

https://dspace.org/

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

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

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

● Cover Stockholm Town Hall.
From the photograph by Geoffrey Gilbert
(Messrs. B. T. Batsford Ltd. London)

55 Cézanne and his home in Provence

60 Elgin Mansions

67 The Congress

82 The Crematorium at Maitland Cemetery, Capetown

87 Book Review

90 The Transvaal Provincial Institute of S.A. Architects

95 Professional Notes and News

Hon. Editors Professor G. E. Pearse
Rex Martienssen

Secretary A. S. Pearse

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

Annual subscription per post £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 Two, February Nineteen Hundred and Thirty Seven



Cézanne — Provencal Landscape

CEZANNE AND HIS HOME IN PROVENCE

By NANCY COURTNEY ACUTT.

" We were three friends, three scamps, who still wore out our breeches on the school benches," wrote Zola about himself, Cézanne and Baille. " We felt the need of fresh air, of the sunlight, of the feeling of being lost in the ravines, which we held as conquerors.

" In winter we were enchanted by the cold. We adored the earth, hardened by frost, on which our footsteps would ring. We would dash off to devour cakes in the nearby villages, with a joy derived from the atmosphere so vivid and so pure.

" In summer our chosen spots were always at the river side, because we then had a passion for water. We spent whole afternoons, splashing about, living there and only emerging to stretch ourselves on the sand, a fine sand heated by the sun.

" Then in autumn we changed our affections and devoted ourselves to hunting. Oh! We were surely most inoffensive hunters—for that was but a pretext for longer expeditions. The end of the hunt was always in the shade of a tree, on which the three of us would tumble about, chattering unceasingly of all that affected us.

" Poetry was our main affection at that time. We did not only chatter about it. We always carried books in our knapsacks or pockets. For a year we were dominated by Victor Hugo, as by an absolute monarch. Later, one morning, we took out a book of Musset.

" In that corner of the province we were very ignorant and our professors did not speak to us of contemporary poets. For us the writings of Musset were an awakening of the heart. Musset made the whole of my youth. From the delight of reading, re-reading and reciting verse that pleased us to the desire to create for ourselves was but a step." Zola and Cézanne next set to work to do this.

The poetic fervour of the former lasted for nearly a decade. He projected great tragedies, cyclic poems and wrote much verse. He read Shakespeare, Chenier, Hugo, but only Musset remained his favourite.

Cézanne, no less fertile in his projects, propounded a drama in five acts, " Henry the Eighth of England," which probably never went beyond the first scene. But he wrote much verse and composed gay songs, which he sang himself at the musical reunions at Aix, when Zola played the clarinet. Some of this verse has been published in a book on Zola, written by his daughter, Denise Le Blanc Zola.

In the happy days of youth, Cézanne, a typical Provencal in appearance, roamed freely. It is enough to see his picture to know that he was a son of the soil. Not only inherited traditions, but also his country, have stamped his work.

From a child he loved his own land—that pleasant land of Aix de Provence, which to-day has that same dry appearance, notwithstanding the avenues of trees and running water, that it is said to have had half a century ago. The only addition to the place is the monument to Mirabeau and a bust of Zola, natives of the city. For the rest all remains the same, even the customs of the inhabitants.

The grandson takes his coffee at the same table where his grandfather used to fifty years ago. To-day, as yesterday, the talk is of the price of wine, of the crushing of olives, of the farms that are bought and sold in the district. The sober Provencal character has an ability to simplify matters and ideas. On this account the peasant can say much in a few words.

This mental and spiritual characteristic, said to have belonged to Paul Cézanne, is apparent in his works. His feeling for the beauty of his native land was such that every tree and hill moved him to recite lines from Virgil. Provence is classical in its outlines—the groups of trees, the harmonious lines of hills, the fresh wind from the sea.

That was supposed to be a great preoccupation of Cézanne—the idea of a classical land, still retaining memories of the altars of Olympus on the ancient hills. A bountiful nature gave him the great inspiration for his works. At the summer's conclusion the country around Marseilles, as far north as Aix, acquires the peace of mid-season.

The sun has no longer the ardour of its full strength. In the morning the distant views are misty in the soft atmosphere and the sky has a crystal transparency. The roads leading out of Marseilles pass over stony ground, but one soon comes to regions that are a feast for the eyes on every side. The deep sky, with its fine clouds, lends enchantment to the scenery.

On leaving Marseilles, passing through the suburbs of that great city, the road turns to a land where stone and slate have not managed to exterminate olive or pine trees. Their resinous smell accompanies the traveller up hill and down the valleys.

A bewitching scene is disclosed near Gardanne, surprising and varied. The country can be surveyed from the heights, reposing in the sunlight. In the valley is Aix en Provence, the favoured home of Paul Cézanne.

Midway through the past century, in an elementary school in Provence, a timid scholar was teased by his companions. His name was Emile Zola. His comrade, indignant at the unjust persecution, defended him with fists and blows. This was Paul Cézanne. The future novelist and artist sealed their friendship that day.

Inseparables in life and art, their work and play were studied simultaneously. "There was something divine in that pagan childhood," Elie Faure wrote. "We have all felt that touch of barbarity which occurs in the first books of the author, "La Fortune des Rougon," "La conquete de Plassans," "La faute de l'Abbe Mouret," and in those strange paintings, blue and green, of the artist, in which the trembling light and water murmur of naked beings beneath leafy branches."

Pagan was the childhood of those boys, who, during their holidays, ran about the outskirts of the old city of Aix, founded by the Romans. They were burnt by the blazing sun, whipped by the mistral, between grey olive and stunted almond trees, treading dusty roads of that country with its red soil, beneath a blue and cloudless sky.

They tramped happily towards the strongly marked distances in that limpid air, followed by the chirp of crickets. They carried one small knapsack, where a place was reserved for a book of verse.

Cézanne was reproached for his irresolution before a picture, when he wished to reproduce the scene before his eyes. He would pause for long minutes without touching it with his brush. It would appear that he was more concerned with ideas than with objects.

A colour can be applied easily when it has to give the idea of that colour alone. But when it has to represent, symbolise and translate, nothing can be left to chance.

If with colour Cézanne showed apparent hesitation, it was because he wished to arrive at a synthetic reproduction of form. Whence arose this obsession?

He would take one example from the morning and another from the afternoon, trying to discover the best hours when he might snatch a gracious tint, falling obliquely on mountains and valleys. A succession of tones and delicate transitions; a series of planes can be indicated by a varied application of colour.

The landscape confronts the artist, with all its complications, but the artist has no need to descend to the baroque to reproduce faithfully. Faced with those sober Provencal scenes, Cézanne continued to gather, in contemplating their lines and hues, the fundamental idea of his art—the idea which singles him out among his contemporaries, that of synthetic expression.

The idea of synthesis led him naturally to the idea of order. In his many works that harmonious order can be seen. With this he achieved beauty. The same precision was ever before his eyes.

Mountains, valleys, hills and plains have a rhythmical order in Provence. The light of noon shows up the natural architecture. Then again the vegetation of those regions achieves a

design. There is never chaos or confusion in Cézanne's pictures. In the first place because there is no chaos in those sober scenes; secondly because the ordered temperament of the artist did not at all admire confusion.

The pictures of that region which he left to us indicate clearly the influence that his native country had on his aesthetic ideas. His head was in the hill tops.

Cézanne is described at work. He traced on his canvas first with a piece of charcoal, simplifying the outlines, leaving only what was necessary to show contours. He would proceed at once to apply the paint with delicate brush strokes.

In this way he would seek carefully for the colour that would give line and form to his idea. Work of synthesis which has been preceded by long work of analysis encloses all the secrecy of the scene. Not only the spirit of the artist remains there, but also more—the spirit of the whole of Provence.

The strength of his work is given in this racial quality of artistic temperament. Cézanne, like nearly all painters of his generation, travelled awhile in other parts, such as Normandy. He returned always to his native soil, because there only could he discover his favourite scenes—a country at the same time amiable yet fierce. A landscape imbued with the same characteristics of spirit which were inherent in him.

In the Spring of 1886 Cézanne spent a few weeks in Normandy with his friend Choquet, but nostalgia for his own country brought him back in September. That is the month when Provence discloses all her beauty. Cézanne painted then with love and insistence. He possessed the earth as one possesses a loved woman. He became obsessed and painted for long hours with passion. Each day he found a new aspect of the lovely land in that privileged region.

For him this was Virgil—the Virgil of the farm life near Mantua. Joachim Gasquet relates of the manner in which Cézanne worked at that time. " It is necessary to have seen," says his friend, " the hundreds of canvases that were lying under the dust of the cellars of Jas de Bouffan, the majority unfinished, to understand the heavy toil, the happy martyrdom with which Cézanne took possession of his soul and of his land.

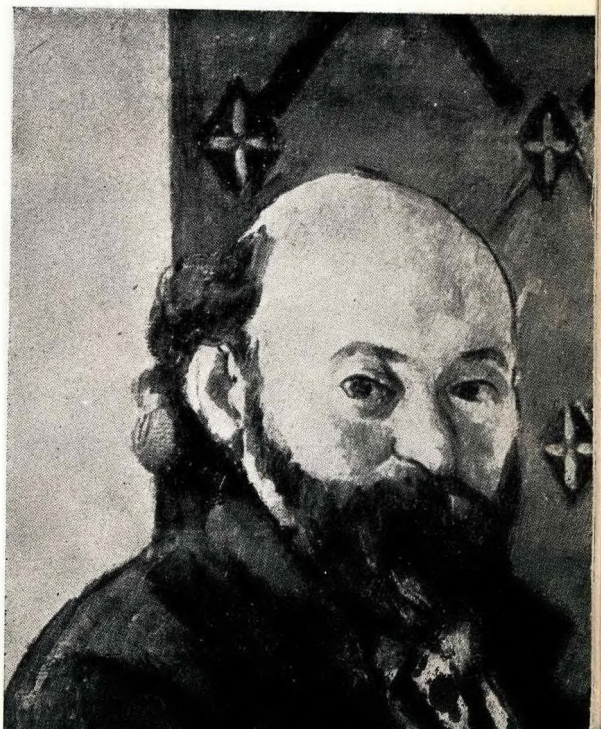
" Nearly empty canvases, in which a few blue lines and a few green spots represent the outline of a hill, the crest of a tree or a lonely road. Nearly empty canvases where the angles meet a mass of colour, some almost geometrical figures crossed by shadows, great walls towering over chasms scarcely visible in the drawing; in fact, work in which can be seen the slow progress of a sensitive mind—the victory twenty times abandoned and twenty times begun, with a logic in harmony with a tempestuous emotion. In this way and before such work one can descend to the profound depths that represent Cézanne's thoughts."

