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1937

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

http://hdl.handle.net/10539/18844

South African Architectural Record; Journal of the Transvaal, Natal and Orange Free State Provincial Institutes of South African Architects and the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors. vol 22:1-12 p 1-544

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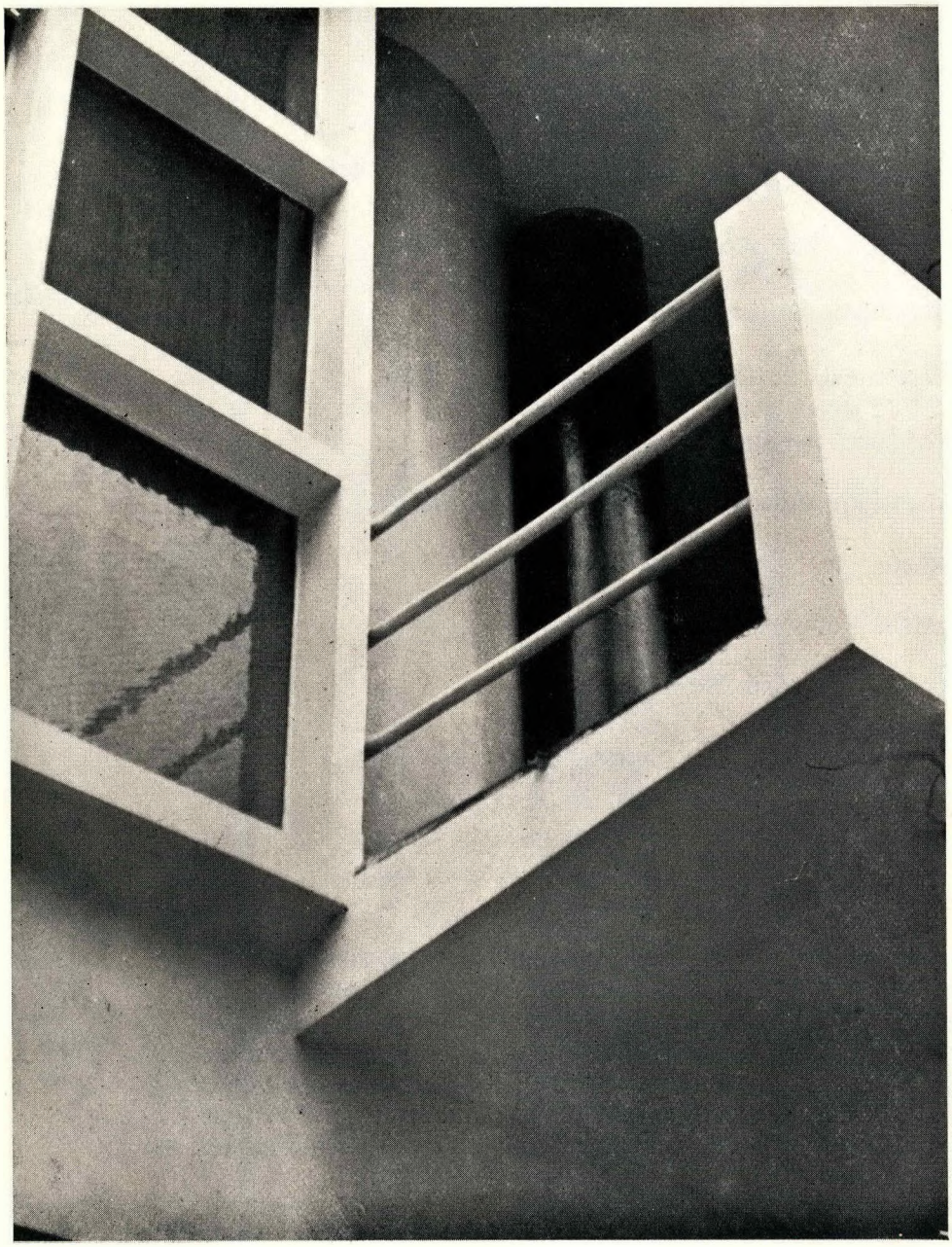
Annual subscription per post £1 – 1 – 0 direct from the Secretary.

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.

5, Kelvin House, 100 Fox Street, Johannesburg. Telephone 33—1936.

Volume Twenty ~~One~~ Two Number Four, April, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty Seven



READING COURT, JOHANNESBURG

The problem of the luxury flat building is a peculiar one. What is the luxury to consist of? There are two types of luxury flats in Johannesburg. The one has parquet flooring in the living rooms and soil-pipes running along the open corridors; elaborate and expensive light fittings in the flats, open gulley-traps in the courtyard; display cases, radios and cocktail cabinets in a not always pleasant contrast with a jungle of projecting stanchions and Damocles-beams sailing oddly through the rooms; flushing valve W.C.s and Liliputian balconies.

With the other type of luxury flats the luxury consists of cleanliness, brightness, airiness. All the money has gone into the construction, eliminating the stanchion and beam forest, accommodating all soil and waste pipes in special ducts, giving all-glass facades and balconies, on which one cannot only stand, but live. Reading Court belongs to that second type. To be more accurate, it establishes it.

But apart from luxury there is a problem of flat-planning as such. The open corridor, which is the usual horizontal circulation, has for a long time, and rightly, been the target of much pungent criticism. Attempts have been made to overcome the difficulty by glazing the corridors, giving a false ceiling at 7 ft. height, and lighting kitchens and bathrooms above the false corridor ceiling. The kitchens, at least, are definitely under-lit, unless further glass areas on to the corridors are introduced. Which, of course, to some extent, defeats the object. All the same, where 200 ft. of open and draughty corridors can be avoided by this method, it may be well worth while. For the shorter lengths occurring in smaller buildings, it seems, considering its disadvantages, hardly preferable to the old method.

A third solution has not yet been found. Bye-laws make it next to impracticable to light kitchens, as well as bathrooms, off ducts (which would have to take on uneconomic proportions) and to approach the flats from a formal hall. All the same, such a solution is possible if the vertical circulation can be placed centrally. On a fifty by hundred stand that would render the arrangement of a parking garage on the ground floor very nearly impossible.

All these difficulties, which there was only a very slender, if any, chance of overcoming under the general and particular circumstances, must have been in the architects' minds when they decided to stick to the traditional solution.

A glance at the typical floor plan of Reading Court reveals this fundamental fact: The normal solution. This statement is, once the reasons for the decision are realised, only another way of stating the great merits of this unique variation on the well-known flat plan theme. For it is, indeed, from the plans that one has to draw this knowledge. A walk through the building will leave the impression of something entirely new. Once again a proof for the theory, that in art it is the " how " that matters, not the " what."

And since it is, after all, this new " how " which interests us, not the old " material," let us take the plans along for a stroll through Reading Court.

As we come up from Clarendon Circle the building is hidden round the corner at the top of the hill. But we catch a glimpse of some startling white, which must obviously be part of some back facade, but it looks so well thought out, so carefully balanced and cleanly treated. It looks, in a word, terribly frontish. That is a portion of Reading Court's south facade.

Now we have reached the top of the hill. Behind us light grey, to the left of Reading Court some older dark grey, to its right red face-brick. In the middle, white. An uncompromising white, showing clearly all blunders (if any), but as clearly all merits (many). That is the effect of white. It is a criticism in itself, and a facade that can stand it stands a severe test. (It is to be hoped that the vogue, just starting, of painting our city horrors white, will continue. It will do a great deal towards opening the public's eyes!)

Reading Court does well in white. It can even afford the luxury of colour application, which makes the white seem more white still. And so the forms are brought out in all their clean-cut splendour.

The greatest difficulty confronting an architect in the design of a fifty foot frontage is the danger of getting an appearance of squeezed in narrowness. The elimination of all vertical components, one balcony going across the whole width, has been considered the remedy. Practice has shown that this method is almost as conspicuously unsuccessful as the emphasis on the vertical motif, both actually tending to strengthen the narrow-chested effect of these buildings.

The thing to do, obviously, is to give depth and achieve the effect of greater breadth by perspective. A clever balance of horizontals and verticals, projections and recesses of ample proportions, some slight overlapping of elements, and the difficulty is overcome. That exactly is what has been done in Reading Court. The sleeping porches have been combined into two vertical moments (the verticality broken by the difference between solid wired glass and airy fly-screening just to the extent necessary to indicate the difference in floor levels); the balconies are

GROUND FLOOR:

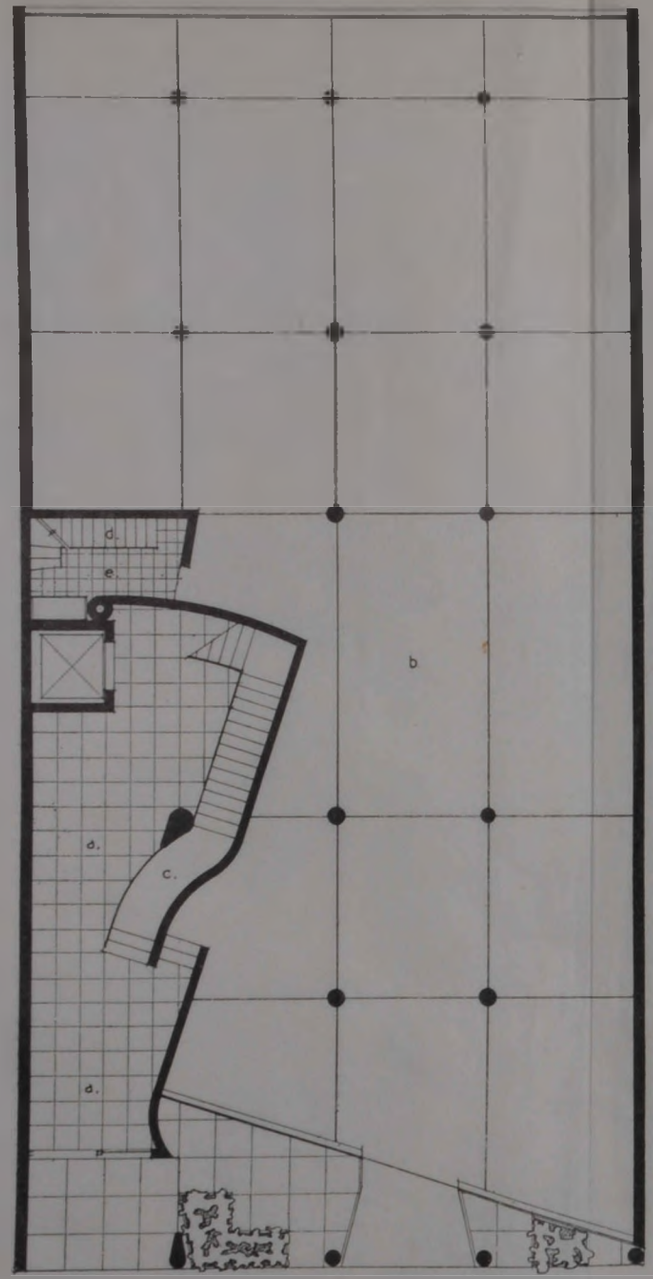
a. Entrance Hall
b. Garage
c. Main Stair
d. Fire Escape
e. Yard

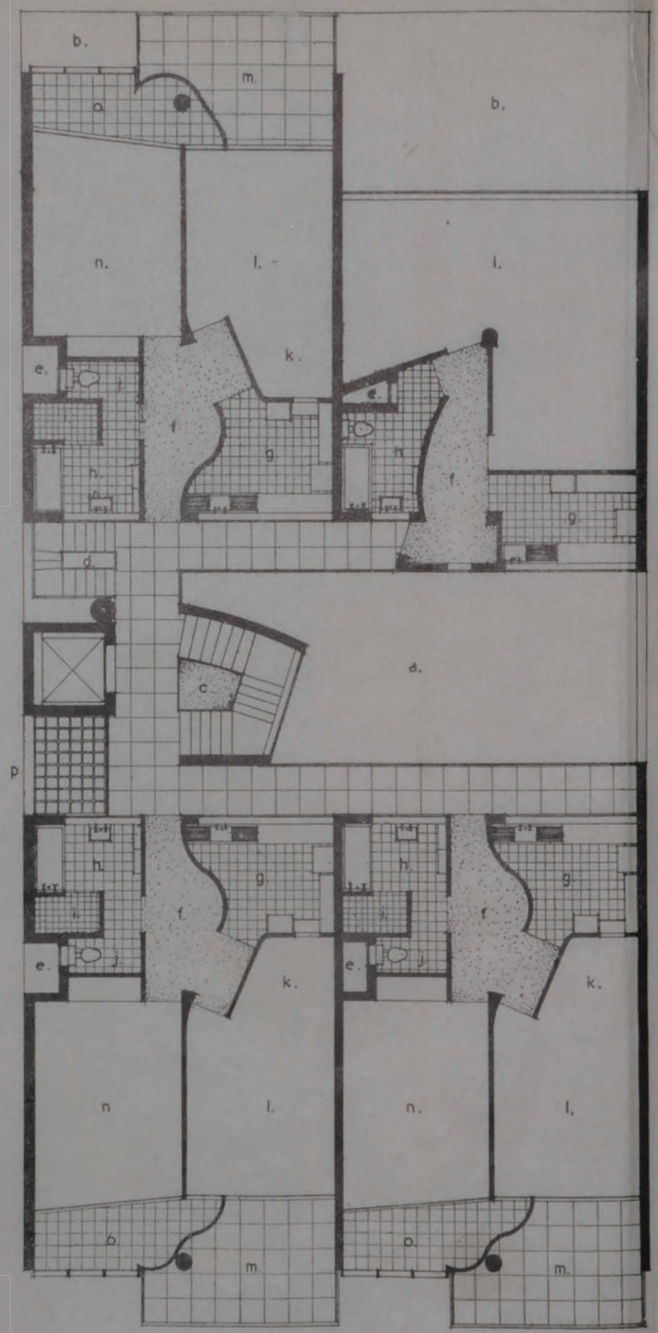
TYPICAL FLOOR:

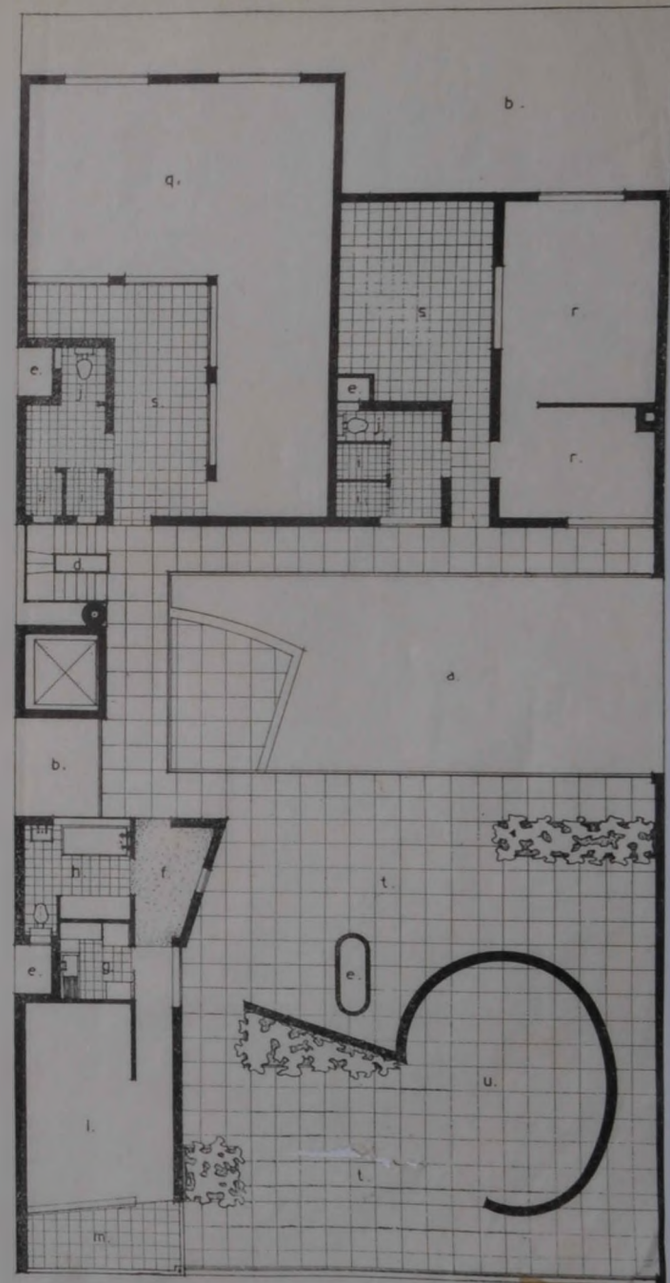
a. Courtyard
b. Area
c. Main Stair
d. Fire Escape
e. Duct
f. Entrance Hall
g. Kitchen
h. Bathroom
i. Shower
j. W.C.
k. Dining Recess
l. Living Room
m. Verandah
n. Bedroom
o. Sleeping Porch
p. Glasscrete Light

