

# THE SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTURAL RECORD

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

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SEPTEMBER, 1931.

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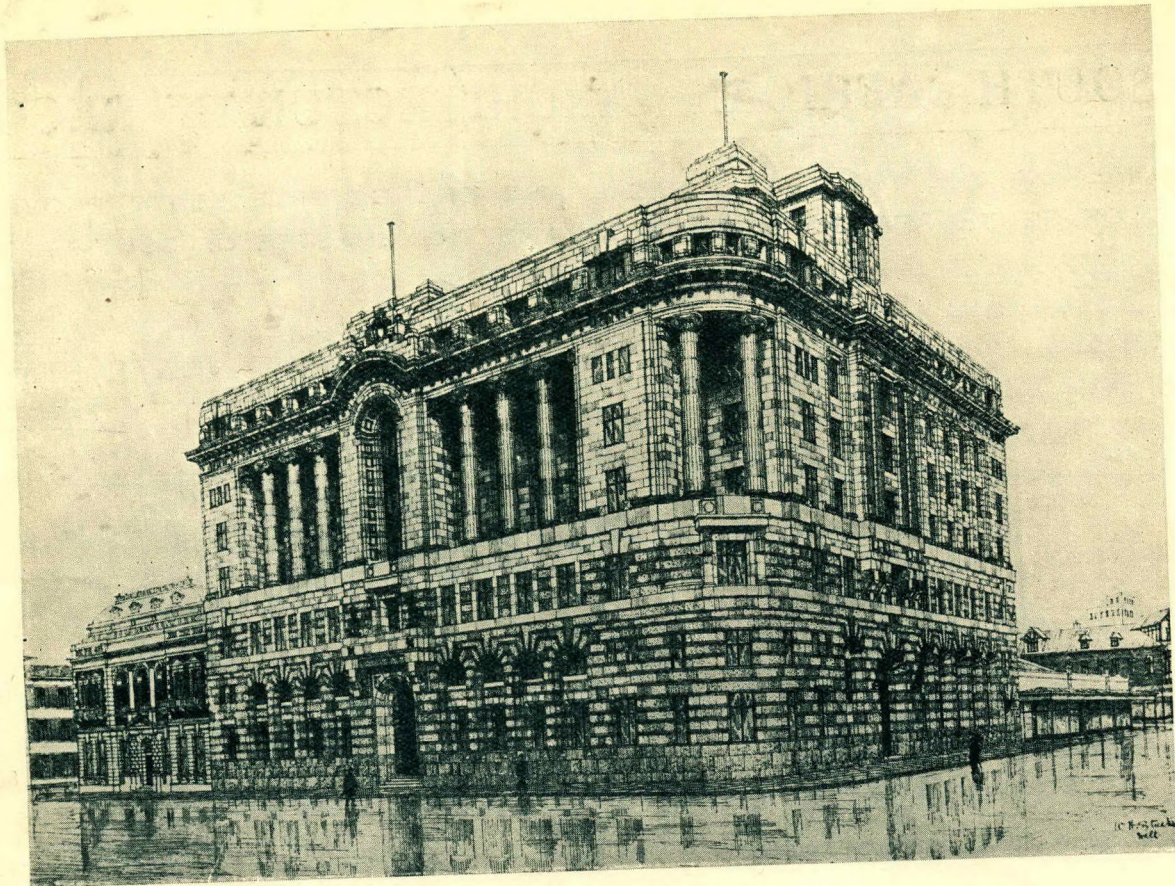
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Hon. Editor—Professor G. E. Pearse.

Business Manager—A. S. Pearse.

67, Exploration Buildings, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg. P.O. Box 2266, Phone 5821.



*New Standard Bank, Pretoria.  
A perspective drawing by the  
late W. H. Stucke.*

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## “THE QUANTITY SURVEYOR.”

\*A PAPER COMPILED BY T. MOORE, F.S.I.

PAST PRESIDENT OF THE CHAPTER OF SOUTH AFRICAN QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

This paper is entitled *The Quantity Surveyor*, but much of the information deals indirectly with the Architect and so may be of interest to the Students who are taking the latter subject and training for the Architectural Profession.

In this paper it is proposed to give briefly the origin of Quantity Surveying, and the reason for Quantities. The work and duties of a Quantity Surveyor; the Title; how governed; qualifications for Enrolment; how to obtain admission to the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors; the Education and Examinations in Quantity Surveying; the Degrees and Diplomas, etc.

*The Origin of the Profession of Quantity Surveying is first dealt with.*—The Quantity Surveying Committee of the Chartered Surveyor's Institution of Great Britain published a pamphlet some few months ago, from which may be quoted:—

“The Profession of the Quantity Surveyor is a distinct calling, which has come into being owing to the customs of inviting several Builders or Contractors to compete for the execution of works and the consequent necessity of supplying them with detailed particulars of the materials and labour required.

“This is done by measuring the work shown on the Architects' drawings, or described in his Specification, and embodying the result in a document called a ‘Bill of Quantities.’ In the latter the quantity of each item is set out in detail; there is also a money column which is left blank for entry by the Builder of his prices and totals. In this manner he arrives at the estimate on which his tender is based.

“The Quantity Surveyor must, therefore, possess a thorough knowledge of Building Construction and the ramifications of the Building Trade to enable him correctly to construe the drawings and specifications.

“The duties of a Quantity Surveyor (who has been well defined as a ‘Technical Accountant’) in connection with a building contract are to prepare the Bills of

Quantities, as referred to above, to value the work in progress, and report thereon for payments on account, to measure and value the variations which may arise during the progress of the work, and to advise as to the amount payable by the Building Owner to the Contractor on completion of the work.

“In any industry the important factor towards the attainment of prosperity is the elimination of waste, and it is in this direction that the usefulness of a Quantity Surveyor to a great industry, that of Building, has been proved. The utilization of his services is, in fact, nothing else than a step towards rationalisation.

“There has been a gradual evolution in the method of obtaining competitive tenders. At first each competing Contractor himself took off the Quantities or employed a Surveyor to do so. If there were a dozen competitors the work of eleven was wasted, an uneconomic state of affairs, for which indirectly the building public had to pay. Moreover, unless the drawings were unusually complete and the Specification unusually definite, there might be a dozen different interpretations of those documents with resultant disputes as to their real meaning. The next step was that of Contractors agreeing among themselves to employ one Surveyor to prepare the Bill of Quantities for all of them, his fee being paid by the successful competitor.”

In parenthesis; this was the origin of the Quantity Surveyor's fees being included in the Bill of Quantities, coupled with the clause to the effect that the fees were to be paid by the Contractor on receipt of the first instalment—the Quantity Surveyor being engaged by the Contractor, this was an agreement between these two parties and had nothing to do with the Building Owner or the Architect.

To continue the quotation:—

“Gradually that system changed into the one now prevailing, under which the Architect appoints the Surveyor on behalf of his Client, who as a rule leaves the selection to him. While the Architect has no actual prerogative to decide who shall be appointed, private

\*Read at the Architectural Students Society, University of Witwatersrand, August 21st, 1931.

Clients seldom have any preference, although public bodies as a rule keep the appointment in their own hands. Under the usual form of building contract to-day the Building Owner and the Contractor agree that variations which may arise on the contract shall be settled by the Surveyor named therein acting as Quasi-Arbitrator.

"In the settlement of variations, Bills of Quantities are invaluable, providing as they do an agreed schedule of rates for the valuation of items added to or omitted from the contract."

*Elimination of Disputes.*—In order to eliminate, as far as possible, disputes as to the real meaning of the various items in Bills of Quantities, the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors compiled and published in 1913 a *Standard System of Measuring Builder's Work in South Africa*. The National Federation of Building Trade Employers of South Africa expressed its agreement with and approval of the System and of its universal adoption throughout South Africa. This Standard System eliminated what was once a fruitful cause of disagreement and its resulting waste of time, temper and energy.

This Standard System is now generally adopted by all Quantity Surveyors in the Union.

The pamphlet goes on to state:—

"It has already been stated that the usefulness of a Quantity Surveyor lies in his saving of time and money to the Building Owner, who is ready to pay for what he gets and the Contractor, who asks only to be paid for what he gives.

"The advantages to the Building Owner are:—

- "1. He is provided from the outset with the closest possible estimate of the work.
- "2. He will have to pay only for the fair value for any variations he may require to be made from the contract during the progress of the work.

"The advantages to the Contractor are:—

- "1. He is spared the waste of time and money involved in preparing his own Bills of Quantities.
- "2. He competes upon the same basis as others, and his risks are defined.
- "3. Disputes are prevented by the employment of a Technical Expert, who will embody in terms of a Bill of Quantities, the Client's requirements as shown on the drawings and Specification.

"Obviously therefore, all parties to a building contract stand to benefit by the employment of a Quantity Surveyor."

The pamphlet again continues:—

"The following extract from page eleven of the Interim Report of the Building Industry Council of Review of which the Right Hon. Lord Amrulree, K.C., was President, in dealing with the work of the Quantity Surveyor, confirms from an authoritative and independent source the statements contained in the before mentioned pamphlet and states:—

"The Committee was impressed by evidence which indicated that the industry does not at present receive the full benefit of the training and experience of Quantity Surveyors."

"The duties and status of the Quantity Surveyor could with advantage be defined more clearly.

He is tending more and more to become the Technician of the industry, as well as the Technical Adviser and the Accountant. In present practice, however, his special knowledge is largely wasted in the advisory stage of the preparation of a Building Scheme.

"It is felt therefore, that in the interests of the Building Owner the collaboration of the Architect and the Quantity Surveyor at the earliest possible stage in any proposed building work, should be encouraged. Not only does the Quantity Surveyor possess a highly specialized knowledge of the technical side of the building but he has a wide experience of the cost of materials and of market conditions."

*The Quantity Surveyor's Association, Great Britain.*

—In 1905 was formed in London The Quantity Surveyors' Association (now incorporated with The Chartered Surveyors' Institution of Great Britain). On December 6th, 1905, Mr. F. B. Hollis, the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Association read a paper on the subject now being dealt with.

An extract from the paper stated a Quantity Surveyor was a man having:—

- "(i) An expert knowledge of Building Construction in all its branches.
- "(ii) A knowledge of the mode of measurement of cubical, superficial, lineal and numerical items of the various trades and artificer's work employed in the erection and completion of buildings together with the values thereof.
- "(iii) A knowledge of the Building Act or Acts or Local Bye-Laws, which may legally govern the various stages which the building will occupy from inspection to completion.
- "(iv) Such knowledge of the various styles and orders of Architecture and its parts as may enable him to truly describe the particular details of the work.
- "(v) An intimate acquaintance with modern Sanitary Laws and requirements, the Law of Dilapidations, arbitrations, compensations, light and air, and other easements with respect to public or private buildings and the value of property for mortgage and other purposes, and lastly a comprehensive grasp of the nature of the work to be done which with strict accuracy and method in his procedure may enable him to place before the Builder, Bills of the exact Quantities of all materials and labour required to be provided, from which the cost of the particular structure with which he is dealing may be clearly estimated."

Further to the foregoing statements contained in the pamphlet published by the Chartered Surveyors' Institution of Great Britain you must refer to *Hudson on Building Contracts* wherein it states:—

"Quantities are necessary because of the number of works for which a Builder is asked to tender, the intricacy of building work and the consequent time and expense necessary in preparing estimates. If a Builder were to take out Quantities for each work in which he was asked to tender he would require a staff to perform

the work for which he would get no return except in cases where he was the accepted tenderer, and that would not recompense him for work performed in preparing Quantities in cases where he was not accepted. Builders, therefore, as a rule, refuse to tender for work of importance without being supplied with Quantities.

"Further the Bills of Quantities so supplied are of enormous value to the Building Owner. By means of the Bills of Quantities the Quantity Surveyor knows exactly the details of the Builder's tender and is able to adjust the variations and deal with the extras on the basis of the Bills of Quantities and prices supplied.

"The whole system tends to eliminate waste in competition and to avoid disputes in settling contracts.

"The duties of Quantity Surveyors are not merely to calculate and summarize known figures, like an Accountant, but he must have a thorough knowledge of the Building Trade and also of Architecture, so as to enable him to construe the meaning of drawings and specifications furnished by the Architect, to take his measurements correctly therefrom and calculate and describe every particular item of work required. The figures thus ascertained by judgment and skill, then become the basis of mechanical but elaborate calculation.

"The work of the Quantity Surveyor does not stop with the preparation of the Bills of Quantities. He has to examine the priced schedules deposited by the Builder and adjust the contract at its conclusion. He needs to have a knowledge of building prices and conditions of the various trades. His measurements must be taken so that he can tell what is measured in any part of the building at any time on demand of either Architect or Builder. He must have a thorough knowledge of construction, be acquainted with the Regulations covering buildings and by virtue of his position generally in the contract he must be a man of integrity as all financial matters in connection with the contract pass through his hands. On account of the special qualifications in this regard Quantity Surveyors are frequently employed to arbitrate in building disputes and are called in by the Court as Referees. A knowledge of Arbitration Law and proceedings is therefore necessary."

All the foregoing go to show that accuracy is the essence of the work, Quantity Surveying being an exact science.

"In the Union the Federation of Master Builders has laid it down that no Member of the Federation shall tender for work exceeding £1,500 without Quantities."

*Title of Quantity Surveyor.*—It will be seen by reference to the *Architect and Quantity Surveyors (Private) Act No. 18 of 1927, Section 2*, that a:—

"Quantity Surveyor" means a person enrolled as a Member of the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors in terms of this Act.

"Work of Quantity Surveyor" means the measurement of or preparation of Bills of Quantities for work in connection with buildings or works accessory thereto.

"The Chapter" means the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors as by this Act established.

"The Board" means the Board of the Quantity Surveyors Chapter.

"The Roll" means the list of Quantity Surveyors enrolled as Members of the Chapter."

In Section 3, Sub-section (i).

"After the expiration of six months from the commencement of this Act no person unless he is in terms of this Act enrolled as a Quantity Surveyor, shall

"(a) describe or hold himself out as a Quantity Surveyor anywhere within the Union, or

"(b) by advertisement, description, document or other means use any such name, title, addition, description or letters as to indicate that he is a Quantity Surveyor"

and Section 4 says:

"any person contravening any of the provisions of section three shall be guilty of an offence and liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds for each offence."

*How Quantity Surveyors are Governed in the Union.*—Quantity Surveyors in the Union are governed by the provisions of the *Architects and Quantity Surveyors (Private) Act No. 18 of 1927.*

This Act became law on 20th June, 1927, and further governed by the Regulations which became law on the 14th April, 1928, and were amended by the Minister of Education on May 9th, 1930.

Regulation 3 lays down that:

"The Chapter shall be managed by a Board elected as laid down in the Regulations."

Regulation 7:

"The Board shall consist of not more than twelve Members to be elected annually out of and by Members of the Chapter, provided that a majority of the Board shall consist of Practising Members practising solely as Quantity Surveyors and that not more than one third may be salaried Members."

Note.—(The Board as at present constituted consists of nine Members—five Practising Members practising solely as Quantity Surveyors, one Dual Capacity Member and three Salaried Members).

