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# South African Architectural Record: Journal of the Transvaal, Natal and Orange Free State Provincial Institutes of South African Architects and the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors

**1935**

Institutes of South African Architects and the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors

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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.

67, Exploration Buildings, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, P.O. Box 2266. Telephone 33—1936

Volume Twenty Number Three, March, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty Five.

The editors will be glad to consider any mss. photographs or sketches submitted to them, but they should be accompanied by stamped addressed envelopes for return if unsuitable. In case of loss or injury they cannot hold themselves responsible for mss. photographs or sketches, and publication in the journal can alone be taken as evidence of acceptance. The name and address of the owner should be placed on the back of all pictures and mss. The Institute does not hold itself responsible for the opinions expressed by contributors.

Annual subscription per post 10/6 direct from the Secretary

Hon. Editors Professor G. E. Pearse
Rex Martienssen

Secretary A. S. Pearse

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Residence Waite
Saxonwold Johannesburg
Architect, Douglass Cowin

The attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Transvaal Provincial Institute, although larger than last year, was disappointing and there was little or no discussion of important matters affecting the Institute as a whole or the Provincial Institute in particular.

What is the reason for this apathy ? Is it due to the fact that architects are all so busy during the building boom, or is it a lack of interest in the affairs of the Institute ? We fear the latter.

The President's speech this year was very frank and inspiring, particularly to the younger members of the profession, who are always well represented at these meetings. It is encouraging to hear that there is a greater spirit of co-operation amongst members and that a great deal more is being done with regard to Provincial and Government work. In spite of these assurances, however, there are still unpleasant rumours circulating to the effect that there is unwarranted interference on the part of Government officials in the work of private practitioners.

We sincerely hope that such rumours are groundless and that if there is dissatisfaction it will be brought to the notice of the Councils of the Institute.

We should like to endorse most heartily the tribute paid by the President to the untiring efforts of Mr. Gerard Moerdijk, whilst a member of the Provincial Committee, and to express the sincere hope that he will be re-elected a member in the near future.

We fail to understand why he was not re-elected. Mr. Moerdijk has always been quite frank and outspoken in his views both in the Institute and in the Press and whether we entirely agree with him or not, he is mainly responsible for Government recognition of our profession which has certainly given the younger architects an opportunity they never had before.

A perusal of the annual report will make it quite clear that Mr. Moerdijk has given a great deal of time to the affairs of the Institute whilst other members of the Committee have done little or nothing during the year.

Mr. Cowin's proposals concerning the journal are of the greatest interest and whilst in many respects we heartily endorse them, we are of opinion that we have still a long way to go before we can launch out in the manner he proposes.

We feel that a comparison with the "South African Builder" is hardly valid, for the latter is essentially a trade and not a professional journal.

The fact that our journal continues to create interest overseas and is having a wider circulation among the public in this country, and the steady increase of advertisers, indicates that we are forging ahead and are in a better position to offer payment for articles than heretofore.

We all look forward to the time when the journal can have its own separate organisation and become a really profitable asset to the profession as a whole and not merely to a few debenture holders.

The strong appeal made on behalf of the Benevolent Fund by Mr. Cowin and Mr. Allen Wilson should be met with a hearty response by members of the profession more particularly after the splendid lead given by the President.

A unanimous vote was accorded to the proposal that we should once again be linked up with the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies at Kelvin House. The result of such a decision should have a far reaching effect and bring us into closer contact with those institutions which have much in common with our own profession. The use of the club premises by members of the Institute will also be to our advantage.

Some discussion took place on the question of professional charges, a hardy annual, and it is to the detriment of the profession as a whole that there appear to be so many unscrupulous members in the profession.

In prosperous times such as these it is surely in the best interest of practitioners to work for the benefit of the profession as a whole, and by insisting on the recognised schedule of fees to produce a better standard of work and thus create avenues of employment for junior members of the profession. It is obvious that by accepting a reduced fee the quality of the work must suffer and in turn bring discredit on the profession.

However, we can only sincerely hope that the malpractices which undoubtedly exist today will entirely disappear in the near future.

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## CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE IN SOUTH AFRICA

**Considerable criticism has been levelled at the journal from time to time, to the effect that contemporary work is not illustrated as fully as it should be. In reply it has been pointed out that members of the profession have been asked repeatedly to send drawings and photographs for reproduction, but the response has been negligible.**

**A suggestion has now been made that drawings and photographs should be sent to the editors for their criticism and that this criticism should be sent to the author of the design for his reply. The criticism and reply together with plans and photographs will then be published.**

**We welcome this suggestion and hope that many members will give their co-operation and support to the proposal.**

ARCHITECT • DOUGLASS COWIN

## A CRITIQUE

The plans illustrated are self explanatory and require little comment. The various elements are well arranged and there is a feeling of spaciousness in every part. The elevations, however, are rather restless, and one feels that a certain heaviness results from the eaves and fascia treatment. In addition the plan shape has given rise to every awkward roof masses. This is particularly noticeable on the east front where there is a strong contrast between the flat roof to the covered portion of the terrace and the main roof. The handling of the slates at ridges and hips is, however, extremely good. A roof of much lower pitch would have mitigated the evil.

The chimney stack on the entrance front, an incomplete cylindrical form, bears little relation to the main "cubic" forms of the building.

The balconies, particularly that on the north front, with its large cantilevered mass, produce a sense of strain in the onlooker. One feels that the gain of an uninterrupted outlook has been attained at the expense of repose. In this case the obvious and simple solution of light supports would have been preferable to a display of architectural gymnastics.

The entrance door, too, strikes a discordant note. This may be due to the design of the door itself or to the heavy wooden glazing bars on either side. Had these been very simply treated and the door either ducoed or framed together in a different manner the result might have been more satisfactory. Steel windows and doors in this position would have been more in harmony with the scheme as a whole.

Windows and doors are important elements in any room and their grouping and shape must be related to the wall surfaces of which they form a part. Their successful use in any series of volumes which are generated by a plan will produce a consistent and inevitable elevation. The elevations under consideration are strained. On the east they are unrelated, while on the south

A Dressing Table



differences in shape and height of windows complete an impression of discord. The use of many glazing bars is out of character with the competent handling of plane surfaces internally.

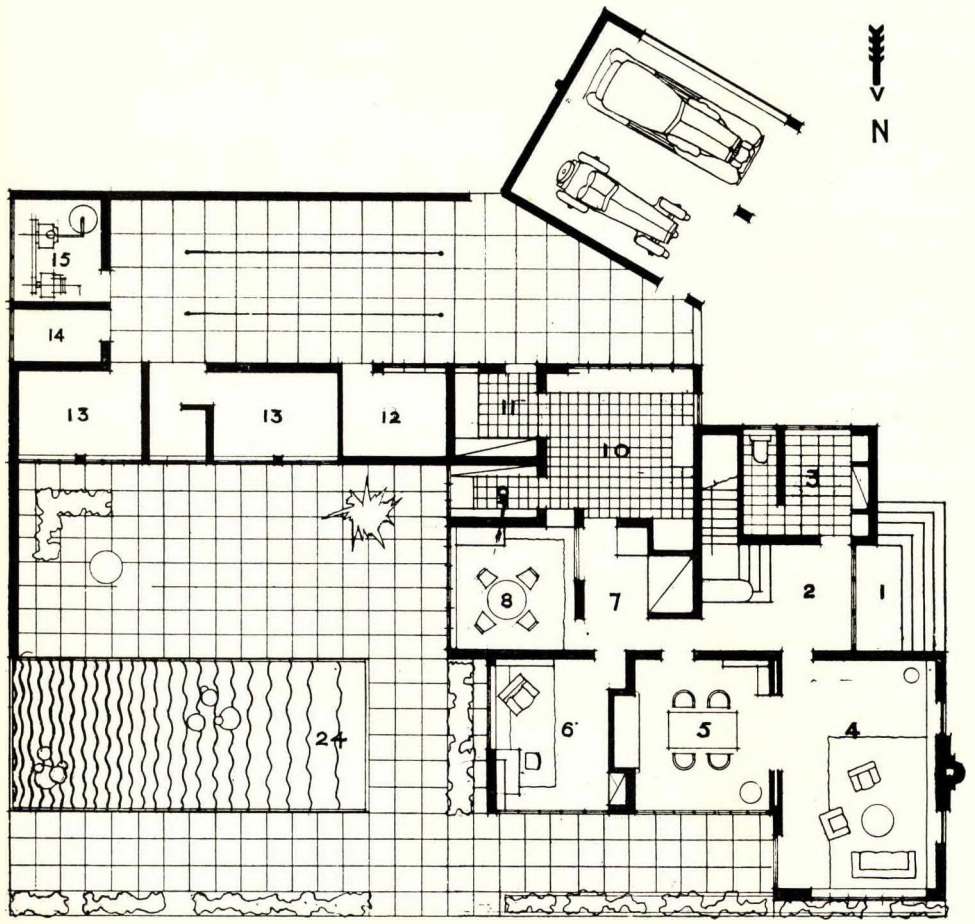
●

The interior of the house on the other hand is extremely pleasant except in very minor details. The rooms are furnished in excellent taste, and the architect must be congratulated on the design of the furniture and the colour schemes throughout. Here and there is a discordant note, for example in the treatment of the ceiling in the entrance hall, the triangular strips on some of the doors, and the geometrical patterns in conjunction with the light fittings in one or two ceilings. These latter might have been eliminated. The sideboard doors in the dining room, would, one feels, have been preferable if kept flush. The rich tones of the woodwork and the emphasis given by the handles hardly necessitates any further definition. The treatment of the bedroom fittings and the bathrooms is extremely good.

●

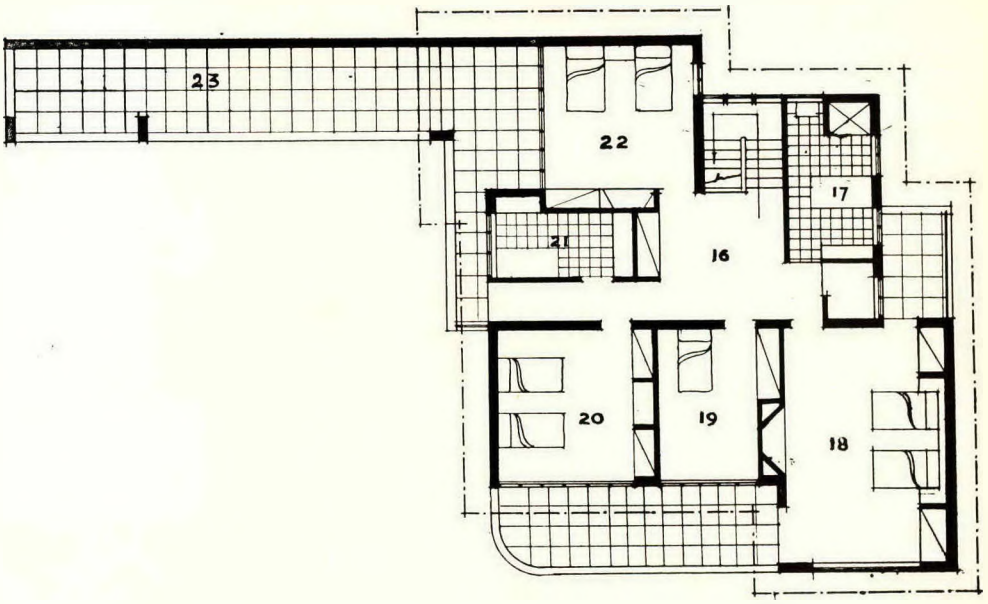
The general layout of the grounds, the placing of the swimming pool, and the design of the delightful garden room are further evidence of the great care and thought which have been given to the whole design.