TERRACE FLOOR:

a. Courtyard
b. Area
d. Fire Escape
e. Duct
f. Entrance Hall
g. Cooking Recess
h. Bathroom
i. Shower
j. W.C.
l. Living Room
m Verandah
q. Native Girls
r. Native Boys
s. Yard
t. Terrace
u. Solarium







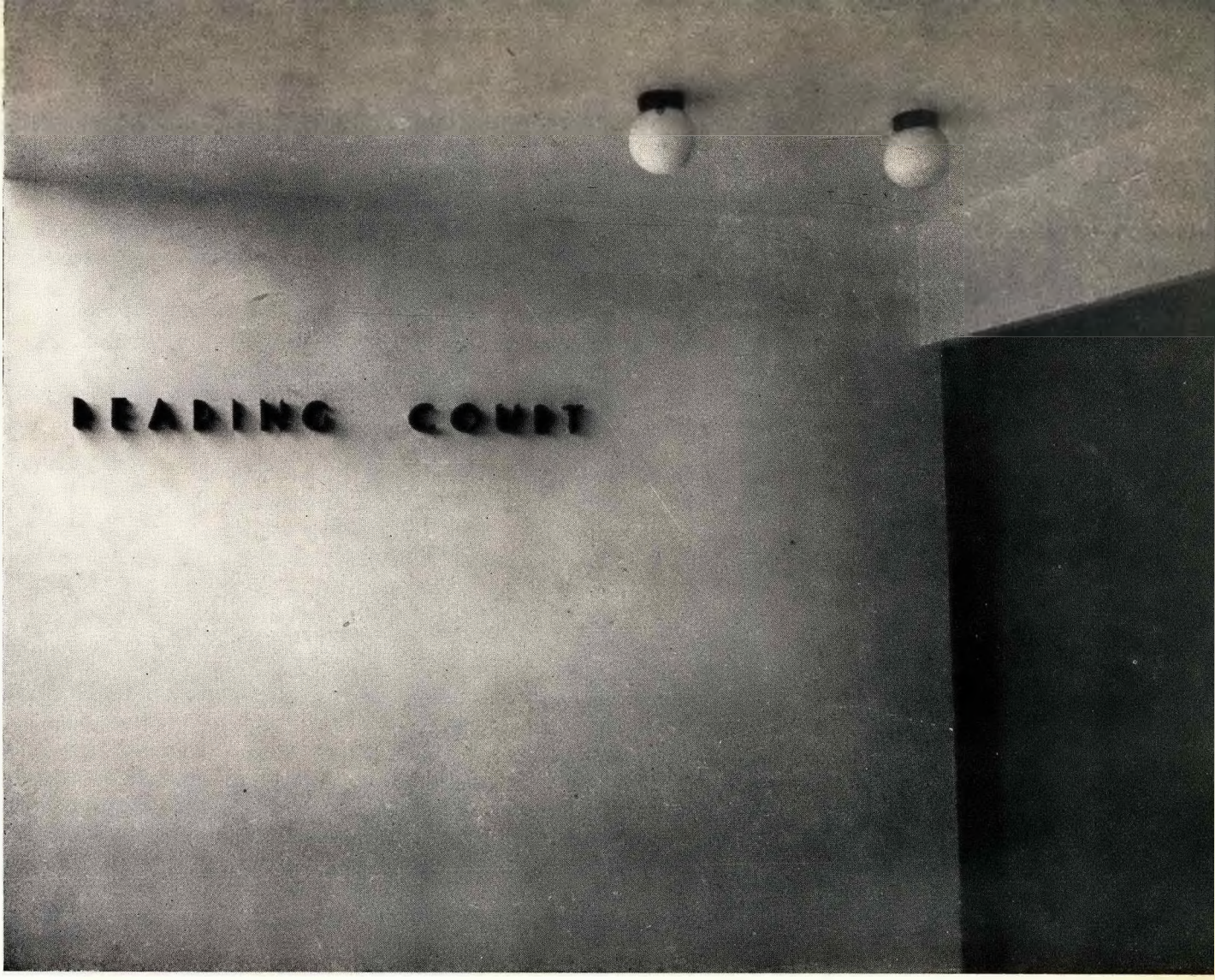
READING COURT

Architects. HANSON. TOMKIN FINKELSTEIN





GROUND FLOOR



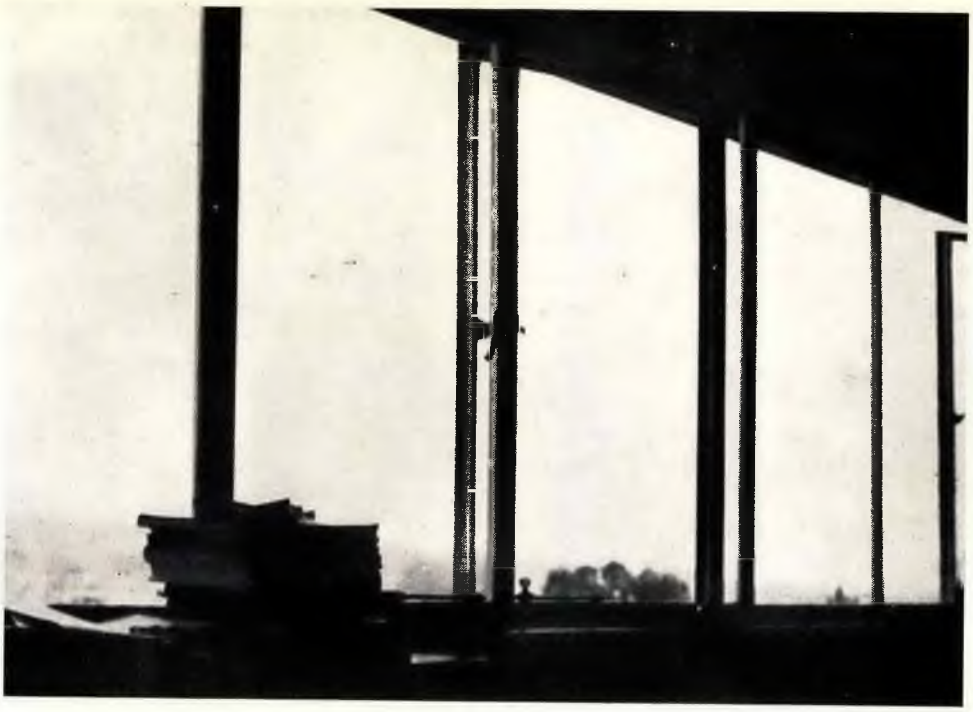
ENTRANCE

both broad and deep, the curved sleeping porch walls admirably emphasising the perspective quality. Caretaker's flat, solarium and wire-mesh balustrade on top; entrance, garage, free-standing columns and flower boxes below, complete the composition, which is remarkably stable and balanced in spite of the diversity of forms. But the solidity is restricted to what is necessary for giving the impression of structural soundness. For the rest the architects' attention was focussed on achieving an effect of airiness, of interpenetrating spaces, of vitality and verve. The result is of a light and self-evident elegance which it would be hard to surpass. By a long way the major achievement in modern facade treatment in this city.

Past a column and flower box, shaped to direct the eye towards the entrance, we enter Reading Court. A plain white wall, with a long strip of mirror to the left; to the right a complex arrangement of curves and skews, to include a column and a door leading to the parking garage. The first flight of stairs follows the curved outline of the garage wall, giving ample space to the lift hall. This is treated in apple-green and aluminium colour, black flue, black grano stair, white staircase soffit and white wire-mesh railing, terracotta coloured column, brownish red quarry tile floor. The long strip of mirror projects these colours on to the plain white wall. Colours and materials combine to give an effect of coolness and openness which is in distinct and pleasant contrast to the carpeted paste-voluptuousness of most entrance halls in Johannesburg flat buildings. Such an entrance hall is neither a lounge nor a boudoir, but essentially a continuation of the street: pure circulation, only limited to a smaller number of people and including the vertical direction. In a flat building strangers live side by side, the entrance hall has only distributing functions. That need not exclude elegance and refinement of treatment. Reading Court shows an exemplary solution.

The lift, unfortunately, contradicts the entrance hall with a type of veneer, which would go better with the carpeted " lounge " type. We therefore prefer to use the stair, wide, easy-going, extremely light and pleasant. The handling of the wire-mesh railing is superb, the staircase window a very fine achievement.

Landing on the first floor, we get an impression of the general handling of the internal area. How pleasant, clean and formal the treatment is! Except for rain water pipes, no pipes are to be seen anywhere. Colour: Black grano, white plaster and white glazing, a delicate tint of Indian yellow for the doors and black numerals. Essentially a composition in black and white, singularly successful in its vigorous simplicity. (Only think, for comparison, of the normal type: Red grano, yellowish face-brick halfway up, cream or grey plaster, green railing, blue doors and blue

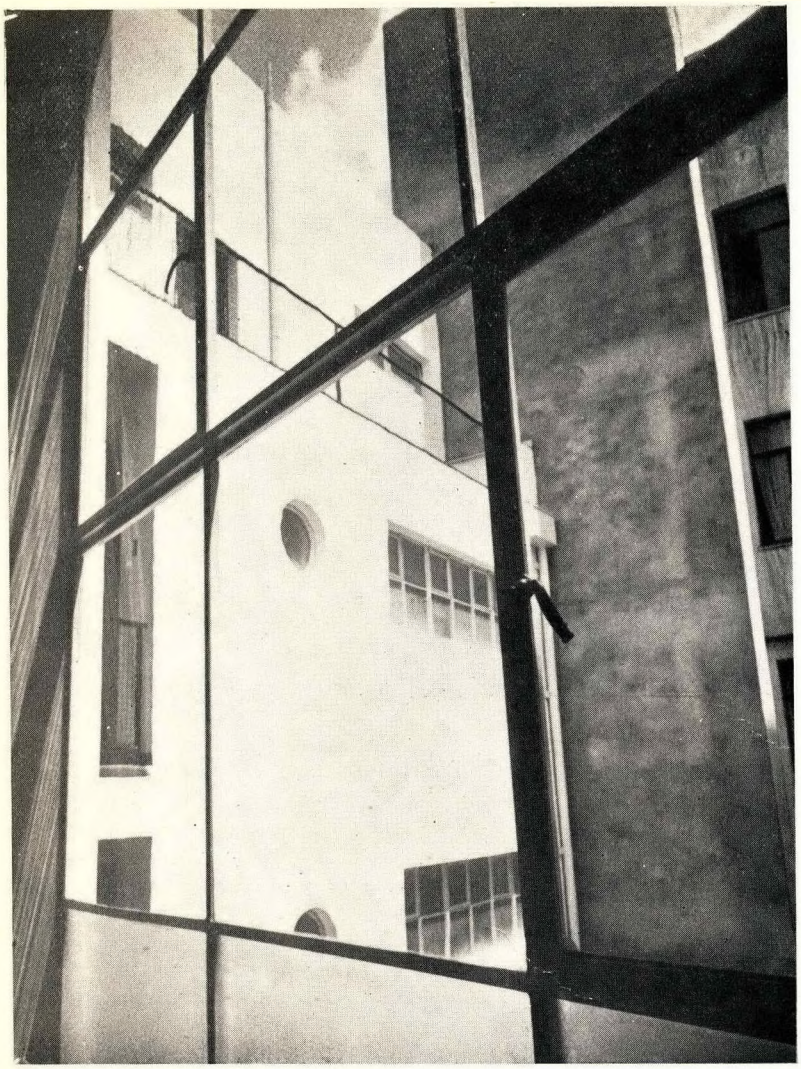


Window to Bachelor Flat

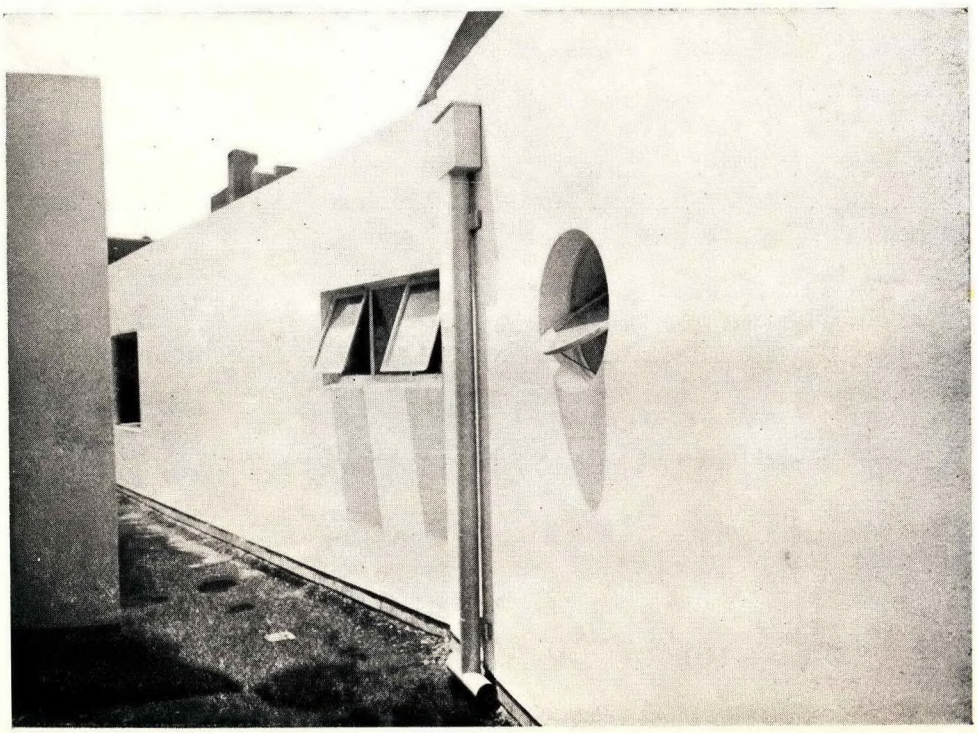
glazing bars. A polychromy that is more kaleidoscopic than artistic! And soil pipes giving a moment of movement, to the musical accompaniment of a waste discharging into the gulley trap.) On plan Reading Court's courtyard does not seem different. Yet it is. Even the photo makes that clear.

How little plans convey. The staircase on plan seems weak and undefined in shape. But the architects' plastic imagination has worked more accurately than the critic's analysis. The staircase could hardly be more definite, more forceful than it is now, seen in body.

The flats: Three two-room flats and one bachelor flat to the floor. The two-room flats, on plan, look rather flamboyant. Yet the actual effect is far from that. The small entrance hall is a clever piece of planning, though not without faults. The curve, designed to give space, seems on plan to give a definite direction towards the bedroom door. In fact, it certainly fails in directing



The Stair Window



Caretakers Wing

the eye towards the living-room door, but it at least does not tend to lead away from it, as would appear from the plan. That is due to the subdued light which softens the curve to a very considerable extent. So the " weak " curve of the staircase tower is strengthened sufficiently by the strong external sunlight to hold its own, the " strong " curve of the hall is softened sufficiently to become unobtrusive. Whether or not this was the architects' intention, it is hard to ascertain now. But what was fully successful with the staircase has not worked as well the other way round with the entrance halls, because these have definitely suffered in shape.

