture I would like to congratulate Mr. Masey in his private capacity—for having been invited by the Hon. the Minister of the Interior to become a member of the Committee of the O.F.S. National Museum.

The Union Court of Appeal.—Mr. W. W. Tonkin on being approached by our Secretary immediately agreed to personally conduct our members over this recently completed building. The opportunity was taken advantage of by nearly every Architect in Bloemfontein, and was greatly appreciated, my thanks are herewith tendered to Mr. Tonkin for this act of kindness.

As your President I was further invited to the official opening of the building.

Our Hon. Secretary was also arranging with Mr. Bromilow a visit to the new National Mutual of Australasia Building, but before this could happen Mr. Bromilow left for Cape Town.

Federation of Master Builders.—When this body held its important Congress last year, in Bloemfontein, it came to the notice of the Hon. Secretary that in other centres members of our profession were formally received to convey good wishes to the Federation. Your Executive thereupon invited the Architects in Bloemfontein to join them to carry out this pleasurable courtesy, and our visit was appreciated. The further hospitality of the Federation in inviting all the Architects to their Reception and Conversazione was enjoyed by your President, Council and Members.

Development of Bloemfontein and the O.F.S.—In the past twelve months Bloemfontein and the Free State has rapidly developed and in the Capital and elsewhere works of high Architectural merit have been erected: at the same time there has been a regrettable increase in the number of dwellings not designed by qualified men and which may be termed lower than commonplace.

It is not necessary even in inexpensive work for buildings to lack some sense of proportion, adjustment of solids and voids or—what is easily achieved in South Africa interesting shadows.

I must also refer to the large number of plans submitted to our Municipality which are of so poor a character that the authors or draughtsmen of same (who are certainly not Architects) do not put their names to them.

This matter has occupied the attention of your Executive and doubtless the in-coming Committee will endeavour to deal with the difficult situation.

Finance.—Our Balance Sheet, Gentlemen, shows a Debit Balance of £1 12s. 6d., which, with subscriptions for the year 1930, now due, will be changed to a Credit Balance of over £40, whilst our expenses are small.

The position—especially when compared to some of the other Provinces is extremely satisfactory.

Robert Howden Testimonial.—As members are aware Mr. Robert Howden, President-in-Chief of the South African Institute of Architects, has worked unceasingly for the benefit of the Profession in South Africa, firstly on the Parliamentary Bill Committee, then on the Inaugural Board and for the last two years as our President-in-Chief.

A Committee consisting of Messrs. J. S. Cleland, F. W. Masey and T. Moore have kindly undertaken the work of circularising members and receiving subscriptions in order to form a Students' Prize Fund to fittingly and lastingly honour him for his great service, and I trust all members of our O.F.S. Provincial Institute will heartily support the Committee in its efforts in this connection.

Lecture on English Gardens.—Mrs. G. Antrobus, a lady who resides in Hampton Court Palace, and who, among other subjects, is a world authority on needlework, visited Bloemfontein during the year, she gave a number of lectures in Bloemfontein and the one on "English Gardens," was conducted on her behalf and guaranteed by Mr. W. S. Lunn, our Hon. Secretary and myself as being of interest to our profession. It was undoubtedly Mrs. Antrobus' greatest success in Bloemfontein, the hall (kindly lent to us by the Committee of the National Museum) being crowded to its utmost capacity.

I close with wishing the O.F.S. Provincial Institute continued prosperity.

TRANSVAAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1929.

To the Members of the Transvaal Provincial Institute.

Your Committee has pleasure in submitting this, the Third Annual Report, for the year ended 31st December, 1929, together with the usual accounts and Balance Sheet.

Committee Personnel and Meetings.—There was one change in the membership of the Committee during the year, due to the resignation of Mr. J. S. Cleland.

The vacancy thus caused was filled by the appointment to the Committee of Mr. A. S. Furner.

During the year twenty-two ordinary and six Special Meetings of the Committee have been held and meetings of the various Sub-Committees took place when necessary.

Records of the attendances of members at these meetings are given at the end of this report.

Members' Roll.—Two new members were registered during the year, Messrs. K. E. F. Gardiner and W. Gordon McIntosh.

Certain changes occurred through deaths, resignations and transfers and the membership at the end of December, 1929, was 272, classified as:—Practising, 112; Salaried, 118; Retired, 29; Absent from the Union, 13.

Obituary.—Your Committee regrets to record the deaths during the past year of the following members: Messrs. P. S. Beisley, J. C. Tully and H. J. Walker.

Expressions of sympathy have been conveyed to the relatives of the deceased members.

Finance.—The Balance Sheet and Revenue and Expenditure accounts, have been already circulated to members.

Revenue and Expenditure for the year excluding adjustments and legal expenses incurred in connection with the collection of arrears, showed an actual net surplus of £91, but after making provision for certain subscriptions considered irrecoverable from members, whose addresses are unknown, and other reasons amounting to £22, the net surplus is reduced to £69.

By utilizing the funds on hand from last year and amounts collected on arrear subscriptions, your Committee was enabled to repay the balance of the amount loaned by members for the promotion of the Act, *viz.*, £573 2s. 0d.

There being no further liability to members, the balance of the Architects' Act Fund amounting to £118 6s. 0d. has been transferred to accumulated Funds and this account now stands at £322 19s. 11d.

Work of the Transvaal Provincial Committee.—As in the past the work of the Provincial Institute has been carried on at ordinary meetings of the Committee held fortnightly. The Committee has been ably assisted by Sub-Committees on Finance, Practice, Building By-Laws, Art and Education, Journal, and the Board of Examiners and the thanks of the Institute are due to all members of these Sub-Committees for their valuable assistance.

In addition, the Committee has had representatives on the following bodies:—The Town Planning Association, The South African Institute of Art, The British Engineering Standards Committee, The Seymour Memorial Library and the Pan African Exhibition. Meetings of these bodies have been duly attended and reports submitted to this Committee.

Special General Meetings.—Two Special General Meetings of members of this Institute were held during the year. At the first of these, in August, about forty members attended and took a keen interest in the discussions of various questions submitted. A further meeting was held in October to deal with questions left over from the first meeting and your Committee regrets to have to report that only about twenty members attended though several matters of great interest to the profession were discussed.

Reports of both meetings appeared in the Journal.

Central Council.—Mr. D. M. Sinclair, one of your representatives on the Central Council since its inception, resigned therefrom in November last, and Mr. F. Williamson was appointed in his stead.

The Committee records its appreciation and thanks to Mr. Sinclair for the valuable services rendered during his membership of the Central Council.

A record of matters dealt with during the year by the Central Council will appear in the Institute's Year Book, which will be issued shortly.

Johannesburg Library Competition.—The proposed New Library Building, being open to competition, comes within the province of the Central Council. With a view, however, of enabling your representatives on the Central Council to know the views of your Committee, this matter has been discussed very openly at special meetings of your Committee.

Unbeknown to the Central Council and to the Provincial Committee the City Council cabled to the President of the R.I.B.A., requesting him to nominate three Architects from whom it could select one as the Assessor for the competition for the New Library Building.

Three names were duly submitted, but the City Council turned these down, and itself approached Mr. Vincent Harris with a view to his paying a visit to Johannesburg and afterwards assessing the competition.

Immediately your Committee became aware of the suggested appointment of an overseas Assessor they requested the Central Council to take action. The Central Council forthwith interviewed the Library Committee of the City Council and submitted a memorandum supported by arguments in favour of the appointment of a local assessor.

The Library Committee nevertheless announced its intention of recommending the employment of Mr. Vincent Harris, whereupon the Central Council presented a final memorandum to each member of the City Council the day previous to its meeting.

Despite these representations the City Council has now definitely decided to appoint Mr. Vincent Harris. The Institute's Competition Conditions lay down that the promoters of a competition should, *as their first step appoint as Assessor an Architect of acknowledged standing.*

It must, therefore, be accepted that the City Council has acted constitutionally in the matter and though it is regretted that at the outset it did not take the Institute into its confidence, it has complied with the requirements of our competition regulations which it has expressed its willingness to abide by.

Although there are members with somewhat extreme views in this matter, *i.e.*, that this case calls for drastic action, even to the extent of banning the competition, your Committee feels that, the City Council, having complied with the Institute's Conditions of Competition and having decided to appoint Mr. Vincent Harris, no good purpose would be served by the Central Council pursuing the matter any further.

Professional Fees.—Your Committee has had occasion to enquire into several cases of alleged unprofessional conduct by members carrying out work at fees below the scale. Members are urged to insist upon their full fees according to the official scale in all cases.

Readmission to the Institute after Resignation.—This question has been referred to legal advisers by the Central Council and it has been ruled that no member having resigned can be readmitted except those who were members of a society of equivalent standing in terms of Section 11 (i) (b) of the Act.

R.I.B.A.—Examinations have been held during the year by your Board of Examiners.

Mr. D. C. McDonald, of Durban, passed the Intermediate Examination and Mr. C. W. Brown, of Pretoria, passed the Special Final Examination and has obtained his associateship of the Royal Institute.

Mr. G. E. Fitzgerald, A.R.I.B.A., of Pretoria, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Institute.

