DSPACE

https://dspace.org/

African Architect; the Journal of the Association of Transvaal Architects: Journal of the Transvaal, Natal and Orange Free State Provincial Institutes of South African Architects and the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors

1912
Institutes of South African Architects and the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors
http://hdl.handle.net/10539/18864
African Architect; the Journal of the Association of Transvaal Architects. 1913 vol 2: 1-12 p1-206

Downloaded from a DSpace repository. https://dspace.org/



THIS IS

The : : :

Roll-a-way

Screen.

ALL STEEL AND STEEL WIRE.

UNRUSTABLE AND PRACTICALLY IMPERISHABLE.

Keeps out flies, mosquitoes, etc. Rolls up and down like a blind.

For Particulars, Prices and addresses of local Agents, apply :

Valentine Agencies, Co.,

P.O. Box 1577. **19, Steytler's Buildings, Johannesburg.**

Or H. E. Casse, Durban & 5 Chorlton Chbrs., J'burg.

WALTER CUMMINGS,

CERTIFIED SANITARY PLUMBER
∴ AND HEATING ENGINEER. ∴

SPECIALITIES.—Hot Water Services and Septic Tank Installations.

Shop and Offices :

TWIST STREET, HILLBROW,

'Phone 1668. JOHANNESBURG. 'Phone 1668.

"The" BEST

PENTLANDS BLUE HYDRAULIC LIME

phone P.P. 200. box P.P. 1634

WORKS: PINEDENE.
DEPOT: 100 JORISSENSTR. BRAAMFONTEIN. JOHANNESBURG.

HOHEISEN & CO., Ltd.,

General Contractors

6, CULLINAN BUILDINGS

(in Basement),

JOHANNESBURG.

P.O. Box 5976. Telegrams: "HOFULD." Telephone 769.

THE

Vereeniging Brick & Tile Co., Ltd.

Wire-cut and Pressed Building Bricks, Fire Bricks, Fire Clay, Blue Paving and Stable Bricks, Salt-glazed Pipes, and Fittings of all dimensions.

Head Office : LEWIS & MARKS' BUILDINGS,

Corner President and Simmond Streets,

JOHANNESBURG.

P.O. Box 4480. Telegrams: "COVER." Telephone No. 166

EMBELLO

THE BEST DRY DISTEMPER (Local Manufacture).

Superior to the best Imported Article.

Always Clean. Always Bright. Any Tint.

2/- Per 7lb. Packet.

Sold Everywhere. **Ask for a Colour Book.**

Manufactured by

HANNAM & Co, Ltd.,

MAXWELL BUILDINGS, HARRISON STREET.

Telephone 937 P.O. Box 5645



"ROK" *(British Made)*

ROOFING & DAMPCOURSE

As now specified by Leading Architects throughout South Africa. Used by the P.W.D. and other Government bodies. The latest Contract is Johannesburg's New Town Hall.

Only Experienced Asphalt Layers employed.

Sole Agents : **JENKINS & Co.**

174, Main Street, JOHANNESBURG.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters for this section should be written on one side of the paper only. The writer may adopt an assumed name for purposes of publication, but he must in all cases furnish his real name and address to the Editor.

COMPETITIONS FOR STUDENTS.

SIR,—Will you please convey to the right quarter my opinion that the interests of the profession would be far better served if the subjects generally that are set for the students' competitions were of a far more modest order. The desirability of the May subject, even if only the rough idea of a plan were asked for, especially in the limited time mentioned, would be open to criticism, but when one reads what is required for its representation, one can only regret that such a request should be in "The African Architect."

Being temporarily in the Public Works Department —surrounded by numbers of young men—strengthens me in any plea for invariable modesty of subject, which I am sure will best serve the end we all have in view.—I am, etc.,

WM. LUCAS.

P.S.—Why use such unusual terms as "reticulated" and "Rhineland" feet?

Pretoria, May 8th, 1912.

THE "BOKE."

The researches of Mr. Charles Welch, F.S.A., at the Record Office have brought to light a book of ordinances of the Carpenters' Company. The "boke," as it is called, is dated 1333, though the fraternity was not formally incorporated until 1477. The ordinances show a very complete state of organisation. Work had to be given in preference to members of the guild, sickness and incapacity from accident were assisted from the "common-box," and if the common-box was not sufficient, the brethren were assessed to make good the deficiency.

ARCHITECTS, CLIENTS AND SPECIALISTS

In cases where a building and its equipment are designed entirely by the architect, and completed under his direct superintendence, the relations between the latter and his client rest upon a perfectly satisfactory basis. It happens, however, in the present day that the work of engineering specialists enters so largely into the domain of building construction, using the term in its broadest sense, that the architect cannot always undertake the whole of the details unless he happens to be a structural, mechanical, electrical, hydraulic, and sanitary engineer as well as an architect.