Bathrooms, with separate showers, separate W.C.s, bright and airy kitchens, all are extremely well and thoughtfully fitted and finished. The ducts serve their purpose well and, incidentally (to counter the practical man's argument about waste of valuable space) take well under $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the habitable area.

The living room, of good proportions, has a dining recess with serving hatch to the kitchen; simple and dignified light fittings and electric fireplace with bookcase and slate shelf. The north aspect is made use of by a complete floor-to-ceiling glass wall, delicately sub-divided. A door leads on to a balcony with an average width of twelve feet and about as deep. With our South African climate, this is to all intents a third room, a feature of really luxurious dimensions, and certainly one which, more than anything else, marks the different approach to flat planning.

The bedroom is also big, has a fine built-in wardrobe and again a full height glass screen, cutting it off from the sleeping porch. This sleeping porch can also be approached from the living room. It is closed in by a concrete grille, which in its lower third is filled with wired glass and in the upper portion with fly-netting. In spite of this strong screening, the bedroom behind is brilliantly light, an effect no doubt achieved by the correct use of the all-glass wall.

But the finest portions of the building are the bachelor flats. They constitute a lesson in free planning, a planning of such cleverness and certainty of touch that the result is nothing short of perfect.

Here an entrance hall of really ample proportions is provided. The slightly curved wall of the bathroom gives a definite direction towards the main door (the straight wall to the right giving access to kitchen and sleeping portion). This main room is of a shape which allows for easy sub-dividing by screens or curtains. It goes the full 24 ft. length of the flat, and for about half the width is not much less in depth. One long window stretches from wall to wall, giving the fine south view of Johannesburg. For the night, a clever combination of direct and indirect lighting allows the occupant to bring out different aspects of this spatial

composition. All together it is difficult to describe the atmosphere of freedom and ease, of spaciousness and self-sufficiency that pervades this architectural microcosmos. These bachelor flats, to my mind, are the outstanding achievement which places Reading Court in a class of its own, not only for architectural treatment but also for the essential: planning.

The roof, approached by way of the fire escape, accommodates, besides the native service, a caretaker's flat and a huge solarium. Apart from the practical side, which is as expertly handled as everything else, the formal composition of the square block of the caretaker's flat, the sweeping curve of the solarium and the restricted curves of the pipe-duct, is of great force and balance, not only in itself, but also in relation to the building as a whole.

Without claiming in any way to have given a complete description or analysis, I believe that the impressions gained can be summed up as being far more than satisfactory. Slight shortcomings have not been ignored, but the general feeling of any enthusiast of the new aesthetics in architecture must be one of deep satisfaction and joy. Because it happens only too rarely that an architect is sufficiently free to give to the practical functions of a scheme an aesthetic expression of such startling boldness, mellowed or heightened—whichever way you prefer—by a decidedly Latin-French grace and elegance. What more could we say in its praise than emphasise the fact that it has successfully realised that precious and painfully hard postulate: La grace d'abord!

K.J.

Studies by **COATON**
HOWIE
SINCLAIR

NINE YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF A PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION ACT.

By J. S. LEWIS

Mr. President-in-Chief, Ladies and Gentlemen: Despite the comprehensive nature of the subject delegated to me, I propose in this review only to deal with those matters of major importance which will be of general interest. It would seem advisable, at the outset, to trace briefly the origin of a Professional Registration Act applying to architects and quantity surveyors. It may not be generally appreciated that the first known attempt at organisation by architects was made in London nearly 150 years ago. Forty years after that initial effort—that is, in 1834—some fifteen London architects banded themselves together and brought into being an organisation known as the Institute of British Architects. Although only fifteen strong, this body proved to be both talented and influential, for within two or three years they succeeded in obtaining a Royal Charter. That was in the reign of William IV. Incidentally, it must be of interest to state that the organisation brought into being by those fifteen men who loved their art so dearly has since developed into the powerful Royal Institute of British Architects. The initial membership of 15 is now 15,000.

The wording of the Royal Charter granted 100 years ago (1837) is most interesting and informative—and it may well be brought to the notice of our South African Government. I wish to quote but one section:—

" Whereas certain of our loving subjects—(architects in those days had earned the affection of their Sovereign!)—have associated together for the purpose of forming an Institution for the general advancement of civil architecture and for promoting and facilitating the acquirement of the knowledge of the various arts and sciences connected therewith. It being an art esteemed and encouraged in all enlightened nations as tending greatly to promote the domestic convenience of citizens and the public improvement and embellishment of towns and cities. . . . ."

Turning now to the Parliamentary registration of all pursuing the architectural profession, one finds that this idea was first put forward in London 52 years ago, i.e., in the year 1884, when a Committee known as the Architects', Engineers' and Surveyors' Registration Committee was formed. Finality in this matter, in so far as Great Britain is concerned, was only reached in 1931.

Now architecture, like medicine, is an international thing, and one finds that International Congresses of Architects have discussed this question of statutory registration from time to time. The first reference to an International Congress which I can trace relates to the one held in Paris in the year 1900; thereafter in London in 1906, in Vienna in 1908, and in Rome in 1911. Resolutions were passed at these International Congresses to the effect that it was in the interests of the public of all nations that architects should be registered.

Coming now nearer home—and by " home " I mean South Africa—the first enactment dealing with architects as a professional body was passed by the Natal Parliament in 1902. One year later the hitherto little-known quantity surveyors announced to the world at large that they had joined the learned professions, by virtue of an Ordinance passed in the Transvaal in 1903. This quantity surveyors' enactment is unique in that I believe it incorporated the first South African-wide professional organisation, many years before Union. In 1909 the architects of the Transvaal secured recognition by virtue of an Act passed by the then Parliament of the Transvaal. In the Cape Province and in the Orange Free State there were privately organised Institutes of Architects.

Digressing for a moment, it will be necessary in this paper to refer continuously to architects and to quantity surveyors. The architect has been referred to as the man gifted with imagination, and the quantity surveyor as the man gifted with a sense of humour—the sense of humour being necessary for constant practice on the client. And one might here quote the oracle who wrote that " Imagination was given to man to compensate him for what he is not, and a sense of humour, to console him for what he is."

By 1927 it will be seen that South African architects and quantity surveyors had had many years' experience of professional organisation. Functioning as they were in 1927 in the Union of South Africa, the Institutes of Architects in the four Provinces, together with the Institute of Quantity Surveyors, decided to merge their interests and to approach the Union Parliament for a consolidating Act applying to the whole of the Union. Alas, they did not encounter that understanding sympathy in the Union Parliament which—bearing in mind the Charter granted by William IV—they had felt justified in anticipating. Great difficulty was experienced in getting the Union Parliament, composed as it was in 1927, to " see the light." What the architects regarded as the most important feature of their Draft Bill had to be jettisoned: that feature was that the planning and designing of buildings should, by statute, only be undertaken by qualified, registered architects.

The Union Parliament of 1927 accorded the professions of architecture and quantity surveying one measure of protection only—that of title. Since 1927 it has been an indictable offence for any person other than a registered architect to hold himself out in any way so as to indicate that he is an architect.

It may be permissible—it is certainly relevant—if for a moment or two I touch here upon the subject of Parliamentary representation. Leaders of commerce and of industry—especially the great building industry—are on record as stating that Parliament could fulfil its obligations to the country more efficiently and more adequately if Parliament were, may I say, leavened by the presence of representatives of commerce and by, say, half a dozen master builders. Well, whatever the reason be, architects and quantity surveyors do not seem to have had political aspirations other than for the promotion of architecture as a national asset. I speak subject to correction: I do not know of any architect Member of Parliament in South Africa, although I believe in Natal we now have an architect member of the Provincial Council.

It may also be that architects and quantity surveyors felt that the justice of their cause was so clear that the " powers that be " would see the light without the presence of special representation in Parliament.

Despite the cold sympathy that this Institute and its Chapter received at the hands of the Parliament in 1927, they none the less faithfully pursued their ideals of serving the national welfare by doing all possible to improve the standard of architecture. One of the outstanding achievements since 1927 has been the truly remarkable progress made in the matter of professional education. It has been said, and I think without fear of contradiction, that the standard of professional education in South Africa is as high as anything this world has yet known. It is even more important to add that the encomium I have just quoted was made to me in Great Britain last year by those eminently qualified to express such an opinion. The School of Architecture of the University of the Witwatersrand has earned its place among the first six institutions of its kind in the British Empire; and, in regard to quantity surveying, South Africa is the only country in the world where University training in that profession is possible.

May I here quote a few figures. In the year 1927 there were 40 students of architecture at the University of the Witwatersrand: last year there were 125. Since 1927 58 architectural students have completed their University training at the University of the Witwatersrand. With regard to Capetown, there were, in 1927, 24 students of architecture at the University there; last year there were 63; and since 1927 21 architectural

students have completed their University training at the University of Capetown. Now what of the young men who have thus completed their University training? Taking 1929 as a starting-off point, in that professional registration after that time was possible only by means of examination, I would like to submit a few figures. Since 1929, 113 new registrations as architects have been effected. Of these 113, the Transvaal has 75, the Cape Province 26, Natal 11, and the Orange Free State one. Of these 113, again, 65 have obtained their professional training in South Africa; 35 obtained their R.I.B.A. qualification overseas; and 12 obtained their training in various European countries.

Turning now to quantity surveying, in which professional training the University of Pretoria specialises, there were last year 38 students of quantity surveying, and thus far 20 students have completed their University training. Since 1929, the number of quantity surveyors registered by virtue of the examination qualification is 43, of whom 21 are University trained.

Now reference has already been made in this paper to the Royal Institute of British Architects, which is one of the most dignified and powerful professional bodies extant. The Royal Institute has been good enough to state that it regards the Institute of South African Architects as one of the most advanced organisations of architects in the British Empire. The Royal Institute has completely recognised our South African Degrees in Architecture, and, as a result, any student who obtains his Degree in Architecture in South Africa requires no further qualification, but is at once eligible for those much-prized professional initials, A.R.I.B.A. Similarly, with regard to quantity surveying, the Chartered Surveyors' Institution of Great Britain—which in its sphere enjoys a status as high as that of the R.I.B.A.—the Chartered Surveyors' Institution of Great Britain is also on record as indicating its pride in its affiliated Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors. The Chartered Surveyors' Institution, also, has recognised the Degree in Quantity Surveying of the University of Pretoria, so that the valued initials "P.A.S.I." are, without further qualification, available to the holders of our South African Degree in Quantity Surveying.

In brief, therefore, our South African students of architecture and quantity surveying, by virtue of completing their University courses here in South Africa, thereby obtain the highest professional status that this world can offer.

Perhaps the statements and figures quoted in this paper will assume an additional significance if one may regard the architect and the quantity surveyor as professional workers within the great building industry, which, in South Africa, ranks as the

second most important industry in the country—second only to the gold mining industry. At this stage may I quote the latest registration figures with regard to architects and quantity surveyors in South Africa. There are at present on the official register 537 architects in South Africa, of whom, in round figures, 300 are in private practice, and nearly 200 are known as salaried members. The salaried members are a valued and important part of the Institute's organisation, for they represent the Public Works Department, the Provincial Administrations, and the Local Authorities, in addition to the assistants in the offices of practitioners. With regard to quantity surveyors, there are, in round figures, 160 on the register, of which number 52 practise solely as quantity surveyors, 33 practise quantity surveying in addition to architecture, and 40 are salaried members.

Some years ago concern was expressed at what was regarded as the overcrowding of the professions. A few comparative figures as to other professions in South Africa may be of interest here. So far as I have been able to obtain figures relating to the whole of South Africa, they are these. Taking, first of all, medicine, there are five doctors in the Union to one architect, and there are 19 doctors to one quantity surveyor. Next, with regard to dentistry, there are three dentists in the Union to every two architects, and five dentists to one quantity surveyor. With regard to pharmaceutical chemists, there are three chemists to one architect, and eight chemists to one quantity surveyor. Taking accountancy next, there are two accountants to one architect, and five accountants to one quantity surveyor. With regard to law, the only figures I have available relate to the Transvaal: in the Transvaal there are three attorneys to one architect.

May I turn now to the important question of architectural competitions, to which matter the Central Council has for many years given the closest consideration. Since 1927, 24 competitions have been held under the Institute's Conditions of Competition, and these 24 competitions cover a wide field of architectural interest: Government and Provincial work, in the form of hospitals and courts; Municipal work in the form of townships, town planning, a library and a fire station; and various commercial enterprises.

Now, although there are differences of opinion on this question of architectural competitions, I think it can fairly be said that architectural competitions are of unique educational value to the country generally, and to the profession in particular. By means of architectural competitions combined architectural research, as it were, is focussed on the problems to be solved, and architecture as a national asset is undoubtedly enriched by the opportunity thus afforded of obtaining an

unlimited variety of new ideas. On this question of competitions, may I refer to our very good friends, the master builders. The Witwatersrand master builders, who are now building their own new premises, not only utilised the competition system, but introduced the novel element of limiting their competition to the younger generation of architects. Now the master builders are an eminently practical body of men—their achievements, by the way, are by no means limited to skill at municipal government or to skill at bowls; and their action in this competition is a striking tribute to their confidence in our new generation of architects.

Now a reference to master builders brings to mind the fact that they are genuinely interested in architecture as a matter of civic pride, and that they, with us, deplore the amount of building work continuously undertaken without proper architectural planning and designing. One may fairly associate the genuine Trade Union craftsman with this statement. On this question of building of inferior quality, I would like to read at this public session of Congress a statement issued jointly by a Conference in Great Britain of master builders and Trade Unionists which investigated housing schemes in Great Britain. This statement is as follows: "Attention should be given to problems presented by the number of cases where houses of inferior quality are being erected by unqualified persons." The statement continues "that these two bodies had found, through their investigations, that a great deal of housing work in Great Britain appeared to be of such inferior quality that the reputation of the industry proper was gravely endangered thereby. They had found that persons quite unqualified either to design or to erect houses were conducting house-building operations upon a large scale, and, in consequence of the apparent saving in cost made possible to such persons by grossly inferior, though often superficially attractive products, the opportunities of those well qualified, professionally and industrially, to provide houses of a more genuine value, were greatly hampered and restricted. It was finally suggested—(this relates to Great Britain)—that in this connection some building societies do not properly fulfil their moral and social responsibilities."

Well, Mr. President-in-Chief, one can but commend to the most serious consideration of our governmental authorities in South Africa the striking statement just quoted, made by two bodies singularly qualified to express such an opinion. The Town Planning Ordinances passed in our Provinces in South Africa bring one a stage nearer to that goal which the architects of South Africa so earnestly desire to see reached, viz., that it will not be possible for any buildings in this country to be constructed unless they have been designed and planned by qualified architects. Now, ironically enough, this happy state of affairs is, in a

geographical sense, very near at hand, for it obtains by virtue of a statute in Southern Rhodesia. Is it to be said that the legislature of Southern Rhodesia is, in this respect, more enlightened; that that legislature is more concerned with architecture as a matter of national welfare, and that it is less concerned with, may I say, political considerations?

That brings me to a matter which can only be approached with some distaste, viz., to the prosecutions which have from time to time taken place in South Africa against those unqualified persons who have flagrantly posed as architects. The policy of this Institute has been to issue a warning to such persons, and if such warning be ignored, then to institute a prosecution. In some cases substantial fines have been imposed by the Courts upon the offending persons—fines ranging from £5 to £25; and in one instance the Court warned the accused that if they appeared again on a similar charge the full penalty laid down in the Act, viz., a fine of £100, would be imposed.

