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1925

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

http://hdl.handle.net/10539/18856

South African Architectural Record; Journal of the Association of Transvaal Architects, the Natal Institute of Architects and the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors. 1925 vol10: 1-4 p1-106

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The South African ARCHITECTVRAL RECORD

The Journal of the Association of Transvaal Architects, the Natal Institute of Architects and the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors.

No 37. Vol. X. MARCH, 1925. Price 1/-

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EDITORIAL NOTE.

The Editor will be glad to consider any MSS., Photographs or Sketches submitted to him, but they should be accompanied by stamped addressed envelopes for return if unsuitable. In case of loss or injury he cannot hold himself 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 Association does not hold itself responsible for the opinions expressed by individual contributors.

Annual Subscription per post 5s., direct from the Business Manager.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
The Association of Transvaal Architects, Annual General Meeting	2-5
Recent Practice in Cold Storage Construction	5-7
S.A. Institute of Quantity Surveyors, Annual General Meeting	8-9
The Orient	10-17
The Federal Council on Architectural Education, Annual General Meeting	17-22
R.I.B.A.	22
The Gospel of Creative Art	23-27
Natal Institute of Architects, Annual General Meeting	27-23
Adelaide House	29
Wren Society	30
Conditions of Contract	30

THE ASSOCIATION OF TRANSVAAL ARCHITECTS.

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Seymour Memorial Library : Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews.

Town Planning Association (Transvaal) : Messrs. M. Burton and J. A. Moffat.

Associated Scientific and Technical Societies Club : Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews (Alternate Mr. Allen Wilson), Mr. R. Howden (Alternate Mr. Gordon Leith).

British Standards Engineering Committee : Messrs. Allen Wilson and Walter Reid.

The Union Registration Executive Committee : Mr. M. J. Harris.

The Union Architectural Practice Committee : Mr. M. J. Harris.

The Federal Council on Architectural Education : Mr. E. H. Waugh (Alternate Mr. F. L. H. Fleming).

The President and Vice-Presidents are *ex-officio* members of all Committees.

MURRAY K. CARPENTER,
Registrar.

The Minutes of the Fifteenth Annual General Meeting of Members of the Association held in the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies Premises, 100, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Wednesday, the 25th February, 1925, at 3 p.m.

Present.—The President, Mr. Allen Wilson, in the Chair, Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews and Mr. N. T. Cowin (Vice-Presidents), Messrs. J. S. Donaldson, F. L. H. Fleming, J. Lockwood Hall, R. Howden, Gordon Leith, E. M. Powers, F. Soff and F. Williamson (Members of Council), Messrs. T. G. Ellis, A. H. Gibbs, G. E. Pearse, C. W. Reid, W. H. Stucke, H. W. Spicer and the Registrar, M. K. Carpenter.

An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. D. M. Burton.

Minutes.—Following the reading of the notice convening the meeting the President drew attention to the fact that the minutes of the Fourteenth Annual General Meeting held on the 27th February, 1924, had been published in the March, 1924, issue of the Journal "Building," and suggested they be taken as read. This was agreed to and on the motion of Mr. F. L. H. Fleming, seconded by Mr. W. H. Stucke, and the minutes of the Fourteenth Annual General Meeting held on the 27th February, 1924, were confirmed.

Annual Accounts and Balance Sheet.—On the motion of Mr. N. T. Cowin, seconded by Mr. J. S. Donaldson, the Annual Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended the 31st December, 1924, duly audited by Messrs. Aiken and Carter, and circulated to members in accordance with the Act, were adopted without discussion.

Council's Report to Members.—Mr. E. M. Powers moved the adoption of the Annual Report of Council to members, which had been duly circulated.

This was seconded by Mr. J. Lockwood Hall and agreed to without discussion.

Valedictory Address.—Mr. Allen Wilson, the Retiring President here addressed members and said:—

The Fifteenth Annual Report which has been circulated to all members of the Association gives a comprehensive statement of the work done by your Council, but there are one or two matters I want to particularly emphasize.

We have lost three members by death and two have resigned and five new members have been elected, so our membership remains the same.

In the death of the late Mr. Veale, your Council has lost one of its staunchest members, a hard and conscientious worker in the interest of our profession. Mr. McCowat was one of my oldest friends, he did not take an active part in the work of your Association, but had the interest of our profession at heart.

It is satisfactory to note that through the Chair of Architecture, Mr. Harold Tomkyns has obtained a Diploma from the Department of Architecture of the University of the Witwatersrand, and has qualified for registration. I congratulate Mr. Tomkyns on his success and trust it will be an incentive to others to push on with their studies.

The Chair of Architecture has been in existence for about three years, and our profession will always owe a debt of gratutide to those of our members, who, through their liberality and support were responsible for its inception.

You are all probably aware that previous to the installation of the Chair of Architecture, Evening Classes were conducted by practising members of the profession, who gave up a great amount of valuable time to this work, they achieved good results and earned the respect and admiration of their fellow practitioners and the Students: the Students of that date formed the nucleus of the present Classes.

All Students entering the profession must matriculate, and in my opinion rightly so, but a proviso was made that it was not absolutely necessary for those Students who were attending Classes prior to the date when matriculation was agreed upon: these matters are now in the hands of the Federal Council on Architectural Education, consisting of nominated members from all centres, and you may rest assured each individual case will receive careful consideration.

I am specially interested in the Evening Students, particularly those who were working prior to the establishment of the Chair of Architecture: they should be nearing the end of their studies and I shall be glad to have some information from Professor Pearse as to the position in which each of these Students now stands. I consider special attention should be given them at this stage, as in my opinion the future of these Students was the primary reason for forming the Chair of Architecture.

Our Academy was an unqualified success, and reflects great credit on those who gave valuable assistance, our Registrar was untiring in this work, and to him our thanks are due, and if it were not for the generous assistance given by the Johannesburg Municipal Council as regards accommodation we should not be able to carry on. The organization for this year's Academy is already in hand and the support given by the Public in the past augurs well for the future.

Rapid strides are being made in the revision of the Conditions of Contract, we do not expect to attain "perfection," at the same time, we hope to evolve such a Document as will thoroughly protect both Employer and Contractor in a plain and concise manner and eliminate or at least minimize misunderstandings and disputes.

It is proposed to issue this Form as a model form of Conditions of Contract to be used throughout South Africa. The Union Architectural Practice Committee have arranged to meet in conference with the Federation of Building Trades to discuss the matter: the Building Trade hope it can be arranged that the Document finally decided upon, will be brought into compulsory use: personally, and I think it is the general opinion of your Council and the Union Architectural Practice Committee, that Employers and Contractors must always have the option of varying any of the Clauses to suit special conditions and that any variations required by the Employers must be fully set forth in the Specification or Bill of Quantities supplied to the Contractor when calling for tenders.

We trust that when the new Conditions of Contract are issued, our members will make a point of recommending their use.

The question of Contracts between Contractors and Sub-contractors will also be discussed at this Conference, apparently it will be necessary to provide a method whereby the Sub-contractor is bound under the same Conditions as the Contractor.

Considerable advance has been made by your Council regarding professional practice as pointed out in the Report before you. We have been met very sympathetically by all Public Bodies and I think we may safely say that poaching on the preserves of practicing Architects by salaried Public Servants will be thoroughly and effectively dealt with.

The Union Registration Act has entailed considerable work on the Committee who have interviewed many other interested Associations and settled many contentious points. We do not anticipate any serious opposition to the Bill and look forward with great satisfaction to the combination of all Architectural Bodies throughout the Union.

You will notice the work of the Association has been carried on with only a small loss. We hope in the coming year this deficit may be wiped out. A special call may have to be made on members for expenses incurred in respect of furthering the Union Registration Bill. I feel that this call which will probably average from £5 to £6 per member, will be cheerfully met owing to the great advantage this Bill will be to our profession not only in South Africa but throughout the Empire.

It is many years ago since your Council con-

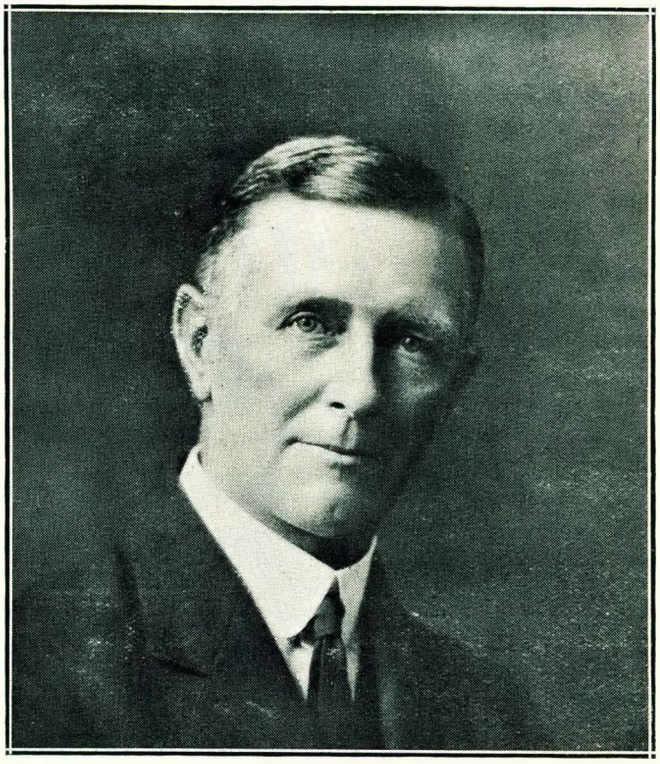


Photo Our President, *O'Byrne*
Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews, F.S.Arc., M.I.C.E , M.I.M.E.

demned the expenditure of £80,000 proposed to be spent on alterations to the Johannesburg Post Office and advocated its removal, leaving an open space similar to that on East front of the Municipal Buildings thus forming a large open square with a main street running through, an ideal scheme for beautifying the City. They recommended that the Standard Theatre be acquired by the Municipal Council and resold on the condition that an Opera House worthy of Johannesburg be erected on the site, it was considered that the development of such a scheme would probably result in a monetary advantage to the Town.

It was suggested that the New Post Office might be erected on the open space West of the Town Hall. Many objections were raised as to this and other sites suggested. I still think that your Council were justified in their advice.

After weary waiting we are at last to have our New Railway Station. Your Council with the Town Planning Association were privileged, in 1920, to inspect and offer opinions on the scheme then before the Government.

I have been told by the Railway Architect, Mr. McCubbin, that your Council's and the Town Planning Asociation's suggestions have been carefully considered by the Railway Administration and where considered feasible, alterations have been made to the drawings.

We have a letter from Sir William Hoy saying "your Council will be given an opportunity of inspecting the plans in your Office as desired." You may safely leave this matter in the hands of the incoming Council and I feel sure that the Government will give serious consideration to suggestions put forward by our Association in co-operation with the Town Planning Association (Transvaal).

I sincerely thank members of the Council for their loyal and untiring support during my year of office. The members of the Association are to be congratulated on having such Officers and to the fact of again showing confidence in them by not opposing their re-election.

I want to make it quite clear that your Council invite enquiries from members of the Association and careful consideration is given to the smaller matters, but members must bear in mind that although the Council are willing to offer advice to their members, they cannot interfere in disputes between Employers and Contractors, for which ample provision should be made in Contract Documents.

I also wish to thank our Registrar, Mr. Carpenter for his valuable assistance and for the able manner Miss Murdoch carried on the duties when the Registrar was absent.

It would take hours to give details of the work done by your Council in the interest of the members and the profession generally, but if there is any information required as to last year's work, I shall be pleased to answer questions or I am sure the incoming Council will welcome and give due consideration to all enquiries.

Mr. Wilson resumed his seat amid applause.

Election of President.—There being only one nomination for the office of President, Mr. Allen Wilson formally moved the election of Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews to that position, this was greeted with applause.

Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews on taking the Presidential Chair expressed thanks for the honour of election and said he felt somewhat diffident about carrying on the good work of the several past Presidents he saw around him. It was a somewhat difficult task to perform but he would do everything possible for the success of the Association.

Before proceeding further the newly elected President proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Allen Wilson for his very interesting address and for the valuable work done for the Association and the profession generally during his year of office.

This was received with acclamation.

Proceeding, Mr. Burt Andrews referred to the importance of the architectural profession especially in the progress of new towns like Johannesburg and those to be found along the Reef. The faith and confidence shown by investors in the future of the Witwatersrand could not be more clearly indicated than by published statistics showing the continued growth of the Reef towns and Johannesburg in particular.

Out of 5,376 plans passed by eight Reef Municipalities during the year 1924, no less than 4,373 were for buildings to be erected in Johannesburg.

The President referred to an interesting article entitled "What the building said," in the latest number of the Journal of the Society of Architects. Although buildings did not talk they sometimes "shouted" at one, an expression frequently used when anything freakish or unsightly was erected. The architect unfortunately was not always placed in a position to give buildings a pleasing exterior owing to the demand of the building owner who frequently required accommodation far in excess of the money available and in attempting to give as much as possible the architect had necessarily to provide for the plainest of exteriors.

After quoting from "True and Beautiful," wherein Ruskin says "that Architecture is the Art which so disposes and adorns the edifices raised by man for whatsoever uses that the sight of them contributes to his mental health, power and pleasure," and again in "Crown of Wild Olive"—"All good architecture is the expression of life and character." Mr. Burt Andrews hoped that members would exercise their influence upon building owners in order that the amenities of the area in which a building is to be erected is not outraged.

In referring to the work of the Council Mr. Burt Andrews congratulated the members on having such a strong working body to look after the affairs of the profession. He referred to the absence of general support from members which he hoped was only temporary and would be remedied in the early future.