Consequently there is need for expert engineering assistance, which is easily obtainable, but for which the architect's client is not always ready to pay, for the reason that he considers the architect's hardly-earned fees ought to cover everything in the nature of professional advice. When this exceedingly complimentary view is taken of the architect's competency only two alternatives are open in respect of highly-specialised branches of building construction and equipment. One is for the architect to enlist the aid of professional specialists and pay their fees out of his own pocket, a course he cannot reasonably be expected to adopt, and the other is for him to invite competitive specifications and estimates from commercial specialists, who are always ready, and usually advertise their readiness, to furnish projects and drawings "free of charge."

Architect Not to Blame.

The architect cannot be blamed if he is driven to accept the second alternative, choosing the scheme or schemes best suited to his requirements, making such modifications in his detail drawings as may be necessary, and undertaking the supervision of, and responsibility for, the works executed.

As a matter of fact, the system of providing expert advice "free of charge" is far more illusive than the equivalent practice of giving away free various

DREW'S, HARRIS & SHELDON, Ltd.

SHOP FRONT CONTRACTORS

STORE, OFFICE & BANK FITTING SPECIALISTS

Agents for St. Pancras Ironworks, Ltd., Pavement & Stall Board Lights, Lamson's Pneumatic Cash Tube and Store Services.

P.O. Box 3770 Telegrams : "FRONTS"

JOHANNESBURG

"PAINT" IS SUCH AN INDEFINITE TERM

that, failing technical knowledge, the buyer may—and does—often get a substance which represents anything from 9 to 90% of the genuine article and yet his specifications will be fulfilled. It therefore behoves you to buy or order your paints by brand, a brand that signifies paints made by practical people who know what paint should be and make it so.

For beauty, for economy, for wearing qualities, nothing is superior to

EVANS' READY-MIXED PAINTS

Containing the purest ingredients, they are mixed by machinery in proportions which 30 years' practical experience shows is correct for the South African climate.

EVANS' READY-MIXED PAINTS are ready for use in 21 beautiful shades; any other shade made to order at no higher price. **14lb. 10/-** Colour card on application.

No. 3 Red Roof Paint, 7/6 per gallon. **Navy Grey Paint, 100lbs., 70/-**

HERBERT EVANS & CO.,

PRITCHARD STREET, VON BRANDIS SQUARE,

'Phone 2215. **JOHANNESBURG.** **P.O. Box 1231.**

P.O. Box 142 TELEPHONE 1578

W. HAINE, LIMITED,

Electrical Engineers & Contractors.

OFFICE AND SHOWROOM
WALTER MANSION,
ELOFF STREET,
JOHANNESBURG.

C. COLLINS,

STONE MERCHANT and CONTRACTOR.

Office: 252, COMMISSIONER STREET, Johannesburg.

Works: Commissioner, Green, Fox and Berea Streets.

Telephone 1475.

Estimates given for any description of Stone, Slate, Marble or Granite Work.

JOHANNESBURG.

Offices: 54, SAUER'S BUILDINGS.

Works: POLLY STREET.

Telegrams: "Granolithic."

P.O. Pox 2665.

'Phone 2408.

The UNION Granolithic & Asphalte Co., Ltd.

Contractors for all kinds of

FLOORS AND SIDEWALKS

CONCRETE, GRANOLITHIC, ASPHALTIC & ASPHALTE, &c., &c.

"MALTHOID" Roofs a speciality.

LYSAGHT'S

GALVANIZED CORRUGATED IRON

Used by the South African Railways.

LASTS A LIFE-TIME.

BAERECKE & KLEUDGEN, Durban Agents,

P.O. Box 849 *Telephone 946*

Tel. Address: "POYNTON" Box 247
Telephone 65

POYNTON BROS.

Builders' Ironmongers

PRETORIA

RANGES : BATHS : SANITARY FITTINGS
INTERIORS AND TILES
STEEL SASHES AND FRAMES

Registered Trade Mark ORANGE SERIES *Registered Trade Mark*

R. L. ESSON & Co

MANUFACTURERS IN JOHANNESBURG OF

'ORANGE BRAND' FERRO PRUSSIATE PAPERS & LINENS
By most modern process and plant, any speed from 15 seconds to 5 minutes, guaranteed fresh.

'ORANGE BRAND' BLACK LINE PURE LINEN
for Municipal Plans, to print in one-third time taken by other brands.

'ORANGE BRAND' DRAWING PAPERS, TRACING CLOTHS AND PAPERS, SECTIONALS AND DETAILS
Specially selected from the finest English, Continental, and American Mills, to withstand climatic conditions in South Africa.

NEW SAMPLE BOOK OF "ORANGE BRANDS" ON APPLICATION

In the Press—Descriptive Pamphlet containing hints on selection and detailing specia qualities possessed by "ORANGE BRANDS."

MOORE'S MODERN METHODS
for keeping records, suitable for Architects, Builders and others.