The Board has complete control of Quantity Surveyors and Quantity Surveying with the exception of the items entered under Regulation 27, and which reads:

"A general meeting shall have the right:—

"(a) to suggest new Regulations or amendments to Regulations for the consideration of the Board;

"(b) to appoint one or more Auditors and fix the remuneration if any;

"(c) to deliberate and make suggestions to the Board as to any course not inconsistent with the Act;

"(d) to elect the Board;

"(e) to consider and, if approved, to adopt the financial statement and balance sheet."

Regulation 12 says:

"No Member of the Chapter shall take part in any General Meeting of the Chapter if his subscription is in arrear or if any fine inflicted upon him under these Regulations remains unpaid."

The foregoing is supplemented by Regulation 103:

"Any fine inflicted under Regulation 96 of these Regulations and all annual subscriptions and any special levy shall be a debt due by the Members to the Board and the Board may recover same by legal process and the Board shall be bound to sue for same in case the said Member takes part in any Meeting of the Central Council, Institute, Chapter or of a Committee thereof."

From the foregoing it will be seen that a Member in order to take any active part in the working of the Chapter must pay his subscription (Regulation 12).

Unless he does so he cannot take part in any General Meeting consequently cannot vote. Moreover if he attends any Meeting, see Regulation 103, the Board has no option but to sue for any sums due.

*Qualifications for Enrolment as a Quantity Surveyor.*—This is dealt with in Clause 13 of the Act under "Qualifications for Inaugural Enrolment" but this Clause has now no effect, the Inaugural Board having been dissolved in accordance with Section 19 of the Act.

Clause 14 of the Act lays down "Qualifications for Membership" as follows:—

14 "(1) After the expiration of six months from the commencement of this Act no person shall be entitled to be enrolled as a Quantity Surveyor unless he proves to the satisfaction of the majority of the whole of the Board that

14 "(1) (a) he has passed a qualifying examination approved by the Minister, and has had not less than four years practical training or articulated pupilage in addition to one year's professional experience under an Architect or Quantity Surveyor, or has had five years similar professional experience with the Union Government, The South African Railways and Harbours Administration, a Provincial Administration or a Local Authority; or

14 "(1) (b) prior to the commencement of this Act he was registered as a Member of the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors or any other Institute or Society of Quantity Surveyors which the Minister may declare by proclamation in the Gazette to be of standing equal thereto; or

14 "(1) (c) was admitted a Member of the Chapter under the provisions of Section thirteen of this Act; or

14 "(1) (d) was an Assistant or Articled Pupil to a Quantity Surveyor in the Union for a period of two years prior to the commencement of this Act, and has passed such Modified Examinations as the Minister may determine.

14 "(2) The Examination referred to in Sub-Section (1) shall not be conducted by the Chapter or the Board but may be conducted by an authority approved of by the Minister after consultation with the Board."

15 This refers as in Section 13 to Inaugural Enrolment only and has now no effect.

Dealing with Section 14 of the Act the important points are:—first in Sub-Section (1) the Candidate for enrolment "must prove to satisfaction of the majority of the whole of the Board" that he has the qualifications called for under 14 (1) (a), (b), (c), (d).

The Minister has now approved of the Universities of Cape Town and the Witwatersrand jointly as "the Examining Authority" in terms of Section 14 (2) of the Act to conduct the examinations referred to in 14 (1) (a) and (b) above.

The Minister has also approved the Intermediate Examination of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution, Great Britain as a qualifying examination in terms of Section 14 (1) (a) of the Act.

*How to Obtain Admission to the Chapter.*—Persons who are desirous of obtaining admission to the Chapter, that is, to become enrolled as a Member of the Chapter, have first to consider which Sub-Section of Section 14 of the Act is applicable. If under 14 (1) (a) or (b) by

sitting for examinations applications must be made to the Registrar of either the University of Witwatersrand, P.O. 1176, Johannesburg, or the University of Cape Town, Cape Town.

If under 14 (1) (c) or (d) application must be made in the first instance to the Secretary of the Chapter, Stanley House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

Persons whose cases are not covered by Section 14 (1) (a) (b) (c) or (d) and who can satisfy the Board that they have had at least five years professional training and experience will be required to pass a Special Qualifying Examination (which is in effect a Modified Examination). Application should be made to the Secretary of the Chapter as above.

By reference to page 21 of the 1931-32 Year Book of the Institute it will be seen the Central Council has appointed a Standing Committee on Education and Examinations. This Committee has drawn up regulations for the Examinations for Candidates for Enrolment as Members of the Chapter.

*By Degree or Diploma.*—The Universities have laid down the following regulations:—

(1) *Internal Students.*

"(a) Entrance qualification for the Diploma to be the Matriculation Certificate of the Joint Matriculation Board, or a certificate of exemption issued by that Board, or an approval secondary school leaving certificate, or a certificate approved by the Senate for this purpose. The Senate of each University to have power to exempt from the entrance qualification for the Diploma any Candidate who in its opinion has special qualifications for admission to the course and who is recommended by the Central Council of the Institute of South African Architects.

"(b) Every Candidate to attend recognised courses at the University for at least three years for the Diploma.

"(c) University Examinations to be held at the end of each of the three years of the curriculum for the Diploma.

"(d) There is to be as far as practicable a reciprocity between the two Universities in the appointments of Examiners for the prescribed examinations and it is to be accepted as a *sine qua non* that not fewer than two Examiners are to be appointed for each subject for the Final Examination of whom at least one Examiner is to be a Member of the Staff of the other University. The Examiners for the Final Examination are to be constituted a Board of Examiners to report on the work of the Candidates in the Final Examination as a whole.

"(e) The course of training for the Diploma awarded by each of the two Universities to be recognised as of equivalent content and standard and to be recommended for approval by the Minister of Education as a qualifying examination under Section 14 (1) (a) of the Act.

(2) *External Students.*

"(a) Provision to be made for External Students who have the entrance qualifications demanded of Internal Students to be accepted as Candidates for the ordinary examinations for the Diploma.

"(b) External Students who complete the prescribed examinations to be awarded certificates signed by the Dean of the Faculty and Executive Officers of the University in which the course for

the Diploma is given, and these certificates to be recommended for acceptance in lieu of the ordinary University Diploma for the purpose of Enrolment as a Quantity Surveyor.

"(c) External Students to be allowed to write the examinations at any approved centre in the Union of South Africa.

"(d) External Students to be allowed to take the examinations in two stages, the first stage to be at the end of the first year. A Candidate shall not be admitted to the Final Examination until at least two years after completing the Examination at the end of the first year.

"(e) The total examination fees payable by External Students to be the same as those for Internal Students, viz. £3 for the first year and £8 for the final year, in addition to any fee for invigilation at a local centre.

"(f) Candidates of 25 years of age or over who produce evidence of having completed in any Country outside the Union of South Africa a course of training accepted by the Senates of the Universities of Cape Town and Witwatersrand as equivalent to that for the Diploma and who are recommended by the Board of the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors, to be accepted as Candidates for the Final Examination upon payment of a fee of £25 for the first time of entry and £5 per subject for each subsequent examination, in addition to any fee for invigilation at a local centre. A Candidate who passes the examination to be given the certificate mentioned in 2 (b).

"(g) The Board of Examiners mentioned in (1) (d) to have authority to require any Candidate to appear before it personally for oral examination."

(3) *Modified Examinations.* This examination is not for Students of the Universities but for persons coming under the provisions of Section 14 (1).

"(a) The Modified Examination provided for in Section 14 (1) (d) of the Act to be conducted jointly by the two Universities and to be held once a year at the same time as the ordinary University examinations.

"(b) Candidates to be allowed to write the Modified Examination at any approved centre in the Union of South Africa.

"(c) The fee payable by each Candidate for the Modified Examination to be £25 for the first time of entry, and £5 per subject for each subsequent examination in addition to any fee for invigilation at a local centre.

"(d) The subjects of the Modified Examination to be:—

- (i) Quantities;
- (ii) Construction;
- (iii) Hygiene;
- (iv) Specifications;
- (v) Building materials;
- (vi) Professional Practice.

"(e) The certificate awarded to a Candidate who completes the Modified Examination to be signed jointly by the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of the Witwatersrand and the Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Cape Town and the Executive Officers of each University, and this certificate to be recommended for recognition for the purpose of enrolment as a Quantity Surveyor."

*Modified Examinations but for Candidates from Countries outside the Union.*

3. "(f) Candidates from Countries outside the Union of South Africa who have complied with the terms of Section 14 (1) (a) of the Act in respect of training and practical experience and, in the opinion of the Central Council, shall be permitted to sit for a Modified Examination such as is laid down in Section 14 (1) (d) of the Act.

"(g) The examination fees for such qualifying examination shall be as laid down in 3 (c)."

*Quantity Surveying Educational Facilities.*

The Institute's Year Book 1931-32 page 101 gives the educational facilities in the Union.

The Minister of Education has approved the University of Capetown and the University of Witwatersrand jointly as the Examining Body under the Act.

Courses in Quantity Surveying are provided at the University of the Witwatersrand extending over five years and leading to a degree (B.Sc. Quantity Surveying) and extending over three and four years for Diplomas.

In Pretoria courses are conducted at the University of Pretoria leading to Diplomas in Quantity Surveying granted by the University of the Witwatersrand.

All the above courses are recognised for the purposes of enrolment under the Act.

*The Chartered Surveyors' Institution of Great Britain.* The Council of the (then) Surveyors' Institution on the 5th March, 1929, cordially approved of the affiliation of the Chapter to succeed that of the former South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors.

There are three Chartered Surveyors' Institution Examinations conducted in South Africa annually, i.e., the Preliminary Examination held early in January each year; the Intermediate Examination held in March; and the Final Examination held in March of each year.

In view of the vast distances of the various centres in South Africa, it has now been agreed to hold these examinations at the centres most suitable to the Candidates entering. This can, of course, only be done where Candidates advise the Board of the Chapter in due time to make such arrangement. All intending Candidates for the Chartered Surveyors' Institution examinations should therefore advise the Secretary of the Chapter, at the earliest opportunity, of their intention to sit for these examinations. Any information required in this respect will be gladly furnished by the Secretary.

The Chartered Surveyors' Institution has agreed to exempt from its Intermediate Examination those South African Students who have taken the three year Diploma in Quantity Surveying of the University of Witwatersrand.

*Proposed New Courses in Quantity Surveying.*—The Board of the Chapter hopes shortly to be able to announce the formal approval of the Honourable the Minister of Education to the formation of a five year Degree Course, and a four year Diploma Course in Quantity Surveying, at the University of the Witwatersrand, in substitution of the existing three year Diploma Course.

The proposed Five Year and Four Year Courses will be of the standard of the Final Examination of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution.

*Prizes for Quantity Surveying Students.*—In South Africa Quantity Surveying Courses are offered by the Universities of the Witwatersrand and Pretoria. The

Board of the Chapter, as an encouragement to Quantity Surveying Students offers annually three prizes: a book prize, value one guinea, to the most successful First-Year Student; a book prize, value two guineas to the most successful Second-Year Student; and a gold medal to the most successful Third-Year Student.

*Register of Students.*—In Regulation 67 pursuant to the Architects' and Quantity Surveyors' Private Act of 1927, the Central Council of the Institute is vested with the following powers:—

"To direct and co-ordinate architectural and quantity surveying education for the Provincial Institutes and the Chapter; to open and keep a register and record of all students undergoing architectural or quantity surveying training; to found, grant, accept or administer scholarships, bursaries and prizes; to encourage and direct Students in Architecture and Quantity Surveying; to conduct, assist or encourage architectural and quantity surveying research, and to publish the results."

With the wish to encourage and promote a professional interest in Quantity Surveying, a register of Students is compiled. Only those Students who have Matriculated or who have obtained through the Central Council exemption from Matriculation, are eligible for inclusion in this Register.

Students so registered shall be entitled to attend all general meetings of the Chapter of Quantity Surveyors (Johannesburg and Pretoria, with local Committee centres at Capetown and Durban); and Congresses of the Institute. Students should make the fullest use of this facility, for not only will it enable them to keep in touch with and to learn much from their professional seniors, but it will act as a stepping stone to their own subsequent Membership of the Chapter.

Registered Students shall be entitled to obtain all publications of the Central Council of the Institute and the Chapter.

Inquiries from the Students on the subject of Quantity Surveying educational facilities, examinations, etc., may at all times be addressed to the Secretary of the Chapter, 99/100, Stanley House, Johannesburg.

*Quantity Surveyors' Charges are set out in Regulation 98 and are as follows:*—In absence of special agreement where engaged otherwise than on a salary, a Quantity Surveyor shall be entitled to remuneration for his services as follows:—

The fees are in all cases exclusive of travelling, and subsistence and other disbursements, copies of documents and printing, typing or duplicating.

(1) Preparing Bills of Quantities:—

"(a) Measuring from drawings and specification and preparing Bills of Quantities, two and a half per cent.

"(b) In cases of alterations and additions to existing buildings an additional charge to be made according to the nature of the work.

"(c) When Bills of Quantities are prepared for several distinct works, being a repetition of one design, the fee of two and a half per cent. shall be charged on one complete work so repeated and a fee of half per cent. shall be charged on each repetition of the design constructed, provided that all works or portions of works remeasured shall be charged for at the full rate of two and a half per cent.

"This arrangement does not apply to the duplication of portions of the same work, in which case the full commissions shall be charged on the total cost.

"(d) Alternative estimates to be charged at the rate of two and half per cent. on the gross additions and one and a half per cent. on the gross omissions.

"(e) Measuring from drawings and specification and preparing Bills of Quantities of labour only or materials only, the fee to be double the foregoing rates.

"(f) In cases where any of the labour or materials used are supplied free to the Contractor, the foregoing percentage charges to be made on the value thereof.

"(g) The fee to be paid on the amount of the accepted tender, should no tender be received or accepted, then a fair valuation shall be taken as a basis of payment.

"(h) In the case of work being abandoned, stopped or delayed during the preparation of the Bill of Quantities, the Quantity Surveyor shall be entitled to the foregoing fee in full or part in proportion to the amount of the work done by the Quantity Surveyor. In case of works being similarly stopped, delayed or abandoned after the completion of the Bill of Quantities, the Quantity Surveyor shall be entitled to the foregoing fee in full within three months of such completion of his work."

(2) Measuring from completed work:—

"Measuring from completed works and preparing Bills of Quantities, three per cent."

(3) Measuring for and making up accounts:—

"Measuring for and making up accounts of variations upon contracts, including pricing: three per cent. upon the value of the gross addition and one and a half per cent. upon the value of the gross omission."

(4) Inspecting works:—

"Inspecting works in progress for which he had not taken out the quantities, taking particulars and reporting for interim certificates: half per cent. upon the amount of certificate."

(5) Valuing buildings:—

"The charges for making approximate estimates of existing or contemplated buildings where values can be ascertained sufficiently nearly by 'cubing': For the first £5,000 or part thereof: five guineas; for every additional £1,000: one guinea."

(6) Time charges:—

"Where works are of such a character that percentage or other stated charges are clearly inapplicable, time charges shall be made at a rate of one guinea per hour or part thereof with a minimum charge of three guineas."

