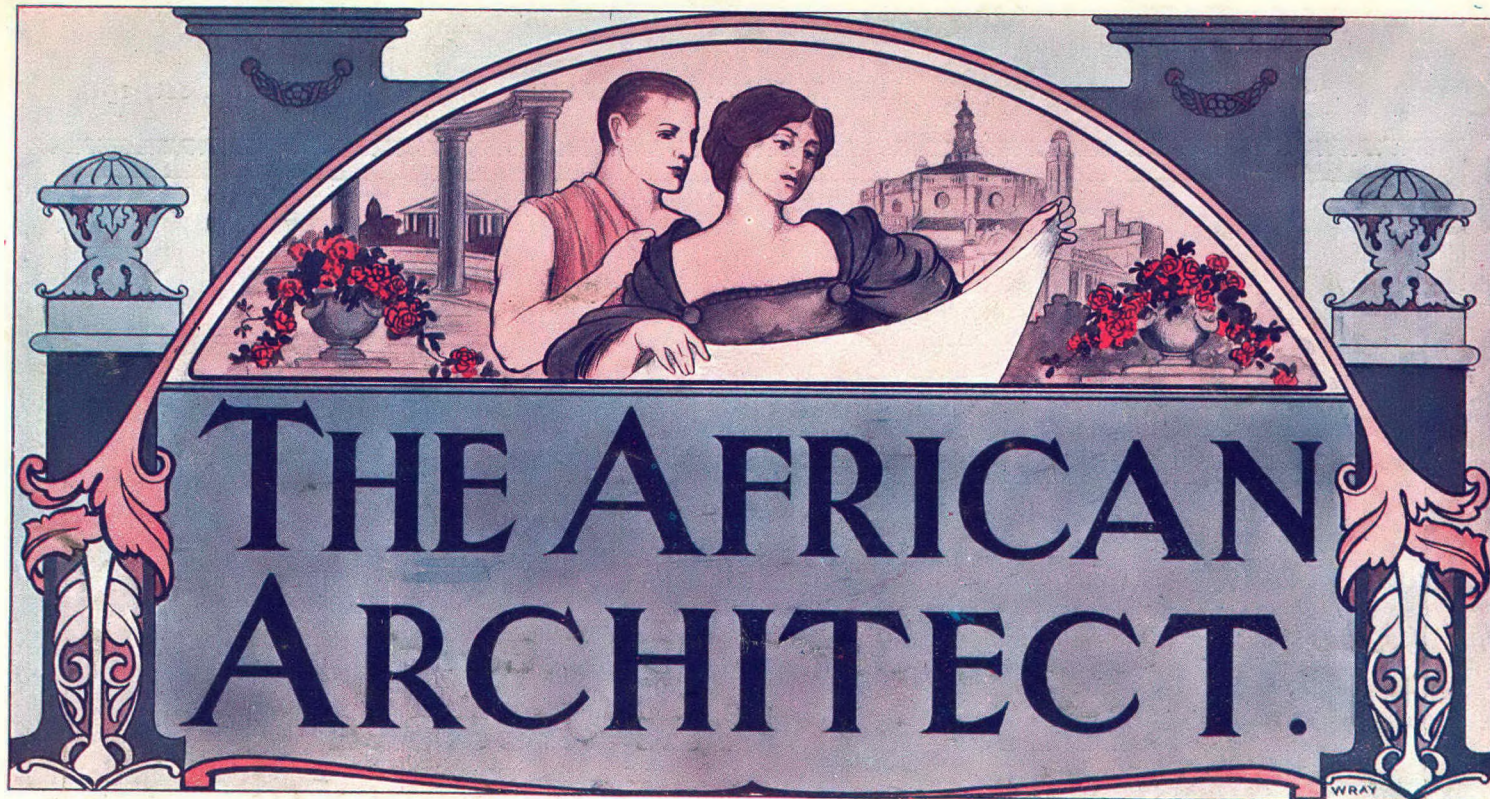




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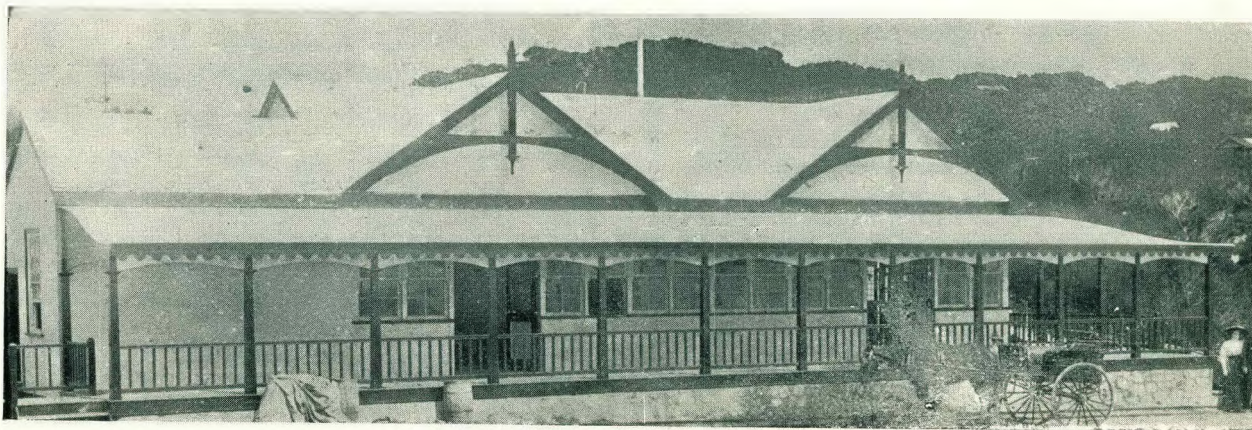
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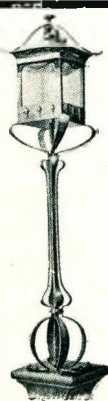