Election of Vice-Presidents and Members of Council.—In the absence of additional nominations the President formally declared the election of Mr. N. T. Cowin and Mr. F. Soff as Vice-Presidents for the year and Messrs. J. S. Donaldson, F. L. H. Fleming, R. Howden, J. Lockwood Hall, Gordon Leith, J. A. Moffat, E. M. Powers, F. Williamson and Allen Wilson to members of Council for the same period.

Mr. N. T. Cowin in acknowledging his election to the position of Vice-President regretted the absence of the usual election of members to Council and invited some of the younger members to stand for Council next year. Mr. F. Soff also briefly thanked members for his election.

Auditors.—On the motion of Mr. Allen Wilson, duly seconded by Mr. Gordon Leith, Messrs. Aiken and Carter were re-appointed Auditors for the current year and were voted the sum of Ten Guineas for their services in the audit of the past year.

Benevolent Fund Trustee.—Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews, from the Chair, nominated Mr. D. M. Burton to the position of Trustee of the Benevolent Fund of the Architects of the Transvaal.

There was no other nomination and Mr. Burton was unanimously elected a Trustee of the Fund.

R.I.B.A. Conference.—Mr. W. H. Stucke expressed his appreciation to Council for the appointment as representative of this Association to the Royal Institute of British Architects' Conference which was held at Oxford last year and gave members a pleasing description of the functions and his reception thereat.

The President moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Stucke for the service rendered to the Association and suggested that a letter be written to the Secretary to the Conference stating how much this Association appreciates the very nice manner in which our representative, Mr. W. H. Stucke, was received last year. Agreed.

Architectural Students.—In reply to the reference made by Mr. Allen Wilson in his Valedictory Address, Profesor G. E. Pearse regretted he was unable to give details of the results of the examinations held last November. The results obtained were not satisfactory and he was of the opinion that the students had not taken their studies with the diligence necessary to success.

After returning thanks to Messrs. D. M. Burton and Allen Wilson for visits to the classes and to Messrs. Leith, Williamson, Spicer and Heir, the lecturers, for the work during the year, the Professor detailed a new teaching scheme which was to be tried during the forthcoming year with the object of eliminating late evening work which had proved unsatisfactory.

Reference was also made to the very good results achieved by students at the evening classes at Pretoria, which results were in advance of those obtained by Johannesburg students.

Prior to the close of the meeting Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews presented Mr. Allen Wilson with a framed and enlarged photograph of himself, from the members of Council.

Mr. Wilson after expressing his appreciation of the gift, kindly handed over the photograph to the Association to be hung in the office.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the President.

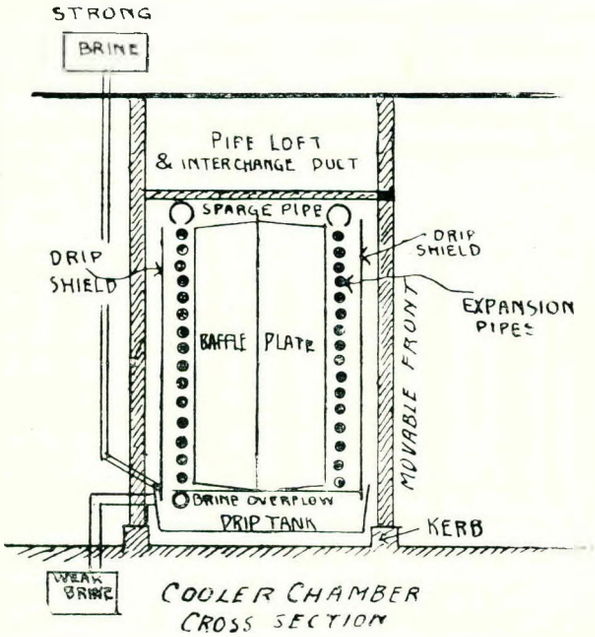
RECENT PRACTICE IN COLD STORAGE CONSTRUCTION.

ARTICLE III.

BY EDWARD H. WAUGH, A.R.I.B.A.

The placing of the expansion pipes in a chamber at the side of the chilling or freezing room has been described in the last article. The pipes are of iron without headers or any joint throughout the long lengths, except at the entry and egress points, where they are connected by strong headers to the circuit of the delivery or high pressure side and suction or low pressure side. These pipes are made in a coil specially for each job and are formed so as to make an upright close zig-zag stack and one of these stacks is placed on each side of the expansion chamber, being usually each about 5 to 8 feet high and probably 12 to 20 feet long. Each stack is about 18 inches to 2 feet from the other stack, placed parallel. This space is used for placing V shaped $\frac{1}{8}$" iron or steel plate baffles with the point of the V towards the electrically driven air fan at the end of the chamber. The air is driven from the fan along the line of the stacks and the baffles divert the air against the expansion coils, which pick up or absorb the heat from the air which has been

brought in from the chilling or freezing room off the stored meat or products. Having given up the most of its heat thereby the air is propelled forward once more into the chamber for a fresh charge of heat.



COOLER CHAMBER
CROSS SECTION

Over each of these expansion coils is a large spurge pipe which runs along the whole length of the coil stack. This spurge pipe discharges brine made of calcuim chloride and water This brine trickles over the expansion pipes and acquires almost the low temperatures therein, and eventually falls into a large flat bottom drip tank at the bottom in which it lies to a depth of 6 to 12 inches. At one end of this drip tank there is an outlet pipe near the bottom connected to a small centrifugal pump driven by a very small electric motor—from ½ to 3 h.p. is generally sufficient—according to size of chamber. This pump lifts the freshly chilled brine up to the spurge pipe which is thus kept continually flowing. From one end of the brine drip tank near the top there is an overflow pipe which carries surplus weak brine away to a storage tank, where it is retained until sufficient is collected to warrant a re-concentration of the brine, but this subject will be dealt with later on.

This method of keeping brine running over the expansion coil stacks is generally termed a "defrosting" system. It must be remembered that brine is used for this purpose as it is not capable of being frozen at the temperatures employed in cold storage work. Ordinary water would not do, as it freezes at 32° F. Calcium Chloride brine is used nowadays in place of ordinary salt brine for two reasons:—(1) It carries to a much lower temperature before freezing and; (2) Its effect on iron or steel is much less than the ordinary salt or sodium chloride brine which quickly rusts any ferrous metals, and thus providing less wear and giving a better conduction of heat.

The difference in temperature range is very great. Common salt solution at greatest strength freezes at about zero° F., which is generally held to be zero mark as fixed by the freezing of this mixture by the framer of the Fahrenheit Scale of thermometer. On the other hand Calcium Chloride or Chloride of Lime at its most useful strength, about 30.176 per cent gives a freezing point of—54° F., i.e., 54° below that of common salt solution.

As brine weakens slowly with use, a wide range is valuable as the engineer running the plant cannot be frequently concentrating his brine, and if the brine weakens too much it simply means

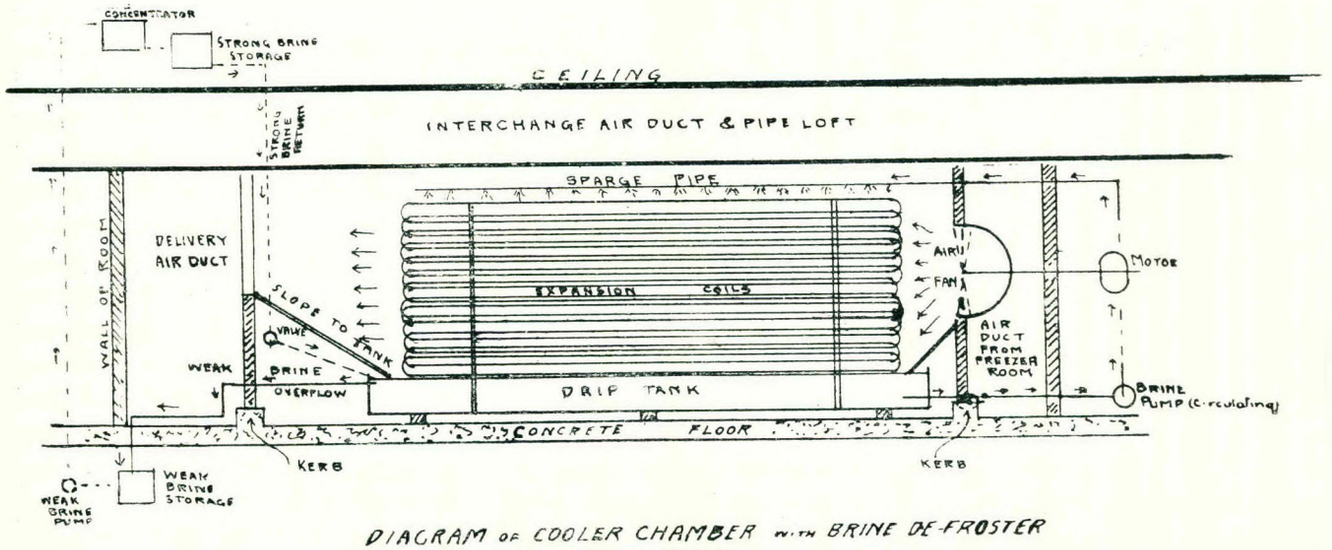


DIAGRAM OF COOLER CHAMBER WITH BRINE DE-FROSTER
LONGITUDINAL SECTION

that it ceases to "de-frost" the coils which slowly accumulate a mass of hard frozen frost on them, and the compressor is called upon to do very much more work. Another very practical drawback is that the brine itself then freezes in the brine pipes and stops the flow, and it sometimes happens that the overflow pipe from the brine tank becomes frozen and the brine drip tank may then overflow with the excess moisture coming off the meat or other products, which is liable to cause a nasty mess in the refrigerating room unless provided against by a proper system of drainage under the floor on which the brine drip tank rests. Even if this be provided, it is a mistake to lose brine as the chemical costs money and should not be lost.

The function of the brine is primarily to keep the expansion coils free of frost. It also has an important secondary value, as it is a storage of cold. There may be some hundreds of gallons of brine which is at a low temperature. The operator finds in practice that during the night or at other times when the temperatures have been brought down he can utilize the chilled brine for keeping—or as it is called "holding"—the temperature. He is thus enabled for limited periods to stop the compressor and save energy and just keep a very low powered brine pump at work circulating the brine at the same time keeping the air fan going.

Curiously the brine functions as an absorber of the excess moisture of the meat. As the meat chills it holds less and less moisture, giving it up to the air which on contact with the colder brine or expansion pipe has its dew point lowered and so gives up its moisture in turn. Thus the air after passing the dripping briny water has achieved the phenomenon of coming out drier and colder than it went in and so ready to pick further moisture from the freezer room air or the meat or other products.

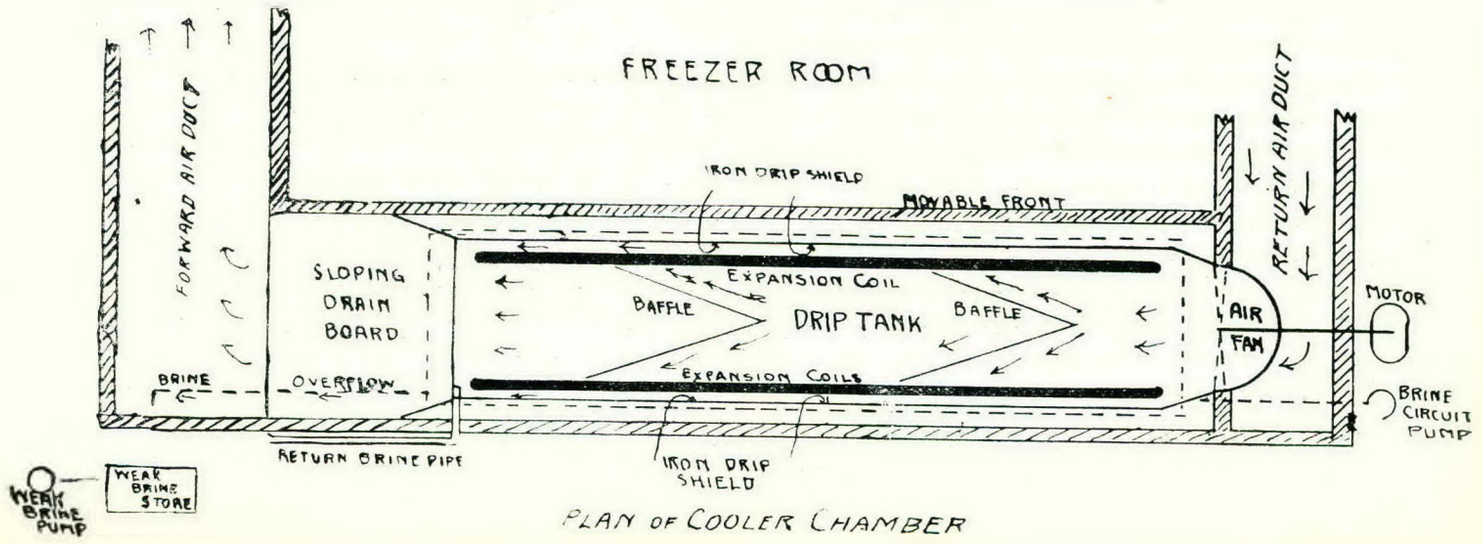
This access of moisture from the air weakens the brine and tends to increase the liquid originally placed in the tank. This excess is taken away as described by the overflow to the weak brine storage tank.

Above the weak brine storage tank is the brine reconcentration tank, where the weak brine is boiled by means of steam coils in the tank and after the excess moisture is thus driven off is run into a strong brine storage tank where it is held at a high level until required for recharging the brine circulation over the expansion coils. This means that a gravity pipe with coils is laid along to each brine circulation tank into which the brine is run when and as desired.