One would like all critics of the contemporary movement in design and decoration to visit this house, and then hear what they have to say.




1 Entrance Porch
2 Hall
3 Cloaks
4 Living Room
5 Dining Room
6 Study
7 Service Lobby
8 Breakfast Room
9 Pantry
10 Kitchen
11 Scullery
12 Laundry
13 Natives' Rooms
14 Store
15 Pump Room

16 Upper Hall
17 Main Bath Room
18 Main Bed Room
19 Nurse's Bed Room
20 Childrens' Bed Room
21 Childrens' Bath Room
22 Guest Room
23 Covered Terrace
24 Swimming Pool




## THE ARCHITECT REPLIES

1. The broken and rather awkward outline of the plan, contrary to all accepted principles, was arrived at in an effort to comply with the clients' explicit instructions that the roof should be broken as much as possible in order that the house "might not resemble a box."

2. The epithet "restless" as applied to the elevation is somewhat vague, but if it is intended to mean "unstable" or "lacking in repose," these criticisms can as well be levelled at the works of the great Le Corbusier—particularly his house at Poissy which gives anything but an impression of stability.

3. The pitch of the roof is dictated by the type of construction adopted at the eaves.

4. The deep fascia and big overhang of the eaves which give an air of solidity, are entirely logical. The former conceals a square gutter, and the latter allows the opening of the first floor windows in all weathers without danger of rain penetrating to the rooms behind them.

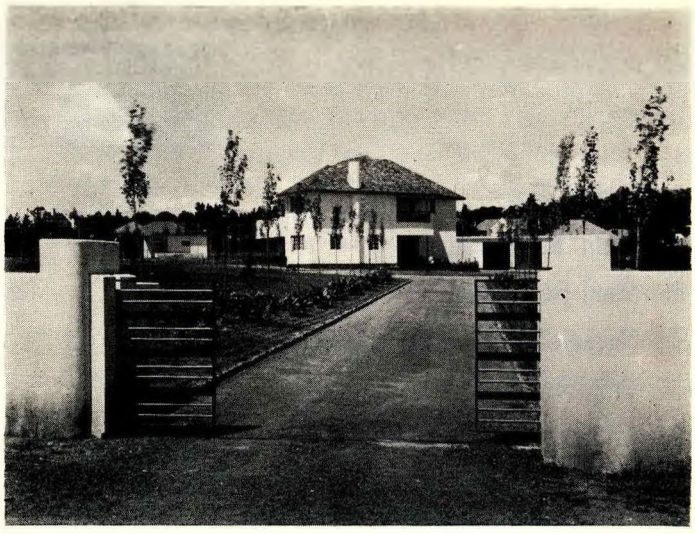
5. The cylindrical form of the chimney was intended to effect a little contrast with the main cubic form of the house in a manner so successfully exploited by W. Dudok in many of his works.

6. The cantilever balcony on the North front maintains the line of the heads and cills of the adjoining windows, and the resulting massiveness was not considered entirely in disharmony with the rest of the house. The adoption of light steel columns was considered, but abandoned on the grounds that though they would be structurally strong enough, to the lay eye, at all events, they would give an impression of instability.

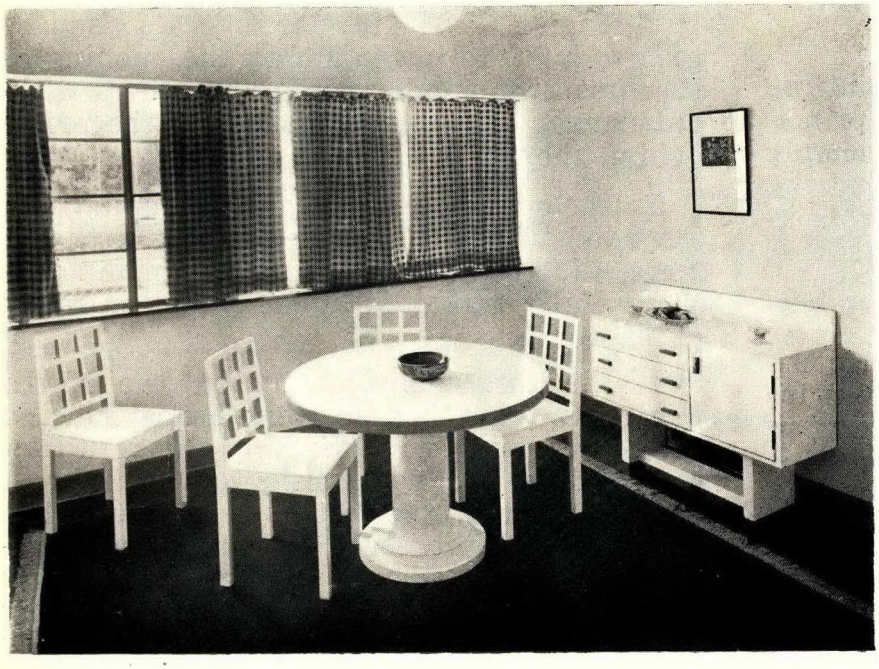
8. The omission of the glazing bars to the windows would undoubtedly have improved the external appearance of the house, but this was a point conceded to the clients in an effort to gain one of greater importance.

7. The entrance door and sidelights, executed in teak to withstand the heat of the western sun, were intended to be painted, but the client decreed otherwise.

9. Strangely enough, a great deal more latitude was allowed the architect in the design of most of the furniture, than in the house itself. However, when the owners perceived how simple it was, they decided that they were qualified to design the remainder themselves : with what success they alone can tell.



THE Entrance Front



The Breakfast Room

Walls and Ceiling White •
Carpet Deep Orange •
Curtains Orange,
Black and White •
Furniture Oregon Pine
Cellulosed White and
Picked out in Orange •



## THE ENTRANCE HALL

Stairs finished in Smooth Cement and painted silver. Walls, Silver Grey. Floor Rhodesian teak parquet, ceiling silver plastic paint.



The Dining Room • Electric Heater



THE DINING ROOM

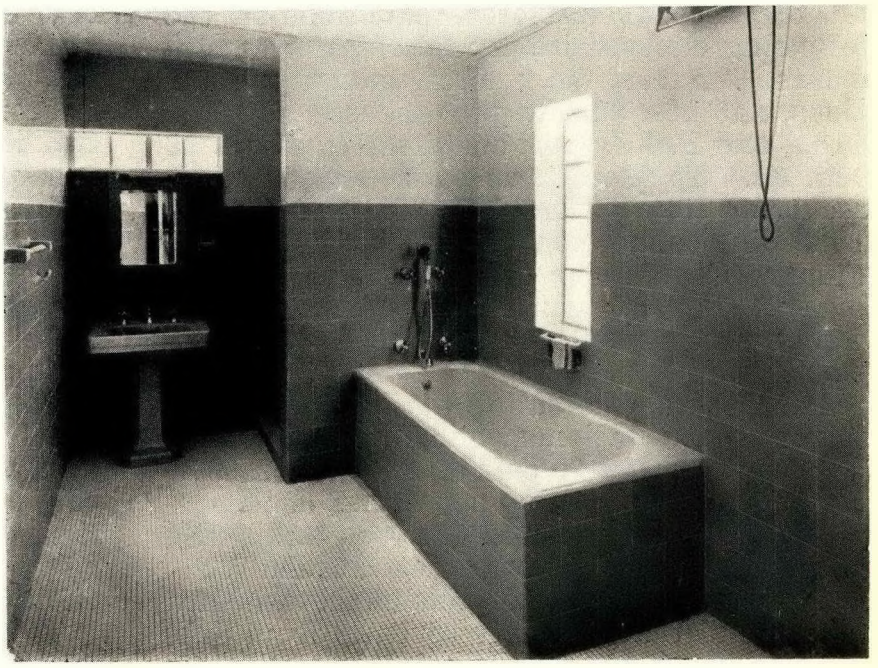
Floor: Kejaat (Rhodesian and Swaziland) strips $1\frac{1}{2}''$ wide. Walls and ceilings, light beige. Carpet and upholstery on chairs, Claret. Furniture, Kejaat french polished.

## The Main Bed Room



Walls and ceiling light daffodil yellow. Floor, Rhodesian Teak parquet. Furniture and woodwork painted sea-green.

## The Main Bath Room



Floor, white ceramic mosaic. Wall tiles, new ming green with egg-shell finish. Walls and ceiling, white gloss.

## ANNUAL REPORT, 1934.

### MEMBERSHIP.

The Membership at the close of the year consisted of one hundred and two Practising, thirty-four Salaried, four Absentee and ten Retired Members, a total of one hundred and fifty members.

### MEETINGS.

One Annual General Meeting, one Special Meeting and thirteen meetings of the committee were held during the year, besides numerous sub-committee meetings.

### FINANCIAL.

The audited accounts accompanying this report show the financial position to be as follows :—

Revenue for the year exceeds expenditure by the sum of £48 2s. 11d.

The Balance Sheet shows that assets as at 31st December, 1934, exceeded Liabilities at the same date by the sum of £207 12s. 8d.

Comparing the Income and Expenditure account with that of the preceding year it will be found that the aggregate expenditure has been reduced by £52 5s. 1d. and the income increased by £113 17s. 1d. A further analysis of the account discloses reductions in the following expense items : Secretarial emoluments, £22 11s. 7d. ; Professional publications, £45 16s. 8d. ; Legal expenses, £10 17s. 11d. ; and P.E. Local Committee expenses £8 11s. 4d. To these have to be added a non-recurring item of £18 12s. 0d., disbursed in 1933 in connection with the Provincial Finance Commission, plus expenses of meetings £4 1s. 7d., which item in the current accounts has been merged into General Expenses.

Per contra, the following increases have taken place : Stationery and Printing £1 12s. 0d., Depreciation £0 8s. 6d., and General Expenses £2 13s. 2d. plus new items of Expenditure ; Office Rent, £42 10s. 0d., and Office and Library removal expenses, £11 2s. 4d.