Cézanne's thoughts were ever thus—to give art a synthetic interpretation of men and of things. In his figures, in his scenes, he has taken as his models the peasants of that district and has made from them a harmony in art.

Yet his boyhood's friend Zola, knowing so much of the inner history, did not come to his aid when his pen could have been of much use. "I shall always be on the side of the vanquished," wrote Zola, and took up the defence of Manet and Pisarro, who were then being violently attacked. But he forgot this promise when he might have protected his friend's genius at a time when Cézanne needed, as much as Manet and Pisarro, to be upheld before art critics.

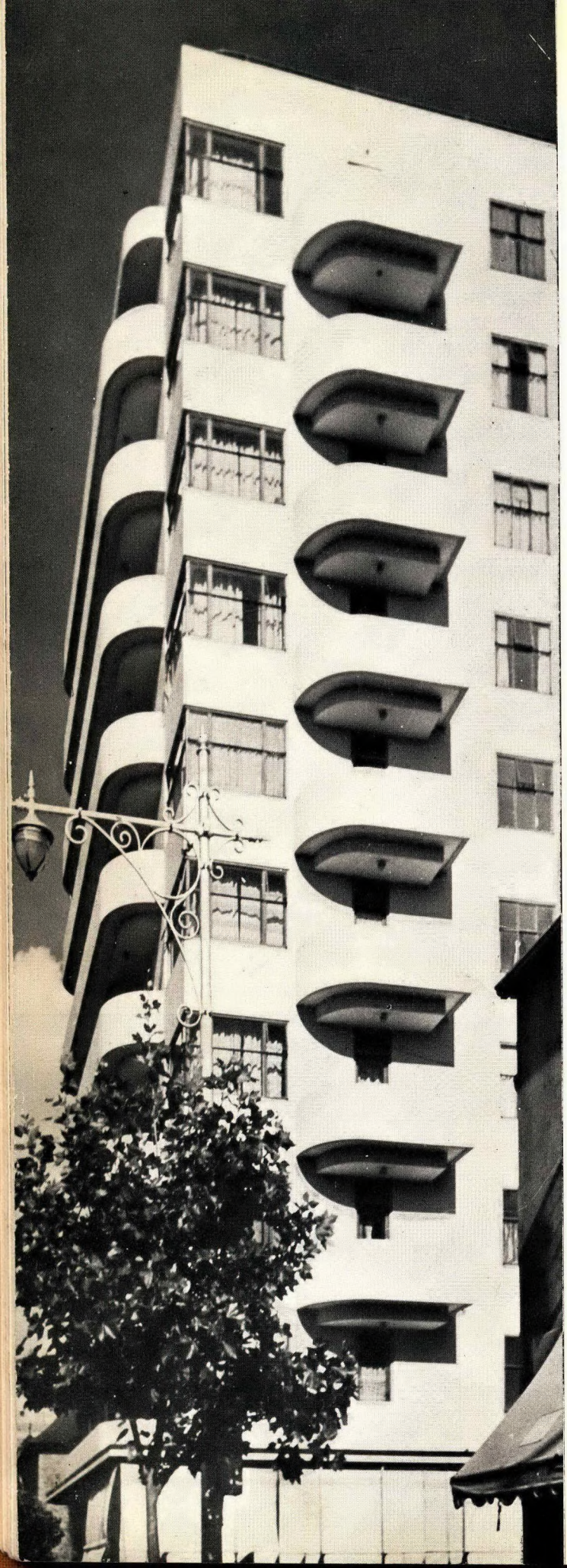
But Cézanne continued on his way, with no deviations to please those old critics. In his own country he acquired the knowledge of his personality and translated it to his work. Thanks to old Provence, with its translucent shades, he discovered the principal characteristics of its synthesis.

In writing this article the works of the following authors were referred to and translated:—Emile Zola, Denise Le Blanc-Zola, Rafael Alberto Arrieta, Lucien Descaves, Enrique Villarreal, Elie Faure, Joaquin Gasquet.



Cézanne

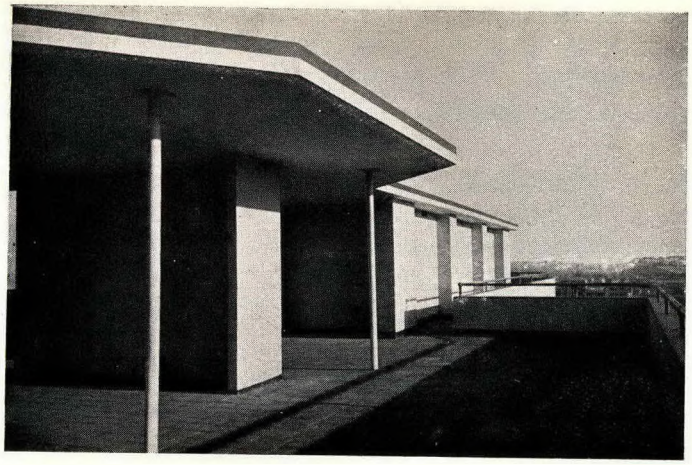
Self-portrait



Elgin Mansions
Johannesburg

Architects
Grinker & Skelly

photo/Dorth



The Roof Terrace

ELGIN MANSIONS

The total number of flats is eighty-one, there being nine on each floor, except the ground and ninth floors, on which there are four and five respectively. The flats are of the bachelor type, with sleeping recess, bathroom, hall and balcony, and in every case (except four on the eighth floor) are large enough to accommodate two persons comfortably. The living rooms are 21 × 12, 18 × 12, 22 × 14 and 25 × 14, but in the majority of cases are enlarged by the addition of a bay projecting three feet over the street. The bed recesses are designed to take two beds. Every flat in the building faces directly on to the street, and every flat (except the four on the ground floor) has an adequate balcony. The problem of ensuring privacy between these seventy-seven balconies has been solved by the interception of a bay window between each pair of balconies, which results in an interesting elevational treatment.

Access is provided by broad open balconies at the rear. Three special ducts take the drains and water pipes, so that there are no unsightly pipes visible along the access balconies.

The lift tower has been planned as an isolated unit, and is cut off from the main building by swing doors at each level, to reduce noise and vibration to a minimum.

A dust chute, constructed of Hume concrete pipes, and inclined at the bottom end, has been provided instead of an iron chute, in order to avoid the clanging noise associated with the latter type.

The two lifts are of the automatic collective type, and are interconnected, with a speed of 230 feet per minute. The cages are of steel ducoed in different colours. The external gates are

of the self-closing hinged type, in teak. The windows are of steel set in heavy oregon frames. The doors are of the flush laminated type throughout. The picture rails are of metal, set flush in the thickness of the plaster. Dust traps are thus reduced to a minimum.

The floors are in selected South African wood blocks. The wood finishings are of selected oregon throughout, and are painted, not stained. The electric fittings were assembled locally —to architects' designs. The fireplaces consist of Ferranti reflectors, housed in precast terrazzo, or "Turnall" coloured asbestos surrounds.

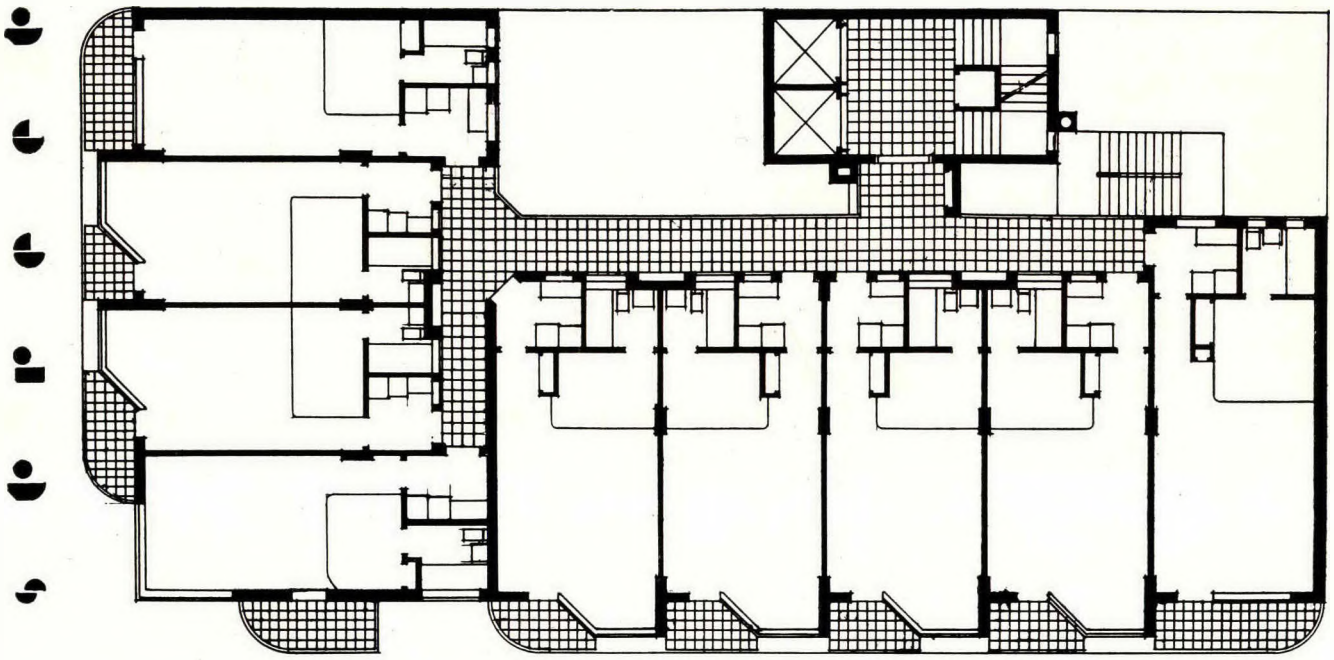
Generally, the flats are provided with every modern convenience and amenity. There are numerous cupboards, including book cupboards in the larger flats. Sliding curtain tracks are provided for the large windows and elsewhere, and Japanese screens for the bed recesses.