Architectural Education.—Architectural Education and Examinations are now dealt with by a "Standing Committee on Education and Examinations" composed of one representative of the Department of Union Education, two representatives of the Universities of Cape Town and the Witwatersrand, two Architects and two Quantity Surveyors.

The attention of members is drawn to the circular published in the December issue of the Journal which circular was sent to all members of the Institute and Chapter.

During the year the Department of Architecture and Quantity Surveying at the Transvaal University College Pretoria, was established, the head of the department being Professor H. Bell-John, M.C., F.S.I., L.R.I.B.A.

Competitions — Roodepoort-Maraisburg Hospital.—During the year, competitive designs were invited by the Roodepoort-Maraisburg Municipality for a hospital in their area. Mr. J. S. Cleland, M.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., was appointed assessor and some thirty-three designs were submitted.

The awards have been made as under :—1, Messrs. Cowin, Powers and Ellis, Johannesburg ; 2, Messrs. Cowin, Powers and Ellis, Durban ; 3, Messrs. Siemerink, Walker and Lane, Port Elizabeth.

Baker Scholarship.—A competition for the Herbert Baker Architectural Scholarship was held during the year.

Nine candidates entered for the preliminary competition and of these four were passed to the final. One of the latter, however, did not compete, and final designs were submitted by Messrs. R. A. Bruce, N. M. Eaton and J. Peel Nelson.

The award of the Scholarship has been made to Mr. N. M. Eaton.

Mr. Eaton received his academic training in the profession at the University of the Witwatersrand, and since 1924, he has been in charge of Mr. Gordon Leith's office in Pretoria.

The Journal.—The Journal continues to flourish, but still suffers from the lack of contributors. During the year a special number dealing with domestic architecture was published. A certain amount of interest was displayed by the public with the result that a number of new advertisers and subscribers was secured. It has been proposed that the *S.A. Architectural Record* should now become the official journal of the S.A. Institute of Architects and that the Central Council should take it over. It is further proposed that the Journal shall be conducted by our Journal Committee and Business Manager, with the collaboration of honorary editors in the various provinces, and that it should eventually, and as soon as possible, become a monthly journal.

A Committee of the Central Council is to meet the Journal Committee and discuss ways and means It is to be hoped that these proposals will eventuate and that we shall soon have an even more interesting publication to present to our members.

The proposals if carried through will mean a loss of revenue to the Provincial Institute, which is a matter of serious consideration to members.

The thanks of the Journal Committee are due to the Hon. Editor and the Business Manager for the excellent work done by them during the course of the year.

South African Academy.—On the whole, last year's Academy did not come up to the expectations and hopes of your Committee.

Not only for the reason that several well-known Artists did not exhibit, but also because, with two or three exceptions, exhibitors did not reach their own standards.

What might be called the younger generation was well represented.

The Architectural Section was a much stronger feature and was representative of the best that was going on in building and construction in South Africa.

The Arts and Crafts Section showed a decided advance both in quality and quantity whilst the Schools' Section made a particularly good showing.

At this Exhibition the Academy was honoured by a visit from its President, His Excellency the Governor General, the Earl of Athlone, who expressed his appreciation of the Exhibition generally.

The Eleventh Annual Exhibition is being held from the 2nd to the 12th April, 1930, inclusive and members are asked to give it their support.

Town Planning.—Your Committee has been represented on the Council of this Association during the year and records its appreciation of the valuable work accomplished.

The Town Planning Commission has completed its labours and its report has recently been issued, the main feature being the unanimous recommendation that legislation be introduced to enforce town planning regulations on all proposed new townships and that three members possessing Town Planning Qualifications shall be appointed on the Townships Board.

Publications.—The attention of members is again drawn to the following useful pamphlets which are obtainable at the office of the Institute, viz. :—

Scale of Professional Charges, 6d. ; The Act and Regulations, 2/6 ; Epitome of Johannesburg, Building By-Laws, 5/-.

All profit from the sales of the latter goes to the Benevolent Fund.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Minutes of the Third Annual General Meeting of Members of the Transvaal Provincial Institute of South African Architects, held in the Chamber of Commerce Board Room, on Thursday, the 13th March, 1930, at 8 p.m.

Present.—The President, Mr. Harold Porter (in the Chair), Professor G. E. Pearse and Mr. S. C. Dowsett (Vice-Presidents). Messrs. D. M. Sinclair, N. T. Cowin, R. Wild, J. S. Donaldson, Bertram R. Avery, R. Howden, J. C. Tribelhorn, F. L. H. Fleming, Arthur Leitch, F. Raine, S. V. Mann, H. W. Spicer, G. E. Gordon Leith, C. J. Crothall, I. Wayburne, H. A. Collins, Allen Wilson, A Stanley Furner, G. M. Harrison, H. G. Tomkyns, W. G. Lansley, Miss Nelly Edwards and the Secretary, A. S. Pearse.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs J. Lockwood Hall, F. Williamson, T. Moore, E Grubb and D. M. Burton.

The Chairman declared the Meeting duly constituted.

Minutes of the Second Annual General Meeting of Members, held on the 14th March, 1929, which had been published in the Journal, were taken as read and confirmed.

Election of Committee for 1930/31.—The President reported that nominations of twenty-two members had been received and ballot papers had been sent to all Members. He called on any Member present who had not voted to complete his ballot paper. The ballot was then declared closed and Scrutineers were appointed to count the votes.

The Meeting was adjourned pending the declaration of the poll, and, was resumed on completion of the Scrutineers' work, when the President declared the following Members elected as the Council for the ensuing year :—

Messrs. C. C. Deuchar, S. C. Dowsett, A. S. Furner, J. Lockwood Hall, R. Howden, G. E. Gordon Leith, A. J. Marshall, Professor G. E. Pearse, Messrs. H. Porter, V. S. Rees Poole, F. Williamson, Allen Wilson.

Statement of Accounts.—The Secretary read the Auditor's report. In moving the adoption of the Balance Sheet and Revenue and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1929, Mr. D. M. Sinclair, Chairman of the Finance Committee said that this was the first time for many years that the accounts had shown a surplus of Revenue over Expenditure, which was due to the fact that nearly all the Subscriptions had been paid and Expenditure had been cut down to the lowest possible figure. The Committee would have to be even more careful in the future as the Central Council was possibly taking over the Journal and if the Revenue from this source, though small, and the R.I.B.A. moieties cease to accrue to this Institute, the total Revenue will be reduced to £900, which, after deducting nearly £400 for levies payable to the Central Council, will leave only about £500 for the annual expenses of your Institute, which meant a debit on ordinary expenses.

He wished to draw the attention of the new Committee to the fact that the Expenditure of the Central Council for administration purposes only, was about £100 per annum more than that of this Institute, and he felt that this was excessive and should be reduced.

He placed this position to the Transvaal Provincial Committee, who agreed to the Central Council being requested to reduce the levy. On doing so, the Central Council turned it down.

The motion for the adoption of the accounts was seconded by Mr. Raine.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee answered one or two questions which were put regarding details of expenses and Mr. Avery complimented the Committee on its recovering £1,280 in arrear and current subscriptions during the year and reducing the outstandings to £194.

The adoption of the accounts was carried unanimously.

Committee's Report.—The Committee's report, which had been circulated to Members, was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cowin, seconded by Mr. Spicer.

Retiring Members.—The President expressed the appreciation and thanks of this Institute for the services rendered by three members of the Committee who were retiring and not seeking re-election, viz. : Mr. Cowin, who had served on the Committee for some twelve years Mr. Donaldson, seventeen years and Mr. Sinclair, twenty years. He said that the Institute could not adequately express its appreciation of the amount of work and time given by these gentlemen in the interests of the Profession and especially to Mr. Sinclair for twenty years of work and also for his services as a representative on the Central Council. This was received with applause.

S.A. Academy.—The President reminded members that the Academy would be opened by the Mayor, at 3.30 p.m. on Wednesday the 2nd April.

He expressed the appreciation and thanks of the Institute to Mr. D. M. Burton who had donated a prize for the best essay from school pupils on the Academy Exhibition.

University Prize.—The President asked Professor Pearse to mention another prize donated by Mr. Burton. Professor Pearse said that Mr. Burton, who for many years had donated a prize of £5 5s. per annum

to the School of Architecture, Witwatersrand University, had now given £100, to accumulate with interest until such time as he might be unable to continue his annual prize contribution, when the income from this capital sum would enable the continuation of the annual prize.

(This announcement was received with applause).

Baker Scholarship.—The President congratulated Mr. N. M. Eaton, of Pretoria, on winning the 1929 Baker Scholarship and said that in Mr. Eaton we have a promising Architect, who, it was expected, would do great credit to the Profession in his work overseas.

PRESIDENTS ADDRESS

In rising to say these few words, after having occupied the honoured position of President of this Provincial Institute during the past year, I do so with a great deal of nervousness and trepidation, as it is no easy task to address a gathering of men who belong to the same profession as myself and who very probably hold views and opinions more decided than my own. I will therefore be very careful not to pass any criticism with reference to the standard and style of the work being produced at the present time, but I would rather like to sound a note of optimism for the future. Can anyone put forward any justifiable reason why South Africa should not prosper? Our Industries are flourishing and producing record outputs each year; Agriculture has never had such a favourable season as the one just past, prices may be low but that to a large extent is counterbalanced by the increased production; and Education is producing the brains in "Young South Africa," who will be able to hold their own and solve the problems and difficulties so prevalent in all business to-day.