R. L. ESSON & CO., *Drawing Office Material and Systems Specialists,*
Steytler's Buildings, Loveday Street, JOHANNESBURG.
P.O. Box 3664. Telephone 367. Telegrams: "DRAWING."
Factories: NEW DOORNFONTEIN.

articles with a pound of tea. The enterprising tea merchant merely gives up a percentage of profit on goods actually sold and recoups this by increased sales, being thereby enabled to keep down his price to the current market rate. On the other hand, the structural or engineering specialist gives away specifications and drawings to any person who may ask for them without the certainty of selling anything in return. So universal has this pernicious system become that the commercial specialist is fully aware of the fact that all his competitors are engaged in it, and that he must count himself fortunate even if comparatively few of his projects result in profitable business.

How it Works in Practice.

Now let us see how this works out in practice. The steel contractor, reinforced concrete specialist, heating engineer, or electrical engineer has to maintain a costly drawing office and estimating department for the preparation of technical projects. If every one of these were accepted, the cost would be equivalent to a very small percentage of the estimate price, and the architect's client would suffer no loss. But, owing to the competition of rival firms, the specialist can only hope to be successful occasionally, and it is found even by firms in an exceptionally favourable position that the net cost of producing schemes and drawings to be given "free of charge" amounts to from five to ten per cent. on the resulting annual turnover.

The net upshot is that for work which could otherwise be executed for £10,000 the specialist is obliged to charge from £10,500 to £11,000 in order to get back the money wasted on unproductive projects. The figures here used for the purposes of illustration may not be of universal accuracy, but there is no escape from the inexorable conclusion that enormous sums of money are being paid every year by architects' clients, quite unconsciously, for the wasted work done in the drawing offices of commercial specialists, a state of things for which architects are in no way responsible.

Builders' Estimates.

Perhaps it may be thought by some of our readers that the same could be said of building contractors and their estimates. We are quite aware that builders have to face a certain proportion of unremunerated work as the result of competitive tendering, but their position is more favourable than that of engineering and structural specialists for the reasons that they are never asked to prepare designs, and that the quantities issued by architects reduce the work of estimating to a minimum. Moreover, builders only tender for work that has been definitely authorised, and each competitor knows that his tender has a fair chance of being accepted.

The specialist is not by any means on so good a footing, having to prepare designs, work out details, and get out quantities, in addition to the preparation of estimates, and, further, he is willing to do all these things for the convenience of architects and others who merely wish to consider whether or not the kind of construction or work involved shall be adopted, or to aid the architect in preparing designs to be submitted in competition with those of other architects.



South African General Electric Company.

Commercial Exchange Buildings, Main Street, JOHANNESBURG.

P.O. Box 1905.
'Phone 4321.

For Modern Scientific Lighting

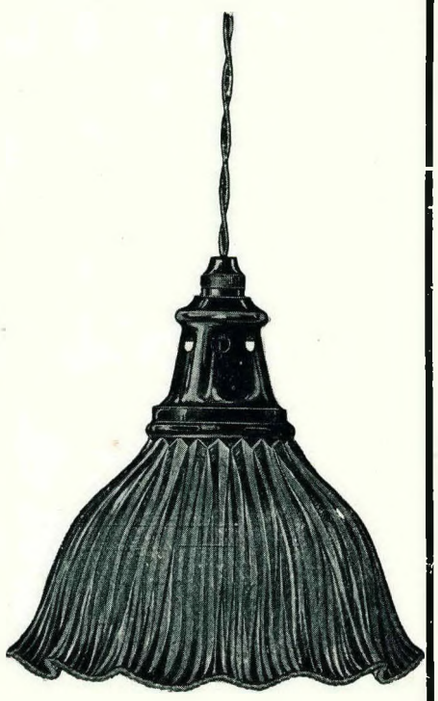
USE

G. E. EDISON MAZDA LAMPS,
With drawn tungsten wire filaments.

MAZDA-HOLOPHANE STILETTO PRISM REFLECTORS.
Highest Efficiency. Greatest Economy.

EYE COMFORT SYSTEM
of indirect illumination.

X-RAY WINDOW FITTINGS
for Store Lighting.



The great variety of scientific glassware available for all purposes, and the high efficiency and convenience of the **Holophane System of Illumination** render it suitable for, and adaptable to, any scheme of lighting.

The **Eye-Comfort System** is specially suitable for the lighting of large interiors such as Restaurants, Concert Halls, Dining Halls, etc., etc.

P. JANSEN,
ENGINEER AND CONTRACTOR
for
Buildings, Bridges and Railways, Subways, Tunnels and Excavations.
LARGE PLANT ALWAYS ON HAND
22 YEARS SOUTH AFRICAN EXPERIENCE
. . . *Address Enquiries* . . .
P.O. Box 3421, JOHANNESBURG.

P.O. Box 3603, Telephone 941
SAM WILKINSON,
BUILDER AND CONTRACTOR.
Estimates Given for all kinds of Work.
Corner Macintyre & Fawcus Streets,
JEPPESTOWN.

Telephone No. 2577. Box No. 5184.
HENDERSON & GORDON,
— Builders and —
General Contractors.
Workshops and Offices :
CORNER BEREA & COMMISSIONER STREETS,
JOHANNESBURG.