Turning to the Income side of the Account, it is found that the nett revenue from Subscriptions, after providing for irrecoverable amounts and for the levy payable to the Central Council has increased by £95 12s. 7d. The Kalendar, after allowing for bad debts on previous isues, a reduction of £5 7s. 6d., and a new item of income £23 12s. 0d., being donations received towards library equipment.

Coming now to the Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1934, it will be found that the Capital Account has been augmented to the extent of £112 6s. 1d., this sum being made up of current year's profit, £48 2s. 11d., plus a retrospective adjustment of Levy £68 10s. 7d., less accumulated interest credited to Benevolent fund £4 7s. 5d. The item Sundry Creditors which at 31st December, 1933, stood at £323 14s. 2d., has since been reduced to £208 17s. 3d., and our indebtedness to the Central Council has fallen from £332 2s. 2d. to £227 15s. 7d.

Upon the other side of the Balance Sheet, Furniture Account has been increased by £34 10s. 0d., expended in the purchase of Library equipment, and reduced by £3 7s. 3d., for depreciation. The Sundry Debtors account, which last year stood at £703 11s. 6d., has been reduced to £443 10s. 0d., and finally the cash on hand and in the Bank amounted to £142 17s. 5d., as compared with £19 14s. 10d., as at 31st December, 1933.

From the Expenditure and Revenue and Capital Accounts, together with the foregoing exhaustive comparisons with last year's results, it will be realised that the financial position of the Institute has so improved during the year under review that practically the whole of the 1933 deficit, which amounted to no less than £117 19s. 3d., has been restored.

The Central Council levy which formerly was fifty per cent. of Salaried, Absentee and Retired Member's subscriptions and forty per cent. of Practising Members' subscriptions, averaging about forty-two per cent. has been reduced to a flat rate of thirty-three and one-third per cent.

The outstanding factors contributing to the satisfactory state of the Institute's finances in their order of importance, are : (1) reduction of levy (current and restrospective) ; (2)

reduction of irrecoverable subscriptions written off ; and (3) curtailment of working expenditure.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Central Council at which the Institute representatives, Messrs. Hawke and Walgate were in attendance, was held in June last. The meeting lasted four days and as usual a great many matters of interest to the profession were considered and dealt with.

Perhaps one of the most important of these, so far as this Provincial Institute is concerned, was the reduction of the Levy mentioned above and although this measure of relief is very much appreciated, it is felt that the contribution still imposes too heavy a burden upon the resources of the constituent bodies.

Mr. Walgate was elected Vice-President-in-Chief for the year.

The Committee tenders its thanks to the representatives for giving up their time to attend this meeting and for the good work they accomplished on behalf of the Provincial Institute.

R.I.B.A.

It afforded your Committee very much pleasure to convey the Institute's felicitations upon the honour of Knighthood recently conferred on the Secretary of the R.I.B.A.—Sir Ian MacAlister.

Members of the C.P.I. who know Sir Ian personally—and they are not a few—and others who are acquainted with the great services he has rendered to the R.I.B.A., and indeed to the architectural profession throughout the world, feel, without exception, that the distinction of Knighthood has seldom been bestowed upon so worthy a subject of His Majesty the King.

Mr. G. C. Lawrence, F.R.I.B.A., of Bristol, England, has again functioned as the Cape Institute's representative on the R.I.B.A. Allied Societies Conference, a service which is gratefully acknowledged.

THE PORT ELIZABETH LOCAL COMMITTEE.

The P.E. Local Committee continues to function on behalf of members in the Eastern Province with that degree of interest and efficiency which has been shown since its inception. Mr. Owen Eaton, the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, is deserving of the Institute's gratitude for his unremitting attention to local professional matters.

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

The number of students attending the architectural classes at the University of Capetown was fifty-eight, as compared with fifty-five in 1933. Of these ten were first year, four second year, ten third year, sixteen fourth year and eighteen fifth year students. Twelve students were successful in passing the third year and three students the fifth year examinations.

THE LIBRARY.

The Library which at the closing of the C.I.A. School of Architecture was placed in the custody of the University of Capetown and housed in the Michaelis School of Fine Art, has been transferred to the Institute's new premises.

This marks the achievement of a purpose that has been steadfastly kept in view for some years past, and it has been made possible by the improvement of the Institute's finances referred to earlier in this report. The library was formally opened in October last, and as the result of a suggestion made by the President the sum of £23 12s. 0d., was contributed in donations towards the equipment of the new premises. The fund is still open to any members who may feel prompted to augment it.

ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITIONS.

Several important competitions took place in the year under review. Of these two were promoted by the Union Government, and one by the Benoni Municipality. The schemes and their respective successful competitors were :

Law Courts, Pietermaritzburg : Winners, Moffat and Hirst.

Law Courts, Johannesburg : Winner, John Perry, F.R.I.B.A.

Benoni Town Hall : Winner, J. Lockwood Hall.

These Members are heartily congratulated upon their achievements.

An exhibition consisting of a number of the designs (including the premiated one) sent in by local architects for the Johannesburg Law Courts Competition, was held in the Institute's Board room on 19th December.

CONDITIONS OF BUILDING CONTRACTS.

A considerable amount of attention has been devoted to this matter during the year. Members are aware that there has been locally a good deal of opposition to the use of the present "White Form." Your Committee has endeavoured from time to time to have certain amendments effected, but the fact that the form appears to meet with general approval excepting at the Cape has made this no easy task.

There is a Standing Committee charged with the preparation of an amended form, and with a view to obviating confusion pending the completion of their work, both the Central Council and the local Master Builders (through the Joint Practice Committee), requested your Committee to ask members to abandon the "Blue Form" and use the "White Form," with amendments if necessary to meet special requirements.

A special meeting was held towards the close of the year to enable the Committee to ascertain the views of other members on the matter. Discussion brought to light the general opinion that the effect of the document was to weaken the fiduciary capacity in which an architect should be placed in the discharge of his functions, and that members who use the form do so with reluctance because of their doubts as to its equity. At the conclusion of the meeting it was unanimously decided to inform the C.C. that the C.P.I. cannot recommend the exclusive use of the form to its members.

The protracted discussions have brought to light a marked divergence between the Provinces in procedure and in outlook, and it has been suggested that a possible solution of the difficulty in drawing up a generally acceptable Form of Contract may lie in providing alternative Clauses, where necessary, and your Committee is investigating the matter from this point of view.

EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY ART.

Your committee, at the request of the Trustees of the South African Art Gallery, arranged an architectural section for inclusion in this year's exhibition of contemporary Art. Members gave the movement their ready support with the result that twenty-two photos, drawings, etc., were selected and sent in for exhibition. There is reason to believe that an architectural section will become a permanent feature of future exhibitions, and if so the willing co-operation of the C.P.I. may always be counted upon.

AN ADDRESS BY MR. GLENNIE.

Towards the end of the year Mr. F. M. Glennie gave a most interesting and instructive address upon his recent professional visit Overseas. Mr. Glennie stated that the objects of his visit took him to England, the Continent and America and he gave the meeting his impressions of the architectural development and tendencies at the numerous cities included in his itinerary.

VISIT TO MAITLAND CREMATORIUM.

By the courtesy of the Cemetery Board and the associated architects, Messrs. F. K. Kendall and C. P. Walgate, local members and students were invited to view the Crematorium recently erected at Maitland. The visit took place on 3rd October, about twenty-five members availing themselves of the invitation.

PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS.

One volume (the 11th) of the Wren Society was acquired by purchase during the year, and a copy of the R.I.B.A. centenary publication was presented by the President and Council of that Body.

Your Committee acknowledges with gratitude the free issue of "The Architect, Builder, and Engineer" Journal during the past year to all members.

Members are asked to note that Progress Certificate forms made up in books of 50 forms are now available from the Secretary at two shillings and sixpence per book.

THE C.P.I. BRONZE MEDAL.

An unusually large number of entries were received for the 1934 competition, that of the Loreto Convent, Sea Point, designed by Mr. H. A. McQueen being awarded the medal. Mr. McQueen is heartily congratulated upon his success.

CANADIAN LUMBER DELEGATION.

A meeting between the members of this Delegation and your Committee took place in November last. The visit of the Delegation was arranged with the object of promoting and increasing the sale of British Columbian Lumber and Lumber Products in South Africa.

THE SECRETARY.

Major Duncan has continued to carry out the Secretarial duties with unselfish thoroughness. In view of the serious financial position of the Institute a year ago, he willingly agreed to considerably reduced remuneration, which your Committee intended should be balanced by reduced work in several directions. He has, however, made no attempt to spare himself but has continued his work as heretofore with the addition of custody of the Library. This devoted service has been much appreciated, and the Institute's grateful thanks are here recorded.

W. HAWKE, President.

# THE CHAPTER OF SOUTH AFRICAN QUANTITY SURVEYORS

## Board's Report for 1934–1935.

To Members of the Chapter :

Your Board has pleasure in presenting its Annual Report. The Board for the year under review (i.e., from March 10th, 1934, to March 15th, 1935) consisted of :

Solely Practising Members :—A. T. Babbs, H. Bell-John, C. L. F. Borckenhagen, J. W. Cowling, F. D. Hickman, D. J. Laing, J. E. McEnanem, T. Moore.

Dual Practising Member :—R. Howden.

Salaried Members :—E. J. Hamlin, R. J. C. Prentice, W. E. Puntis.

Mr. R. J. C. Prentice was unanimously elected President for the year ; Mr. D. J. Laing, Senior Vice-President, and Dr. E. J. Hamlin, Junior Vice-President.

BOARD MEETINGS.

During the year under review (i.e., up to and including March 1st, 1935) there were eight meetings of the Board, in respect of which the following is the attendance record :

| | |
|---|---|
| R. J. C. Prentice .. .. .. .. .. | 8 |
| J. W. Cowling .. .. .. .. .. .. | 8 |
| C. L. F. Borckenhagen .. .. .. .. | 7 |
| R. Howden .. .. .. .. .. .. .. | 7 |
| T. Moore .. .. .. .. .. .. .. | 7 |
| F. D. Hickman .. .. .. .. .. .. | 6 |
| D. J. Laing .. .. .. .. .. .. .. | 6 |
| Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis .. .. .. .. | 6 |
| Professor H. Bell-John .. .. .. .. | 5 |
| Dr. E. J. Hamlin .. .. .. .. .. | 5 |
| A. T. Babbs (Cape Town) .. .. .. | – |
| J. Mc Enanem (Durban) .. .. .. | – |

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The thanks of the Board are due to the Chairman and Members of the Finance Committee for the thoroughness of their efforts to improve the financial position of the Chapter.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

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

A. T. Babbs (Alternate : D. J. Laing) ; T. Moore (Alternate : F. D. Hickman).

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

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND EXAMINATIONS.

The Chapter's representatives on the Standing Committee on Education and Examinations are :—

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

MEMBERSHIP.