Although the air is blown past the dripping brine it is not found that the briny moisture is blown into the freezing room. Some spray passes the coils but this is returned by a sloping board to the brine tank. Great care indeed has to be used in designing the expansion chamber to prevent the spray getting over the sides or ends of the tank and causing a sloppy mess underneath and even finding its way into the floor of the freezing room where it is a great nuisance.

The "air circulation cum brine de-frosting system" as described has been loudly praised in the local press, where articles on the "*S. S. Otira*" have reached a column in length as being the last word in ship refrigeration for fruit carriage and justly too as ship refrigeration has often, in several respects, been very behind advanced land practice. The references are interesting as showing the ignorance displayed unconsciously of the same kind of system operating successfully right here in Johannesburg, where the article was printed.

(To be continued.)



PLAN OF COOLER CHAMBER

S.A. INSTITUTE OF QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

Minutes of Sixteenth Annual General Meeting, held at the Scientific and Technical Club, Johannesburg, on Saturday, 28th February, 1925, at 2.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs F. D. Hickman (in the Chair), W. E. Puntis (Vice-President), G. E Howgrave-Graham, H. Rowe Rowe, A. J. Lane, N. L. Brampton, D. A. McCubbin, C. H. Deighton, J. W. Cowling, T. Moore, E. B. Farrow, S. Waters, N. T. Cowin, and D. J. Laing.

Apologies for absence were tendered on behalf of Messrs. W. Rhodes-Harrison, W. G. Thompson, W. Springthorpe and the Secretary.

Proxies. Forms of Proxy were received from: Messrs. W. G. Thompson, W. Rhodes-Harrison, A. Stratton, A. W. Springthorpe, H. Bell-John, G. G. Labdon, F. B. Holt, N. Foulds.

1. *Minutes.* The minutes of the Fifteenth Annual General Meeting were read by Mr. D. J. Laing and on the motion of Mr. N. T. Cowin seconded by Mr. Farrow, were confirmed.

2. Following the reading of the President's address Mr. T. Moore moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hickman for the services rendered to the Institute during the past year and for his very interesting address. This was seconded by Mr. Farrow and agreed to.

Mr. Moore referred to the resignation of Lieut. Colonel E. White, which was much regretted and proposed, in view of the past services rendered to the Institute, that Mr. White be elected a life member. This was seconded by Mr. H. Rowe Rowe and unanimously agreed to and the Secretary authorised to communicate same to Lieut. Colonel E. White.

Council's Report. The President briefly dealt with the Balance Sheet and Financial Position, and drew attention to the proposed revenue and expenditure for the coming year. He pointed out that either subscriptions would have to be raised or some method found to reduce expenditure.

Mr. N. T. Cowin proposed that the Annual Subscription be raised to £3 3s. 0d. from the beginning of January, 1926. This was seconded by Mr. McCubbin and supported by Mr. T. Moore.

Mr. H. Rowe Rowe proposed that the subscription to the Architectural Journal Building be withdrawn. This was seconded by Mr. Cowling.

Mr. Puntis and other members supported this reduction in expenditure. It was stated that some of the members of the Institute had not received regular copies of this Journal

This amendment was subsequently defeated by vote.

Mr. Cowling moved that the last two items of the proposed expenditure for the coming year be deleted. This was seconded by Mr. Deighton, who offered to carry on secretarial duties should the President of the Institute be resident in Pretoria, and suggested that a similar offer might be made by a Johannesburg member in the event of the President being resident in Johannesburg. Mr. T. Moore disagreed with the proposal to do away with a paid secretary, pointing out the enormous amount of work entailed in the secretarial duties, and said it would be unwise to adopt such a measure in view of the present standing of the Institute, and the number of important matters at present under consideration by the Institute Council. The President said that prior to his election he had not realised the large amount of work entailed by the position and the contingent work called upon to be done by the Secretary and felt that with a years' experience behind him it would be unwise to dispense with the services of a paid Secretary.

This amendment was lost by vote.

Mr. Deighton proposed, on behalf of Mr. Springthorpe, that before raising the subscriptions there should be a referendum to members of the Institute to ascertain the general feeling as to the desirability for this course. This was seconded by Mr. Cowling and eventually defeated by vote.

Subsequently Mr. N. T. Cowin's original motion to raise the subscription to £3 3s. 0d. as from January 1st, 1926, was carried.

After other explanations by the President, Mr. N. T. Cowin moved acceptance of the Balance Sheet. This was seconded by Mr. Waters and agreed to.

Mr. Puntis suggested that it be an instruction to the incoming Council that they obtain an expression of opinion from the Institute members during the year as to the decision of raising the subscription to £3 3s. 0d. in accordance with the resolution.

Mr. Howgrave-Graham further suggested that it be an instruction to the incoming Council to consider the question of reducing the entrance fee for future applicants and for salaried members.

The Proposed Architects Act for the Union. Mr. Cowling enquired what the extra expenditure to be levied upon the Institute would be in order to bring the Act into force. The President read a communication from the Secretary of the Union Registra-

tion Executive and gave the amount of the levy which he thought would be required.

Mr. H Rowe Rowe suggested that 50 extra copies of the Revised Act be obtained in order that each member might receive one. The President was authorised to incur the necessary expenditure for this to be done.

Revision of Standard System. Following receipt of the report presented by the Sub-committee appointed to go into the proposed revision of the Standard System, Mr. H. Rowe Rowe moved that the matter be left in the hands of the Sub-committee. This was seconded by Mr. Howgrave-Graham and agreed to.

Affiliation Surveyors Institute Great Britain. The President, referred to the correspondence printed in the Council's Report dealing with this matter, upon which Mr. N. T. Cowin gave detailed replies to questions raised, and formally proposed that this Institute accept affiliation under the conditions offered by the Home Institute, this was seconded by Mr. Rowe Rowe and agreed to.

Mr. Cowin suggested that in future examinations and other matters connected with the Surveyors Institution in Great Britain be dealt with by the Institute Council and not by individual members.

Provincial Council and Architectural Work. The President gave a brief account of the work under this heading and the action of the Council was approved.

Presidents Meeting at Cape Town. The President gave a brief outline of a meeting held in Cape Town, where, together with Mr. E. B. Farrow, he had met the Cape Town members and to put on record the two main requests which the Cape Town members desired to be brought into force.

That the minutes of the Council Meeting be circulated to all members and secondly that before anything further was done towards bringing the Architects' Act before the House of Assembly, they would be informed what the extra expenditure would be.

Mr. Laing offered to have the minutes of meetings of Council typed and circulated to members at his own expense in order to reduce the expenditure of the Institute. This kind offer was accepted with thanks.

Proposed Revision of Conditions of Contract. The President and Mr. Moore outlined the provisions made for the revision of the present Form of Agreement and Building Contract. The action of the President and Mr. Moore in connection therewith were approved and members expressed their appreciation of the work done and requested the two members to carry on until the revision was complete.

Election of Officers and Members of Council for 1925. There being no further nominations to those made by the retiring Council, the Chairman formally declared the following to be elected for the year 1925:—(President) Mr. F. D. Hickman, (Vice-President) Mr. W. E. Puntis, (Members of Council) Mr. E. B. Farrow, Mr. G. E. Howgrave-Graham, Mr. D. J. Laing, Mr. T. Moore, Mr. H. Rowe Rowe, Mr. A. W. Springthorpe, Mr. S. Waters.

Mr. Hickman briefly thanked members for his re-election as President and expressed his thanks and appreciation to members of Council for their loyal support during his year of office. Mr. Puntis also thanked members for his re-election as Vice-President.

The President advised members of the receipt of a wire from Mr. Rhodes-Harrison promising a donation of £2 2s. 0d. towards the fund of the Institute. Members expressed their appreciation for this and other donations in the form of a vote of thanks to be communicated to the donors.

The President referred with regret to the fact that Mr. N. T. Cowin was not a member of Council for the coming year, owing to business and other duties he had found that he would not be able to devote the necessary time to the Institute's work. This was to be regretted because Mr. Cowin's experience would be greatly missed since he had been a member of Council for many years and had done much valuable work for the Institute which could ill afford to be deprived of the benefit of such experience.

This concluded the business and the meeting terminated.

Some time back Mr. George Crossland Robinson retired from the position of Principal of the School of Art at Cape Town. To fill the vacancy thus caused the authorities have now appointed the eminent artist Mr. John Wheatley, of London, who is to take up the combined appointment of Professor of Fine Arts at the University of Cape Town and Director of the School of Art, Cape Town. Mr. Wheatley has had extensive experience in the theoretical and practical principles requred in the training of Art Students by reason of his long association with the Slade School.

THE ORIENT.

SKETCH No. 1.

G. W. NICOLAY, F.S.A.R.C.

Fu-san-su was an ancient town when Lucas Tudril saw it, more than anything else that he had seen in the journey he was then persuing, both within and without, he regarded it with the most lively interest.

In those days business of importance occupied considerable time, and was carried on in a manner which left the principals with much time unoccupied by the round of both public and social entertainments, with which a visitor of importance is usually received anywhere, and always in the Orient.

So Lucas Tudril, to judge by his notes, although they have not reached these times, without being reduced to a fragmentary condition, had not only leisure to examine the town with much evident curiosity, but to make plentiful notes for the information and even the amusement of his friends, when he returned home, but to serve the present editor, although without any intention to that purpose.

From a distant prospect L.T. (he himself uses his initials in this manner), had judged the walls of the town dull and uninteresting, wanting in both form and colour. Relieved indeed by a picturesque outline but not redeemed by it, and not having any characteristics very different from what he had seen elsewhere, and certainly disappointing.

On the nearer approach, in spite of the influence still exerted over his mind by the remembrance of the bridge which he had just examined, his thoughts began to change, and as the walls gained an appearance of more lofty proportions in consequence of the sharpened perspective, the enthusiasm of his former expectancy began to be realized.

As he drew still nearer the unusual forms of the towers asserted themselves, the long lines of shot holes which he could not remember to have seen elsewhere, the lowbrowed gloomy looking entrance, and above all the sense of colour which he felt a growing influence over him were convincing evidences that his first impressions would be completely reversed.

Passing beneath the gloomy gateway he noticed the first difference between the walls of Fu-san-su and those of the many walled towns with which he was familiar, but at the time had no leisure to even notice particularly the crooked plan or the mean dimensions of the gateway.

Dark and forbidding as was the entrance the brilliance of the scene within the walls could not be otherwise than enhanced by passing through that threatening shadow, and Lucas Tudril was as pleased as he was surprised by the change.

Before him was a vision of beauty passing far beyond the reach of his wildest thinking. On approaching the town he had certainly felt depressed by the long stretch of grey and monotonous wall, and although that feeling was somewhat removed as he neared the walls, yet as he moved through what he afterwards described as a rat hole, his thought dwelt irresistably upon the discomfort of living for a matter of six months or more within such undesirable surroundings, but confronted with the gayest scene he ever beheld, by a sharp change of thoughts he not only became reconciled to that, but felt sure of the time passing very pleasantly.

Fu-san-su was nothing like the oriental towns of to-day, but clean as clean could be, with no screaming or shouting people, no braying donkeys or barking dogs, but though the place was simply planned with a few rather narrow streets the streets were all paved, L.T. could not stop to see how beautifully, the houses were all set well back from the road, and had well kept gardens having only very low walls at the roadside, and the place was redolent of sweet scented flowers. Few persons were met in the streets, but these wore clothing of fine fabrics picturesque in design and beautifully coloured. He heard the sharp notes of a parrot or some such bird, and the more pleasant sounds of others, and was so pleased with it all, that when he was seated with Wi hi indoors he immediately expressed his astonishment and delight at what he had seen and heard. Wi hi answered as his friend was so pleased with everything he saw, there could be no fear lest his visit should be in every way enjoyable.

Fu-san-su was certainly a remarkable place. At the time when it was built there was not the slightest intention to make such a place, nor any probability of the result which happened.

Fu-san-su was built as an important frontier fortress, conveniently placed to hold in check the frequent incursions of the neighbouring tribes. Space was provided for a considerable garrison, and besides, the numerous trades people who, though

military men were principally employed to maintain the equipment of the garrison.

At a time which had become ancient history when Lucas Tudril visited the place, one of these incursions had resulted in the alteration of the frontier, which was pushed out beyond a distant range of hills, making Fu-san-su an inland town.

When this change was made the governor of the fortress was an owner of extensive estates in the district and these were enlarged when the new territory was annexed. Although much reduced, the garrison was maintained, and the governor had honours conferred upon him which made the command of the garrison hereditary in his family, and also the command of the smaller fortresses which he built to dominate the two principal passes through the hills. With the assistance of other magnates he devised a scheme for making the town a place so pleasant that their friends, even from a distance would value any opportunity of a visit.

Such was the way by which Fu-san-su was re-arranged within the walls as it appeared when Lucas Tudril was for a long time resident there, and was jealously maintained in the same condition.

The walls enclosed a parallelogram about half a mile one way and quarter of a mile the other. This space in times past accommodated the garrison, and the garrison only, and the necessary accommodation very simply arranged. Sleeping quarters placed against the base of each wall for the rank and file, and in the centre, below ground, two ranges of cellars with a wide passage in the middle were planned conveniently for access from the various workshops and issuing stores. These were built immediately over the cellars and had a corresponding passage where the stores were issued by those in charge of them, under the superintendance of the officer on duty. A long list of them is given, which includes armourers, smiths, bowyers, fletchers, sling-makers, engineers, tailors, cooks, and so forth duly initialled L.T. just as if he were responsible for the accuracy of it. The remainder of the space was used for parade purposes and the whole space was paved.

High official persons of the district had occasional residence here and they as well as the officers were comfortably, even luxuriously lodged in the various towers.

