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http://hdl.handle.net/10539/18864
African Architect; the Journal of the Association of Transvaal Architects. 1913 vol 2: 1-12 p1-206

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VOL. II. NO. 3.] AUGUST, 1912. [10/6 PER ANNUM, POST FREE.

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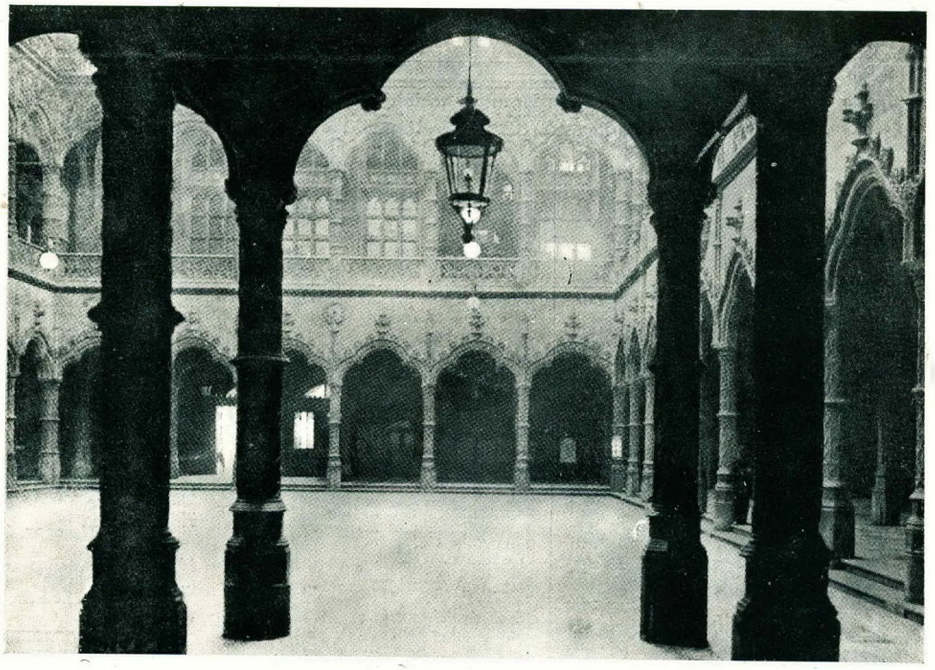
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THE RHODES MEMORIAL.



The opening ceremony was performed by Earl Grey on July 5th (see page xviii.)

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The Society of Architects [Incorporated 1895]. South African Branch.

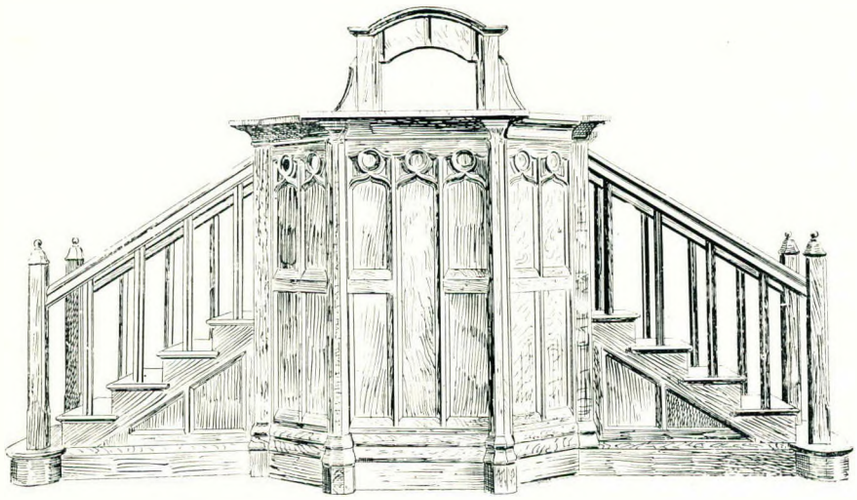
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The
African Architect
THE JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF TRANSVAAL ARCHITECTS.

VOL. II. No. 3.] AUGUST, 1912. [10/6 PER ANNUM POST FREE.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

Bills of Quantities.

The question of providing bills of quantities for contracts exceeding £500 is one that we think should be referred to at the present moment. We find that there are some architects who are not quite au fait with the conditions agreed upon between the Institute of Architects and the National Federation of Building Trade Employers in South Africa. Some time ago it was settled between them that quantities should be supplied for all buildings of the value of £500 and upwards. In consequence of that agreement, the National Federation has passed a resolution that none of the members of the association allied to it shall tender unless these quantities are supplied.

Architectural Competitions.

It should be noted that at the committee meeting of the South African branch of the Society of Architects, held in Room No. 57, Municipal Offices, Johannesburg, on July 10th, the Honorary Secretary reported that he had received certain suggestions regarding the promotion of architectural competitions from the Cape Institute of Architects. The committee of the South African branch of the Society of Architects wish all members of their branch to know that the suggestions for the promotion of architectural competitions, as adopted by the Royal Institute of British Architects, and its allied body, the Cape Institute of Architects, are approved of by the committee of the South African branch of the Society of Architects.

Unfit for Habitation.

We are pleased to observe that the Town Council of Johannesburg is taking steps to cleanse the town of some of its worst buildings, which are unfit for human habitation and a disgrace in these days when architecture is beautifying buildings everywhere on the Rand. Some seventy houses and blocks of rooms, mostly situated in the lower parts of the town, have been condemned. The Medical Officer of Health certifies that the premises specified are, in consequence of defective or unsuitable construction or arrangement, bad condition, want of light, air, or ventilation, or other sanitary defect, liable to be a danger to the public health. The decision to remove these has not been made too soon, and we hope that further efforts will not be in vain.

The Corporate Sense.

The suggestive paper read before the Transvaal Institute of Architects on "Architects and the Corporate Sense" appears to have been widely read at Home, and we note comments in the press which to us are most interesting. One paper may be quoted from as follows: "We understand the paper is the forerunner of an application to Parliament, praying (1) for the extension of the Transvaal Architects Act to the remaining Provinces in the South African Union, and (2) for wider powers than are at present held under the Transvaal Act. Included in the author's remarks were some references to the press attitude in Johannesburg and Victoria to the South African architect, and it is interesting to note that certain press organs are very critical of the work of the architect. The interest for us in the matter is contained in the information that the South African press appears to take notice at all, and not whether the criticism is unjust, as is suggested. We are afraid it cannot be said that the press in this country is given to make much comment 'coincident with the close of some public competition,' and for our part we should welcome more comment, even though sometimes unjustifiable."

Royalty and Art.

In the realm of art, there are at least two members of the Royal Family whose work, were it put upon the market, would command high prices. The Duchess of Argyle is highly gifted as a sculptor, and is also a profound student of the history of architecture, and knows more about applied ornament than the average art teacher. No doubt she takes this from her gifted father, the late Prince Albert, for not only did he

originate the 1851 Exhibition, but it is a well-known fact that he actually designed and drew the plans of the "Albert Hall," interesting himself in every detail during its construction. Princess Marie of Schleswig-Holstein is an expert in the art of enamelled work. Besides the above, there are Lord Albemarle, the Duchess of Buckingham, Lady Colebrooke, Lady Wemyss, Lord Shaftesbury, and many others, capable of earning large incomes, were it necessary.

The Royal Gold Medal.

Fellows of the R.I.B.A. in South Africa will note with interest two important presentations made at the closing meeting of the present session—that of the Royal Gold Medal to Mr. Basil Champneys, and of Mr. Orpen's portrait of Mr. Leonard Stokes, whose two years' term of office as president is about to expire. The claims of Mr. Champneys to the Gold Medal has evoked universal approval. The Royal Gold Medal is the highest honour—architecturally speaking—that can be bestowed upon a member of the profession, and the names of former recipients belong to men who, if alive, are honoured, respected, and admired by all; or, if dead, are acknowledged to have been the great men of the age they lived and worked in, and it is only necessary to mention such names as Cockerell, Barry, Donaldson, Smirke, Tite, Owen Jones, Scott, Fergusson, Street, Sharpe, Penrose, Butterfield, and Bodley, as amongst those so honoured by their Sovereign to prove the statement—if proof is necessary. In 1848 Queen Victoria, who had about ten years previously graciously consented to become Patron of our Institute, resolved to grant and confer annually, at the recommendation of the Institute, the Royal Gold Medal for the promotion of architecture.

Johannesburg Art Gallery.

We have perused the minute of Mr. H. J. Hofmeyr for his year of office as Mayor of Johannesburg with much interest. In discussing the Art Gallery, he says: An event in which the Council is closely interested, and one in which I sincerely trust its interests may increase and develop, is the movement to endow this town with an art collection. The person to whom is due the credit of initiating and fostering this movement is Lady Phillips. Concluding his remarks in reference to the Art Gallery, he says: The late Transvaal Government also responded to the call to assist in this movement, and granted to the town its interest in the profits from the Johannesburg Market undertaking as from July 1st, 1909, conditionally on the town voting the sum of £20,000 for the building of an Art Gallery to house the works of art which are being provided. Certainly the town, through the Municipal Council, has done little yet in furthering the provision of an Art Gallery. The pictures and statuary are now being housed in the School of Mines in rooms not properly suited for the purpose.

Memorial to Sir George White.

It is most appropriate that a permanent memorial should be erected to the memory of the defender of Ladysmith, and we are pleased to see that steps are being taken with this object in view. What Sir George did meant the saving of Natal, and a beautiful tablet might well be erected as a lasting tribute to the memory of the great hero. Such memorials as that to Rhodes and the one we have mentioned must ever be historic reminders of stirring times. The subscription lists to the Sir George White memorial could be extended beyond South Africa, as far as England, and to the members of the regiments who were associated with him.

A Bloemfontein Scheme.

We notice that naturally much interest has been created in Bloemfontein by the municipal housing scheme, in conjunction with the trackless tramway scheme. This scheme is expected to result in a considerable extension of the Free State capital, and cause a big slump in rents, which have been most exorbitant owing to the scarcity of houses. The scheme for housing provides for freehold sites on the payment of a nominal sum, and the balance to spread over a period of fourteen years, the municipality to erect the house, which eventually becomes the tenant's property. The Finance Committee has now reported substantially in favour of the scheme, except that sites have to be ninety-nine years' lease, instead of freehold.

PERSONALIA.

Mr. E. N. Ostlund, the contractor, is shortly leaving for an extended trip to Europe, viâ the East Coast and Egypt, and expects to be away some six or eight months.

* * * *

Messrs. Lane and Allwright, building contractors, have removed from 77, Marshall Street to 32, Anderson Street.

* * * *

Mr. Walter Cook, president of the American Institute of Architects, has been appointed as consulting architect to the Court House Board, New York City.

* * * *

Under the will of the late Sir Julius Wernher, the National Gallery receives its first example of a picture by Watteau; it measures twenty inches by twenty-three inches, and is known as "La Gage d'Amour." It was engraved by L. P. de Bas, and was exhibited at the Palais Bourbon in 1874.

* * * *

Mr. G. A. H. Dickson F.R.I.B.A., member of the Council of the Transvaal Institute of Architects, is paying a visit to the Homeland.

* * * *

Mr. P. E. Treeby has been nominated to the position of vice-president of the Transvaal Institute of Architects in place of the late Mr. A. W. Hoskings.

The African Architect

ORGAN OF THE ASSOCIATION OF TRANSVAAL ARCHITECTS.

AUGUST, 1912.

"THE AFRICAN ARCHITECT"

is published monthly. Price 1s. per copy. Annual subscription 10s. 6d., payable in advance to "The African Architect," P.O. Box 4651, Johannesburg Telephone No. 2767.

Head Offices: 17 and 18, Provident Buildings, Fox Street, Johannesburg.

London Offices:— "Technical Journals, Ltd.," Caxton House, Westminster.

European Advertising Agents: Messrs. Hastings Bros., Ltd., King's Chambers, Portugal Street, Kingway, London, W.C.

SPECIAL ARTICLES on general subjects of interest to the architectural profession, and photographs, are cordially invited from our readers. Where payment is expected this should be distinctly stated. Special care will be taken of MS., but the Editor will in no case guarantee its return.

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BUILDING DISPUTES JUDICATURE.

As time goes on and the commercial and technical interests of the South African community develop, the problems to be solved by the judicature of the country become more and more complex. These problems often call for highly skilled and expert knowledge in their solution, and it is by no means surprising that under the existing legal systems, which have come down to us from early, more peaceful, and less active times, such cases as have occupied the Courts lately have been most unduly protracted. Days and days, even weeks and weeks, have lately engaged the Courts in the hearing of cases of highly technical disputes as, for instance, to the correctness, or otherwise, of bills of quantities, the correct procedure in specifying constructional work, the nature of sub-soils for foundations, or regarding defective drainage. One case, in particular, which has loomed largely in the public eye these last few weeks is quite typical of what takes place in regard to minor cases in the magistrates' and other Courts—always the same protracted hearing and days occupied where hours should suffice, given the proper means. We would, therefore, suggest that the time is opportune for all commercial bodies and the Institutes of Architects to point out to the Government that much needless expense in litigation could be avoided if the step were taken of appointing a competent technical assessor to act with judges and magistrates in the hearing of such cases. We do not wish to be misunderstood. It will not suffice to call in a practising architect as each or every occasion arises. What is wanted is a permanent official assessor. The reason so many of these cases find their way to Court is that there is always the fear that in arbitration the expert chosen, being dependent largely upon individuals for his practice and living, may be susceptible to influences from which a judge or magistrate, by the nature of his appointment, is happily free. The appointment of such an assessor is a matter for which there is ample precedent. Such assessors are, we believe, attached as permanent officials to the Admiralty Courts of the United Kingdom, and in London there is a building tribunal of three qualified architects to hear cases of appeal under the London Building Act. No doubt those of our readers who are legally minded could, with very little trouble, furnish us with many further precedents for such an appointment. There would be no difficulty nowadays in finding men suitable for the post. The qualifications essential—probity, clear-headedness, practicality, and thorough knowledge are all qualities which are required of the practitioner in architecture, and there are many such men whom the conditions of the country have produced. We hardly know whether to suggest that the Transvaal Institute of Architects should take the initiative in this respect, seeing that this matter is one which affects mostly the general commercial public. In fact, there are architects, as well as lawyers, who may stand to gain by the continuance of the present system, which leads to substantial attendance fees for expert evidence, but, on the other hand, this is a channel of income which cannot be viewed with high favour. Disputes being the inevitable outcome of human conditions, it would seem most human and sensible to at all times devise the quickest and least expensive way to arrive at their adjustment. That is the object of the suggestion contained in this article, and we will await with interest any active steps that may be taken in the direction indicated.