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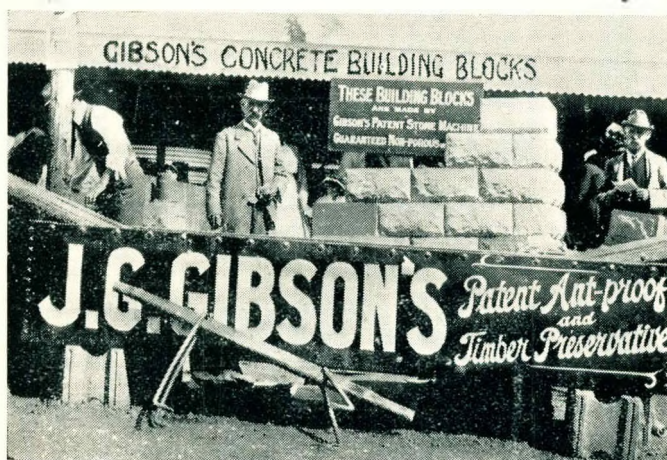
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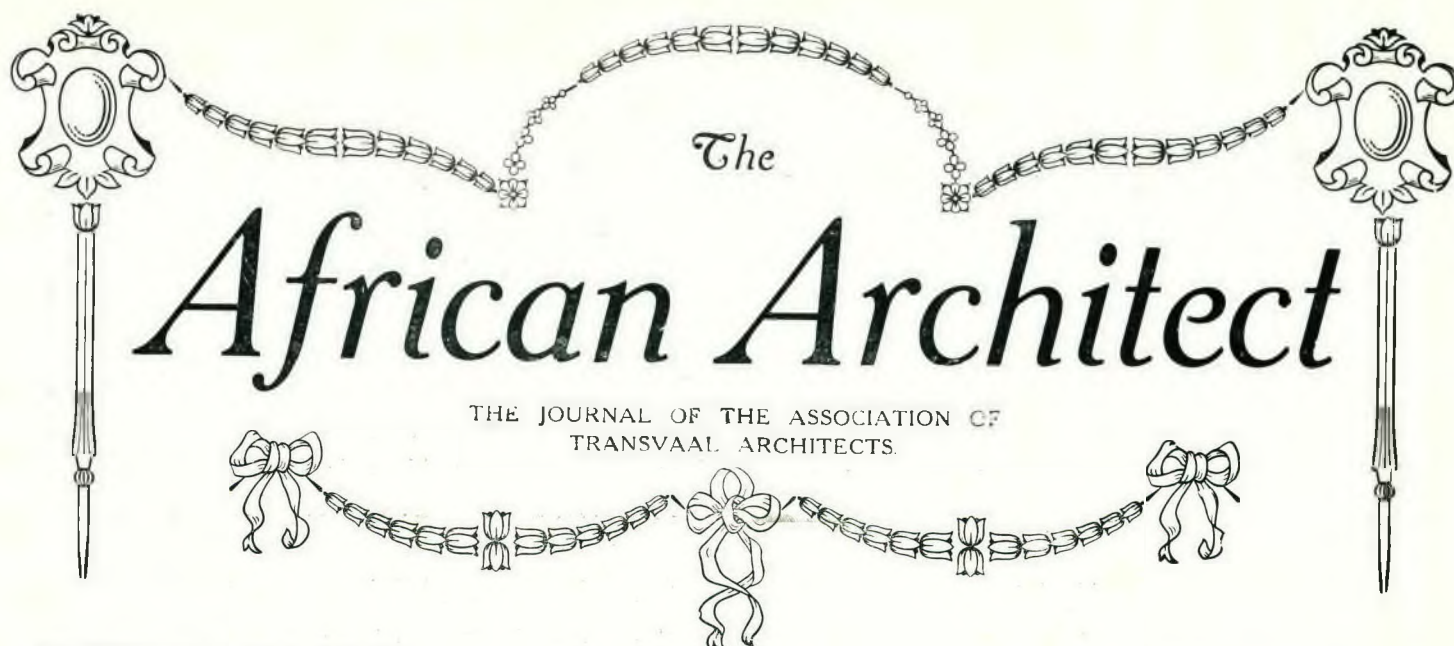
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EDITORIAL COMMENTS