We may be passing through a slack period at the present, but do not let us wring our hands and bewail the fates, rather let us consider the position as a "Pause," or "Breathing time," in which we will gain further strength, confidence, energy and determination to do better than we have previously accomplished.

Business men will have to face keener competition, which indirectly will lead to the production of higher class articles and thus raise the standard of work.

It may be said with a considerable amount of pride, that our standard of building has improved beyond recognition within the last five years, and now holds a position second to none throughout the Empire. The public are demanding a better standard and are prepared to pay the increased cost for convenience and arrangement at the sacrifice of redundant ornament and decoration. The Architect has therefore had to rely upon obtaining his effect from simple proportions and dignified forms, which have been the trend of all architectural work throughout the world to-day.

It will also be observed that the Speculative Builder has also improved his standard and has tried to copy the better class work, finding out that cheap materials and shoddy workmanship have no sale.

I have confidence that there is a great future for South Africa and more particularly the Transvaal, in which building and architecture will share abundantly. We have passed through far more trying times than the present, such as strikes, revolution, depression after the War, droughts and pests, when the pessimists had excellent opportunities of airing their views; nevertheless, each time we came through the bad times and rebounded with additional prosperity, showing itself particularly in the amount and style of buildings erected. First the Warehouses were increased in size and number, then the motor trades erected and improved their buildings, then followed the large blocks of office buildings and the erection of numerous flats, domestic buildings keeping well to the fore all the time. It now remains for industries and industrial buildings to complete the circle. This I feel confident will come about at a very early date. There is a peculiar National tendency or National jealousy, which is affecting all industries in all countries, and manufacturers are beginning to realise that the firms who manufacture their products in the countries in which they wish to market them, have preference given them, which enables them to sell their goods in the keen competitive markets of to-day, otherwise their products are not considered by the public and are beaten on cost.

Local industries are therefore sure to come in fast increasing numbers.

Another fact which makes me have this unbounded optimism—is the increasing number of visitors and tourists who come to our country every year (you will notice I say "Our" country and not "This" country).

South Africa is very much in the eyes of the world just now. We have many attractions which are so different from what other countries can show. Our fauna, flora, geology and climate are attractions which cannot be surpassed, these taken together with the charms Rhodesia has to offer, make a glorious combination for the tourist. We are sure to reap the benefit from visitors, and in time a proportion revisit and become immigrants. When we have the increased population, then naturally the building industry will have to provide their wants.

The luxury type of building will come as and when the country prospers. America has shown the rest of the world, what can be done with money, and for the comfort of those who have money to spend.

The "Super Flat," with its reception rooms and roof gardens; the sumptuous hotels with their private suites and bath rooms; and their magnificent universities. But I have hopes of these types of buildings being built here at an early date, provided we do not go about the country with our spirits broken, and having no foresight to grasp the numerous opportunities for development on sound business lines.

There is still a further aspect which we have to consider in the scheme of development—after our City Council has built upon all our open spaces, we will have to consider some big schemes of opening up the City and replanning portions of it, on similar lines as are

being done to-day in London and in all the largest towns throughout the world. It has already been suggested that a public competition be held inviting plans and suggestions for the improvement and layout of the central portion of Johannesburg. If such a competition could be inaugurated, I feel sure that many useful schemes of improvement would be solicited. Architects are always considered to be idealists and dreamers, but our towns are growing at such a rapid rate that it is wise to consider some scheme of future development, and to direct the development into right and economical channels. The Government and the Municipalities are continually erecting new buildings and it is most important that these should be erected on the most suitable sites, and more particularly that they should be grouped around some civic place.

In conclusion I would urge every Architect to use this "Pause" in the rush of our busy existence to dream more and to scheme out plans for the future development of his particular town.

Auditors.—On the motion of Mr. Sinclair, seconded by Mr. Gordon Leith, Messrs. Alex. Aiken and Carter were appointed Auditors for the ensuing year and their remuneration for the past audit was fixed at £10 10s.

Scale of Fees.—Mr. Gordon Leith in speaking on this subject said he was one of the dreamers referred to by the President, but during last year he had a rude awakening, in connection with the scale of fees for sketch plans. He referred to a case in which a client was considering the erection of a large building, in which further funds were to be raised by outside bondholders. In such cases it is often not possible to decide what form the building is to take and how the details are to be carried out as the bond-holders would necessarily want to have a say in the matter. In such cases sketch plans prepared would have to be revised when the balance of the money had been raised. He felt, in such instances, that an Architect should be justified in charging a nominal fee for preliminary sketches on condition that he enters into a written agreement with the client, that in the event of the work being proceeded with, full fees would be paid for the work done including full fees for the sketch plans.

Mr. Leith suggested that the Committee should consider a modification of the scale of fees in order to meet such cases.

Mr. Furner supported the suggestion that the Committee should consider a modification of the scale of fees.

Mr. Sinclair pointed out that such cases could be met by the Architect notifying his Provincial Committee of his intention to accept a nominal fee, but if the scale was modified then a member would have no means of supporting his claim for full fees in a court of law.

The right to charge one and a half per cent. should remain, as the working out of preliminary designs was "the brains of the job" and worth one and a half per cent. Provision was made for deviation being permitted if the Provincial Institute was notified.

Mr. Leith stated it had been his intention to protest at this meeting against the action the late Committee had taken against him in a case of this kind but in view of the changes in the in-coming Committee he preferred to withdraw his motion.

It was agreed to refer this matter to the incoming Committee for consideration.

Standardization of Bricks.—Mr. Gordon Leith enquired why, when the Brickmakers' Association approached the Institute of Architects re Standardization of Bricks, the Institute did not take the matter up.

Mr. Sinclair replied that this was referred to the British Engineering Standards Association, on which this Institute was represented.

Mr. Leith continuing, felt that the Standardisation of Bricks was a most important matter, and he was astonished that the Council when approached by the Brickmakers Association did not seize the opportunity of settling the matter with them directly instead of referring it to the British Engineering Standards Association, which had had this matter before them for about seven years and to this day had done nothing in the matter.

The matter was referred to the incoming Committee.

Vote of Thanks to the Retiring President.—Mr. Cowin moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Porter, the Retiring President. He said members of the Committee appreciated his dignity, tact and judgment in conducting the meetings. He also congratulated the President on his excellent address and thanked him for his kind references to himself.

Mr. Cowin expressed the opinion that new blood was good and hoped that the new Committee would be able to deal satisfactorily with the important matters which were referred to them, especially the "Scale of Fees." In this connection he felt that members should have latitude in dealing with clients.

Different clients had different points of view and it should be left to the Architect to judge for himself what the value of his services were to them. One cannot conform to the scale entirely, but has in many cases to deviate owing to special circumstances. He suggested that the irksome clause requiring members to report every deviation to the Provincial Institutes should be deleted as it was well known that members were not adhering to it. The class of members who tended to lower the standard of the Profession would be replaced gradually by a better class which were now coming from the Schools of Architecture and were highly trained and not so likely to value their services cheaply.

Mr. Howden said he heartily supported Mr. Cowin's vote of thanks to the retiring President, Mr. Porter, whose period in the Chair had been much appreciated by every member of the Committee.

Readmission after Resignation.—Mr. Lansley referred to the announcement in the December Journal that Members who were registered under Section 10

(2) (a) of the Act, and who might resign from the Institute could not be readmitted, whereas all Members of the old Association of Transvaal Architects and other Societies after resignation could be readmitted to the Institute.

He considered this a most extraordinary position as he could not see why Members of the A.T.A. should have this special privilege whilst those admitted under Section 10 (2) (a) were debarred from rejoining.

He expressed the opinion that the Central Council should have made this rule apply to all Members who were admitted under the Act, because, in the circumstances as at present, there was a suspicion that Section 10 (2) (a) members were deliberately penalised.

Mr. Howden in replying said he was afraid the speaker had not grasped the exact situation.

The A.T.A. was inadvertently omitted from Section 11 (1) (b) of the Act, which named the Cape, Natal, O.F.S. and Port Elizabeth Societies and not the A.T.A.

The Central Council had, therefore, applied to the Minister to declare the A.T.A. a Society of equivalent standing in terms of that clause, and it is now possible for any person who was a member of any of those Societies to be readmitted after resignation.

There was no provision in the Act to enable members who came in under Section 10 (2) (a), and who were not members of one of the above mentioned Societies, to be included in the Minister's declaration.

Mr. Lansley moved that this declaration be referred back for reconsideration to include all members.

Mr. Wayburne seconded Mr. Lansley's motion.

Mr. Avery thought that some provision might be made for any member resigning to be readmitted if he so desired at a later date.

Mr. Howden explained that the Act only provided for readmission after resignation of voting members of existing Societies at the time of the passing of the Act.

Mr. Crothall asked if the Minister could declare other Societies, such as an Engineering Society, as of equivalent standing and could such Societies apply to the Minister.

Mr. Howden replied that any person could apply to the Minister to declare his Society equivalent, but the Minister would refer such applications to the Central Council.

Mr. Sinclair moved as an amendment that the new Committee be requested to obtain further legal opinion from its Attorney, Mr. Morison Abel, and Mr. Advocate Blakeway, as to whether an additional regulation could be adopted to provide for the re-admission of *any* Member after resignation.