The total membership of the Chapter, compiled as at February 28th, 1935, is one hundred and forty-seven, composed as follows :—

Solely Practising Members (including two absentee members) thirty-six.

Dual Practising Members (including three absentee members), thirty-nine.

Salaried Members (including one absentee member), forty-four.

Retired Members, twenty-four.

Honorary Members, four.

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

NEW ENROLMENTS.

The Board has pleasure in stating that, during the year under review, there were six new enrolments as members of the Chapter, viz., Messrs. J. O. Quail, G. P. Quail, E. V. Kohler, J. Seaton Hodge, J. W. G. Walters, and G. R. Durrant.

CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP.

Transfer to Practising from Salaried Class : Mr. Henry A. Hustwick (Cape Town) ; Mr. S. C. Warren (Port Elizabeth) ; Mr. Arthur Wood (Cape Town) ; Mr. A. M. Loots (Johannesburg).

Transfer to Retired from Salaried Class : Mr. N. N. Moore (Pretoria).

Transfer to Retired from Practising Class : Mr. W. H. Priestley (Durban).

OBITUARY.

The Board has to record, with deep regret, the passing during the year of Mr. R. S. Shepherd, of Cape Town, one of the pioneer Quantity Surveyors of the Cape ; and Mr. B. R. Avery, M.I.A., of Johannesburg, a Dual Practising Member of the Chapter.

QUANTITY SURVEYING EDUCATION AND EXAMINATIONS.

The visiting inspectors (Messrs. J. W. Cowling and R. J. C. Prentice) appointed to attend Quantity Surveying Examinations, continued their work during the year. One of the most interesting developments following the presentation of their report was the holding of a series of meetings between the visiting inspectors and the internal and external examiners in quantity surveying of the University of Pretoria, as the result of which certain practical suggestions made have been adopted.

In respect of the November 1934 Examinations Mr. R. J. C. Prentice was obliged, because of pressure of official work, to relinquish his duties as visiting inspector. Mr. E. B. Farrow, of Johannesburg, has very kindly consented to act in the place of Mr. Prentice.

QUANTITY SURVEYING STUDENTS.

The following figures indicate the numbers of quantity surveying students who attended the Universities of Pretoria and the Witwatersrand during 1934 :—

| | University of Pretoria | University of Witwatersrand |
|---|---|---|
| Degree Course .. .. | 3 | 4 |
| Diploma Course .. .. | 8 | 19 |
| | 11 | 23 |

There are, in addition, quantity surveying students in other parts of South Africa, in the offices of practitioners, who are studying privately for the examinaions of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution.

During the year the following students completed their Qualifying Examinations in quantity surveying :

(a) University of Pretoria Diploma : J. W. M. Clark, C. R. Cornell, C. A. Cuff, W. L. Paul, C. A. Smith.

(b) Chartered Surveyor's Institution Final : J. S. Hodge, C. J. Leigh-Hunt, W. R. Morrow, G. P. Quail, J. O. Quail, W. K. Thomson.

CHAPTER'S FINANCIAL POSITION.

The audited accounts of the Chapter for the calendar year 1934, together with an explanatory statement thereon, have already been sent to members.

It is, once again, very unsatisfactory to find that the amount of outstanding subscriptions as at December 31st, 1934, exceeds the sum of £200. In certain cases there has been no alternative but to institute legal proceedings against the Members concerned.

PROVINCIAL FINANCE COMMISSION.

The Report of the Provincial Finance Commission (which has not yet been considered in detail by the Board) has been published. A copy of the report is in the records of the Chapter and can be inspected by members at the office of the Secretary.

GOVERNMENT WORK.

The Board gratefully acknowledges its appreciation of the fact that the Union Government has put out several of its architectural projects to Competition, in the Conditions for which provision has been made for the employment of practising quantity surveyors.

ENGINEERING QUANTITIES.

The Sub-Committee appointed by the Board has completed its suggestions for the introduction of a Standard System as applied to Engineering Quantities. This matter will reach finality in the very near future.

STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR BUILDING TIMBER.

As the result of a movement initiated by the Board, the Central Council brought into being a Joint Committee consisting of an architect, a quantity surveyor, members of the Public Works Department, and members of the National Federation of Building Trade Employers. It was found, during the progress of the Joint Committee's work, that it was essential to become associated with the South African Standards Institution, a standardising body officially recognised by the Union Government.

It is likely that the future work of the Joint Committee will be continued under the authority of the South African Standards Institution.

COPYRIGHT IN QUANTITIES.

During the year representations were made by the Central Council, on behalf of the Chapter, to a Departmental Commission appointed by the Union Government to inquire into the question of Patents, Trade Marks and Copyright. It was submitted that provision should be included in the South African Copyright Act of 1916 to cover Bills of Quantities. The matter is still sub judice.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SURVEYORS

In July 1934, the Chapter had the good fortune to be represented, in the person of Mr. A. T. Babbs, at the Fifth International Congress of Surveyors, held in London.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

As the result of an inquiry initiated by the Board, the Central Council has obtained the opinion of the Institute's Solicitors on the position of a practising architect or quantity surveyor in relation to assistants employed by him. The opinion will be circulated to every member of the Chapter in the near future.

QUANTITY SURVEYING FEES.

A great deal of work has been done by a Sub-Committee of the Board during the year on the question of simplifying and amplifying Regulation No. 98. Owing to the magnitude of the task, the whole of the Sub-Committee's Report has not yet been considered by the Board.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Other matters which have occupied the attention of the Board during the year, but with regard to which finality has not yet been reached, have been referred to from time to time in the Board's minutes which are circulated to all members of the Chapter.

BOARD'S THANKS TO PRESIDENT.

The Board cordially records its thanks to the President, Mr. R. J. C. Prentice, for the conscientious and able way in which he has carried out his responsible duties during the year.

Johannesburg, 4th March, 1935.

To Members of the Chapter :

Happily, my year as President has coincided with one of the biggest building booms in the history of the country and, consequently, despite the non-completion of some of the very important tasks of the Board, will be looked upon as a period of general success for the profession.

I wish to congratulate the many younger members who have set up in practice and I feel certain, with the prosperous position of state finances, and therefore encouragement of progress, one may look to the future with real optimism.

The rush of work has had its effect on the duties of your Board, but a study of the year's work as set out in the general Report will show that a number of important matters have materially progressed and finality should be reached during the coming session.

Fortunately, after a long struggle the finances of your Chapter are now in a more healthy state and with careful handling should continue to improve.

In this connection I should like to stress the great necessity for certain members showing a little more consideration so far as payment of subscriptions is concerned ; it is an unpleasant task for any sub-committee to be constantly on the track of outstandings and one cannot help feeling that a little forethought on the part of members would assist the Board enormously.

It is with regret I find there is to be no election for Board membership this year. I must ask the rising generation to realise that there is much important work to be done and the time will come when younger members must replace those who have practically given a lifetime to improving the Profession.

Mr. Babbs has definitely severed his connection with the Board and words cannot adequately express the appreciation felt for his long and honourable record in the interests of quantity surveying.

I wish to thank the members of the Board for their loyal co-operation during the year and I make no excuse for once again eulogising the very excellent work of your Secretary.

(Signed) R. J. C. Prentice, President.

# THE NATAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE

## Annual Report, 1935.

Your Committee has pleasure in presenting the following statement of its activities during the past session, being the Eighth Annual Report of the Natal Provincial Institute of Architects.

At the last Annual General Meeting the following members were duly elected to act on the Provincial Committee :—Messrs. G. E. Le Sueur (President), E. M. Powers (Vice-President), Wallace Paton, W. S. Payne, G. T. Hurst, W. B. Oxley, F. J. Ing, C. S. M. Taylor and Mr. B. V. Bartholomew.

Fourteen Committee Meetings have been held during the session and the attendance of members has been very satisfactory.

The following is the attendance record at the Committee Meetings :—

| | |
|---|---|
| G. E. Le Sueur .. .. .. .. | 13 |
| E. M. Powers .. .. .. .. .. | 13 |
| Wallace Paton .. .. .. .. | 10 |
| W. S. Payne .. .. .. .. .. | 9 |
| G. T. Hurst .. .. .. .. .. | 14 |
| F. J. Ing .. .. .. .. .. .. | 5 |
| W. B. Oxley .. .. .. .. .. | 7 |
| B. V. Bartholomew .. .. .. .. | 6 |
| C. S. M. Taylor .. .. .. .. | 11 |

During the year one member has transferred his membership to that of the Transvaal Provincial Institute, one member has resigned from the Institute, and three new members have been enrolled.

The Membership at the close of the year consists of forty three Practising, one Practising Absentee, ten Salaried, one Salaried Absentee and four Retired Members ; making a total of Fifty Nine Members.

There has been nothing of an outstanding nature during the year under review, but matters of importance to the profession have occupied the attention of the Committee from time to time.

Your Committee 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 advice and in appointing one or more of its members to act on Committees.

Mr. E. M. Powers was appointed as this Provincial Institute's Representative, with Mr. Wallace Paton as Alternate, on the Central Council of the Institute of South African Architects.

Col. G. T. Hurst was appointed to represent this Provincial Institute on the New Council of the Natal Technical College.

Mr. Wallace Paton is Representative on the Art Consultative Committee of the Natal Technical College, Mr. F. J. Ing is this Provincial Institute's Representative on the Greater Durban Town Planning Association.

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

Among other matters the Borough Building Regulations have been in process of revision, and taking advantage of the occasion a Sub-Committee consisting of the President, Mr. G. E. Le Sueur, the Vice-President, Mr. E. M. Powers and Messrs. W. S. Payne and Wallace Paton, met the Durban Corporation Plans Committee in conference and presented this Institute's views, and were given a patient and sympathetic hearing and there are hopes that a Bye-law will be promulgated to the effect that all building plans submitted of work over a certain amount must be be prepared and signed by a registered architect.

As usual the activities of the Central Council and its Executive have covered a wide range of subjects affecting the profession.

Among other important matters dealt with, being architectural education, amendments to the Institute's Regulations, architectural competitions, and "Conditions of Building Contract."

A most pleasing interlude in the year's work was the visit of the President-in-Chief, Mr. F. Masey, who spent a few days in Durban, on his tour of the Provinces.

Members of the Profession were afforded an opportunity of meeting and welcoming their President-in-Chief at a social gathering of members and students, when Mr. Masey gave an address which was much appreciated by those present.

The Committee wishes to remind members of the facilities now afforded in courses of Architectural Education at the Natal Technical College.

Full particulars of these courses may be obtained on application to the Registrar of the Natal Technical College, Berea Road, Durban.

The Central Council of the Institute make a strong recommendation to the Provincial Institutes, that wherever possible no pupil is to be taken into an architect's office unless he has first had at least two years' tuition at a recognised School of Architecture.

The sum of ten guineas has been forwarded to the R.I.B.A. London Building Fund, as a donation from this Provincial Institute.