Style in Architecture.

In "The Builder" which came to hand two mails ago there is a letter by Mr. W. R. Lethaby on the vexed question of style in architecture, apparently in reply to the address at the R.I.B.A., by Mr. Hastings. It is so fundamental and puts the entire case for modern work in a nutshell that we have pleasure in reproducing it in another column.

Cape Institute of Architects.

We have to thank the hon. secretary (Mr. E. Austin Cooke) of the Cape Institute of Architects (in alliance with the R.I.B.A.) for having forwarded us a copy of the calendar issued for the 14th session, 1913-14. It contains a full report of the annual meeting, which has already appeared in our columns. The following is a syllabus of current meetings:—August 14th, discussion on Mr. W. J. Delbridge's paper; September 18th, paper by Mr. M. B. Torstenson, "Some Remaining Mediaeval Timber Structures in Norway"; October 16th, paper by Mr. R. A. Piercy (in conjunction with the Society of Engineers), "The Adderley Street Pier"; November 20th, paper by Mr. A. T. Babbs, "Methods of Contracting for Building Works." A visit to the Joint Municipal Abattoirs at Nieuwe Molen will be made towards the end of the session.

Cession of Payments.

The Executive Council of the Master Builders' Federation held an important meeting recently in Durban. There is one notable feature about these meetings of the Master Builders, and that is the publicity they give to the views held on the different matters affecting their great trade. Mention of a few of these subjects will be of interest to the architectural profession. At the Congress meeting, held in April, the matter of cession of payments by contractors received much discussion. It would seem

that there is more in this than appears on the surface. These cessions are by no means unknown apparently in South Africa, but we feel sure that private architects, as well as the Government, ought to immediately take steps to put a stop to this practice, which, viewed from whatever standpoint one cares to look at it, cannot under any circumstances be commended.

A New Phase.

It appears, but for the truth of it we will not pretend to vouch, that in certain instances the sureties also supply materials but not all the necessary articles to complete the job, some of which are supplied by other merchants. On the contractor finding himself in difficulties the surety, it is said, would then, of course, have necessarily to step in to complete the work. While he was safeguarded in every fashion by having a cession of payments due on the contract, other merchants, creditors in the estate, would find themselves in the very unfortunate position of having to rank as ordinary creditors. Such a state of affairs is deplorable in the extreme, but we feel sure that such extraordinary circumstances are few and far between, and certainly reputable merchants operating in this country would never countenance such a reprehensible practice.