JOHANNESBURG TOWN HALL.

The main superstructure of this building is being erected in Flatpan freestone. It was only after the most exhaustive tests that this stone was selected, and taking into consideration that the same material is being used in the construction of the largest building in South Africa—the Union Buildings, Pretoria—goes to prove that Flatpan is a stone of a very superior quality, otherwise it would not have been selected for contracts of such importance. Deliveries were started a few weeks ago, and already some ten thousand cubic feet have arrived at the contractor's yard, so that the small army of masons who will soon be working at full pace will have abundance of material in sight to allay any fear of being stopped on account of shortage of supplies. The local offices of the quarries are in Provident Building, Fox Street, Johannesburg, Messrs. Rowe, Marshall and Fleming being the proprietors.

MR. DAVID IVOR LEWIS

The subject of our portrait this month is a member of the Society of Architects, member of the Concrete Institute, member of the Transvaal Institute of Architects, member of the Council of the Association of Transvaal Architects, honorary secretary of the South African branch of the Society of Architects, and examiner in architectural history South African branch of the Society of Architects.

Mr. Ivor Lewis was born in the year 1876 at Machen, near Newport, Monmouthshire, England,



and was educated at Lewis' School, Glamorganshire, and at Ardwyn College, Aberystwyth, Wales. He was articled for four years to the firm of Messrs. William Graham, Hitchcock and Co., architects and surveyors, of Newport, Monmouthshire, a firm with one of the largest practices in South Wales. Mr. Lewis remained with this firm for seven years, and afterwards spent about nine months in America, during which time he was engaged in the study of the various styles of architecture and different methods of steel and re-inforced concrete construction as applied to buildings in New York and other American cities.

The subject of our sketch emigrated to this country in the year 1902, and secured the appointment of Chief Architect in the architectural branch of the Town Engineer's Department of the Municipal Council of Johannesburg, under the late Town Engineer, Mr. D. Leitch, M.Inst.C.E., and the present Town Engineer, Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews, M.Inst.C.E., which position he occupied for a period of five and a half years. During the time he occupied this position he was entrusted with the preparation of the designs and supervision of works amounting approximately to £1,000,000 (one million pounds sterling), the works being of a most miscellaneous character. Amongst some of the works carried out may be mentioned the following: Generating station and offices, tramway sheds, tramways employees' quarters, tenement buildings, Harrison and Main Street subways, Twist Street Bridge, Burghersdorp and Natal Spruit refuse destructors. The Eastern District Fire Station, kiosk and conservatories, Joubert Park, various Municipal works depôts, plague lazaretto, etc. Mr. Lewis resigned the position of Chief Architect in the Town Engineer's Department of the Municipal Council of Johannesburg to enter private practice. He has been in practice in Johannesburg for about four years, and is chiefly engaged in designing and supervising the erection of buildings of the domestic class, buildings and other structures of steel construction as now in use on the various mines.

SOCIETY OF ARTISTS.

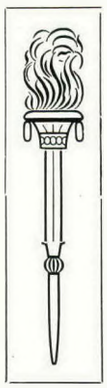
The annual exhibition of the Natal Society of Artists was opened on July 9th by the Governor-General. The collection of pictures shows a considerable increase in numbers as compared with previous years, and the general standard of the exhibition is regarded as having much advanced. Lord Gladstone, in opening the exhibition, made an appeal for the establishment of a South African Academy of Arts, and said that the time had arrived not only to talk of the matter, but to act, and for various art societies in South Africa to act in concert. They could not expect any great advance in South African art until they had a central exhibition which attracted representative pictures from all parts of South Africa, and whose governing body was strong enough to reject those which were not quite up to the standard.

AFRICAN ARMY MONUMENT.

The competition for designs for a monument to celebrate "the glories of the armies of Africa," to be erected at Algiers, has been decided in favour of M. Monestel, architect, and M. Maurice Favre, sculptor, who will work in collaboration. The jury consisted of MM. Cauvy, director of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts; Forquet, professor at the same school; Rochegrosse, the painter; and Mulot, the sculptor.

A MEMORIAL OF THE BOER WAR.

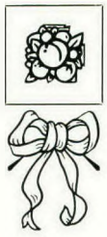
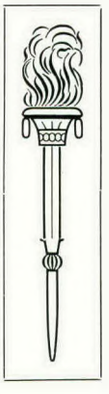
In the Illustration Department of the Victoria and Albert Museum, among examples of ancient MSS., there was shown early in June for a few days the illuminated record of the names of those who died in the South African War, 1899-1902. This work has been written by Mr. Graily Hewitt, and decorated by Mr. Allan F. Vigers; the pages will be bound by Mr. Douglas Cockerell, and the column will be placed in the Cathedral at Cape Town, on a desk, protected by a grille, executed by Messrs. Omar Ramsden and Alwyn Carr. The whole production will be a fine example of the combination of individual craftsmanship.




The REGISTRATION ACT

CAPE INSTITUTE VIEWS.

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE TRANSVAAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, AND OF A JOINT MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE TRANSVAAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF TRANSVAAL ARCHITECTS, HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM, WINCHESTER HOUSE, JOHANNESBURG, ON TUESDAY, 2ND JULY, 1912.

The President (Mr. H. G. Veale)
declared the meeting open, and the Secretary read the minutes of the previous general meeting, which were duly confirmed, there being no objection, and no direct discussion arising out of the minutes.

The late Mr. Hoskings.

The President
thereupon said that the meeting had been called to elect a president and council for the ensuing year, but owing to the sad death of their esteemed confrere, Mr. Archer W. Hoskings, it had become necessary to make a further nomination for the presidential chair. According to the by-laws, it was necessary for twenty-eight days' notice to be given to members before such an election could take place, and therefore their meeting must, he was afraid, stand adjourned for some time, but their Council thought, in view of Mr. Arthur Reid's visit to Johannesburg at the present moment, and that Mr. Reid was anxious to impart information regarding their profession, that they should hold that meeting that night and hear what he had to offer to them. They thought the ordinary meeting should stand adjourned until August 13th, which gave the clear twenty-eight days' notice necessay to members if they thought desirable to make further nomination over and above what had been issued by the Council.

It was then duly proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously "That this annual general meeting stand adjourned to August 13th next."

Extraordinary Meeting

The President
then said they were now a sort of extraordinary meeting for the purpose of hearing Mr. Arthur Reid's views on various matters concerning their profession in South Africa and the draft Act in particular.

Registration Bill and Mr. Reid's Address

Mr. Arthur Reid
said that, before making any address at all, he must voice to them the feeling of sympathy they all felt in Cape Town when they heard of Mr. Hoskings' death. It must be a matter of keen disappointment to those who elected him to the presidential chair for that year. They all felt what they must feel, too—a feeling of intense disappointment and sympathy. Mr. Arthur Reid then spoke as follows: I feel it a duty, in view of my visit to Johannesburg, to solicit the honour of this interview. There may be matters affecting your Institute, as an allied body to the Royal Institute of British Architects, that you may desire to discuss with me as honorary secretary to that body in South Africa, and there are certainly a few things that I wish to say to you.

In the first place, regarding the Registration Act that our profession desires to secure through the Union Parliament, we have an object lesson of how not to do it in the recent proceedings at the meeting of the Royal Institute and the Society of Architects in London. It seems clear that professional unity will not exist in England until the two bodies above referred to are legally combined, and it seems equally certain that such a compact will not be secured until those who have assumed the roles of "wreckers" are put in their proper places by the members of both bodies. At the last annual dinner of the Society of Architects, the president, Mr. George E. Bond, left no doubt in the minds of his audience that a few irresponsible egotists, whose vanity had not been gratified by undue prominence being given to them in the movement, revenged themselves by taking advantage of an irregularity to bar the progress of the scheme. I am happy in the hope that we, in this country, have larger minds and more worthy motives. Upon that hypothesis, I venture to assume that when differences of opinion arise, the minority will submit to the majority with a good grace, feeling that nothing mean or unprincipled could cause the little disagreement that may have arisen. We all have the same object in view, which is to bring every member of our profession under properly constituted control and to secure justice for the public; two factors that should take precedence of all matters of detail. Now, I am authorised to say that the Cape and Natal Institutes of Architects are somewhat exercised at the differences that they understand have arisen in the ranks of their professional brethren in the Transvaal Province. They are in absolute ignorance as to the real nature of these differences, and, as president of the Cape Institute, I am commissioned to ascertain just what they are. My Council has also requested me to do all that lies in my power to overcome the obstacle that has arisen by discussing and, with all respect, offering advice, if desired. I am here for that purpose among others.

Another point that I am to ascertain is whether opposition to the Bill is likely to be raised by any of our sister bodies or professions, by Government, or by individuals, and, if so, upon what grounds.

Registered Architects

A third doubt has arisen as to how far Government and local bodies will bind themselves to employ only registered architects, and how best to meet their views upon such a very important matter, and, if I may place such a very serious matter last, there is the matter of the supervision of the education of architectural students in this country. This is the only matter that we of the sister Provinces have heard mentioned as a dividing line in the Transvaal. We understand that a section of the members of the Association of Transvaal Architects object to the education of architectural students or the supervision of apprentices forming one of the functions of the proposed registered body. On the other hand, we gather that some contend that it is our clear duty to the public and to our profession to prepare the coming generation of South African architects to face their rivals in the world generally, and in South Africa in particular. How this is to be accomplised without participating in the educational curriculum of those destined for our profession is not apparent to everybody and, as honorary secretary of the Royal Institute, I shall be exceedingly glad to hear your views upon a subject that is of the greatest interest to the Council of that body. It further appears to me that, as an allied body to the Royal Institute, it is your clear duty to co-operate in the educational scheme favoured by that body, if it be only so far as to prepare South African students for the course that may from time to time be laid down for them. I submit that the scheme of education set forth in the by-laws of the Royal Institute is a reasonable one that has turned out many illustrious architects, and though, no doubt, improvements to meet modern ideas and the exigencies of modern practice may from time to time be desirable, I do hope that members who may differ from those who look upon education as one of the leading duties of a professional governing body will waive their active opposition in view of the opinions of the Royal Institute and of the Society of Architects of London. At all events, it seems to me that any contentious details of that portion of our Bill can be relegated to the by-laws rather than be allowed to wreck the Bill as a whole. (Hear, hear.)

Reconstructive Policy

Reviewing the reconstructive policy that is being followed to meet modern requirements by the promoters of the new British School of Architecture at Rome, we find that the petitioners for the new charter are the Royal Academy of Arts, the Royal Institute of British Architects, and the Royal Society of British Sculptors. Surely better representatives of pure and applied art could not be found within the British sphere of influence. Among other objects declared are the awarding of scholarships, exhibitions, and bursaries. Are our sons to be barred from such privileges because facilities for their preparatory professional education are not forthcoming in the Union of South Africa? Who is better qualified than an institute of architects acting under Government charter in co-operation with our future Teaching University to found a chair of art and architecture? Such a faculty is an absolute necessity if we, as a nation, are to take our proper position in the world of science and art, and it appears to me that our Institutes should take the lead and advance it as one reason for the Legislature of the Union assisting us in the acquisition of our charter. A chair of engineering has been founded in the South African College; why not one of arts and architecture?

The South African Society of Artists hold their annual exhibitions, but where is the architectural gallery? The Government has plans before it for an Art Gallery in Cape Town, a fund for which lies to the credit of the South African Fine Arts Association, but the whole thing is being done on the quiet by departmental officers without even consulting the professional Institutes as to the requirements.

An Athenæum

As stated in my last presidential address to the Cape Institute of Architects, I am convinced that we require something more than an Art Gallery, and I suggested the establishment of an Athenæum for the service of science as well as art, naming the following bodies who have no domicile or means of extending their spheres of usefulness. I may state, gentlemen, I am just mentioning this—it is purely relating to Cape Town—more particularly to let you know what is going on down there and the move we are making down there to try and get architecture more generally understood by the educational authorities there and the Government. There is the Cape Institute of Architects, the South African Society of Artists, the South African Drawing Club, the Photographic Society, the South African Association for the Advancement of Science, the Royal Society of South Africa, the Cape Society of Engineers, and the Royal Sanitary Institute.

A museum could be divided into two sections, one on the lines of that run by the Architectural Association in Tufton Street, Westminster, which could be furnished with copies of the drawings and photographs as well as plaster replicas of the treasures of that collection; and the other on the lines of the Parkes Museum, which could combine sanitary fittings and constructive appliances with models of all kinds. Without these conveniences, I submit that it is quite impossible to do justice to South African students who desire to compete for bursaries or to take the earlier stages of their preparatory education in this country.

I understand, too, that exception has been taken to the clause in our proposed Registration Act which enables the Council to make grants for educational and benevolent objects. It is interesting, in this regard, to note that the Council of the Royal Institute made grants amounting to about £450 for the year 1912 to the library fund, architectural associations, Architects' Benevolent Society, Architectural Association's Sketch-book, Royal Architectural Museum, British School at Rome, and British School of Archæology for Work in Egypt.

With regard to the presentation of our Registration Bill to the House of Assembly, it must be patent to everybody that the pressure of Government business is such as to render our task hopeless for some time to come. I have, therefore, made it my business to enquire if it is not possible to submit it direct to the Senate, and I am advised that, as it is not a "money Bill," and in view of the public interests suffering by the delay, and, further, considering the precedent

offered by the passing of the Act by the Transvaal Legislature, it is quite regular for an application to be made to the Senate, who will probably appoint a Select Committee to deal with it. Now, if the three Provincial Institutes unite in soliciting the assistance of their Senators, I believe the Bill could be pushed through next session. It is now for you to express your views upon this proposal, which, it is only fair to say, emanates from me, and not from my Council officially.