During the year a form of "Standard Progress Certificates" has been issued by the Central Council of the Institute, for the use of members. These are bound in book form containing fifty certificates, and are obtainable from the Secretary at two-shillings and sixpence per book.

## FINANCES.

The audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts for the year are submitted herewith.

The Revenue and Expenditure Account for the twelve months ending December 31st 1934, reflects an excess of revenue over expenditure of £45 0s. 1d., after writing off an amount of £7 17s. 6d., as bad and irrecoverable.

It is again the unpleasant duty of your Committee to direct attention to the large amount outstanding at the close of the year in respect of unpaid subscriptions. Members are reminded that their subscriptions are due and payable on the 1st January in each year and are asked to regard this obligation as one to be discharged without unnecessary delay, and thus save much time and expense in the collecting of fees.

Owing to the non-payment of subscriptions, this means that the burden of the Institute is being carried by a minority of willing payers.

## READING ROOM AND LIBRARY.

Members are reminded of the Reading Room, housed in the Institute's Committee Room, where professional journals and periodicals may be consulted.

The Committee takes this opportunity of expressing its thanks and appreciation to those members who have kindly assisted by the loan of books and journals during the year.

Thanks are extended to the "S.A. Architectural Record" for its journal which has been circulated to members during the year.

Contributions from members in the way of professional matters for publication will be welcomed by the Editor of the Journal.

Thanks are also due to the Royal Institute of British Architects and Allied Societies for their journals and Year Books received from time to time.

Minutes of the Eighth Annual General Meeting of members held in the Institute's Room, No. 5, Poynton's Chambers, Smith Street, Durban, at 3.30 p.m. Friday, 15th March, 1935.

PRESENT.

Miss G. Goodricke, Messrs. G. E. le Sueur, E. M. Powers, W. S. Payne, Wallace Paton, C. S. M. Taylor, G. T. Hurst, D. C. McDonald, C. R. Fridjhon, F. W. Powers, H. H. Grant, H. B. van der Riet, L. A. Peyton, and the Secretary, T. H. Chaplain. The president, Mr. G. E. le Sueur, occupied the Chair.

An apology for absence was received from Mr. B. V. Bartholomew.

NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING.

After the Notice convening the meeting was read the Chairman declared the Eighth Annual General Meeting duly constituted.

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Seventh Annual General Meeting held on 9th March, 1934, having been previously circulated to all members, were on the motion of the Chairman taken as read and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET.

The Chairman in moving the adoption of the Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year 1934, said: "Ladies and Gentlemen, beyond the matters dealt with in the Annual Report and Balance Sheet, a copy of which has been sent to all members, there is very little to add in connection with the working of your Committee during the past year. It is pleasing to note that there has been a good attendance at the Committee Meetings during the session.

During the year the Committee met representatives of various local bodies associated with Building Trades. The Master Painters who are making an endeavour to raise the standard of their trade in Durban, called upon the Institute for advice and assistance. They received a sympathetic hearing from the Committee but it was explained that it is not possible to grant the Institute's protection in matters concerning their trade. Your Committee had a similar interview concerning the importation of stock joinery ; and also a meeting with representatives of the Town Planning Association in connection with passing a Bye-law to restrict the design and height of buildings on main thoroughfares. But again it was impossible to take any action.

Among other matters was an invitation from the Durban Corporation to meet the Building Plans Committee to consider the question of passing a new Bye-law to the effect that all building plans for work costing over £300 must be prepared and signed by a registered architect. From information received I am pleased to say that there is every possibility of the Bye-law going through in the near future.

From the Revenue and Expenditure Account the Committee is to be congratulated on the Institute's sound financial position.

You will have noted from the Balance Sheet outstanding subscriptions amounting to £137 0s. 6d., but I am pleased to say that since that date the amount has been reduced by £50.

It is a pleasure to welcome on behalf of my Committee, the members present, and especially the new member Mr. F. W. Powers whom we wish every success.

To conclude I should like to thank my colleagues on the Committee for their loyal support during my term of Office. Their guidance and experience has been of the utmost value.

I will now move the adoption of the Eighth Annual Report and Balance Sheet.

The motion being seconded by Mr. E. M. Powers was carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF AUDITOR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

No other nominations being forwarded, Mr. J. E. Duff was re-elected Auditor for the ensuing year.

ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE 1935-1936.

The Ballot Papers having been dealt with in accordance with the regulations the three scrutineers appointed retired to count the votes for the new Committee.

The result of the Ballot was handed to the Chairman who thereupon announced the following nine members duly elected on the Provincial Committee for the year 1935-1936: Messrs. Wallace Paton, W. S. Payne, E. M. Powers, G. E. le Sueur, G. T. Hurst, C. S. M. Taylor, B. V. Bartholomew, W. B. Oxley, and W. E. Langton.

PROPOSED PORTRAIT OF SIR IAN MAC ALISTER.

The Chairman advised the meeting of a letter from the Secretary, Board of Architectural Education R.I.B.A., London, inviting co-operation in the way of contributions not exceeding five shillings, from all members of the Institute, towards a Portrait of Sir Ian Mac Alister to be presented to the Royal Institute of British Architects, London.

Agreed, after discussion, "that a copy of the letter be circulated to all members of this Provincial Institute, with a request that contributions towards the Portrait Fund be sent to the Secretary, 2, Poynton's Chambers, for transmission to London."

Those members present willingly subscribed their names to the "List of Contributions."

GENERAL

PROPOSED ARCHITECTURAL MEDAL.

With the object of encouraging excellence of design in architecture Col. Hurst suggested that the time was now opportune for this Provincial Institute to again consider the question of awarding annually a Bronze Medal for the best example of architecture executed within the Province of Natal.

Agreed, after discussion, that this matter be left in the hands of the incoming Committee to consider, with power to act.

HOWDEN SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the sum of Ten guineas be donated to the "Howden Scholarship Fund."

TOWN PLANNING.

It was moved and agreed that the following suggestions be referred to the Durban Town Planning Advisory Committee for its consideration :—

(1) The construction of a bridge over Berea Road connecting up South Ridge Road with Ridge Road Central ;

(2) Construction of New Main Road from 45th Cutting and through Sydenham and North side of Durban to Umgeni Road ;

(3) lmprovement to Square at junction of Warwick Avenue and Berea Road.

MEETING CLOSED, 5 p.m.

On the Chairman declaring the business of the meeting completed a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him for his successful term of Office.

## O. F. S. PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

### President's Report for Year 1934.

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in welcoming you to the Eighth Annual General Meeting of this Institute and submitting my report for the year ending December 31st, 1934.

MEMBERSHIP.

Our numbers at December, 1934, are smaller than in the previous year owing to the death of Mr. G. F. Wright ; the transfer of Mr. H. Fyvie to the Transvaal, Mr. H. J. Louw to the Cape Province and two names have been dropped owing to the non-payment of subscriptions.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Regular meetings have been held throughout the year the attendance being :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Mr. H. A. C. Wallace .. .. .. .. | 6 |
| Mr. H. G. de la Cornillere .. .. .. | 7 |
| Mr. F. W. Masey .. .. .. .. .. | 7 |
| Mr. W. W. Tonkin .. .. .. .. .. | 7 |
| Mr. W. M. Timlin .. .. .. .. .. | 1 |

I am pleased to report that Mr. Timlin accepted membership of the Committee and will attend meetings whenever possible. The interests of the Kimberley District and the O.F.S. Province and our professional problems are practically identical and I look on our association with Kimberley as a valued accession of strength.

HON. SECRETARY.

The resignation of Mr. Tonkin was received and accepted with regret and these duties have been taken over by Mr. F. W. Masey.

COMMITTEES ACTIVITIES.

The year 1934 has seen little stirring in our profession in this Province. The Committee has mainly been concerned with Central Council matters sent to it for consideration or approval, and with the general consolidation of the profession in the Province.

CIRCULARS.

These have been sent out prohibiting any member from signing any drawings not actually prepared by himself, or for him, in his office.

M.I.A. EXAMINATIONS.

Your Committee has asked Central Council that the next edition of the Year Book shall contain full details for guidance of youths in the profession and not living in an University Town who desire to study for the M.I.A. Examinations. The need for such information is shown by the number of enquiries we receive from time to time.

CONDITIONS OF ENGAGEMENT.

A pronouncement on this matter has always been striven for by this Province, and other Provinces are equally concerned, it is trusted that the Central Council will come to a final decision to be published in the next Year Book.

HOWDEN PRIZE FUND.

Your Committee decided to have prepared and to present to Central Council the relief models for a silver medal to accompany awards of the Howden Prize, and these models are on exhibition this evening.

R.I.B.A.

The Royal Institute issued an appeal to Allied Societies for donations to the New Building Fund. Your Committee bearing in mind the Moiety received annually from the R.I.B.A., and its generous gift of copies of its Publications to this Institute's Libarary, has joined the list of Subscribers with a sum of £5 5s. 0d.

SIR IAN MAC ALISTER.

The R.I.B.A. has also given members of Allied Societies Overseas, an opportunity of subscribing to the presentation Portrait to the Secretary of the Mother Institute who has given such yeoman service to the Architectural Profession over a long period of time, and recently been honoured by the conferring of Knighthood by His Majesty the King. I shall be glad if this meeting will decide on, and the extent of, our participation.

MAURICE WEBB, ESQ., D.S.O., M.C.

A Vice-President of the R.I.B.A., continues, I am glad to say, to represent us on the Conferences of the Allied Societies.

CENTRAL COUNCIL.

THE LEVY

To the Central Council in the past has approximated forty per cent. of subscriptions based on the varying scales for the different classes of membership. Central Council has now reduced this to a flat rate of thirty-three and one-third per cent of the sums collected annually—including arrear subscriptions when and as received.

UNION GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

I cannot allow this meeting to pass without recording our congratulations to Central Council on the decision of the Minister of Public Works to give out from time to time a certain number of Union Buildings to professional competition. I am confident that the bringing of our profession into line with others which receive a portion of Union Works will be to the advantage of the Nation.

STANDARD PROGRESS CERTIFICATES.

At the request of some Provinces Central Council interested itself in this matter. Drafts were circulated to the Provinces and a Standard Certificate Book is now issued. Members may obtain same—fifty forms per book—price 2/6, from Provincial Secretaries.

FINANCE.

The Revenue and Expenditure Account and the Balance Sheet has been sent to all members.

We finish with a surplus of £7 17s. 0d. on the year's working and as our outstanding subscriptions should all be good, we may look forward to the debit balance on subscriptions disappearing shortly. It is with regret that we have spent nearly £7 on legal expenses, quite unnecessary if members would only play the game in their obligation to the Institute.

Cash shown on hand is usually about £2, but rose owing to payments received late in December to £18 7s. 8d., this is now banked and both the Standard Bank and the Board of Executors deposits are at Interest,

Our actual cash balance, including furniture valued at selling price and omitting Liabilities, £21 9s. 6d.; and Arrear Subscriptions, £30 5s. 0d. is £86 0s. 8d.