The Society of Architects.

The following gentlemen have agreed to act as Honorary Corresponding Members of Committee of the South African Branch: Frederick John Ing, Holts Buildings, Durban; W. J. McWilliams, 4 and 6, Library Buildings, Port Elizabeth; Adolph G. Howard, Rockville, Beach Road, Sea Point, Capetown. The Committee of the South African Branch feel that by appointing corresponding members of the branch, the following results will be obtained: (1) That the interests of the Society will be furthered in South Africa. (2) It is thought that information may be obtained which will be of sufficient interest to the architectural profession, and especially to the mem-

bers of the Society of Architects, to be printed in the "Journal of the Society of Architects." (3) It will be a great convenience to the branch to have a member of the Society to assist them in organising the examinations in various parts of South Africa.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRIES

So many enquiries are made personally at this office concerning many matters connected with the profession, that we now find it expedient and only possible to answer these through the medium of this journal. In future, therefore, members are requested to send their enquiries direct to the Editor of "The African Architect," P.O. Box 4651, Johannesburg.

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"JUSTICE."—Your letter and copies of correspondence have been handed over to the Association of Transvaal Architects for consideration. By the way, a four-ounce article does not pass through the Post Office for twopence.

"CONTRIBUTED."—A good article, but you can't pile the stuff on to us as original; we happen to take the "Building News," and read the matter with interest in one of the May issues of that journal.

"G.S."—The Cape, Natal and Transvaal Institutes of Architects. We understand that there is no Institute in Rhodesia or the Orange Free State.

"J. DE F."—We can only refer you to our reply to your question as appearing in our last issue.

"ADVERTISER."—You can obtain all particulars at this office any time you are passing.

"AGGRIEVED."—Idiotic, of course. But the man is within his rights, and we understand has just as much legal claim to the title as yourself.

"VALVE."—We know nothing of it.

THE DANGER TO ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Inspection by Architects

In view of the disquieting report drawn up by Sir Francis Fox on the dangers threatening the stability of St. Paul's Cathedral, Mr. Mervyn Macartney, F.R.I.B.A., the surveyor to the cathedral, invited the members of the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects to pay a visit to the cathedral, and, guided by himself and Sir Francis Fox, to inspect the fabric and view the evidences of injury caused by the instability of the foundations. Accordingly two parties of leading architects, including Mr. Reginald Blomfield, A.R.A., president of the R.I.B.A., have inspected the cathedral.

THE CAPE INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

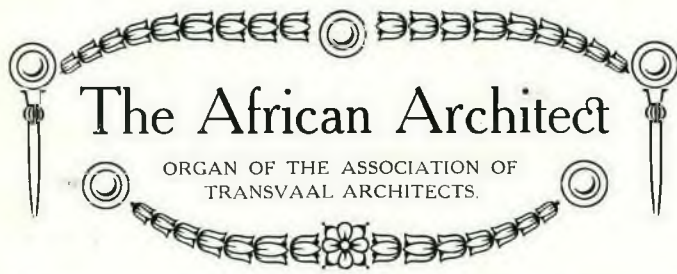
The Cape Institute of Architects was founded in 1899 for the advancement of the profession of architect; for promoting and facilitating the acquisition of a knowledge of the various arts and sciences connected therewith, and for the consideration of questions of professional practice and public interest. In 1907 the Institute became allied with the Royal Institute of British Architects. The meetings of the Institute are held at No. 6, Church Square, Capetown, on or about the second Thursday of each month, from April to November. Papers are read and professional questions and matters of public interest discussed. The President is Mr. F. K. Kendall, F.R.I.B.A., and Past-Presidents are: 1902, Mr. John Parker, F.R.I.B.A.; 1907, Mr. Francis Masey F.R.I.B.A.; and 1910, Mr. Arthur H. Reid, F.R.I.B.A. In 1910 Mr. T. H. Hitchin, who had been Hon. Secretary since 1902, died, and his relatives bequeathed to the Cape Institute of Architects his valuable collection of architectural books which form the nucleus of an Institute Library. A few books have been added since by presentation or purchase.