Financial Side of the Bill

Regarding the financial side of the Bill, I am desired to enquire and report your views and position. The balance in hand as subscribed by the Cape and Natal Institutes is over £100, but against that stand our legal commitments past and future, the amount of which cannot be estimated until we know just what our Transvaal friends propose to do and leave us to do.

Though, of course, the joint conference of delegates held last year in Cape Town resolved that the Cape Institute should be appointed to draft and present the Bill, it is believed that a section in the Transvaal desire to transfer that honour to Johannesburg. We desire to know the truth about this important matter and to learn the extent to which the Cape and Natal Institutes are expected to contribute to the expense, if such transfer takes place. It has been suggested that the expense would be far less if the work is done in Cape Town, and a doubt has arisen as to the wisdom of one body dealing with the Government in the initial stages and another with the House of Assembly when the Bill is presented. It is felt by some that the objections and difficulties, if any, should be dealt with by the same body.

Royal Institute of British Architects

We must all feel gratified at the membership roll of the Royal Institute (irrespective of Licentiates) again showing an increase for 1912; the total now amounts to 2,496, of whom 859 are Fellows, 1,581 Associates, and 56 Honorary Associates. The total number of Licentiates enrolled is 1,834, and many more applications are under consideration. The period for the election of Licentiates expired on June 30th, 1912.

It will be good news for all colonial Councils that the report of the Practice Special Sub-Committee appointed to draft a revised schedule of charges has been received by the Council of the R.I.B.A. The importance of removing some of the annoying deficiencies of the existing schedule cannot be over-estimated. Members of allied Institutes will also be glad to hear that the complete report of the Special Sub-Committee appointed to re-draft new "Conditions of Contract" will be in the hands of the Council before the end of this session, and the matter of the extent of an architect's liability to his client, as well as a standard code of professional ethics, is being dealt with.

The annual report of the Council of the R.I.B.A. shows that the total expenditure under ordinary funds for the past year was £13,975, while the receipts from subscriptions was £8,403. These figures give us some idea of the great work done by the Institute.

I hope before long to be in a position to report to all South African Allied Institutes the contributions that are due to them by the Royal Institute as rebates upon annual subscriptions of their members who also pay subscriptions to the R.I.B.A. This is a matter that I arranged when last in London. I mean when last in London when the matter of our colonial allowances was under discussion, I arranged with the Council that all members of the R.I.B.A. subscribing to local Institutes should have a rebate of their subscriptions. (Hear, hear.) I notice under the heading of ordinary expenditure in the R.I.B.A. balance sheet, as published in the "Journal" just received, that the sum of £80 is allotted to presidents of allied societies in England I am unaware of any amount being granted to the presidents of allied societies in the Colonies or Dependencies.

The R.I.B.A.

There is just one other matter that I wish to deal with, and in doing so am relying upon your good nature for relief from any suspicion of an unpleasant motive. I understand that correspondence has from time to time taken place between members and the Secretary of the R.I.B.A. and vice versa without my knowledge. Though I am unaware, unofficially, of certain other items, I believe that the questions of examination of candidates for the Associateship and of the functions of the Honorary Secretary for South Africa have been raised. I submit that it is not quite fair, or in the interests of local members, to discuss such matters without reference to myself as a channel of communication.

I suppose you are not aware of the fact that for many years I have been officially urging the Council of the R.I.B.A. to constitute a branch of the Institute in South Africa, as the Society of Architects has now done, but no notice has been taken of my suggestions. With that object in view, and in my capacity as Honorary Secretary, you all know that I originated and carried through the alliance of the Cape, Natal, and Transvaal Institutes with the R.I.B.A.

Since the alliance I have been the medium of correspondence between the Institute and the three allied bodies in South Africa regarding the enrolment of Licentiates and matters connected with our Registration Act, besides other current business and confidential correspondence.

Needless to say, all these matters have cost me much time and expense, and if any discontent has been caused by my actions, I can only say that, having been a subscribing member to the R.I.B.A. for thirty-one years, I have felt it my duty, where the larger interests of the Institute have been in conflict with those of our allied bodies, to favour the former, such being, in my opinion, correct and in the interests of the profession as a whole.

Co-operation

In conclusion, I am here officially to explain any points that you may raise, and beg that you will be absolutely outspoken, so that nothing remains doubtful between us. I hope to have the pleasure and honour of discussing matters of general interest to the profession with members of the Association of Transvaal Architects before I leave, and that the architects of your Province will co-operate in the most openhearted manner with the local committee of the proposed Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute that I am commissioned to start while in this centre.

In conclusion, I am specially deputed by the Council of the Cape Institute of Architects to tender you their most fraternal and kindly compliments and good wishes.

Mr. Reid's Work

The President

said they were very much obliged to Mr. Reid for coming there that evening, and especially for his good offices in connection with the work he had done on their behalf in South Africa in connection with the Royal Institute of British Architects. Mr. Reid had mentioned just now that communications had been made direct to the Secretary of the R.I.B.A. The only communication—and he supposed he must apologise for that, because it was done during his year of office—was a letter written by the Honorary Secretary to the Institute Secretary as to the proper procedure as to examinations. He now understood that that communication should have been addressed to Mr. Arthur Reid as the Honorary Secretary in South Africa of the R.I.B.A., and he prayed him to accept his apology for that. At any rate, that was the only instance he knew of where the Royal Institute had been approached direct from their body. The matter was now open for discussion.

Mr. Arthur Reid

said he wanted to "ram it home a bit" about that correspondence with the Royal Institute, because of the fact that he had a letter that certainly annoyed him a certain time ago, sent by certain members of the local association practically asking him what on earth he meant by holding examinations in this country without their knowledge, and other members of the Institute in the colony. He had to reply that that was the first he had heard of it, and that those who originated those examinations had done so without even having the courtesy to let him know, and that he was not a party to it. He received a letter saying it was a mistake, and they were very sorry, and all that. He thought, in connection with whatever was going on in this country, as a matter of courtesy, a letter should be sent to him saying exactly what was going on.

The President

mentioned that the Home Secretary had addressed letters to them direct, but that at any rate Mr. Reid could rest assured that in future these matters would be properly carried through.

Mr. Walter Reid

said he did not wish to say very much himself on the remarks of Mr. Arthur Reid. His opinions they all knew very well. He would just like to draw their attention to one point, and that was on those educational matters in his remarks, and the ideas on those educational matters of the individuals he represented, coincided with the resolution taken by that Institute at the last general meeting. On those educational matters their opinions were fairly unanimous; only one or two, at the outside, in Johannesburg took any exception to the view at the last annual meeting and expressed by Mr. Reid. Such members, if any were there that evening, could take the opportunity of expressing their views. He mentioned a bit of homely advice by Mr. Reid, that the majority should govern the minority. Personally he had no more to say on the matter.

Financing the Bill

Mr. Sinclair

said regarding this matter and in connection with the financing the Bill, it was a very serious point, because no one could say exactly what would happen, because the present Act of the Association gave no power to finance the Bill, and to do so it would be necessary to obtain the approval of the members. The question of the proposed Act was brought before the members of the Association, and they would not approve of it one way or the other; they said: "Let us have your draft Act, and we will consider it." Until they knew exactly whether the members of the Association agreed to the Bill or not and the finances, they could not say how it would be financed, whether from the Transvaal or in any other way. Therefore, there was no answer to Mr. Reid's question on that point until they had a meeting.

Mr. Arthur Reid

said they simply wanted to understand where they were—that was the spirit, to know what was going on in the Transvaal, and to let them know what was going on at the Cape. He saw now that this Bill was in the hands of the Association of Transvaal Architects. It had been before them, and he understood before the local branch of the R.I.B.A., and it was now before the Transvaal Association to deal with.

The President

said "No"; there were several new clauses suggested, and when that matter was settled they would have to call another general meeting and place it before them.

Natal and Cape Delegates

Mr. Arthur Reid

said, if he might suggest it, would it not be rather a good plan, when the discussion came on, to have delegates sent from Natal and the Cape to settle things with them? Otherwise, they would go on for years in an indefinite manner. He thought the money would be very well expended in getting delegates to confer with them in the Transvaal.

The President

considered that an excellent suggestion. He would make it his business to bring it before the Association of Transvaal Architects. They proposed shortly to have another meeting to thrash the whole matter out. It was a matter of some valuable suggestions from Mr. Harris which they had to deal with; otherwise they had practically made up their minds as to the clauses.

Mr. Arthur Reid

said weeks and months went by, and it would be a good thing if they could bring the Bill before the Senate next year. It had to be started at Cape Town, being the centre of the Senate, and it could not be started until they knew at the Cape just what the Transvaal did want. It took some time. They had to go round and explain the matter to the members of Parliament. It could not be done in the Transvaal. He had already discussed the matter with several of the members of Parliament, and they were all in

favour of it. As they would understand, he, as president of the Cape Institute, was not going to make any start if it was going to be a failure; he was going to be perfectly sure it was going through.

The Nail on the Head

Mr. Howden

thought Mr. Reid had struck the nail on the head. It was no use if there was any opposition to that Bill. He thought it was a great pity if that Institute did not thrash the Bill out. It was no use disguising the fact—members of that Institute had principles in opposition vital to the Bill. Mr. Reid may not be aware of it, but there were such varied opinions that it was quite possible the Bill would not go through. He thought they should invite discussion from everybody regarding the main principles of the Act. The principle was one thing or another. One point was, whether the Act was to include everything—the combined powers of all the associations; the opposite opinion was, that the Registration Act should be for the purpose of registration only and professional conduct. There were members of that Institute holding both views, and very strongly; he thought it a great pity if they that night did not give Mr. Reid a full opportunity of hearing those views and expressing his own opinion, and learning the truth. He suggested that members of the Association be invited to discuss the vital principles in connection with the draft Union Act. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Waugh

thought it only fair to Mr. Reid that the lines indicated by Mr. Howden should be clearly laid down. Mr. Reid had come there to find out the position. It was quite true there were divergencies of opinion on the principles embodied in the draft Act. Mr. Howden had analysed the position very fairly. No doubt a fair number—he could not say how many—were in favour of the Act as it stood; that was for South Africa for all-embracing powers. Quite a considerable body—as big, he should think—were opposed to such wide powers being allowed to any institute. With that body he was allied himself, because he felt there was no precedent whatever that such an all-embracing attempt should be made before the present Parliament. He feared they were less likely to get such an Act through. If all were in favour of registration and the suppression or regulation of misconduct, well go and get that, and leave all these contentious matters out; then they could go forward; but the Bill to-day went far beyond that; it brought in education of other people's children in opposition to architects in practice to-day. That might be very good from an unselfish point of view and altruistic, but he did not know of any other profession that educated other men in opposition to the members of their profession; the medical and other professions did not do it, although they perhaps gave a few prizes to help a brilliant man forward.

The Duty of the State

It was the duty of the State to have practitioners in every profession properly trained, and it was on those grounds that it was in the interests of the State to educate architects, medical practitioners, and lawyers, to suppress misconduct, and get efficient men; that was in the interests of the public, and on those grounds they had the right to go to Parliament and say it is in the public interests to register architects and suppress misconduct; on those grounds they were safe in going to Parliament, but when they went beyond that and got into contentious matters, such as education, on which men would always differ—the less essential points of the profession—they would have much less hope of getting such an Act through Parliament. He had had an experience in regard to Registration Acts that had, may be, gone a little bit beyond that of most present—the one that went through in the Transvaal and the one that did not go through in Victoria, where they attempted a Registration Act on the lines of the R.I.B.A., which, he thought, was doomed to failure before it got into the first reading, because it was an attempt to control the whole interests of the profession, and that Act failed for the same reason, and he felt as certain as he was sitting there that any Act before the Union Parliament would fail if it attempted too much, and personally he would like to see the ground made clear there that night, so that they would know where they stood, not in regard to parties, but to main principles, and should let Mr. Reid know, as he had a right to know. He would like to pay a tribute to the time Mr. Arthur Reid gave in helping forward useful objects, not alone in their profession, but in others also. He fully appreciated what he did, and he felt very grateful to him for coming there that night and trying to get the ground cleared, so that he could go back clearer as to how things stood. If any words of his could help that forward he would be thankful. Mr. Howden's remarks were very valuable. Then there were some who took neither extreme of views, and might adopt something between those outlined. He did not think, unless they could come to a conclusion on these matters, it was any use discussing details. (Applause.)

Opposition Points

Mr. Walter Reid

asked if Mr. Waugh had expressed his opinion on the only points with which he disagreed in the draft Act, or had he any other points on which he was in opposition?

Mr. Waugh

said he was in opposition to any Act which went beyond registration and the matter of examination to make it a farce. He would not oppose a tariff of fees, he would be glad to assist it; but did not know whether they would get it through. He would go further, and allow the Association to expend funds for research, it was for the general interest; beyond that he would not go, as he thought it would be very unwise. He did not think it would leave the House in any satisfactory form. He would not include benevolent funds.

Mr Arthur Reid

said he would like to ask Mr. Waugh which definite clauses in the draft Act which was sent to the Cape Institute for consideration he objected to.

Mr Howden

said they had not the draft Act before them; that was the Association's draft Act, which had not come before their Institute yet.

Mr. Arthur Reid

said he thought it was open to them to discuss it that night. He would like to know definitely from

Mr. Waugh which of the clauses in the draft Act he objected to, because he saw no mention there in the draft sent down last August of education at all. Mr. Reid then put in the draft Act from the Society in Johannesburg. So far as he could see, there was nothing relating to education. The relegation of powers was mentioned.

Mr. Lewis
said it was deliberately cut out. He spoke as the Secretary of the local Society of Architects.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said he wanted to be perfectly sure whether that was the document they were working on.

Mr. Howden
said "No," it was from the local branch of the Society of Architects.