When the garrison was reduced to suit the changes of the times, all that was left of the ancient building within the walls was a range of the sleeping quarters of the rank and file. A clean sweep of all the rest was made and the whole laid out afresh.

No transformation scene was ever more complete. There was truly a reminiscence of the old plan, but it was such as would emphasize the complete metamorphosis, for there was a broad space left all round by the walls, and at the south end where the soldiers' quarters were situated, it was made about fifty yards wide as the new parade ground, and promenade.

At the north end a similar space was reserved for the temple which stood eastward in it—another parade ground for more serious moments.

Three roadways joined these parades, which though not more than ten feet wide were still sufficient for all purposes, because the houses were all set back to a regulated building line and in that way the gardens and streets together made ample space for light and air.

The long strips of ground between them were divided into blocks which suited the purposes of those who may with convenience be called the management. Cross lanes which gave access to these blocks and were less in width, some much less than the main thoroughfares, and were arranged with the evident intention to secure picturesque changes for the pleasure of those who passed along the main ways. Cross paths were not in line, and here and there would give access only to a little group of small houses with a spacious garden common to all.

Every space within the walls not occupied by a house or a garden, was paved with vitrified burnt clay slabs, as well as the gutters and kerblike varriers along the garden boundaries, excepting for the sake of accuracy, where the row of trees was planted along the boundary of each parade, and the pavement specially prepared for them.

House building in Fu-san-su was in manner extremely uniform. Brick, stone, and wood were the only materials used in the construction. Plans were very simple, as L.T. explains, those where two rooms are spanned by one roof as "singular innovations."

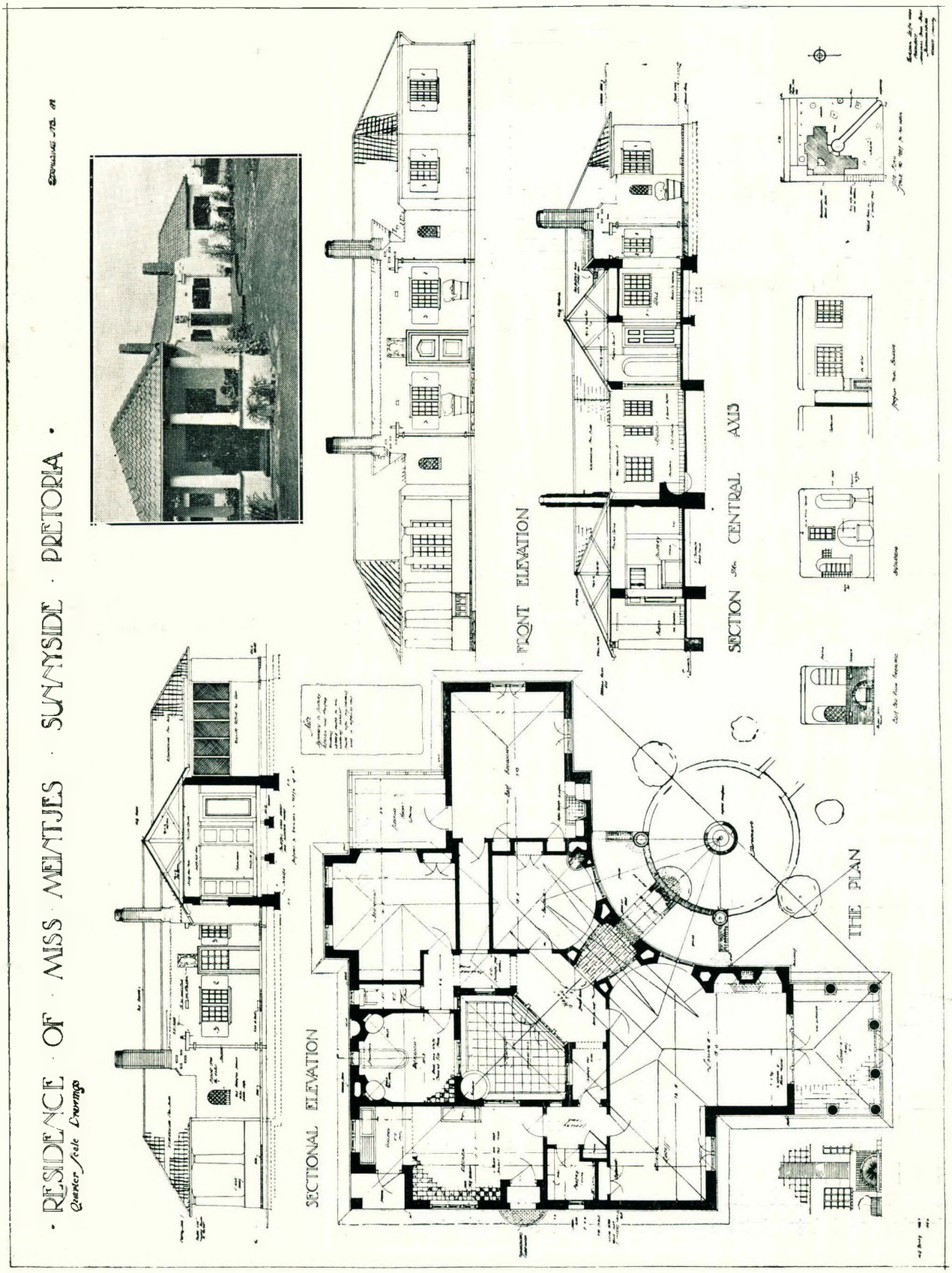
Lucas Tudril considered the walls of Fu-san-su more interesting than all the rest, perhaps he was a soldier, but more likely because he knew many towns where colour was universally present, and where it was more subtly, and to his thinking more convincingly used. He associates the glittering tints which he describes, with a light and artificial

NEW PREMISES AT PRETORIA FOR THE SOUTHERN LIFE ASS'N



HALF INCH DETAIL OF ELEVATION TO CHURCH STREET

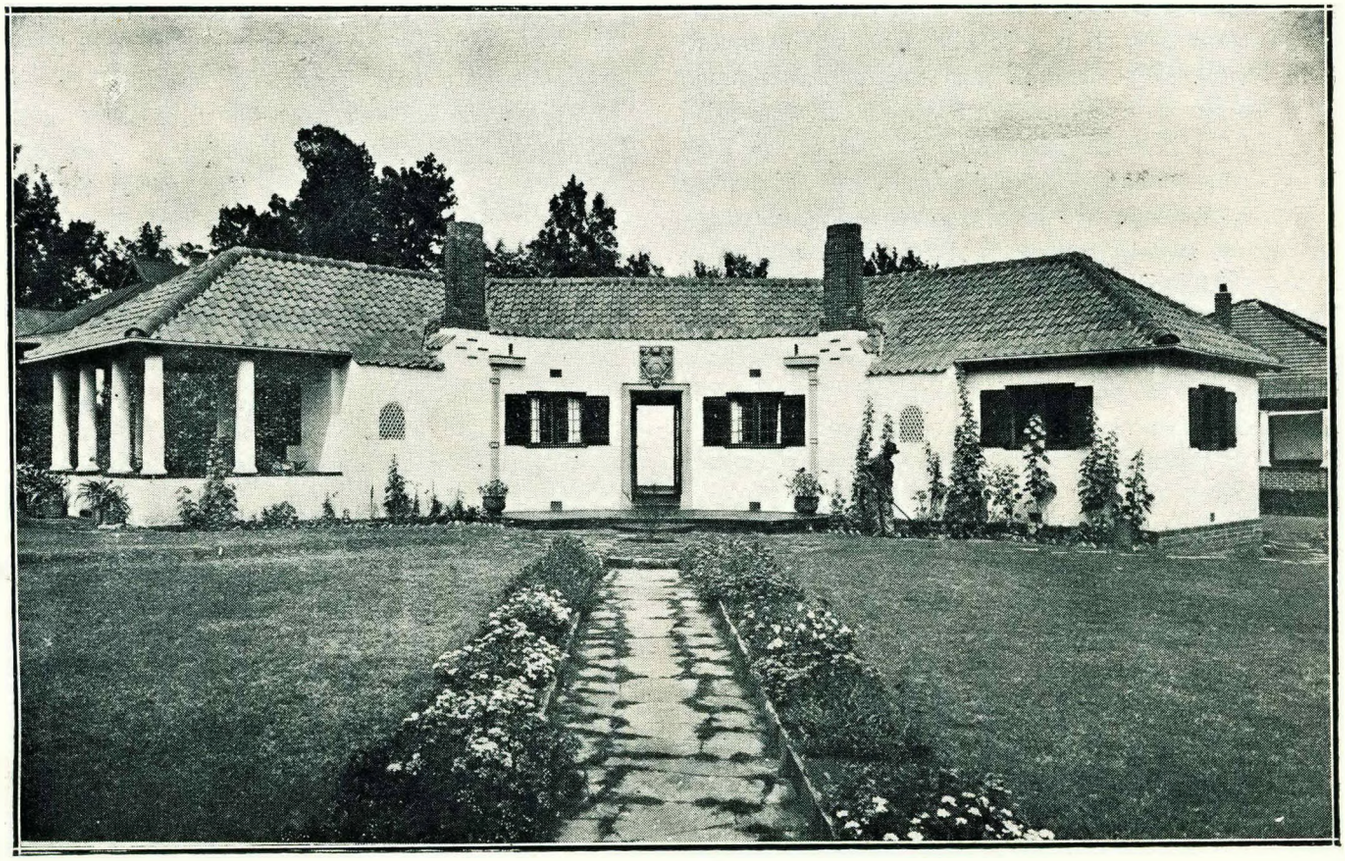
COWIN, POWERS & ELLIS, F. & A.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECTS.



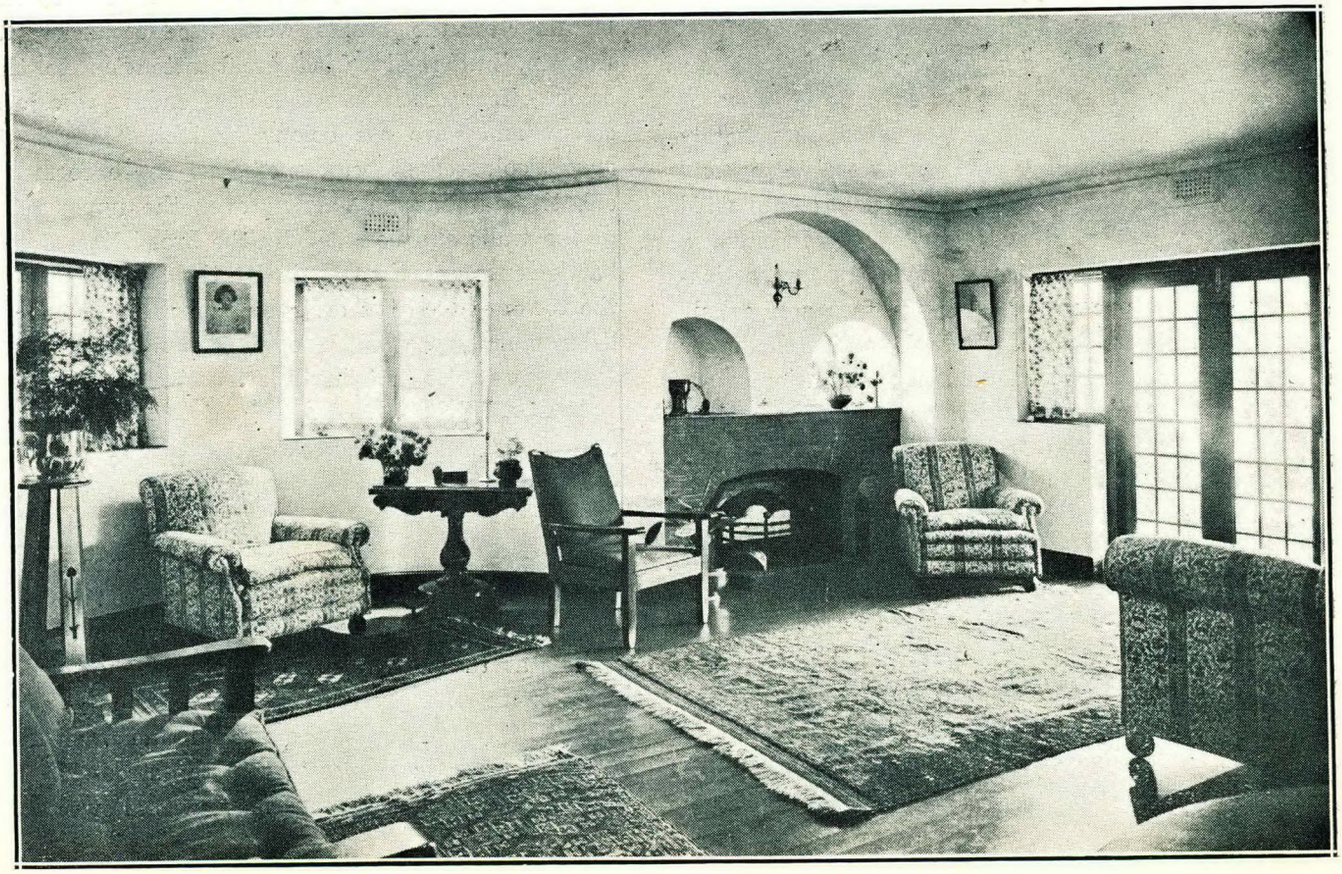
THE WORKING DRAWINGS. — GORDON LEITH, M.C., A.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

RESIDENCE OF MISS MEINTJES, SUNNYSIDE, PRETORIA.

GORDON LEITH, M.C., A.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.



FRONT ELEVATION.



THE LOUNGE.

gaiety which amuses, and even interests him for a while though he thinks it unseemly.