The external walls have been treated in cement plaster, finished with a washable stone paint in cheerful colours.

The base of the building, and also the main entrance hall, have been panelled in a coloured glass. The floor of the main hall is in rubber. This hall is lit by means of four inverted reflectors concealed in pedestals at the sides.

A roof garden, paved with hollow tiles and partly protected by a concrete pergola, and fitted with seats, provides a breathing space for the tenants. Here is also the tank room, housing six 1,000 gallon tanks. No tanks or other unsightly adjuncts are anywhere exposed, and an attempt has been made to keep the sides, back and roof of the building as clean and sightly as possible.

Contractors:—Kopilis & Shipper; Sub-Contractors:—Lifts, Waygood-Otis; Windows, Crittall-Hope; Painting, Tabatznik; Rubber Floors, Tullis; Parquet Floors, Massing & Ingham; Coloured Glass, Algoa Glass; Timber and Joinery, Hillman Bros.; Electric Installation, H. M. Missing; Flat Roofs, Asphalte Manufacturing; Electric Fittings, Dana; Sinks and Fire Surrounds and Terrazzo, African Concrete; Electric Fires, Rice Diethelm; Electric Stoves, British General Electric; Refrigerators, Herbert Evans; Shop Fronts, etc., Harris & Hittinger; Sanitary Fittings, Beagle & Lippert; "Sloan" Valves, Modern Utilities; "Nurodamp" Stone Paint, W. F. Johnstone & Co.

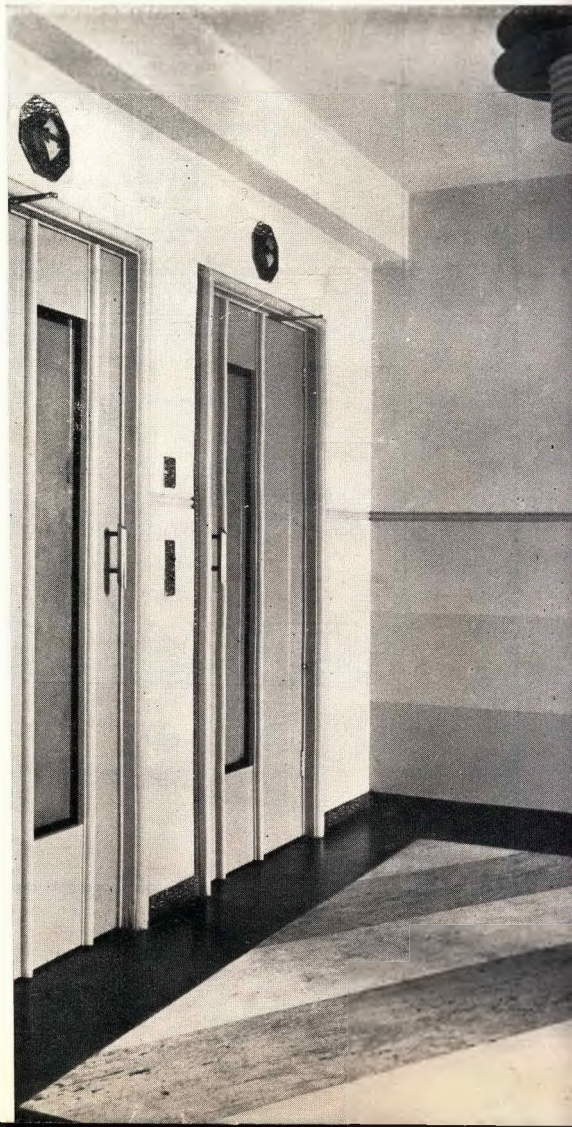


elgin mansions

grinker • skelly



Igin Mansions
orth – West Corner



The Entrance
Vestibule –



Elgin Mansions

photo/Dorth



Elgin Mansions



DISCUSSION ON MR. KENDALL'S PAPER

Mr. W. Gordon McIntosh (Pretoria) said that, as a graduate in architecture, he wished to pay tribute to the work which Professor Pearse had done at the University of the Witwatersrand. From what he knew of Professor Pearse, and of the work he had done for students, he felt that Professor Pearse was one of the few men in this country, if not the only man, who could have done so much for students. As one of the earlier students, he (Mr. McIntosh) owed a fine professional training to Professor Pearse, as well as much practical assistance in the profession.

Continuing, Mr. McIntosh expressed the opinion that a University education was the only type of education to-day which could really fit a student for practice as an architect. At the University, apart from the question of design, which was fully dealt with, there were specialists who gave instruction on the many additional subjects relating to architecture, such as electricity, refrigeration, heating and similar subjects; and he felt convinced that there was not an office in the country that could possibly give the student such direct and specialised information on those and kindred subjects as could be obtained at the University.

That was one of the main reasons for concluding that a University education must be better in the long run than a part-time training. The question of producing good draughtsmen was not a matter for the Universities. The idea was to educate students for the profession and to give them as much knowledge as possible that would stand them in good stead later on in practice. Not only did the individual student gain from the University training—the whole profession became enriched.

Mr. Gordon Tucker (Johannesburg) associated himself with Mr. McIntosh's remarks. Having been through the Degree Course in architecture at the University of the Witwatersrand, he was in a position to comment on experience after graduation. Quite clearly the extent of the knowledge a student acquired was entirely individual and personal: one student would thrive on educational food on which another would starve. He felt reluctant to level any petty criticisms against University training. Mr. Kendall had covered the point when he said it must be some time before a new system could be perfected. The time was not far off when the present educational system in architecture would, in fact, be perfected.

The only suggestion he wished to put forward was that the question of post-graduate education should be seriously con-

sidered, especially by the younger men; and that closer co-operation would be of great mutual advantage. At present the graduates met very seldom. He suggested that an Architects' Club should be formed in Johannesburg, where younger members could not only have discussions with each other, but with their experienced and respected colleagues, the older members of the profession.

Mr. Norman Hanson (Johannesburg) said he wished to supplement Mr. McIntosh's remarks on the subject of University training. He thought Professor Pearse had let Mr. Kendall off very lightly in his criticism, as in his (Mr. Hanson's) opinion there was no constructive contribution contained in what Mr. Kendall said. Mr. Kendall did not display an adequate appreciation of the existing conditions in the School of Architecture in Johannesburg, where the classical approach to architecture was brought in front of the student, and the knowledge applied to modern problems. That was a very valuable aspect, of which Mr. Kendall did not appear to show any appreciation.

Continuing, Mr. Hanson agreed with Mr. McIntosh that a full technical education was given to the University student, who had the advantage of being in continual contact with experts in every branch. If there was any lack of contact between the students and the profession, it was the duty of the profession to make good the defect. While admitting that practical contact was an essential thing, nevertheless the existing University training fully qualified a keen student to come into practice, to hold his own, and to advance architectural thought.

Mr. N. T. Cowin expressed the opinion that the Universities were somewhat backward in attending to the practical side of professional training. A most important point, among others, was the interpretation and knowledge of building bye-laws, and he would like to know whether those subjects were adequately taught in the Universities. An attempt was being made to co-ordinate the building bye-laws in all the Reef municipalities; that would make the position much simpler for students at the Witwatersrand University. He suggested that a part of the syllabus should include tests in the knowledge and interpretation of building bye-laws, and that such tests should be conducted by the building surveyors in the various municipalities.

Mr. Howden (asked by Professor Pearse to reply) assured Mr. Cowin that he need have no anxiety on the point raised. As examiner in the subject of Professional Practice, he (Mr. Howden) assured Congress that students were put through a very stiff examination in Building Bye-laws, Conditions of Contract, the Act and the Regulations, and showed evidence of a thorough training in those subjects.

The Vice-President-in-Chief complimented Professor Pearse on the able review he had put up in answering most of the criticisms against the University method of training architectural students. Nevertheless, the Institute should take up the question of the period of time that students were required to serve by way of practical experience in architects' offices. He believed that students were permitted to put in vacational periods spread over perhaps two or three years. Experience showed that time so spent in architects' offices was absolutely useless, because it was not improving the students' knowledge of professional practice in those directions which were so necessary.

For instance, if during a vacation period the student went into a busy office, he would come in contact with work already in progress. No-one on the building would know him; he would be more or less a stranger, and would be looked upon merely as a visitor. The vacation would probably last three months, and at the expiration thereof the student would leave that office and have no further interest in the particular work he had been engaged upon. From that point of view the three months' "professional experience" in the architect's office would prove to be useless.

In his practice in Durban he received applications each year before the long vacation, from University students desirous of obtaining practical experience. It was customary for most practitioners to pay such students a small amount of money—not necessarily a salary—and in many cases it occurred to him that it was looked upon as an easy method of getting a cheap holiday at the coast.

He wished to urge, therefore, that, before the final degree or diploma was granted, the student should have two or three years' practical experience in architects' offices, doing the actual work of an architect, being perhaps in charge of a job and seeing it through. The job was bound to be carried through in a period of two years, and such actual experience would be of very great value.

Mr. Norman Hanson (Johannesburg) pointed out that students spent one year during their five-year course in architects' offices, and they had to produce evidence of having spent that year advantageously.

Mr. A. Stanley Furner, in response to a special invitation from the President-in-Chief to contribute to the discussion, said that he agreed completely with Professor Pearse. He thought we had not reached perfection with the University courses, and he hoped we never would; nevertheless, the course of training at the University of the Witwatersrand was on the whole excellent.