THANKS.

I desire to record my thanks to the Vice-President, Committee and the Hon. Secretary for their assistance during my year of office.

GENERALLY.

The Year 1934 has been a lean one for our profession in this Province. Recently there has been the wonderful revival of prosperity in the Transvaal and by this I think the activity at the Coast Ports is primarily due, for in both Cape and Natal Provinces Architecture does not appear to be stirring in their Inland Towns. In the Orange Free State our main standby, agriculture, is not going through flourishing times, it may even be said that financial depression in this Province is as bad as ever; it is my sincere hope that in this year of 1935 we shall definitely "round the corner" and building activity once more be established.

(Signed) H. A. C. WALLACE President.

At a subsequent meeting of the O.F.S. Provincial Institute of Architects Committee the following officers were elected :—

President :—W. W. Tonkin, L.R.I.B.A.

Vice-President :—H. A. C. Wallace, F.S.I.

Committee :—W. W. Tonkin, L.R.I.B.A., H. H. de la Cornillere, Fred. W. Masey, F.R.I.B.A., F. W. Rohde, W. M. Timlin, L.R.I.B.A., H. A. C. Wallace, F.S.I.

Hon. Secretary :—Fred. W. Masey, F.R.I.B.A., 16, National Mutual Buildings, Bloemfontein, O.F.S.

Member of Central Council :— Fred. W. Masey, F.R.I.B.A. (Alternate), W. W. Tonkin, L.R.I.B.A.

# THE INSTITUTE OF SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTS

## THE TRANSVAAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE

Minutes of the Eighth Annual General Meeting of members held at Kelvin House, Johannesburg, on Tuesday, the 12th March, 1935, at 1.30 p.m.

The following members attended :–Messrs. J. N. Cowin, N. T. Cowin, S. C. Dowsett, F. L. H. Fleming, J. Gardner, L. Grinker, G. M. Harrison, J. E. Harrison, P. J. Hill, R. Howden, R. Jefferson, G. E. Gordon Leith, R. Martienssen, A. R. Martin, Gerard Moerdijk, C. J. Nicholas, D. L. Nurcombe, G. E. Pearse, L. B. Preller, T. Schaerer, John Shaw, H. R. Skelly, C. J. Slade, Ian Smail. H. J. Tanton, J. H. Till, H. G. Tomkyns, W. Wagner, I. Wayburne, W. G. Whyte, F. Williamson, Allen Wilson, H. R. L. Wintle and A. S. Pearse, Secretary.

In the absence of the President at the opening of the Meeting, Mr. R. Howden took the Chair and declared the meeting duly constituted.

The Notice of Meeting was taken as read.

BALLOT FOR COMMITTEE :

The Chairman asked all present if they had voted and then declared the ballot closed.

Messrs. H. Tanton, W. Wagner, I. Wayburne, and H. R. L. Wintle, with the Secretary were appointed scrutineers to conduct the ballot.

The scrutineers proceeded to call the names of one hundred members who had voted and checked these with the register.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Chairman then announced that the meeting would stand adjourned until 5 p.m. to enable the scrutineers to count the votes.

On resumption of the meeting at 5 p.m. the President, Mr. Gordon Leith, took the Chair.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE :

The Chairman received the report of the scrutineers and declared the following members elected as the Committee for the ensuing year :—Messrs. C. C. Deuchar, S. C. Dowsett, A. S. Furner, G. M. Harrison, R. Howden, G. E. Gordon Leith, W. G. McIntosh, D. L. Nurcombe, V. S. Rees-Poole, H. G. Tomkyns, F. Williamson and Allen Wilson.

He expressed the greatest regret on behalf of all members of the Committee that Mr.

Moerdijk was not re-elected as a member and said that, personally, he was extremely sorry as all appreciated the excellent work that Mr. Moerdijk had done during the past year as a member of the Committee and he hoped that it would not be long before they would have the pleasure of welcoming him again as one of their Committee members. He thanked the scrutineers for their services in counting the votes and recording the result of the ballot.

MINUTES.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 15th March,1934, which had been circulated to members were taken as read and confirmed.

ACCOUNTS.

Mr. N. T. Cowin, Chairman of the Finance Committee in moving the adoption of the Accounts, said :—

In submitting the Audited Revenue and Expenditure Accounts and Balance Sheets, I am pleased to present a financial statement which shows a satisfactory state of affairs.

One could not really expect anything else in view of the prosperity that we are enjoying.

We have adopted throughout the year a policy of persuasion rather than aggression in dealing with arrear subscriptions, and we have been successful in collecting no less than £383 0s. 6d.

Our success in collecting arrears has enabled us to show a surplus instead of a deficit as the current subscriptions received would not have covered our expenditure.

We have a large sum in arrears still to collect and if we are as successful this year as last, we can probably count on a surplus once more ; but I should like to see our members realise more fully their obligations to their Institute and make a point of paying their subscriptions when they become due.

Our total expenditure last year was £863 11s. 6d. and if all the subscriptions due for the year had been paid we should have received £1,002 instead of which we only received £656 or sixty-five per cent. of the amount due, and the collection of arrear subscriptions, it will be seen, saved a deficit. This is not a desirable position, but the ideal of "no arrears" is, I am afraid, unattainable.

We have now £350 on fixed deposit with the Alliance Building Society and our members might ask what we propose to do with it.

There have been suggestions for obtaining more commodious offices where a reading room might be established and I think a proposal of this kind should be supported but on the other hand I should like to see a good reserve fund built up if possible before we launch into new activities.

We may not always have a surplus over our year's working, and then our reserve fund would be tapped also we should be ready for a call for funds to amend our Act or to assist our members in legal actions.

As regards the Accounts of the Journal "The South African Architectural Record," it is satisfactory to note that we have come out with a small balance on the right side and we are indebted to our advertisers for this result and I take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation and thanks for their support, and also to our Secretary for careful management.

The position of the Record is being dealt with under a resolution that I will propose later on.

Lastly there are the accounts of the Benevolent Fund. These do not come under the purview of the Finance Committee but when this Committee noted a deficit of £28 12s. 10d. on the year's working, a recommendation was made to the Provincial Committee to donate £30 from the funds to meet this and this grant has been agreed to.

I thank the Committee and the Secretary for their assistance and support during the year and I now propose the adoption of the Revenue and Expenditure Accounts and Balance Sheets, as submitted.

Mr. Allen Wilson seconded the motion for the adoption of the Accounts and congratulated the Chairman of the Finance Committee on being able to submit such an excellent report.

He referred to the position of the Benevolent Fund which he felt was a disgrace to an Institute of this size. He mentioned that when he had personally called upon a number of members for donations on a previous occasion, he had received generous support but he felt that this should not be necessary and that in the good times members should

make voluntary contributions and build up a substantial fund to meet calls in possible future bad times. He thought the fund should be £5,000 or £6,000 and members should seriously consider putting aside some of their profits now for this purpose.

The Chairman invited suggestions to enable the fund to be augmented.

Mr. Cowin said there was very little call on the fund at the moment, but they should make provision for the future.

The Chairman said he thought the best way was to start a list of contributions and he would open this with an amount of one hundred guineas.

This announcement was received with acclamation.

The motion for the adoption of the accounts was agreed to.

## COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1934.

On the motion of Mr. Cowin seconded by Professor Pearse the report of the Committee, which had been circulated to members, was adopted.

## AUDITORS.

It was resolved that Messrs. Alex Aiken and Carter be re-elected Auditors and their remuneration for the past audit was fixed at £10 10s. 0d. for the Institute Account and £10 10s. 0d. for the Journal Account.

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The President, Mr. G. E. Gordon Leith then addressed the meeting as follows :—

I wish to thank you all, and especially the Committee for the honour they conferred on me by electing me President of the Institute during the past eventful year.

In the difficult years of the past I was led to believe that a great deal was expected of the President, there was so much to be done —so many things to straighten out, that the prospect of assuming this responsibility was terrifying to say the least of it.

By the time I came to be elected I found that nearly everything that had to be done, had been accomplished by my predecessors, or by the Central Council : The profession had obtained recognition by the Transvaal Provincial Council—all provincial work, other than maintenance, was being handed out to practising members ; Government work of great import and extent was being put out to competition ; the question of Standardization of Building materials was being taken up as a matter of National importance and the profession given representation thereon ; the architect as a professional man was being more readily accepted by the public, and the scale of charges recognised by it, as definite and reasonable.

The distress that prevailed among our members during the depression has been eliminated, and we are now enjoying a period of prosperity and building activity unprecedented in South Africa—indeed—almost unprecedented in modern history.

My task as your President has been made light by the loyal and devoted support of your Council and its sub-committees—I cannot thank those members enough for the amount of work they have done, and the trouble they have taken to further the welfare of the Institute in this Province, and to maintain friendly relationship with other Provincial Institutes.

In this connection I must refer to the excellent work done by the Central Council, and its capable and enterprising Registrar, Mr. Lewis. Until I became a member of it, I little realised how essential this body was to the profession in South Africa and how far reaching its activities were.

In fairness to all parties, I think I should mention that there was a tendency in the past for a certain amount of overlapping to occur, due to the duties and functions of the Central Council not having been clearly defined—this has now been clarified by a resolution that Provincial Institutes will deal with all matters arising within their Province, and limited to it, while matters of National importance, and those affecting the profession as a whole are referred to, and dealt with by the Central Council.

We rejoice to see the recognition that Town Planning is receiving from the Government, and in this connection, as in others, we have to thank the Secretary of Public Works, Mr. J. S. Cleland, for his full appreciation of the needs of this young country, and for the influence he has exercised on Cabinet Ministers and others, in furthering architecture and all that appertains to it.

We welcome our new members–especially those adventurous young designers from the Universities and elsewhere who are endeavouring to lead the public, and ourselves, in the paths of architectural righteousness—we wish them every success, and feel sure that out of their unconventional efforts something lasting and essentially national will ultimately evolve.

At the same time we mourn the loss of several of our older colleagues, notably Mr. John Waterson and Mr. B. R. Avery, who have passed on during the year.

The profession is indebted and grateful to Professor Pearse and his assistants for the good work that is being done by students of the Witwatersrand University, and for the high standard of efficiency that is being set by this excellent Institution.

I desire especially to thank the Pretoria Members of the Council for their regular attendance at meetings of the Council, done at great inconvenience and expense. The newly established School of Architecture at the University of Pretoria is developing on sound lines, and our thanks are due to those young stalwarts in the profession there, who are devoting their time to the youthful talent in the Capital.