The walls of Fu-san-su were not of the kind calculated to sustain a regular siege if the investing force had at hand artillery such as was common in Europe at the time when Fu-san-su was built, and L.T. concludes that such engines of war had never been known there, the walls were, including the battlements, but forty two feet high, of which the first twenty feet from the ground was twelve feet thick, to the platform behind the battlements, another twelve feet which was six feet thick. The battlements which were six feet high, were three feet thick and each occupied nine feet of the length of the wall, and had in the centre a narrow loophole, and they were set close together—barely two feet apart.

There were sixteen towers, all planned on the hexagonal figure, but of these only those at the corners and the two in the middle of the long sides were complete, the others having four sides and the back left open.

At the first level, the head of the twelve foot wall, a gallery connected each tower with the next, and the walls loopholed about every six feet. The towers were covered with low pitched stone caps.

The section of the wall shows ingenious economy which does credit to the designers. At the head of the twelve foot wall only six feet remained for platform, and at the stage above much less, which was in neither case sufficient. Of the lower platform the floor was projected over the face of the wall which was brought forward immediately under it by oversailing the brickwork. Deep and narrow brackets at three foot intervals supported the part which still was clear of the brickwork, and every third bracket was made and proportionately deeper to carry the piers a foot and a half square and seven feet high which carried the super structure. Stone bars of the same dimensions were laid upon the walls and piers so as to give a clear space of about twelve feet for the platform above, and on these were built brick walls which carried the lintels over the stone piers and the brickwork built up behind them, so bringing the whole of the work level with the head of the wall. Great paving stones nine inches thick were now placed to cover the space between the wall and the lintels, the parapet on the inside and the battlements on the outside built and the work was complete.

All the walls were faced on both sides with the splendid bricks used for the pleasing little bridge. Among other interesting details were the gateways, only nine feet wide and high. A lintel three feet in vertical face covered the opening and on it was carved a ponderous moulding which projected fully a foot forwards, and arched, and diminished at the ends to a width of three inches and turned up again as if intended to resemble a monstrous pair of horns. The gates, three in number, were all dropped from above, and between them were arranged shafts through which anything useful might be poured upon those below. The material generally used seems to have been dry rubbish. As soon as the inside of the wall was reached this tunnel like entrance, still covered over, turned to one side, and at the turn there was another gate so that an intruder having with great difficulty forced three strong gates was confronted by a strong wall in a dark hole with an only alternative of forcing another gate on his flank, and dusty dry rubbish rapidly filling up the hole. Although externally the walls presented only the apertures used for military purposes, internally the rooms in the towers and above the gates were amply lighted. All the openings had stone heads and sills and the battlements were entirely of that material, and everywhere stone was liberally used. On the near approach, the vast masses of orange brown bricks were managed skilfully. All through the work the variations of colour incident to the burning of the bricks were used seemingly at random, but really with great attention to the colour effect which only those can endure who love colour and have the colour instinct. Masses of russet coloured stone, disposed so as to form an effective large scale pattern over the upper part of the walls and bounded by the broad line of the battlements and then again by the battlements of the towers added the desirable contrast, as well as balance, and the whole, though solemn and majestic was very far from being unattractive.

Lucas Tudril was much impressed with the unity of method which prevailed in the arrangement of the buildings on the various plots. Rows of little houses, where desired were set on each side of the ground, and a similar row, not necessarily of the same length at the back, the front of the plot was not inclosed nor the houses brought together at the corners of the plots. Houses of all sizes were managed similarly, and only were allowed to depart from the general rule when they were set back seven paces from the street.

Only one place of amusement was allowed, and

it was called the Concert Place. Not unlike the theatres of other ancient people in arrangement which was very simple. A platform of moderate dimensions in front of a row of dressing and property rooms, and fronting the stage rows of chairs for about five hundred, giving what we should consider luxurious space for each person. This was all the fixed apparatus and occupied the centre of a large plot of ground, of which the remainder was laid out in garden fashion and like all else in Fu-san-su kept in good order and condition. The seats were seldom fully occupied, but the garden was often crowded. The extraordinary cleanliness of the place to which Lucas Tudril frequently refers, was due no doubt to the paving of all the thoroughfares, and the limited population, although besides there were strict regulations, the breach of which meant the exclusion of the delinquent from the community.

Lucas Tudril was right sorry to leave this, to him most charming place. Many and many a pleasant day had he spent in this home of gaiety and beautiful surroundings. Days were long,—for when night was closing in lanterns were lighted everywhere and shed over it that warm glow serene as moonlight, which if not so brilliant, compares at least favourably in pleasantness with our sunlike prodigality of electricity.

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL ON ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

Precis of proceedings of the Second Annual General Meeting of the Council held in the Scientific and Technical Societies Club, 100, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, the 16th, 17th, 18th and 20th of March, 1925.

Present :—The Chairman, Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon, representing The Cape Institute of Architects and The University of Cape Town; Mr. E. H. Waugh, representing The Association of Transvaal Architects; Mr. R. Howden, representing The Society of Architects (London) S.A.B.; Mr. G. T. Hurst, representing The Natal Institute of Architects; Mr. F. L. H. Fleming, representing Port Elizabeth Society of Architects; Mr. D. M. Sinclair, representing The Architects of East London and Border Towns; Professor G. E. Pearse, representing University of the Witwatersrand; Professor O. J. P. Oxley, representing Natal Technical College; Mr. M. K. Carpenter, Secretary.

Apologies for absence were received from :—Mr. E. M. Powers, representing The Royal Institute of British Architects; Mr. Percy Coleman, representing The Union Department of Education.

Mr. G S. Burt Andrews, President of the Association of Transvaal Architects, attended at the opening of the meeting, formally welcomed delegates to Johannesburg and expressed the appreciation of the profession at the excellent work the Federal Council had so far accomplished and trusted that their future labours would be of equal advantage.

Minutes.—The precis of proceedings of the Inaugural Annual General Meeting held at Cape Town on the 3rd and 4th of January, 1924, were taken as read and confirmed.

Arising out of the proceedings of last meeting in order to facilitate the attendance of University representatives, Mr. R Howden moved that future Annual General Meetings of this Council be held on dates outside of University terms.

This was seconded by Mr. E. H. Waugh and agreed to.

At this stage a telegram was received from Mr. E. M. Powers stating that the floods in Natal had prevented Professor Oxley, Mr. G. T. Hurst and himself from proceeding beyond Estcourt, and that they had returned to Durban.

After consideration it was decided to adjourn the meeting in order to communicate with Mr. Powers as to the possibility of the Natal members arriving later in the week and the Secretary was instructed to make the necessary arrangements to continue the meeting as soon as definite information was received.

The Tuesday's Session commenced at 2.30 p.m. in the Scientific and Technical Societies Club and members were notified that Mr. E. M. Powers, the Vice-Chairman, would not be able to reach Johannesburg for the meetings.

Local Representation.—In order that the Council be in a position to obtain detailed information on any matter, from any centre, after discussion, Mr. F. L. H. Fleming *moved* that this Council invites each member of Council to bring before the Council of this constituent body any matter of local or urgent interest and to report thereon in conjunction with their Executive for action. The Executive may request any local representative to report to them in the same manner. This was agreed to.

Accounts.—The following statement of revenue and expenditure for the period the 31st December, 1924, were considered and accepted.

Revenue.

Association of Transvaal Architects ..	£25	0	0
Royal Institute of British Architects ..	21	0	0
35 Applicatants, 10 6	18	7	6
Exchange		1	0
	£64	8	6

Expenditure.

Cape Town Conference expenses, January,, 1924	£43	15	7
Printing and Postage	11	3	7
Bank charges	1	12	9
	56	11	11
Balance at Bank	7	16	7
	£64	8	6

Levy.—After consideration it was agreed to make a levy of 7s. per member on the following bodies :—

The Association of Transvaal Architects	143
The Natal Institute of Architects	20
Orange Free State Institute of Architects	5
Port Elizabeth Society of Architects ..	9
Cape Institute of Architects (approximately)	50

This levy would provide sufficient to pay the expenses of the past year and create a small balance for current expenses. It was also decided to follow these lines for the year 1925, in order to produce the required revenue.

The donation of £21 0s. 0d. received from the Royal Institute of British Architects, together with £10 0s. 0d. of the amount received from students subscriptions during 1924 were to be considered as a reserve fund.

Remuneration to Secretary.—It was agreed to ask the Secretary to accept an honorarium for services rendered to date, which was accepted.

The remuneration for the current year to be considered at next Annual General Meeting and based on the work necessitated by the Council's operations.

Applications from Students for Registration by Council.—A list of 45 applicants for student membership of Council was presented.

In discussion, at the request of Council, the following statement was made by Professor G. E. Pearse, of the University of the Witwatersrand :—

1. The University Authorities are prepared to accept non-matriculated students for the Diploma Course if in possession of a certificate of exemption issued by this Council.

2. The architectural courses at the University were open to the public, irrespective of preliminary education, to the extent, that any person may take the course, sit for the examination but unless matriculated or in possession of the exemption certificate mentioned in (1) would not be eligible to receive the Diploma of the University

3. A certificate will be issued by the University to the students eligible for the Diploma stating that such students have passed the examinations in connection with the Architectural Course.

4. The Syllabus and Examinations inaugurated in 1919 under the School of Mines and Technology are and will be continued by the University of the Witwatersrand as long as students enrolled under that Syllabus remain at the University.

5. Non-Matriculated students subsequently passing matriculation or obtaining a certificate of exemption from this Council would be credited by the University of the Witwatersrand with the architectural examinations passed by them prior to matriculation.

Mr. R. Howden *moved* that all bona fide students prior to December, 1923, be permitted to continue a course in architectural training similar to the curriculum of the School of Mines and Technology at that date and after having obtained certificates under these particular examinations they be recommended by this Council to the Registration Body for acceptance as members.

This was seconded by Mr. D. M. Sinclair and agreed to.

Mr. R. Howden *further moved* that it is understood that the University of the Witwatersrand provide the necessary facilities to complete and obtain examination in this course.

This was seconded by Mr. D. M. Sinclair and agreed to.

(Professor G. E. Pearse's statements as above given were made subsequent to the resolutions disposing of these matters).

Under the foregoing resolutions the following fifteen applicants being students handed over by the Association of Transvaal Architects were registered as students of this Council :—

Nurcombe, D. L.	Wintle, H. R. L.
Nunn, A. V.	Cohen, M.
Nicholas, C. J.	Lawson, F. L.
Davie, Wm.	Gibbs, J. R.
Schwartzel, W. A.	Morse, H. M. R.
Baily, Miss G. S.	Eaton, N. M.
Woolley, H. H.	Hall, G. H.
Nelson, J. P.	

Mr. R. Howden *moved,* and it was agreed, that in view of the documentary evidence laid before the Council and the written report from the Sub-Committee that a differentiation be made in the list of the fifteen students handed over by the Association of Transvaal Architects to show which of these fifteen are eligible for entrance as students for the Diploma Course immediately and which of these students are to be carried as such until their general education has attained the standard required to permit of an exemption certificate being granted to them

Class (a) to be recommended to the University as students in the Diploma Course :—D. L. Nurcombe, J. Peel Nelson, H. M. R. Morse, N. M. Eaton.

Class (b) to be carried as student members until such time as their education has attained the necessary standard to obtain exemption from matriculation :—A. V. Nunn, C. J. Nicholas, Wm. Davie, W. A. Schwartzel, Miss G. Scott Bailey, H. H. Woolley, H. R. L. Wintle, M. Cohen, F. L. Lawson, J. R. Gibbs, G. H. Hall.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming *moved* that in view of the documentary evidence laid before Council and the written report from the local Sub-Committee the following thirteen applicants be registered as student members of this Council and that they be reported to the University of the Witwatersrand or other training Institution concerned, for enrolment as students in the Diploma Course :—G. Noick, D. S. Haddon, B. Rutgers, R. M. Ellenberger, J. N. Cowin, J. Bishop, J. Gaw, F. Hutchinson, L. Grinker, P. D. Hill, B. Middleton, D. C. Macdonald, Wm. Hirst.

This was seconded by Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon, strongly supported by Mr. E. H. Waugh and unanimously agreed to,

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming *moved* that the balance of seventeen applications received for student membership under this Council, namely :—R. C. Jefferson, G. A. Gunderson, Wm. Hynd, A. H. Smeaton, I. Waiggowsky, R. T. Spottiswoode, C. W. Kelly, F. R. Carter, G. Griffiths, L. J. Purvis, C. G. Lane, J. R. Lowe, H. R. Skelly, J. R. Cooper, W. D. Gibbs, E. S. Cornelius, M. D. Berman, be submitted to the local Sub-Committees for report and subsequent action by the Executive

This was seconded by Mr. E. H. Waugh and agreed to.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming *moved* that a letter be addressed to each of the eleven applicants registered under Class (b) of Mr. Howden's motion advising them that they have been registered as student members under this Council, but that they must take further study and examinations in the subjects set opposite their respective names if they wish to obtain a certificate exempting them from matriculation and in order to be registered with the University of the Witwatersrand as students in the Diploma Course in Architecture.

This was seconded by Professor O. J. P. Oxley and agreed to.

Mr. D. M. Sinclair asked for a definition of the position of a non-matriculated student accepted as Probationer R.I.B.A., would this Council be prepared to grant such student a certificate of exemption from matriculation to permit of his registration as a student in the Diploma Course at the University ? It was considered that an exemption certificate would be granted to such student because prior to enrolment as Probationer R.I.B.A. the Board of Examiners in the Transvaal, acting for the Royal Institute of British Architects would have satisfied themselves in respect of his educational qualifications for exemption.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming *moved* that in future no application for enrolment as student member under this Council will be considered by Council in Annual General Meeting unless such application is accompanied by a report and recommendation from the Executive. This was agreed to.