He could not help feeling—and he knew it was felt by members of the staff—that there was a good deal of criticism of those courses by members of the profession. He knew that the staff were only too glad to receive such criticisms, but he did want to put it to practitioners present, as well as to himself, " Did they as individuals give sufficient attention to the education supplied by the Universities? Did they give the Universities all the help they could? "

In his opinion practitioners were apt to criticise without fully appreciating what they criticised. The University would welcome more visits from practitioners and more concrete help from them than they were getting. The rush and the many difficulties encountered in modern practice were appreciated, but he would like to put it to practitioners that before even mentally making a serious criticism of the University, they should first take the trouble of ascertaining whether such criticism was just or not.

One very important matter he wished to deal with (Mr. Furner continued) was the case of the extra-mural student. In spite of the criticism levelled at the Universities, he thought we were giving University students a very fine education. But could we hold our heads quite so high in relation to smaller centres? The University of the Witwatersrand, at any rate, was doing what it could for extra-mural students, by means of the " Certificate Examinations." But the question was: " Are our members in Port Elizabeth, in Durban, in East London, doing all they can for their own students? "

A School of Architecture, in a small centre, encountered difficulties which could not be overcome. But where there were say six practitioners in any town, they should be capable of looking after their own juniors. There should be more encouragement to juniors in those outside areas to complete their courses at the schools in the larger centres. Some method should be devised to encourage youngsters to study for say two years in their own centre, to obtain enough knowledge to enable them, if necessary, to work in an office in Johannesburg, but to complete their studies in a recognised School of Architecture at one of the bigger centres. It must be appreciated that such students would not get a degree, and possibly not a diploma; but if they could spend the last three years of their training in one of the big schools, the profession as a whole would gain very considerably.

Mr. Furner concluded by appealing to the Central Council, and particularly to individual members in the smaller centres, to give this matter their very careful consideration, and if necessary to sacrifice some of their time with the object of giving the youngsters in the outside centres the opportunity that he felt they deserved.

UNION JOURNAL

The President-in-Chief invited expressions of opinion from Congress as to whether the Central Council, on behalf of the five constituent bodies of the Institute should own and control a Union journal devoted to architecture and quantity surveying. In reply to Mr. D. M. Sinclair, the President-in-Chief stated that he was not referring to the taking over of the "South African Architectural Record." He just wished Congress to consider the principle involved, as to whether the Central Council should, on behalf of the five constituent bodies, own and control a Union journal.

Mr. T. Moore strongly advocated the Central Council owning and controlling a Union Journal. He suggested that Congress should recommend this course to the Central Council, leaving it to the Council to go into details such as cost and general management.

Mr. D. M. Sinclair submitted that, while appreciating the viewpoint expressed by the President-in-Chief, the matter could not be discussed without considering the present journal, which represented the five constituent bodies and the Institute. The question of a Union journal involved the present publication.

Mr. B. V. Bartholomew suggested that the principle involved would be appreciated if the Congress were asked whether the R.I.B.A., on behalf of its constituent bodies, should own and control a journal devoted to architecture. If the question were approached in that way it would have the advantage of removing it from the atmosphere of prejudice, local or otherwise. If such a question were asked in Great Britain, there would be an unanimous reply. And if the principle was sound and good in Great Britain, why should it not be equally good in South Africa?

Mr. E. H. Waugh (Johannesburg) said that, as the Act gave the Institute power to establish a journal, the principle was already established. The present "Record," founded many years ago, was now representative of the whole of the four Provinces. It was run by the Transvaal Provincial Institute through a committee. If the principle involved was adopted, it meant that the Central Council would take over the existing journal from the Transvaal Provincial Institute.

Mr. Dudley S. Mann submitted that the Congress could not consider the question purely from the point of view of principle. They had to face the facts and ascertain what was involved financially. He wished to ask what had led up to the proposal that the Institute should own and manage its own journal, and whether or not such a journal paid in this country.

The President-in-Chief said that, if Congress so wished, the matter could be discussed on a broader basis. He pointed out that each of the constituent bodies within the Institute had certain autonomous rights. The Transvaal Provincial Institute, by virtue of its autonomous rights, was the owner of the present journal; that was its own business. As to whether the Transvaal Provincial Institute, either through the editor of the journal, or anyone else, would agree to give the Congress the details asked for, remained for them to say; but he (the President-in-Chief) would not like Congress to trespass in any way upon the autonomous rights enjoyed by the Transvaal Provincial Institute in common with the other constituent bodies. If the Transvaal Provincial Institute wished to have a full discussion on the suggestion put forward, that was for them to say.

Mr. Gordon Leith asked if the Congress could have the opinion of the Transvaal Provincial Institute on this matter.

Mr. W. Gordon McIntosh stated that although the Transvaal Provincial Institute wished to keep the journal, they would not close the door to the other Provinces, which some time ago were offered representation on the Journal Committee. As to whether it was desirable for the " South African Architectural Record " to be handed over to the Central Council, the Transvaal Provincial Institute did not wish that to be done.

Mr. E. H. Waugh said he had great difficulty in accepting a principle which would immediately give the Central Council the right to start another journal as a rival to the existing one. He thought the right way was for the Central Council to approach the Transvaal Provincial Institute, discuss the matter, and see whether they could throw in their lot with them. Personally, having had a great deal to do with establishing the present journal, he would like to see it run as a Central Journal, if that could be done after negotiation with the Transvaal Provincial Institute. He would like to submit a proposition in that direction.

The President-in-Chief, in reply to Mr. Waugh, referred to the statement just made by the President of the Transvaal Provincial Institute that it did not wish the Central Council to take over the existing journal.

Professor G. E. Pearse pointed out that for many years the " South African Architectural Record " had been the official organ of the Orange Free State, Natal and Transvaal Provincial Institutes, and the Chapter of Quantity Surveyors. Some time ago—the Registrar could tell them when—an offer was made to the Central

Council by the Transvaal Provincial Institute to take over the journal at a valuation.

The Registrar, in reply, stated that the Central Council, at the instance of Mr. Howden, had suggested, about two years ago, that the Transvaal Provincial Institute's auditors, who were also auditors to the Central Council, should be asked to ascertain what would be a fair valuation of the journal if the Central Council were to take it over.

Professor Pearse, continuing, said that the discussions about the Central Council taking over the journal at a valuation was the first step. The second step was when the Cape Provincial Institute was asked to collaborate, the suggestion being that the constituent bodies should have a representative on the Journal Committee, for a trial period. Nothing had resulted from that suggestion.

The journal was now a very fine paying proposition. Its advertisements came to something like £400 a month, and the position was getting better and better from a financial point of view. The Transvaal Provincial Institute was still willing to discuss the matter fully with the Central Council, and if it wished to make it a Union journal, the Transvaal Provincial Institute was willing to collaborate to the fullest extent. The Transvaal Provincial Institute felt they now had an organisation which could be taken over by the Central Council in toto, for a time, as an experiment, rather than risk any breakdown in the continuity of the journal.

Mr. Gordon Leith expressed the opinion that there was a danger in transferring the journal temporarily. The Congress and the Central Council should decide whether a Union architectural journal should be owned and controlled by the Central Council. If it was decided that that should be done, then negotiations should take place with the Transvaal Institute on the basis of the joint auditors' report. If it was decided that it was in the best interests of the profession to have such a Union journal, then it would be up to the Transvaal Provincial Institute to stand down and make the journal available.

Mr. Frederick W. Masey stated that the two different statements as to the attitude of the Transvaal Provincial Institute accentuated the Congress' difficulty in discussing this matter. On the one hand, Mr. McIntosh stated that the Transvaal Provincial Institute definitely would not part with the journal; on the other hand, Professor Pearse stated that the Transvaal Provincial Institute was willing to negotiate with the Central Council to take over the journal. If the Transvaal Provincial Institute could profitably run a journal, which, although it pur-

ported to represent the other Provinces, remained essentially a Transvaal journal, why should not the two Professions in South Africa have a Union journal, the profits from which would be utilised for the benefit of the whole country?

It seemed a pity to confuse the " Architectural Record " with the question of a Union journal for the Institute of South African Architects and the Chapter, and he (Mr. Masey) was very glad that the President-in-Chief, in opening the discussion, sought to keep the " Record " out of the debate. If, however, the " Record " was brought into the discussion, then he (Mr. Masey) would ask permission to speak a second time.

In Great Britain the various architectural societies which were allied to the R.I.B.A. ran, or could run, their own journals, but the R.I.B.A., as the Mother Institute, ran the R.I.B.A. journal. In South Africa the four Provincial Institutes and the Chapter could, if they so wished, run five separate publications, but he (Mr. Masey) thought it was desirable that there should be one Union journal for the professions as a whole, covering the whole of the sub-continent; and that he knew to be a very general feeling throughout the country. A Union journal could have paid sub-editors or agencies in the different centres of the country—that would, in fact, be a matter of duty. A Union journal could therefore be South African in every sense; it would bind the profession together in all parts of the country and make members feel that they were more South African than Provincial.

The Vice-President-in-Chief pointed out that the circumstances which applied to the R.I.B.A. official journal did not apply in South Africa. The R.I.B.A. journal dealt with matters solely connected with the Institute; it recorded minutes of meetings, papers that had been read, and discussions that took place purely on Institute matters, and dealt with inside the Institute's own headquarters. The " South African Architectural Record " had developed from what was originally published as a Transvaal journal by the then Association of Transvaal Architects; and it was felt that it was more or less of the same nature as some of the private proprietary journals in the Old Country.

Certain difficulties would be encountered if the Central Council were to run a monthly journal. The Central Council, which was really a body dealing with the collective interests of the five constituent bodies, generally met only once a year. If it was found desirable to have an Institute journal, there might be such a publication once a year, when the annual meetings of the Central Council and the constituent bodies took place, to record matters of a purely central nature.

He (Mr. Powers) felt that the interests of the " Record " were very largely in the Transvaal, where it was edited and published. It would be a different proposition if the Institute could

publish a journal on the lines of the present "Record." An Institute journal should be devoted solely to Institute and architectural matters, that is, matters relating to the Central Council and the five constituent bodies. It was doubtful if a journal run on such lines could be made to pay, for it would not be likely to interest outside people; and it was doubtful if there would be a sufficient number of advertisers.