Mr. Lewis
said it was only the views of the Society of Architects which he was authorised to send down to the Cape. The matters relating to education were cast out, but it was provided for in the preamble. The Society of Architects were against education in any form of the generation now coming on. The alterations were by the Society of Architects; not by the Institute nor by the Association of Transvaal Architects.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said he was answering Mr. Waugh, who was the president of the Society of Architects. The original draft sent out had been altered twice.

Mr. Waugh
said it had been altered so often that they did not know where they stood.

Architectural Schools

Mr. Lewis
said there was one sentence there—the support of architectural schools—that was education.

Mr. Arthur Reid
did not think that was education.

Mr. Lewis
said the support of architectural schools meant education in some form, and furtherance of architectural education. Those were struck out. Such expressions were what they wished to be omitted. Further, "architectural education" occurred several times. "In support of architects' schools," the committee felt they were not in favour of it. He thought those were the points Mr. Waugh referred to.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said the precedents were the Royal Society in London contributing to educational purposes. The local body should not keep a school to educate people, but they should have the power to further education if they wished to do so. It seemed to him that their friends who had taken exception to those clauses rather over-estimated what was intended. It was never intended that that Institute should open a school to teach the children of coming generations architecture.

Mr. Howden
"To use its funds for the purpose."

Mr. Waugh
said it was the duty of the State to start a chair of architecture. He thought the Royal Institute at Home were making a mistake, and he thought they would find it out.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said he would beg of Mr. Waugh to show anything in that Act which would warrant such an extreme view as that.

Examinations

Mr. Waugh
said they had the power of delegating examinations there to other bodies. That was all right if they kept it as a registering body. He did not think they should take that power from anybody, but to have a right to force people to come into it, and the Parliament to give the right of compelling those people to contribute to education, he did not think it was right at all.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said the Royal Institute had done it for years.

Mr. Waugh
said: But they were a voluntary body; here they were forced to come in and contribute whether they liked it or not.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said they were not bound to do it—only if the Council of the registering body desired to do it.

Mr. Treeby
said it was the duty of the State to do it. He was not in favour of all Mr. Arthur Reid had read in his paper, but thought, with Mr. Waugh and others, that it was the duty of the State. Make it a money Bill, not a private Bill, and include a grant in it for that purpose, and appoint a registering body; say an institute was necessary for registering people, but not to apply their own funds. If that could be altered —the draft Bill, as he understood it, contemplated the using of its funds for that purpose. That was his only objection, and legally he was informed that such a Bill could not pass—for one section to be forced to pay a special tax for the education of other people.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said there was no intention to force people; not unless the registering body decided to do so.

Mr. Treeby
said they had the power to do so; to force a certain section of the people to educate other people—that was a duty devolving upon the whole of the people; everybody must contribute to the education of people generally.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said it was an extreme view.

Mr. Sinclair
said if they could take a unanimous view of the Association to apply those funds it would be all right, but if one objected it would be unconstitutional.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said he would like to understand if the objectors to those clauses would go so far as to attempt to wreck that Bill if the majority were in favour of such Bill. Was he to understand that any spirit like that existed —that they would oppose this Bill even if a large body were against them.

Mr. Waugh
said he thought so. He, for one, would go into the House.

Mr. Howden
said Mr. Treeby said that was the only clause in the draft Act he objected to.

Mr. Treeby
said that was so far as he knew; chiefly the application of funds, they all came under that heading so far as he knew.

Forwarding the Bill

Mr. Howden
said it seemed to him that was the best way of occupying their time there that night. As Mr. Reid had said, it was no use this Bill going on for ever. They could not get any "forrarder" unless they had a unanimous opinion. The main point was, they must be unanimous in forwarding the Bill.

Mr. Treeby
said he would like to ask Mr. Reid whether he was aware that in their Transvaal Bill they did include such a clause, and it was crossed out by the Government law advisers.

Mr. Arthur Reid
did not know that; he was glad to know it. Such being the case, that the law advisers had struck it out, the question then arose for those who considered it should be dropped to advise dropping it. It was always possible after the Bill had been passed to apply for a supplement to the Bill. He would beg of those who held those views to meet those points; there was something in that one could understand, but when some got up and said if ninety-nine out of one hundred were in favour, they would still oppose a Bill, then he began to think it was hopeless going into the thing at all.

Mr. Waugh
said he had not got that recollection Mr. Treeby expressed. Was it not a fact that the by-laws proposed to regulate the point, not the Act?

Mr. Treeby
said the by-laws provided for that purpose and the law advisers said it must come out.

The President
said he thought the reason was that it had not been provided for in the Act.

Mr. Treeby
said he would waive his objection if Mr. Reid would assure him that they would take steps to ascertain from some authorised body—perhaps the Law Department—whether those things could be included in a Union Act. The thing should be done before the draft was put before them. It was no use including it in the draft if it could not be done. His opinion was that it could not; he had been so advised.

Alterations in the Bill

Mr. Arthur Reid
said naturally it would be put before the Government for their approval. He saw Mr. Gorges, the Secretary for the Minister of the Interior, and Mr. Gorges had introduced him to the Clerk of the House and General Smuts, and they went through the draft of that Bill, and they said generally the thing would be all right, but they reserved the right to alter anything afterwards. That was their spirit in taking the draft Act, and he took it that that would be the spirit with the Union Act. If they wanted anything altering, they would send it back to them and they would consider it. What they wanted to do was to come up to that point, that they knew everyone would be firm and back it from first to last. If members were going to write letters to members of Parliament to oppose the Bill, it looked so weak, and nobody wanted to be mixed up in such a matter. Naturally, as Parliament met in Cape Town, to explain the Bill would fall upon the shoulders of the members down there. He had heard that letters had been written by members of the Institute of Architects asking members of Parliament in Cape Town to oppose certain clauses. That was what they wanted to guard against, and to be unanimous and firm, not only members of the profession, but members of the sister professions—quantity surveyors, and so on. He understood quantity surveyors had certain grievances, and he took it they would hear what they had to say and meet them?

Mr. Walter Reid
said they had already agreed to have delegates from Natal and the Cape; might they not also have a barrister present to advise them, say, on the possible chances on all these legal points on which they were now in doubt? He would considerably expedite their business. They could talk on them ad infinitum and never come to anything at all.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said that had been done by the Cape Institute. When that draft was informally accepted as a basis, the whole thing was submitted to what they called in Cape Town a parliamentary agent. They took his advice and some alterations were made, and so such alterations were put on the original draft as submitted to the Transvaal Institute. Naturally, they would have to do it. The parliamentary agent took counsel's opinion about it, and they paid for it. The thing was for everybody to sit down and get it fixed up once and for all. Now they had taken the thing out of their hands it was "off" so far as they were concerned.

Mr. Treeby
suggested making it a money Bill, and not a private Bill.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said the difficulty was, if they made it a money Bill it had to go through all sorts of processes. Would everybody then be in favour of it?

Mr. Waugh
said at first sight he would not object to it, but he would like to consider it. He rather objected to one body making themselves the finality in educational matters.

Mr. Treeby
said that administrative body would be all the architects in the Union.

Mr. Waugh
said they would only have a "one-horse show" if they had only one body. He explained the advantages

of different kinds of schools, one taking up Grecian style, and so on.

Mr. Treeby
said they could have as many schools as they liked.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said the only thing was that power might be granted to that body to give a small grant to any school they considered was doing good work. The Royal Institute, for instance, gave grants to the School at Rome.

Mr. Lindhorst
said no other body did that.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said that was a point they could not settle; it had to be submitted to somebody else. If they were going to make that a money Bill, then it had to go to the Assembly. The advice he had received was that if it were not a money Bill it could go to the Senate, and, besides, that would be less expensive. Sir John Fraser, as well as others, had advised him as to that.

Mr. Treeby
said he agreed with that. The point was whether they would pass it with these powers included. He had suggested that they take counsel's opinion on it.

Mr. Sinclair
said they wanted counsel's opinion whether the funds of the Association could be used in any shape or form for educational purposes.

Mr. Lewis
said the best thing would be to refer it to a legal adviser, and he had referred it to a barrister in Johannesburg, who said they would not get it through. A voluntary body could dispose of its funds in that way, but that was not a voluntary body, and his adviser said they would not get it through.

Mr. Treeby
suggested getting Mr. Stallard's opinion, he being the most eminent man in Johannesburg; he also suggested making it a money Bill.

Mr. Arthur Reid
Or leave out these clauses.

The President
promised to get Mr. Stallard's opinion.

Mr. Howden
said it was very evident that once that Act got into the hands of a man like Mr. Stallard twenty-five or thirty per cent. of it was going to be ruled out straightaway; most of them were aware of that. They had had that experience before in the Transvaal Act, and they had embodied in the draft Union Act practically all, and in addition a great deal more, than was struck out of the original Transvaal Act. Some of them familiar with the matter were quite aware that immediately it got into the hands of counsel or a parliamentary agent, a great deal would be struck out. Why put it into the hands of counsel until they were satisfied with the draft Act themselves? Let them resolve, themselves, unanimously, what thy wanted, and then, if they liked, submit it to counsel; or he would advise them to avoid counsel or a parliamentary agent and put it straight into Parliament, because so many things were struck out of the Transvaal Act, and it was very debatable whether some of these people did not exceed their powers, and that was the reason why they embodied some of those things in the Union Act. Far better agree first themselves, and get it into Parliament as quickly as possible. The main point they would have to consider when it got into Parliament was were they prepared to put it there as if they anticipated a good deal would be struck out? At present they were very optimistic and sanguine about it going through with all they wanted in it. Some members had different views on the powers already expressed in the Bill, and some of them were not willing to accept this Bill if it were reduced down to the views of some of the members there present. The question was, what attitude would they take up if some of the parliamentary agents cut it down to that state before it got into Parliament? His main point was, let them get into unanimity as to what they wanted themselves. He thought it was for the three Institutes in South Africa to express their opinions now. The Transvaal already had its Act.

The President
asked if he was now to understand that Mr. Howden wished to take the matter out of the hands of the Association and let the Institute carry it through?

Mr. Howden
said: "No, not at all."

Submission to Legal Advisers

Mr. Walter Reid
said no matter in whatever form they submitted it to Parliament, the first thing they did was to submit it to their legal advisers and, further, to their Select Committee; even in the Senate they knocked out everything which was ultra vires to the law. There was absolutely no bar to their putting it forward in whatever form they wished, and letting Government knock it into shape.

Mr. Arthur Reid
said it was Cape Town architects who would have to do the fighting, and the Cape Town men would want to know what the feelings were.

Mr. Treeby
said his objection was that it was no use their discussing points which were illegal.

Mr. Waugh
said his objections were not personal; they were on matters of policy. He spoke for his Society in that, too; they had resolved to take certain lines.

Mr. Sinclair
asked for some expression from the quantity surveyors, whereupon

Representing Quantity Surveyors

Mr. White
(of the Quantity Surveyors' Institute) said he came down there in response to a telephonic message from the Surveyors' Institute yesterday. He had not gone into matters very deeply. He thought it would be advisable for someone to be there to represent their ideas. There was no doubt that the Institute of Surveyors was with them as regards the Registration Act. (Hear, hear.) And they would do everything in their power to get the object forward. His only

objection was, they were going further than the registration of architects; they wished to register their architects as quantity surveyors in the original draft now amended. There was one thing in the by-laws there referring to the relationship of architects' with quantity surveyors' status. As they all knew, the profession of quantity surveyors was entirely apart from that of architect. An architect might be a quantity surveyor, but not vice versa. Let them register themselves as architects, but by bringing in the quantity surveyors meant practically as quantity surveyors only. That was one of their reasons only, and all the Institute wished to do was to protect itself as a body. They did not want themselves reduced to a clerkship under the architect, but they wanted to have their status recognised properly. There was no clause in the present by-laws referring to quantity surveyors. They had no objection to the Bill so long as they eliminated quantities. What right the architect had to consider himself in the status of a quantity surveyor he did not know.

Mr. Howden

thought there was some misunderstanding. The only clause he was aware of was that provision had been made for a by-law to regulate the relationship of architect to quantity surveyor, which was put in to protect quantity surveyors as much as architects. The exact meaning of that clause was never discussed, but it was thought advisable that provision be made in the Act that when the by-laws were framed the thing could then be discussed. Of course, even the by-laws had to be approved by the Attorney-General. He practically framed that clause, and the intention was never in any way to deprecate the position of the quantity surveyor; it was never intended to be in the interests of the architect to the detriment of the quantity surveyor. It was thought by some that it was time the position was considered, and that a definite understanding was made between the client, the architect, and the quantity surveyor, not detrimental to any one of those three, but that in the event of a court considering the question the position was clearly defined in their by-laws. He thought that any others would bear him out in that, and he failed to see that any clause he was aware of in the draft Act conveyed anything like the impression that Mr. White had just voiced.

The President

said he had a distinct recollection that that was the intention in the beginning.

Mr. White

said that was his point, that that clause was so vague; that it gave the architects power to define the position of the quantity surveyor. Why not register themselves as architects and leave quantity surveyors out of it, and they would help them.

Unprofessional Conduct

Mr. Howden

said they brought in clauses regulating the architect and the builder with reference to unprofessional conduct, and they anticipated doing the same with reference to the architect and the quantity surveyor as to unprofessional conduct. That was the origin of that clause. It was considered necessary that architects should be considered in their relationship with the quantity surveyor in the same way as with the builder, it being a moral question whether some of the practices indulged in to-day were moral or legal.

Mr. White

said they were all with them in that, and they suggested that a small sub-committee be appointed to discuss the matter with the Institute of Quantity Surveyors, to have the matter thrashed out and go forward unanimously. They thought it was essential that the matter be clearly defined. They had no objection to an architect taking out quantities so long as he was competent to act as a quantity surveyor; let him join the Quantity Surveyors' Institute as well. If they had two strong institutes representing the two bodies, their position in law and in the country was going to be doubled.