(7) Attendance at Arbitrations, etc:—

"The above scale of time charges shall apply for qualifying to give evidence, settling proofs, attendance before arbitrators, and for other services in connection with litigation and arbitration."

(8) Acting as Arbitrator, etc.:—

"For acting as Arbitrator, the fee shall be two guineas per hour, with a minimum of six guineas."

For acting as Umpire or sole Arbitrator, the fee shall be double the foregoing."

There are several important points to be noted in connection with the charges:—

The first and most important is the heading of this Regulation 98, which says the charges laid down are applicable only in the absence of special agreement. That is to say if no other agreement is proven the Courts will award the fees under Regulation 98.

Secondly in the case of abandoned, stopped or delayed work the Quantity Surveyor is entitled to his fees within three months see Regulation 98, sub-section (1) (h).

Regulation 98 sub-section 6 deals with time charges where the works are of such a character that percentage or other stated charges are inapplicable.

The Central Council of the Institute propose adding a new section as follows:—

"If the work is at such a distance as to lead to an exceptional expenditure of time in travelling, an additional charge may be made under sub-section 6."

Regulation 98 sub-section 7 gives the charges applying to disputes, etc., but it must be borne in mind when giving evidence in Law Courts only the fees laid down by the Minister for Justice are payable—Quantity Surveyors come under the scale of professional fees.

*Fees Payable on Enrolment and Subscriptions.*—Regulation 99 states with every application for enrolment there shall be paid a fee of Ten Guineas as provided in Regulation No. 38.

Regulation 100 states each Member of the Chapter shall pay an annual subscription as provided in Regulation No. 36; i.e.:

- (1) Five Guineas for Practising Members.
- (2) Three Guineas for Salaried Members,
- (3) One Guinea for Retired Members,

provided that if a Member joins after the 30th June in any year he shall be liable for only half the amount of the annual subscription.

*Unprofessional Conduct.*—In this country, where Quantity Surveying is a comparatively new profession, professional conduct has to be carefully considered. We have to formulate our own traditions, habits of practice, etc. The older practitioners must by example show the younger Members and the Students what is right. At one Annual Prize Giving at which I had the honour to address the Students I pointed out that you must learn and observe the traditions of an honoured profession, not try to learn the tricks of a trade.

Regulation 89 deals with Unprofessional Conduct and these are the salient points:—

"(a) To engage directly or indirectly in any of the building trades either as Principal (except as owner of the building to be erected) or in a salaried capacity;

"(b) to accept any dishonest commission in any form whatsoever.

"(d) to issue any Bill of Quantities, Certificate or Final Account or similar work performed by himself, or by some person in his employ; unless the same bears his name and address.

"(e) to share or agree to share fees or enter into partnership in regard to Architectural or Quantity Surveying work with any person not registered as Member of the Institute or enrolled as a Member of

the Chapter respectively. Provided that nothing herein shall be deemed to prevent an Architect from entering into partnership with a Quantity Surveyor or either an Architect or Quantity Surveyor entering into partnership with a Land Surveyor or a Corporate Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, the Institute of Municipal and County Engineers, the S.A. Institute of Engineers. "(j) for any Quantity Surveyor, wilfully to destroy or fail without a satisfactory reason to produce his original dimensions, abstracts, draft bill and any other documentary evidence necessary to verify his Bills of Quantities, until twelve months after the final completion of the Contract and settlement of all accounts.

"(k) knowingly to undertake a commission while the claim for compensation or damages, or both, of a Quantity Surveyor previously employed and whose employment has been terminated remains unsatisfied, unless security for the due satisfaction of any award or judgment, which may be made or given in favour of the said Quantity Surveyor, has been given. The first named Quantity Surveyor may report the matter to his Board and if it has reasonable grounds for not being satisfied with the security it may forbid the second Quantity Surveyor to proceed with the work and if he nevertheless proceeds with the work this shall be considered Unprofessional Conduct.

"(l) to deviate from charging less than the charges laid down in Regulation No. 98 of these Regulations without notifying the Board of his intention to do so and the extent of such deviation.

"(m) to obtain or attempt to obtain Quantity Surveying work by means of offering or paying monetary or other valuable consideration or inducement to any person or persons, or by any other improper means;

"(n) to tout for or otherwise improperly obtain or attempt to obtain professional work.

"(o) to advertise in any form disapproved by the Central Council and of which disapproval, notice has been given to him.

"(p) for a Member of the salaried class to do the work of a Quantity Surveyor for remuneration except for the person, firm or institution by whom he is employed on a salaried basis;

"(q) knowingly to contravene the provisions of this Act of these Regulations;

"(r) knowingly to act unfairly against the interests of any party to a Building Contract in which his name appears;

"(s) competing in any unfair or dishonest manner with a fellow Quantity Surveyor;

"(t) for a Quantity Surveyor to enter into any form of partnership with an Architect or Quantity Surveyor without disclosing the fact to the Board;

"(v) to conduct himself dishonestly in connection with the work performed by him as a Quantity Surveyor;

"(w) for a Member of the retired class to do the work of a Quantity Surveyor for remuneration within the Union;

"(x) for a Quantity Surveyor acting in a consultative capacity over work for which another Quantity Surveyor is employed, and whose services are afterwards dispensed with, to carry out the work;

"(y) for a Quantity Surveyor to enter into articles with a Student or Pupil who has not passed the Matriculation Examination of the Joint Matriculation Board, or is not in possession of a certificate of exemption from that examination issued by the Board, until such Student or Pupil has been approved by the Standing Committee on Education and Examination."

There is also Regulation 89 (u) which has direct bearing upon Quantity Surveyors but only relates to Architects, i.e.:

"For a Member of the Institute (that is an Architect) who is not a member of the Chapter (that is, not enrolled as a Quantity Surveyor) to pay a Quantity Surveyor less than the fees set forth in the schedule without informing the Board."

*Architects' Responsibilities to the Quantity Surveyor.*—In conclusion I may mention that Architects have certain responsibilities towards the Quantity Surveyor and in my opinion should furnish him with all such information as he may reasonably require includ-

ing Plans, Details and Specifications, Conditions of Contract and other matters to enable him to take out Quantities and prepare Bills of Quantities thereof; and the Architect should supply the Quantity Surveyor with all information as may be reasonably necessary for the purpose of adjusting the Variations and making out the Final Account.

This is a long paper, crowded with facts and figures; also containing many quotations from papers read by other Quantity Surveyors and extracts from the Act and Regulations, so perhaps rather confusing to follow. For this reason I wish to inform the Students and others present that it will give me the greatest pleasure to forward a copy of this paper upon application to either myself or the Secretary of the Chapter.

There is nothing new in this paper, the principles are simple, the extracts from Regulations are obvious. But I am convinced they are not sufficiently and widely known or appreciated and I hope this paper will serve to draw attention to them and stimulate interest and for their practical application.

## THE KLIPSPRUIT TOWN PLANNING COMPETITION.

Town Planning Competitions in this country are comparatively rare and the recent Klipspruit Competition is one of the most interesting held for some years.

The object of the promoters, the City Council of Johannesburg, was to obtain a lay-out of a large area of ground to the south west of Johannesburg, some 3,500 acres in extent, as a Model Native Township.

In this they are to be heartily congratulated as showing their keen interest in native welfare and their desire to break away from the somewhat stereotyped tradition of Town Planning in South Africa.

The site is cut in two lengthwise from North to South by the railway line from Johannesburg to Vereeniging, and Klipspruit running almost parallel with the railway on the West.

That portion of the site lying to the east has a comparatively easy fall towards the railway on the west and to a spruit which runs along the southern boundary. The western portion of the site is divided into two main sections, separated by two slight folds in the ground, and rising, in some parts fairly rapidly, from the Spruit.

The gradient from the spruit to the railway is fairly steep in its whole length. The south west corner of the site adjoining Nancefield station is comparatively flat and consists chiefly of agricultural land.

The main road from Johannesburg enters the eastern portion of the township at its Northern boundary. To the South is the Johannesburg—Potchefstroom main road from which the township can be entered at two points, the South Eastern corner and along the Eastern side of the railway at Nancefield Station.

The existing railway station of Nancefield lies at the South Western end of the township and a site has been provided for a new station centrally situated.

Competitors were required to submit at least three drawings one of the general layout to a scale of 1:5,000, one giving details of any important features in the layout to a scale of 200 feet to an inch and one detail drawing of the recreation ground with sections to a scale of 50 feet to an inch. The latter appears to be quite unnecessary and one cannot help expressing the hope that in future competitions, competitors will not be required to submit detailed drawings of this nature.

It is obvious that the majority of the competitors did not seriously consider this requirement which would have to be considerably amended in the final layout to suit the needs of the population. Apart from this the conditions appear to be very fair and reasonable. The assessor was Mr. Harold Porter, L.R.I.B.A., President of the Town Planning Association (Transvaal), whose task was no easy one and who made the following awards:—

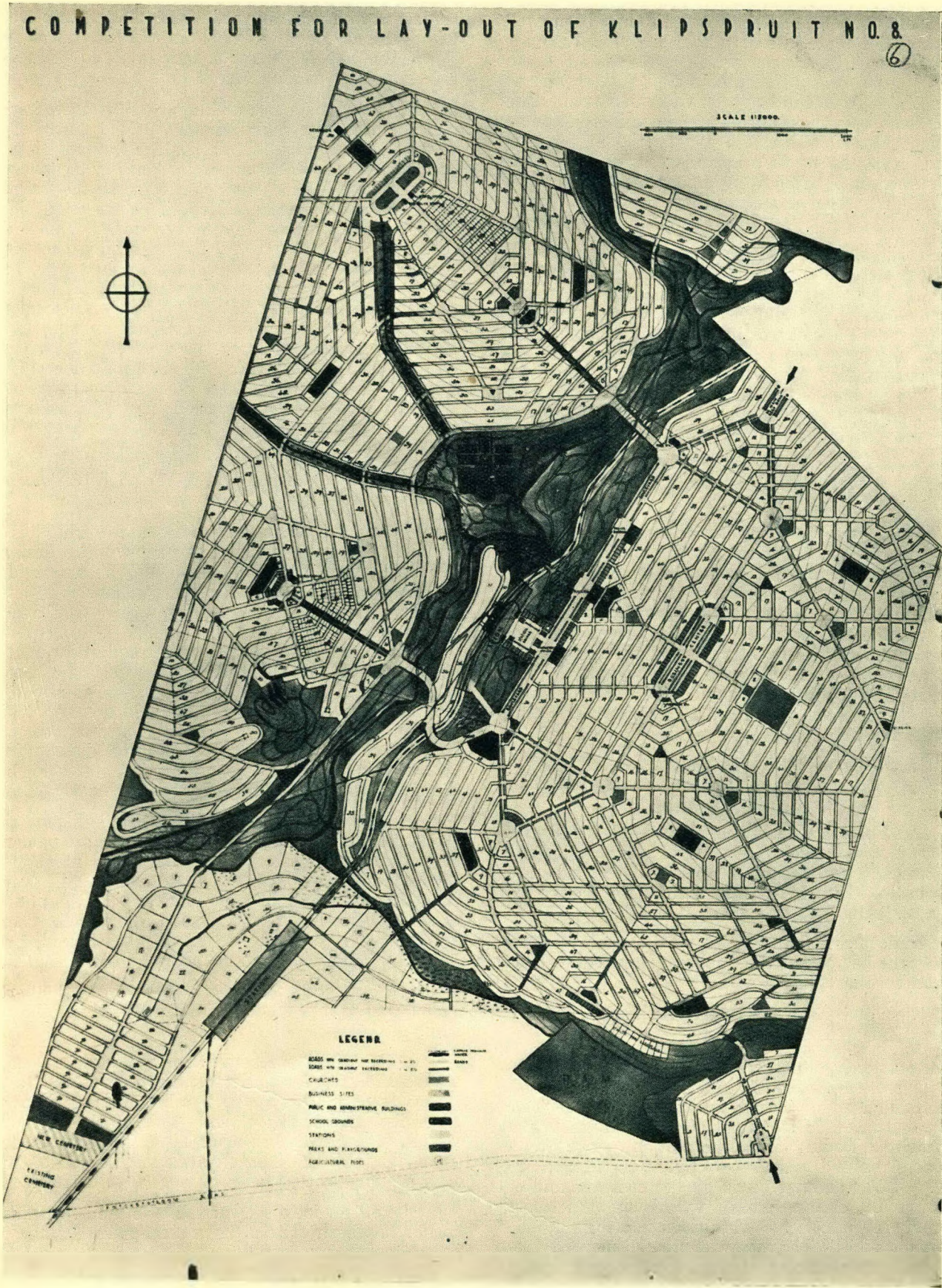
*First*:—Messrs. Kallenbach, Kennedy and Furner, Johannesburg.

*Second*:—Mr. Rex Martienssen, Johannesburg.

*Third*:—Mr. V. S. Rees Poole, Pretoria.

In his report the assessor states that: "Most competitors have realised the difficulty encountered in avoiding monotony by the creation of long lines of streets; several competitors have achieved successful solutions of this problem.

"Accessibility from one portion of the Township to another has, by some competitors, been designed by ignoring the steep gradients. The solution of the problem of access across the Railway and the Spruit, connecting the Eastern and the Western portions of the Township, has been one of the main deciding factors in this competition. Design No. 6 (the winning design) shows two main crossings of the Railway and Spruit



1st Premiated Design.

Kallenbach, Kennedy & Furner.

which have been well placed and are good. Accessibility to all portions of the Township has been well designed. The position and allocation of plots for various purposes have been wisely selected and sited. The distribution of the business stands to the various portions of the Township has been well considered. The plan has been very carefully thought out in relation to the various Municipal services and particularly traffic problems. On the whole a most successful layout has been designed, and, after a few minor adjustments are made, should prove a satisfactory layout in every respect."

The designs placed first and second are undoubtedly the best schemes submitted, in their general conception, in the siting of their main and subsidiary roads and centres and in their adherence to town planning principles and are well worthy of careful comparison. In comparing these two schemes there is no intention of questioning the award with which, in the main, we concur, but rather to promote healthy criticism and discussion on many points which are of vital importance to town planners in this country.

The crux of the whole problem appears to be, as the assessor states, the linking up of the two sections of the Township.

This has been achieved in the winning design by two bridges situated to the North and South of the Railway Station, whilst the author of the second premiated design has employed two subways. It is questionable whether the great northern bridge, shown in the successful scheme, some twelve to fifteen hundred feet long and rising some fifty feet above the stream is justified or is ever likely to be constructed. A subway slightly above this point where an existing culvert occurs is feasible and could be constructed with very little expense.

To the South of the Station a subway would also probably prove a simpler solution of the problem than a bridge.

On the Eastern side of the township in the winning design two large open "places" are arranged. These form the approaches to the bridges and are themselves linked up by a two hundred foot boulevard nearly a mile in length.

The boulevard is flanked on the railway or Western side by a park belt whilst the public buildings and shops are placed on the opposite side.

At either end of the boulevard the market and fire station are situated.

In the second premiated design the approaches to the subways are linked up by a one hundred foot main road, the main shopping centre being arranged on either side of a one hundred foot road at right angles to the main road and leading from the station "place" to a civic centre around which the public buildings are grouped. Both arrangements are interesting and it is difficult to decide which would be the most satisfactory in practice. The placing of the public buildings set slightly back from a great boulevard provides considerable interest in its long length whilst on the other hand the grouping of the public buildings round a large central square is more usual and equally effective.