There is no time, and this is not the place, in which to deal with matters largely of domestic interest. As stated at the outset, an attempt has been made in this paper to concentrate upon matters of major importance. During these nine years a considerable volume of detailed experience has been gained, the importance of which cannot be exaggerated. In this country of vast distances between our centres of population, with different conditions and traditions obtaining in the respective Provinces, domestic readjustments have been necessary. But I think it can now be said that the Institute's house has been put in order, and that its organisation now is such that it can face the future with courage and confidence. It is the earnest desire and determination of the Council I represent that the national welfare shall be served, efficiently and cleanly, by the professions of architecture and quantity surveying.

I feel it would be unpardonable if, in a review such as this, just tribute were not paid to the older men of the two professions for their self-sacrificing work and unflinching devotion to their professions, and particularly for their constant devotion to the welfare of the students and the younger practitioners. In support of this statement I offer the reliable evidence of first-hand experience. These older men now experience the satisfaction of seeing their labours bear fruit, in that several of the younger practitioners are already occupying positions of responsibility, and right well are these younger men discharging their administrative duties.

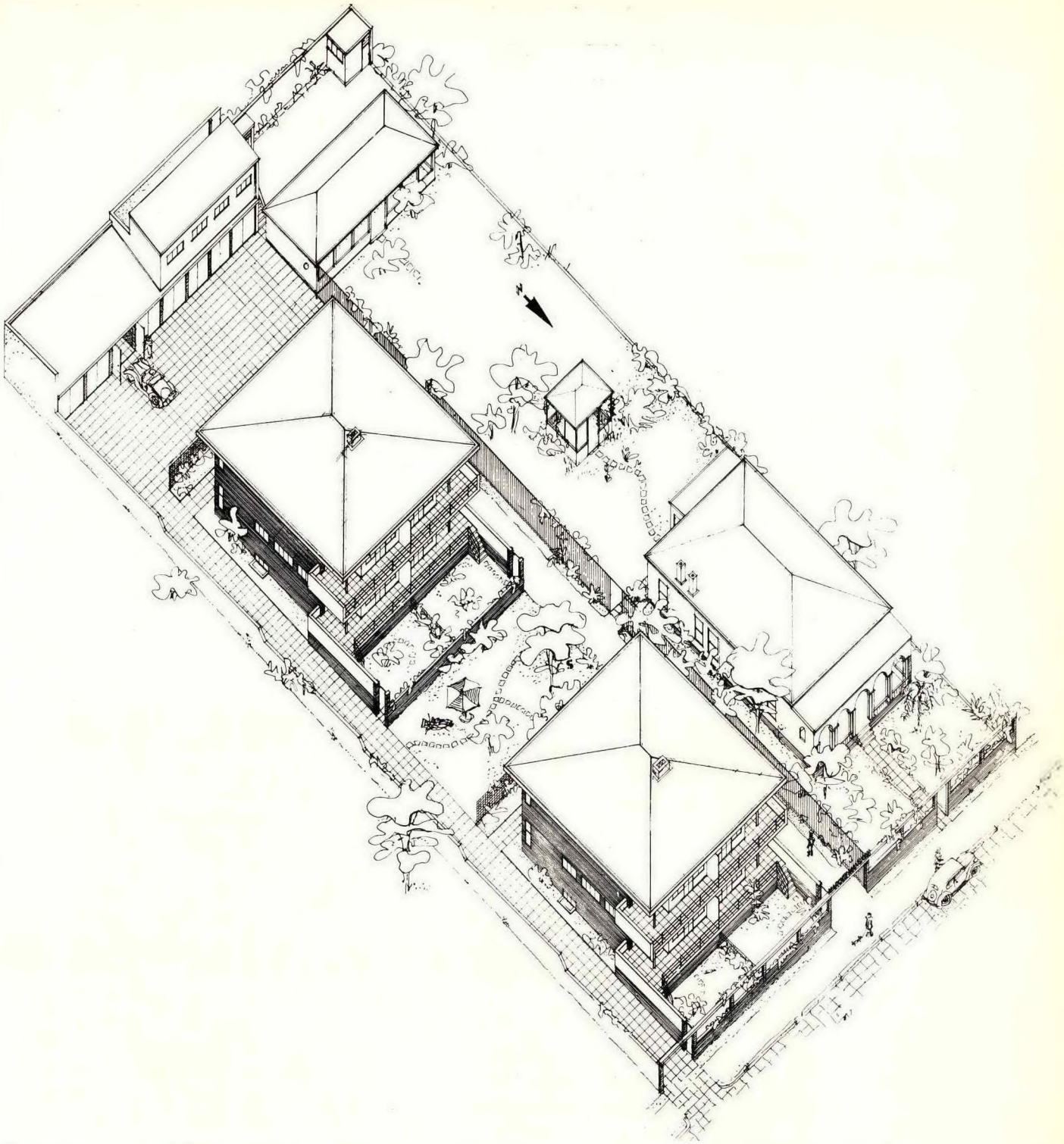
Viewing my subject in retrospect, one might ask two questions. The first question is: What has the Union Parliament given to the two professions of architecture and quantity surveying? The answer is, merely an instalment of that statutory

recognition which the professions feel they are justly entitled to. The second question is: What have the two professions given to South Africa? The answer here is: A standard of architecture on the one hand, and a standard of professional education on the other, comparable with anything that this good world has to offer. Apart from the considerations already advanced, University education in South Africa is a matter in which the Union Government is vitally interested. Can it not fairly be argued that the products of our University training, our young practitioners in architecture and quantity surveying, have a right to look to the Government to permit them a reasonable opportunity of applying in practice their professional skill in a field which, alas, is exploited and pirated by so many unqualified persons? Can it not fairly be hoped that the Union Government will regard architecture, as did William IV in the Charter granted by him 100 years ago, as " an art esteemed and encouraged in all enlightened nations as tending greatly to promote the domestic convenience of citizens and the public improvement and embellishment of towns and cities " ?

May I conclude by stating that, if this paper proves to be gently provocative, of discussion here and now, and of inquiry by the " powers that be " later on, it will have achieved its purpose.

A Paper read by the Registrar at the second Congress of the Institute of South African Architects, held in Johannesburg, November, 1936.

The discussion on the above Paper will appear in our next issue.



Marchie Mansions Pretoria, Architect Aubrey Nunn

NEW FLATS IN PRETORIA: MARCHIE MANSIONS

ARCHITECT: AUBREY VICTOR NUNN, A.R.I.B.A.

Programme: Eight flats, with garages, to be erected on a narrow, deep site facing north, and with a slight slope from south to north, in the residential area of Pretoria.

On the eastern boundary is an existing brick wall with the neighbour's outbuildings and yard at the back; on the western boundary, the owner's own residence and garden with rooms at the back.

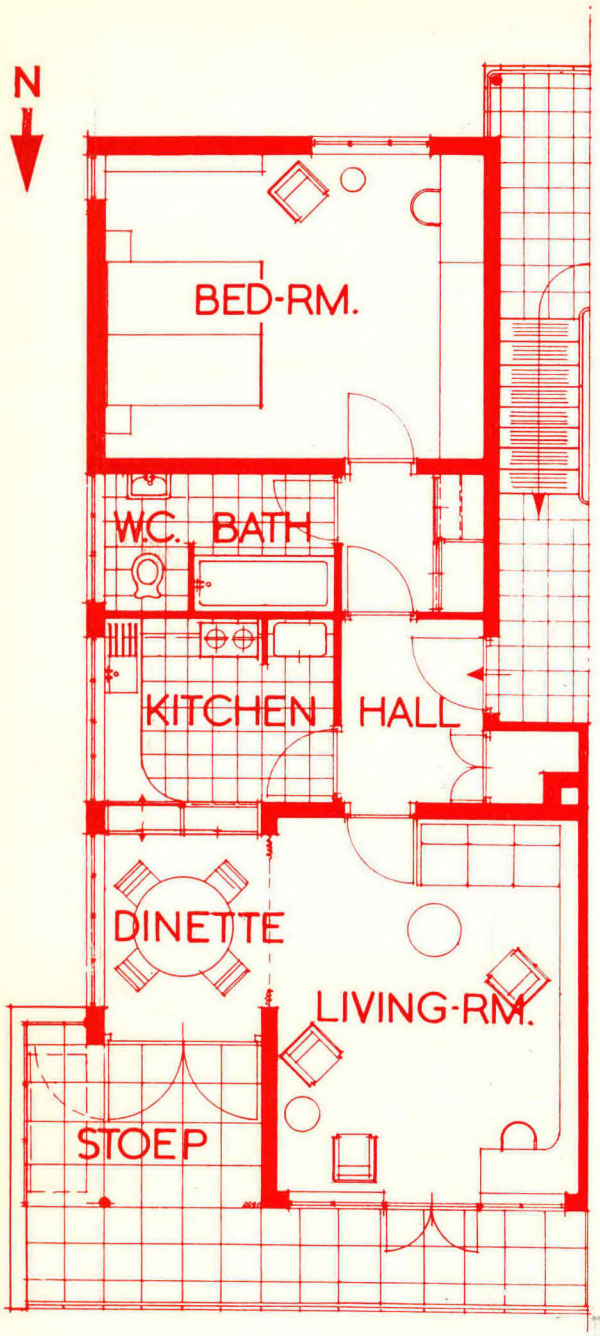
Different schemes have been prepared. The first scheme, featuring one long, south-to-north block, facing east, was not satisfactory in view of the fall of the ground and the not too pleasant eastern aspect. After developing several alternative schemes, the one shown in this publication was decided on, and in practice proves this as being the correct solution. This consists of two separate units, the one placed behind the other, each containing four flats. The native rooms are on top of the garages at the back of the ground. The narrowness of the ground, together with the restrictions of the by-laws regarding the distance from the side boundaries, did not allow the planning of all the rooms on the north side. In view of this the best solution seemed to plan the living section, including balcony and stoep, broadly on the north side, and develop the rest towards the less restricted depth of the ground. The basement of each block contains the boiler. Coal is thrown through a chute from the car drive-in, which is on the east side.

A central staircase leads to the entrance hall of each flat. From here each flat is developed so as to seperate the different functional groups. A direct door leads to the living room and, connected with this, the dinette, balcony and stoep. Another direct door leads to the kitchen and allows same to be reached without interfering with the other sections. The kitchen is fitted with electric stove, refrigerator, vegetable cupboard under working table and sink with draining board and plate rack attached.

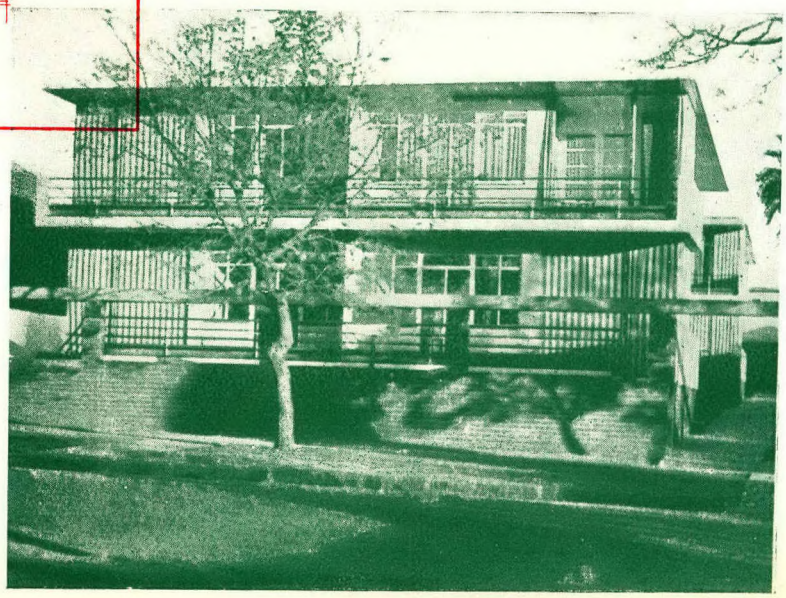
Between the kitchen and dinette a cupboard is built in. At the height of the working table an opening is provided with sliding doors on each side, forming a smell-proof hatchway. This cupboard is fitted with various sized drawers to hold cutlery as well as smaller groceries. On the dinette side it contains a recess with sliding glass doors, making a special sideboard unnecessary. Shelves with doors opening both to kitchen and dinette make it unnecessary for the servant to leave the kitchen during meals, as the crockery, etc., can be taken out straight from the dinette.







PART PLAN



It is felt that one of the biggest disadvantages of flats is the lack of freeness and of space for walking about apart from the space left after the rooms have been furnished. It is a big advantage if a room can be widely opened to the outside, as there is then no feeling of being shut in or cramped. Therefore, an arrangement has been adopted of an open balcony in conjunction with living-room, stoep and dinette. This gives that extra space to the living-room without interfering with stoep or dinette, which, if desired, can be formed into one big unit by a double glass door. A parapet wall on side and back of the stoep gives the necessary privacy, while a glass screen shelters it from wind and rain. Blinds have been provided to separate the stoep from the front balcony. This balcony, running along the full length of the north front, has another advantage: in winter time it allows the sun to shine right into the rooms, giving the necessary warmth, while in summer it affords shade and coolness.

The bedroom section is entered through a lobby containing a built-in cupboard for linen and clothes, with space on top for articles not in use. Bedroom and bathroom are entered from this lobby, which gives the necessary isolation of the bedroom section from the living section. A further deeper cupboard is provided in the entrance hall for storing suitcases, boxes, etc.

The flats on the ground floor have, in addition to the provided balcony space, small gardens in front, which can be reached by means of steps from the balcony. Garden space for use of occupiers of the upper flats is provided between the two blocks.

The finish has been chosen with special attention to its durability. The outside walls, including the walls of the staircase, are finished in red face-bricks, the horizontal joints being pronounced. The balconies and eaves are painted white, while the walls under cover of the stoeps and balconies are finished in grey. The windows and external doors are painted white contrasted by the deep blue of the tubular railings and columns of balconies and staircases. The bathroom and kitchen are tiled the full height of the walls. All internal walls are treated in light cream, the ceilings and door frames in broken white, while doors and cupboards are finished in grey. This neutral colour scheme has been chosen so as not to clash with any colour brought in with the furniture of the occupants.

The same principle applies to the sizes and shapes of the rooms, which have been kept as neutral as possible, giving various different possibilities of placing the furniture, according to different individual tastes.

Contractor: W. Stretton (Pty.), Ltd.; reinforced concrete, Hunt, Leuchars and Hepburn, Ltd.; painter, Horak and Gravenstein (materials, Herbert Evans & Co., Ltd.); electric light, Pretoria Electrical Co.; ironwork, A. Wolff.

HELLMUT STAUCH.

MEMBERSHIP.

The membership at the close of the year consisted of 92 practising, 32 salaried, four retired and 13 absentee members, a total of 141 members. The death is recorded, with much regret, of three members—Mr. G. Noick, Mr. Howard Finlay and Mr. Herbert Black.

MEETINGS.

One Annual General Meeting, sixteen Committee meetings and nine Sub-Committee meetings were held during the year.

FINANCIAL.

From the accounts attached to this report it will be seen that Income amounted to £461 19s. 3d. and Expenditure to £455 10s. 11d., leaving a credit balance of £6 8s. 4d. The profit derived from publication of the 1936-37 Kalendar was £73 4s. 5d., and it is again due to this augmentation of normal income that it has been possible to show a balance on the right side. The Capital Account, which at the end of last year stood at £218 1s. 6d., has been increased to £433 2s. 5d. by (1) the addition of £6 8s. 4d. from Income and Expenditure Account and (2) the sum of £208 12s. 7d. waived by the Central Council in respect of back levies on subscriptions. It will be noted that £7 1s. 0d. was withdrawn from the Benevolent Fund in the year under review.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The 1936 session of the Central Council was opened in Johannesburg on April 29th and concluded on May 2nd. Mr. H. J. Brownlee, F.R.I.B.A., President of the Cape Institute, was elected President-in-Chief of the Council, with Mr. E. M. Powers, F.R.I.B.A., as Vice-President-in-Chief. Many matters of importance to the profession were dealt with during the session, and subsequently at meetings of the Executive Committee. Reference has been made under the preceding heading to the waiving of back levies by the Central Council. Its magnanimous action in this matter is very much appreciated.