Mr. N. T. Cowin said it was clear that this country would not be able to support two journals of a similar nature. If the Central Council owned and controlled its own journal, it would do considerable damage to the other. The right course was for the Central Council to buy out the "Record," if it was considered that that was the best thing to do. The present journal had not been established without a tremendous amount of work and struggle. It was not the policy of the Journal Committee to make huge profits; their object was to get the best results possible, for the whole profession, from the issue of the journal.

If the Central Council was to take over the "Record," it would be best to take over the existing machinery, which was now in perfect order. To start de novo would mean the expenditure of a good deal of capital and a great amount of time and labour on the part of members of the Central Council.

He considered that a Union journal would certainly be a good thing, but they should not be unfair to the Transvaal if they decided to have one. To take over the "Record" at its present stage of development would be an expensive matter, and that would have to be very carefully considered.

Mr. J. Seaton Hodge (Johannesburg) asked how a new Union journal would give members more than they had at the moment. In addition to the "Record" there was the "South African Builder," which gave all the information required about tenders in the different towns within the Union and Rhodesia. The only thing he could find behind the proposed suggestion was that there was some disagreement about the policy of the "Record."

Mr. B. V. Bartholomew pointed out that he had not advocated the existence of two journals. The principle to be decided was whether it was desirable that there should be a journal representing the whole of the architectural profession in South Africa. He favoured the idea that the Central Council should continue its negotiations with the Transvaal Provincial Institute with a view to the Central Council becoming the owners of the "Record," which could then become the official organ of the South African Institute. The question of costs and other relative matters could be referred, after due consideration, to the Provincial Institutes. There was no reason why the Central Council should

not nominate the present editors and the people who ran the journal to carry on; but the journal should definitely become the official organ of the Institute in South Africa.

Mr. D. M. Sinclair, as the original business manager of the " Record," quoted the associated scientific and technical societies, who had considered the question of having a joint journal for the sake of policy and to help the professions represented—architecture, medicine, engineering—under different sections. After going into the matter very carefully, it was turned down as inadvisable.

The " South African Architectural Record " was the official journal of the different Provinces. It was stated so. It was not quite correct, therefore, to say that it was not an official journal. The matter of policy might be controlled either by the Provinces or by the Central Council. He suggested that, for a trial period, a section be given to each Province and to the Chapter, each section to be under the control of a sub-editor. The same might apply to the Central Council. He felt sure that would be a success from a publishing and financial point of view. He deprecated the idea of starting a new policy altogether, which might have the effect of upsetting the whole concern.

Mr. R. Howden stated that he had been deputed to interview the Transvaal Provincial Committee—the Journal Committee—with a view to arriving at some working arrangement, for a trial period of twelve months, in connection with the journal. He was told that the Central Council had not the funds to buy out the " Record," but they were prepared to give it a trial to see how it worked as a Union journal with the idea of purchasing it at the end of twelve months at a valuation to be decided upon by the auditors of both bodies. The idea was that the journal should be run, during the trial period, by representatives from each Province, and that those representatives were to control the editorial policy of the journal. The Journal Committee were to write to each Province and ask for a representative to be nominated from their own Province, with an alternate in Johannesburg. Those alternates were to represent the respective Provinces and the Chapter; but the essential point was that they were to control the editorial policy of the journal. Those arrangements were not brought to a finality, but the point remained that the Institute could not have a Union journal—even temporarily—if the editorial policy was to be controlled by the owners of the journal, namely, the Transvaal Provincial Institute. It must be admitted that the business management of the journal and the profits derived from it belonged to the Transvaal Provincial Institute, and that the Central Council was not able to purchase the " Record " at the present time. Nevertheless, he submitted that any suggestion of the " Record "

becoming a Union journal was out of the question unless it was definitely agreed that the whole of the professions in South Africa should control the editorial policy of that journal.

Professor G. E. Pearse, in reply, stated that the editorial policy of the journal was controlled by a Journal Committee, a very large one. The whole object of the proposed trial was to get representatives from all the Provinces on the Journal Committee. They would then control the editorial policy. As long as the editorial policy was approved by the present Journal Committee, it naturally went on. The editors were only doing what the Journal Committee wished them to do; and where editorial articles of a controversial nature were put up, they were referred to nearly all the members of the Journal Committee for approval or otherwise before publication.

If the constituent bodies and those not at present represented on the Journal Committee would only write their views to the Journal Committee, it would be very helpful. At the moment no criticisms were being offered—none whatever. If the constituent bodies would appoint representatives on the Journal Committee, then the Journal could be run on any lines the combined constituent bodies wished.

The Vice-President-in-Chief referred to the inevitable position in South Africa with regard to the Provincial Institutes and the Central Council. It had often been said, with justification, that as the Transvaal had the largest and greatest membership of any Province, headquarters must be centred, as it were, in Johannesburg. It was not possible for the various Provinces to be represented even at the interim meetings of the Central Council, and the best that could be done was to have an Executive Committee composed entirely of Transvaal members. Even if it were decided to go forward with the idea of a Union journal on the lines suggested by Mr. Howden, as a trial, it would still be a Transvaal journal; and, judging by what was heard from other Provinces, and particularly the Cape, it would appear that unanimity would never be obtained with regard to editorials.

Mr. C. L. F. Borckenhagen said the discussion revealed that the matter was one which should be thoroughly investigated. In order to bring the discussion to a head, he moved:

" That it is desirable that the Central Council should own and control a Union journal, and that the Central Council be requested to start negotiations with the Transvaal Provincial Institute with a view to taking over the control and/or ownership of the existing ' South African Architectural Record.' "

The motion, which was seconded by Mr. Bartholomew, was, on a show of hands, declared carried.

DISCUSSION ON MR. R. HOWDEN'S PAPER

Professor H. Bell-John expressed the hope that Mr. Howden's excellent paper would be made available in permanent form so that students, both architectural and quantity surveying, should have access to it, for purposes of study.

He wished to comment on certain points raised in the paper. Firstly, with regard to the statement that " It was distinctly wrong for an architect to issue a certificate to a sub-contractor," it should be noted that Clause 15 of the Contract made provision for an architect to issue a certificate for the payment of moneys direct to a sub-contractor.

Mr. Howden interposed to point out that that applied to exceptions.

Professor Bell-John (continuing) referred to Mr. Howden's statement that " The tenderer has the right to revoke his tender up to the time of its acceptance, but immediately his tender is accepted he cannot withdraw." He thought it was the practice to have a limit within which acceptance of the tender should be legal, and to embody that in the form of tender; the contractor thereby agreeing that his tender should hold good for a certain time. The contractor could not therefore withdraw within the time, although the tender might not be accepted, unless there were special conditions.

In regard to arbitration, and Mr. Howden's statement that " The arbitrator was the technical man and should no more require opinions on technical points than a Judge required them from barristers on law," it was a matter of practice that a Judge often asked a barrister to express an opinion and to quote decided cases. It was not therefore necessarily wrong for a technical man to appear before a technical arbitrator.

A point to be remembered in connection with " maintenance " was that if the attention of the contractor was not drawn to a defect immediately the maintenance period was up, it might be difficult to prove that the defect arose during the maintenance period.

In regard to " lump sum and quantity contracts," this was not the first occasion on which he and Mr. Howden differed. He (Professor Bell-John) maintained that a " quantity basis " contract was nevertheless a lump sum contract, a definite sum being mentioned. In his paper Mr. Howden had stated that, as soon as the presumed immaculate quantities were proved to be not immaculate, the " lump sum contract " became something else. But if a so-called " lump sum contract " were varied one iota involving 1s. extra or 1s. omission, then the lump sum was also altered; and it thereby became no more a lump sum contract than the other.

Mr. J. Seaton Hodge wished to ask Mr. Howden two questions. In regard to errors, he had heard it advanced by one of the leading architects in South Africa that a quantity surveyor or an architect was liable only to the extent of his fees, and that the Courts would award damages only to the extent of the quantity surveyor's or architect's fees. Was that correct? The other point was, if a quantity surveyor over-measured a job, was he liable to a claim for loss from the contractor? If there was a shortage in the quantities, was the owner entitled to sue the quantity surveyor for the extent of the error?

Mr. R. Howden, in reply to Professor Bell-John, said there was nothing to prevent a qualified tender. If a form were prescribed by the employer in the shape of a qualified tender, signed by the builder, the builder must submit; it was a matter of contracting out of common law.

The law in regard to the maintenance period was that the period prescribed must expire before an architect was entitled to say what was required under that provision in the contract. It might be the next day after the period named, but the architect would be perfectly entitled to leave it until then, before he notified the builder.

It was to be admitted that the lump sum varied in lump sum contracts, but only because of variations. There were no "errors" in a lump sum contract; errors in bills of quantities only occurred in a quantity basis contract.

In reply to Mr. Hodge, Mr. Howden said he had never heard of a judgment similar to the one referred to. He did not think that could possibly be the case; it might have been a judgment to the effect that that was quite sufficient for the quantity surveyor or architect to pay. But under the common law professional men were held to be responsible for negligence, the amount of damages being unlimited.

He had difficulty in answering Mr. Hodge's second question in connection with errors in quantities. Quantity surveyors should themselves know whether their quantities were taken as a whole or in part, or what justification they had for their errors. What he (Mr. Howden) maintained was that, providing no error was pointed out either by contractor or employer, then both parties to the contract were justified in squaring up a job on what Professor Bell-John called " the lump sum " of that particular contract.

The President-in-Chief remarked that Mr. Hodge had brought forward a very interesting point. Architects were particularly concerned about this question of over-measurement by quantity surveyors. He (the President-in-Chief) cited a case submitted to him where the architect had prepared a careful set

of contract documents and carried out the work with but seven variations. Some of the variation orders had to do with P.C. items, and the remainder could be put in one's "professional eye." The architect had to wait months for the final statement; he was then presented with many closely written sheets of foolscap representing variations. A considerable sum was deducted representing a high percentage of the original contract, and due almost entirely to over-measurement in the first place. The architect was incensed because of what he considered a procedure wrong and unfair to the builder. He complained to the client and to the surveyor, with no satisfaction from either. The client's reply was illuminating. It was to the effect that the work of the architect must have been unskilful; it was just as well that the surveyor had been appointed direct, to adjust the contract and save money which otherwise might have been lost.