Specialists in
Colonial-made Furniture
Shop and Office Fittings
ESTIMATES SUPPLIED FREE.
BEARD, ELLIS & SCOTT
(Late with Gordon Mitchell & Co.)
Workshops : 160, Anderson St., JOHANNESBURG
P.O. BOX 5215 'PHONE 4493

Not an Easy Position.

The position is not an easy one to deal with, for it has arisen largely from the anxiety of the specialist firms to secure the favourable consideration of architects. The same kind of thing prevails in engineering practice, as shown by the presidential address of Mr. Michael Longridge to the Manchester Association of Engineers only a few weeks back. Consequently the waste of money in speculative estimates and designs would not be absolutely stopped if consulting engineers were associated with architects in all necessary cases. Nevertheless, the more general adoption of such co-operation would be a move in the right direction, and there is no doubt that if clients would pay directly for all necessary professional aid there would be an important reduction in the indirect payment now levied in the form of enhanced prices for work done by commercial specialists professing, but really unable, to furnish plans and specifications free of charge. In the case of many important buildings completed during recent years co-operation of the kind mentioned has been adopted on the recommendation of the architects, and we feel sure that the practice would be generally followed by the profession, where advisable, if clients would be more ready to recognise its advantages.—"The Builder."

THE BRITISH SCHOOL AT ROME.

Particulars have been published in a White Paper issued from the Privy Council Office of the Royal Charter which it is proposed to grant to the British School at Rome, to be erected on the site of the pavilion which contained the British Section of Fine Arts in the International Exhibition held last year in Rome. The articles of the charter are of interest and importance, setting forth the object and constitution of the school, and further reference will be made to the proposals in our next issue. The appointed members of the council will include two appointed by the Royal Institute of British Architects, both of whom will be architects, and four by the Royal Academy of Arts, one of whom will be an architect and one a sculptor.

NEUCHATEL.

Swiss archæologists are puzzled about the discovery at Neuchatel, by workmen on the future site of a hospital, of a vault built in bronze, which they state was erected 600 years B.C. In the vault the skeleton of a young woman was found, whose bones seem to be mummified, and on her wrists were four bracelets in bronze and two in lignite, while by her side was a little bronze bell.

MOUNT LEBANON.

Accompanying the gift of a gavel to the Marlborough Lodge, Liverpool, from Bro. Everett C. Brenton, Grand Master, State of Mass., U.S.A., was a framed address which announced that the log from which the gavel was made was brought down from Mount Lebanon by members of the Mount Lebanon Lodge. The log came from the same forest where the timber was secured for the building of the Ark and the two temples at Jerusalem.

ARTHUR CHESTER,
A.I.E.E.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER.

EMPIRE BUILDINGS,
KRUIS STREET,
JOHANNESBURG.

'PHONE 1895
P.O. BOX 3317

HUGH BARKER,

P.O Box 575. Established 1893. 'Phone 1458.

Plumber and Sanitary Engineer

COPPERSMITH AND SHEET METAL WORKER

Specialities: HOT WATER INSTALLATIONS
COILS, CARVING TABLES AND PLATES

Office and Works:

211, MARSHALL ST., JOHANNESBURG

G. WOOLLACOTT,

PLASTERER AND
ARCHITECTURAL MODELLER,

Box 1471. JOHANNESBURG.

Electric Joinery Works,

Makers of High-Class Joinery and Furniture, in Colonial, Imported, or any other Wood. SPECIALITIES: Purpose made Doors, Windows, Mouldings : : Shopfronts and other Fittings to any Architect's Design : : All Branches of the Building Trade Contracted for. . . . . .

Works and Offices:

271, Queen Street, PRETORIA
(Corner Queen and Proes Street)

Proprietor: F. CORBISHLEY.



P.O. Box 4865. 'Phone 2433.

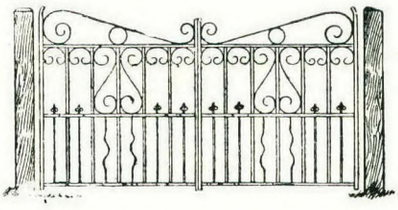
S. C. BROWN

Fencing Contractor, Manufacturer & Importer.

FEDERAL GATES, TUBULAR and WROUGHT IRON.
FEDERAL FENCING, CYCLONE FENCING and all classes of WIRE FENCING

Concrete Reinforcement. Brick Reinforcement. Crimped Wall Ties.

I AM AN EXPERT, and I know just what you want It will save you both time and money to consult me beforetendering.



S. C. BROWN, 38-42, Raine's Buildings, 90, Fox Street, JOHANNESBURG.

GENERAL ENGINEER, BLACKSMITH AND ORNAMENTAL WORKER

In Wrought Iron, Brass and Copper.

F. GWILLIAM

Gates, Railings, Balconies, Grilles, Vanes, Staircases, Casements, Constructional Work.

Cor. VON BRANDIS & ALBERT STREETS, JOHANNESBURG.

BRICKS.

Wire cut, pressed face and repressed face.
— Flooring Tiles and Pottery Ware. —
— Chimney Pots and Garden Borders. —

Four First Prizes at Johannesburg Show, 1912.