The Cape's representatives on the Central Council, Messrs. Brownlee and Parker, are cordially thanked for their loyal and efficient services.

THE CONGRESS.

It was a happy inspiration on the part of the Central Council to arrange a Congress of the architectural and quantity surveying professions so as to synchronise with the Empire Exhibition in Johannesburg. The Congress took place towards the end of November and its proceedings throughout were characterised by

an earnest spirit of goodwill, co-operation and constructive effort. A full report of the Congress is in course of preparation and will be in the hands of all members at an early date.

THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.

Mr. Ingalton Sanders, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I., the Cape Institute's representative on the Allied Society's Conference of the Royal Institute, is cordially thanked for his services during the year under review.

Mr. Fred M. Glennie, an active member of the Cape Institute during the last twenty-three years, is heartily congratulated upon his election to Fellowship, R.I.B.A.

THE PORT ELIZABETH LOCAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. F. Owen Eaton, L.R.I.B.A., remains Chairman of the Local Committee, with Mr. Norman Harvey, L.R.I.B.A., Vice-Chairman, and Mrs. G. H. Brinkman, B.Arch., Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.

The number of students attending the architectural classes at the University of Capetown during 1936 was 55. Of these eight were first year, eight second year, eight third year, 10 fourth year and 21 fifth year students. Ten students succeeded in passing the final examinations.

THE LIBRARY.

Towards the end of the year your Committee felt that the meagre support given to the library and reading room set aside for the use of members, did not warrant the additional expenditure involved in providing separate accommodation for the purpose: consequently it was decided to modify the scheme to this extent, that the books and professional journals, although still available to members, will not in future be housed separately.

One volume (the 13th) of the Wren Society was acquired by purchase early in the year. The proprietors of the "Architect, Builder and Engineer" and the "South African Architectural Record" are thanked for the distribution of their respective journals to our members.

CONDITIONS OF BUILDING CONTRACT.

The revised Conditions of Building Contract prepared by the C.P.I. over a year ago were in due course submitted to the Central Council and through it to the constituent bodies for their consideration.

It is sincerely to be hoped that this very important matter will be brought to finality at an early date.

CITY OF CAPETOWN BUILDING REGULATIONS.

Local members will be pleased to hear that the revision of the City Building Regulations is now well advanced and in all likelihood will be completed towards the end of the present year.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY ART.

Fifteen exhibits were sent to the Architectural Section of the 1936-37 Exhibition of Contemporary Art. The Architectural Section has become an established feature of the Exhibition, and as an educative influence it should have a beneficial effect upon public aesthetic values in matters appertaining to architecture.

THE KALENDAR.

The thanks of the Institute are extended to Messrs. Brownlee, Glennie and Day for the exceedingly interesting and helpful articles contributed by them to the current issue of the Kalendar; and to Mr. F. K. Kendall for his services as honorary editor.

CAPE PROVINCE STUDENTS' PRIZES.

The University of Capetown has awarded the 1936 " John Perry " prize to Miss M. V. Ritchie and the Cape Provincial Institute prize to Mr. T. F. M. Orpen. These students are heartily congratulated upon their success.

THE C.P.I. BRONZE MEDAL.

The 1936 C.P.I. bronze medal, donated by the Cape Argus, has been awarded to Mr. F. K. Kendall, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., for his design of the North Transept of the Capetown Cathedral. The work was carried out in consultation with Sir Herbert Baker, K.C.I.E., R.A., F.R.I.B.A.

VISITS TO NEW GROOTE SCHUUR HOSPITAL.

By the courtesy of Mr. J. S. Cleland, M.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., M.C.Q.S., Secretary for Public Works, members of the Institute and students were privileged to view the new hospital works upon two occasions during the year under review.

PROSECUTION UNDER THE ACT.

Your Committee has to report that a prosecution under Section 3 of the Act took place several months ago, the offending parties being fined, upon an admission of guilt.

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

MEMBERSHIP.

During the year one new member has been enrolled, one member has been transferred from the salaried to the practising class of membership, and it is with regret that your Committee have to report the death of two members, Mr. F. J. Ing and Mr. W. B. Oxley, both past presidents of this Provincial Institute.

The membership at the close of the year consisted of 45 practising, 10 salaried and four retired members, making a total of 59 members.

COMMITTEE.

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

MEETINGS.

One Annual General Meeting, 13 Committee meetings, one quarterly meeting, besides several Sub-Committee meetings, were held during the year, and the attendance has been satisfactory.

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

Your Committee has been consulted and its advice sought by various local bodies, and every endeavour has been made to justify this confidence, either by co-operation, assistance and advice, and in appointing one or more of its members to act on committees.

Mr. E. M. Powers was re-appointed as this Provincial Institute's representative on the Central Council, and your President, Mr. C. S. M. Taylor, as alternate on the Central Council of the Institute. Congratulations are extended to Mr. Powers on his election to the office of Vice-President-in-Chief of the Institute of South African Architects.

Colonel G. T. Hurst is this Provincial Institute's representative on the Council of the Natal Technical College.

Mr. Wallace Paton represents this Provincial Institute on the Art Consultative Committee of the Natal Technical College.

BUILDING BYE-LAWS, ETC.

Among other matters, a deal of attention has been given to the revision and amendments to the borough building bye-laws. Several conferences have taken place between members of the Committee and the City Council on various matters affecting the profession in relation to building bye-laws.

GOVERNMENT PUBLIC WORK.

A deputation from your Committee met the Provincial Executive in conference on the question of allocating provincial building schemes to private practising architects. The deputation reported that, although no definite promises were made, the Executive were very sympathetic, and already three contracts have been given to members of the Institute.

Similar representations have been made to the City Council, and it is hoped that good results will eventuate.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

Pursuant to the resolution of the Annual General Meeting, a Sub-Committee was appointed for the purpose of preparing subjects and matter for discussion at the quarterly meetings. The first meeting was held in the Art Hall, Natal Technical College, in November, and was well attended by members and architectural students.

Thanks are due to those members of the various committees who have given so much of their valuable time to the various matters concerned.

NATAL ARCHITECTURE MEDAL.

In pursuance of the Committee's decision to award a medal with a view to encourage excellence of design of street architecture in Natal, members were circularised with the conditions of competition. As a result twelve nominations were sent in for adjudication.

CENTRAL COUNCIL.

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

In 1936 session took place at Johannesburg in April last, and was attended by this Institute's representative, Mr. E. M. Powers (Vice-President-in-Chief). Mr. Powers also attended the R.I.B.A. Conference, held at Southampton in June last, as official representative of the South African Institute of Architects.

Your Committee places on record its appreciation of the excellent work done by the members of the Central Council and for giving so much of their valuable time in promoting the interests of the profession.

CONGRESS.

The Second Congress of South African Architects and Quantity Surveyors was held at Johannesburg in November last, when many important matters were discussed. A report of the proceedings will be published in the " South African Architectural Record " journal for information of members.

ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

The Committee wishes to remind members of the facilities afforded in courses of architectural education at the Natal Technical College, Durban. Full particulars of these courses may be obtained on application to the Registrar of the Natal Technical College.

FINANCES.

The audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts for the year, accompanying this report, show the financial position, and this may be considered very satisfactory.

The Revenue and Expenditure Account for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1936, after writing off £21 15s. 0d. for irrecoverable subscriptions, and four guineas awarded for students prizes, reflects an excess of revenue over expenditure of £3 19s. 8d., which has been carried to Revenue Account.

A sum of £50 has been taken from Revenue Account and donated to the Natal Technical College towards special accommodation for architectural students at the new University Buildings, Durban. The Revenue Account now stands at £688 8s. 4d.

LIBRARY.

Thanks are extended to the " South African Architectural Record " for its journal which has been circulated to members during the year; and thanks are due to the R.I.B.A. and allied societies for their journals and calendars received during the year.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Members are reminded that the annual subscription to the Institute is due for payment on January 1st in each year and should be remitted as early as possible to the Secretary, and are asked to regard this obligation as one to be discharged without unnecessary delay and thus save much time and expense in the collecting of fees.

Minutes of the Tenth Annual General Meetings of Members held in the Institute's Room, No. 5, Poynton's Chambers, Smith Street, Durban, at 4 p.m., Friday, 12th March, 1937.

PRESENT.

Messrs. C. S. M. Taylor (President), B. V. Bartholomew (Vice-President), D. C. McDonald, G. E. Le Sueur, W. Hirst, E. M. Powers, G. T. Hurst, F. W. Powers, E. S. Powers, L. A. Peyton,

W. S. Payne, Wallace Paton, R. P. Hamlin, I. Park-Ross and T. H. Chaplin, Secretary. The President, Mr. C. S. M. Taylor, occupied the chair.

NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING.

After the Secretary had read the notice convening the meeting, the Chairman declared the Tenth Annual General Meeting duly constituted.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the Ninth Annual General Meeting, held on 13th March, 1936, having been previously circulated to all members, were, on the motion of the Chairman, taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

The Chairman, in a brief address, welcomed the members, and expressed his pleasure at seeing some of the junior members present. He thought that it would be generally acknowledged that the past year had been one of the most prosperous the profession had known in this country; and on the present indications he felt that the good times would continue.

The Chairman, in thanking the members for the honour of being their President for the past year, expressed his thanks to the members of the Committee for their loyal support, and also thanked the Secretary, on behalf of the Committee, for the efficient manner in which he had carried out his duties.

NATAL ARCHITECTURE MEDAL.

The Chairman stated that in connection with the competition for the Natal Architecture Medal for the year 1936, the Jury, after careful examination of all the buildings which were nominated for the honour, have given their award in favour of the Royal Durban Golf Club House, Greyville, Durban, and it was his pleasing duty to present the Bronze Medal to Mr. G. E. Le Sueur, who was responsible for the successful design.

Congratulations were extended to Mr. Le Sueur, who suitably expressed his thanks.

ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET.

The annual report and balance sheet, a copy of which had already been circulated to members, was, on the motion of the Chairman, taken as read and laid on the table for discussion.

In moving the adoption of the tenth annual report and balance sheet, the Chairman said that the members would appreciate this Institute's sound financial position.

The motion being seconded was carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF AUDITOR.

Mr. J. E. Duff, Chartered Accountant, was re-elected Auditor for the ensuing year.

ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE, 1937-1938.

The Chairman declared the ballot for the new Committee closed, and the ballot papers, having been dealt with in accordance with the regulations, the two scrutineers appointed by the meeting retired to count the votes.

The result of the ballot was handed to the Chairman, who thereupon announced the following nine members duly elected on the new Committee for the ensuing year:—

Messrs. Wallace Paton, E. M. Powers, C. S. M. Taylor, W. S. Payne, D. C. McDonald, B. V. Bartholomew, G. T. Hurst, W. Hirst (practising) and L. A. Peyton (salaried).

GENERAL.

Architectural Pupils, Remuneration of: Vide Minutes of Committee Meeting, 19th February.

The question of fixing a minimum salary scale for architectural pupils was, after considerable discussion, delegated to the incoming Committee to deal with. It was resolved that a strong recommendation be made to the Central Council through this Institute's representative, to refer this important matter to the Committee on Architectural Education for its consideration.

MAINTAINING PROFESSIONAL FEES.

A junior member complained of the cutting of fees by members, and quoted one or two instances he had experienced.

The Chairman explained that complaints in this respect had been reported to the Committee, but owing to lack of concrete evidence nothing could be done.

Another member speaking to the issue said that the time had come when a determined effort must be made to put a stop to these cases of unprofessional conduct. It all depended on members themselves to clean up the profession. Perhaps the only person to prove a case was the client, and he would not divulge any names.

The member cited a recent Court case where a member was being sued for his annual subscription, when he admitted to the magistrate that he had been sued every year for his subscription, and that he took no interest in the affairs of the Institute, and although he received the Institute's publications, never took the trouble to read them. This case was not an isolated one. The majority of members treat their annual subscription as a licence, and take no further interest in the Institute until the shoe pinches, when they squeal and run to the Committee to help them out of their troubles. He urged members to take a keen interest in their Institute and to bring to the Committee for investigation any cases of malpractice; but the evidence must be concrete and not hearsay.

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSES.

The question of a donation from this Institute towards fitting up students' lockers at the class room, University College, Durban, was raised, and after discussion it was proposed, seconded and resolved that the question be left to the incoming Committee to decide, and that the sum should not exceed £50.

CENTRAL COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING.

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Central Council had arranged to hold its annual meeting in Durban this year, and that the Board Room of the Natal Advertiser Building, Field Street, had been hired for that purpose. The opening of the session would take place at 2 p.m., Wednesday, 24th March, and the President-in-Chief has extended an invitation to all members and students to be present during the session. The Committee trust that there will be a good attendance to welcome the delegates from the other Provinces on the opening day.

The question of expenses in connection with the visit and entertaining the delegates during their stay in Durban was discussed, and it was agreed to leave this in the hands of the incoming Committee to deal with.

MEETING CLOSED—5.40 p.m.

On the business of the meeting being declared closed, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the President for his successful term of office.

COMMITTEE MEETING.

At a meeting of the new Committee, held immediately at the close of the Annual General Meeting, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

President, Mr. B. V. Bartholomew, A.R.I.B.A.; Vice-President, Mr. D. C. McDonald, A.R.I.B.A.; represenative on Central Council, Mr. Ernest M. Powers, F.R.I.B.A.; alternate, Mr. C. S. M. Taylor, A.R.I.B.A.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure at this our Tenth Annual General Meeting in presenting my Report for the year 1936.

At the opening meeting of the new Committee last March, all the officers were re-elected.

I take this opportunity of thanking my colleagues for the honour conferred upon me by my appointment as President for the second year in succession.

Mr. F. Williamson (with Mr. A. S. Furner as alternate) was re-appointed as the O.F.S. Provincial Institute's representative on the Standing Committee on Education and Examinations.

I am glad that my hope of an improvement in the year 1936 has been fulfilled, and it is gratifying to note that all practising members have, to some extent at least, gained benefit from the slight increase in prosperity in the O.F.S. There is still plenty o room for further improvement, and I hope that 1937 will show further progress.

CONGRESS.

An event of importance during the year was the second Congress of Architects and Quantity Surveyors of South Africa, which was held in Johannesburg last November. Your Institute was represented by your President, by Mr. F. W. Masey and by Mr. J. F. Corbitt. The last-named, by request, read a paper to Congress.

At the public opening ceremony, attended, amongst others, by the Mayor of Johannesburg and the Minister for Public Works, I had the honour to present to the President-in-Chief on your behalf a replica of the Howden Prize Medal which you have donated, and to inform him that the O.F.S. would provide four silver medals, thus for four years relieving the Howden Prize Fund of expenditure in this regard. Incidentally, I may now mention that the London firm who made the dies from the excellent model designed by Mrs. Walgate, of Capetown, will present to your Institute, free of charge, two bronze replicas of the medal.

The Minister for Public Works, in the course of an interesting speech, referred to the fact that his Department had engaged no less than 25 firms of quantity surveyors to assist in coping with the great press of work. Apparently, with the exception of a few competitions, this precedent had not been extended to include architectural work, although the architectural staff of the Public Works Department is far behind with last year's

programme of work, and will now have to face the additional demands made by this year's programme. It is to be hoped that in the future the practising architects who are members of your Provincial Institute will be invited to exercise their talents in assisting the Government, without the waste of time and labour entailed in entering a competition.