The Herbert Baker Architectural Scholarship.—The Secretary reported that a change had been made in the control of this scholarship whereby under an amended Trust Deed the President, Vice-President and Secretary to the Council, for the time being, were appointed the Trustees.

The Chairman advised members that the report and statement of revenue and expenditure of the Baker Scholarship Fund from its inception to the date of being taken over by the new Trustees had

been prepared under certain difficulties owing to the absence of data and was put forward simply to show how the Scholarship Fund stood. It might be necessary for this Council to notify their cognisance of the fact that the Executive Officers of this Council were the Trustees of the Fund.

Mr. E. H. Waugh, in commenting upon the satisfactory termination to representations made by members of the profession, referred to the fact that the change was due to the energy displayed by Mr. Fleming to whom he felt the profession owed a debt of gratitude for the interest he had aroused and for the change for which he was responsible. Mr. Fleming in reply *moved* a resolution that a letter be addressed to Mr. Herbert Baker thanking him for acquiescing in the representations made which have resulted in the change of Trustees and also to the late Trustees for their kindly action in the matter. He also *moved* that in order to give proper effect to the Trust Deed it would be necessary to alter the titles of the office bearers of this Council to President and Vice-President interchangeably with Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. This was seconded by Mr. G. T. Hurst and agreed to.

Respecting the expenses incurred in connection with the Scholarship Fund, it was considered that these should be paid out of the Scholarship Funds and Mr. G. T. Hurst, in voicing the approval of this Council in the general officers accepting the appointments of Trustees formally *moved* that any expenses incurred in connection with the Herbert Baker Architectural Scholarship be *not* paid out of the Funds of the Federal Council. This was agreed to.

Reports from Institutions.—The Secretary laid on the table reports of the work done in the Architectural Classes held under the aegis of the University of the Witwatersrand, Cape School of Architecture, Natal Technical College and the Pretoria Polytechnic and Trades School. These were accepted.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming, in referring to the number of students in Architecture at the Cape and in Natal, drew attention to the small number who had enrolled as students and *moved* the following resolution :—

This Council observes with regret the striking absence from the list of applications for registration as students of the names of the Cape and Natal students and resolves that this position be brought to the notice of the Natal Institute of Architects and the Cape Institute of Architects. This was seconded by Mr. R. Howden and agreed to.

The Royal Institute of British Architects.—The following letter from the Secretary of the Institute dated the 16th April, 1924, was read :—

> "My Council have noted with much interest the proceedings which some months ago led to the formation of the Federal Council, and they desire me to express the unqualified pleasure which they feel at the efforts that the Federal Council are making to promote and improve Architectural Education in South Africa.
>
> "To my Council's best wishes for the future prosperity of the Federal Council I am desired to add their hope that the enclosed cheque for twenty guineas may be accepted as a contribution by the R.I.B.A. to the Federal Council's Funds, and as a token of the appreciation with which the establishment and the consequent activities of the Federal Council have been received by Architects in Great Britain."

Following general expressions of appreciation from members, Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon *moved* from the Chair as an unopposed motion that a letter of appreciation and thanks be sent to the Royal Institute for their kindly practical interest in the work of this Council.

In connection with examinations and the proposal to institute simultaneous examinations at Cape Town and Johannesburg with standardised papers, Mr. F. L. H. Fleming referred to the resolutions from the Natal Conference which distinctly called for the co-ordination of courses of study and examinations, but to deal with such a large subject in Council was not possible. Mr. F. L. H. Fleming *moved* that the Council having in mind the co-ordination of courses and examinations so as to bring about identity between a South African. Standard and the R.I.B.A. and Society of Architects (London) standard refers to a Sub-Committee, the consideration of the whole subject to examine existing conditions, Prizes, Scholarships and Bursaries conduct negotiations and to report to the Executive in time for inclusion in the report to the annual meeting in 1926.

The Sub-Committee shall be Messrs. E. M. Powers, E. H. Waugh, F. L. H. Fleming and Professor G. E. Pearse, with power to co-opt. This was seconded by Mr. G. T. Hurst and agreed to.

Diploma.—Professor O. J. P. Oxley drew attention to the decision arrived at in January, 1924, to grant diplomas in architecture to students who have successfully negotiated the approved courses laid down by this Council pointing out that no provision had been made for the establishment of diplomas, he

felt it was necessary for such provision to be made in order to satisfy students enrolling with this Council and to give them an incentive to progress in their studies.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming was strongly of the opinion that this Council should carry out its original intention in the establishment of and ultimately granting diplomas to successful students. This diploma would be for students who came on the Federal Council roll and who followed out the indicated courses, and ultimately the diploma would be issued to such students who qualified under these conditions. We might also go further and recommend to the registration body or bodies the acceptance of this diploma for registration purposes.

The Diploma would be the rounding off of the whole principle of co-ordination and direction of architectural education in the Union which was the foundation of the Council's constitution However the Council might endeavour to secure co-ordination of courses and examinations there would be natural differences between any one centre and another. It was described that for general purpose of registration and for giving to qualified students a hall-mark which it was hoped would be recognised and mutually inter-changeable with all other qualifications in the Empire, that the Federal Council Diploma should be issued The Council was the right body to work for such general recognition.

Mr. Hurst, in support, stated that it would be invaluable evidence towards the proposed Union Registration Bill. Unless it could be shown that ample provision was being made by the architects as a body to direct and promote architectural education and to provide evident qualification the case for the Bill would be weakened.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming *moved* that the diploma of the Federal Council on Architectural Education will be issued to students who, having been admitted to the Council's roll, shall have satisfactorily completed an approved course of study and shall have satisfactorily passed an approved examination based on such course The diploma shall indicate that in the opinion of the Federal Council on Architectural Education the holder is educationally a qualified architect. This was seconded by Professor O. J. P. Oxley and unanimously agreed to.

Standard Form of Pupilage.—The President stated that existing conditions in the country scarcely called for a standardised form of pupilage, the conditions under which students enter the profession differed vastly from those in force in Britain years ago, he thought that the best we could do would be to recommend to practitioners that they should base their forms of pupilage on the agreement issued by the Royal Institute of British Architects. This was agreed to.

Election of Officers for 1925. President. Mr. E. H. Waugh, in moving that the re-election of Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon to President for the year 1925, expressed his opinion that in the early stages of the life of this Council a continuity of policy was essential. This could only be obtained by retaining the services of a President for a period longer than one year. In seconding the proposal Mr. G. T. Hurst entirely concurred. The motion was put to members by the Secretary and carried unanimously, Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon expressing his thanks for re-election. *Vice-President.* Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon proposed, seconded by Mr. F. H. L. Fleming, that Mr. E. M. Powers be re-elected Vice-President of the Council for the year 1925. This was unanimously agreed to. *Executive.* A lengthy discussion ensued concerning the advisability of the appointment of an Executive and Mr. E. H. Waugh *moved* that there be no separate Executive, the Council itself may hold emergency meetings to deal with any Executive matters, absentee members may appoint alternates, matters of urgency to be settled by the President or Vice-President and to be reported to the next meeting of Council for confirmation. When this Council takes on Executive functions then a quorum of only three is necessary.

Whenever the term "Executive" occurs in other motions it is hereby resolved to mean "Emergency Meeting of Council"

This was seconded by Mr. G. T. Hurst.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming *moved* the following *amendment*:—

The Council for the forthcoming year appoints as an Executive Committee the President and Vice-President with powers to act for the purpose of considering and dealing with matter of routine and urgency which from time to time may be submitted preparing and submitting to members of Council matters for discussion and decision at emergency and other meetings. This was seconded by Professor O. J. P. Oxley.

Following further discussion *the amendment was put to the vote and carried by six votes to one* and became the substantiative motion. Mr. E. H. Waugh recording his vote against the establishment of an Executive.

Mr. E. H. Waugh *moved* as an amendment that the Executive consist of President, Vice-President

and three other members of Council. There being no seconder this amendment fell away. Mr. Waugh *moved a further amendment* that the Executive consist of the Chairman only. This was seconded by Mr. R. Howden and on being put to the vote was defeated by five votes to two.

It was recorded that members of Council desire the Executive to issue a quarterly report to members.

Voting Power.—Professor G. E. Pearse inquired if it was the intention of Council to give representatives of Institutions the right to vote, referring particularly to matters of Finance. Mr. E. H. Waugh suggested that representatives of non-contributing bodies should have a vote on all matters excepting those concerning Finance. This was supported by Mr. G. T. Hurst. Mr. F. L. H. Fleming, on a point of order, drew attention to the fact that if Mr. Waugh's proposal were put forward as a resolution it would be contrary to the constitution and suggested that the matter should be put forward as a notice of motion for consideration at the next annual general meeting This course was agreed to.

Mr. R. Howden inquired as a matter of urgency what was the intention of the Council in respect of a School of Mines student enrolled as such by the Association of Transvaal Architects subsequently transferred to the University of the Witwatersrand and now relegated from the Diploma Course until he has attained a satisfactory standard of education in Mathematics and English: following the attainment of the required standard would the student become eligible for enrolment as a Diploma Student and what would his position be in respect of the examinations for Associateship of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

This was referred to the Sub-Commititee appointed to consider co-ordination.

Professor G. E. Pearse in replying, said that recognition of the University's Diploma Course by the Royal Institute of British Architects had not yet been obtained, but it was on the cards that such recognition would be given at an early date. Failing such recognition it would be possible for students after negotiating the Diploma Course of the Local University to sit for the final or special examination of the Royal Institute of British Architects for Associate Membership.

Audit.—Mr. Fleming pointed out that the Constitution provided for the accounts of the Council being audited by a competent authority. This had not been done and it was possible that expense in this direction was not warranted. At the present time he suggested that an alteration to the precis of the proceedings of the Cape Town Meeting held in January, 1924, Item 14, might be made by the following amendment:—

> It was agreed that Council Accounts be *audited* and certified by the Executive or a recognised firm of public Accountants.

The Secretary desires to point out that no Balance Sheet was submitted because the levy for 1924 had not been decided upon, the only financial statement submitted to the meeting was a Revenue and Expenditure Account. Following the decision to make a levy it will now be possible to debit the respective Societies with the amounts of that levy as at the 31st December, 1924, and thereafter to supplement the Revenue and Expenditure account by a properly drawn-up and duly audited balance sheet.

Examinations.—Respecting the resolution to co-ordinate courses and examinations Mr. Fleming *moved* to amend same by the addition of prizes, scholarships and bursaries for consideration by the appointed Sub-Committee. This was unanimously agreed to.

This terminated the business of the meeting and Mr. Fleming proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Ritchie Fallon for his services as President during the past year and for his able conduct of the proceedings of this Second Annual General Meeting. This was agreed to with acclamation and the meeting terminated.

R.I.B.A.

An official intimation has been received from the Privy Council Office that The King was pleased at the Council held on the 6th February, to approve the grant of the Supplemental Charter prayed for by the Royal Institute of British Architects.

The Agreement made last year between the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Society of Architects accordingly comes into force, the admission of the members of the Society of Architects into the Royal Institute will take place forthwith, and a very important step in the unification of the architectural profession with the object of promoting a Registration Bill will have been completed.

THE GOSPEL OF CREATIVE ART.

BY A. C. TULLY.

"They are the Elect, to whom beautiful things mean only beauty."
Oscar Wilde

In the doctrines of Vitruvius, we evince the living force and active principles of all Roman Architecture and the spirit of its experiment.

Republican Rome and its more beautiful and living things. Imperial Rome, as of a soldier filled with the lust and glory of war. Modern Rome, subsisting still by the ruins and imitations of the old. A process of development as set up by continuous experiment is an art, not of volition but of inspiration. The Arab builders were satiated with a love of brilliant colours, baked into shining tiles, and this gave character to *their* art. The Bushmen understood perspective which was probably ignorant to the Greeks, delighting in symmetry, colour, and the silhouettes of animals, like all children of primitive art, with its Realism and with its Sobriety.

In the Greek theory, a conception of "holy architecture" was reached through a system of refinements and ratios, and the technical theories of men like Lysippus, Pheidias, and Praxiteles, were backed up by accurate scientific methods, whereby they imparted the attributes of Gods to their work, and attained perfection in a "multitude of arithmetical proportions."

In the Romanesque builders, we see a very young architectural race bent on working out its own salvation. In that strange, disordered, contradictory art, are the struggles and triumphs of men who bequeathed an ideal to their children.

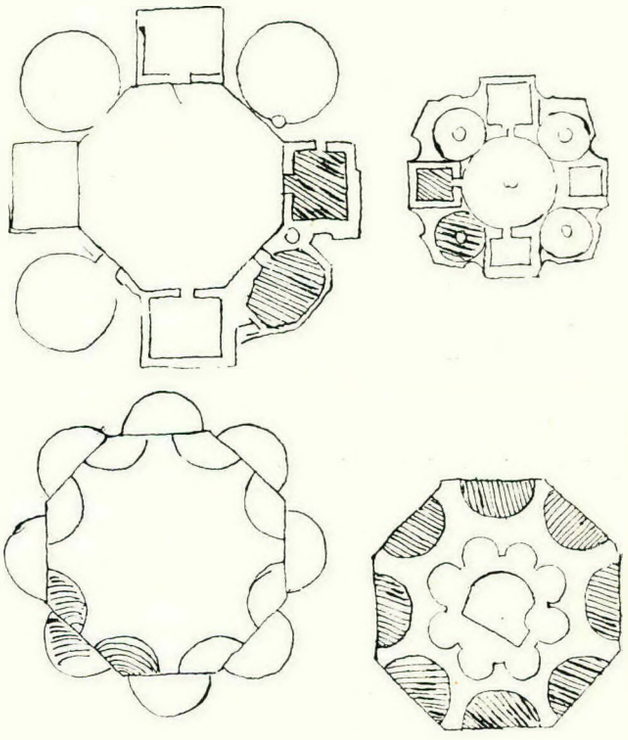
The Gothic is the religious style, and that, not because if its past associations, but because naturally and instinctively one recognises in the upward rushing lines and ribs of stone, a visible incarnation of the dominant, spiritual impulse, an expression of the life of its age. There is a spirit that pervades the Middle Ages, of chivalry, and ascetism, and enthralling contemplation. A spirit which lingers in the courts of monasteries, in the deserted cells of monks and anchorites and strewed the road to Palestine with the dead of both sexes.