INSPECTION INVITED.

M. DONOVAN,

P.O. Box No. 4. Waterfall Brick and Tile Works
'Phone No. 2. NEWCLARE.

Box 526. Tel. Address: "HEATING." Phone 287

New Muckleneuk Brick Factory,

Office: C/r. VERMEULEN & VAN DER WALT STS., PRETORIA.

Works: NEW MUCKLENEUK. PRETORIA.

Prices on application to the above Address.

WIRE CUT, FACING AND FIRE BRICKS; BULLNOSE and a large assortment of FANCY and ORNAMENTAL BRICKS always in stock.

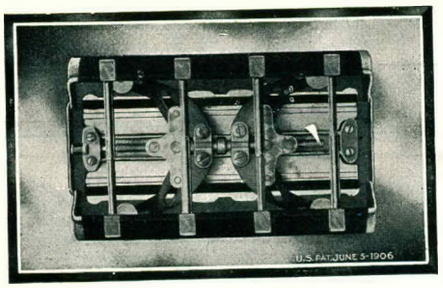
Quickness and Saving of Time

Are the underlying Principles which make

LOOSE LEAF BOOKS

Attractive to the Up-to-Date Accountant

The Mechanism of the "Majestic."



Patented

Sole Agents:

Basson & Timberlake,

JOHANNESBURG.

P.O. Box 2680. *Telephone 38.*

W. F. Johnstone,

Timber Merchant,

Builder and Contractor.

DURBAN, Natal: P.O. Box 138.

JOHANNESBURG: P.O. Box 1896.

MODERN ARCHITECTURE AND RESTORATION

The "Morning Post" published some interesting autobiographical particulars of Mr. Thomas Graham Jackson, R.A., apropos of the completion of the seventy-sixth birthday of this distinguished architect. He mentions that he was born at Hampstead, and articled to the late Sir Gilbert Scott, adding: "As in some other professions—the Bar, for instance—the progress of a young architect is exceedingly slow. For those who have no private means the prospect is indeed a dreary one. For my own part, I earned very little during the first thirteen years of my professional career. I consider that I owe everything to the outside fellowship which I obtained from my old college, Wadham. It is due to that that I was not under the stern necessity to earn my bread daily, and I was in a position to travel and to pursue my studies. When I started on my professional career we were in the midst of the fervour of the Gothic revival. In those days, influenced by the writings of the celebrated French architect, Viollet le Duc, we learned to look at nothing but Gothic architecture, more especially the earlier forms of it. I do not think I ever was a fanatical adherent of that school, and I soon came to see that modern art must be eclectic—that is to say, that it is impossible to shut one's eyes to the teaching of all the styles, and confine himself simply to one. This eclecticism is the main characteristic of modern architecture, and the result is that men work with far greater freedom. They now think less of 'the styles' and more of style itself. At the same time it must be borne in mind that this freedom is only permissible to those who possess the true artistic instinct. The Gothic revival had an important effect, inasmuch as it destroyed all tradition. Previously, workmen had certain traditions derived from the Renaissance writers; they knew how to make doors and windows in good proportion. But after the Gothic revival this was all destroyed, and all styles were thrown into confusion. Our domestic architecture was at its worst early in the reign of Queen Victoria. Since then there has undoubtedly been a great improvement, chiefly in the revival of some of the beautiful forms of the eighteenth century. I know, of course, that a good deal is said in these days about the misdeeds of the jerry-builder. We are told that in the olden days men never scamped their work, and so forth. I doubt, however, whether such a Golden Age is anything but the product of certain writers' imaginations. In my opinion, there has been jerry-building in all ages.

"With regard to the restoration of ancient buildings, in which I have been so largely engaged, the fundamental principle on which I have acted has been to make no substitution: to secure, not to undo. . . . To the architect, the successive additions and alterations to a building afford an object lesson in the history of architecture, and are of priceless value. Another great thing in dealing with old buildings is to avoid 'tidying up.' They should never be made to look neat and new, as has been the case abroad almost more than in this country. Chipped capitals or damaged mouldings should be left as they are. What is put in is of no historical value, and you may be forced to devise something that perhaps you do not understand. The thing as it is is at least genuine."

P.O. Box 1301. Tel. Add.: "Thistle." Tel. No. 1.

PRENTICE & MACKIE

Builders, Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Railway and Mining Contractors.

Agents for Garrick & Ritchie, Waverley Engineering Works, Edinburgh.

WORKSHOPS & OFFICE: 127, SCHOEMAN STREET, PRETORIA.

P.O. Box 3761.
Office & Workshop:
HARRIES STREET (Near Salisbury Mine), JOHANNESBURG.

H. RAINEY,

Builder and Contractor,

Millwright, Engineer & Railway Contractor

THOMAS CLARK & SONS

Builders and Contractors,
JOHANNESBURG.

COLD STORAGE WORK A SPECIALITY.

P.O. Box 6277, Johannesburg.
Telephone 2266.