In cases of this kind what was the responsibility of the quantity surveyor? Was he entitled to over-measure? When asked what he proposed to do in the matter, the builder said, "I am doing nothing. I daren't, because if I did I would never be asked to tender again." It had to be admitted, of course, that the builder ultimately received no more than that to which he was entitled. No one could question the absolutely honest and punctiliously careful way in which the final statements were prepared. No doubt they were correct to a penny, and cold justice was done. That was not the question. The point was that the unfortunate builder had calculated his profit and loss on the full amount of the contract, based upon what he had every right to believe were correct bills of quantities. And the bald fact had to be faced that they had proved to be incorrect. Why should there be this element of deception?

On the other hand, what was the responsibility of the architect who, having been given an important contract, failed to furnish the necessary drawings and specifications and proper information to the surveyor? The architect was paid a certain fee for those services. The result of his having failed in his duty was that the surveyor became muddled, and found it absolutely impossible to fulfil his obligations. At the finish of the job the surveyor had to deduct items which had been wrongly measured, in the first place, owing to his not having received proper instructions, the nett result being that the job had to be practically re-measured. He was obliged, on account of the incompetency or sheer laziness of the architect, to charge $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ for measuring the job, $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ for deducting that which he had measured wrongly, on account of inadequate data from the architect, and 3% for measuring the work correctly upon completion.

Those responsible for spending large sums on building enterprises were fully aware that that kind of thing was going on in the professions, and were losing confidence.

Mr. J. W. Cowling expressed his appreciation of Mr. Howden's paper, and supported Professor Bell-John's request that it be issued in permanent form for circulation amongst students and others interested.

Mr. Howden had stated that the architect had no power to vary the contract, but in cases where the architect did vary the contract, without instruction and where the employer repudiated responsibility, what would happen?

Mr. Howden, in reply, said that the employer could not repudiate his responsibility. The architect was his agent, and, as such, gave instructions that certain things had to be done. The employer had to pay for whatever the architect, as his agent, ordered. The employer's redress was from his architect for going beyond his power of agency. But the object of the contract was essentially to protect the builder, in that the builder was bound to do everything in connection with variations that the architect ordered. Without question the builder could assume, without approaching the employer, that the employer's agent had authority from the employer to give those particular instructions.

THE CREMATORIUM AT MAITLAND CEMETERY, CAPETOWN.

For several years there had been a certain amount of agitation for a crematorium in Capetown, and criticisms had been directed against the Cemetery Board for its apparent inactivity in this direction. The Board was not insensible to the opinions which had been expressed from time to time, but a crematorium is a costly affair, and until there was a probability of reasonable use being made of it the Board refrained from taking action.

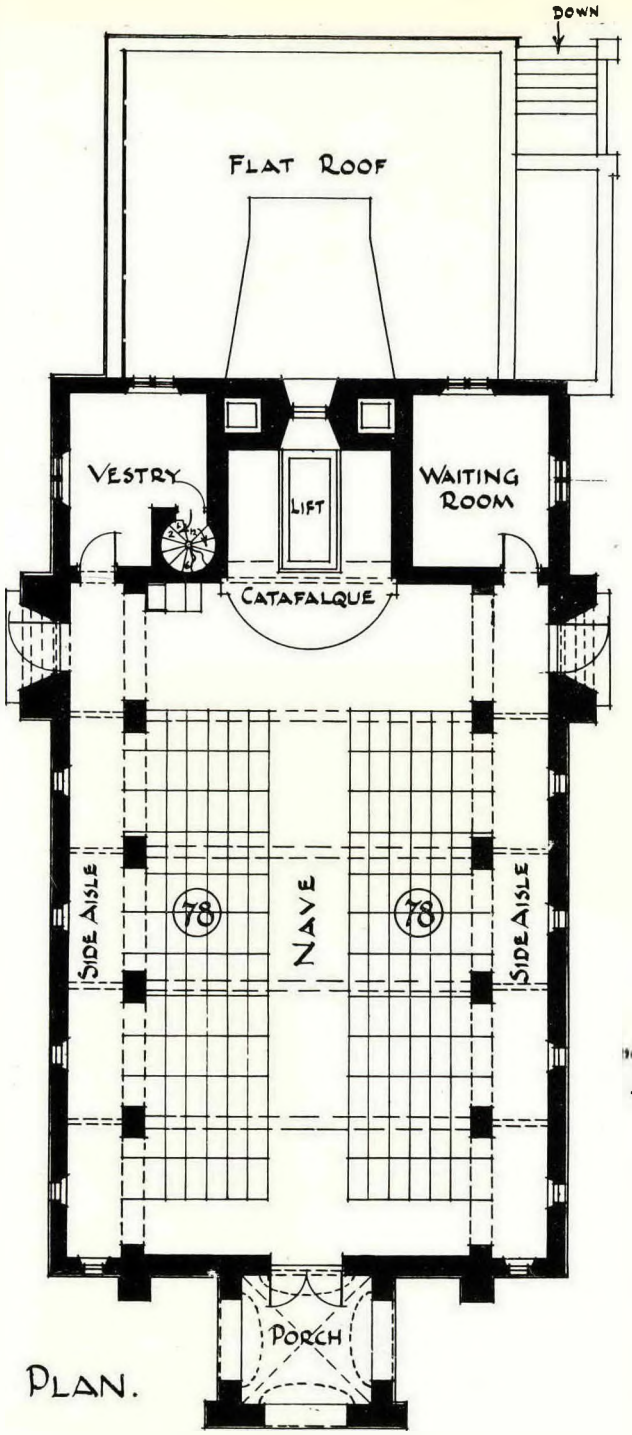
Although the custom of burial may die hard, there can be little doubt that it will give way almost, if not entirely, to cremation within the next few generations. It cannot be gainsaid that hygienically there is no comparison between the two methods, while the economy in ground space—an extremely important item in the case of a large community—again is all in favour of cremation. Moreover, there is nothing new or fantastic about it; the custom is as old as that of burial in the ground, and it is difficult to understand how reasoning people can find any substantial objection to it.

A purely practical disadvantage has been advanced by some in the shape of supposed expense—as it has been supposed that the process of cremation of a body is more expensive than burial in the ordinary way. This idea is without foundation, as from particulars supplied by several of the leading crematoria in England it can be shown that the average cost of cremation is slightly less than that of the average burial.

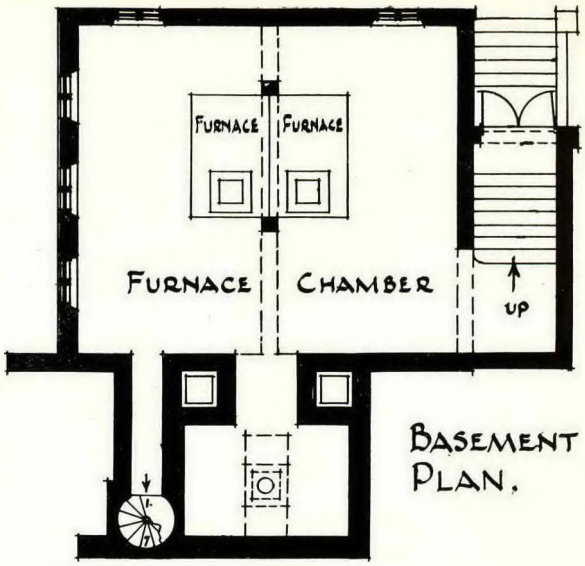
There has been, since cremation was started in Europe, and more recently in South Africa, a certain amount of misgiving about it on the part of many people, as well as definite religious objection on the part of others. Both appear to be rapidly disappearing, and a few years ago the Cemetery Board decided that those who wished to make use of a crematorium should not be deprived of local facilities.

Exhaustive inquiries were set afoot overseas with the purpose of finding the best type of appliances as indicated by experience. Architects were appointed and much time spent in arriving at the most appropriate type of building and the most seemly arrangement of its working parts. The modern crematorium has recently passed out of its experimental stage, and there is good reason to believe that some delay in starting has ensured to Capetown a much more satisfactory equipment than would have been available if the project had been commenced even a year earlier.

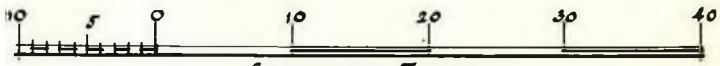
The Crematorium at Johannesburg has been inspected, and the authorities there were most courteous and helpful. Lessons have been learned both from its undoubted success and its obvious limitations.



PLAN.



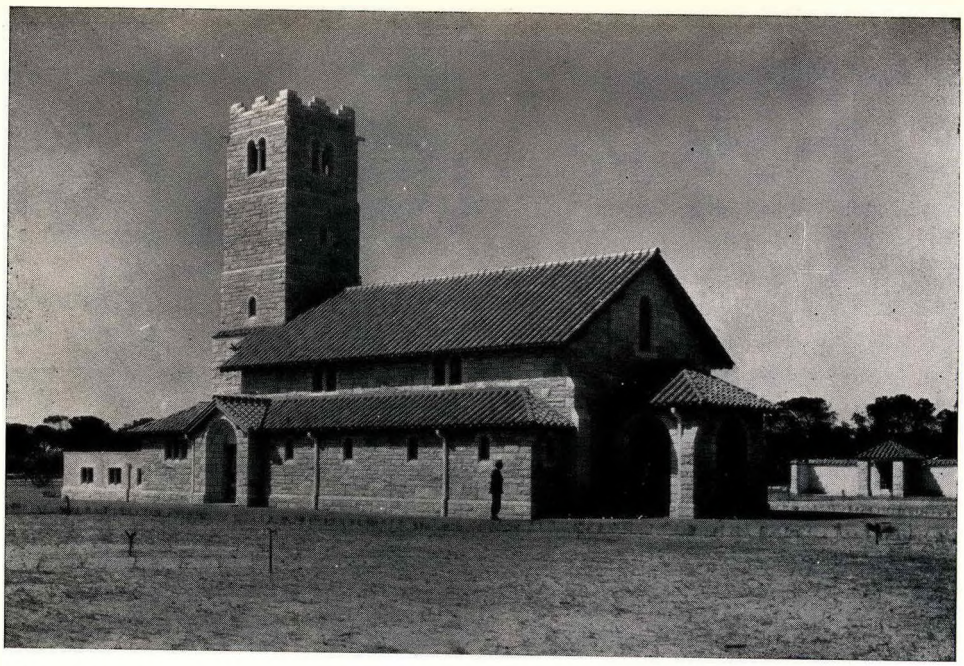
BASEMENT PLAN.