Although the Congress agenda was too full to allow of unlimited discussion on every subject, the discussions were both interesting and instructive to both professions. The discussion regarding the proposed re-introduction of " Clause 3 (c) " in our Act was illuminating. Speaking generally, those who had faced the crisis of 1927 were prepared to face the issue again, but the fear that the proposal would again raise the question of the admission of unqualified men into our ranks, was possibly responsible for the opposition of those, speaking generally again, who have come into the profession at a later date. My personal opinion, which I have communicated to our President-in-Chief, is that this issue must be faced now, because action cannot be delayed for ever, and with the passage of time the number of unqualified men will most certainly increase, and if the gap in our defences be not closed at once, our successors will probably be faced with the awkward task of fighting an " enemy " whose numbers have become overwhelming. I cannot leave this subject of Congress without expressing the opinion that nothing but good will result from its valuable resolutions—to be presented to Central Council; and further to testify to the excellent arrangements made by the Registrar, and to the masterly handling of all the meetings by our President-in-Chief, Mr. H. J. Brownlee.

CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Our relations with Central Council remain as ever, most cordial, and no doubt in the course of the General Meeting our representative will be able to give you interesting details of the work of Central Council during the past year. Central Council, I trust, in the coming year, will arrive at final conclusions on at least three matters which this Province has brought before it at previous meetings and urged in correspondence.

1. The Conditions of Engagement of an Architect.

2. Official professional propaganda, such as the English brochure, " The Adventure of Building," which we put before the Central Council five years ago.

3. An insertion in the Year Book (or the production of a pamphlet) for aid of students preparing for the Certificate Examination by private study, giving specimen examination papers, lists of text books, etc., and the order in which such should be purchased and studied.

TECHNICAL COLLEGE.

Our Hon. Secretary, Mr. Frederick W. Masey, F.R.I.B.A., has been gazetted a member of the O.F.S. Technical College Council. On behalf of this Institute he offered a yearly prize for award in the building construction classes, and in this connection we have received the Council's thanks.

GENERAL.

This Institute is to be congratulated on its latest balance sheet, and I am pleased to state that since the end of December most of the arrear subscriptions have been paid.

In conclusion, I must thank the officials of the O.F.S. Provincial Institute for their support and assistance during my second year of office.

WILFRED W. TONKIN,
President.

THE CHAPTER OF SOUTH AFRICAN QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

Board's Report for 1936-1937.

To Members of the Chapter:

Your Board has pleasure in presenting its Annual Report. The Board for the year under review (i.e., from March 14th, 1936, to March 13th, 1937) consisted of:

Solely Practising Members: Professor H. Bell-John, Messrs. C. L. F. Borckenhagen, J. W. Cowling, D. J. Laing, Dudley S. Mann, T. Moore and Lieutenant-Colonel W. E. Puntis.

"Dual" Practising Members: Messrs. R. Howden and F. Williamson.

Salaried Members: Mr. Leo. C. Austin, Dr. E. J. Hamlin and Mr. R. J. C. Prentice.

Mr. D. J. Laing was elected President for the year; Dr. E. J. Hamlin, Senior Vice-President, and Mr. C. L. F. Borckenhagen, Junior Vice-President.

BOARD MEETINGS.

During the year there were seven meetings of the Board, in respect of which the following is the attendance record:

D. J. Laing, 7; C. L. C. Borcknhagen, 7; T. Moore, 7; E. J. Hamlin, 6; R. Howden, 5; H. Bell-John, 5; R. J. C. Prentice, 5; W. E. Puntis, 5; L. C. Austin, 4; J. W. Cowling, 4; F. Williamson, 4; Dudley S. Mann, 3.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The thanks of the Board, and of the Chapter, are due to the members of the Finance Committee for their careful attention to the finances of the Chapter.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

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

(i) D. J. Laing (alternate: Dr. E. J. Hamlin); (ii) T. Moore (alternate: C. L. F. Borckenhagen). In addition, Mr. R. J. C. Prentice, in his capacity as Union Government quantity surveyor nominee, has a permanent seat on the Central Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND EXAMINATIONS.

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

(i) Dr. E. J. Hamlin (alternate: R. J. C. Prentice); (ii) T. Moore (alternate: W. E. Puntis); and (iii) W. E. Puntis (alternate: T. Moore).

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE.

The Central Council has brought into being a Standing Committee on Professional Practice, the two members of which are Mr. R. Howden (architect representative) and Mr. D. J. Laing (quantity surveyor representative).

CHAPTER'S MEMBERSHIP.

The total membership of the Chapter, compiled as at February 20th, 1937, is 166, composed as follows:

Solely practising members, 58; dual practising members, 31; salaried members, 41; absentee members, three; retired members, 29; honorary members, four.

Included in the figure of 166 are eight members whose names do not appear in the Institute's or Chapter's publications, in terms of Regulation 35 (b).

NEW ENROLMENTS.

The Board has pleasure in recording that, during the year under review, there were eight new enrolments, viz.:—

Practising members: D. Caplan, J. W. M. Clark, F. A. Longworth and T. R. F. Rose Price.

Salaried members: T. H. Louw, J. L. Norton, K. Robertson and B. F. D. Wood.

CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP.

Obituary: The Board has to record, with deep regret, the passing of Mr. John Harvey, of the firm of J. A. Moffat & Harvey, of Johannesburg.

Resignation: The resignation of Mr. J. B. Ferguson, of Johannesburg, is recorded, with effect from December 31st, 1936.

Transfer to Practising Class: The following transfers to practising membership were effected during the year, viz.: A. A. Bjorkman, A. D. Dunlop, R. J. Law, L. Martin, S. C. F. Somers-Vine and E. H. Waugh.

QUANTITY SURVEYING EDUCATION AND EXAMINATIONS:

The Board wishes to record its appreciation of the services of Mr. J. W. Cowling, who has, in his capacity of Visiting Inspector, attended and reported upon the examinations in quantity surveying at the University of Pretoria and the University of the Witwatersrand.

RECOGNITION OF S.A. UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

The Chartered Surveyors' Institution has, on the application of the Board, recognised the Final Examination for the degree in quantity surveying of the University of Pretoria as equivalent to and exempting from the Final Examination of the Institution.

Similar recognition has not yet been granted in respect of the Diploma Examination, but the Board's application therefor has been renewed.

QUANTITY SURVEYING STUDENTS.

The following figures indicate the numbers of quantity surveying students who attended the Universities of Pretoria and the Witwatersrand during 1936:

	University of Pretoria.	University of Witwatersrand.
Degree Course	6	1
Diploma Course	19	30
	25	31

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

During the year the following students completed their qualifying examinations in quantity surveying, viz.:—

(a) University of Pretoria (Degree): I. E. Hope-Jones (with distinction); D. Jones.

(b) University of Pretoria (Diploma): R. M. Kennedy (with distinction); L. D. de la Cour; T. J. Pratt, and C. J. Slade.

1936 PRIZE-WINNERS.

The following recommendations have been made in respect of the following prizes for the year 1936:—

Gold Medal, R. M. Kennedy; " Quantities," first year, P. G. Culligan; " Quantities," second year, R. B. Milford; " Professor's Prize " (" Quantities," third year), K. A. Morren.

CHAPTER'S FINANCIAL POSITION.

The audited accounts of the Chapter for the calendar year 1936, together with an explanatory statement thereon, have already been forwarded to members. It is gratifying to be able to record an improvement in the Chapter's financial position. None the less a considerable amount of unnecessary difficulty is

continuously experienced in the collection of subscriptions. On this point the Board would like to appeal to members to assist in the administration of the Chapter by paying their subscriptions promptly.

THE STANDARD SYSTEM.

The Board's Permanent Sub-Committee for the Revision of the Standard System, which is tackling its formidable task trade by trade, is dealing with the trades of " Bricklayer " and " Slater and Tiler." Members of the Chapter will be advised in the near future of the next trade with regard to which suggestions are invited.

CONGRESS.

The Second Congress of South African Architects and Quantity Surveyors was held at Johannesburg during November, 1936. The Congress, which was of four days' duration, was well attended by quantity surveyors. Several papers of outstanding importance were read, and the contributions to the discussions by members of the Chapter were both interesting and helpful.

A verbatim report of the Congress is in the Chapter's Library, and can there be referred to by any member who wishes to do so.

MASTER BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION.

(i) In July, 1936, the Chapter resuscitated the Annual Sports Day with the Witwatersrand and Pretoria master builders. A very pleasant was spent at the Automobile Club, Johannesburg, the quantity surveyors on this occasion being the hosts.

(ii) During the year members of the Board had two meetings with representatives of the National Federation of Building Trade Employers in South Africa, when matters of mutual importance were discussed.

ENGINEERING QUANTITIES.

The scale of fees recommended for engineering quantities was published by the Board during the year (vide Minutes, Volume VI, page 32).

MISCELLANEOUS.

Among the matters which have been considered by the Board during the year, but which have not yet been brought to finality, are the following, viz., the revision of the scale of fees; conditions of engagement for quantity surveyors; the position of students at non-University centres; the degree course in quantity surveying of the University of Capetown; the standardisation of articles and premiums; the position of the quantity surveyor in relation to the specification, and the position of the quantity surveyor in relation to architectural competitions.

BOARD'S THANKS.

(a) To the President.

The Board wishes to place on record its grateful appreciation of the services rendered to the Chapter by the President, Mr. D.

J. Laing. The President has been indefatigable in his efforts to promote the integrity and status of the quantity surveying profession.

(b) To the Secretary.

The Board once again has the pleasure of recording its thanks to Mr. J. S. Lewis for his unstinting services as Secretary of the Chapter. Despite an increase in the routine work and an immense amount of preparatory work for the Congress, he has always remained courteous and helpful to any member of the Chapter requiring his advice and assistance.

CHANGE OF OFFICE ADDRESS.

Members of the Chapter are hereby advised that, with effect from March 1st, 1937, the Chapter's office address will be 84, Walter Wise's Building, Joubert Street, Johannesburg. The telephone number will, from March 1st, 1937, be 22-6594.

J. S. LEWIS,
Secretary.

February 25th, 1937.

THE TRANSVAAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Tenth Annual General Meeting of Members, held in the Council Chamber, Kelvin House, Johannesburg, on Thursday, March 11th, 1937, commencing at 1.30 p.m.

PRESENT.

There were present the President, Mr. W. Gordon McIntosh, in the chair, and thirty-four other members as recorded in the attendance book.

The Chairman declared the meeting duly constituted.

The Notice of Meeting was taken as read.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

The Chairman enquired if all members present had recorded their votes and thereafter declared the ballot closed.

Messrs. C. E. Cawse, N. I. Finkelstein and H. R. Skelly, with the Secretary, were appointed scrutineers to conduct the ballot, and proceeded to call out and check with the register the names of those members who had voted, and which totalled one hundred and thirty-one.

ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was then adjourned until 5 p.m.

RESUMPTION.

The meeting was continued at 5 p.m., with the President in the chair.

COMMITTEE FOR 1937-1938.

The Chairman was handed the scrutineers' report, and declared the following members elected as the Committee for the ensuing year: Messrs. R. A. Bruce, N. M. Eaton, S. C. Dowsett, A. S. Furner, D. S. Haddon, R. Howden, W. G. McIntosh, R. D. Martienssen, D. L. Nurcombe, G. E. Pearse, H. G. Tomkyns, H. R. L. Wintle.

The Chairman congratulated these members on their election to the Committee, and thanked the scrutineers for their services in counting the votes.

Mr. N. T. Cowin said he was very sorry to see that Mr. Allen Wilson had not been re-elected to the Committee, and moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Wilson for all his past work on the Committee covering a very long period.

This was carried with applause.

Mr. Wilson thanked members for this mark of appreciation of his past services, and said that a time came in every man's life when he was not able to do quite as much as during his more active years, and the time had come for the younger men to take an active part in the affairs of the Institute. He was very glad to see such a good list of members elected to the new Committee. He had been on the Committee for many years and had enjoyed every moment in doing this work, and if he had done anything to further the interests of the Institute he was very pleased.

The President, on behalf of the whole Institute, expressed thanks and appreciation for the past services rendered by Mr. Wilson.

MINUTES.

Minutes of the General Meeting, held on March 10th, 1936, which had been circulated to members, were taken as read and confirmed.

COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1936.

The Committee's report, which had been circulated to members, was taken as read and approved.

Mr. N. T. Cowin, referring to the retiring President-in-Chief's address, published in the recent issue of the Year Book, said he noted that the President-in-Chief expressed the opinion that the time was arriving when the Institute should be provided with office accommodation in keeping with its dignity and importance; and also mentioned that the time appeared ripe for considering a scheme whereby duties undertaken by the Central Council might be amalgamated with those of the Transvaal Provincial Institute.

He, Mr. Cowin, mentioned that the new Kelvin House was nearing completion, and that the Transvaal Institute would have suitable office accommodation there, as well as club facilities, and he asked whether it was the intention of the Central Council also to provide Institute accommodation and club premises. As Chairman of the Finance Committee, he was alarmed at the heavy expenditure incurred by the Central Council as this is a drain on the resources of the constituent bodies. He would like to know if there was any possibility of a reduction in the levies payable to the Central Council.

The Chairman explained that the accommodation of the Central Council in Stanley House had become quite insufficient for its growing needs, and a record room was also required, and the Council had moved to new premises at no increased rental.

As for the proposal for amalgamation with the Transvaal Institute, this was discussed by the Transvaal Committee, which decided not to consider merging its offices with those of the Central Council.

As to the idea of the Central Council providing club premises, this had not been contemplated by anyone.

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1936.

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

The audited statements of accounts have been in your hands for some weeks, and I hope you have considered them. It is gratifying to record that we have ended the year with credit balances of £64 18s. 4d. on the Provincial Institute account and £378 8s. 7d. on the " Architectural Record " account.

Out of an income of £1,157 19s. 5d., 50 per cent. is paid out on two items, levies by Central Council and membership fees to the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies—a total of £565 0s. 0d., and we may well ask whether we are recompensed for this expenditure. The levies are compulsory, but there is a hope, I believe, of receiving some relief from them, and our Committee should press for it. The membership of the Scientific Societies is in our own hands, and if more use were made of the amenities offered the question of its value to our members would not occur. This is an attempt to cater for our members socially, and one must urge that more advantage should be taken of it, particularly when we move into the new Kelvin House, where the accommodation will be found to be much more attractive.

A drive was instituted towards the end of the year to increase the capital of our Benevolent Fund and, considering the prosperity we are enjoying, the result is disappointing. Some objection has been raised to this action, and it is suggested that the Benevolent Fund is a charge on the Institute's revenue, and appeals to individuals should not be made. The answer is that the Institute does contribute to the fund, but the appeal for

further support is surely not unreasonable in these prosperous times, and a disgruntled attitude is reprehensible.

The Secretary's salary has been increased, and rightly so, after his years of service with benefit to our Institute.

It is easy to realise how our journal, " The South African Architectural Record," is financed; the advertisers supply all the funds, and I am pleased to express our thanks to them for their continued support, which has enabled us to produce an enlarged publication of a high standard.

The question of a Union Journal run by the Central Council came under discussion at the recent Congress. It is clear that the profession cannot support two publications, and " The Record," being first in the field and now well established, should be maintained and its value to the Transvaal Institute carefully assessed if its ownership is to pass to the Central Council.

With the limited funds at our disposal, it is difficult to suggest that we should endeavour to carry out all our obligations under the Act, but I feel that a start should be made on a library, especially in view of the fact that we shall soon be housed in the new premises that are being built for the Scientific Societies. A sum of £25 might be set aside yearly for the purchase of books.

I am pleased to express my thanks to the members of the Finance Committee for their support and to our Secretary for his ready help and interest always.

I now have pleasure in moving the adoption of the accounts as submitted.

Mr. Allen Wilson said he had much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the accounts, and was very pleased to see at last that the journal was bearing fruit and they had come to the splendid journal now before them. With regard to the Benevolent Fund, he could not agree that this should be a charge on the Institute, but individual members, in these good times, should help to build up the fund, which should have a capital of £5,000, so as to be of use in times of distress. He would like to see a very considerable round-up to increase the fund, and suggested that a substantial amount might be transferred from the journal account to the Benevolent Fund.

Mr. Fleming said he would like to say one or two words regarding the Benevolent Fund. He was not aware that the Institute had contributed £25 or £30 per annum during the past three years. He agreed that it was a good suggestion to make a contribution to the fund from the journal account.