Office & Works: 209, MARSHALL STREET

'Phone 1255. P.O. Box 1605, Johannesburg.

Thos. Douglas

Builder and Contractor.

Workshop and Office:
FORD & COMMISSIONER STREETS, FAIRVIEW.

131, Commissioner St., Johannesburg.

P.O. Box 970.

L. Furman

GLASS, PAINT AND WALLPAPER MERCHANT.

Telephone 4140

LANE & ALLWRIGHT

Builders and Contractors, Shop and Office Fitters.

ESTIMATES FREE FOR ALL CLASSES OF BUILDING WORK

77, MARSHALL STREET

(Between Loveday and Harrison Streets)

JOHANNESBURG.

Cable and Telegraphic Add.: "Mouldings." Telephone 835. P.O. Box 326.

H. E. CASSE,

VICTORIA SAW MILLS & STEAM JOINERY WORKS,
MILNE STREET, DURBAN.

Manufacturer of Windows, Casements, Shop Fronts & Fittings. Joinery of every description. My quotations will secure contracts

Johannesburg Representative: WILFRED CASSERE, 5 Chorlton Chambers, Harrison St. Box 1607. 'Phone 2503

Successful Merchants Advertise in

"The African Architect.

P.O. Box 524. Telephone No. 966.

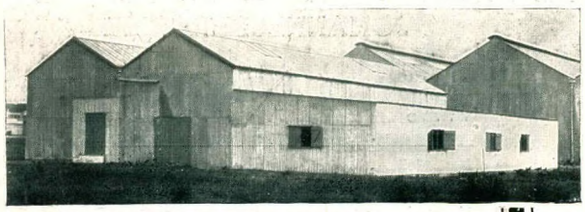
Office and Workshops:
6, JOUBERT STREET, SOUTH.

George Begg,

BUILDER AND CONTRACTOR,
JOHANNESBURG.

RUBEROID ROOFING.

Ruberoid Roof Talks. No. 2.



Malting House for Durban Corporation.

The reliable qualities and numerous advantages of RUBEROID have been recognised by men noted for their keen business methods.

Messrs. **The American Tobacco Co.** ordered in one lot 1,300,000 sq. ft. of Ruberoid for use on their buildings.

Messrs. **Lever Bros.**, of Port Sunlight, have completely roofed their works at Durban, with some 140,000 sq. ft. of Ruberoid.

We have also supplied large quantities to the **Admiralty** the **P.W.D.**, the **South African Railways** (for workshops, station buildings, car-roofing, etc.), the **Corporations of Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town**, Messrs. **Stewarts & Lloyds, Sir L. J. Hulett & Sons, Ltd.**, and many of the well-known Mining, Sugar, Tea and Colliery Companies.

The use of RUBEROID by such authorities is an undeniable guarantee of its sterling merits.

The RUBEROID BOOK, with sample, will be sent free and post-paid on application. RUBEROID gives better and longer protection, and costs less to maintain than any other roofing.

Always look for this Trade Mark.

TRADE-MARK RUBEROID REGISTERED.

S. SYKES & Co., Ltd., Johannesburg, Durban, Bulawayo and Salisbury; R. B. HENDRY & Co., Capetown; DUNN & Co., East London; GRIFFITHS & Co., Port Elizabeth.

Drains Installed and Chokages Cleared. All Work Guaranteed.

Every Description of Jobbing Work and House Decorating Done.

W. H. DEAN,

BUILDER, CONTRACTOR & SANITARY ENGINEER.

(17 years experience under London County Council).

17, FRERE ROAD, BERTRAMS.

THE COMPETITIVE SYSTEM IN AMERICA

From an address delivered by Mr. J. Milton Dyer, F.A.I.A., before the Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects, on the effect of competitions on design, we gather that as much improvement in the general ethics and conduct of competitions is required there as here, if they are always to exercise a beneficial influence on architectural design. It is as true here as there that "you are afraid to be impulsive, to play with the motives, to do the thing you yourself feel," because your "independence is only too often influenced by a vague mistrust as to the personal likes or dislikes of the jury," and that this does too often create the temptation to "sell one's soul to win." Both this and the complaint that the competitor cannot get into touch with his client seem to be rather defects of method than vices inherent in the nature of the competitive system. When juries and assessors learn to judge on generally accepted principles, rather than on personal predilection, the first should disappear. The second would be considerably mitigated if assessors, remembering that they are the interpreters of the wishes of the promoters, would acquire all such general information on the whole situation—beyond the bare facts of the case—and on the ultimate intentions and point of view of the promoters, as they would themselves acquire from their own clients if called upon to design a similar building. If this was incorporated in the conditions by way of information only, the competitors would not feel quite so much in the dark. Even more perhaps in this country than America do "the efforts of all in collaboration, working in an office upon a serious competition, develop not only draughtsmanship, but a real conception of architecture in its higher meaning, such as many months of routine work may not accomplish," for here there are fewer educational opportunities than appear to obtain in America for the study of large architectural schemes. It is hardly to be disputed that in this respect the competitive system has had a beneficial influence here, although we are not perhaps altogether free from the tyranny of the order which Mr. Dyer considers so undesirable a result of this system in America.