Mr. Lewis

asked if it would not simplify matters if the quantity surveyors put their ideas in the form of a clause to the Association of Transvaal Architects, so that they could see whether they would be in favour of it or not. They were talking all round the matter now.

Mr. White's Colleague

suggested a joint committee to discuss the matter.

Mr. Howden

said certain correspondence had taken place, and if Mr. White would look it up he would see that the Association of Architects could get no satisfaction out of the Quantity Surveyors.

Mr. White's Colleague

said he had gone through the correspondence for the last three years, but could find no reference to it.

Mr. Howden

said they could not agree to a sliding scale of charges.

A Misunderstanding

Mr. White

said certainly there had been a misunderstanding, but let them go ahead in the future and not worry about the past, and have a meeting. That was the only satisfactory way of arriving at a unanimous decision and a definition of what quantity surveying actually consisted of.

Mr. Harris

said he would like to ask a question of the quantity surveyors, but they need not answer him if they had any objection to doing so. He wanted to know whether they were in a position to inform the architects whether their Institute purposed approaching Parliament for a Registration Act.

Mr. White

said, as a matter of fact, that was a matter he brought up some time ago, and he would still try, because he thought it essential. A quantity surveyor was in an equal position of trust with an architect, and it was more essential, if anything, that the quantity surveyor should be registered as much as the architect.

Mr. Arthur Reid

said he was quite sure they would have the architects with them.

Mr. Harris

asked, was it agreed, then, by the quantity surveyors that their interests lay with the architects in getting an Act which would cover the two professions in the same way as the medical people had, which included surgeons, dentists, and chemists?

Mr. White

said one could not express himself offhand, but a sub-committee could deal with that.

Mr. Harris

said one enabling clause in the Bill would do it.

Mr. Howden

said that any clause providing for by-laws would not necessarily prevent any contentious matter coming into the by-laws.

The President

thought it a very good suggestion that the matter be discussed by a joint committee.

Mr. Howden

suggested having a clause setting forth the views of the Quantity Surveyors' Institute.

Mr. White

considered it better to have it properly discussed. (Hear, hear.)

It was decided to leave it to the President to call such a joint meeting.

Disposal of Money.

Mr. Arthur Reid

asked them to consider the point of the disposal of the money in hand down at Cape Town. They had £100 there, and did not want to be selfish about it. Mr. Walter Reid, when at Cape Town, had mentioned that the Transvaal Association had already paid for their Act, and the Cape and Natal also had undertaken to make a levy, and Mr. Waugh had promised £40 from his Society. The Home Institute also had promised a grant, to be refunded if the Act went through. The Cape Institute wanted to know if the Transvaal were going to take it over, what they wanted the Cape to do. Then Mr. Treeby had said the Transvaal Association could not use its moneys.

Mr. Harris

advised that legal advice be taken.

Mr. Arthur Reid

said the Cape Town architects thought the whole thing could be done very much cheaper down there, though they were not anxious to do it, and would be very pleased if the Transvaal would take the whole thing off their shoulders. They could do it cheaper down there, but they wanted to know what the Transvaal people would do, and what they wanted the Cape to do.

Finance a Sore Point

Mr. Howden

said the matter of finance was a sore point. Perhaps Mr. Lucas could say how they took the point on page 4. They undertook the financing of the Bill, and the question was when the Transvaal Association was absorbed by the Union the Transvaal Association should pay the registration fee of each member; that struck him at the time as a reasonable proposition, seeing that the Transvaal Association had funds, that when they were entering into Union that the registration fee each member had already paid should be paid into the Union funds, and very reasonable objection had been taken to that because their registration fees which they paid in to the Transvaal Association was not now in existence; the accumulated funds of the Association were not due to registration fees, the registration fees which they paid having already been expended in the advancement of the Registration Bill in the Transvaal, which cost something like £500. Their registration fees went there. The accumulated funds now represented annual subscriptions. Mr. Waugh, on those grounds, had said they were not entitled to hand any of their moneys over to the new Union Association—in other words, that they, as an existing Association, should be absorbed by the Union without any expense to their members whatever. It was a matter which should be discussed and thrashed out. He was sorry Mr. Waugh had gone, because it was his opinion with regard to those funds. If that attitude was taken up, it was apparent the Association would not be able to assist with its funds. The only way was if the Bill should go through. If the Bill did not go through, it would be illegal to touch their funds; if it did, then any amount allocated in that Act could be taken out of the Association's funds; so it did not assist in financing the Bill at all, unless loans could be obtained as advances to be recognised afterwards.

Mr. Arthur Reid

said that was for the Transvaal to think out, so that they let them know definitely where they all were; not that, after it had gone so far, they came to the Cape Institute and said they could not go further, and they had not the money to do it.

Mr. Walter Reid

mentioned that they had not had the opinion of the solicitors.

The President

said he thought he could get the opinion in writing.

Mr. Howden

said that Messrs. Van Hulsteyn, Feltham and Ford's opinion was, that if one member of the Association objected to the funds being used for this purpose, it could not be done. He (Sir Willem van Hulsteyn) still questioned it even if the members were unanimous.

Mr. Harris

said that in their present Act there was no provision for such an event arising in the future.

Mr. Howden

said Sir Willem said the only way was to include it in the new Act.

Power to Initiate Legislation

Mr. Harris

said, supposing under the South African Institute the necessity should arise for them to negotiate further legislation, they had not the power to initiate legislation. Their new Act should give them distinct power to initiate legislation.

Mr. Howden

said it did, but it did not make provision for becoming associated to an Empire body or anything of that sort.

Mr. Harris

said at a recent meeting of the Association Council when that draft Act was discussed a large number of varying points of view were introduced for the first time, and he, among others, was asked to put those views in writing. He was not privileged by any resolution of the Association Council to discuss the contents of that document, which must be considered as confidential. He was empowered to hand to Mr. Arthur Reid a copy. He had simply mentioned it there that it should be on record that Mr. Arthur Reid had received a copy of the document.

Mr. Howden

said the sooner the Association had a meeting to discuss that the better.

The President

said they had been waiting for those notes of Mr. Harris, and which they had received that day.

Mr. Arthur Reid

before closing, said he wished to mention whether they could not make some arrangement by which an exchange of epitomised minutes could not be circulated from the several Institutes, so that every Institute would know what the other Institutes were doing. At the present moment, the Cape did not know what the Transvaal might be doing, and the Transvaal did not know what the Cape were doing. They should be more in touch with one another, both in the interests of the public and the profession, and any misunderstandings that arose could be removed at the time. The meeting considered this a very excellent idea.

Mr. Harris

said he thought it an excellent thing, but said they had not been encouraged by the way the Cape had received their advances. They had not been discourteous, but had said plainly they did not agree, without giving reasons.

Quantities

Mr. White

referring again to quantities, said they wanted a clear understanding. Mr. Harris had made a suggestion as to having a chapter in the Registration Act dealing with the quantity surveyors' side of the question. The position was exactly to arrive at it for a basis of discussion. Did the architects make a suggestion to the Quantity Surveyors' Institute that that matter should be discussed, or what exact process did they suggest? They wanted something to put before the Council of their Institute to discuss. Was the first committee to be a general discussion with regard to the quantity surveyors and the Bill, and, secondly, that the quantity surveyors' status should be distinctly described and stated in the Bill for registration; there were two things to discuss—whether the quantity surveyors be entirely eliminated, or have a chapter to be incorporated with their Bill. If they came to anything tangible, there would be a certain amount of expense which they would have to incur. He brought it forward so as to be clear.

Mr. Walter Reid

said they were going to have a joint meeting, and if the Quantity Surveyors' Institute could forward certain suggestions it would assist.

Mr. White

asked for the Secretary of the Transvaal Institute of Architects to communicate with his Institute. He took the opportunity of expressing their pleasure at having that opportunity for a discussion of the matter.

The meeting then terminated with expressions of thanks to the Chairman and Mr. Arthur Reid.

IN OTHER LANDS

INDIA'S NEW CAPITAL.

The town-planning experts consulted with regard to the new capital at Delhi have now officially decided against the Durbar site for the permanent capital. They have selected a position in the south-western suburbs of the city, which offers good drainage and a fine prospect. The only objection to it is its distance from the recently selected site of the temporary capital.—"The Times."

LIGHT ON HITTITE ARCHITECTURE.

Interesting details of the work done by the German expedition in Central Mesopotamia under Baron Oppenheim have reached Berlin. For some time the expedition has been at work excavating at Tel Halef, the site of the ancient capital of the Hittite Monarchy, and have succeeded in unearthing a series of magnificent works dating back to about the fourteenth century before the Christian era. The almost entire and gigantic foundations of a royal palace have been laid bare. Baron Oppenheim has established the fact that this structure rose on an elevated terrace, rectangular in shape. All four walls of the palace contribute a splendid series of stone reliefs, with most remarkable sculptured groups and single figures in an almost perfect state of preservation. Of these "plates" over one hundred and seventy have been unearthed. Great stress is laid on the discovery of the palace gate. Two colossal basaltic figures of animals have been discovered, which doubtless guarded the approach to the gate, and strongly resemble the similar beasts on Babylonian monuments.

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Now that sums amounting to more than £300,000 have been promised towards the acquisition of the vacant site on the Duke of Bedford's estate north of the British Museum, it seems likely that we shall eventually see erected there a building worthy of a great university.

ROMAN DISCOVERIES.

Interesting discoveries have been made at Wallsend, upon the site of the Roman camp of Segedunum, during excavations for foundations for an hotel. Portions of ramparts of the east gateway have been laid bare, and a wall of the north guard chamber within the east gateway. Hitherto the shape of the east rampart has been uncertain, but the present discoveries will give archæologists the clue which will determine the point. The remains of a gravel road which ran through the camp from the east to the west gateways, and also of a road which ran across it at right angles, have also been found. Portions of other walls, supposed to have been connected with the soldiers' barracks, have been laid bare.

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF QUANTITY SURVEYORS

Annual Banquet. *History of the Institute.*

The annual banquet of the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors was held at the Grand Hotel, Pretoria, on Saturday evening, July 27th, and was a most interesting function. Mr. H. A. Adams (Chief Quantity Surveyor, Public Works Department of the Union) presided, and there was a representative gathering of architects, quantity surveyors, and master builders, including the following guests: Messrs. H. G. Veale (Vice-President, Transvaal Institute of Architects), T. Clarke (President, National Federation of Master Builders), G. W. Herdman (Acting Secretary for Public Works), P. Eagle (Chief Government Architect), W. H. McKinlay (of Messrs. Hawke and McKinlay), M. C. A. Meischke, W. Nottingham, J. J. Kirkness, D. Mackie, V. S. R. Poole, W. Powers, H. Siemerink, Schmidt, Phillips, F. Corbishley, C. W. Mackenzie, T. Bagnall, and Messrs. Lynde, Hide, H. Bell-John, W. Harrison, H. T. Cowin, J. F. Hooke, D. Dakers, A. Stratton, W. Langton, C. H. Deighton, W. G. Thompson, W. E. Puntis, E. White, D. A. McCubbin, L. J. Tarring, N. Foulds, A. W. Springthorpe, W. Priestley, F. Black, E. Hustwick, T. Moore (President, S.A.I.Q.S.), and F. D. Hickman (Acting Honorary Secretary of the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors).

After an excellently served dinner, for which Mr. Fincke, manager of the Grand Hotel, deserves much credit, the usual loyal toasts were given and duly honoured.

The New President

The Chairman next gave the toast of the "President, Quantity Surveyors' Institute." In doing so he said: I rise to propose the toast of our newly-elected President, and in so doing I would first like to say a few words about our new President, Mr. Thomas Moore, and then a little about our Institute. Mr. Moore, as you are most probably aware, is a quantity surveyor of great repute practising in this city. I have had the pleasure of knowing him for the last twelve years, and have always found him a most excellent fellow, both in and out of his profession. He is acknowledged both in England and South Africa as being a very proficient and experienced surveyor. His little failing is in telling tales, and his Irish wit will always amuse both in the drawing-room and other places. I am sure Mr. Moore will agree with me when I say that the Institute has this afternoon conferred upon him a great honour in electing him their president for the ensuing year and in handing over to him these reins of office, I must congratulate our little body of associated quantity surveyors on their selection, for I am sure it would be difficult to find a more suitable gentleman for this onerous post, and that he will fulfil his duties to the best interest of our Institute. (Applause.) My position this evening reminds me of a quotation from my old chief, William Shakespeare: "Some men are born to greatness, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them." This appeals to me in the following manner: The men born to greatness are worthy representatives of the architects and builders I have the pleasure of seeing around me; Mr. Moore has undoubtedly achieved greatness; and I—in having the honour of proposing this toast and presiding at this very happy gathering—have greatness thrust upon me. I do not propose to burden you to a very great extent in referring to our Institute, especially as the members present have attended our annual general meeting this afternoon and have heard and discussed so much about quantities and quantity surveying that will last them well for some good time. I would like, however, for the information of our guests and visitors to say a little in reference to our little Institution. Before the war—that is the way most stories start—there was not very much quantity surveying practised in South Africa. There were a few good men—as instance Mr. Francis Black—but they were not overburdened in practising their art. With "peace" and the great amount of activity in the building trade that followed, a greater demand for the quantity surveyor arose, and several surveyors were found practising. Little bodies of associations were established in the various Colonies of South Africa, and in the Transvaal a proper Institute incorporated was established. About five years ago, a movement was started for unifying all these associations in one South African Institute, and eventually this Institute of Quantity Surveyors was founded with the head office in Johannesburg and branches or, I might call them Provincial Councils, in the other big centres. We soon found that the branches were too cumbersome, and in consequence these were abolished. I have been told on the best authority that after we had brought about union amongst the quantity surveyors, the various Governments of South Africa thought they would try a similar experiment, and I think it likely that they may still take another tip



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from us by abolishing their Provincial Councils. We have now been going for four years, and I am sure we have need to be proud of the position we are in to-day. We have a good membership, and we are in a good financial position, and I think there is no doubt that through our Institute quantity surveying is being brought to that position it should hold in the building profession. (Applause.) Our objects are that bills of quantities should be properly prepared —that they should fulfil their proper purpose—that they should be prepared by competent men, and that the profession should be placed in that position it occupies in European countries. Gentlemen, I ask you to rise and drink the health of our new President, Mr. Thomas Moore, and the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors. (Applause.)