I am pleased to express the delightful appreciation of all members of the Institute of the honour conferred on Sir Ian Mac Alister, the able Secretary of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Sir Ian has been Secretary of the Royal Institute for over twenty-five years and during that period the bonds between the R.I.B.A. and the several Institutes in the Dominions have been drawn ever closer through his personal care and thoughtfulness. Architectural education also has developed and improved enormously during this period. The congratulations of this Institute were conveyed to Sir Ian by your Committee.

One of the most pleasing observations during my year of office has been the spirit of increasing fellowship that prevails at present among members of our Institute. I hope and pray that this good feeling among us may increase and that loyalty, one to another, and to the ideals of our profession, will, in the near future, place it in that unimpeachable position that it so fully deserves to occupy.

In conclusion, I again thank you all, and especially the Secretary, Mr. A. S. Pearse, for the great assistance afforded me.

"S.A. ARCHITECTURAL RECORD."

Mr. N. T. Cowin moved "that with a view to furthering the interests of 'The South African Architectural Record' the members of the Architects Institute and the Chapter of Quantity Surveyors shall be invited to cooperate with the Editor in its publication and to subscribe additional capital for its advancement."

In speaking of his motion, Mr. Cowin referred to complaints which had frequently been voiced at the conduct of the Record and said the time seemed opportune to take stock of the position and see whether there was any justification for this and if so to endeavour to effect a remedy.

He said that all agreed that there was room for improvement but in fairness to those who had been responsible for its publication up till now it must be admitted that they have been hampered by lack of support from the profession and lack of capital. He emphasised the Committee's appreciation of the tremendous amount of work being done by the editors which members possibly did not realise.

The Journal at present was supported almost entirely by revenue from advertisements and as this fluctuates the size and matter of the publication is affected. This hand to mouth existence was detrimental and unsound and the Journal could not be maintained on these lines. Services of editors and collaborators should be paid for and the provision of additional capital, say £1,000 would enable this to be done. He submitted an estimate of Revenue and Expenditure which indicated that the Journal could be made to pay on a conservative basis with a subsidy from the Institute and added that he had no doubt that with improved and more attractive presentation revenue will increase. He suggested that the capital be put up by subscription in one pound shares or debentures and as many members as possible should take an interest.

Mr. Allen Wilson said that perhaps members did not realise that this was not a proprietary journal but a professional one published for the benefit of members. He referred

to the classified index of advertisers which was of great advantage in enabling members to ascertain where they could obtain their various requirements. He expressed appreciation of the excellent work done by the Honorary Editors in the past, especially Professor Pearse and his assistants but felt that it would be an advantage to have a paid Editor.

He seconded Mr. Cowin's motion but thought that a special Committee should be appointed to deal with the matter.

The Chairman asked Mr. Cowin if it was his idea that the money put up would be in the nature of an investment, and how would the £15 per month to be paid by the Institute figure in this.

Mr. Moerdijk asked if members invested capital in the Journal what would be the security and would the Institute guarantee it.

Mr. Cowin replied that the idea was to have sufficient capital, bearing interest, to pay for services and he felt that by improvement all round revenue would be increased, but members would have to take the risk of their investment thus being secured.

Mr. Dowsett said he thought the motion should not be put as proposed by Mr. Cowin but that Mr. Wilson's suggestion of a special committee should be adopted. He moved as an amendment that a special committee be appointed to consider this matter and if necessary report to a special general meeting.

This was seconded by Mr. Tanton and on being put to the meeting was carried by a large majority.

The following were appointed as a Special Committee to deal with this matter.

Messrs. N. T. Cowin, S. C. Dowsett, A. S. Furner, N. W. Gallagher, L. Grinker, G. M. Harrison, Rex Martienssen, G. Moerdijk, G. E. Pearse, T. Schaerer and F. Williamson (Mr. N. T. Cowin to be convenor).

## VOTE OF THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT.

Professor Pearse at this stage rose to propose a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Gordon Leith, the retiring President and congratulated him on his very excellent resume of the year's work and thanked him for his expression of appreciation of the work being done at the University. He said that although he was not now in such close touch with the Committee as in the past, he realised what sterling good work was being done by the Provincial Committee and Sub-Committees. Mr. Leith had been a stalwart member and had done a great deal for the profession, not only in Johannesburg, but throughout the Union. The vote of thanks was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Leith thanked Professor Pearse for his remarks and voiced the opinion of many members of the Committee that they regretted Professor Pearse was not on the Committee and hoped he would soon join them again.

## ASSOCIATED SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SOCIETIES.

The Chairman, in asking Mr. Howden to put the motion appearing on the Agenda, referred to the improved financial position of this Institute and the adantages of being associated with other Technical Societies.

Mr. Howden proposed "That The Transvaal Provincial Institute shall become a member of the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies of South Africa"; and in doing so reminded members that the Association of Transvaal Architects was one of the foundation members of that Institute and had a big say in its constitution and principles. Owing to the heavy expense in connection with the promotion of the Act, however, it was found necessary to withdraw from membership.

For many years the Central Council had found it necessary to impose a heavy levy on the Institutes to repay the cost of the Act, some £9,000, but last year this levy had been reduced and it was felt that this alleviation should be applied to membership of the Associated Societies.

The amount of the reduction in the levy was not sufficient to meet the full subscription and the Institute would have to make up about £75 or £80.

Apart from the advantages to be gained by membership of the Associated Societies he felt that this Institute was under a moral obligation to rejoin. The constituent bodies were all composed of professional men and he felt that it was up to us to render our assistance to those bodies and fight their battles collectively and jointly.

He mentioned that when the Architects Act was being promulgated one of the constituent societies had opposed it but the Association called upon that member to retract and unanimously supported the Architects Act. This was only one instance of valuable assistance. Members might suggest that their subscriptions be reduced by £1 1s. 0d. per annum but he felt that there had been a promise or undertaking made to rejoin the Association and was of the opinion that it would not only be of individual advantage but also a collective advantage to be members of that Association.

Professor Pearse, in seconding the motion, said he heartily supported the proposition. He remembered how much support they had received in connection with the Act and the contacts made with members of other Societies with similar interests to their own. He appreciated the tremendous value of linking up with those other Scientific Societies which would mean little extra cost to individual members whilst they would all become members of the Club.

The Chairman said that in his opinion any suggestion to reduce subscriptions would be retrogressive. He emphasised the social advantages of a club where members could meet one another as well as members of other technical societies.

Mr. Cowin said he realised all the advantages of joining the Association and heartily supported the motion though financially it would run the funds rather close and members must realise the necessity of keeping up their subscriptions and not getting into arrears. It was not a luxury but rather a necessity.

Mr. Wilson said it must not be forgotten that in the past there were objections from country members who did not get some personal advantage. To reduce subscriptions would be an absurdity as members could well afford to pay their five guineas or three guineas and if these were reduced it would only mean that those who did not pay now would continue to be in arrear even with a reduced subscription. He strongly supported the motion in the interests of the profession as a whole.

The Chairman in putting the motion to the meeting heartily endorsed the remarks made by the several speakers and emphasised the advantages of linking up with other professional bodies as well as of its social advantages. He asked the meeting to adopt the motion unanimously.

On being put to the meeting the motion was carried unanimously.

SCALE OF FEES.

A letter was read from Miss Nelly Edwards submitting the following notice of motion :— "That, as the architect's tariff is not binding on the public, a bill should be introduced in Parliament to protect architects and surveyors."

The Chairman said he appreciated the difficulty some members had in obtaining the fees as laid down in the schedule and their doubts as to whether these were binding on the public, but they should always be taken as a guide though there should be some minimum fee below which no work should be undertaken.

Mr. Howden said members were not justified in taking up the attitude that fees were not binding on the public. It was true that one or two magistrates had given adverse judgments but Counsel's opinion had been obtained by the Central Council and this opinion was that the magistrates were wrong. If it were only possible to get a test case the Central Council would take it to the Supreme Court.

Counsel's opinion was that it was imperative that fees should be enforced according to the scale and that the terms of the Act would enable this to be supported in a Higher Court, therefore it was incorrect to say that the tariff was not binding.

Mr. Moerdijk said he could not agree with Mr. Howden as no Parliament could lay down a minimum fee for any profession. The Courts ask for fair payment for work done and if satisfied the scale of fees is accepted but all professional fees are subject to legal finding. If it could be done, members should be forced to charge fees according to the scale.

Mr. Dowsett said he could not agree with Mr. Howden. The scale of fees was not binding on members and therefore was not binding on the public.

Mr. Martin said another point was that the scale was at times extortionate. He instanced

a block of flats where plans had to be drawn for the ground floor then say ten other floors all the same and a plan for the roof. There was so much repetition that clients considered six per cent. extortionate.

Mr. Tanton expressed the opinion that the architectural profession itself was to blame for cutting fees and not upholding the code of the Institute. They should not make any discretion for a block of flats or anything else but it was up to the members to stand by the scale and avoid undercutting.

Mr. Nurcombe agreed with the last speaker but felt that the question was whether the scale was binding and thought that the matter should be taken to a Higher Court.

The Chairman expressed surprise at Mr. Martin's remarks about repetition. It should be decided as to whether the profession was prepared to regard such buildings as flats as repetition.

Mr. Howden said Mr. Moerdijk was wrong in stating there was no minimum scale of fees in other professions. He referred to legal fees, which were taxed and surveyors' fees which were fixed by law.

Mr. Nurcombe said the whole difficulty would disappear if members would confirm by letter with clients the fees agreed upon.

On the motion of Mr. Dowsett it was agreed to inform Miss Edwards that it was intended to test this matter in the courts as soon as a case arose.

GENERAL.

Professor Pearse moved a very hearty welcome to Mr. T. Schaerer, who had just returned to practise again in the Transvaal after an absence of some years overseas. He would be a great acquisition to the Institute and some of his works are still amongst the best to be seen in Johannesburg.

This motion was received with applause and Mr. Schaerer thanked Professor Pearse and members for such a welcome. He had thoroughly enjoyed being at this meeting and listening to the discussions and supported the motion to improve the Journal, copies of which he had received and appreciated during the years he had been away.

The meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chair.

## BOOK REVIEWS.

### The Architectural Work of Sir Banister Fletcher by W. Hanneford-Smith. B. T. Batsford Ltd. London. Price £2 2 0 net.

Sir Banister Fletcher is known to all architects through his famous "History" which is encyclopaedic in its contents and has served as a companion to countless students.

The author of this volume has shown another side of Sir Banister's activities, and in a very fully illustrated survey—many projects and completed schemes are put on record. In addition numerous attractive sketches are reproduced—no doubt the basis of many of the illustrations in his comparative history. He has found time also to enter for many competitions which are illustrated, and to undertake extensive educational work.

Sir Banister Fletcher has visited, sketched and photographed all the important buildings illustrated in his "History," but at the same time has carried on an extensive practice. Many city buildings, houses, memorial tablets, etc., are shown, the former in plan perspective and photograph. The whole work makes a fascinating record of an active and full architectural career. The production is up to the standard which we have come to expect from Messrs. Batsford.