The motion for the adoption of the accounts was carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS.

On the motion of Mr. N. T. Cowin, Messrs. Alex Aiken and Carter were re-appointed auditors, and their remuneration for the past audit was fixed at £10 10s. 0d. from the Institute and £21 from the journal account.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The President then addressed the meeting as follows:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in welcoming you to this, the Tenth Annual General Meeting of our Institute.

All of you have received a copy of the annual report for the year, in which is detailed the various activities of the committees of this Provincial Institute.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking you for the honour bestowed upon me in electing me as your President during the past year. I only wish that I could have been more useful to the profession as a whole and that I could have devoted more time to its needs.

At the outset, I must thank all those who have worked with me, not only those on the Institute Committee, but also those on the various advisory committees on finance, journal, practice, bye-laws, etc., for without their help and advice I do not think that the work could have been carried on as smoothly and efficiently as it has been during the past year.

I have been unable to attend all the meetings of the sub-committees, but I appreciate the work which they have done. I feel that their work is very often not recognised by the members as a whole, and I would say that it is within these sub-committees that many of our most difficult problems have been thrashed out in detail, and their advice has been of great help to the Provincial Committee.

My thanks are also due to our representatives on the Central Council, Benevolent Fund, South African Academy, Associated Scientific and Technical Societies and the Town Planning Association.

Here, also, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Secretary, Mr. Pearse, for all the assistance and help he has given me during my term of office.

This last year has again proved to be an outstanding one, and the tide of prosperity is still carrying on, not only in Johannesburg and along the Reef, but also throughout the whole country, and unemployment in South Africa has practically disappeared. This is no doubt due to South Africa's favourable position and to the present constructive policies of our Government. With this impetus in building, our profession has been benefiting to an increased extent, and during the past year twenty-four new members have been enrolled and three have transferred from other Provinces. To those new members I wish, on behalf of the Transvaal Provincial Institute, to extend a hearty welcome, and express the hope that they will not find the strain of our profession too great to allow them to devote some small measure of their time to the work of the Institute and profession.

I would like to remind all our members that the object of our profession is not solely to provide a means of livelihood—

there are many other needs which we should be in a position to supply to South Africa. The welfare of the whole building tradition of this country is in our hands, and we should all uphold it to the best of our ability. Now in this time of prosperity there should be a closer co-operation between the members to this end and some direct and constructive policies formed.

As you all know, the second Congress of the South African Institute of Architects took place in November, and most of its meetings were held at the Empire Exhibition. At this Congress many matters of vital importance to the welfare of the profession were discussed, and there can be no doubt that a great deal of good will result from the various papers read, and the discussions on these papers. I feel that the members of our profession could have shown more interest in this Congress, and although their inability to attend may have been due to pressure of work, the sense of responsibility of individual members should be sufficient to make them realise the necessity for the furtherance of architectural ideals.

At the Congress matters dealing with education, professional practice, contracts, etc., were fully discussed, and a verbatim report of the whole Congress is available to members and may be seen at the offices of the Institute.

During the past year there has been a certain amount of criticism of the methods of educating students for the profession. Most of these criticisms have been investigated and dispelled. The Universities of the Witwatersrand and Pretoria to-day provide a course in architecture which is equal to, if not better than, any which may be had elsewhere, either in this country or in Europe. The heads of the Departments of Architecture at the Universities of the Witwatersrand and Pretoria, Professor Pearse and Professor Bell-John, and their staffs, are to be congratulated on the high degree of training, both aesthetic and practical, which they have built up and developed in order to prepare the youth of the country for this exacting and difficult profession.

I would like to see all members of our Institute taking a more active interest in the work done at the schools by visiting them more frequently and making personal inspections.

Our journal has had a good year, and, as you can see from the annual report, a profit of nearly four hundred pounds has been made. The honorary editors of the journal—Professor Pearse and Mr. Martienssen—and the business manager, Mr. Pearse, are to be congratulated on the high standard which has been maintained throughout the year. The journal has received considerable criticism, but I would like to tell the members that this journal is sought after and is well-known in Europe and America. The editors frequently have enquiries from visitors to South Africa for copies of " The Record." The journal is dependent, to a great extent, upon the support it receives from the

members, and I would ask you all to endeavour to assist the editors by forwarding descriptions, plans and photos of buildings, technical and aesthetic articles, all of which will be welcome.

I think the time has arrived when the profession, as a whole, should co-operate, when there should be co-operation between all the individual members of the profession, as well as between the different Provincial Institutes. If this were to come about, I am sure that the status of our profession would be raised to a much higher level, and the public would realise the value of our work. (Applause.)

Professor Pearse said he would like to take this opportunity to move a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring President for the very able manner in which he had carried out his duties to the Institute, not only on this Provincial Committee, but also on the Central Council. He referred to several matters dealt with during the past year, such as the Congress and architectural education, and supported the President in urging members generally to take a keener interest and give more assistance to this work. He referred to the journal and the editors' desire to ventilate everything brought to their notice. There had been some criticism, but he felt that any malpractices reported should be brought to the notice of members.

He felt that much more could be done if members would support the journal with letters and articles, which would be very beneficial.

The vote of thanks was carried with acclamation, and the President thanked members for this mark of their appreciation.

THE BUILDING CENTRE.

The Chairman reported that the Provincial Committee had been considering the matter of closer co-operation with this centre which had been established in Johannesburg, and asked members to express their views on the matter.

After discussion it was agreed that the incoming Committee should act as it thinks best, bearing in mind the various expressions of opinion given at this meeting.

AN ARCHITECTURAL CENTRE.

A paper was submitted by Mr. Norman Eaton, being a suggestion pursuant to the objects expressed in the paper, "Possibilities of Professional Co-operation," read to the Architects' Congress in September, 1936.

Professor Pearse said they all appreciated what was in Mr. Eaton's mind on this matter, and moved that the paper submitted be considered by the incoming Committee and published in the journal, that a Special General Meeting be called to discuss the matter, also that the new Committee, as early as possible, should go into the matter of the establishment of a Small House Service Bureau and take up the question of jerry building with building societies, master builders and others.

This was seconded by Mr. N. T. Cowin and agreed to.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Eaton for preparing this paper and for giving so much time and thought to the matter.

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

IMPROVEMENTS IN RELATION TO DRAINAGE

REG. H. JONES.

The purpose of this invention is to provide for the more effective functioning of anti-syphon pipes by the elimination of grease deposit, which from time to time so accumulates as to render the pipes ineffective: or by the prevention of the rise of water into the said pipes by backwash, from blockage, storm pressure or other cause.

The invention also provides a means of tracing where stoppage occurs in the waste pipes.

The most frequent application of the invention will be to drainage pipes, but it may be applied equally well to any system of liquid flow in which anti-syphon pipes are used.

It is at the point of junction of the anti-syphon pipe with the main or other pipe where difficulties usually occur, and this invention comprises a method and form of junction to attain the purposes aforesaid.

A semi-circular cradle is cast in the manner shown in diagram Sheet 1 in one piece with waste pipe.

At the base of the semi-circle is a short air shaft, and immediately below this air shaft is a projection or lug, being an internal extension of the neck of the waste pipe in the direction of the flow. This lug is depressed towards the centre of the pipe to a point equidistant from top and bottom of the pipe. Its purpose is to prevent the liquid flowing up into the air shaft. It is referred to as " Tongue."

Housed within the cradle, which is free to revolve about the point **X**, is a fixed vertical junction way, called " allway " junction, shaped to receive the anti-syphon pipe; its lower end is in the form of two arc basins, connected by a water pipe secured by pins or screwed through.

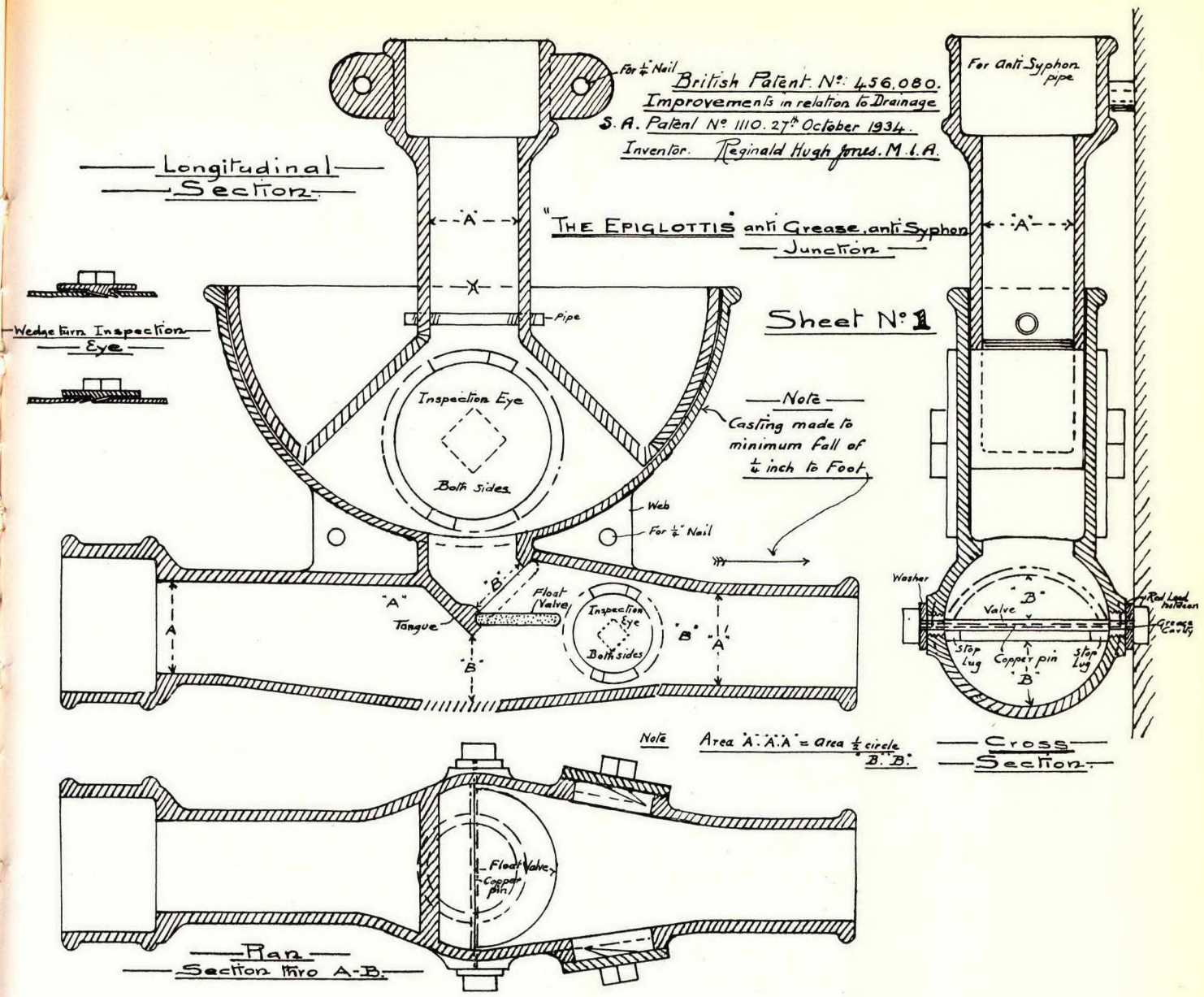
The purpose of the arc basin is to provide a suitable surface for the revolving cradle, and on being filled with water provides a means of testing the level of the junction way, whilst being attached to a wall, or the like, by lugs.

After the " allway " junction has been fixed in position (if outside a building) the basin can be covered with a sheet metal lid. The resulting space in the cradle is designed to afford scope for the movement of the air shaft **B** according to the fall of the

British Patent No: 456,080.
Improvements in relation to Drainage
S.A. Patent No 1110. 27th October 1934.
Inventor. Reginald Hugh Jones. M.I.A.

"THE EPIGLOTTIS" anti Grease, anti Syphon Junction

Sheet No 1



Sheet 3.

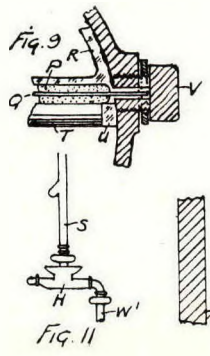
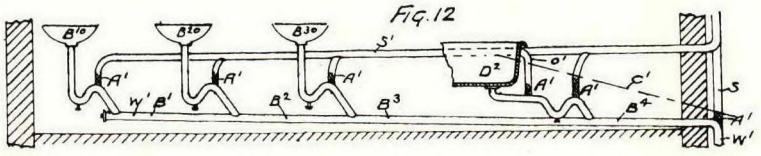
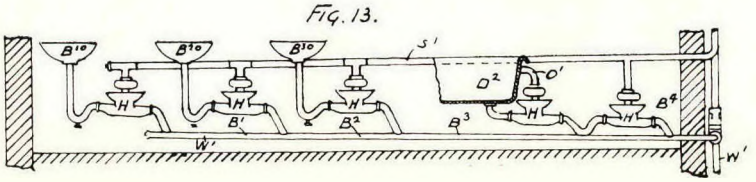


Fig. 11







waste pipe. The waste pipe is formed to provide a minimum fall of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to one foot. When the cradle is set level, the fall can be altered as required (Fig. 10) and the waste pipe can be reversed so as to have the flow in the opposite direction.

The lettering on the cradle attached to the waste pipe indicates the fall of the waste water, right or left, as required. The purpose of the pipe is to allow of water to flow from one arc basin to the other; to set the air shaft vertical, the water acting as a level when fixing. The junction waste is formed with a bulge at its centre, so that the sectional area of the semi-circle under the end of the tongue at **B** equals that of the inflow **A** and outflow $\mathbf{A}^1$.

At the end of the tongue a semi-circular float valve is pivoted, which acts in a similar way as the human epiglottis (hence the name given to the junction). It is pivoted by means of a special screw bolt, screwed into the lug (Fig. 9). A hole in the bolt is filled with grease to receive the pin, the washer and head being covered with a waterproof substance.

When in action by backwash the epiglottis closes (by floating up) on the rim of **B**. In the open position, it is prevented from falling below the horizontal by the stops. For the purpose of inspection, adjustment or cleaning, an inspection eye is provided on each side, near the epiglottis, also on each side of the cradle. In the course of fixing, the vertical junction in contact with the cradle is coated with red lead to render airtight.

Fig. 12 shows the existing method of anti-syphonage being blocked by grease at $\mathbf{A}^1$. In the diagram all are shown blocked, but in fact, of course, some may be and some not. The blocking is due to greasy water attempting to rise in the anti-syphon pipe and leaving, after it has receded, a coating of grease behind.

Should there be a blockage at the point $\mathbf{B}^1$ in the waste pipe $\mathbf{W}^1$ (Fig. 12), the liquid will rise in the anti-syphonage to $\mathbf{B}^{10}$ and pass up the anti-syphon pipe $\mathbf{S}^1$ to escape to the external anti-syphon pipe **S**. This will also occur at points $\mathbf{B}^2$, $\mathbf{B}^3$ and $\mathbf{B}^4$. Frequently it is difficult to trace exactly where the stoppage is.

In Fig. 13 the epiglottis junction **H** is shown attached to the anti-syphon pipe $\mathbf{S}^1$. Thus the greasy or other water is prevented from rising in the anti-syphon pipe. If a blockage occurs at any of the points $\mathbf{B}^1$, $\mathbf{B}^2$, $\mathbf{B}^3$ or $\mathbf{B}^4$, the water will rise up in the basin or bath at a point preceding the blockage, e.g., if the blockage is at $\mathbf{B}^1$ it will rise in Basin $\mathbf{B}^{10}$; if the blockage is at $\mathbf{B}^2$ it will rise in Basins $\mathbf{B}^{10}$ and $\mathbf{B}^{20}$, if at point $\mathbf{B}^3$ it will rise in Basins $\mathbf{B}^{10}$, $\mathbf{B}^{20}$ and $\mathbf{B}^{30}$, and if at $\mathbf{B}^4$ it will rise in all the basins and the bath. In this manner the point of blockage can be easily traced.
traced.