Mr. Crothall seconded the amendment which he was pleased to support as this would do away with any impression that there was any desire to differentiate between members of the A.T.A. and those who were admitted under Section 10 (2) (a).

Mr. Avery asked if Mr. Sinclair would add to his motion that the Transvaal Provincial Committee should consult with the other Provincial Committees and the Chapter.

Mr. Sinclair requested Mr. Avery not to press his amendment, and Mr. Avery withdrew.

General.—The President referred to several other matters, such as Preparation of Plans by Public Servants; Architects' Licences; Special Agreement under Scale of Fees; Piracy and Copying of Architects' Plans; which had been discussed at a meeting of Section 10 (2) (a) members, and referred to him by Mr. Lansley a day or two ago. He explained that all these matters had been considered and discussed by the Provincial Committee and the Central Council during the past year and Mr. Lansley's notes and report of his Meeting would be referred to the incoming Committee for consideration.

A suggestion to publish in the Journal any information regarding decisions come to by the Committee which were of Special interest to Members was adopted.

The Meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman.

At the first Meeting of the New Committee, Professor G. E. Pearse was appointed President and Messrs. S. C. Dowsett and C. C. Deuchar Vice-Presidents for the ensuing year.

CHAPTER OF SOUTH AFRICAN QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

PRESIDENTS ADDRESS.

Messrs. Vice-Presidents and Members of the Chapter :

There is very little to be said beyond what is contained in the Board's Report. The most important feature of my address is the attention I wish to draw to the changed conditions in our profession during the last three years.

To make myself clearly understood I must go back some twenty-five years. In 1905 was formed The Transvaal Society of Quantity Surveyors, a voluntary body controlled by a Council elected by the members. The Society did what it could to promote good fellowship amongst its members, and to further the interests of Quantity Surveying and Quantity Surveyors in the Transvaal.

Shortly after the Society came into existence it was decided to extend its influence, and in 1908 was formed The South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors which incorporated the Society and was similarly a voluntary body controlled by a Council elected by the members, with the same objects, not confined to the Transvaal, but embracing the whole of what is now the Union of South Africa.

In this connection I must emphasise the point that the Council of the Society and Institute wished to improve the status of Quantity Surveying as a profession, not to found and establish a Quantity Surveying Institution at the expense of Quantity Surveyors ; in other words the Institute sought to promote the interests of Quantity Surveyors and not merely to establish an Institute.

The voluntary body came to an end with the passing of the Architects' and Quantity Surveyors' Act No. 18 of 1927, within which Act was embodied the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors, controlled by a Board elected by the members. Thus a vital change took place, the voluntary body becoming a statutory one.

This change has made a very considerable difference. If the Council of the voluntary body failed to exercise its powers or neglected to perform its duties, nothing much resulted : *e.g.,* Bye-Laws were sometimes ignored ; at other times new Bye-Laws were passed and acted upon nothwithstanding the fact that not having been notified to and approved of by the Registrar of Companies as being in accord with the Articles of Association, they had no legal binding power over the members. Further, and a most important point, a member could be struck off the membership roll of the voluntary institution for certain offences, but he could still continue to call himself a Quantity Surveyor.

The position of the Board is entirely different. The Act and Regulations pursuant thereto give the Board certain powers and duties (see Regulations 71 to 88). The Board must exercise the powers given and perform the duties defined and are accordingly responsible therefor to the Minister for Education.

Only by being statutorily enrolled a member of the Chapter is anyone in the Union of South Africa allowed to designate himself a Quantity Surveyor, and a member can only be struck off the roll by order of the Supreme Court ; *but if struck off can not call himself a Quantity Surveyor* in the Union and cannot seek the aid of the Regulations to establish any claim for Quantity Surveying fees.

The change over from a voluntary to a statutory body has caused a certain amount of confusion—I might say almost a state of chaos. One great cause of confusion was the double subscription for the year 1928 ; it was often difficult to allocate the subscriptions payable by the dual members, but this matter has been cleared up and is now a thing of the past.

After working for some twenty years towards the establishment of a statutory Chapter it is a source of great satisfaction to myself and the other members of the former South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors to know that the Chapter is the only body of Quantity Surveyors in the world having the title "Quantity Surveyor" protected by Act of Parliament.

From the Report of the Board you will see that matriculation has been established as the standard of education for Quantity Surveying Students, for whom University courses and examinations are now available in South Africa.

The profession of Quantity Surveying in the Union is now acknowledged to be in every way equal to and running parallel with that of Architecture.

I may mention incidentally that when a young man in England I noticed that the " Blue Book," as it was called, in the list of learned professions stopped after "Architects." Surveyors were outside the pale and entirely ignored.

Quantity Surveying is now recognised as one of the learned professions and we are all proud of the status attained. The profession is an honoured one and we must all live up to the best traditions and so bequeath to the youngsters training as Quantity Surveyors a legacy that will be their greatest asset in the years to come.

The relations between the Central Council and the Board are everything one could desire. The Delegates from your Board meet with the greatest courtesy and consideration from the Delegates from the Provincial Institutes. Mutual understanding and tolerance as between the two professions, are now established facts. Moreover, with our respective students studying side by side, growing up to appreciate fully each other's position, their future professional relationship is assured.

To the President-in-Chief of the Institute of South African Architects, Mr. Robert Howden, the Chapter must recognise a very deep debt of gratitude for all he has done in the interests of Quantity Surveying.

I cannot speak too highly of the work done by your Senior Vice-President, Colonel Puntis. It is owing to his energy and foresight that you have classes and examinations established at the Universities and a professional status for your students. I am under a great obligation to him for taking over the duties of President at very short notice, when I was compelled to be absent for some three months owing to illness.

I thank the members of the Chapter for their many kind expressions of sympathy during my illness, not only to myself but also to my wife and family, and I herewith convey their appreciation and thanks.

I tender my thanks to the Vice-Presidents and members of the Board. They devoted a very great amount of time, and were unfailing in their attention, to the duties of their office. The Coastal Members, when unable to attend, kept in touch with me by correspondence and did everything possible to make my year as President a successful one.

In conclusion I must state that it is entirely owing to the energy and ability of the Secretary, Mr. J. S. Lewis, that the affairs of the Chapter are now in an orderly condition, the roll, subscriptions, correspondence, etc., being all in order, and to him I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation. With Mr. Lewis as Secretary, the incoming Board should have a successful year and the President for the Session 1930, a comparatively happy time.

T. MOORE, F.S.I.
President, 1929.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Board has pleasure in presenting its Annual Report.

The Board for 1929 consisted of :

Practising Members :—Messrs. E. B. Farrow, F. D. Hickman, H. G. Labdon, D. J. Laing, T. Moore, W. G. Thompson, S. Waters.

Salaried Members :—Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis and Mr. A. W. Springthorpe.

Dual-Practising Members :—Messrs. R. Howden, W. A. Ritchie Fallon and H. Rowe Rowe.

At the first meeting of the Board, Mr. T. Moore was unanimously elected President, and Col. Puntis and Mr. H. G. Labdon, Senior and Junior Vice-Presidents, respectively.

The following Committees were appointed for the year :

1. *General Purposes Committee :*—Messrs. T. Moore (Chairman and Convenor), E. B. Farrow, R. Howden, F. D. Hickman, D. J. Laing, W. E. Puntis and H. Rowe Rowe.

2. *Finance Committee :*—Messrs. D. J. Laing, (Chairman and Convenor), E. B. Farrow, A. Stratton and the President *(ex officio)*.

3. *Practice Committee :*—Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis (Chairman and Convenor), A. W. Springthorpe, S. Waters and the President *(ex officio)*.

The following members were elected as the Board's representatives on the Central Council :

Mr. T. Moore (Alternate, Mr. W. G. Thompson).

Mr. F. D. Hickman (Alternate, Mr. H. G. Labdon).

Under the Regulations Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis, in his official capacity of Chief Government Quantity Surveyor (Alternate, Mr. A. A. J. Stratton), is the Government Nominee on the Central Council, and as such is entitled to a permanent seat.

Membership.—The total membership of the Chapter as at December 31st, 1929, according to the latest information received by the Secretary, is 149, composed as follows :

Practising solely as Quantity Surveyors ..	23
Practising as Architects and Quantity Surveyors	51
Salaried Members	50
Retired Members	24
Honorary	1

Changes in Membership—New Enrolments.—The Chapter, during 1929, enrolled the following four new members :

P. S. McDonald, Port Elizabeth, Practising Member.
W. E. Langton, Durban, Practising Member.
D. S. Mann, Pretoria, Practising Member.
Leonard Martin, Durban, Salaried Member.

Obituary.—The Chapter regrets to announce the death, in March, 1929, of Mr. G. S. Hill, a former Practising Member, of Port Elizabeth.

Resignations.—The following resignations were tendered and accepted during 1929 :

W. McKenzie Smith, Practising Member.

J. M. Anderson, Salaried Member.

E. J. Wellman, "Absentee" Practising Member.

Certificates of Enrolment.—Members of the Chapter are entitled to possess the printed Certificate of Enrolment. Every Member has already been circularised asking if he has received his Certificate. So far as is known, every application for a Certificate has been attended to. If there are any instances where a Certificate has not reached the Member concerned, the Secretary should be advised immediately.