The employment of a park belt between the boulevard and the railway, whilst most attractive in a European city, is questionable in this country as during the dry winter months it is very liable to outbreaks of fire caused by passing trains.

In the winning scheme the whole township has been divided into three main sections, in the centre of each of which a business "place" has been arranged, a very excellent arrangement in a garden city layout under European conditions, but again somewhat questionable in a native township where the class of trade and trader usually means an untidy, unkept and dusty area. In the second premiated design the trading centres have been arranged at the entrances to the township and near the railway stations since the majority of the adult residents are likely to be employed in the city and will arrive home each evening by road or rail. In both schemes the whole of the valley has been given up as a park belt effectively serving both sides of the township and a central, comparatively level area, close to the station, has been utilised for recreation purposes.

In the second premiated design this park belt is separated from the railway by a road which would act as a very necessary fire break.

The main Eastern portion of the township has been divided up by the authors of the winning design, to avoid, as much as possible, monotony in street layout. In doing this several traffic centres have been created which, with the ever increasing native bus and taxi services may lead to confusion in the future. Accessibility from many parts of this area and awkward bends in some of the streets will probably be more carefully considered in the final layout. The author of the second premiated design has adopted a more straightforward although in the central portion somewhat monotonous arrangement, but, in his distribution of open spaces and the allocation of a large area for better class residents, his layout appears eminently practical.

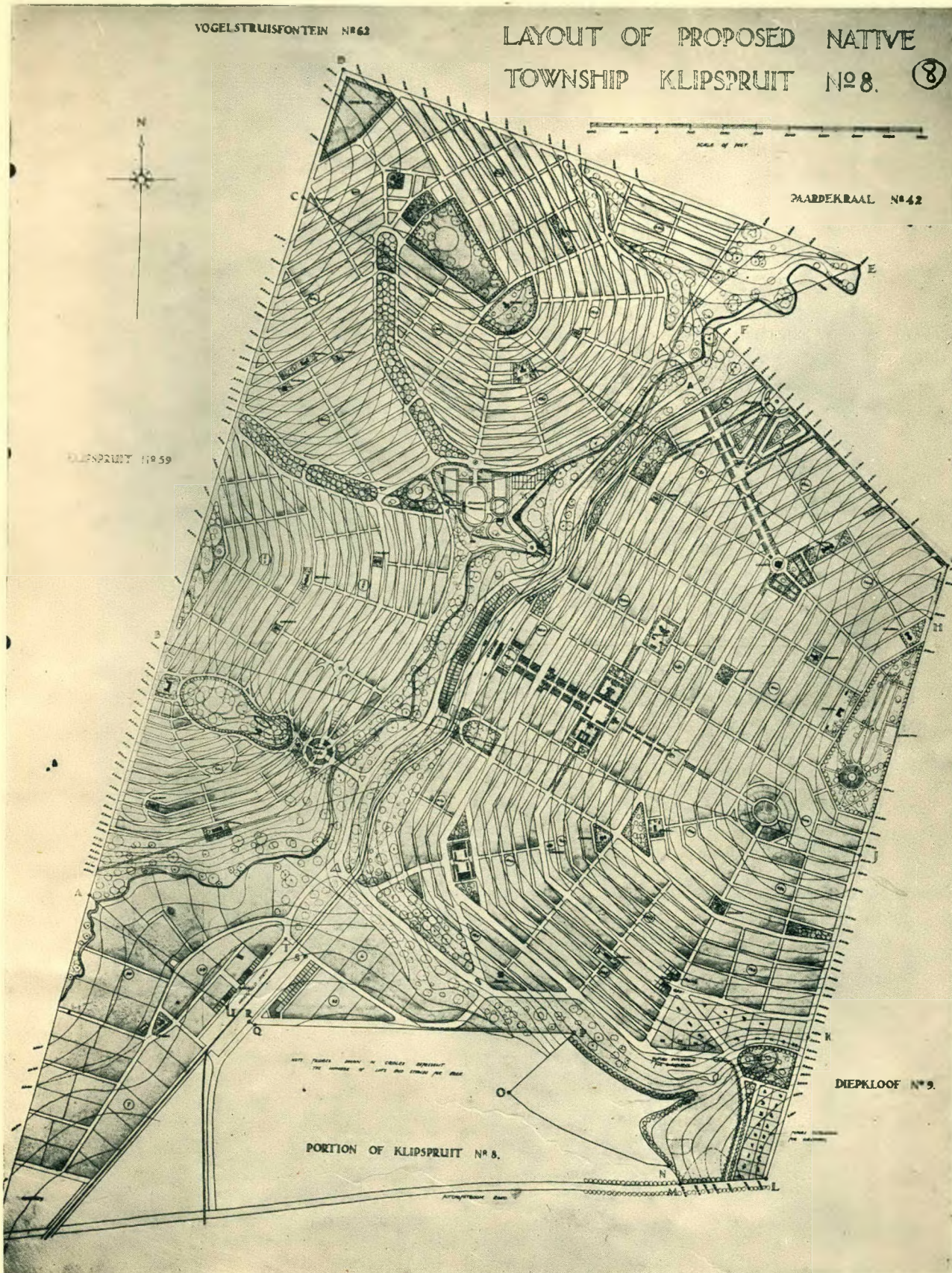
In a native township with a population of eighty thousand there is likely to be in time a large percentage of professional men, doctors, teachers, ministers of religion, officials, etc., whose education will warrant their demanding slightly larger sites than the minimum of seventy-five feet by fifty feet. This factor does not appear to have been sufficiently considered by the authors of the winning scheme or by the authorities.

The promoters required a small area set apart for Europeans near the South Eastern corner of the township.

In the winning scheme this area is placed amongst stands allocated for natives and is approached through native areas. This appears to be unwise and has been carefully considered by the author of the second premiated design, who has made his main approach to the township from the South via Nancefield station in the near vicinity of which is another large native location.

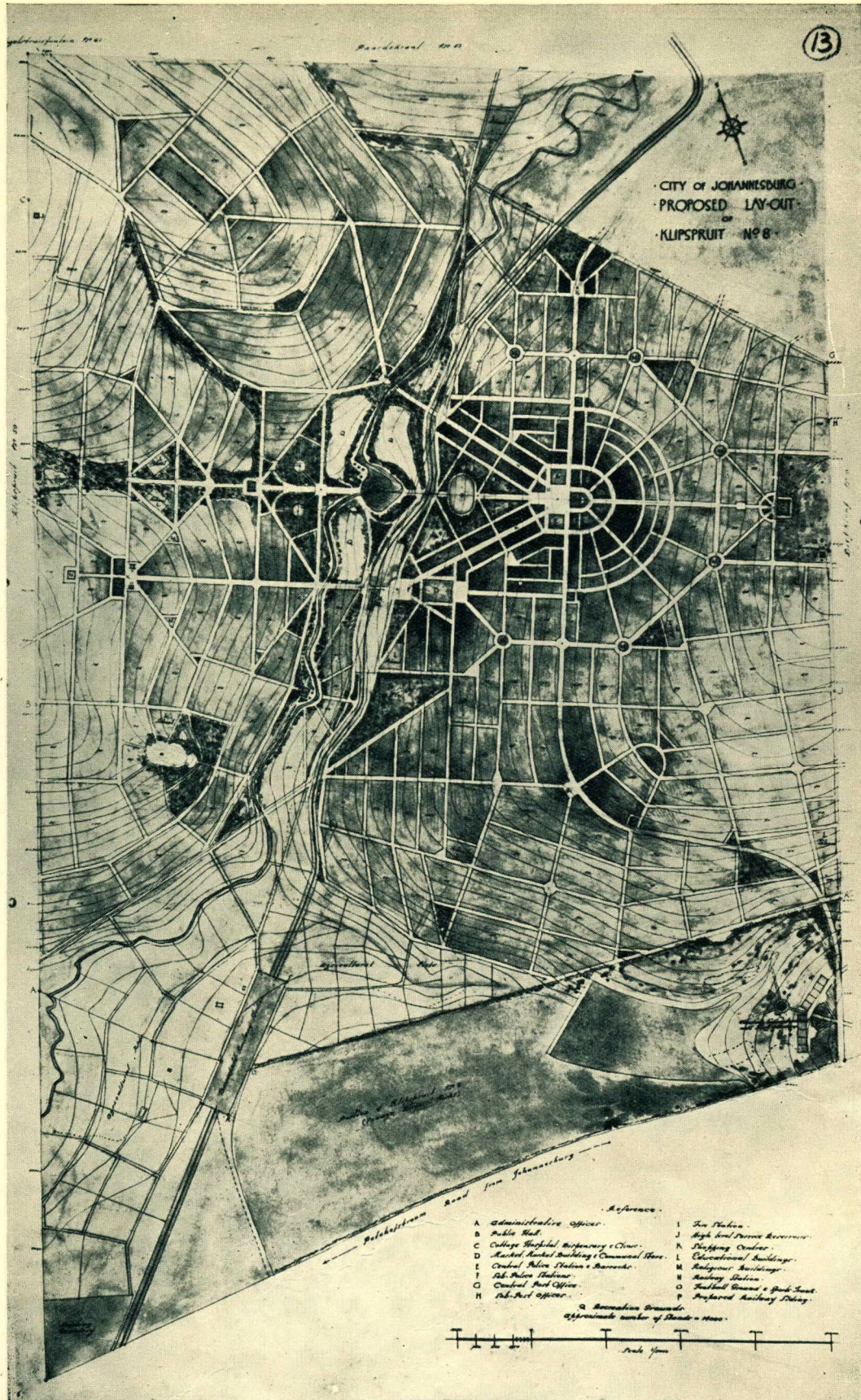
The entrance to the township at the South Eastern corner has been treated as a semi-private road giving access to the European area.

In any case where there are likely to be white women and children it appears to be as well to provide them with the pleasantest possible surroundings.



Second Premiated Design.

Rex Martienssen.



Third Premiated Design,

V. S. Rees Poole,

The approach from Nancefield station to the township appears to have been ignored by the authors of the winning scheme. In the conditions a cottage hospital, clinic and dispensary are asked for presumably to serve chiefly for outpatients.

The site for this has been placed at some distance from the centre in the winning scheme whereas in the second scheme it has been so situated as to conveniently serve all sections of the community. The general layout of the Eastern side of the township has been carefully considered by the authors of the first and second premiated designs, both in the siting of the roads and streets and the selection of sites for schools and churches.

The main approaches to the township have also been carefully considered and no doubt, will be or would have been considerably improved in a final layout. The third premiated design is of considerable interest but the author appears to have concentrated on a central

layout whilst the remainder of the township appears to have been left somewhat tentative.

In conclusion one must congratulate the authors of the premiated designs on the many excellencies displayed in their general layout and also the City Council of Johannesburg on their vision in holding a competition which has not only provided them with excellent results and has given a great impetus and encouragement to town planners but has also given a lead to other Municipalities in the Union in the all important question of native housing. It is a pity that more attention has not been given by the Press to this all important competition which marks a milestone in Municipal progress in South Africa.

One can only hope that the question of the actual housing will be most carefully considered and that the suggestions of the authors of the winning design in this respect will be given careful consideration.

## THE FRANK BRANGWYN ETCHINGS.

### OUR ART GALLERY'S LATEST ACQUISITION.

BY DENYS LEFEBVRE.

The collection of etchings by Frank Brangwyn presented by the artist to the Johannesburg Art Gallery is a gift the importance of which will probably be better realised by the public as time goes on, especially when they can be displayed so as to be readily accessible. At the moment, the limited space at the disposal of the committee makes it difficult to do so, as at present arranged, a small section will be on view at a time on swing easels.

If only for the fact that the work of this distinguished modern master should be of the utmost value to the student, this gift should be of great importance to Johannesburg. A certain amount of etching has been attempted in South Africa during the past few years, but, so far as I am aware, nothing has been done in any way comparable to the work of contemporary European etchers of the first rank.

To some extent, this may be due to the fact that it is only comparatively recently that etchings have found a market in South Africa. Twenty years ago, the general public emphatically preferred colour. indeed it does so still, and I cannot help feeling that the comparatively small price of the local etching or pencil drawing weighs a good deal with the purchaser in making his choice.

On the whole, the present collection is very representative of Brangwyn in his various moods. A few unimportant studies are included but many of his most impressive works are numbered with the Joubert Park Collection, enhancing enormously the value of the black and white section, and making it more than ever desirable that more accommodation should be provided for it at an early date.

Frank Brangwyn had already won a European reputation as a painter before he took up the etching

needle. His etching practically coincides with the Twentieth century. For some years, he etched mainly as a relaxation from painting. He started with old homes, old men's heads, a tanyard, groups of men stripping the bark from trees, some aspects of "London Bridge" (No. 2 is included in the present collection).

"The Shipbuilding Yard" was one of these earlier works that showed his skill in making a picture where few had seen it before him. But though he excelled perhaps in the design of a bridge or the delineation of robust human figures at some workaday task, like a Meunier with the needle, he was at least equally successful in his tree studies, sometimes in all simplicity as in "A Road in Picardy"; at other times with a keen sense of the decorative values of its various shapes, leaves and branches.

One of his most famous works, "The Storm," was done as a landscape on the spot. Before he had begun the sky, a storm broke and he made for shelter. He took a print or two of his plate as he had drawn it, but he was fired with a desire to realise the change brought about by the storm so he started reworking the plate, deepening the lines, filling the sky with clouds with rain pouring over the landscape. The result was one of his early successes. He now began to etch in earnest.

Brangwyn is nothing if not independent. He has always determined the size of his plate by the scale of his design. If he thought his conception should be expressed on a large scale he used a plate of proportionate dimensions and especially when he himself has done his own printing, every line is given its full value.

After 1904, he produced such plates as "Breaking up the Hannibal," and "the Butchers Shop," both now at Joubert Park, as well as that wonderful piece of work "Building the Victoria and Albert Museum," which, in the lines of the great scaffolding and cranes and in the builders' work-shed gave him opportunities for design and draughtsmanship of which he took full advantage. "The Coal Mine" and "Windmills Bruges," are both here, though not the beautiful "Santa Sophia."

"The Return from Work," another large plate, will give local enthusiasts a good idea of the artists extraordinary skill in depicting different phases of the life of the labourer. "Santa Maria della Salute" shows the great church from the Guidecca through the rigging of a ship, combining the church architecture with the lines of the ship in a particularly fascinating design.

His father was an architect, and the son used architecture as his subject matter on many an occasion. But, obviously, the pictorial side remained of paramount importance. "St. Nicholas" and two Messina plates may be cited as examples. "The Feast of Lazarus" and "Unloading Bricks—Ghent," represent the human side, while "The Crucifixion," a modern concept of the great tragedy, gives curiously vivid impression full of drama and pathos carried out, however, in an essentially modern style.

Bridges have always attracted him and we have here several. "St. Martins, Toledo" is a fine example with a great tree trunk in the foreground, the corner-stone, so to speak of the design.