The epiglottis junction can be used also as an overflow pipe $\mathbf{O}^1$, as indicated in Fig. 13, which shows that the overflow of liquid can pass out but cannot return, since it is prevented by the epiglottis.

REMUNERATION OF ARCHITECTS

An important decision was given last year by the Natal Supreme Court on this subject. The facts were that an architect was engaged by a builder and contractor to prepare plans and drawings for a block of flats, in Durban, at an estimated cost of £14,000. The architect claimed that it had been agreed upon, or that it was an implied term of the contract, that he would be paid at the architect's tariff rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the estimated cost. He accordingly claimed £210, but sued for £200 in the Magistrate's Court in order to bring the action within the court's jurisdiction. The Magistrate found that there was no express agreement as to the rate or amount of remuneration, and that the architect was, therefore, entitled to a fair and reasonable remuneration for the work he did, which the Magistrate assessed at £70, on the basis of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the estimated cost.

The architect appealed to the Supreme Court, and put forward three contentions, viz.:—

(1) That the tariff framed under Section 9 (1) (f) of the Architects' and Quantity Surveyors' (Private) Act, 1926 (No. 18 of 1927) being $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the estimated cost, was binding on the respondent (the building contractor who employed appellant).

(2) That the above tariff was prima facie evidence of reasonable remuneration which had not been rebutted by respondent, and should therefore have been in any case adopted as the standard of reasonableness.

(3) That the sum of £70 awarded by the Magistrate was inadequate and that in accordance with the general practice and custom of architects £200 was reasonable as remuneration for the work done.

The Supreme Court found that the appellant had inspected the site of the proposed building, and had prepared a preliminary plan for a four-storey building. Subsequently respondent had requested that the plan be redrawn to show a fifth storey, and appellant did so without, however, altering the design. No further work was done in connection with the scheme, but some considerable time later respondent proceeded to build a block of flats on the site on plans prepared by another architect. Appellant thereupon, for the first time, presented an account claiming $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the estimated cost, but previously he had made unsuccessful attempts to get respondent to discuss the matter of the remuneration. After finding these facts, the Court proceeded to deal with the contentions submitted on behalf of the appellant.

Dealing first with the point whether the tariff promulgated under Act 18 of 1927 was binding on the respondent, the Court considered the effect of Section 9 (3) of the Act, which provides

that all regulations made under the Act are to be published in the Gazette, and that copies must be laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament. Further, that after the lapse of one month after the copies have so been laid before Parliament, such regulations have force of law unless within one month the Minister publishes in the Gazette a notice annulling them. The Court pointed out that there was nothing to suggest that a tariff of fees so published was to be binding upon the public, and contrasted the wording of the Act with that of the Land Survey Act (No. 9 of 1927), which empowers the making of regulations prescribing the fees to be paid by an owner of land for any survey of such land. Section 9 (f) of the Act under consideration merely empowers the making of regulations governing the fees chargeable by architects and quantity surveyors in the absence of special agreement.

The Court further pointed out that the Act was a private measure designed for the protection and advancement of the profession to which it relates, and that it must not therefore be lightly supposed that its provisions were intended to be binding upon the general public. The true intention of regulations fixing the tariff was made clear by Section 89 (1) of the regulations published under the Act, to the effect that an architect is guilty of unprofessional conduct who charges less than the prescribed fee without notifying either the named professional authorities of his intention to do so, and of the extent of the deviation. Having regard to all these considerations, the Court came to the conclusion that the tariff laid down under the Act does not bind the public.

The next point considered by the Court was whether the prescribed tariff was prima facie evidence of reasonableness in respect of charges made by architects. The Court held that the tariff framed by the responsible body of professional men, established under the Act for the guidance of the profession, must be taken to afford evidence of the cumulative views of the profession as to the reasonableness of the remuneration in the average case. The Court is, therefore, entitled to regard the tariff as affording prima facie evidence of reasonableness, or at least as a guide as to what is a fair remuneration, where a quantum meruit is to be determined. But it will always be open to a member of the public to show that such a charge is as a fact excessive.

The Court, lastly, went on to consider whether it could be regarded as an implied term of the contract that the statutory tariff would apply in this case. The appellant contended that, in view of the knowledge of the respondent (who was a builder and contractor) that $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the estimated cost was the established practice in the architects' profession, such a charge should be implied as a term of the contract. The Court, how-

ever, pointed out that usage must be strictly proved, and that the evidence in this case was not sufficient to entitle the Court to say that such a charge must be implied in the contract, particularly in view of the fact that there may be departures from the tariff in accordance with the regulations. The Court, however, came to the conclusion that the amount of £70 awarded by the Magistrate was inadequate, and increased the amount to £120. (McKinlay v. Rorvik, 1935, N.P.D. 80.)

CLAIM FOR REMUNERATION BASED ON EXPRESS CONTRACT.

It is well known that where a person does work he is entitled to remuneration for his services, even though no amount has been expressly fixed. For where the reward has not been agreed upon the employer is, nevertheless, bound to pay a reasonable remuneration for the work done. If, however, a person claims remuneration, which he says was fixed in the agreement, he must prove such an assertion. He cannot, if he fails to prove this fact, ask the Court to award him a reasonable remuneration unless he amends his claim so as to include an alternative claim, based upon the ground that the amount he claims is reasonable for the work done. The reason for this is that evidence required to prove that the amount claimed is reasonable, is entirely different from that required to prove that the amount claimed has been expressly agreed upon.

A recent case goes even further, for it decided that where a builder claimed remuneration due to him for certain building work, and relied upon an express agreement that he was to receive reasonable remuneration for his services, he could not ask for judgment based upon an implied agreement to pay reasonable remuneration. (Laidlaw v. Crowe, 1935, N.P.D. 241.)

Another interesting case on this point was recently decided. A motor mechanic sued for remuneration for services rendered, based upon an implied contract to pay a fair and reasonable charge for the work done. His case was that he was requested to do the work and nothing whatever was said about remuneration. The other party admitted that he requested the mechanic to do the work and admitted that the charge was reasonable, but pleaded that it had been agreed that the work would be done without charge. The point at issue was whether the onus was on the plaintiff to establish that nothing was said as to the price. If this were so it would follow that if the Court were in doubt about this fact the plaintiff would lose. If, however, the onus was on the defendant to prove that the work was undertaken gratuitously, any doubt in the mind of the Court would entitle the plaintiff to judgment. The Court held that the onus was on the plaintiff to satisfy it that nothing was said as to the remuneration, and as the court was not so satisfied the mechanic lost his case. (Dave v. Birrell, 1936, T.P.D.)

With acknowledgments to the S.A. Builder, Feb., 1937.

CENTRAL COUNCIL NOTICES

The following is a brief summary of the first meeting of the 1937-1938 Central Council, which was held at Durban. The meeting began on the afternoon of Thursday, March 25th, and concluded on the afternoon of Saturday, March 27th, 1937. This is the second occasion on which the Central Council has met away from its headquarters at Johannesburg.

●

Before the proceedings were formally opened, Mr. B. V. Bartholomew, President of the Natal Provincial Institute, cordially welcomed the members of the Central Council to Durban. He recorded the Natal Architects' appreciation of the services rendered year after year by the Central Council.

The meeting, the whole of which was open to the professions, was attended by architects, quantity surveyors and students.

●

Because of the increase in its membership, the Transvaal Provincial Institute was allotted an additional seat on the Central Council (vide Regulation 5). This step provoked a good deal of discussion, as the delegates of the Cape Provincial Institute had, on their way to Durban, called at Port Elizabeth and East London, where they found, especially at Port Elizabeth, a demand for direct representation on the Central Council.

As a result of the discussion, the Central Council instructed its Executive Committee to consider the possibility of amending Regulation 5 so as to admit of direct representation on the Council by a member from the Eastern Province in addition to the two representatives from Cape Town.

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The address to the Council of the Retiring President-in-Chief was received with acclamation. Space does not permit of detailed attention now; it will be referred to in extenso in a subsequent issue.

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Considerable discussion took place on the resolution passed by the recent Congress to the effect that the Central Council should own and control a Union Journal and, with that object in view, that the Council should negotiate with the Transvaal Provincial Institute with a view to taking over the "South African Architectural Record."

The Council approved in principle of the resolution passed by Congress, and appointed a Special Sub-Committee representative of the five constituent bodies to negotiate with the Transvaal Provincial Institute. Professor Pearse, on behalf of the Trans-

vaal Provincial Institute, put forward certain suggestions as a basis for negotiation, which suggestions were cordially welcomed by the Council and formally referred to the Sub-Committee for attention.

●

The Council resolved unanimously to approach the Union Parliament for the re-introduction of " Clause 3 (c)," in reference to the larger Municipalities in the Union; and authorised the Executive Committee to make such modifications to the wording of " Clause 3 (c)," and to take such other steps, as investigations proved to be necessary.

●

The Council resolved to accept and act upon the suggestions contained in Mr. C. P. Walgate's paper on " Professional Propaganda " submitted to the recent Congress; and to refer to the constituent bodies, for their attention, Mr. Norman Eaton's paper on " Professional Co-operation."

The Council adopted the suggestion of Congress that Mr. R. Howden's paper on the position of the architect in relation to the Building Contract be published for the information of members and students. Mr. Howden intimated his wish, in view of the decision to publish his paper, to enlarge the scope of it.

●

In regard to housing schemes, the Council decided to invite the Provincial Institutes to consider the holding of competitions in various centres, under their own auspices, dealing with sub-economic and economic housing schemes, and simultaneously to organise a public exhibition of the designs, with a view to the employment thereupon of registered architects and quantity surveyors.

The Council also resolved to approach the larger Municipalities in South Africa, recommending that they employ the services of architects and quantity surveyors for their housing schemes.

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The Council resolved to publish a document entitled " The Duties of an Architect " for the information and guidance of the building public and others concerned. The document will be published in extenso in a subsequent issue, and will appear in the Institute's Year Book.

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A similar document, entitled " Conditions of Engagement in Relation to the Quantity Surveyor," submitted by the Board of the Chapter, has been approved by the Central Council, and will also be issued in the near future.

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The Council considered in detail the sub-division of the Scale of Fees put forward by Mr. Norman Eaton in his paper to

Congress, and instructed the Executive Committee to forward the same to the Provincial Institutes as a document worthy of the most serious consideration.

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The whole of the Regulations pursuant to the Act have been reorganised. The reorganisation has been approved by the Hon. the Minister of Education, and published in a special issue of the Government Gazette (No. 2424). A circular, explanatory of the changes made in the Regulations, will be forwarded to members in the near future, together with a copy of the Regulations as re-written.

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As a result of its consideration of the Unprofessional Conduct Regulations, particularly in reference to " Advertising," the Council resolved to issue a further circular to members on the subject of " Advertising," in amplification of the circular issued on September 21st, 1936.

●

The Council resolved to accept, and to act upon, the suggestions put forward by its Sub-Committee as to the nature of the first competition in connection with the Howden Scholarship Fund. The aim of the Sub-Committee was to make the said competition one which would be of service to the profession as a whole, as a source of reference, and one which would admit of research in a field not yet sufficiently attended to. It is likely that the first Howden Prize, which will be open to registered architects in South Africa not over 30 years of age, will be awarded to the author of the best thesis on " National Domestic Architecture in South Africa."

●

The Orange Free State Provincial Institute, as a tribute of the affection and esteem in which it holds Mr. Robert Howden, presented to the Central Council the original " bronze," the work of Mrs. Marion Walgate, from which the Howden Medals have been made; also the dies and four medals.

●

The Council resolved to hold the next Congress of South African Architects and Quantity Surveyors at Port Elizabeth, if possible, within the next three years; and also to recommend to the constituent bodies that, as the nucleus of the next Congress, they each appoint six members as official delegates.

●

The Council resolved to approach the Union Government for its sympathetic consideration in the matter of entrusting to practising architects and quantity surveyors as much Government work as possible.

The Council instructed its Executive Committee to arrange a joint meeting representative of architects, quantity surveyors and master builders to consider mutual problems such as reducing the number of P.C. items in building contracts, the master builders' "Quantity Rule," and combatting jerry building.

●

Mr. Ernest M. Powers, F.R.I.B.A., M.I.A., of Durban, was elected President-in-Chief and Chairman of the Executive Committee for the session 1937-1938. Mr. R. J. C. Prentice, F.S.I., M.C.Q.S., of Pretoria, was elected Vice-President-in-Chief.

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The Council recorded its deep appreciation of the magnificent services rendered to the professions of architecture and quantity surveying by Mr. H. J. Brownlee, the retiring President-in-Chief, during his year of office.

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If any member of the Institute or the Chapter wishes to peruse the full minutes of the Central Council, the same are accessible at the offices of the Secretaries of the Provincial Institutes and the Chapter.

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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

PERSONNEL FOR 1937-1938.

Cape Provincial Institute: Members, J. K. Parker, R. F. R. Day; Alternates, Fred M. Glennie, B. G. L. Mansergh or L. A. Elsworth.

Natal Provincial Institute: Member, Ernest Powers; Alternate, C. S. M. Taylor.

Orange Free State Provincial Institute: Member, Fred W. Masey; Alternate, W. W. Tonkin.

Transvaal Provincial Institute: Members, H. G. Tomkyns, N. M. Eaton, R. Howden, W. Gordon McIntosh, Professor G. E. Pearse; Alternates, S. C. Dowsett, R. A. Bruce, A. Stanley Furner, D. L. Nurcombe, Rex Martienssen.

Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors: Members, Dr. E. J. Hamlin, T. Moore; Alternates: D. J. Laing, C. L. F. Borckenhagen.

Government Nominees: Members, J. S. Cleland, R. J. C. Prentice; Alternates, W. Mollison, C. H. Deighton.

THE INSTITUTE OF SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTS

At the Annual General Meeting of the Transvaal Provincial Institute of South African Architects, held on March 11th, the following were elected as the Committee for the ensuing year:—President: H. G. Tomkyns, A.R.I.B.A.; Senior Vice-President: N. M. Eaton, Dipl. Arch. (Rand), A.R.I.B.A.; Junior Vice-President: Rex. Martienssen, B.Arch. (Rand), A.R.I.B.A.; R. A. Bruce, Dipl. Arch. (Rand), A.R.I.B.A.; S. C. Dowsett, F.R.I.B.A.; A. S. Furner, A.R.I.B.A.; D. S. Haddon, Dipl. Arch (Rand), A.R.I.B.A.; R. Howden, F.R.I.B.A., A.R.V.I.A.; W. G. McIntosh, B.Arch. (Rand), A.R.I.B.A.; D. L. Nurcombe, Professor G. E. Pearse, A.R.I.B.A.; H. R. L. Wintle.

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O.F.S. PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE.

Office-bearers, 1937-1938.—President: W. M. Timlin, L.R.I.B.A.; Vice-President: W. W. Tonkin, L.R.I.B.A.; Committee: H. G. de la Cornillere, F. W. Masey, F. W. Rohde, W. M. Timlin, W. W. Tonkin, H. A. C. Wallace; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Fredk. W. Masey.

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THE CHAPTER OF SOUTH AFRICAN QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

The Chapter's officers for the session 1937-1938 have been elected as follows:—President: Dr. E. J. Hamlin; Senior Vice-President: Mr. C. L. F. Borckenhagen; Junior Vice-President: Mr. F. Williamson; Chairman of Finance: Mr. L. C. Austin.

●

The designs submitted in competition for the portions of the Empire Exhibition have been sent to the University of the Witwatersrand. Competitors are kindly asked to call for their drawings or make arrangements for them to be collected.

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Mr. E. S. Gurney, Quantity Surveyor, is starting in practice on his own account at No. 30, Hout Street, Capetown, as from May 3rd, 1937.

Journal of the SA Architectural Institute

PUBLISHER:

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

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