Quantity Surveyors and Government Work.—The Central Council, on behalf of both Architects and Quantity Surveyors, made further representations on the subject of Government Work to the Minister of Public Works. The Minister has been most sympathetic and, through the Secretary for Public Works, has placed on record the following decision in respect of Hospital and University Work.

Department of Public Works,
Union Buildings, Pretoria.
12th December, 1929.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of the 23rd November, I am directed by the Hon. the Minister of Public Works to inform you that, after careful consideration, he has approved of the Department ceasing to undertake University work in the future and also Hospital work, except work in hand and any particular services which the Government may, for any reason, direct the Department to carry out.

This decision is dictated by a desire to consider the interests of both the Government and the practising profession. The Minister sympathises on the one hand with the desire of the Central Council to secure for the profession the important work involved in the building of Universities and Hospitals. On the other hand Mr. Sampson definitely desires to avoid the overloading of the Public Works Department and overgrowth of a per-permanent establishment.

It will be understood that the Government reserves the right to revert to previous practice, but Mr. Sampson expresses the hope that no occasion for this will arise.

As regards Universities, Mr. Sampson is satisfied that the authorities can be properly referred to the practising members of the profession.

As regards Hospitals entrusted to private practitioners, the Department will still come into matters of design through the Public Health Department in the early and most important stages. This will be all to the good, as the Department has a very large accumulated experience which will be gladly placed at the disposal of the architects selected, who are invited to refer to the Department for advice.

This decision has been intimated to the Union Department of Education for communication to University authorities and also for the information of Hospital Boards to the Provincial Administrations. It applies both to architectural design and quantity surveying.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(signed) O. W. STATEN,
Secretary for Public Works.

The Registrar,
The Central Council,
The Institute of S.A. Architects,
Johannesburg.

Application has since been made, by the Central Council and the Chapter simultaneously, to the four Provincial Administrations to ascertain all the Hospital Boards in each Province. On receipt of this information the Chapter will, having already obtained the Central Council's approval, communicate with all these Hospital Boards with the object of assisting them firstly to realise the entirely separate identity of the Quantity Surveyor as a practitioner, and secondly, to engage their own Quantity Surveyor direct.

With regard to future University work, as the administration thereof differs from that of the Hospitals, inasmuch as the latter is provincial whereas the former is not, the Chapter's representations will be made to the University authorities concurrently with the Central Council's.

Quantity Surveying Education and Examinations.—The question of professional education and examinations has been specially considered during the year under review, and gratifying progress made.

Originally it was proposed by the Institute and the Chapter to establish a comprehensive Education Council, but on reconsideration it was decided to appoint, in its stead, *the Standing Committee on Education and Examinations,* which now consists of seven members:

Representing Architects: The President-in-Chief of the Institute and Mr. J. S. Cleland.

Representing Quantity Surveyors: The President of the Chapter and Lt.-Col. Puntis.

Minister's "Examining Authority": Professor G. E. Pearse, W.W. University; Professor John Wheatley, C.T. University.

Mr. H. S. le Roux, of the Department of Union Education.

The Registrar of the Institute, is the Secretary to the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee has already drafted Examination Regulations to cover practically every case for registration and enrolment. These Examination Regulations have been submitted to the Minister for Education for his formal approval, after which they will be immediately promulgated.

On November 25th, 1929, the Central Council of the Institute circularised every practising Architect and Quantity Surveyor setting forth *inter alia* the educational qualifications required of students, the professional educational facilities now obtainable in South Africa, and the intention of the Institute to open a Register of Architectural and Quantity Surveying pupils, assistants and students through South Africa. This Register is now in process of compilation, and it is hoped thereby to do much in the furtherance of professional education in the Union.

Surveyors' Institution, London—Affiliation.—The Council of the Surveyors' Institution on the 5th March, 1929, cordially approved of the affiliation of the Chapter, to succeed that of the former South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors.

Fellowship for Immediate Past President.—The Surveyors' Institution has adopted the recommendation made by the Board, to confer the Fellowship of the Institution upon the immediate Past President of the Chapter.

Examinations.—It is stated for the information of all concerned that there are three Surveyors' Institution examinations conducted in South Africa, *i.e.*, the Preliminary Examination, held early in January each year; the Intermediate Examination, held in March of each year; and the Final Examination, held in March of each year.

In this country of vast distances it has now been agreed to hold the examinations at the centres most suitable to the candidates entering. This can, of course, only be done where candidates advise the Board of the Chapter in due time to make such arrangement. It is therefore a matter of very real necessity that all intending candidates for the Surveyors' Institution examinations advise the Secretary of the Chapter at the earliest opportunity of their intention to sit for these examinations.

Any information on this matter required by Members, will gladly be furnished by the Secretary of the Chapter.

Donation.—The Board has to acknowledge its very deep appreciation of the generous action of the Surveyors' Institution in donating a sum of one hundred guineas to the Chapter, towards the repayment of the expenses incurred by members in the promotion of the Act.

Standard System of Measurement.—The Standard System of Measurement is being reprinted so as to embody all the alterations and revisions agreed to up to November, 1927. This work is now in hand and it is hoped that the New Edition of the Standard System will be published early in 1930.

Year Book.—During 1929 the Institute and the Chapter published their first Year Book containing, *inter alia,* a complete list of all members in South Africa. A copy of the Year Book was sent to every member of the Institute and the Chapter. The Year Book has met a long-felt want, has been very well received, and it is the intention to issue a current edition each year.

Secretarial.—The Board has to record the resignation of Mr. D. C. McCulloch, owing to serious ill-health, as and from September 30th, 1929.

The Board has since appointed Mr. J. S. Lewis, as Secretary to the Chapter. The new office address of the Chapter, to which all communications should be addressed, is 91, Stanley House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg. The telegraphic address of the Chapter has now been registered as "Chapter," Johannesburg.

Constitution of Board for 1930.—Because of the travelling expenses involved in the attendance of Coastal Members at Board Meetings, it has been resolved, for reasons of economy, to have a smaller Board as and from 1930: *i.e.*, nine members instead of twelve.

It has been resolved, also, to recommend the formation of Local Committees at coastal centres, so that active touch with the Board may be continued; any member of such Local Committees, if in Johannesburg or Pretoria at the time of a meeting of the Board, to be co-opted for such meeting.

Minutes of Board Meetings.—Copies of the minutes of the Board Meetings will be forwarded to every Member who makes application therefor.

Miscellaneous.—Among the matters still being attended to by the Board, which have not yet reached completion, are: Tendering without Quantities and Domestic Building Work in Johannesburg being performed without Quantities.

Finances.—The audited Balance Sheet and Accounts were submitted. The Revenue and Expenditure Account for the twelve months ending December 31st, 1929, reflects an excess of Expenditure over Revenue for the year of £82 13s. 6d.

The Board has pleasure in stating that the amount of £245 lent to the Chapter by members towards the promotion of the Act, has now been repaid to the respective members.

From the point of view of keeping the administration charges down to a reasonable minimum, members will note the reduction in the personnel of the Board for 1930, from twelve to nine, elsewhere referred to.

Outstanding Subscriptions.—Members of the Chapter will notice that for the year 1929, the outstanding subscriptions due and unpaid reach the considerable total of £170 15s. 6d. The Board strongly urges those Members whose subscriptions are in arrear, to effect settlement at the very earliest opportunity.

NOTES AND NEWS.

R. I. B. A.

British Architects' Conference, Norwich, 1930.

The Annual Conference of British Architects will take place at Norwich, from June 18th to June 21st inclusive, and the Norfolk and Norwich Association of Architects will be the hosts of the Conference.

The Conference will be largely of a social character and it is expected that many ladies will be present as the guests of members.

If any members of the Institute of S.A. Architects happen to be in England at the time mentioned, they will be heartily welcomed at the various functions which will form part of the programme.

Copies of the Programme with full particulars and all the necessary information will be sent to any Members who care to write to the Secretary of the Royal Institute.

R. I. B. A.

To Members of the
Royal Institute of British Architects.

December, 1929.

Dear Sir,

JUNIOR MEMBERS OF OFFICE STAFFS.

The Council of the Royal Institute wish to remind all Members of the R.I.B.A. of the undesirability of taking a boy into an office in a junior capacity without making adequate arrangements for his education and training if he shows a bent for Architecture. Members are reminded that the Council have approved an Outline Course of Study and list of books for the use of Architects who accept pupils. Copies of this Outline Course of Study, etc., may be obtained free on application to the R.I.B.A.

The Council also trust that no Members will accept articled pupils unless they have attained the age of seventeen years and unless they possess the qualifications required for the Probationership of the R.I.B.A., or for entrance to a recognised School of Architecture.

The Council wish to urge all Members of the R.I.B.A. to avoid, wherever possible, the short term employment of assistants. Members are reminded that casual labour has been the cause of many evils in industry generally.

Yours faithfully,
IAN MacALISTER,
Secretary.

* * * *

THE ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE.

HENRY SAXON SNELL PRIZE.

The Henry Saxon Snell Prize was founded to encourage improvements in the construction or adaptation of sanitary appliances, and is to be awarded by the Council of The Royal Sanitary Institute at intervals of three years, the funds being provided by the legacy left by the late Henry Saxon Snell (Fellow of the Institute).