The toast was enthusiastically pledged.

Mr. Moore

who was received, on rising, with loud applause, replied, remarking that he would do everything in his power to forward the interests of the Quantity Surveyors' Institute. He thanked the members sincerely for the honour they had done him in electing him as their president. (Applause.)

Transvaal Institute of Architects

Mr. Francis Black

proposed the toast of the "Transvaal Institute of Architects." In doing so he said: It is with great pleasure that I propose the toast standing in my name, and I would like to join with it the architects of South Africa generally, and in particular Mr. H. G. Veale, one of Johannesburg's leading practitioners and a gentleman with whom I was associated when first I came to South Africa. South Africa has every reason to be proud of the body of men practising architecture, as instanced by the splendid examples of their skill existing throughout the country, and which will serve to stimulate the ambition and act as magnificent models to our children, or rather to those of our children who may elect to adopt architecture as their profession. This being a quantity surveyors' dinner, perhaps I may be permitted to refer to one or two matters of interest to quantity surveyors. With regard to the Architects Registration Act. As surveyors we have not the slightest objection, but we, as surveyors, most strongly object should, either in the Bill or in the by-laws, there be the slightest reference to our profession which might be construed as giving the architect the right to control us. Alternatively, we would welcome a Bill dealing jointly with our interests—we maintain that a quantity surveyor is a separate entity to the architect, and any Bill on these lines should be termed the Architects and Quantity Surveyors Bill. One other point is that I am of opinion that all contractors' schedules should be handed to the architect under seal; if, during the progress of the work, alterations are contemplated, the various bills of variation should be prepared by the surveyor, the contractor should price the same at the schedule rates and give the architect a lump sum price, so much more or less as the case may be. If proceeded with, at the settlement of accounts these variation bills are priced by the surveyor at the schedule rates, and the contractor's figure is adhered to only if correctly priced; if the lump sum given as an extra exceeds the correct figure, the latter is

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taken; if greater, the correct figure is allowed, an omission being similarly dealt with—the lump sum given binds the contractor but not the building owner. (Applause.)

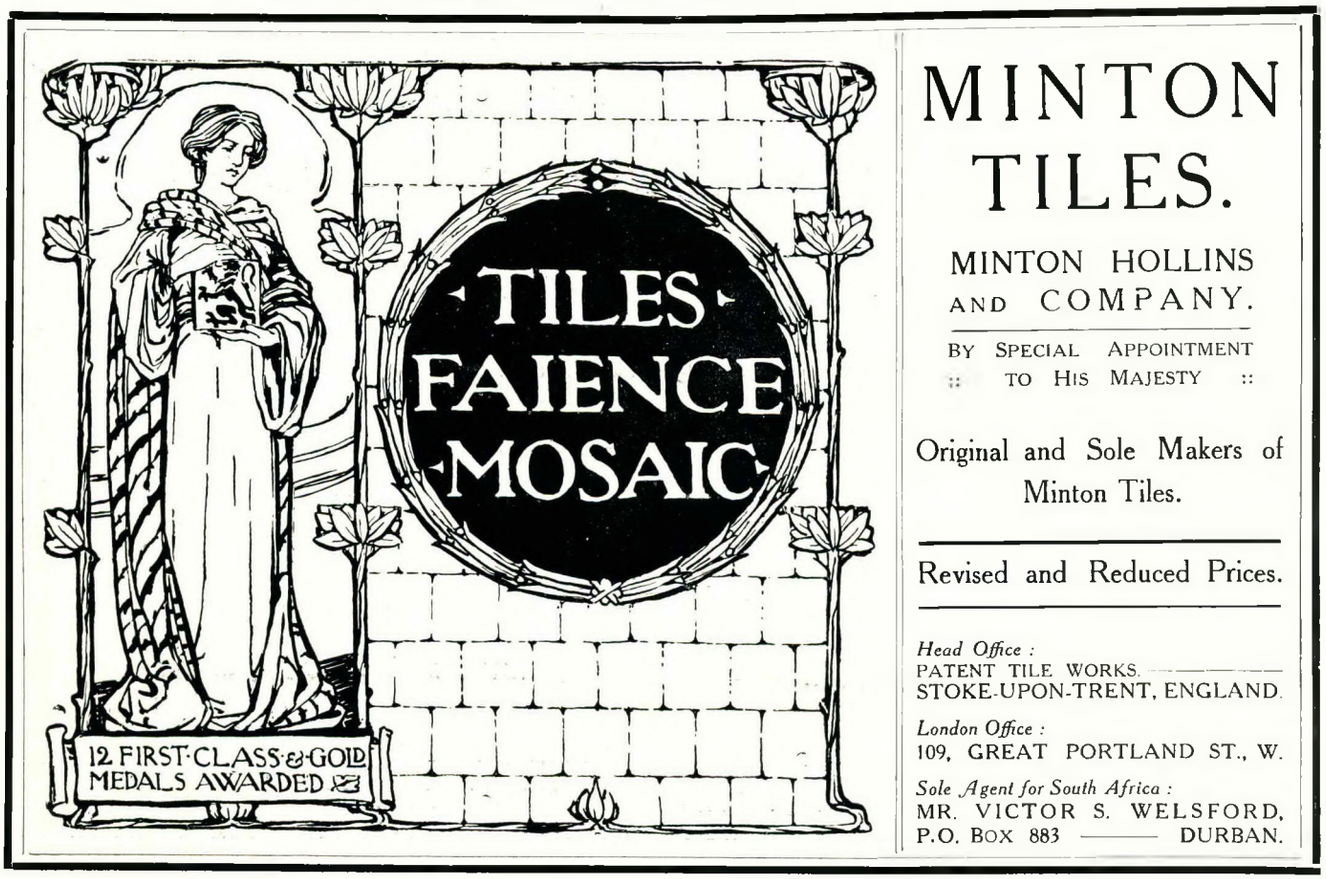
The toast was then honoured with acclamation.

Mr. Veale

replied, and said that it was a happy circumstance that members of the three professions, architects, quantity surveyors, and builders, should meet round one board, thus coming together to prove their friendship and to exchange ideas, which became enlarged by discussion of the various interests concerned. He congratulated the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors on the position it had attained, and was satisfied that the relationship between the architects and the quantity surveyors would be in the future of a more amicable character than it had ever been in the past. With reference to the Registration Bill that was now being prepared for Parliament, he had not the slightest hesitation in saying that some amicable settlement would be arrived at, and he extended the very hearty greetings of the Transvaal Institute of Architects to that of the quantity surveyors. (Applause.)

Mr. E. White

in proposing the toast of the "National Federation of Master Builders," alluded to the fact that the different professions did not often have the opportunity of meeting together, and he sincerely hoped that many such meetings would be arranged in the future, so as to enable them to more thoroughly understand each other and fully discuss matters of interest affecting were very closely connected, although from two different aspects. The surveyor's prime obligation, the quantity surveyors and builders, which interests he said, was to protect the building owner, but at the same time act with impartiality as between building owner and builder. The only way to achieve the latter end was to have a perfect bill of quantities which could be interpreted by builders tendering in only one way, and further a standard contract and conditions of contract used by all architects, so that all speculativeness would be eliminated and all tenderers could price on a common basis; and to attain this end should be the endeavour of all architects, surveyors, and builders. Constant friction arose over the definition of certain clauses in conditions of contract; for instance, provisional sums and prime cost items, which should be settled once and for all, and for the whole Union; even worse friction occurred over vague and badly described items in quantities, and which failed to provide a proper schedule of quantities. He had only touched lightly on the subject, and only for the purpose of showing the necessity of closer and more intimate relations between the various institutes and associations representing the building world. With the passing of the Architects Registration Bill for the Union, a great step would be taken in the proper controlling of that profession, and the interests of the prospective building owners would be better safeguarded. If the registration of the architects was necessary, the control of the quantity surveyor was even far more important to the building public, and it was essential that the status of the quantity surveyor should be recognised, and further should be recognised as an independent profession apart from



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architecture. He did not suggest that an architect should not take out quantities, but he did say that his Institute should not allow him to unless he was qualified to do so. The acceptance of a standard system would effect the solution of the difficulty. In conclusion, he sincerely hoped that the informal discussion they recently had with the architects would bear fruit, and pave a way to the solution of the problem. (Applause.)

Mr. Thomas Clark

replied, and said it was a source of satisfaction and delight for him to be present at what he was glad to know was to be an annual banquet of the South African Quantity Surveyors. He assured the quantity surveyors that the National Federation of Building Trade Employers in South Africa had the very greatest sympathy with the Quantity Surveyors' Institute, as while they were qualified builders they did not want in any way to take out quantities. At the same time, the quantity surveyors must not be over anxious or desirous of moving too quickly in a new country like this, and he counselled patience, perseverance, and tact. (Applause.) The National Federation of Building Trade Employers was doing everything it could to raise the building trade generally, and he personally was proud to be a builder. In these days everything seemed to be tending to specialisation, and he felt that the quantity surveyors had a large place to fill in the up-building of the three allied professions. He was satisfied that the architects, quantity surveyors, and builders would eventually work together for the purpose of raising the status of their professions, and this would result in more satisfactory work not only for the architect and the builder, but for the building owner. One thing he would like to lay particular stress on was the great necessity for standardised quantities throughout South Africa, and he trusted that the quantity surveyors and architects would use their utmost endeavours to secure these, for at present there were scarcely two sets of quantities taken out alike. (Applause.)

Mr. McCubbin

proposed the health of the "Guests."

The toast having been duly pledged,

Mr. Meischke

replied. He counselled the quantity surveyors to go slowly. They must, he said, realise their environment and recognise that it was first the architect and then the builder who paved the way for the necessity of quantity surveying at all. Builders required time to accustom themselves to the requirements of quantity surveyors, and though he was satisfied in his own mind that builders were all in favour of quantities being taken out by qualified men, he hoped thus meeting together the result would be that the quantity surveyors would be more disposed to consider the builder in a spirit of give and take. (Applause.)

Presentation

An interesting part of the proceedings was when Mr. H. Bell-John, on behalf of the Institute, presented Mr. Adams with a handsome tantalus, bearing a beautiful inscription which had been specially designed by Mr. V. Rees-Poole, architect, of Pretoria.

Mr. Bell-John

made a suitable speech in conveying the good wishes of all the members of the Institute to Mr. Adams.

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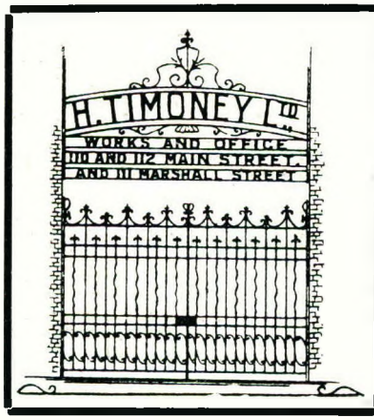
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He said he must keep them there a little longer. He had a pleasant duty to perform. He had been asked by the other members of the Institute to express their gratitude to Mr. Adams for the hard work he had put in during his three years as president in furthering the interests of the Institute and the profession as a whole. Mr. Adams had given a great deal of time and energy to this object, and on his relinquishing his position as president the other members wished him (Mr. Adams) to accept a small memento of his term of office. [Mr. Bell-John here exhibited a handsome silver-mounted tantalus.] Proceeding, the speaker added some humorous remarks as to the uses of the decanters, and expressed the hope that after such explanation no evil effects would result from the possession of the tantalus.

Mr. Bell-John then formally made the presentation to Mr. Adams amidst applause.

Mr. Adams

feelingly replied as follows: Gentlemen, although I cannot say I am altogether taken by surprise, I think you will all agree that the position is at least rather embarrassing. Words fail me to express adequately my sincere thanks for the excellent manner you have received my toast, and my thanks to the members of our Institute for their kindness and appreciation in making me this excellent present. I can assure them that I shall treasure this memento all my life. During my three years of presidentship I know that the Institute has grown and advanced very considerably, but that is not so much due to me, but to the circumstances of progress and advancement consequent upon the good work done by my predecessors. It is, I am sure, due to such men as our two past presidents present here this evening that we are to a very large extent in the happy position we find ourselves to-day. Mr. Bell-John, as president of the late Transvaal Institute of Quantity Surveyors, did excellent work, and in Mr. Francis Black, who for two years was our president, it would be difficult to find a more excellent and worthy officer. I sincerely wish the Institute every success, and will use every endeavour to work for its continued prosperity. (Applause.)

During the evening the proceedings were interspersed with harmony to which Mr. Phillips, Mr. C. W. Mackenzie, and Mr. A. W. Springthorpe contributed, while Mr. W. Harrison acted as accompanist. The function concluded with the company joining in singing the National Anthem.

THE NEW OFFICERS.

At the annual meeting which was held previous to the banquet, the chairman (Mr. H. A. Adams), in submitting his annual report, referred to the excellent progress made by the Institute, and to the worthy position it held among the professional and business communities of South Africa.

The following officers were elected for the current year: President, Mr. T. Moore; vice-president, Mr. E. White; secretary, Mr. J. W. Cowling; council, Messrs. Adams, McCubbin, Hickman, Stratton, Priestley, and Puntis.

THE MASTER BUILDERS' CONGRESS

REPORT BY MR. W. J. McWILLIAMS, REPRESENTING THE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION

We have pleasure in giving the report of Mr. W. J. McWilliams on the proceedings of the recent annual Congress of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers in South Africa, held at Port Elizabeth, as follows :—

To the Council of the Society of Architects, South African Branch.

Gentlemen,—Agreeably with the request of your Honorary Secretary, I attended the above Congress as your delegate, and beg to report upon the matters of interest to our profession that were discussed thereat.