SCALE IN FEET.

CREMATORIUM AT MAITLAND CEMETERY CAPE TOWN

F. K. KENDALL AND C. P. WALGATE
ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS CAPE TOWN.



Crematorium at Maitland Cemetery

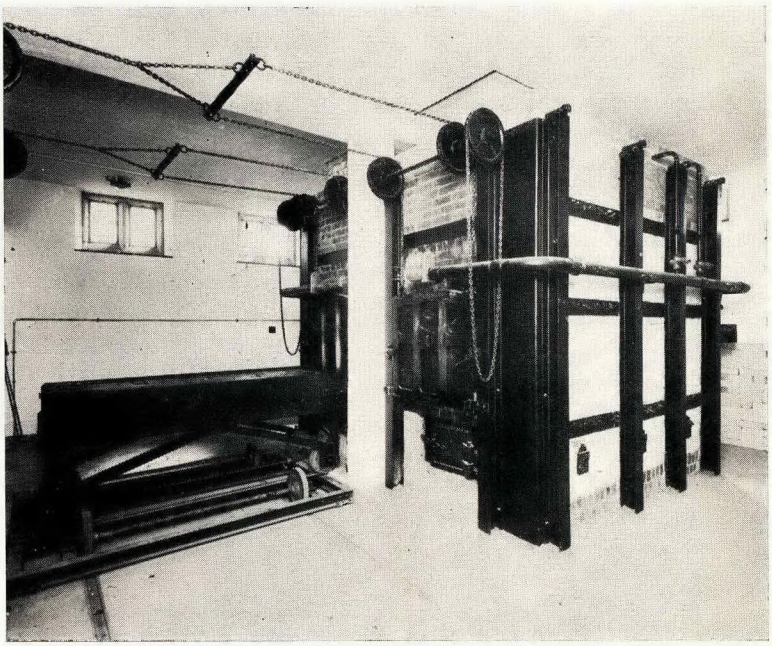
About a well-arranged crematorium there is a much happier and more cheerful atmosphere than that of a cemetery. The chapel itself, though simple and plain and void of the emblems of any particular sect or religion, is solemn and dignified.

The grounds round it are laid out (not too formally) in a manner to encourage the feeling of community with the beauties of nature—good stretches of grass, flowers, shady nooks amongst fine forest trees, where birds may live in surroundings of peace and freedom. Here, if it is desired, the ashes of the dead may be scattered in the Garden of Rest.

It is customary to include one or more columbaria, which may take the form of loggias, colonnades, or more enclosed places. Small recesses are provided where the ashes may be placed in an urn, which may be ornamental, bearing an inscription or quite plain, in which case the recess is usually closed by a tablet bearing an inscription. Those whose ashes have been scattered in the Garden of Rest may be commemorated by small tablets arranged along the walls. In this way the memory of each individual may be preserved in the form most desired by the relatives.



Interior



The Furnace

The rival claims of a number of patent furnaces were most carefully considered, and also the relative advantages of coke, gas, oil and electricity for heating. At one time electricity was almost decided upon as the most up-to-date, but it was considered that the application of electricity to this particular purpose had not as yet been sufficiently tested to justify its adoption. Oil has been finally chosen as a result of information received from crematoria where it is actually in use, and two oil-heated furnaces are installed at Capetown.

An admirable site at Maitland was allocated to the building, which is divided from No. 1 Cemetery by a new roadway. A large central drive, which extends through the existing cemeteries and runs parallel to the main road to Bellville, leads directly up to the new crematorium. Suitable to the situation, the building is designed symmetrically upon this axial line, and includes a tower between 50 feet and 60 feet high, which forms a fine landmark for some distance around. There is a spacious porch and main entrance at the west end, and internally at the opposite end an imposing arched recess contains the catafalque or resting place for the coffin during the service. At the time appointed for committal of the body, the officiating priest touches an electric push, which gives the signal to unseen attendants, upon which the coffin is automatically lowered by means of an electric lift and passes out of sight. The basement, with its incinerating chamber, is placed to the east of the tower, and into this the coffin is conveyed by means of a trolley after being lowered. At the conclusion of the service the furnace, which has been previously prepared, receives the coffin by an automatic arrangement, the door being raised and lowered very rapidly, and the incineration occupies from one to two hours. At the one side of the catafalque recess is a waiting room, and at the other a vestry; thus there is accommodation for relatives to wait to receive the ashes after the incineration, should they wish to do so.

The external walls of the chapel are of rock faced Ceres stone, the roof being covered with red tiles of the Italian pattern. The inside of the building is lined with thin Kirkness bricks carefully pointed, while the catafalque itself and the lower portion of the walls of the recess enclosing it are lined with marble. The floor of the nave and aisles are covered with wood blocks, and that of the porches, etc., with quarry tiles.

The Maitland Crematorium was completed in April, 1935.

The contractor was Mr. J. Rubbi, of Capetown. The mechanical equipment was supplied by Messrs. Dowson, Dobson and Behr, Capetown, local representatives of Messrs. Gibson Bros., of Dudley, England.

Messrs. F. K. Kendall, F.R.I.B.A., M.I.A., and C. P. Walgate, A.R.I.B.A., M.I.A., were associated architects

BOOK REVIEW

Batsford's Pictorial Guides, 1, 2, 3, 4 (B. T. Batsford, Ltd., London), 2/6 each.

Guide books are a characteristic product of this travel-conscious era. Now that it is becoming increasingly simple to move from point to point—by air, land or sea—countries and towns vie with one another to extoll the picturesqueness, the prosperity or the health-giving properties which make it imperative for the traveller to visit them. Five, ten and fifteen day tours are cunningly planned for the (presumably) inert traveller, and books of vouchers covering hotels, taxis and trains have merely to be handed to a succession of officials, who tear the necessary ticket and sweep on to the next ticket-carrier.

To the student of travel literature there are many shades between the flimsy winter sports folder (with ravishing and athletic young women leaping in leica-majesty from the cover) and the solid and exhaustive Baedeker or Guide Bleu. The former leaflets should be obtained before planning a trip, to induce travel fever—and there are few vices more urgent than that of map-reading with a good range of travel booklets beside one. For serious travel Baedeker is essential (and for architects and students there is no finer permanent reference book than Baedeker), but for those who are contemplating a trip and are still vague, there is the intermediate type.

Batsfords have initiated a most attractive series which aims directly at visual stimulus. The letterpress is quite secondary, a name here or a few notes on the life and atmosphere, give point to the illustrations, which are first rate photographs. The pictures are not monumental or spectacular, but catch in a fleeting way the characteristic essence or spirit of the scenes portrayed. The first volumes are devoted to Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Stockholm and Hamburg. In almost every case there are one or two figures, small children on a beach, men outside a cafe, women in the market place, dock hands, fishermen.

The group is made more effective because all the photographs are by one man—Geoffrey Gilbert. This precludes the unrest which results from an unrelated jumble of photographs thrown together in one book.

Whether the reader is contemplating a visit to any of these places or not, the pleasure to be obtained for such a small outlay makes them positively desirable. The reviewer, for one, is ordering the four volumes.

One point must be mentioned; a useful section of travel information is appended to each volume—quite sufficient is given to enable the traveller to take the first steps in planning a visit.

R.M.

The photograph on the cover and the two studies overleaf are by Geoffrey Gilbert and are taken from Batsford's Pictorial Guides.



ABOVE

The present Christiansborg Palace was built in 1828.
Besides being a palace it is the centre of Denmark's
Government and combines palace, parliament houses
government offices and courts of justice. The tall
central tower dominates most of the city.

BELOW
The romance of the sea is early instilled into the youth of Copenhagen



THE TRANSVAAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE OF SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTS.

COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1936.

To the Members,

The Transvaal Provincial Institute.

Your Committee has pleasure in submitting this, the Tenth Annual Report, for the year ended 31st December, 1936, together with the Annual Accounts and Balance Sheets.

COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

At the first meeting following the election of your Committee at the Annual General Meeting in March, 1936, Mr. W. Gordon McIntosh was elected President, Mr. H. G. Tomkyns Senior Vice-President, and Mr. R. Howden Junior Vice-President.

During the past year, twelve ordinary meetings of the Provincial Committee were held, and the following is a record of the attendances at those meetings:—

	Possible.	Attended.
W. Gordon McIntosh (President)	12	10
H. G. Tomkyns (Senior Vice-President)	12	8
R. Howden (Junior Vice-President)	12	10
R. A. Bruce	11	9
S. C. Dowsett	8	6
N. M. Eaton	11	8
A. S. Furner	9	7
G. E. Gordon Leith	11	6
Rex Martienssen	11	10
V. S. Rees-Poole	12	4
F. Williamson	6	3
Allen Wilson	4	3

Messrs. Dowsett, Furner, Williamson and Wilson were absent on leave on various occasions during the year.

The thanks of the Institute are due to those members who rendered valuable services during the year on Sub-Committees on Finance, Practice, By-Laws, S.A. Academy, Professional Fees and the Journal, and to the Secretary for his constant interest and activity in all the affairs of the Institute.

MEMBERSHIP.

At the close of the year there were 310 members of this Institute, classed as:—

Practising	156
Salaried	111
Absentee	12
Retired	31
	310

which represents 58% of the total membership of the Institute of South African Architects.

During the year twenty-four new members were enrolled, three transferred from other Provinces to this Institute, and two members died, making a total increase in membership of twenty-five as compared with the previous year.

The new members registered during the year were:—

Messrs. W. Blaker, C. Bristol, R. Bullock, K. E. Bull, G. T. Chalmers, D. M. Cowin, L. H. Fleming, E. C. Gilham, J. Gliksman, R. W. Green, A. R. Harris, W. D. Howie, O. Kling, W. Leers, Miss M. S. Leitch, Messrs. B. W. Middleton, W. Mollison, A. H. Murray, J. J. O. Orpen, W. Pabst, H. G. Porter, G. F. C. Stegmann, H. G. Summerley, A. A. Telford.