The Prize in the year 1930 will consist of Fifty Guineas and the Medal of the Institute, and is offered for an Essay on "Improvements in the Sanitary Provisions of Schools."

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

1. The Essay to consist of not more than 5,000 words, to be typewritten on foolscap, one side only, and to be illustrated by drawings or sketches.

2. Two Competitors may combine in sending in an Essay and Drawings.

3. Essays must be delivered on or before 30th August, 1930, addressed to the Secretary of The Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1, and the following points must be observed :—

(*a*) The Essays to be submitted without the name of the competitor.

(*b*) The Essays to bear a motto, legibly marked on the right hand lower angle of the first sheet.

(*c*) The Essay to be enclosed in an envelope, bearing the words "Henry Saxon Snell Prize," and the Competitor's motto at the right hand lower angle, and to be directed to the Secretary of The Royal Sanitary Institute.

(*d*) The Essays to be accompanied by a letter containing the Competitor's name and address, which is to be enclosed in a separate envelope, sealed with a blank seal, and having on the outside "Henry Saxon Snell Prize," and the same motto as that attached to the Essay submitted.

4. Should none of the Essays be considered of sufficient merit or importance to deserve the Prize offered, the Council reserve the right of withholding the award.

5. In the event of two Essays being of equal merit, the Prize may be divided.

6. The Essay or Essays to which the Prize is awarded are to become the property of the Institute.

Should the Council decide to publish the Essay or Essays to which the Prize is awarded, notice will be given to the Competitor or Competitors in order that patent rights may be secured, if desired, for any of the appliances mentioned in the Essay or Essays.

7. The carriage of the Essays to and from the Office of the Institute, and all expenses incidental thereto, must be paid by the Competitor. Unsuccessful Essays will be returned on application, on the production of a formal demand within a period to be specified after the close of the Competition.

8. Due care will be taken of all Essays, but the Institute will not be responsible for any loss of, or damage to them while they remain in its keeping.

J. W. DUDLEY ROBINSON,
Secretary.

90, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.
December, 1929.

* * * *

SPECIAL QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS FOR ARCHITECTS AND QUANTITY SURVEYORS

The Minister of Education has been pleased to approve, under Sections 11 (1) (a) and 14 (1) (a) of Act No. 18, of 1927, of a special qualifying examination to be conducted by the Universities of Cape Town and Witwatersrand, to enable candidates from countries outside the Union of South Africa, who have complied with the terms of Sections 11 (1) (a) and 14 (1) (a) of the Act in respect of training and practical experience and who in the opinion of the Central Council are competent to sit for a qualifying examination, to register as Architects or Quantity Surveyors.

The special qualifying examination is to be conducted on the syllabus approved for the modified examination under Sections 11 (1) (c) and 14 (1) (d) of the Act.

* * * *

Mr. G. E. Fitzgerald, of Pretoria, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

TENNIS MATCH.

PRETORIA CEMENT CO. *vs.* ARCHITECTS & BUILDERS.

At the invitation of the Pretoria Cement Co., a representative team of Architects and Builders, captained by Messrs. Cowin and "Bob" Clark, turned out at Ellis Park for a tennis match against the Company's staff (captained by Mr. Phillips), on March 23rd. The weather was ideal and a most enjoyable day was spent by all those present at the function.

Mr. Davidson (Managing Director), and Mr. Bird (Secretary), were there and were ably supported by Messrs. Rich and Sherwell, the latter partnering each other very successfully and in spite of "advancing years" gave their opponents plenty of work to do. Mr. Harold Porter, President of the Architects Institute also attended and was keenly interested in all the contests.

At midday an adjournment was made to the Grand National Hotel for lunch when the good feeling prevailing was further "cemented."

Mr. Davidson welcomed the guests in a happy speech and warned his team that it was considered bad manners to defeat one's guests. However the result of the match (25 games in favour of the Company's team) showed that the warning given was not heeded.

Mr. Cowin thanked the Company for their splendid hospitality and wished them success and prosperity. He congratulated them on the introduction of a quick-hardening cement which was a big factor in speeding up building work and which was making great headway in the industry. One notable building in course of construction in Johannesburg by the use of this material was being erected at the rate of one floor per week. Mr. Cowin said that there is a great deal of talk just now of "depression" in the country, but he preferred to talk about "progression" and in that connection he thought the Company was well to the fore and he knew that they would always maintain that position.

It was late in the afternoon before the match concluded and the party dispersed well satisfied with a thoroughly good day's sport.

Mr. John Rich was responsible for the arrangements for this match and it was due to his efforts that the programme was carried through without a hitch.

The teams for this match were as follows:—

Cement Company—Messrs. Phillips, Hopkins, Bronner, Mackenzie, Rich, Sherwell, Cassidy, Gregary, Wood, De Reillon, Manley, Blackmore, Odell and White.

Architects and Builders—Messrs. Cowin, R. Clark, Deuchar, Thompson, Furner, Ward-Smith, Leith, Edwards, Spicer, Green, Nelson, Gill, Pearse, and Knuckey.

Umpires—Messrs. W. Knuckey and J. D. B. Clark.

OBITUARY.

LATE Mr. COLLINGWOOD TULLY.

Mr. John Collingwood Tully, F.R.I.B..A who died in Johannesburg, on December 21st, was a well-known South African architect and a Rand pioneer. Among the buildings he designed was the old Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

Mr. Tully leaves a daughter (Mrs. Lea) and two sons, Mr. W. G. Tully (at present in England), and Mr. H. C. Tully (a Johannesburg architect).

Mr. Tully was born in Newcastle-on-Tyne, and served his articles there with the well-known Gothic architect, Mr. H. Johnson. He was subsequently borough and district surveyor at Croydon, and was on the Dorkay Main Sewerage Works for two years.

Mr. Tully came to South Africa in 1880, taking up residence in Johannesburg. He was one of the first architects on the Rand.

In 1895 he moved to Bloemfontein, where he married Miss M. E. Bell, the following year. His next move was to Capetown, where he was associated with Sir Herbert Baker in the building of Cecil Rhodes' house, at Groote Schuur.

Mr. Tully subsequently became the partner of Mr. Waters, in Capetown, where he designed a number of important buildings. Among these were the Mowbray School and Town Hall, and the Marsh Memorial Homes, at Rondebosch.

Returning to Johannesburg, in 1910, he was in partnership with Mr. J. S. Cleland, now the Government Architect. The firm designed the University buildings, at Maritzburg, and Mr. Tully became resident architect there. He subsequently started practising in Maritzburg, where he designed the Natal Club and several churches.

He retired in 1924, and has been living in Johannesburg since.

The funeral took place on 21st December, at the New Cemetery, Brixton.

RECENT BOOKS.

Modern Practical Masonry, by E. G. Warland.
(Batsford & Co., 25/- nett.)

This volume is the latest to appear in the "Practical Craft Series," of which Ellis' "Modern Practical Joinery" and "Modern Practical Carpentry" are well known issues.

The book is divided into sections such as "Tools and Machines," "Details of Construction," "Stone Cutting," "Geometry and Setting Out," with short sections on "Building Stones," "Costing" and a glossary.

A great deal of space is given to geometry, but not too much to treat the subject properly. As is to be expected it repeats much that is in ordinary text books on geometry, but it is applied definitely to stonework in the forms generally used in buildings. Modern methods of construction are shown in satisfactory detail although a few drawings appear to be somewhat antiquated. The clothing of steel framework with stonework is dealt with in a suitable manner. The chapter on costing and estimating scarcely fulfills its purpose as no prices or methods for arriving at prices are given.

Examples of measuring stonework are given, which although not in accordance with the South African Standard System, are quite valuable and helpful.

There are six hundred illustrations, eighteen double page plates and fifty-nine photographs which add tremendously to the value of the work. Since Purchas' "Masonry" seems to be out of print in its original large edition (although obtainable in an abridged form) there was room for just such a book as this and it should be in the office of every architect and quantity surveyor as well as in the libraries of such Universities and Technical schools as have courses in architecture and building.

H.B.

The Cottages of England, 16th, 17th & 18th Centuries.
by Basil Oliver, F.R.I.B.A
(B. T. Batsford, London. 21/-)

This is a delightful little book and will appeal not only to Architects, but to all those who know the English countryside.

The Royal Society of Arts has recently established a Fund for the preservation of one of England's greatest assets, its beautiful old cottages. This book has been written with the object of stimulating interest in these and incidentally assisting in the establishment of this fund. Apart from this a detailed description is given of the various materials and methods employed in their construction. The Rt. Hon. Stanley Baldwin, in a foreword draws attention to the inestimable value of these buildings as examples of mediaeval craftsmanship which should be preserved.

The Introductory chapter deals with the development of the English Cottage, its external charm and interior convenience and the geological influences and local characteristics affecting its design.

The remainder of the book is divided up into chapters dealing with the stone built cottages, timber framed cottages, with framing exposed or plastered, tile hung or weatherboarded, brick and flintwork cottages, and finally features and details.

The work is profusely illustrated with photographs and diagrams.