Item 6 on the Agenda—System of Tendering

"That, in the event of the amount of any tender having to be modified, the architect shall select the tender he considers most suitable, and only the contractor whose tender has been so selected shall be dealt with in connection with any alteration of the original plans and specifications or bills of quantities. Where bills of quantities are not supplied, the contractor shall, at the request of the architect, produce his tender-book and make such additions or reductions as may be necessary according to the prices entered therein. Article 34. That every member of this association tendering for the whole of any contract and employing sub-contractors shall, within twenty-four hours of closing time of each and every contract, post up at his office the names of the sub-contractors whose prices he has used for the various trades, and shall not receive (or return unopened) any tender or tenders from sub-contractors without selecting one of such and posting as above, always provided that such tender or tenders are correctly endorsed on the envelope, stating for what trade and job they are for."

This resolution was carried.

Item 8 on Agenda—Lien Law—Hypothec Commission:

"(a) That Congress be asked to pass a resolution in reference to maintaining existing builders' rights under common law; (b) that a committee be appointed to guard the interests of builders should these be jeopardised by any recommendations of the above Commission."

Both clauses of this resolution were carried after slight amendment. I was asked for an opinion, and stated that, as it would protect the builder better and lead to less litigation, a special clause should be introduced into the standard conditions of contract to reserve to the builder the right to call upon the building owner to provide adequate security, either through the bank or a similar institution, for the due payment of the instalments.

And after discussion it was further carried that the Federation Executive be asked to deal with the matter when framing standard conditions of contract.

Item 9 on Agenda—Issuing of Quantities

It was carried that no member of the Federation tender for any works exceeding £500 for which quantities were not issued.

It was explained by the president that a committee of the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors

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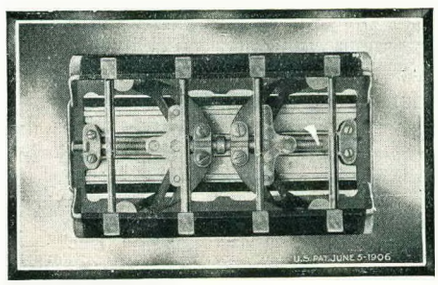
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was going into the question of standardising bills of quantities and that the work was not yet completed.

Item 10 on Agenda—Importing Materials

It was carried that in bills of quantities provisional items, for imports and generally, should be carried to the money column with ten per cent. added as builder's profit. The feeling in regard to this was that otherwise the unscrupulous builder added nothing for profit and depended upon "squeezing" the merchant or manufacturer, and in the event of failure in this respect, was compelled to scamp work in order to come out on a contract wherein the provisional sums aggregated a considerable figure, whereas the ten per cent. added and carried to the money column necessitated the remainder of the bill being scheduled proportionately low, a risk no builder would take to ensure a successful tender.

Item 17 on Agenda—Conditions of Contract, etc.

I regret to say I was unable to attend the session during which this item was discussed, but I understand that the discussion that took place chiefly concerned the Public Works Department.

It was explained by the President that the Executive of the Federation had not yet completed the draft for model conditions of contract, but that all centres would have an opportunity to fully discuss it when it was ready.

Item 18 on Agenda—Standardisation Scheme

It was explained by the President that a committee in Johannesburg, under Professor Orr, of the Transvaal Technical College, was at work framing a proper standard for all building material, which would greatly facilitate the drafting of specifications and quantities and avoid many of the disputes at present arising over descriptions.

Good Feeling

The Congress was most successful, and all through the discussions were carried out in a most dignified manner, and it gave me much pleasure to see the good feeling expressed towards the architectural profession generally and the expressed desire of the various delegates to co-operate with the architects for the general improvement of building methods.

Cordial Reception

I was very cordially received by the Federation as your delegate, and every possible courtesy was shown to me. Any opinions I expressed at the discussions were explained to be my own personal views, and that I had not the power to voice the societies I represented there, as I took it that I was only appointed to follow the procedure of the Congress and report thereon.

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Drawings required: Ground and first-floor plans, two elevations, one section, all to one-eighth inch scale, and perspective of proposed building.

Designs to be in before August 20th to enable decision of judge to be announced in September issue.

Judge: Mr. D. Ivor Lewis, M.S.A., Hon. Secretary of the Society of Architects (South African Branch).

General Conditions for the Competitors

1. All designs to be forwarded to the Editor of "The African Architect," 17 and 18, Provident Buildings, Fox Street, Johannesburg. P.O. Box 4651.

2. There must be at least three entries in each subject.

3. There is no entrance fee. A sealed envelope, with the competitor's name therein, must accompany each design attached thereto, no names or nom-de-plume to appear on either envelope or design.

4. In every case, though "The African Architect" reserves the right of publication, designs sent in will be the property of the competitor.

5. Designs must be sufficiently prepaid for return postage.

The competitive designs will be submitted to the gentleman above mentioned, whose decision shall be final.

Alberton River Sand

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No. 11.

As only one candidate entered for this competition, and condition No. 2 having thus been unfulfilled, the prize cannot be awarded. The following remarks, however, by Mr. E. H. Waugh, A.R.I.B.A., on the design sent in are of interest:—

The Drawings.—Although finished drawings are not expected, the sketch drawings should show evidence of good ability in draughtsmanship.

The planning possesses some good features, watch room and battery being well placed next to engine room. The stables are not, however, quite correct, as they are placed right across the back entrance to engine room, thus preventing the return of the fire engines by the back entrance, which is necessary, particularly with horsed machines which cannot be propelled backwards like the newer motor machines. The stables should only extend halfway across engine room, thus leaving one back door for returning machines.

First Floor.—District Officer's Quarters.—The windows at back of living room should not be right over the stable, and the want of a passage between the rooms is a drawback.

The Outside Buildings.—The workshop should have doors to admit the largest fire engine and be large enough to allow free passage around the machine for repairing. The doors should be at end of shop to allow machine to be run in.

Elevation.—The front elevation is weak and wanting in definite character. The design would be improved by a complete study of the best examples found in architectural history.

Section.—This shows an excavation under building which would admit rain water.

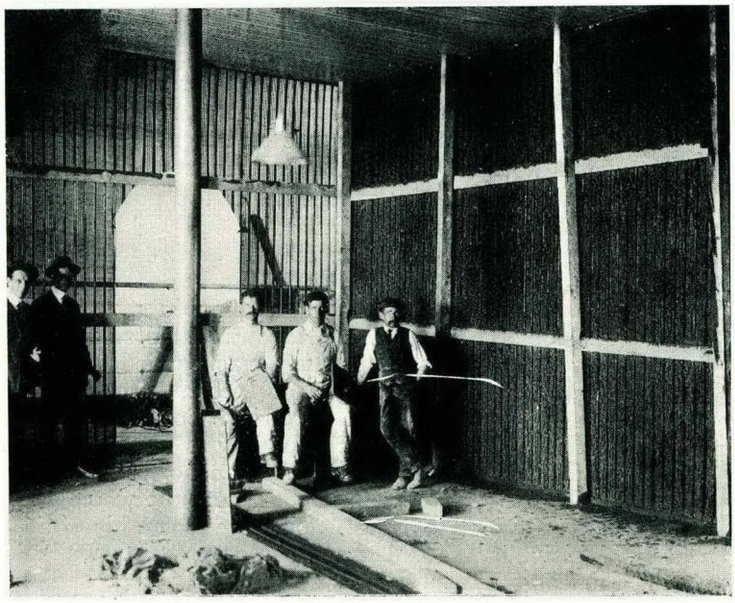
Generally the planning possesses some merit, and with further study the candidate will improve the foundation he already possesses.

ALBERTON RIVER SAND.

We have seen a sample of this sand. It looks clean and sharp. In view of the large quantity of inferior sand which has up to the present been used in Johannesburg and district, it is satisfactory to note that a really good sand can now be obtained. We understand Messrs. M. and W. Fleming hold the rights over ten miles of the river, so that there should be no difficulty about supplies.

SCHOOL DESKS.

We have recently examined some exceedingly well-made desks of local manufacture, which were submitted by Mr. R. H. Morris, 53, Rose Street, Cape Town. The specimens which we saw were a dual desk, a single locker desk, and a kindergarten desk (dual). The workmanship in every case was very good, the woodwork being American oak, cut, finished, and fitted in South Africa, and the iron frames are of a specially good design and are cast in South Africa. The designs are of very comfortable construction and give full support to the back of the pupil. We notice that the firm has already secured important contracts, and this is not surprising in view of the standard of workmanship and the good value of the article which they supply.—Extract from "Educational Gazette" of Province of Cape of Good Hope, November 30th, 1911.



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The photo shows a partition made with Hy-Rib in Johannesburg. The partition shewn has been plastered one side, after the plaster has set, the temporary struts and runners are removed and the other side is plastered. These partitions are fire-proof, they do not need special beams to support them, they save space being 2½in.—3in. thick. They are being used in most of the recent buildings.

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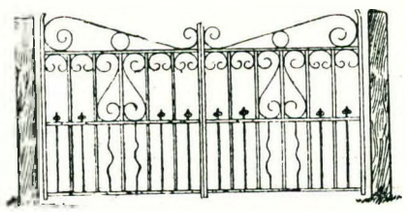
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THE NEW GERMAN CHURCH

This illustration shows one of the most interesting new buildings in Johannesburg—the new Lutheran German Church, which stands on a rocky site just below the German School on Hospital Hill.

The building, which was erected by Mr. A. Stuart, of Germiston, from designs prepared by Mr. Theophile Schaerer, architect, Johannesburg, is after the Italian Romanesque style. Accommodation is provided for a congregation of two hundred and fifty people. The general plan of the church is a cross, comprising a nave, with aisles and clerestorey over, a north transept seventeen feet wide, and a half-transept on the south side, also a small apsidal chancel at the west end, with vestry adjoining and a chair store underneath. A porte-cochere and entrance loggia are provided at the east end, also the main entrance vestibule, which is under the tower; both these entrances give access to an inner vestibule which has swing doors to each of the aisles of the nave.

The tower, which stands nearly eighty feet above the roadway, has two floors, the upper one for the belfry has four large louvre windows, and the lower one, for the organ, opens directly on to the choir gallery, which is reached by a staircase adjoining the main entrance lobby.

Externally, the building is of brickwork rough casted grey, with apex stone dressing to the window and door openings, buttresses, and the whole of the east gable and staircase-walls and the lower portion of the tower. The whole of the roofs are covered with half-round Italian tiles from Vereeniging.

The internal doors and woodwork generally are of Oregon pine stained a dark brown, the external doors being of teak. The windows in the church itself are of obscured leaded glass in steel frames, those in the staircase and vestry are of Oregon. The internal walls of the church are plastered between the stone dressing, with the exception of the staircase, inner vestibule, and aisle, which are faced with Vereeniging pressed bricks. The flooring is of Oregon in narrow widths, the chancel floor being raised three steps. The pulpit and font are both executed in Apex stone. The roof timbers are of Oregon stained similar to the doors. The electric lighting was carried out by Mr. W. Haine, being the gift of Messrs. Siemens, Ltd., and the A.E.G. Berlin Electrical Company of South Africa. The cost of the building is about £6,400.

Ockerse Street runs along the northern boundary of the site, and in order to complete the whole scheme in a dignified way, it would be desirable that the Municipality should carry out a retaining wall along the eastern boundary facing Twist Street and make a staircase in order to give access to the church from Twist Street. We sincerely hope that the City Fathers will see the necessity of this work being carried out and vote the comparatively small amount required.

We understand that it was in no way the architect's desire to fix a cross on top of the tower, but that he was compelled to do so in order to meet the wishes of the building committee.

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RHODES' MEMORIAL

The proposal to inaugurate a fund towards the erection of a national South African memorial in honour of the late Right Hon. Cecil John Rhodes was accepted enthusiastically by a large gathering in the Town House, Cape Town, on the 16th of April, 1902, and since that date subscriptions have been received from all parts of the sub-continent. Earl Grey, who performed the dedication ceremony on July 5th, has, from the inauguration of the scheme, taken great interest in it, and has done much to push it forward in the Mother Country.

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE

MOFFAT v. SOUTH AFRICAN BREWERIES, LIMITED

In the Rand Division of the Supreme Court on July 17th Mr. Justice Ward read the judgment of the Hon. J. P. de Villiers, Judge President, in the case of J. A. Moffat v. the South African Breweries. Plaintiff, said the judgment, was an architect and sued for £1,333 18s. 3d. fees alleged to be due to him by the defendants. In March, 1910, plaintiff was employed at a remuneration to be calculated on the scale of fees laid down by the Transvaal Association of Architects to prepare certain plans for additions to the defendant's brewery premises in Johannesburg, and to estimate the probable cost. Plans and estimates were prepared. About a year after, in April, 1911, plaintiff was again instructed to draw fresh plans, specifications, and bills of quantities, and to advertise for tenders. Plaintiff alleged that he prepared the plans, etc., and the lowest tender received was £24,253. His claim was for £606, being two and a half per cent. on the lowest tender for preparing the plans, and a further £606 for preparing the bills of quantities, while £121 was claimed for calling for tenders. The defendants pleaded a general denial, and alleged they instructed plaintiff to draw specifications under the conditions of the usual building contract, that was for a lump sum, and that bills of quantities should not form part of the contract. The defendants alleged omissions, inaccuracies, and deficiencies in the plans and specifications, but they admitted their instructions to plaintiff to prepare bills of quantities, adding, however, that these were so unskilfully and negligently prepared as not to agree with the plans and specifications, and were guaranteed to make contractors tender for a larger sum than would otherwise have been necessary. In the matter of the percentage charged he (the learned judge) had not much difficulty in decising against the contention of the plaintiff. Under the by-laws, an architect was paid one and a quarter per cent. for preliminary sketches to focus the requirements of his employer. In this case the employer was in London, and it was not clear that the employer's requirements had been sufficiently focussed at any time before April, 1911. His Lordship said the defendants had failed to establish their plea that they had instructed the plaintiff to draw the plans and specifications for a lump sum contract, plaintiff being evidently under the impression that it was to be a quantity contract. The plaintiff admitted they were not completed working drawings, and he claimed for them merely on the basis of sketch plans. Touching bills of quantities, his Lordship said, after careful consideration of the evidence given by the various architects and quantity surveyors, he had come to the conclusion that no two persons would draft quantities in quite the same way, and that probably no bills of quantities could be drafted to which exception could not be taken on the ground of omissions. (Laughter.) Different quantity surveyors had different methods, and each was inclined to the opinion that his was the only correct one. (Laughter.) In such an immense amount of detail it was small wonder that one man might omit what another considered should be stated. He (his Lordship) had come to the conclusion that the defendants had failed to substantiate any of their pleas. The plaintiff had discharged his duties with the requisite amount of skill and diligence, and, incidentally, had vindicated his reputation. The only question that remained was the remuneration due to him for the work done. Under the circumstances, he (his Lordship) had come to the conclusion that the amount of £600 in all would be a fair and adequate remuneration for the services of the plaintiff. As the amount of the tender was £303 3s. 3d., and this had been paid to plaintiff, there must be judgment for the plaintiff for £296 16s. 9d., with costs of suit.