"OLSINA" WATER PAINT

IS THE FINEST OF ALL WATER PAINTS AND IS FAR SUPERIOR TO ORDINARY DISTEMPERS.
IT DOES NOT SCALE NOR CRACK; ALWAYS BRIGHT AND CLEAN. SEND FOR COLOUR CARD.

WE ARE SOLE AGENTS.

THE BOSTON WALLPAPER COMPANY, LTD.,

WALLPAPER, PAINT AND GLASS MERCHANTS, YORK BUILDINGS, KERK STREET.

P.O. BOX 674. 'PHONE 3035. Manager: P. BAKER.

CLAIMS PAID £4000000. ASSETS £2000000.

GENERAL

ACCIDENT FIRE & LIFE ASSURANCE CORPORATION, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1885.

FIRE LIFE

BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT.

THE "GENERAL" IS THE ONLY INSURANCE COMPANY HOLDING HIS MAJESTY'S ROYAL WARRANT.

CHIEF OFFICE FOR SOUTH AFRICA:

GENERAL BUILDINGS, GREENMARKET SQUARE, CAPE TOWN.

Johannesburg : Commercial Exchange Buildings, Main Street.
Port Elizabeth : Cuthbert's Buildings, Main Street.
Durban : Natal Bank Buildings, West Street.

SOUTH AFRICAN MANAGER: *T. K. OGILVY MITCHELL.*

BANK, SHOP AND OFFICE FITTER,
:: :: AIR-TIGHT GLASS CASES, :: ::
SHOP FRONTS AND MANTLEPIECES,
MANUFACTURED FOR THE TRADE,

DESIGNS AND ESTIMATES FREE.

M. ROSS,

108, PRESIDENT STREET, Nr. Von Weilligh Street,
JOHANNESBURG.

P.O. Box 3529. 'Phone 3388

CYCLONE
Steel Gates and Fencing

Our reputation for good work cannot but redound to the builder's credit who erects the genuine "Cyclone" Gates and Fencing.

We supply ready Woven Fencing to any length, which merely needs erecting; also Plain and Barbed Wire; we also undertake the erection of Fences in any part of South Africa.

Quotations given; Price Lists supplied.

Use our Patent Crimped Pickets for lacing new Fences or repairing old ones.

Cyclone Gate & Fence Co.,
LIMITED.

P.O. Box 5748.
Telephone 961.

124, Main Street, off Von Weilligh Street,
JOHANNESBURG.

Transvaal Manager: C. E. WESTMORELAND.

The Plate Glass Bevelling and Silvering Co.
(E. BEARDMORE.)
BEVELLERS, SILVERERS AND EMBOSSERS.

Trade Signs, Motor Screens. Glass Shelves, :: Carriage and Motor Lamp Glasses, :: Drilling and every description of Glass Work undertaken. Importers of Cabinet Makers' and Upholsterers' Sundries, Timber, :: :: :: etc., etc. :: :: ::

7, BUITENKANT STREET, CAPE TOWN.
ONE DOOR FROM DARLING STREET.

Head Office:—17-18, Provident Buildings,
Fox Street, Johannesburg.

Telegraphic Add: "Natfedsa." Telephone 2767. Box 4651
Code A.B.C. 5th Edition.

LONDON OFFICE: Technical Journals, Ltd., Caxton House, Westminster
EUROPEAN ADVERTISING AGENTS: Hastings Bros., Limited, King's Chambers, Portugal Steet, Kingsway, London, W.C.

Jas. T. Brown's
Publications

The S.A. Master Builders Federation Journal.

Official Organ of the National Federation of Building Trade Employers in South Africa. Published on the 15th of each month.
7/6 Yearly, Post Free.

The S.A. Master Builders Annual.

The Edition-de-Luxe. 150 p.p. Royal Quarto, Printed on Art Paper and elaborately Illustrated. Published beginning of each year.
3/6 Post Free.

The African Architect.

The Journal of the Association of Transvaal Architects. Published on the 1st of each month
10/6 Yearly, Post Free.

The Architectural Year Book & Diary.

Containing full Directory of Registered Architects in South Africa, and names of Builders affiliated to the National Federation of Building Trade Employers in South Africa, besides full epitome of useful general information. First Issue, Jan. 1st, 1912.
Price 3/6, Post Free.

Builders Export Number.

Now in process of compilation. A useful production showing progress of South African Cities in Building, and other interesting information relating to the last half century. Distributed amongst affiliated Master Builders and Merchants in Great Britain and South Africa.

Specimen Copies, Advertisement Rates and all information on application to the Manager, J. T. Brown's Publications, 17-18, Provident Buildings, Fox Street, Johannesburg.

Red and Blue Wire Cuts, Splays Beaded Double and Single, Bull Nose always in Stock. Moulded Bricks made to order

WELLS BROS.,

P.O. Box 15 Telephone No. 7

NEW CLARE, JOHANNESBURG

Works: Bottom of Auckland Park Race Course.