"The Skittle match, Dixmude," once known as "Windmill, Dixmude," had pigs in the foreground originally. Then he took out the pigs and drew from memory a skittle match. It makes an intensely interesting study full of life and light with the old windmill dominating the picture.

It is much that all the prints I have indicated can be seen here and that it will be possible for local artists to follow Brangwyn's career in at least a considerable portion of these impressions.

Apart from those mentioned we have such things as "H.M.S. Britannia," with its wonderful effects of height, "The Venetian Boat Yard," a fine study of lighting, or "Inn of the Parrot," with its particularly strong contrasts of light and shade.

Brangwyn has kept before him, through long years of creation, the idea that the primary object of etching is to make a print that shall decorate a wall, consequently size is subordinated to the needs of his picture and his subject is chosen at random as

his vivid imagination prompts him. He is essentially modern in outlook and democratic in temperament. He seems much more interested in the proletariat than in the aristocrat. One feels instinctively that whether his subject is a bridge, a tree or a machine, he likes to probe to the inwardness of things and to create an atmosphere that, to him at all events, justifies the care and study he has bestowed upon it.

Such work should be of especial interest in a new town like that of Johannesburg. For by such means, industry can be brought nearer to art and it is possible to show that art can be deduced from industry if only industry is rightly understood.

Probably in a community like this where the material necessarily absorbs much of the attention and art can only be fostered in odd corners and as a by-product of a limited culture bearing upon our industrial outlook, the effect of a careful study of such works as these will have a very stimulating effect. At all events, it cannot fail to make the industrial and the artistic less remote and interdependent than they have been in the past.

Here and elsewhere the modern trend has been in the direction of recognising the interrelation between art and utility, not that art can be measured in terms of utility and certainly not utility in terms of art. But the old feeling that pictures and sculpture are one thing and the ordinary humdrum life another is generally regarded in these days as a fallacy. It is beginning to be realised that their reaction on each other cannot fail to be beneficial to both.

Frank Brangwyn's work has had considerable influence in that direction as original thought must inevitably.

Students in Johannesburg who have not been overseas, have an opportunity of seeing something of what Brangwyn can do in colour by studying that fine piece of decorative painting, "The Return from Canada," which is the only example of his colour work in the Gallery. If only as a comparatively small example of the artists versatility, mastery of colour and decorative powers it deserves more than ordinary attention.

Should the artist's generous gift to Johannesburg help, not only South African artists to think for themselves, but even members of the general public, it will have achieved a great deal. If both sections begin to realise, however dimly, that strong imagination and firm technique can bridge the gap that still exists for the many between abstract beauty and concrete, one may begin to hope for a deeper sincerity in our South African art and a more general appreciation of art among the people of South Africa.

## SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

### UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND.

#### ANNUAL EXHIBITION AND PRIZE GIVING.

The Seventh Annual Exhibition of students' work and prize giving was held at the University on Friday, August 28th, and was well attended by a number of Architects and Quantity Surveyors from Johannesburg and Pretoria. Amongst those present were Messrs. D. M. Burton, K. E. F. Gardiner, D. A. McCubbin, C. C. Deuchar, Gordon Leith, Harold Porter, A. Stanley Furner, A. Leitch, R. Wild, D. M. Hickman, H. R. Raikes and Prof. H. Bell-John.

Professor Pearse, after welcoming the visitors on behalf of the staff and students said:—

It is my pleasant duty to welcome you here this afternoon to our Seventh Annual Exhibition. I must also take this opportunity of welcoming and thanking on your behalf the President of the Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects, Mr. S. C. Dowsett who has kindly consented to present the prizes and say a few words.

The Department of Architecture and Quantity Surveying as it is now called, continues to grow in quantity, but not, as I would wish, except in the earlier years, in quality.

This year the number of students is as follows:—  
Architecture Johannesburg, 67; Pretoria, 21—88  
Quantity Surveying Johannesburg, 20; Pretoria, 25—45  
Making a grand total of 133.

In connection with the Quantity Surveyors classes I might mention that this year changes have been made and we have now established a four year Diploma course instead of three and a five year Degree course.

Both these courses will, we hope, be fully recognised as exempting from the Final of the Surveyors Institution, London.

At present they are recognised as equivalent to the Intermediate.

I should like to take this opportunity of sincerely thanking the part time Professors and Lecturers for their valuable assistance to Mr. Lloyd and myself during the year, viz.: Professors Bell-John and Armstrong, Messrs. Gardiner, Lawrie, McIntosh, Eddy and Miss Anderson.

It is not perhaps sufficiently realised what it means to these people to give up a great deal of their professional time to assist us in Johannesburg and Pretoria.

I am sorry to have to announce that Mr. Lloyd is leaving us at the end of this term and I am sure you will all want to associate yourselves with me in wishing him the best of luck and success in the future.

During my absence overseas Mr. Furner will keep a fatherly eye on the Architecture classes and in addition to lecturing will supervise the studio work and Mr. Rex Martienssen, one of our past students, has agreed to accept the appointment of lecturer for the same period. Mr. K. E. F. Gardiner will also, I hope give us further temporary assistance. Whilst overseas I intend visiting the leading schools of Architecture in America and Canada also in England, Germany and Holland. This will be an excellent opportunity of comparing notes with overseas Universities although I am told, and to a certain extent this has been confirmed by our own students who have gone overseas, that we are working on the right lines here.

In connection with our examinations we have now come to a very satisfactory working arrangement with the R.I.B.A. whereby *all* students taking our courses in South Africa can now become eligible for exemption from the R.I.B.A. examinations.

I might point out, however, that in order to secure this a high standard of work is required and that unless students, Degree or Diploma, satisfactorily complete the programme of work laid down each year such exemptions are not possible.

I have mentioned this before but I wish to emphasise it again as applicants for exemption have been turned down and are likely to be turned down in future unless a higher standard of work is attained.

In order to satisfy the requirements of the R.I.B.A. drawings representing the work of every student have to be sent to London each year for an exhibition at which all the schools of architecture recognised by the R.I.B.A. are represented. It therefore follows that unless a student's name is submitted to the R.I.B.A., and this can only be done if his work is submitted, it is not possible to obtain the necessary exemptions.

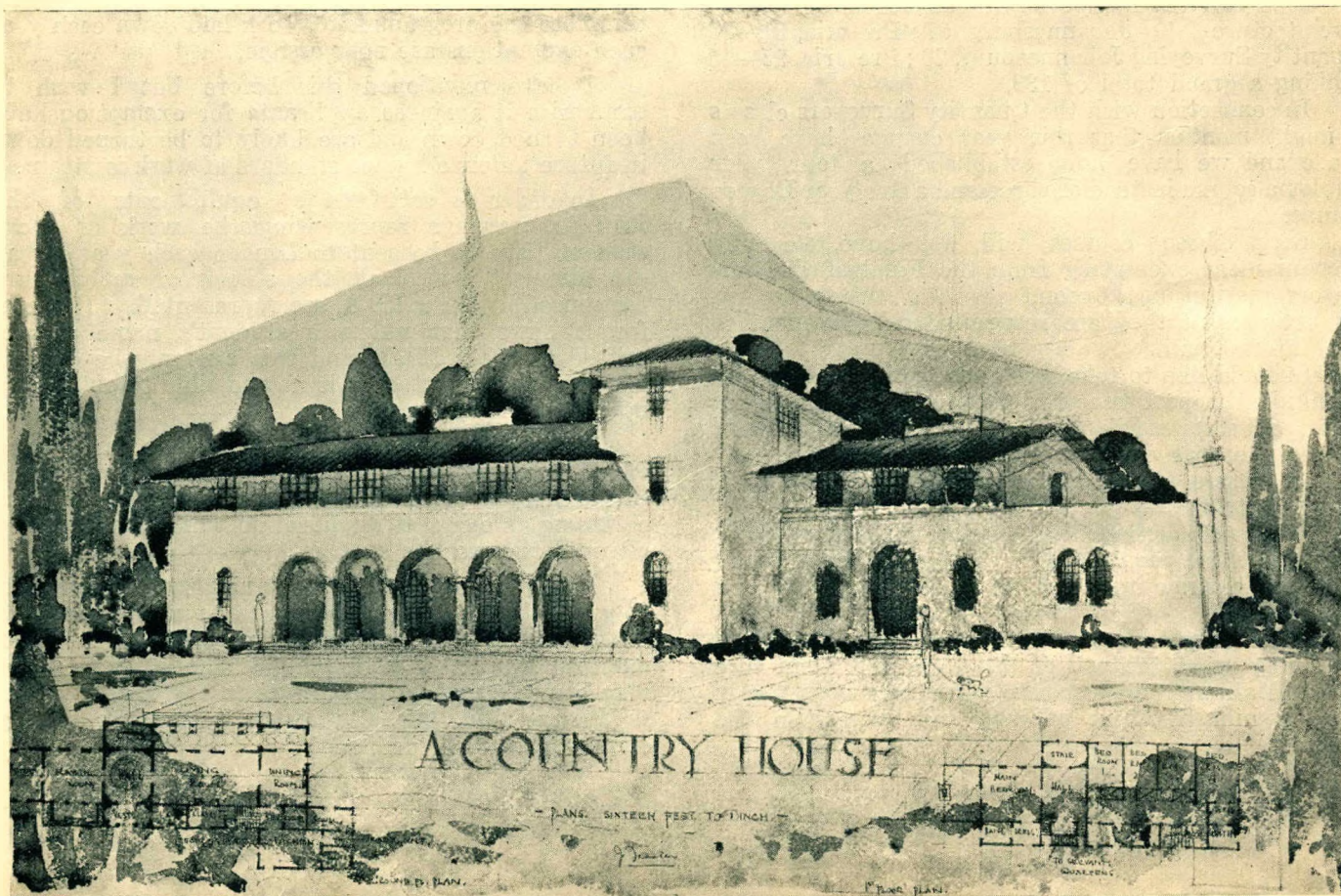
Students therefore must realise the importance of the terms work which not only affects their results in our examinations but also the possibility of their obtaining an overseas qualification which is recognised all over the world.

Lately the standard of work has dropped considerably and there is no doubt that the senior students do not sufficiently realise the necessity of presenting drawings in a workmanlike manner, which not only brings credit to themselves in the examinations, as I have said, but also assists them in obtaining employment.



Sketch Design.

E. G. Tucker.



Sketch Design.

J. Fassler.

I should like to take this opportunity of referring to several cases of hardship in which Diploma Students have been involved which does not reflect to my mind to the credit of professional Architects. Many cases have occurred in which students have been employed by architects who are not prepared to supplement their theoretical training here by tuition in design and drawing with the result that students are so severely handicapped that it takes them many years to complete their course. If it is absolutely necessary for students to take the whole of their course as part time students then Architects should be prepared to assist them in return for services rendered.

If this is not possible I consider that an Architect is committing an unprofessional act in encouraging youths to enter the profession under such disabilities.

I am glad to know that the Central Council of the Institute is seriously considering this matter and I hope that in the near future a satisfactory solution of the problem will be obtained. I would also like to appeal to Architects who employ part time students to give them the fullest facilities for pursuing their studies more especially as these must perforce be done at night. So many students have complained that, owing to working overtime, they cannot get on with the work required of them here.

I am afraid I have rather laboured some of these points but I can assure you from our experience here and our knowledge of what goes on in practice that it is absolutely necessary in the interests of the students and ultimately of the practitioners themselves that co-operation between the schools and practitioners should be secured. The training for the profession of Architecture is a long one and in order to condense it into five years it is absolutely necessary for students to get down to it very seriously at the outset. Slackness or brooding over a problem for too long a time is apt to lead to staleness and loss of interest.

The prizes this year have been generously contributed by the Transvaal Institute of Architects, Mr. D. M. Burton and Mr. A. S. Furner, and I am glad to announce that a new prize has been established in memory of the late Louis Bustin one of our students whose untimely death after an operation I referred to last year. A number of Architects and friends who contributed to send him overseas to see a specialist have agreed that the balance of the money collected should be devoted to a special prize to his memory and it has been decided to award this for the most successful solution of a planning problem in any year of the course.

During the year gifts have been received as follows: Books, D. M. Burton, R. Howden, Plaster Cast of Parapet to old Cape Town house, from J. Perry; Pictures, Lady Phillips and J. Gubbins.

The Library too has been added to considerably by purchases and gifts from publishers. The Architectural Society still continues to exist but does not thrive as it should do. This year two lectures have been given, one by Mr. Furner on his European visit and a paper by Mr. Moore on Quantity Surveying. The Society is having its annual dance at the Wanderers, on September 23rd.

This function is becoming increasingly popular every year and I hope every architect will make a special effort to attend, and bring a party.

Tickets can be obtained from the students. I shall now call upon Mr. Dowsett to present the prizes and might mention that the prizes presented by the Chapter of Quantity Surveyors were presented at the Graduation Ceremony in March as follows:—

1. Mr. A. R. D. McIntosh.
2. Mr. E. F. Allen.
3. Mr. J. S. Hodge.

The awards of the Architectural prizes are:

First year:

1. R. A. Barnett.
2. M. Bryer.

Second year:

F. F. Freeman.

Third year:

1. B. S. Cooke.
2. J. Fassler.

Burton Prize: J. Fassler.

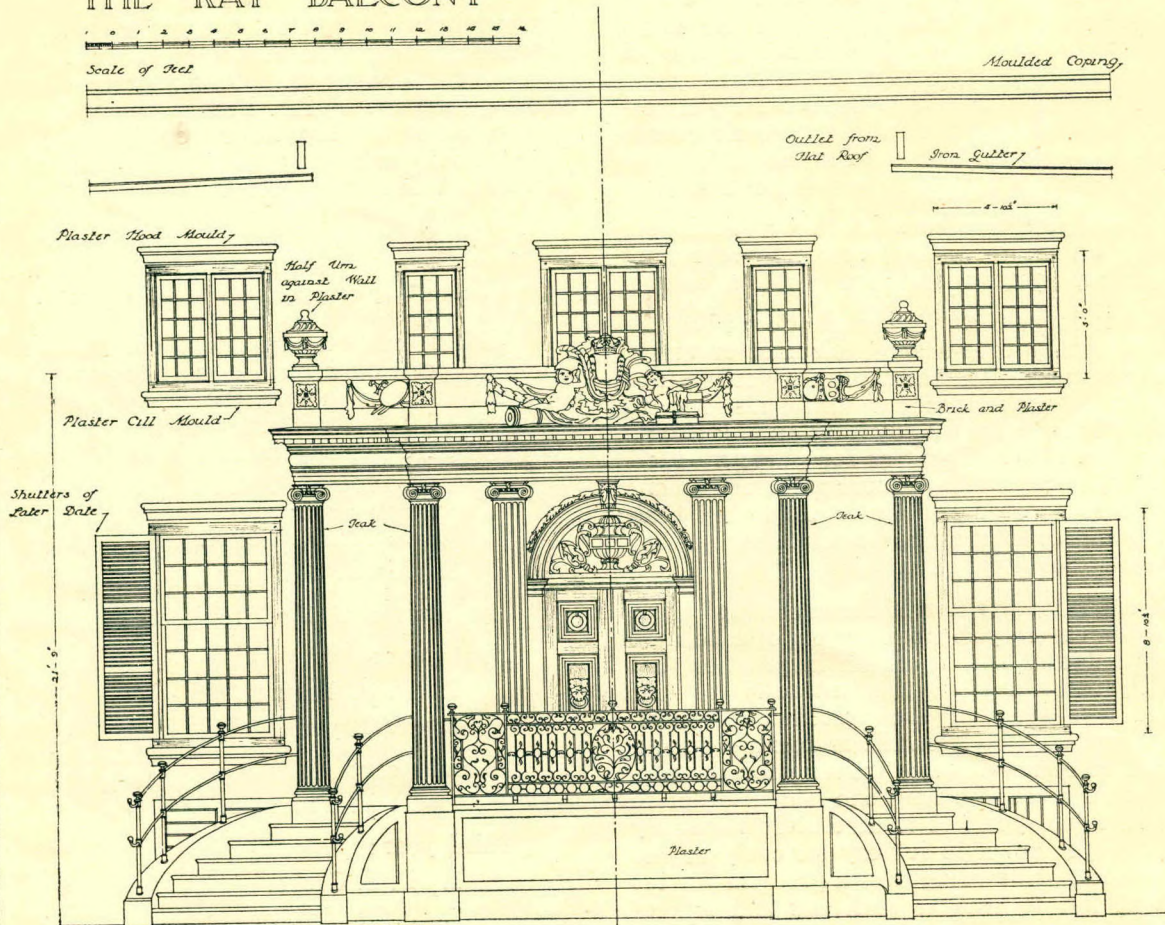
Mr. S. C. Dowsett, President of the Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects, after presenting the prizes addressed the students.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Dowsett was proposed by the Principal, Mr. H. R. Raikes.