Architectural Drawing.
by G. D. Gordon Hake & Eustace H. Button.
(B. T. Batsford, 10/6)

This is a useful manual for a student at the outset of his career. Useful information is offered to the beginner on the purchase of his instruments, the advice is sound and not extravagant.

The chapter on graphics is on the whole very simple, but it contains some pernicious matter, such as the use of compasses in drawing mouldings, which would be better ignored by the student. A similar exception may be taken to the mechanical method shown of how to set up Roman lettering—a student is only too pleased to resort to these methods rather than train his hand to draw mouldings and lettering freely. The methods described in the chapters on Shadows and Perspective are simple and direct and do not involve the beginner in theory which often proves so confusing. Sketching is treated in a noteworthy manner—great stress being laid on the making of diagrammatic sketches as a means to study, a welcome departure when sketching is so often allowed to become the end in itself and not the means to an end, as it should be for an architect.

The format of the book is pleasant, the cover is not the usual dull drab affair which is hidden as quickly as possible; but thirty pages of catalogue seem unnecessary in a book of about one hundred and thirty pages.

J.T.L.

Ancient Church Chests & Chairs.
by Fred Roe, R.I., R.B.C.
(B. T. Batsford 21/-)

Mr. Fred Roe is the leading authority on old oak furniture in England and this work, under review, represents a tour with pencil and camera through the old churches of Kent, Surrey, Middlesex, Hertfordshire and Essex. The author deals mainly with ancient church chests and chairs, but such features as pews, benches, stools and dole cupboards are also included where they present unusual features and many engaging digressions are made into local history and topography.

TOWN PLANNING.

The Report of the Transvaal Town Planning Commission has recently been published and should be studied by all interested in the development of Town Planning in South Africa, The members of the Commission are to be congratulated on their work and if legislation be based on the recommendations put forward a big step forward will have been made.

A detailed survey is unnecessary as the whole Report is contained in some twenty-six pages, and in easily accessible. However, one or two of the more essential points may be of interest. In the past many attempts have been made to define the word "Township" in acts passed in the Transvaal so far with somewhat disastrous results from a practical point of view, and the present act finally resulted in an appeal to the Courts for an interpretation. The present proposed ordinance has been framed with a very wide definition of the word "Township," leaving it to the opinion of the Board as to when and at what stage the Subdivision of Land becomes a Township. This definition is elastic enough to cover any eventuality and should be successful in stopping the easy evasion of the former Act of 1907, which enabled the cutting up of land in hundreds of lots, without any supervision or control as to access or other amenities, necessary to any community.

The constitution of the Townships Board is another radical change from former Acts. The Board will consist of four official members, one member appointed by the Municipal Association of the Transvaal and three to be nominated by the administrator on the ground of possessing special knowledge of Town Planning.

The provision that a member of a local authority might nominate a temporary member in cases where a new township falls within that Municipality has been eliminated on the ground that an interested person could not express an impartial judgment.

Under the existing Act any applicant for a Township was extremely fortunate if a decision was given by the Board within six months, and frequently a period of a year has elapsed before a final decision has been given.

Representations on this point have borne fruit in the shortening of the period of advertisement, which will assist in a decision being arrived at in a more reasonable time. A chapter on Town Planning has now been proposed in which fairly extensive powers are granted to Local Authorities, after the approval of the Board has been obtained. Following the trend of legislation in England it will now be obligatory on all Town Councils to prepare within a given period a Scheme for the development of the Municipal area, and after approval by the Board, no plan may be approved which does not conform to the general Scheme. This provision if rigidly enforced will remove many of the difficulties in the subdivision of land within the Muncipality, which has proved so disastrous and costly in the past.

The report of the Commission lays stress on one provision which has been incorporated in the ordinance, that the Board will now have power to refuse an application if undesirable on the ground that there are still a large number of unsold erven, in the existing township, a power which the existing Board does not possess if in other respects the locality is suitable.

That the Commission has realised to the full the necessity for drastic action is shown in the following :—

> "Patchwork" planning, which is in evidence in every town in South Africa, will therefore be avoided in every municipality for which a town-planning scheme has been approved.
>
> Up to the present, towns have simply grown with the demand for business or residential sites without any attempt whatsoever at regional or connected planning, the result being in many instances most deplorable. Rectification of this uncontrolled growth will even now in some instances cost considerable sums of money, but the question must be faced sooner or later, and the longer it is postponed the more difficult and expensive will be the task of bringing the towns into line with modern requirements for traffic, sanitary, residential, and other purposes.
>
> The Commission, after careful consideration of the evidence received by it and of the laws regulating town-planning in other countries, is definitely of opinion that the only satisfactory method of checking and, as far as may be, remedying the evils above referred to is to require the local authorities of the larger municipalities to prepare town-planning schemes.

The need for Civic Surveys is thus once again emphasised and is it too much to hope that a definite step in this direction will be the result of the work of the Commission ?

The problem of expropriation and compensation has been considered and

> The Commission is of opinion that the position would be met by a compensation court specially appointed to hear and determine claims arising out of the operation of a scheme. It is thought that a court should be constituted for each scheme or joint scheme in respect of which claims may be received. The court as recommended and composed of a barrister and two experienced valuers should ensure fair and impartial consideration of claims.

The difficult question of betterment has also been included but the enormous difficulties have been fully

realised. "The attempt to recover betterment is more or less experimental and no doubt many stiles must be crossed before a perfect system is evolved."

The proposed ordinance is a great advance on any legislation hitherto passed in the Transvaal, and if it has not gone as far as some of the professional bodies could have wished, their representations have at least accomplished something. It has some distance to go before becoming law, and opportunity may occur for further amendments if thought fit.

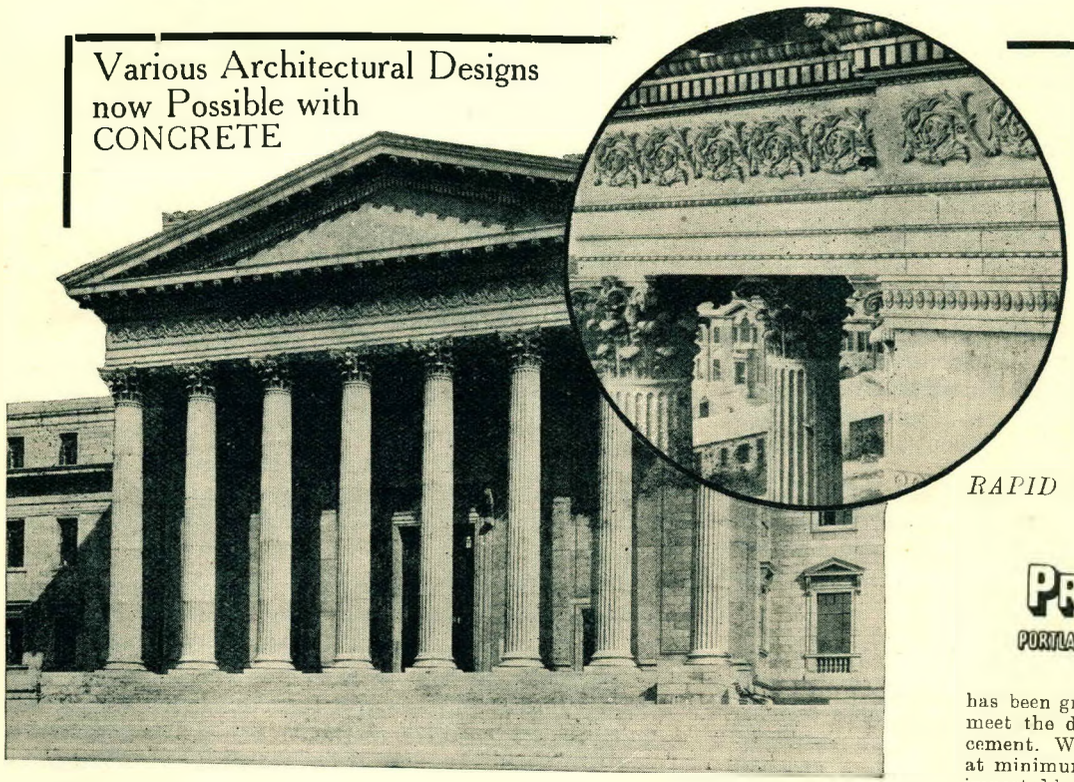
BUILDING MATERIALS OF SOUTH AFRICA.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

Portland Cement has in recent years proved itself to be of such great value to the building industry, and has enabled structures to be completed which otherwise could not have been contemplated, that no apology is required in introducing the subject of its manufacture and composition.

To understand what Portland Cement really is, we can with advantage go back a number of years and survey the discovery of this remarkable product, and thereby learn how the need for a substance possessing its unique properties brought about the experiments resulting in its discovery.