"SANALENE"

THE PERFECT ENAMEL PAINT.

One Gallon covers from 60 to 70 sq. yds. on a prepared surface.

Flows Freely, Hard Wearing, Easily Washed and Polished.

"SANALENE"

FOR INSIDE OR OUTSIDE USE.

- - FOR - - PRACTICAL WORK BY PRACTICAL USERS.

Supplied by all Dealers throughout South Africa.

ASPINALL'S ENAMEL Ltd., New Cross, LONDON, S.E.

SUPPLIED IN - - WHITE OR COLOURS AS DESIRED.

Successful Merchants advertise in "The African Architect."

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

Transvaal Leader

WE are Newspaper, Magazine, and General Printers, Lithographers, Bookbinders, Steel, Copper, Brass and Process Block Engravers, Manufacturing Stationers, Artists, Show Card and Poster Designers and Address Illuminators.

We do the whole of the work in our own factory.

We carry the largest stock of raw materials for Printing in South Africa.

Our factory organization provides for the employment of high skilled labour only. The proper division of labour cannot very well be accomplished in a small print shop.

United Engineering Co.

LIMITED.

GENERAL MINING BUILDINGS, MARSHALL SQUARE,

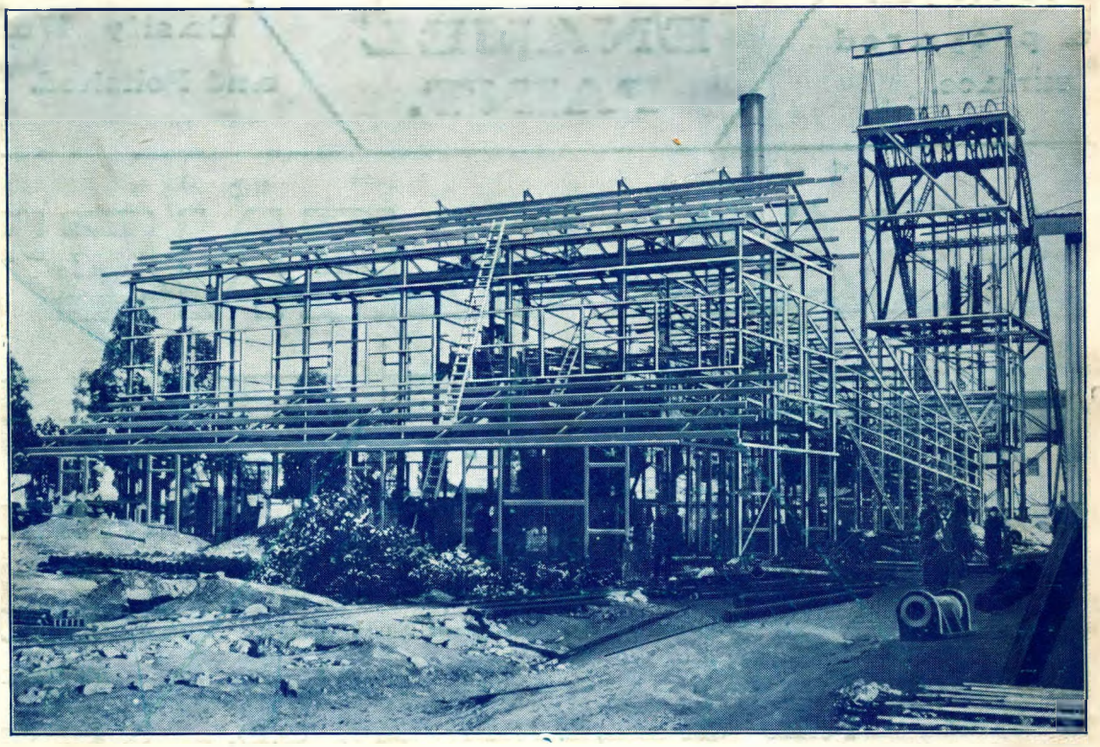
TELEGRAMS: "ARMATURE."
'PHONES: 3484, 3485.

JOHANNESBURG.

(Established 1888.)

P.O. BOX 1082.
WORKS 'PHONE 2484.

Works :—NEW DOORNFONTEIN.



Crusher Station, recently constructed at our Doornfontein Works for the Modderfontein "B" G.M. Co., Ltd.

Structural Steelwork

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION CONSTRUCTED LOCALLY, OR IMPORTED, AS REQUIRED

Large Stocks of Steel Joists, Channels, Angles, Tees, Plates, Bars, etc., etc.

Designs Prepared. Quantities Taken Out. Estimates Given at Shortest Notice

SPECIALISTS IN HEATING AND VENTILATING INSTALLATIONS.

Printed by the "Transvaal Leader," Harrison Street, Johannesburg, for the Proprietor, Jas. T. Brown, 17 and 18, Provident Buildings, Fox Street, Johannesburg.

Journal of the SA Architectural Institute

PUBLISHER:

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

LEGAL NOTICE:

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the Library website.