"The other day I stood before the cathedral at Amiens," said Heine, "with a friend, and my friend gazed with astonishment upon that edifice, whose rock like towers seemed to embody the expression of gigantic strength, as the little carved stone figures to embody that of dwarf-like endless patience. At last he put to me the question, "why is it that to-day we are incapable of building such monuments?" I replied to him, "Dear Alphonse, the men of olden times had convictions, we modern men have only opinions, and something more than opinions is needed for the building of Cathedrals."

In the Tudor, the last lingering music of Gothic is audible, in the great mansions and manor houses, there is comfort and beauty unrivalled. Its fan vaulted churches (like Kings) are each in their own sphere the best of Gothic.

There is an idea of Truth to Duty which has presided over the evolution of structural features, and it is such alloted duty that has preserved in Nature, their symmetry, beauty and life.

Came the Renaissance with a burst of Patriotism and a fervent desire for scholarly investigation in the lost cities of Rome.



Schemes by Da Vinci.

In that extraordinary man Leonardo da Vinci, its spirit is completely regenerated. His notebooks and studies are devoted to abstract exercises in planning, dome building and other structural possibilities, as well as problems in engineering, fortifications and canals. Among his schemes is one for the laying out of a whole town.

In his section on domes, his sketches are theoretical and ideal researches, made in order to understand the laws which govern their construction. They reveal a style very similar to that of

Bramante, whose name appears in many of Leonardo's manuscripts. In the church of S. Lorenzo, at Milan, the dome, aesthetically, remains one of the most beautiful cupolas ever constructed, and with its two smaller domes attracted without doubt the attention and study of his never resting genius. There is in his sketches a direct influence of this church which appears to have suggested the idea of Bramantes dome for St. Peters, at Rome. From Vasari we glean a few details of his architectural studies and his project for lifting up the Battistera at Florence and setting it upon a basement.

His writings might well be collected under "Studies in Strength of Materials," and though his conclusions as drawn from investigations, do not have the precision of his scientific labours, they prove, at any rate, his deep sagacity, his wonderfully clear mind, and his influence on the spirit of the age.

"La Giaconda" that "eternal enigma of womanhood," has revealed the plenitude of Leonardo's power, in art. Hers is the head, upon which all "the ends of the world are come," the eyebrows are a little weary, wrought from within the flesh, by little thoughts of fantastic reveries and exquisite passions. Set in the green shadow of the rock, with the water that steals into a network of divided streams, past the upturned shells lying thick along the strand, and up to the walls of distant villages.

Verrochio, his master, was a knight errant in soul, sturdy, and sometimes aggressive.

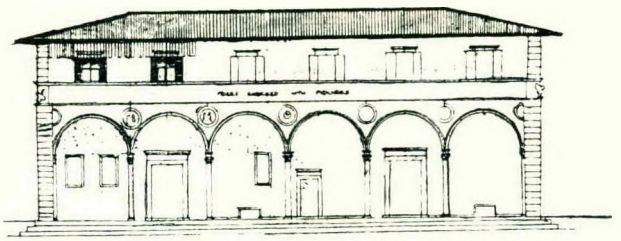
In the Angels of Giotto, we see the aspirations of the lonely shepherd boy, drawing sheep upon the rocks.

In the primitive school of Fra Angelico, religion, as taught by S. Francis d' Assisi, is depicted, telling of mountains and verdant meadows covered with dancing blossoms.

Della Robbia it was who gathered up whatever of nestling love there was, on earth and fixed it in the gaze of a cherubs head. Durer was a patent investigator—and he certainly caught the idea of investigating principles—the scientific spirit—possibly he had access to Da Vinci's notebooks—yet parabolic domes were in the air long before Wren in turn seized upon them.

Uccello and his nightly labours in perspective, Bramante, Peruzzi, San Gallo, and a host of others pass by in marshalled array, for in such as these was the Renaissance complete.

Justice, Love, Faith, Romance, Sincerity and Humility are the links in that scheme and its greatness lies in its striking accessories; like the butterfly which alighted on the bloodstained barricade in "Les Miserables."



Facade at Pistoia.

On the Recondite prescriptions of Vitruvius the little band of Humanists fastened; these they quoted, illustrated and praised. Palladio permitted latitude and Serlio the most ardent Vitruvian of all admitted the charm of novelty; the Baroque was saturated with deceit, justifiable in stage decoration but lost in the attributes of the eternal.

The Dome of Bruneileschi (based on the simplest traditional Roman forms) by its audacity and dominance was the real starting point, and Florentine art a period of tentative experiment with a certain naive quality that compels charm, rising to its purest and best, in the ever delightful Pazzi Chapel.

In the Strozzi, a single primary mass, we find unity expressed in a high degree, many apparently vast blocks of stone are made up of shorter ones with concealed vertical joints. In the Cancelleria long stones are made to appear shorter than they are by "joints" which are in reality only channels upon the surface; the purpose is to maintain scale and the unit of design is not material but aesthetic.

In the shield on the corner of the Riccardi Palace, Florence, an instance of detail is introduced to give unity to the whole composition and the shield being early and consequently pure, suspended by a console, imparts an air of bold simplicity to the entire building. One notices the same effect in an heraldic panel or an oriel window in a medieval gateway, placed centrally over the link.

In the beautiful library of S. Marks, at Venice, horizontal sub-division is obtained by lines of demarcation drawn on the surface, and a division into two substantially equal parts prevails.

This scheme of proportion has played a great part in Italian Renaissance Architecture, and the buildings are often made up of rectangles that are substantially alike in the relation of their linear dimensions, and when similarity is perfect the diagonals are parallel and when the relations are inverse, *i.e.*, one rectangle vertical and the other

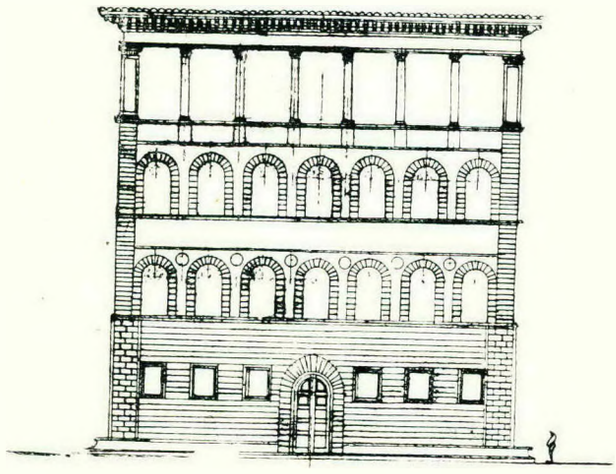
horizontal, the diagonals become perpendicular to each other.

There are often more than one set of ratios, the mass and appendages in one, the roof in a second and the openings in a third.

A well known example is the Villa Borghese in which the ruling proportion is based on an approximate ratio of 2—3. The two primary masses are proportionate to the arcaded link and the height of the link is determined by the intersection of the main diagonal with the inner vertical line of the mass, so that the upper storey of the wing (or primary mass) is in proportion. The lower storey of the wing is also cut off in a like ratio by the cornice of the loggia which is carried through. The row of horizontal oblong panels over the arcade and all the window openings are in the same general ratio.

In the Bartellini Palace, a proportion of 3—4 prevails in the same front, as well as the outside dimensions of the door and window openings. The building is divided into three parts by cornices, each of which with the window openings has a proportion of 1—2.

In the bases of these Florentine Palaces one is impressed by the sincere expression of Truth, for do they not satisfy the appearance of apparent stability? In Peruzzis Palazzo Albergarti, the moulded base re-echoes the mouldings of the cornice, and the pseudo-pedestal fixes its height. There is a happy transition between the scale of the brickwork and that of the stone. A transition which is again more remarkable in the Palazzo Riccardi.



Palazzo Guadagni.

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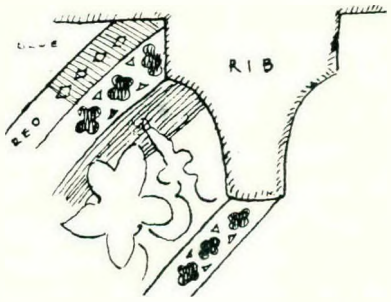
In the earlier type of Florentine Palace, like the Guadagni, rustic work is not an all-important feature, but is only employed for the quoins of the facade, although in this case extending to the whole of the ground floor. The roof projects fairly considerably and shows the wooden construction was not in accordance with the rest of the architectural features (the figures and embellishments which occur in other early buildings).

Throughout the Renaissance, the Palace, the Church, built frontally on the street, the arcaded courtyard, the piazza and the loggia are the perpetual units of the design.

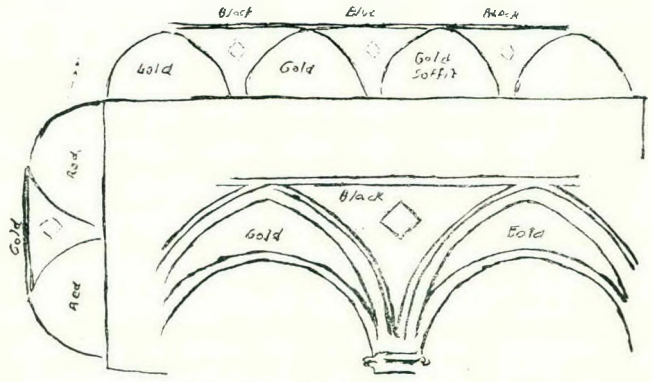
One feels, as in the Villa Giustiana, the loggia embraces, and gives a real sense of enclosure, of which the head is the nucleus, one feels in the cortile, as in the Villa Vecchia, an indescribable charm, as faint as the breeze upon the leaves in autumn afternoons. and one feels in the vestibule, as in that of the Palazzo Barberini an air of grandeur and superb scale in which the perspective is in effect wonderful.

In their ceiling decoration the Renaissance artists reached a supreme art, the buildings which Giotto and his contemporaries had to decorate were mostly Gothic in character, *i.e.*, vaulted roofs with dividing ribs, very simple in arrangement. The four part vault was usual with large spaces between the ribs, and such spaces where they widen, tend to look weak and non-supported.



The Renaissance painters realized this and their first care was to assist on the eye following the ribs by marking the lines of strongest contrast. In most cases they support the rib on either side by a sharply defined border painted on the panel but allied in colour to the rib and in contrast to the ground of the vault. The result is that the eye is persuaded to recognise the constructive lines before it examines the pictorial work at large. The spaces are blue with gold stars and the hollows of the ribs are ornamented with a vertical leaf on a deep maroon ground, but the lower face and sides are in black and white.

In the "Sala Piccolomini" the distribution of the ground colours in the pendentives and soffites of the side of the vaulting is a masterpiece.



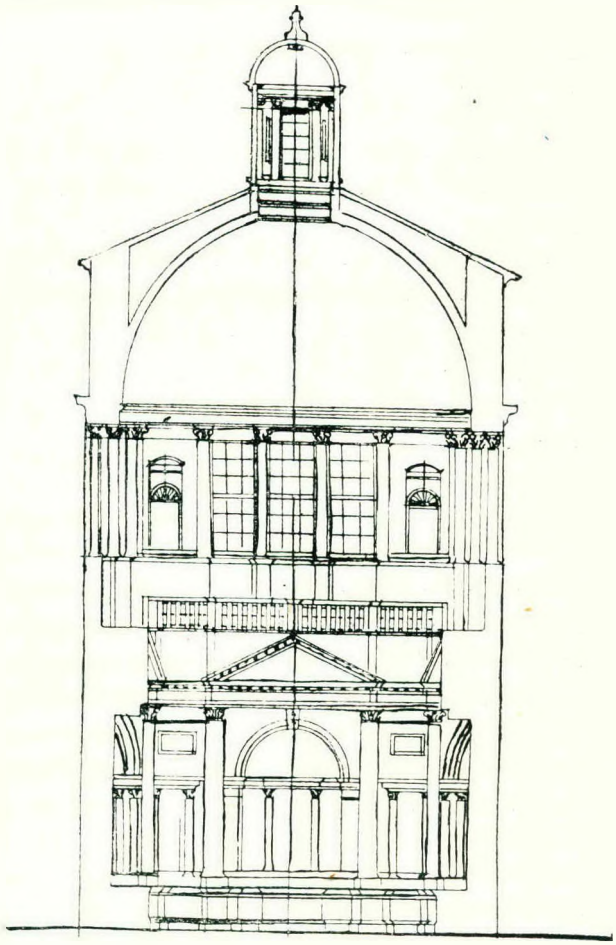
Sala Piccolomini Siena.

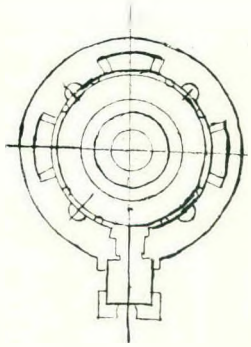
As seen on the diagram, on the long sides of the room, the soffites over the lunettes have gilt grounds, the pendentives being blue and black successively; but at the ends of the room the gold ground is in the pendentive, the soffites being a strong red.

This change is made with the intelligible object of restoring balance, an adjustment which calls for triumphant harmony.