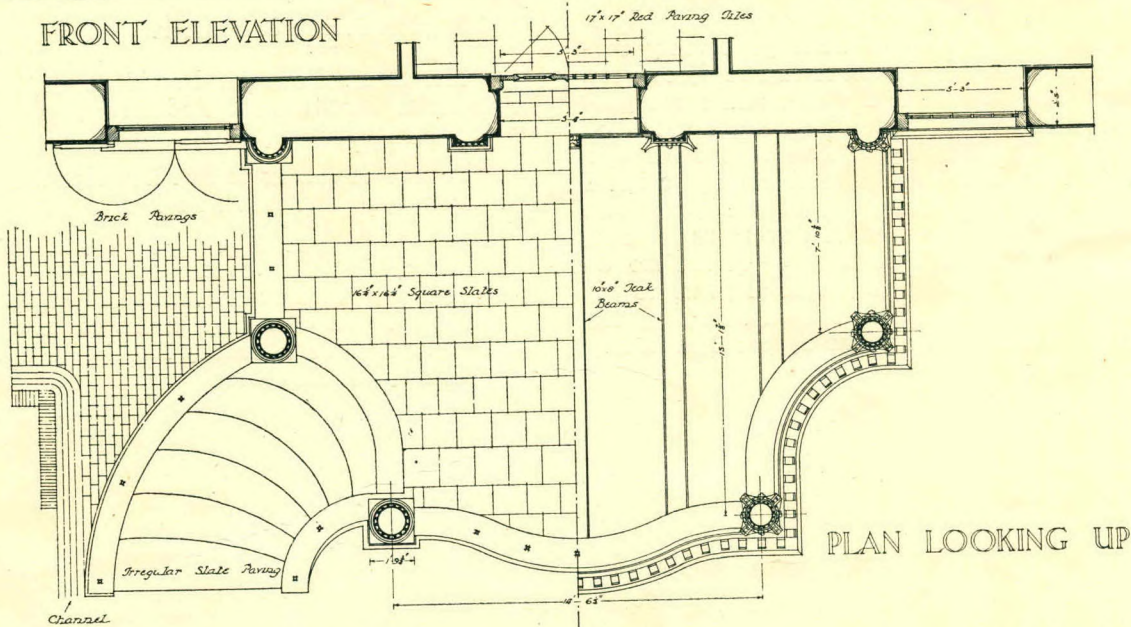
\* \* \* \*

The two measured drawings illustrated form part of the collection of eighty plates to be reproduced in the work on "XVIII Century Architecture at the Cape," compiled by G. E. Pearse.

# THE CASTLE CAPETOWN THE KAT BALCONY



FRONT ELEVATION



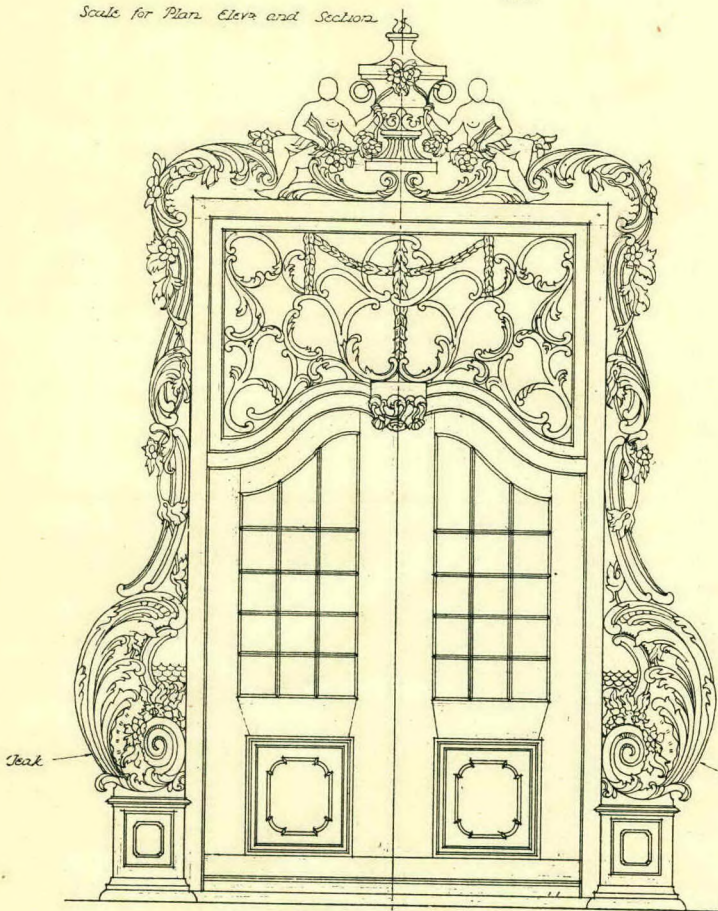
GROUND FLOOR PLAN

PLAN LOOKING UP

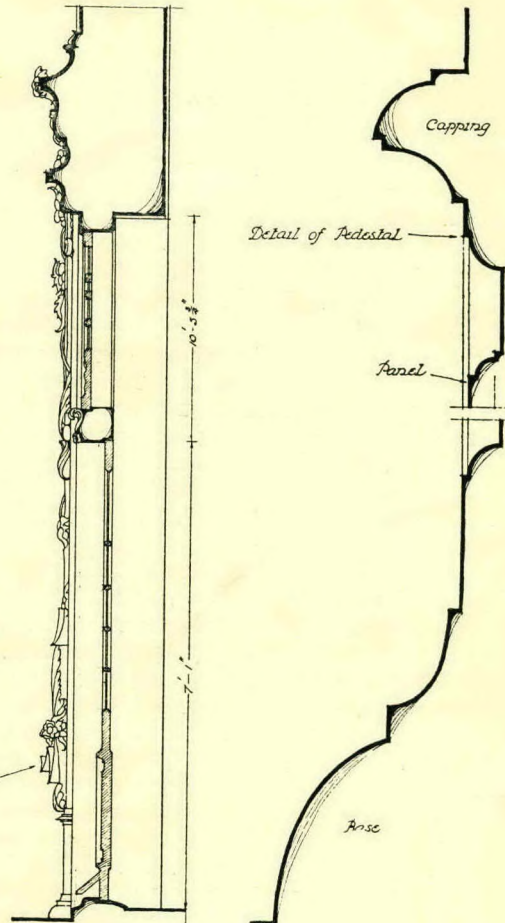
Drawn from Measured Drawings of  
J. W. Mullins and  
F. S. Ross. Made  
by J. Cassler

# RUST-EN-VREUGDE DOOR ON FIRST FLOOR BALCONY

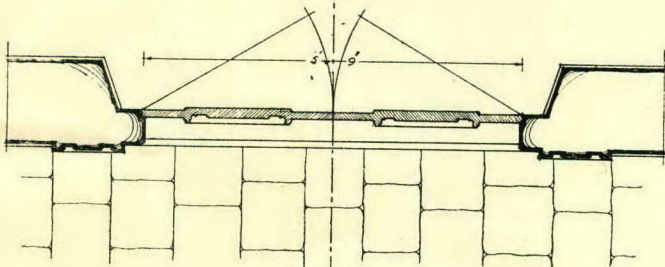
Inches  
Scale for Plan, Elev and Section



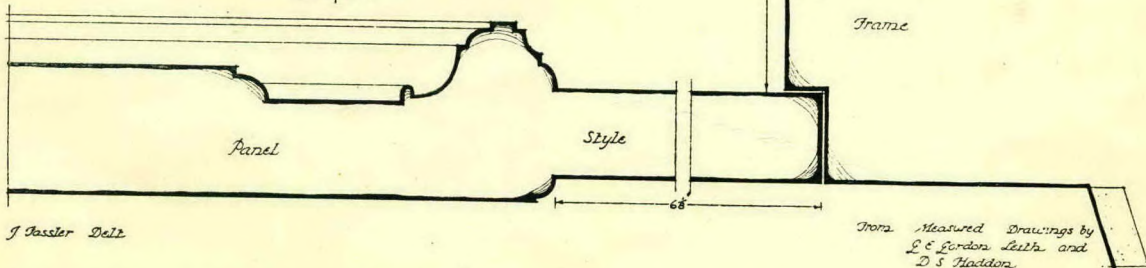
ELEVATION



SECTION



PLAN



Inches  
Scale for Details

J Fassler Delt.

From Measured Drawings by  
L E Gordon Lith and  
D S Haddon

## COMMENTARY.

BY REX MARTIENSSEN.

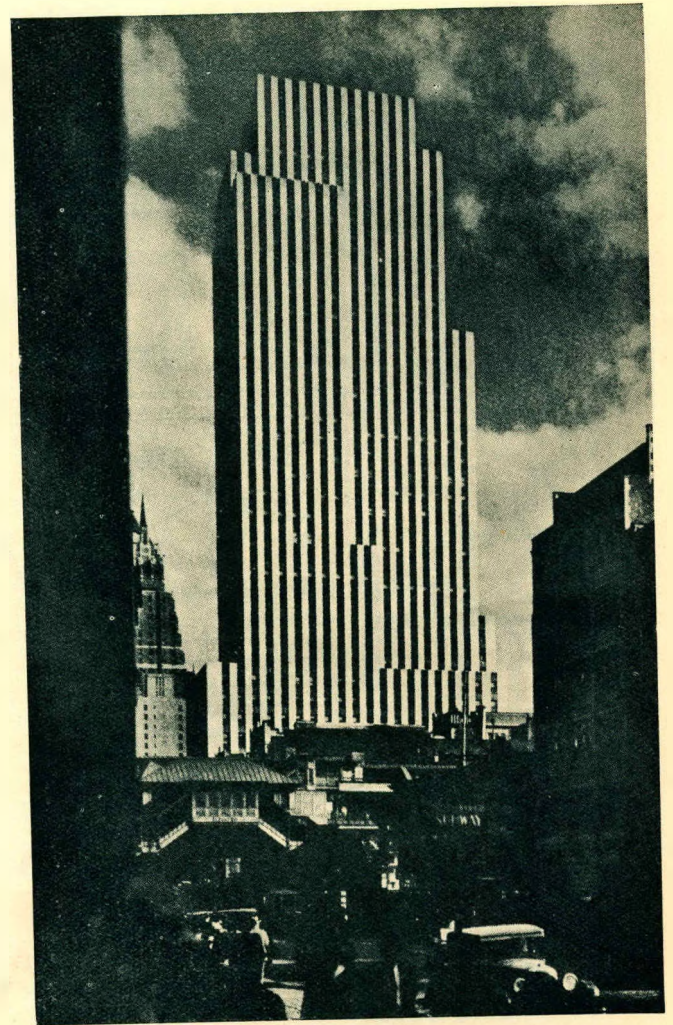
*Raymond Hood.* In America where architectural form is largely influenced by imported clichés, the quality of vitality in building is usually lacking. Houses are built in the Cotswold style, great office buildings resemble the towers of Gothic cathedrals—and libraries inevitably are designed in the American classic style, that strange rechauffé of Italian Renaissance forms with a Beaux Arts flavour. So that it is exceptional to find fine architecture flowering out of the difficult conditions of cramped sites and exacting requirements. To build logically and economically. To brush away the cobwebs of precedent, these things are difficult where money and splendour and tradition are closely interwoven. But every now and then we find some building, created as a thing in itself and beautiful by virtue of its ability to satisfy the canons of function and contemporaneity.

Such a structure is the News Building, in New York, by Raymond Hood. The first consideration was utility, the zoning laws and office arrangements dictated the plan and window system. The economics of the building are interesting, for it is the income from the general office portion of the building that makes it possible for The News to have its offices and plant situated on a central property. Raymond Hood has some interesting notes in a recent number of the Architectural Forum on this great building, perhaps the finest of all recent attempts to solve the problem peculiar to New York . . . I like the way he discusses his building—as though he enjoyed creating it, and was not surprised to find his ideas flowing easily on to paper and then solidifying into three dimensions. His client wanted colour on the facade, so Hood put bright red window shades to all the windows. A happy inspiration that reminds one of Lutyens' light hearted and spontaneous gestures in treatment. And again his client wanted an explosion of architectural effect in the entrance lobby—so Hood spent \$150,000 in that place alone!

Hood is amused by the criticisms (so familiar to all architects who do not follow the safe paths of tradition) of his colleagues. I will quote him.

“ . . . So the exterior more or less created itself. From the second story to the top, there was no logical reason for varying a window, either in size or location. Arriving at the top, i.e., as far as we found it advisable to go by our calculations of the relative proportion of rental space to elevator and general service, I tried the simple expedient of stopping without searching for or causing the owner to pay for an effect. The exterior has brought out, among others, two comments from architects, that I will repeat. One eminent fellow said to me, when the exterior lacked only two stories of completion: 'I cannot tell you whether I like it until I see what ornamental treatment you use at the top.' The second, a well known

architect, said that an architectural composition must have horizontals; that as pronounced a vertical treatment as that of the News Building should have two or three band courses to hold it together. I do not know what to say to either of these two criticisms. Naturally the exterior of the News Building is so simple that a great many things could be done to it, but whenever I wanted to do anything, I never knew where to begin or where to stop; and I took comfort from a remark that Laloux made occasionally to a student who was at a loss as to what sort of ornament to use in a particular place. Laloux's remark was: 'Why not try nothing?' . . . ”



*The News Building,  
New York.*

*Raymond Hood,  
Architect.*

"*Good-Bye To All That.*" In the issue of June 26th of *The Architect and Building News* is described and illustrated a new house for Professor Ashmole, designed by A. D. Connell, so that its owner may overlook the "rolling luxury of a Chiltern Valley." It is refreshing to find that there is a client in England who has the courage to build modernly, and that there is an architect with the conviction (and technical ability) to embody his ideas in a modern house. In fact the first modern house to be built on English soil. For here at Amersham, Bucks., we say good-bye to pretty thatch and dormers, good-bye to quaint nooks and old beams, good-bye to the old world atmosphere that English architects have clung passionately to like life itself. Professor Ashmole's house has startled the English critics into awareness, and it has startled the English architects out of their old world complacency. Long have we been told by the traditionalists how to build a country house. The sacred formulae have been handed down from Nesfield and Webb, Norman Shaw, Lutyens, Baillie Scott and Guy Dawber. But how pitiful and thin is this preservation plea, how meaningless the urge to employ the limited methods of the craftsman in an age of mechanical power and immensely increased knowledge of technical processes. As well use the implements of the village blacksmith to build motor cars.