THE BUILDING TRADES' EXHIBITION

The recent exhibition at Olympia was one of the most comprehensive and interesting of the series organised by the promoter, Mr. H. Greville Montgomery, J.P. Amongst the members present at the inaugural ceremony and luncheon were the President of the Society (Mr. Percy B. Tubbs, F.R.I.B.A.), Professor Henry Adams, M.Inst.C.E., Mr. H. V. M. Emerson, A.R.I.B.A., Mr. G. A. T. Middleton, A.R.I.B.A., Mr. E. C. P. Monson, F.R.I.B.A., Mr. E. J. Sadgrove, F.R.I.B.A., and Mr. McArthur Butler. The society of Architects paid an official visit to the Exhibition, when many of the members availed themselves of Mr. Montgomery's courteous invitation and kind hospitality.

THE PHAROS DOVER CASTLE

A restoration is being effected of this ancient structure mainly with the object of preserving it from further destruction by the weather, to which it is much exposed. The remains consist of the circular basement, near the west end of the church of St. Mary-in-the-Precincts, attributed by some to Eadbald, son of Ethelbert, of the Roman Pharos, erected on the high earthwork, around the church, by the Castle. It is similar in many respects to the now ruined Tour d'Ordre, or Caligula's Tower, on the northern cliff at Boulogne, though more closely to the neighbouring pharos upon the opposite western Heights, beneath the Bredenstone on the site of the Drop Redoubt. The massive shell of the Castle Pharos has walls whose inner faces are vertical and squared, constructed largely of the local tufa, mortar of two distinct tints, and red tile brick: the upper octagon chamber is an addition of the Tudor period. The Boulogne beacon, of which a drawing is preserved, carried a light until a fall of the cliff in 1644.



AUGUST 1st, 1913.

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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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.—The columns of "The African Architect" are open at all times for expression of the opinions of our readers, but the Editor disclaims responsibility for the views of correspondents. All letters must be signed with the name of the correspondent, not necessarily for publication, but in evidence of *bona fide*, and addressed "EDITOR, 'The African Architect,' Box 4651, Johannesburg."

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"The African Architect" is on sale at Chicken's News Agency, Pritchard Street, Johannesburg.

THE PROPOSED REGISTRATION BILL

WE give in another column a most uncalled-for and premature criticism of the proposed Architects Registration Bill by C. Whitman, of Capetown, and which has appeared in various Transvaal newspapers. He mentions the "African Architect," and we should have thought he would have addressed a similar letter to us, as is considered etiquette in journalistic matters. However, we do not know Mr. Whitman, nor have enquiries revealed to us his identity, so we will overlook his want of courtesy in this matter. We cannot, however, refrain from saying that his details are not right, nor are they just. His main object is based on "information" that no one else seems possessed of, not even of those who are piloting the Bill and still preparing it for Parliament. This gentleman raises the cry that the profession is to be closed to all except the sons of the wealthy. This

may serve the evident purpose of arousing popular prejudice against the measure, but from the inside knowledge of the methods animating the leading movers and supporters of the Bill we can state that so far from that being the case, the measure is being drafted on patriotic lines, and with a view to bringing into being South African born architects who shall in the future more largely fill the ranks of the profession, and that their status shall, if anything, be higher, or at least as high as that of imported professional men. The writer of the letter referred to, who has taken such pains to have it so widely circulated, may rest assured that all the pitfalls and discrepancies that caused the rejection of the Chartered Accountants Bill have been guarded against in the proposed Architects Registration measure.

WATER WASTAGE REGULATIONS

THE "S.A. Master Builders' Federation Journal," in a leading article, recently drew attention to the enormous wastage of water which was occurring in the city of Johannesburg. We cannot do better than quote from the article referred to, as follows:—"We understand that in connection with the water system registration of master plumbers will find favour. At the moment we are informed on substantial authority that there is an extraordinary leakage of something like 10,000,000 gallons, and if this were modified to any considerable extent it would tend to reduce the price of water to the consumer at least 6d. per 1,000 gallons, which would thus mean a very considerable saving to the rate-payers in Johannesburg. The practice of registration of master plumbers so far as the water system is concerned finds a precedent in the City of Melbourne, and we believe was adopted in order to avoid extensive leakage and the theft of water as well as ensuring the tapping of mains should be in the hands of respectable contractors." Evidently the views of the master builders' organ have not fallen on deaf ears, for the following notice has been issued, under the signature of Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews, Town Engineer, who calls attention to clauses 8 to 11 of the Bye-Laws and Regulations governing the supply and use of water within the Municipality of Johannesburg, which read as follows:—No person shall cause or suffer any newly laid service pipe to be covered in the course of the installation or alteration of a service until such