OBITUARY.

Your Committee very much regrets to have to record the deaths of Mr. A. P. Hofman, who died on the 27th January, 1936, and Mr. John Harvey, who died on the 22nd June last.

CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Messrs. Howden, McIntosh, Rees-Poole and Williamson have acted as this Institute's representatives on the Central Council during the year.

The 1936/7 Council met in Johannesburg from the 29th April to the 2nd May, 1936.

The Year Book, which was published and issued to members in December, gives particulars of the various matters dealt with by the Central Council.

FINANCE.

Copies of the Audited Balance Sheets, and Revenue and Expenditure Accounts for the year submitted under the Institute, Journal and Benevolent Fund Accounts are attached to this report.

Institute Account.

The total revenue in this account, viz., £1,158, shows an increase of £108 as compared with 1935, but your Committee regrets to note that a large number of members continue to be in arrear with their subscriptions, the reason for which is difficult to understand during this period of exceptional building activity. Expenditure totalling £1,093 in general is slightly lower, but the two largest items, levies to the Central Council and subscriptions to the Associated Scientific and Techincal Societies Club, absorb £565, which represents over 50% of this expenditure. The net surplus for the year, carried to Accumulated Funds, amounted to £64 18s. 4d.

From the Balance Sheet it will be noted that the Accumulated Funds of this Institute now amount to £1,059, £486 of which is placed on fixed deposit bearing interest with the Alliance Building Society; £400 is invested as capital in the Journal account, and cash on hand with the Company's bankers amounted to £113 6s. 7d.

Journal Account.

The revenue from this account shows a satisfactory increase, the total amounting to £3,884 3s. 9d. In pursuance of the policy of the Committee to improve the standard of this journal as funds permit, the last four issues for 1936 were considerably enlarged, and consequently the expenditure thereon was very much increased. The surplus for the year, carried forward to accumulated funds amounted to £378 8s. 7d. It is anticipated that during the current year the capital amount advanced by the Institute will be repaid from the Journal funds.

ASSOCIATED SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SOCIETIES.

The new Kelvin House, the premises of the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies of South Africa, of which your Institute is a member society, is nearing completion.

It is expected that the club facilities in the new building will be a great improvement on those in the old building, and members will have the pleasure of utilising these premises to a much greater extent than in the past.

COMPETITIONS.

Only one architectural competition was held during the past year, that being for the new premises for the Master Builders' Association in Johannesburg. It was limited to junior members of the profession, and the assessors were Professor G. E. Pearse, Mr. A. S. Furner and Dr. E. J. Hamlin.

The awards made were:—

1. Messrs. D. L. Nurcombe and Summerley.
2. J. S. McFayden, Messrs. Hanson, Tomkin and Finkelstein (tie).
4. Mr. A. A. Telford.

PROFESSIONAL FEES.

The Special Committee appointed at the General Meeting on the 18th February held several meetings during the year and dealt very exhaustively with this matter.

As an outcome of their discussions, a paper by Messrs. N. M. Eaton and L. Grinker was read at the Congress of South African Architects held in November.

After a full discussion, the Congress resolved that a report of this paper and the discussion thereon be sent to all the constituent bodies for consideration and report to the next meeting of the Central Council.

R.I.B.A.

The thanks of this Committee are extended to Mr. Maurice E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C., F.R.I.B.A., for continuing to represent this Institute on the R.I.B.A. Allied Societies Conference.

The following members of this Institute have been elected members of the Royal Institute:—

Mr. Maurice Cowen as Licentiate, and Messrs. D. M. Cowin, B.Arch. (Liv.), L. H. Fleming, A.A.Dip., M. F. Freedman, Dip.Arch. (C.T.), A. H. Murray and G. F. C. Stegmann as Associates.

THE JOURNAL.

The " South African Architectural Record " has continued to function as a journal of great interest and service to the profession, and the hearty thanks of the Institute are extended to the honorary editors and their associates in its production.

It is circulated to all members of the Institute and Chapter free of charge.

The Journal Committee much regrets that members generally do not assist the editors by sending in matter for publication, as such matter, accompanied by plans and photographs, would assist the editors considerably in the preparation of the monthly matter for publication.

The Journal Committee appreciates the continued support received from those firms who advertise in the " Record," and urges all members to reciprocate by extending their support to those firms whenever possible.

At a meeting of the Central Council held in April, 1936, it was resolved that " the Council takes the strongest exception to

editorial expressions, such as contained in the February number, which have from time to time appeared in the "South African Architectural Record" (which purports to be the official journal of four of the constituent bodies of the Institute), which expressions are unjustified and unsubstantiated reflections on the profession of architecture in South Africa; and the Council demands an assurance that no similar articles be published."

The Journal Committee, after fully discussing this matter, resolved that it was unable to accept the view of the Central Council that, broadly, the expressions in the articles referred to were unjustified and unsubstantiated. The Journal Committee also expressed regret that the other Provinces had not availed themselves of the offer of representation on the Journal Committee, and recommended that this offer be renewed.

This resolution was approved by your Committee and transmitted to the Central Council.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN ACADEMY.

The Seventeenth Annual Exhibition of the South African Academy, under the auspices of the Transvaal Provincial Institute, was held in the Selborne Hall, Johannesburg, from the 23rd March to the 4th April, 1936. Your Committee again records its appreciation of the generous grant from the City Council of Johannesburg, which permits of the holding of these exhibitions in the Selborne Hall without any cost to the Institute.

The 1936 Exhibition showed some improvement on previous years, both in the standard of the exhibits and the interest taken by the public, as indicated by the increased number visiting the Academy.

The Eighteenth Exhibition will be held from the 3rd to the 15th May, 1937, inclusive.

TOWN PLANNING.

The Town Planning Association (Transvaal) has not functioned to any great extent during the past year, and it is felt that the objects for which the Association was formed have been attained by the passing of the Transvaal Townships and Town Planning Ordinance, as the outcome of which Pretoria, Johannesburg and the Reef towns formed their Joint Town Planning Association and appointed an eminent firm as regional town planners. Two members of the Transvaal Institute of Architects, Messrs. N. T. Cowin and Harold Porter, continue to act as members of the Johannesburg Town Planning Committee.

In the October number of the journal comprehensive articles on the Johannesburg town planning report were published, and were much appreciated by various bodies interested in town planning.

GENERAL.

During the year your Committee dealt with such matters as "The Education and Examination of Architects," "Agreement and Schedule of Conditions of Building Contract," "Unprofessional Conduct," etc.

Several charges of unprofessional conduct were enquired into and dealt with, and a prosecution was instituted against an unregistered person holding himself out as an architect and a conviction obtained thereon.

A full report of the Congress, held in November, will be available shortly for all members at the Institute's offices.

Your Committee is pleased to note the continued activity in the building industry, and trusts that all members are participating therein.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

During the past year the income accruing to this fund amounted to £165 16s. 3d., made up of contributions £138 17s. 0d. and interest on invested funds £26 19s. 3d.

Grants-in-aid absorbed £51, leaving a balance of £114 16s. 3d. to be added to accumulated funds, which at the close of the year totalled £911 12s. 5d.

By Order of the Committee,

A. S. PEARSE,

Secretary.

PROFESSIONAL NOTES AND NEWS

S.A. ACADEMY.

THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS AND OBJECTS OF ART AND THE CRAFTS WILL BE HELD IN THE SELBORNE HALL, JOHANNESBURG, FROM MONDAY, MAY 3rd, TO SATURDAY, MAY 15th, 1937, INCLUSIVE.

ENTRANCE FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE SECRETARY, KELVIN HOUSE, JOHANNESBURG.

●

MEMBERS.

The following have been registered as members of the Transvaal Provincial Institute from January 1st, 1937:—

G. S. Barnett, Dipl. Arch. (Rand), c/o K. E. F. Gardiner, Warwick House, Joubert Street, Johannesburg.

G. H. Crickmay, A.R.I.B.A., A.A.Dipl. (Corrigall and Crickmay), 31, Court Chambers, Springs.

D. J. Parr, A.R.I.B.A., c/o P.W.D., Pretoria.

C. D. St. Leger, M.C., A.R.I.B.A., 302, Sanlam Buildings, Johannesburg.

S. L. Williams, A.R.I.B.A., 146, Harrison Street, Johannesburg.

A. Jawitz, 40, Muller Street, Yeoville, Johannesburg.

R. C. Rinaldi, A.R.I.B.A., 69, Prudential Assurance Building, Johannesburg.

●

From March 1st, 1937, Mr. James Corrigall is entering into partnership with Mr. G. H. Crickmay, A.R.I.B.A., A.A.Dipl., and will continue in practice as Corrigall and Crickmay, 31/33, Court Chambers, Springs, and also in Johannesburg.

From March 1st, 1937, the firm of Grinker and Skelly will be dissolved. Mr. L. Grinker will continue to practice at Stability Buildings, 106, Fox Street, and Mr. Hugh Skelly will practice at 97/8, Annan House, 86, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

Messrs. R. W. Green, Dipl. Arch. (Rand), and A. R. Harris, Dipl. Arch. (Rand), have entered into partnership, and will practice as Harris and Green at 160/2, Annan House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

●

R.I.B.A.: BRITISH ARCHITECTS' CONFERENCE, LEEDS. 1937.

The Annual Conference of British Architects will take place this year at Leeds from June 23rd to 26th inclusive, when the West Yorkshire Society of Architects will be the hosts of the Conference. The Conference will be largely of a social character, and it is expected that many ladies will be present as the guests of members.

If any members of the South African Institute happen to be in Britain at the time mentioned, their presence will be heartily welcome at the various functions which will form part of the programme.

Copies of the programme, with full particulars and all the necessary information, will be sent to any members who care to write to the Secretary, R.I.B.A., on the subject.



Journal of the SA Architectural Institute

PUBLISHER:

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

LEGAL NOTICE:

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

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