In the description of the house I find the following: "The exterior is forceful but not without the charm that is attendant upon designed simplicity; in this it possesses harmony and unity, factors of design (need it be pointed out?) which are not dependent on the addition or omission of a pitched roof or the introduction of leaded lights. The form of its plans has been decided by the requirements of the site and the desires of the client. Perhaps we may be excused if we quote some notes of Prof. Ashmole on the subject: it "was built with three main objects: first to take the utmost advantage of the scanty English sunshine and to evade the cold winds; second, to enjoy to the full a magnificent view across and up the valley of the Misbourne; and thirdly, to conform to the immediate contours of the site." It will be seen that the architect has met these requirements by a Y shaped plan that is a sun trap to the west and south, and a wind-guard to the east and north. Windows are large and sun-inviting, and where walls are blank the sheer cliff-like whiteness forms a foil and a contrast that is clearly indicative of a purposeful outlook on the problems to be solved; again in the words of Prof. Ashmole: "It will be seen that from whatever quarter the wind is blowing a sheltered place may be found out of doors." It is instructive to weigh the arguments of traditionalists with the raticinations of internationalists. The traditionalists are hard put . .

*Compositions in Architectonic Movement.*—The following episodes (one might call them examples of word architecture) present a diversity of forms with movement as their basis. In the first Aldous Huxley gives it us in his description of a gay Italian pageant—the elements of which are built up in successive strata of colour culminating in the throwing of the banners. In the passage from D. H. Lawrence (surely one of the loveliest he has written) we are conscious of no climax, no built up structure, but

rather a slow rhythm of continuous movement that passes like an undulating wave over the Mexican landscape. A moving sinuous column of life that passes with the dust into space . . . and beats with an even rhythm of warm life. Then Doughty's cadenced picture of hurried but slowing movement across the Arabian night. A slow rise and fall of movement that terminates and dies in the macrocosm of the night's darkness.

Here are the passages:—"Every evening after that, while the swallows were in full cry and flight about the tower we heard the beating of the drum. Every evening, in the little piazza below us, a fragment of Pinturicchio came to life. Sometimes it was our friends in green and yellow who returned to wave their flags beneath our windows. Sometimes it was men from the other contrade or districts of the town, in blue and white, red and white, black white and orange, white, green and red, yellow and scarlet. Their bright pied doublets and parti-coloured hose shone out from among the drabs and funereal blacks of the twentieth century crowd that surrounded them. Their spread flags waved in the street below, like the painted wings of enormous butterflies. The drummer quickened his beat, and to the accompaniment of a long-drawn rattle, the banners leapt up furled and fluttering into the air." (The Palio at Siena).

"But down the valley middle comes the big road, almost straight. You will know it by the tall walking of the dust, that hastens also towards the town, overtaking, overpassing everybody. Overpassing all the dark little figures and the white specks that thread tinily, in a sort of underworld, to the town.

"From the valley villages and from the mountain the peasants and the Indians are coming in with supplies, the road is like a pilgrimage, with the dust in greatest haste, dashing for town. Dark-eared asses and running men, running women, running girls, running lads, twinkling donkeys ambling on fine little feet, under twin great baskets with tomatoes and gourds, twin great nets of bubble-shaped jars, twin bundles of neat cut faggots of wood, neat as bunches of cigarettes, and twin net-sacks of charcoal. Donkeys, mules, on they come, great pannier baskets making a rhythm under the perched woman, great bundles bouncing against the sides of the slim-footed animals. A baby donkey trotting naked after its piled-up dam, a white sandal-footed man following with the silent Indian haste, and a girl running again on light feet." (Mornings in Mexico).

"Late in the afternoon there fell great drops from the lowering skies; then a driving rain fell suddenly, shrill and seething upon the harsh gravel soil, and so heavily that in few moments all the plain land was a streaming plash. Our naga settled under us stern-on to the cold tempest. Our worsted mantles were quickly wetted through; and we cowered for shelter under the brute's body.

"After half an hour the worst was past, and we mounted again. Little birds, before unseen, flittered cheerfully chattering over the wet wilderness. The low sun looked forth and then appeared

a blissful and surpassing spectacle! A triple rainbow painted in the air before us. Over two equal bows a third was reared, upon the feet of the first; and like to it in the order of hues. These were the celestial arches of the sun's building, a peace in Heaven after the battle of the elements in the desert-land of Arabia.

"The sun going down left us drowned in the drooping gloom, which was soon dark night. We held on our march in hope to meet with the Arab, and there fell always a little rain. Serpentine lightning flickered over the ground before us, without thunder; long crested lightnings shot athwart and seemed suspended, by moments, in the wide horizon; other long cross flashes darted downward in double chains of light. The shape of all those lightnings was as an hair of wool that is fallen in water. Only sometimes we heard a little, not loud, roaring of thunder. In a lull

of the weather we beheld the new moon, two days old, at her going down. The first appearing of the virgin moon is always greeted with a religious emotion in the deserts of Arabia, and we saluted her, poor night-wanderers, devoutly; . . . We held on ever watching for the Beduin fires, and heard about us the night shrieks of I know not what wild birds. At length Hamed thought he had seen a watch-fire glimmer far in front. As we rode further we saw it sometimes, and otherwhiles it was hidden by the uneven ground of the wilderness. The night darkness was very thick, the naga stumbled, and we could not see the earth. Hamed whose wit ever failed a little short of the mark, began to be afraid we might fall from some cragged place: he would adventure no further. We had nothing to eat, and alighting with wet clothes, we lay down in the rain beside our camel; but the wind blew softly, and we soon slept." (Travels in Arabia Deserta).

## TOWN PLANNING.

### AN ADDRESS GIVEN BY Mr. A. ALLEN, TO THE BENONI ROTARY.

I thank you for the honour you have conferred on me in having me as your guest to-day, and for giving me this opportunity of saying a few words on Town Planning.

The Transvaal Town Planning Association, of which I have the honour and am proud to be a member, is doing good work, voluntary work for the benefit of South Africa.

The Council of the Association is comprised of members who have had special training in one or other of the Arts, and collectively they are able to view the problems which come before them from time to time from every angle, and much valuable assistance is given to our public bodies.

Our Association has much in common with Rotary inasmuch as both bodies are seeking to be of good service to the community.

Town planning is intended, and I am sure you will agree, is of great benefit to our communities, it is intended to improve the health and wellbeing of the community and after all, when we get down to the bedrock of things, the health and wellbeing of the people are the things that really matter. In all our activities we should never lose sight of that fact. Town planning seeks to improve the conditions and the environment under which people live. It seeks to lay out our cities and towns in a way that is pleasing to the eye and in a way that will contribute to the comfort and enjoyment of the people.

In laying down a plan for a city or town it keeps in view the economic working of the necessary essential services, and endeavours to retain and improve on the natural amenities of the area being dealt with.

Then again a properly laid out township should have its Streets and thoroughfares so planned as to avoid steep gradients, in order to effect economy in delivery services. When one remembers that the cost of transport has to be paid for by the people living in the township or city, and that this cost is an ever recurring one, it will be seen that it is important that the gradients in the thoroughfares should be as easy as possible. It is important that provision should be made so that modern transport can negotiate all intersections of streets with safety.

Provision should be made for ample open spaces, play grounds for children, ample areas provided for public buildings so that a garden area can separate the building from the street. The sites of the principal public buildings should be so placed that they form the back ground of a vista along an important Avenue or Street.

Special attention should be given to the provision of a Civic centre, in which all citizens could take a special pride. In the middle of the Civic centre should be placed the City Hall or citizens meeting place.

First impressions are usually lasting whether good or bad, and it is important that the town should be laid out so as to create a favourable impression on visitors. In this connection a very excellent suggestion was made by one of our members—Mr. Harold Porter. Mr. Porter suggests that at a point on the boundary of the town on the main roads, a pleasing feature should be created in the shape of a lay out with trees and shrubs. This would not be expensive, and if laid out attractively would have a good effect on visitors.

One should keep in mind that the character of the people is to a great extent reflected in the appearance of their town or city. Properly laid out and properly kept cities have a great influence for good on the character of their people, and when one remembers that a nation is to a great extent built up on the character of its people it will be seen that proper town planning is of the greatest importance to the nation. Where there is no vision the people perish. I am afraid the great importance of town planning to the nation has not been realised by this generation in South Africa.

I do not know of any other profession that requires to exercise clearer vision than that of the town planner. The town planner has to create the foundation of something, something that is destined to be of immense importance to the future wellbeing, progress and prosperity of a community of people, something that is destined to have a great influence on the character of the people, something that will influence their future for good or evil. To do this the town planner must have creative ability in no mean measure, and creative ability is the result of vision.

If one looks at the excellent example set us by men like Van der Stel and others at the beginning of civilisation in South Africa, it is not only amazing but it is to the everlasting disgrace of the present generation, and more particularly to those men in high offices, who have, even in our day, caused some of the most wonderful works of nature, some of the most beautiful natural scenery to be found in the world, the value of which it would be impossible to arrive at, to be hacked about, ruined and treated like muck heaps. Yet if one told these men the truth, that they had not a scrap of love of country in their composition, they would be offended. South Africa unfortunately has many such men, one I suppose must be merciful and say "May God forgive them for they know not what they do."

I have been telling you all about what should be done in connection with proper town planning and its importance as an aid to a higher standard of civilization and the progress and prosperity of the people, and in the short time at my disposal I would like to make a few suggestions, practical suggestions, that I hope will be helpful.

In this democratic age, in our wisdom we have decided that the affairs of state, the affairs of communities and all affairs that affect communities, shall be conducted by men elected by popular vote. I want to point out to you that it is of the greatest importance that the men selected to fill these high offices should be men of highest integrity, men imbued with a liberal supply of commonsense and understanding of the nature of the work expected from them. No man should be selected to fill any high office such as that of a Member of Parliament, Provincial Council, or Town Council, unless he is able to give intelligent answers to questions on matters affecting the prosperity or otherwise of the community and area he desires to represent. I would suggest that candidates should be eligible only if able to give intelligent answers to questions something like the following:—

(a) What are your ideas regarding the future development of the area comprising the con-

stituency you propose to represent?

With a view to:—

- (b) General arrangements or rearrangements which would tend to improve the health, wellbeing and prosperity of your prospective constituents.
- (c) Better and more economic housing for the poorer class of people and how would you propose that it should be attained?
- (d) The economic development of the natural resources of your proposed constituency.
- (e) The education and training of the youth of your proposed constituency with a view to their becoming intelligent and useful citizens.

We have many good men amongst us, ambitious no doubt, men who mean well, but who are totally devoid of any constructive ability, such men if placed in public positions, are obstacles to progress.

Our public bodies as a rule are cumbersome and unscientific. I am convinced we would get better service if the numbers were less and if men with some scientific or practical knowledge of the duties required of them were chosen.

Proper Town planning, I have pointed out, is of the greatest importance to the health and well being of the community, but it is also of great importance that the community should be happy and contented. If a community is to be happy and contented it must be economically employed. It is here that constructive ability comes in most useful.

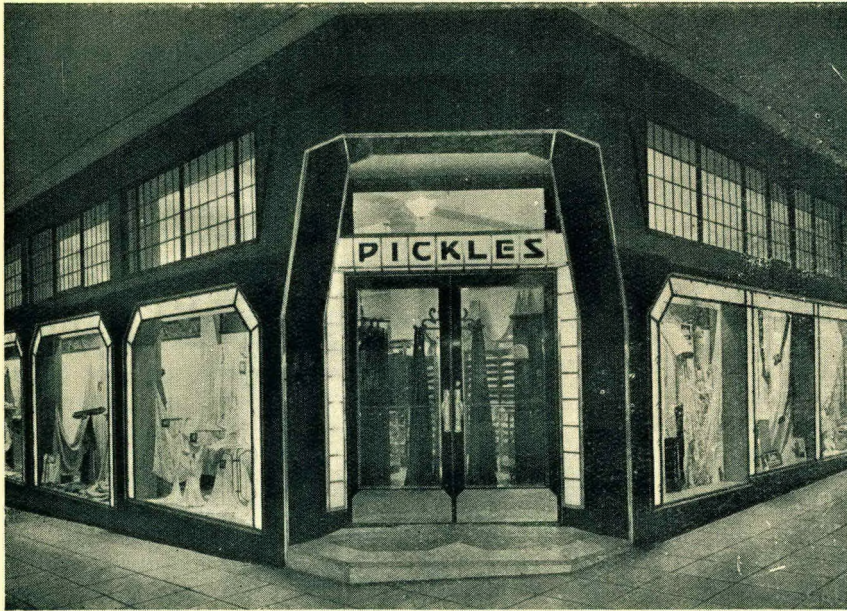
You Rotarians I know are doing a noble work, in helping where help is needed and I am sure just now you are finding plenty to do. I would like to suggest that a great deal more could be done to remove the cause of the greater part of the necessity for your efforts, if we had more business-like and more scientific administration.

I am convinced that the deplorable state of unemployment and poverty into which this country has drifted is largely due to the almost complete absence of constructive brains among the representatives of the people whom we have placed in charge of affairs.

Crime is also largely due to bad town planning, bad housing conditions, poverty and unemployment. I do not say that crime is entirely due to these causes, one would have to probe deeper, and probably we would find the root cause of crime was due to some abnormal physical defect in the individual which bad environment accentuates.

Here again is another field for intelligent investigation, and if we had the right class of men representing us we might have less wasteful legislation. With a greater sprinkling of intelligence we might get on to methods of dealing surgically with the physically defective and rid the country of a great deal of expense by clearing our goals of criminals and turning them into decent citizens.

The most serious aspect to my mind at the present moment which is facing this country, and one of the most serious problems is the position the youth of South Africa finds himself or herself in after leaving school. The white population, after all, in South Africa, in numbers, would be about equal to the population of a moderate sized city in the United Kingdom. And this white population has control of and is spread over a vast rich country; a country that produces over fifty per cent. of the gold output of the world. Does it not



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The corner entrance expresses individuality in its character. The design is unusual and the linking up of the street frontages by the corner treatment is worthy of note.

Black and Gr<sup>av</sup>e glass surrounds to the windows, with white metal, cubular lighting, and ebonised woodwork at the entrance combine to complete a pleasing and harmonious conception.

strike you that there is something seriously wrong with our administrative ability when we have to admit that we cannot find employment in such a vast rich country for the natural offspring of such a small number of white people? Does it not strike you that it is a most humiliating position into which we have been allowed to drift? These boys, if they do not die of starvation, will grow up to be men who will be expected to rule this country. There is nothing to my mind more tragic than to see these boys strolling about in idleness, feeling that they are not wanted, that they are a useless surplus, with no prospects for the future.