From the very earliest civilised times lime was used as a binding material, and in conjunction with sand was used in preparing mortar. Lime is still so used with every success, but it is useless in building a structure which is to be submerged in water. The lime was, of course, prepared by the burning of chalk or limestone, and it was always thought until the time of John Smeaton, in 1757, that the purer the raw chalk, the better would be the quality of the finished lime. In that year Smeaton, who was responsible for the building of the Eddystone Lighthouse, conducted a series of experiments by burning chalk of varying degrees of purity, and he found that by using impure chalk, the lime produced hardened under water to a much greater extent



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than the purer lime. He was able indeed as a result of his experiments to produce a lime which served his purpose for building the foundations of the lighthouse. This work, which must be looked upon as of the very greatest importance, was lost sight of for more than fifty years, when a Leeds bricklayer, one Joseph Aspdin, in 1824, hit upon the idea of adding suitable impurities to the chalk or limestone before the burning process, thereby regulating the composition of the finished product. His product was found to set quite hard under water, and was of considerably greater strength than lime, and from the fancied resemblance of the set cement to Portland Stone, he called his material Portland Cement. The last hundred years have seen a vast improvement on Aspdin's material, and these improvements have been attended by corresponding increase in the use of cement.

The cement industry first became of any importance in the vicinity of the Thames and Medway rivers in England, where river mud was used in conjunction with the soft London chalk, and the undertaking was so successful that the tradition grew (and was fostered by the British manufacturers) that only these particular materials would produce satisfactory cement. With the improvements in grinding mills, however, it was found possible economically to grind chalk and limestone many times harder than the London chalk, and with a better understanding of the chemistry of cement, its manufacture became decentralised.

The manufacture of Portland Cement was commenced in South Africa in the last decade of last century at a small factory in the neighbourhood of Pretoria, and the interests of this Company were taken over in 1902 by The First Cement Factory, Ltd., the name of which was later changed to Pretoria Portland Cement Co., Ltd., which Company extended and reconstructed the works, raising the output from 75 tons per week in 1892, to over 2,000 tons per week at the present time. The Company subsequently erected a works at Slurry near Mafeking, and has more recently taken a large interest in the Cape Portland Cement Company, at De Hoek, C.P., and controlling interests in the Eastern Province Cement Company, at Port Elizabeth, and the Premier Portland Cement Company, at Bulawayo. There are in all six factories in the Union and Rhodesia manufacturing cement, the one not previously mentioned being Whites, situated in the O.F.S. The total yearly tonnage is estimated to be in the neighbourhood of 60,000, so the growth of the industry in the present country is seen to have been substantial.

The British Standard Specification, under which all cement is manufactured in this country, states that "The cement shall be manufactured by intimately mixing together calcareous and argillaceous or other silica and alumina bearing materials, burning them at a clinkering temperature and grinding the resulting clinker."

In South Africa the "calcareous" constituent consists of hard limestone, and the "argillaceous" constituent shale. A brief description of the processes of manufacture will show how the other requirements of the specification are carried out.

The following is typical of manufacturing methods by dry process in South Africa.

The limestone is loosened in the quarry face by means of dynamite cartridges, and is then loaded by native labour into steel trucks, referred to colloquially as "cocopans," which are then hauled to the works. If the quarry and works are far removed from the other, intermediate loading and tipping from railway trucks is necessary. The limestone is then led to the Crusher, which consists of a conical pestle projecting through the bottom of a cone shaped, serrated mortar. This machine breaks down the stone to pieces of approximately two inch cube. The cocopans of limestone are tared prior to tipping and the necessary amount of shale added. In this way the two raw materials are blended and brought into intimate contact with each other right at the beginning of the manufacturing process. The limestone and shale then pass through a rotary dryer. which is heated by coal ; the hot gases of combustion pass around and over the raw material and remove all the moisture from it. This is a very necessary and important part of the manufacturing process since with moist material the grinding, which is the next stage, could not be carried out with any degree of efficiency. The limestone and shale from the dryer now pass to a Ball Mill, which is a revolving cylinder containing heavy steel balls which knock against each other and against the steel lining plates and crush the material coming in between. The partially ground product now passes to a Tube Mill which works on similar principles to the Ball Mill, but contains much smaller grinding bodies. On leaving this mill the raw material is a very fine powder, resembling flour to the touch, and contains the limestone and shale very intimately mixed together, and it is conveyed to the kiln feed hopper in readiness for the burning process.

In the burning of cement, the mechanical mixture of limestone and shale is converted into an entirely new substance or series of substances, possessing properties entirely different from the raw materials. This process can thus be seen to be a vital one, and the kilns employed for this constitute perhaps the most interesting part of the manufacturing process. A typical rotary kiln consists of a cylinder formed from steel plates, from one hundred and fifty feet up to as much as two hundred and fifty feet long, by eight to ten feet diameter, lined throughout with firebricks, and supported on rollers at an inclination of about one in thirty, and revolving once in approximately two minutes. The raw mix is introduced at the upper end, whilst at the other, finely ground coal is blown in, which burns with a fierce flame, sending the hot gases up the kiln and in contact with the raw material, which they heat up from air temperature to as high as 1,500 degrees Centigrade. In this stage of manufacture, not only are the chemical combinations of the various raw substances completely altered, but also the physical properties, since the material which leaves the kiln is now in the form of hard shiny lumps, greenish black in colour, and goes under the name of Clinker. Clinker possesses all the properties of cement latent within it, but it is required to be ground to bring them into evidence, and this constitutes the last stage in the manufacture of cement. For grinding clinker, mills resembling in every way those used in grinding the raw materials are employed, and from these it is conveyed to storage bins in readiness for packing and despatch. As the cement enters the mill for this final grinding, a small proportion of Gypsum is added to it, in order to regulate the setting time of the cement which would otherwise be too rapid.

In order to visualise something of the chemical reactions in the manufacture of cement, typical analyses of limestone and shale are given below, the compositions being adjusted to round numbers for the sake of simplicity, and certain unimportant impurities neglected. The limestone is made up of the following constituents :—

Carbonate of Lime	88.0 per cent.
Silica	9.0 per cent.
Iron Oxide	0.5 per cent.
Alumina Oxide	2.5 per cent.

In its passage through the kiln the Carbonate of Lime is broken up by heat, forming Lime which combines with Silica and Iron Oxide and Alumina in the Limestone and the Shale, and gas Carbon Dioxide which passes up the chimney.

The Shale has the following simplified composition :—

Silica	67.0 per cent.
Iron Oxide	7.0 per cent.
Aluminium Oxide	26.0 per cent

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The raw materials of the compositions shown could be blended with advantage, using one part of shale to ten of Limestone, and the resultant clinker would have the following composition :—

Lime	69.1 per cent.
Silica	22.1 per cent.
Iron Oxide	2.3 per cent.
Aluminium Oxide	6.5 per cent.

With the addition of Gypsum in the final grinding operation, and the presence of slight impurities in the raw materials, the final composition is somewhat different from that of the Clinker, chiefly in the reduction of the largest constituent, Lime, and the following analysis may be taken as typical of South African cement :—

Silica	22.50 per cent.
Iron Oxide	1.96 per cent.
Aluminium Oxide	5.61 per cent.
Lime	64.02 per cent.
Magnesia	2.21 per cent.
Sulphuric Anhydride	1.79 per cent.
Loss on heating	1.86 per cent.
Alkalies	0.05 per cent.

In cement the Lime is combined with Silica forming Tri-Calcium Silicate and Di-Calcium Silicate, and with Alumina to form Tri-Calcium Aluminate, and it is these substances which cause the setting and hardening which give Portland Cement its unique properties. If the burning is not carried out sufficiently, or if the proportion of Limestone in the mixture is too high, some of the Lime will be uncombined, which would cause the cement to be expansive. Under modern conditions this defect is never present, but its absence must be ascribed to the chemical accuracy now always exercised in the supervision of manufacture.

As previously mentioned, cement is manufactured to comply with the British Standard Specification, which imposes tests on fineness of grinding, expansion, setting time and strength. The Specification has been stiffened up from time to time, with the result that in recent years a very material improvement in quality has become necessary.

In order to satisfy the ever increasing demand of architects and engineers for a product which will serve in all kinds of construction, and to keep pace with the desire for speed in modern building, a great amount of research work in all phases of cement manufacture has been carried out during the past five years.

Ten years ago the manufacture of Portland Cement was a more or less hap-hazard affair, with no great amount of scientific control necessary to produce a product which would meet the requirements. To-day the extremely complex compounds which constitute Portland Cement, and the features necessary in the manufacturing processes to give a maximum of the desirable compounds, are known to cement manufacturers.

Hence, the quality of Portland Cement has been vastly improved in recent years, and engineers and contractors correspondingly benefited. It is possible to-day, with properly designed and fabricated concrete, to strip forms and put concrete into use in from four to seven days, whereas formerly fourteen to twenty-eight days were required.

No one can prophesy what the demands of the future will be, but the architect, engineer and contractor may rest assured that the manufacturer will keep pace with the requirements of the times.



CITY OF JOHANNESBURG.
CITY ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

COMPETITION FOR THE PROPOSED CENTRAL FIRE STATION.

The Council invites Architects registered in the Union of South Africa to submit designs for the above.

Designs must be delivered to the Town Clerk, Municipal Offices, Johannesburg, on or before noon on Monday, 9th June, 1930.

Conditions of competition, particulars of premiums, etc., and the plan of site, etc., may be obtained at Room No. 91, Municipal Offices, Johannesburg, on or after the 9th February, 1930, on payment of a deposit of one guinea, which will be returned to actual competitors after award has been made public, or on return of the documents to the City Engineer within two weeks of dispatch to applicant.

Conditions may be inspected free of charge at the Office of the City Engineer, Room No. 91, Municipal Offices.

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Journal of the SA Architectural Institute

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