### English Villages and Hamlets by Humphrey Pakington. B. T. Batsford Ltd. London Price 7/6 net.

This is another of those delightful little Batsford books, profusely illustrated and extraordinarily cheap, which have been reviewed before in these pages.

The author commences by stating that "There are thirteen thousand villages in England," but he cannot say how many hamlets there are as he has not counted them. He further states that he had resolved to write only of the villages which he had seen, but actually decided to write only of those villages which he liked.

To those who have toured the countryside of England there is little doubt that his selection will meet with general approval. All will agree, too, with the statement that the crowning joy of the English villages is their intense individuality. To those who have not seen the English countryside the photographs alone should make a great appeal. There is so much that is good in this book that I should recommend everyone to get a copy.

The majority of the English villages have developed in a haphazard way around some old landmark, a castle, a church or a bridge and appear to have grown out of and belong to the soil. The local materials have helped to give them that individuality to which the author refers and it is only here and there that a jarring element occurs on the introduction of materials foreign to the district.

Each section of the book is prefaced with a description of the geological formation of the area and the resultant materials concerned, which enables one to appreciate the type of dwelling common to that area.

After that follows a brief description of each village and its setting. At each end of the book maps are to be found with the selected villages and their respective counties clearly indicated.

The book is attractively produced and the photographs and sketches, the latter by Sidney R. Jones, are such that once having turned over the pages it is difficult to put the book down. There is a foreword by Mr. E. V. Knox, the editor of Punch, and the book is divided up into sections dealing with villages in general, the Home Counties, the South West, East Anglia, the Stone Belt, Red Brick and Black and White, the North.

G.E.P.

# PROFESSIONAL NOTES AND NEWS

## The Prime Minister's Residence.

Our attention has been drawn to the accompanying article by Mr. George Findlay, which appeared in the "Pretoria News," of March 5th.

It is encouraging to find that, in this country, there are cultured men who take an intelligent interest in architecture and who can write so ably on the subject.

We feel that the views expressed by Mr. Findlay are shared by a very large number of architects in the Union and agree that more freedom of expression should be given to competitors in such an important building as the official residence of the Prime Minister.

It is most unfortunate that in both the planning and the design of this building competitors are forced to adhere to a preconceived idea at the risk of being penalised.

We are glad to read that Mr. Findlay proposes writing further notes on contemporary work and shall look forward to his views with great interest.

Mr. Findlay writes :—

Though the building boom is in full spate, garish and spectacular erections have not yet filled every nook of the city, and it seems to me the money-making zeal of ambitious builders may well be stayed for a moment by a little public reflection on the requirements of the capital and the dignity and value of architectural forms appropriate to the present day. Where architects are necessarily silent in public, the layman must speak.

I propose some future notes on structures like the City Hall, the Hospital, and the Reserve Bank, but now wish to comment on a very important building, the subject of much public notice, that is not even yet in course of erection. I refer to the Prime Minister's residence, for which our architects are at present preparing competitive designs.

This building offers indeed an unexampled opportunity for setting a high standard, for,

unlike banks and the palaces of city councils, the building will primarily give the lead to domestic architecture—or at least it can and should do so. Something very perfect is required, something untrammelled by traditional limitations or by inappropriate notions.

Regard for climate and environment, the only limiting factors to honest architecture, must here blend itself with a desire to express the simplicity of our social life. Let this building joyously renounce everything tawdry, flamboyant and vulgar ; let it be a conscious departure from every idea that savours of cliché and hackneyed style. Doric columns are as little wanted as baroque gables. Fine as are these embellishments of particular times and styles, respect for modern materials and their appropriate forms must make the designer use his materials and his opportunity honestly. The Cape Dutch type was such an honest use of the materials, then modern, for the life and purposes of that day. To adopt it now would be an uncreative repetition, a mere cribbing of their shapes and proportions—a performance very far removed from the spirit and genius of the Cape Dutch craftsmen.

Those old artists would have spurned mere imitation of their predecessors or the use of then modern materials for structures fitted to materials of an earlier day. We must not fall short of them in this respect.

We must not construct a mansion for warming-pans, four-posters, and the abandoned paraphernalia of the past, but a home for the electric stove, the stream-lined car, the radio and central heating. Large single-paned windows are required—not costly grilles—of teak netted over glass ; the flood-lit clarity of modern lighting, and not the sham-antiquity of candelabra and dim commemorative lanterns. The wide horizons of our country must find their counterpart within the simplicity and openness which the frank use of modern materials can ensure.

Regarding the opportunity in this light it comes as a shock to find the Public Works Department appending to its requirements for the competitive designs the following injunction :

"It is suggested that the design might be on simple lines, while not slavishly following, yet suitably based on the fine old traditional work in this country . . ."

Here there can be little doubt what is intended, and competing architects will accept these directions as inescapable demands. Judged by the chequered history of its own constructions, clearly the Department desires the jumbled conglomeration of Cape Dutch forms and modern conveniences, of which it is so inordinately fond.

A Doric column or two here and there among the hat-racks in the hall will not be out of place. A mock-antique fireplace will lower at us in the reception-rooms, and embellished ceilings and panellings will vainly strive to revive the past in a dead form—the sort of thing from which creative thought has flown and in which sterile imitation alone remains. One may well ask why it must be "old," why "traditional" ; why must it be what the Department notoriously thinks "fine" ?

Had the Department insisted on baroque gables and other features of Cape Dutch architecture with half-ashamed adaptations to more modern purposes, the instruction could hardly have been clearer. It is an unhappy example of the meddling timidity of our bureaucracy that dares not trust unfettered originality.

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A classified index to advertisers is now published monthly in addition to the alphabetical list.

It is the intention of the Committee that this Journal shall definitely become a reference book for the profession in respect to the various manufacturers, merchants, craftsmen and sub-contractors connected with the building trade.

In view of the increased building activity it is felt that such a reference book will be of inestimable value to the profession and will at the same time augment the Journal's income and enable the editors to make it more attractive by the addition of photographs, sketches, drawings and other matters of interest to members.

When calling for tenders in the future, members are, therefore, earnestly requested to refer to the Journal and thereby stimulate the movement.

### S.A. Academy.

The Sixteenth Annual Exhibition of pictures and objects of Art and Crafts will be held in the Selborne Hall, Johannesburg, from Monday, the 29th April, to Saturday, the 11th May, 1935, both date inclusive.

Entry Forms may be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary, 67, Exploration Building, Johannesburg.

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### New Members.

Messrs. B. Janks, Dip. Arch. (Rand) ; P. Karp, Dip. Arch. (Rand) ; H. H. Le Roith, B.Arch. (Rand) ; C. H. Sayce and E. Schwarz have been registered as members of the Transvaal Provincial Institute.

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Mr. H. H. Le Roith, B.Arch. (Rand), has opened a practice in Transvaal House, 80, Commissioner Street. Trade catalogues will be appreciated.

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The Transvaal Provincial Institute of S.A. Architects has been readmitted as a Member Society of the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies of South Africa as from the 1st April, 1935. Membership cards will be sent to all members in the near future.

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### Townships and Town Planning Ordinance of 1931.

The following letter from the City Engineer, Johannesburg, is published for the information of members :

"With reference to the above, at the meeting of the Town Planning Committee of the Council, held on the 19th February, it was suggested that in view of the Townships and Town Planning Ordinance of 1931, you be requested to circularise the members of your Institute pointing out that before steps were taken to prepare plans for projected buildings, application should be made to the Town Planning Committee to ascertain whether there would be any objection to the erection of such buildings from a town planning point of view, in order to obviate any unnecessary expense being incurred by their clients."

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### Scholarship for Architects.

### Award to former City Student.

A former Johannesburg architectural student, Mr. W. G. Holford, has been awarded the Henry L. Florence bursary of the value of £350.

The bursary, which is the most valuable one that the Royal Institute of British Architects has to bestow, was established in 1933 and is awarded in alternate years. Its object is to promote the study of Greek and Hellenistic architecture of the Mediterranean Basin with preference to the eastern half. The holder must spend at least six months in travel and research. Candidates must be members of the R.I.B.A. and the award is made by the president of the institute in consultation with officers of the Board of Architectural Education.

Mr. Holford, who is the son of Mrs. W. G. Holford, of Johannesburg, received his preliminary professional education in Johannesburg, proceeding to the Liverpool School of of Architecture, where he graduated with first-class honours five years ago. In the fourth year of his course, he was awarded the scholarship of Arts and Sciences of America and as a result, travelled in the United States and obtained professional experience in New York. He also carried off, when at Liverpool, the Lord Waring Travelling Scholarship in Decoration and the Rome Scholarship in Architecture. At Rome, his work was recommended as of exceptionl merit and his tenure of the scholarship extended to a third year to enable him to complete his study of Italian town plans and piazzas. In 1933, he was appointed to his present position of senior lecturer in the Liverpool School of Architecture.

# OBITUARY.

**CHARLES JOHN WICKEE, J.P., Architect. Member of the Institute of Transvaal Architects.**

Born December 4th, 1862, at Copenhagen, Denmark. Died at his residence "The Clifford," Howard Avenue, Benoni, on February 9th, 1935.

He came to South Africa in 1881, staying for only a few years—went to England—and then to Australia. Came back again to Africa during the Boer War. When the war terminated, came to the Transvaal and to Benoni in 1904. Although the district was little more than bare veld, the mining camp at which he arrived was destined to grow into a district of some importance. At that time there was not sufficient to justify him devoting his time to architecture he set us as an estate agent and become the local representaive of the United Building Society until 1925. A man of decided views, strong foresight, a wise man, of kindly nature. He had many friends and few enemies. Three sons predeceased him, he leaves a widow and one son, Norman Wickee, Benoni.

**J. F. KROLL.**

A well-known Johannesburg pioneer, Mr. J. F. Kroll, died on Wednesday, the 20th March, in his eighty-seventh year at the home of his son-in-law, Mr. J. Williamson, Florida, after a short illness. Mr. Kroll, who was present with the late Mr. F. Struben when the Reef was discovered, was one of the oldest architects on the Rand, and lived for a time in Pretoria before coming to Johannesburg. He was a member of the Royal Order of Buffaloes, and held the rank of Commandant of Special Police at Elandsfontein and Germiston during the Anglo-Boer War. Towards the end of the War he was stationed at Crown Mines. Mr. Kroll went to East Africa in 1926. Returning to the Rand in 1931, he set up as an architect in Nigel.

# THE BENEVOLENT FUND OF THE ARCHITECTS OF THE TRANSVAAL

Members are earnestly requested to support the Benevolent Fund with contributions.

The fund is at a very low ebb and has had many calls upon it.



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MODERN DEVELOPMENTS OF ELECTRIC LIGHTING..

Attention is drawn to the attached insets. Architects may obtain regular receipt of publications describing modern lighting in various industries.

(Advert.)

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