It is right that we should provide healthy environment for the community, but we must go further, we must also provide healthy occupation, and that is the business of our legislators. You gentlemen can help by impressing others with the great necessity of a more careful selection of the men we place in authority. Men who will not commit our commercial community to dangerous responsibilities which strike at the very foundations of stability without scientific consultation before-hand.

When I specially mention the Gold Industry, do not think that I am suggesting interference by our legislators, there has been too much interference with the natural development of this great industry already.

It is the duty of our legislators to do everything possible to assist the development of all legitimate industries with a view to assisting in providing economic employment for the people. In this connection I

have had a good deal of experience, and I say deliberately that I have found the greater part of what Cabinet Ministers tell you they are doing for industry in South Africa is all bunkum. My experience has been that those people who are paid and paid well to advise Ministers, appear to be much too easily influenced by representatives of industry overseas. Everything that is done by these people so far as my experience goes is that they are more interested in promoting industry in some country overseas than in South Africa. It is difficult to understand this, and I do not think their actions are due to want of intelligence.

I am touching on these matters because they are of the greatest importance to the future welfare of this country, and you as business men will know that that is so.

My time is gradually slipping away and before I sit down I would like to tell you that I have a very sensitive nature, a nature which is affected or influenced by what I see, and I want to tell you that when I entered Benoni for the first time a few weeks ago, what I saw gave me a keen feeling of pleasure. I congratulate most heartily the people of Benoni on the appearance of their town. It intimates to me that the inhabitants of Benoni are thoughtful and cultured people who take an intelligent interest in the amenities of their town.

I again thank you for the honour you have conferred on me to-day and I wish you all success in the future.

### BRONZEWORL.

Exterior Bronzework is making a striking and very welcome appearance on some of the new public and commercial buildings being erected in Johannesburg. Although windows, doors and other outstanding external features of modern buildings in Europe are frequently constructed of Bronze it has hitherto been considered prohibitive to use the metal for that purpose in South Africa on account of the necessity of sending the work Overseas. It is consequently interesting to discover that a firm of Engineers and Founders employing craftsmen specially trained in this work are operating on a large scale in Johannesburg. Proof of their skill is conspicuous on the New Plaza Kinema where the Bronze work, delightfully toning with the masonry, strikes a new and pleasing note. One cannot help being impressed with the harmony it has created on the facades of this building.

The obvious high standard of workmanship and true reproduction of the Architects details will overcome doubts of this class of work being successfully executed in South Africa and a visit to the Johannesburg Factory where the work may be seen in its various stages of development will inspire confidence.

The bold effort which has been so successfully made by these Engineers is worthy of the highest praise and the results of their enterprise will appeal not only to those directly interested in Building but to all who appreciate beauty.

It is quite evident that a new Industry requiring highly technical skill has been definitely established in the country which will undoubtedly command the support it deserves, having in view the fact that yet another sphere for the employment of white labour has been launched.

Arrangements to view the works may be made through Mr. L. F. Whitton, M.I.A., Phone Cent. 2332, Johannesburg.

W. G. LANSLEY.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

GSA/MPN.

Ref. No. R. 3221

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA,  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
PRETORIA.

The Secretary,

THE TRANSVAAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE OF  
ARCHITECTS,  
67, EXPLORATION BUILDINGS,  
JOHANNESBURG.

Sir,

I beg to enclose two copies of a booklet issued by the British Mohair Association of Bradford, illustrating the use of Mohair fabrics for Theatre and Cinema furnishings.

In view of the satisfaction which such fabrics appear to give for the purpose, this Department is desirous in the interest of the Union Mohair-growers, to encourage the use of Mohair fabrics wherever possible; and I shall be glad if you will kindly be good

enough to have the booklet circulated amongst such members of your Institute as may be in a position to do something towards that end.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) Chief: Division of Economics and Markets  
The booklets can be seen on application to the Secretary.

### BOOK REVIEWS.

*Architectural Practice and Procedure* (Second Edition 15/-)  
By Hamilton Turner.

This is a new edition of a well known book on professional practice which is a selected text book for students in Architecture and Quantity Surveying at the Universities of Witwatersrand and Pretoria.

The author is a Quantity Surveyor who is associated with, among others, Mr. Maurice Webb, F.R.I.B.A., a leader among architects in England. Mr. Webb writes an appreciative foreword to the book.

Although the author is not himself an architect it is evident that he knows the "practical" side of the two professions intimately and his advice to members of both professions is sound and wise.

He not only explains how work is obtained and how it is done when it is obtained but outlines a scheme of office management and routine as to records, storing of papers, drawings, etc., and then goes on to deal with the special points to be observed in the preparation of the drawings, specifications, Bills of Quantities and so on.

There are thirty-one Chapters each dealing with a special phase of the subject (including a new chapter on Fire Insurance) and an appendix setting out a complete type specification, a specimen report on property and other matters.

Not only should all senior students possess this book but practicing architects and surveyors should also have it on the office bookshelf.

The book is written in such a way that if it is studied by members of both professions it will hasten the day so much to be desired when in Mr. Webb's words "there shall be mutual confidence and respect between them."

H. BELL-JOHN.

*Art in the Life of Mankind, Volumes III and IV.*

By Allen W. Seaby. Professor of Fine Art in the University of Reading. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., London. 5/- each vol.

These two volumes (part of a series) deal with Greek Art and Roman Art, and trace in each case the development from the early periods to the culmination of the style under consideration. Each volume is profusely illustrated and of convenient format, although one feels that the cover design could have been rather more attractive. The volume on Greek art has some very fine photographs of vases sculpture and wall paintings, but it is doubtful whether Professor Seaby's very slight and rather vague pen and ink sketches have any value. In a book of this sort it would seem preferable to keep to one medium of illustration as the lack of unity irritates, and unless the drawings are brilliant they

fail to serve their purpose. For instance the sketches of the Pont du Gard, at Nimes, and the Colosseum, at Rome, convey very little of the structural beauty and powerful rhythm of these works. Photographs would have been technically accurate, and actually given a far better idea of the subject.

These volumes will prove useful to the student of fine art, and interesting to the general reader. Perhaps it would not be too much to hope that such books on Greek and Roman art will in the future find a place in every high school syllabus.

#### PROFESSIONAL NOTES AND NEWS.

A recent visitor to Johannesburg was Mr. T. Schaerer, F.R.I.B.A., A.I.Struct.E., who, having practised as an Architect in Johannesburg for many years is well known to several of the older members of the profession. Mr. Schaerer received his architectural education at Winterthur, in Switzerland, at the Polytechnic, Stuttgart, and at the Academy of Fine Arts, Milan. He was for some time a student under the famous French Architect and Prix de Rome Scholar M. Pascal and was afterwards an assistant to M. Chedanne, Prix de Rome, and Architect in Chief to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Paris, under whom he worked on the Elysée Palace Hotel, Paris and on several important buildings for the Compagnie Wagons Lits. Notably the Riviera Palace Hotel, Monte Carlo, the Royal Palace Hotel, Ostend, and the French Embassy, at Vienna. He also visited and supervised work at St. Petersburg, Moscow, Warsaw and was going to Peking when the Boxer Rebellion broke out.

He came to Johannesburg in 1903 and carried out many well-known buildings including the Synagogue, Wolmarans Street, The German Church, Twist Street, the German Club, and was Architect to the Federal Cold Storage Coy.

In 1907 he visited Europe and was commissioned to carry out work for the A.E.G. in erecting buildings for the Victoria Falls Power Coy.

During this trip to Europe he visited Vienna, Buda Pest, Belgrade, Constantinople, Smyrna, Athens and Italy.

In 1915 he retired from South Africa and has been in practice in London since that date. In London he has carried out work for the A.B.C. and the Selection Trust.

At present he is on a holiday trip with Mrs. Schaerer and has come to Johannesburg via Lobito Bay, Benguella Railway, Belgian Congo, and Rhodesia.

In an interview with a Rand Daily Mail representative he expressed himself as being very much impressed with the improvements in Johannesburg during the past sixteen years, both in its buildings and its educational development.

"About fifteen or twenty years ago," he said, "it was almost essential to send a boy or girl overseas if parents wanted them to have a first-class education. That he was glad to say did not appear to be necessary to-day. From his own observation, and conversations with various people, he was convinced that South African boys and girls, educated locally, could hold their own anywhere and that the citizens had every reason to be proud of the local educational system.

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MANSFIELD HOUSE, President St., Johannesburg. P.8.

"He had visited the University of the Witwatersrand, and had satisfied himself that no expense had been spared to give the students all the advantages of teaching of the great Universities of Europe and America.

"The whole of the arrangements," he said, "The syllabus, and the possibilities of learning at the University of the Witwatersrand have impressed me so much that I am seriously considering sending my boys, now at school, in London, to the University in Johannesburg to finish their studies. That is the old order reversed."

Mr. and Mrs. Schaerer leave for Cape Town early in October and sail for England on October 23rd.

\* \* \* \*

#### THE R.I.B.A. NEW PREMISES COMPETITION.

The "Answers to Questions" in connection with the above competition will be published in the R.I.B.A. Journal which is to be issued on September 19th. In order to save time I will send you a copy of this Journal by air-mail and perhaps you would like to notify competitors in the area of your Society that the "Answers to Questions" will be available for them to see at your headquarters.

IAN MACALISTER,  
Secretary.

\* \* \* \*

The South African Institute of Art will hold its Third Annual Exhibition at St. Mary's Hall, Johannesburg, from Monday, 26th October, till Saturday, 7th November, 1931. The Sections include Fine Arts, Architecture, Craftwork, Commercial Art and Industrial Art. The exhibition will be opened at 3 p.m., on the 26th October, by His Excellency the Earl of Clarendon. For all information intending exhibitors may apply to A. S. Pearse, Secretary S.A. Institute of Art, P.O. Box 7305, Johannesburg.

\* \* \* \*

The Transvaal Town Planning Association has published a series of papers on Town Planning in book form. This should prove most interesting and instructive to everyone concerned with the problems of public health and public aesthetics. Professor G. E. Pearse writes an introduction in which he reviews the present position, and indicates the function of the town planner. He draws attention to the necessity for a rational plan of action, and to the importance of controlling the development of existing towns and advising on the layout of new towns. Dr. Charles Porter contributes a very interesting paper from the Public Health point of view, tracing the development of town planning from the earliest times.

Other papers on different aspects of the subject are contributed by Messrs. A. Stanley Furner, Harold Porter and E. H. Waugh.

The brochure which is illustrated by numerous diagrams may be obtained from the Secretary of the Town Planning Association, 67, Exploration Buildings, Johannesburg, at one shilling per copy.

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#### FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT'S FOURTEEN POINTS FOR YOUNG ARCHITECTS.

Frank Lloyd Wright, in a recent essay,\* outlines his fourteen points concerning ways and means in architecture:

"1. Forget the architectures of the world except as something good in their way and in their time.

"2. Do none of you go into architecture to get a living unless you love architecture as a principle at work, for its own sake—prepared to be as true to it as to your mother, your comrade, or yourself.

"3. Beware of the architectural school except as the exponent of engineering.

"4. Go into the fields where you can see the machines and methods at work that make the modern buildings, or stay in construction direct and simple until you can work naturally into building-design from the nature of construction.

"5. Immediately begin to form the habit of thinking 'why' concerning any effects that please or displease you.

"6. Take nothing for granted as beautiful or ugly, but take every building to pieces, and challenge every feature. Learn to distinguish the curious from the beautiful.

"7. Get the habit of analysis—analysis will in time enable synthesis to become your habit of mind.

"8. 'Think in Simples' as my old master used to say—meaning to reduce the whole to its parts in simplest terms, getting back to first principles. Do this in order to proceed from generals to particulars and never confuse or confound them or yourself be confounded by them.

"9. Abandon as poison the American idea of the 'quick turnover.' To get into practice 'half-baked' is to sell out your birthright as an architect for a mess of pottage, or to die pretending to be an architect.

"10. Take time to prepare. Ten year's preparation for preliminaries to architectural practice is little enough for any architect who would rise 'above the belt' in true architectural appreciation or practice.

"11. Then go as far away as possible from home to build your first buildings. The physician can bury his mistakes—but the architect can only advise his client to plant vines.

"12. Regard it as just as desirable to build a chicken-house as to build a cathedral. The size of the project means little in art, beyond the money-matter. It is the quality of character that really counts. Character may be large in the little or little in the large.

"13. Enter no architectural competition under any circumstances except as a novice. No competition ever gave to the world anything worth having in architecture. The jury itself is a picked average. The first thing done by the jury is to go through all the designs and throw out the best and the worst ones so, as an average, it can average upon an average. The net result of any competition is an average by the average of averages.

"14. Beware of the shopper for plans. The man who will not grubstake you in prospecting for ideas in his behalf will prove a faithless client.

"It is undesirable to commercialize everything in life just because your lot happens to be cast in the machine-age . . . In architecture the job should find the man and not the man the job. In art the job and the man are mates; neither can be bought or sold to the other . . .

"Respect the masterpiece—it is true reverence to Man. There is no quality so great, none so much needed now."

\**Two Lectures on Architecture.* The Art Institute of Chicago, 63 pp. Illustrated, \$.75.

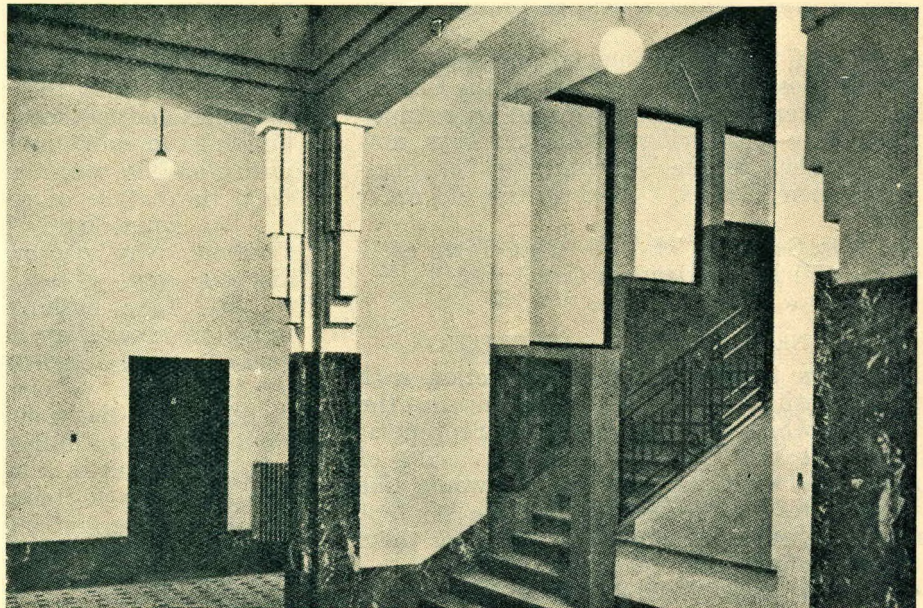
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