In a side chapel of the church of S. Sisto, at Piacenza, is a very pretty example, to my mind, of the simplest form of division of a low cupola or vault, it is an interesting example in yellow, white and blue, and the yellow is softened and mellowed by a chaste design in black.

These creations all expressed their purpose—the greatest and majesty of the piano-nobile and the pomp and grandeur of the owner, their true expression lies in a quiet disposition of parts, refinement of detail and reposeful effects.





The Capella Pellegrini.

In Peruzzis style we conceive Greek simplicity and elegance, his dispositions are happy, denoting the scholar.

Vignola is bolder and statelier. In Michael

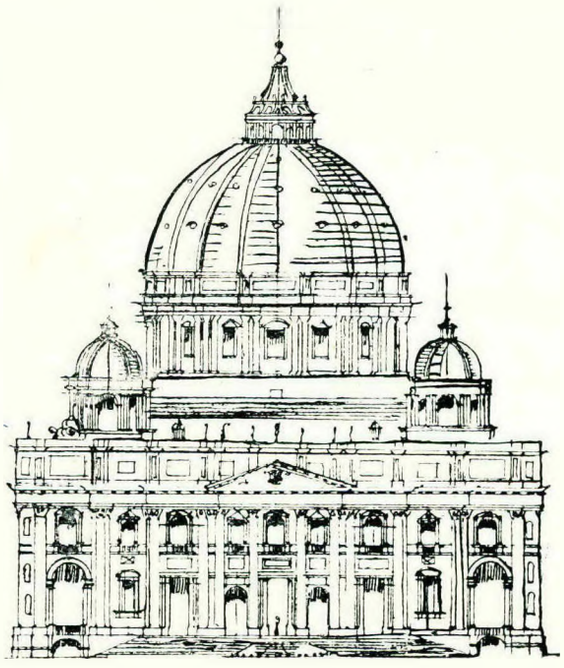
Angelo, there is licence, majesty and grandeur, and fierce effect beyond which it would be dangerous to soar. San Michele is an artist—fancy and elegance are his hall mark, and for beauty and invention his Capella Pellegrini remains one of the most charming things in existence. In all these conceptions there is something positive, convincing and self-conceivable in their proportions, to be likened to the sound of beautiful music. There is Bach, a mass of passion held in magnificent restraint, profuse Mozart, mystical Schuman, Liszt, each exerting these same sensations that the Buildings of the Italian Renaissance exert upon the mind.

* * * *

In the foregoing extracts I have essayed to show, that the living thing in all architecture is rooted in the spirit of active experiment, and it can be attained by a special sense in the artist only, and that the essence of architecture as displayed by the Italian Masters was the use of those indefinable essentials, without which a building degenerates into mere structure.

The architecture of Bramante, of Raphael and of Peruzzi, is as free from the childish prettiness of the work of the Florentine school as that which followed in its wake—Raphaels ruined Villa Madama—Peruzzis Massimi and the Farnesina.

Behind them is discernible, the image of a great and grand Bramante—the vision of S. Peters, ill-starred, unrealised, and rising above the miasmas of the Roman Campagna.



St. Peters, Rome (as completed).

NATAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

The Annual General Meeting of Members of the Natal Institute of Architects was held in the Secretary's office, 18, Field Street Buildings, Field Street, Durban, at 3 o'clock p.m. on Thursday, 12th March, 1925. The President (Mr. W. S. Payne) in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read, by the Secretary, and confirmed.

Before vacating the Presidential Chair, Mr. Payne welcomed the Members present, and gave his Report as follows:—

During the past twelve months there have been seven Council Meetings, and the attendance of Councillors has been very satisfactory.

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 Council from time to time, and, two Conferences with the Electrical Section of the Master Builders' Association have been held, and as a result a form of Specification for Electric Installation in buildings was agreed upon.

It is a matter for regret that owing to lack of support by students the Architectural Classes, inaugurated by the Technical College, were abandoned and Architectural Students in Natal are now without any special facilities for study, Johannesburg and Cape Town are the only two places in the Union where Architectural Classes are carried on.

Building disputes have occupied the attention of the Council during the year, and the Conditions of Contract Agreement in use throughout the Union have been under review, and in this connection Col. Hurst has been nominated as the representative of this Institute to attend a Conference between the Architectural Practice Committee and the National Federation of Building Trades Employers of South Africa, to be held at Johannesburg, on the 17th inst. Col. Hurst will also represent this Institute at the Second Annual Meeting of the Federal Council on Architectural Education to be held in Johannesburg, on the 16th inst. The first Annual Meeting of this Council was held at Cape Town, in January of last year when I had the honour of representing your Institute.

The matter of Registration of the profession is unfortunately still a thing of the future, and one I fear that has not made much progress during the past year, for the Institute has received no communication from the Committee which has this most important matter in hand; but I understand that

quite a deal of good work has been put in by the Committee and that progress will be reported in the near future. The cause of Registration in the Union has also undoubtedly received a set back by the failure of those of the profession in the United Kingdom, who have been striving for this object.

During the year we have enrolled four new Members and the Membership of the Institute now totals Twenty-four and Two Associates.

I very much regret to have to place on record the death of Mr. H. G. Veale, who was a Foundation Member of this Institute, and had represented us on various occasions in Johannesburg.

I wish to draw attention to the admirable and efficient manner in which our Secretary continues to discharge his duties, and also to thank him and members of the Council for their help and support during the year.

The President received the Scrutineers report of votes cast for the Members of the Council for the ensuing year and declared the following gentlemen duly elected:—Messrs. W S. Payne, H. E. Chick, F. J. Ing, G. T. Hurst, Wallace Paton, R. N. Jackson and B. V. Bartholomew.

Mr. H. E. Chick was elected President and Mr. R. N. Jackson, Vice-president, for the ensuing year.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed and accorded Mr. W. S. Payne for his successful year of Presidentship.

Durban,

March, 12th 1925.

Mr. H. Siemerink, having retired from the Public Service, has commenced practice on his own account at the Commercial Union Buildings, 14, Main Street, Port Elizabeth.

Professor G. E. Pearse, of the University of the Witwatersrand, has in course of preparation a book on the work of Mr. Herbert Baker, A.R.A., in South Africa

Mr. Baker, in carrying on the traditions of the old Dutch work at the Cape, has done much to raise the standard of domestic architecture in this country, which has brought it into prominence in other parts of the world.

It is felt that a work of this nature, fully illustrated with plans and photographs, will be of great value to the practitioner and student as well as of interest to the layman.

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ADELAIDE HOUSE.

Adelaide House is situated on the Eastern side of the City approach to London Bridge, having frontages to the Bridge, Lower Thames Street and the River, and is surrounded on all sides by wide open spaces. The position is absolutely unique in the City of London, being in close proximity to the Principal Exchanges, Banks and Insurance Offices, and is served by six railways whose stations are within easy reach.

Adelaide Place is paved with wood blocks and the road at the back of the Building with rubber blocks so that the noise of traffic is reduced to a minimum.

The site area of the premises is 24,300 square feet and there is a total net floor area of over 160,000 square feet. The height of the building is 140 feet.

The Basement and Lower Thames Street Floors are already let. These floors are entirely separated from the upper part of the Building and are entered only from Lower Thames Street level.

The office portion of the premises is approached from Adelaide Place, and has been designed on the most modern lines, and several important lettings have already been effected. Each floor has an area of about 15,000 feet, thus being particularly suitable for Firms requiring large Office accommodation. They can, however, easily be divided to suit the requirements of smaller Tenants.

The main elevations facing the River, Adelaide Place and Lower Thames Street, are finished with an axed granite base and Portland stone above. There is an imposing Main Entrance leading to a public Vestibule, lined with marble and having a marble floor. This is approached from Adelaide Place by a short flight of granite steps, the main supports of the Entrance being massive polished marble columns with three pairs of bronze enriched gates. At the rear of the Entrance Hall is a wide and handsome staircase finished in marble mosaic with dadoes to match.

The Floors are designed to carry over large spans, and the supporting columns being reduced to a minimum, cause but little obstruction to light and air. All floors are concrete, with an air space between the underside and the ceiling which is suspended from same, making each floor practically sound proof, a great improvement upon the old-fashioned solid concrete flooring. The surface of the floors are of polished wood blocks, eliminating the necessity for linoleum or other floor covering. Four express lifts are provided, two of which serve the top floors only, the other two stopping at intermediate floors thus avoiding all unnecessary delay in service. Illuminated indicators on each floor shew the exact position of the lifts. Push buttons have been installed which, when pressed, will show a light on an indicator fixed in each lift. This eliminates the incessant noise caused by the ringing of the bells.

Lavatories are provided on each floor with entirely separate lavatories for Principals, and are of the most modern design and of ample accommodation.

The window frames throughout are of metal, easy of manipulation, and afford a maximum amount of light.

Water is supplied from the Company's own Artesian Wells. An ample supply of hot water is available.

The whole of the Building is centrally heated, and the boilers are oil fuel fired, affording full control of heat and avoiding the dust and dirt consequent on coal firing.

Long distance thermometers will be placed in prominent positions, four on each floor, the readings of each thermometer being automatically recorded on an indicator in the Boiler Room, thus ensuring a uniform temperature throughout the building.

The building is wired for electric lighting, and electric heating mains are carried the full height of the premises so that any Tenant preferring electric heating can take his supply from these mains. A large turbine vacuum cleaning plant has been installed with numerous nozzles on each floor so that the whole building can be efficiently cleaned with a minimum of labour and without unnecessary disturbance. Two letter mailing chutes are provided with apertures on each floor, serving the main letter box in the Entrance Hall, which is cleared by the Postal Authorities several times daily.

Adelaide House, owing to its height and position, is peculiarly suitable for receiving and transmitting wireless messages, and Shipping Firms and others would be given facilities for the erection of aerials if desired.

A portion of the roof is being laid out as a model Putting Green and will be finished with Cumberland Turf. It is also proposed to devote the remainder of the roof to a garden with a Pergola running along the River Frontage.

The result is a strong simple and dignified Building expressing the power and orderliness of modern commerce in a way that no other Building in London does.

This magnificent pile of offices was designed by Sir John Burnet, A.R.A. and Partners, and is most tastefully embellished by examples of the modern Craftsman's art in decorative metal-work which have been carried out by the Birmingham Guild. The wrot iron Entrance Gate and Stair Railing, the Bronze Porter's Box and Screen, Lift Doors, Letter Shoot, Electrical Fittings and all Door Furniture being purpose made.

The gate echoes in its vertical lines the design of the Building as a whole, and has, as an interesting feature, a bronze and enamel Panel with a figure of Queen Adelaide.

WREN SOCIETY.

The first of the annual volumes to be published by the Wren Society is devoted to St. Pauls and contains reproductions of over fifty of the Architects original drawings for the Cathedral taken from the All Souls Collection at Oxford.

From these studies and drawings which range from the slightest of pencil sketches to carefully rendered elevations and sections, can be traced the development of Wren's design through its various stages as represented by the pre-Fire, Warrant and Model scheme. The drawings which are beautifully reproduced in collotype includes number of plans and details which serve to show the tireless search of the artist for a form adequate to the purpose of his great enterprise.

With these plates is printed an interesting catalogue prepared in 1807, by James Elmes, which in spite of manifest inaccuracies and certain doubtful descriptions, remains still the only published Catalogue of the Collection.

Only a limited number of copies have been printed and these can only be obtained through the Society. The annual subscription is One Guinea, payable on the 1st of January, and the Publications of the Society are supplied free to members who can also purchase additional copies if desired Libraries and Institutions are treated as individual members and may be represented by the Librarian or Director for the time being.

The Hon. Secretary of the Society is Mr. H. Duncan Hendry, 43, Doughty Street, London, W.C.1, to whom all communications and applications for membership should be addressed.

Since our last issue two well-known members of the Association in Mr. H. G. Veale and Mr. R. L. McCowat, have died.

Messrs. Cowin, Powers and Ellis, F. & A.R I.B.A., have opened an office in the Southern Life Buildings, Smith Street, Durban, and Mr Alan R. Lawrie, A.R.I.B.A., is in charge.

We are given to understand that a new block of buildings for an Insurance company is to be erected on the site occupied by Robinson Buildings, at the corner of Simmonds Street, Johannesburg.

The sending in date for designs in connection with the Competition for the new Municipal Offices, etc., for the Pietersburg Municipal Council, has been extended to the 15th April, 1925. Mr. Arthur J. Marshall is the Assessor.

CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT.

The Union Architectural Practice Committee and Representatives from the National Federation of Building Trade Employers in South Africa met in Conference at the Scientific Club, Johannesburg, on Thursday, the 19th March, 1925, to consider proposed amendments to the Form of Conditions of Contract.

The meeting was unanimous in an earnest endeavour to equitably revise the document so that it would be acceptable throughout the Union. Quite a number of amendments were definitely accepted, others were accepted pending legal confirmation, and the few items left for further consideration will be dealt with without delay. It is therefore hoped that a document which will stand the test of time over many years will result.

Copies of the Form of Conditions of Contract at present in use may be obtained from the Registrar, price 1s. each.

Mr. A. S. Furner, A.R.I.B.A., has been appointed Senior Lecturer to the Department of Architecture, University of the Witwatersrand. Mr. Furner is at present Lecturer and Studio Instructor at the University of London.



Medallion, in Statuary Marble, of the late Mr. Alan Davidson, founder of the African City Properties, Ltd., erected at the entrance of Davidson Mansions, Eloff Street, Johannesburg. The sculpture was carved out by the Birmingham Guild, Ltd., to the instructions of Mr. F. Williamson, A.R.I.B.A., architect to the A.C.P., Ltd:

Journal of the SA Architectural Institute

PUBLISHER:

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

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