WHAT IS ARCHITECTURE?

Architecture is the art which so disposes and adorns the edifices raised by man, for whatsoever uses, that the sight of them may contribute to his mental health, power, and pleasure.

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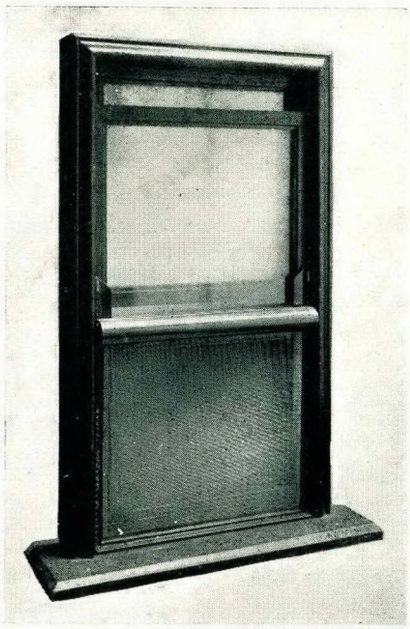
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POWER IN ART AND ARCHITECTURE

These are the simple perceptions of the mental or bodily powers exerted in the production of any work of art. According to the dignity and degree of the power perceived is the dignity of the idea; but the whole class of ideas is received by the intellect, and they excite the best of the moral feelings, veneration, and the desire of exertion. As a species, therefore, they are one of the noblest connected with art; but the difference in degree of dignity among themselves are infinite—from that of the fingers, to that of the most exalted intellect. For instance, when we see an Australian aboriginal's boomerang carved all over, on both sides, we have a conception of prolonged manual labour, and are gratified in proportion to the supposed expenditure of time and exertion. These are, indeed, powers of a low order, yet the pleasure arising from the conception of them enters very largely indeed into our admiration of all elaborate ornament, architectural decoration, etc. The delight with which we look on the fretted front of Rouen Cathedral depends in no small degree on the simple perception of time employed and labour expended in its production. But it is a right; that is, an enobling pleasure, even in this its lowest phase; and even the pleasure felt by those persons who praise a design for its "finish" or its "work," which is one precisely of the same kind, would be right if it did not imply a want of perception of the higher powers which render work unnecessary. If to the evidence of labour be added that of strength or dexterity, the sensation of power is yet increased; if to dexterity be added that of ingenuity and judgment, it is multiplied tenfold, and so on through all the subjects of action of body or mind, we receive the more exalted pleasure from the more exalted power.

So far the nature and effects of ideas of power cannot but be admitted by all. But the circumstance which I wish especially to insist upon, with respect to them, is one which may not perhaps be so readily allowed, namely, that they are independent of the nature or worthiness of the object from which they are received, and that whatever has been the subject of a great power, whether there be intrinsic and apparent worthiness in itself or not, bears with it the evidence of having been so, and is capable of giving the ideas of power, and the consequent pleasures, in their full degree. For, observe that a thing is not properly said to have been the result of a great power, on which only some part of that power has been expended. For instance, a nut may be cracked by a steam engine, but it has not in doing so been the subject of the power of the engine. And this it is falsely said of great men, that they waste their lofty powers on unworthy objects. The object may be dangerous or useless, but as far as the phrase has reference to difficulty of performance, it cannot be unworthy of the power which it brings into exertion, because nothing can become a subject of action to a greater power which can be accomplished by a less, any more than bodily strength can be exerted where there is nothing to resist it. So then men may let their great powers lie dormant while they employ their mean and petty powers on mean and petty objects. It is, however, physically impossible to employ a great power except on a great object. Consequently, wherever power of any kind or degree has been exerted, the marks and evidence of it are stamped upon its results. It is impossible that it should be lost or wasted or without record, even in the estimation of a hair. Therefore, whatever has been the subject of a great power bears about with it the image of that which created it, and is what is commonly called "excellent." This is the true meaning of the word "excellent," as distinguished from the terms "beautiful," "useful," "good," etc.

The faculty of perceiving what powers are required for the production of a thing is the faculty of perceiving excellence. It is this faculty in which men, even of the most cultivated taste, must always be wanting, unless they have added practice to reflection; because none can estimate the power manifested in victory, unless they have personally measured the strength to be overcome. Though, therefore, it is possible, by the cultivation of sensibility and judgment to become capable of distinguishing what is beautiful, it is totally impossible without practice and knowledge to distinguish or feel what is excellent. The beauty of a great classical structure may be appreciated by all, but it is only to the architect that its excellence is manifest. Wherever, then, difficulty has been overcome, there is excellence; and, therefore, in order to prove a work excellent, we have only to prove the difficulty of its production; whether it be useful or beautiful is another question; its excellence depends on its difficulty alone. Nor is it a false or diseased taste which looks for the overcoming of difficulties, and has pleasure in it, even without any view to resultant good. It has been made part of our moral nature that we should have a pleasure in encountering and conquering opposition, for the sake of the struggle and the victory, not for the sake of any after result; and not only our own victory, but the perception of that of another is, in all cases, the source of pure and ennobling pleasure.

Whenever the visible victory over difficulties is found painful or in false taste, it is owing to the preference of an inferior to a great difficulty, or to the false estimate of what is difficult and what is not. It is far more difficult to be simple than to be complicated; far more difficult to sacrifice skill and cease exertion in the proper place than to expend both indiscriminately.

It is in the perfection and precision of the instantaneous line the claim to immortality is laid. If this truth of truths be present, all the other qualities of execution may well be spared. "Qu'ils n'ont demeure qu'un quart d'heure a la faire." We may well reply with the truthful Alceste, "Monsieur, le temps ne fait rien a l'affaire." The more unpretending, quiet, and retiring the means, the more impressive the effect. Any ostentation, any attempt to render lines attractive at the expense of their meaning, is vice. That execution which is the most incomprehensible, and therefore likest to Nature, defies imitation, and is best. Such are the principal modes in which the ideas of power may become a dangerous attraction. But in all cases where they lead us astray it will be found that the error is caused by our preferring victory over a great and apparent difficulty; to victory over

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a great but concealed one ; and so that we keep this distinction constantly in view, between the sensation and the intellectual estimate of power, we shall always find the ideas of power a just and high source of pleasure in every kind and grade of art. We shall find, in the course of our investigation, that beauty and difficulty go together, and that they are only mean and paltry difficulties which it is wrong or contemptible to wrestle with. Be it remembered then—Power is never wasted.—"Art and Architecture."

REVIEW OF BOOKS

"THE OFFICIAL MUNICIPAL YEAR BOOK FOR SOUTH AFRICA, 1912." Joint editors : W. P. M. Henderson, Assistant Town Clerk, Durban, and Francis G. Pay, Cape Town. Published by Francis G. Pay, P.O. Box 1136, Cape Town.

We have received a copy of "The Official Municipal Year Book for South Africa," 1912 edition. The book is nearly one hundred pages bigger than last year, and the information of last year has been considerably augmented. A special tabulated form comprehensively deals with the South African electrical supply works. Data relating to municipalities and local boards has been revised, and the section for divisional councils added. Comparative statistics have been compiled from figures relating to 1911 on financial operations, tramway undertakings, water supply, electric light, etc., in such a manner as to form a comprehensive reference to the whole of the South African local governing bodies. It will be noted that there are several interesting articles, technical and otherwise, which should prove of use to those interested in local government, including one on "Municipal Unification in the Cape Peninsula," by Mr. John Parker. The mines of the Transvaal have subscribed, and a special mining article has been contributed by Mr. E. W. Buxton, of the "Star," Johannesburg. The book of five hundred and sixty-four pages, bound in cloth, is published at six shillings per copy, Messrs. Juta and Co. being the selling agents throughout the country.

TOMB OF JAMES McNEILL WHISTLER.

Hogarth's tomb, erected soon after his death on the south side of the parish church, has long made Chiswick graveyard famous, and now the monument just completed in memory of James McNeill Whistler, nine years after his death, will further add to its interest.

"SHAKESPEARE'S ENGLAND," EARL'S COURT.

For the exhibition at Earl's Court some models of old buildings have been made by Mr. E. Lutyens. Amongst the typical buildings represented are—in the Ducal Hall—Shakespeare's house ; St. Mary's Church and Ford's Hospital, Coventry ; the Windsor Cloisters ; Ledbury Hall ; and the old House, temp. the Commonwealth, of Dixter. There are also reproductions of the Fortune Theatre, London ; Queens' College, Cambridge, and St. John's College, Oxford ; Rushton and Compton Wynyates ; Ockwells ; Salisbury Cross ; and some of the houses in Stamford. In the lake is a model of the "Revenge," built under the superintendence of Mr. Seymour Lucas, R.A.

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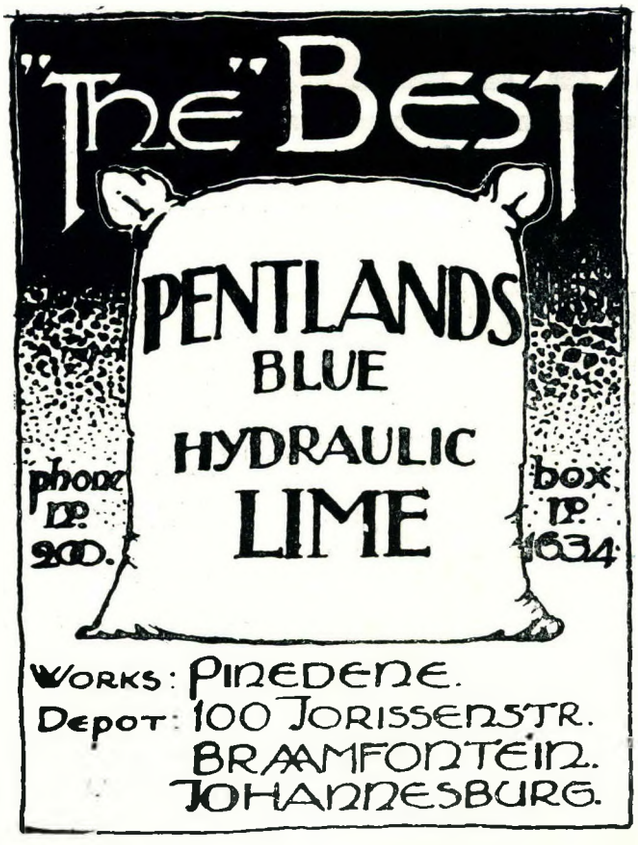
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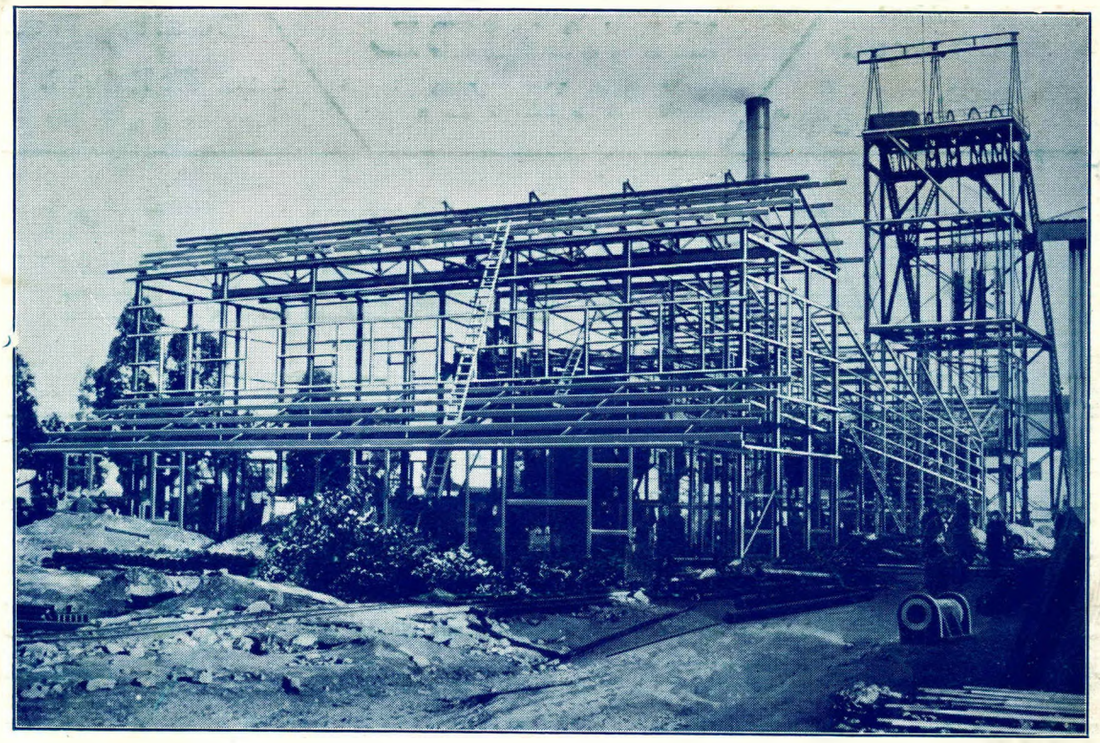
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