pipe has been examined and approved by the Town Engineer or some authorised official or inspector. No service shall be connected with the main and no additional fittings shall be connected with an existing service which is already connected with the main until such service and additional fittings have been inspected by the Town Engineer or an authorised official or inspector and a certificate of approval obtained. No alteration shall be made in any existing service until such proposed alteration has been submitted to the Town Engineer or an inspector and a certificate of approval obtained. When any service or additional fittings are ready for inspection, or when it is proposed to make any alteration in any existing service, notice shall be sent to the Town Engineer upon a form to be obtained at the Municipal Offices. A Special Inspector has now been appointed to see that the Council's Bye-Laws relating to water supply are strictly adhered to, which must be rightly recognised as a wise precaution.

JOHANNESBURG MUNICIPAL BY-ELECTIONS

The Architect Candidate

Amongst the candidates nominated for the vacancies in Ward 3 of the Johannesburg Municipality, caused by the resignation of Mr. Scholtz and the death of Mr. Bernberg, was Mr. M. J. Harris, President of the Society of Architects (South African Branch).

Mr. Harris is not only a prominent architect, but an intelligent student of public and Municipal affairs, and a clear-minded speaker. He joined Mr. L. U. Partridge, M.P.C., both being independent candidates.

Various meetings, not unmixed with the excitement of electioneering associations, were held. During one of these, which the newspapers described as a lively time for the Independents, Mr. Harris spoke of his long experience of Johannesburg life as against his youthfulness as a public representative. He had been a municipal servant in the pioneer days, and as a business man and an architect he believed he had knowledge which would be useful to the town. At the outset he held the view that municipal affairs should be disassociated from politics. It was due that business men should keep their heads clear of all political excitement such as had affected them lately. Pursuing his argument, he thought that property investment should be made interesting. He had nothing but honour to gain by his membership.

Mr. Harris said he hoped to have the support of every sensible man, and, despite interruptions, his speech ended amid applause.

A PREMATURE CRITICISM—REGISTRATION

The following letter has appeared in various Transvaal dailies, and is referred to in our leading columns:—

"I notice that in the July number of the 'African Architect' the leader deals with a proposed Bill which has been drafted with the idea of introducing it to the House of Assembly.

"I consider that the notice of the public should be drawn to this, in order that a strong protest may be aroused against it. The general principles of the Bill are very similar to those contained in the Bill introduced in the interest of the chartered accountants during the last session. This Bill was very wisely rejected by the House, and it is to be hoped, in the public interest, this new measure will meet with a similar fate.

"Shorn of all its unnecessary parts, it resolves itself into an attempt to create a preserve which will shut out all but the wealthy from the architectural profession. It is proposed that every aspirant to a diploma which will enable him to practise as an architect will have to produce satisfactory references that he has had a number of years' experience in the office of one of the architects who is a member of the society or a similar society.

"It is a custom of the architectural profession to charge very heavy premiums to articulated pupils, who have to work for several years either without salary or with one of nominal amount, and the real object of this Bill is to strengthen the hands of the interested parties, who will derive direct benefit from it. The object of any examination or test is presumed to be the elimination of the unfit, and it follows, therefore, that anyone who can prove, by passing an examination, that he has the necessary knowledge, should be entitled to rank equal with any other person who has passed the same examination, regardless of the means he adopted to acquire the information. So long as the man has the necessary qualifications, it does not matter in the least to the public whether he obtained them in a university, an office, or an attic; but it does matter very considerably to the architect who loses the premium if the pupil is not compelled to serve his time in his office. If this were not the case, we should find the architects merely insisting upon the raising of the standard of examinations, and not bothering about the proof of experience in an architect's office.

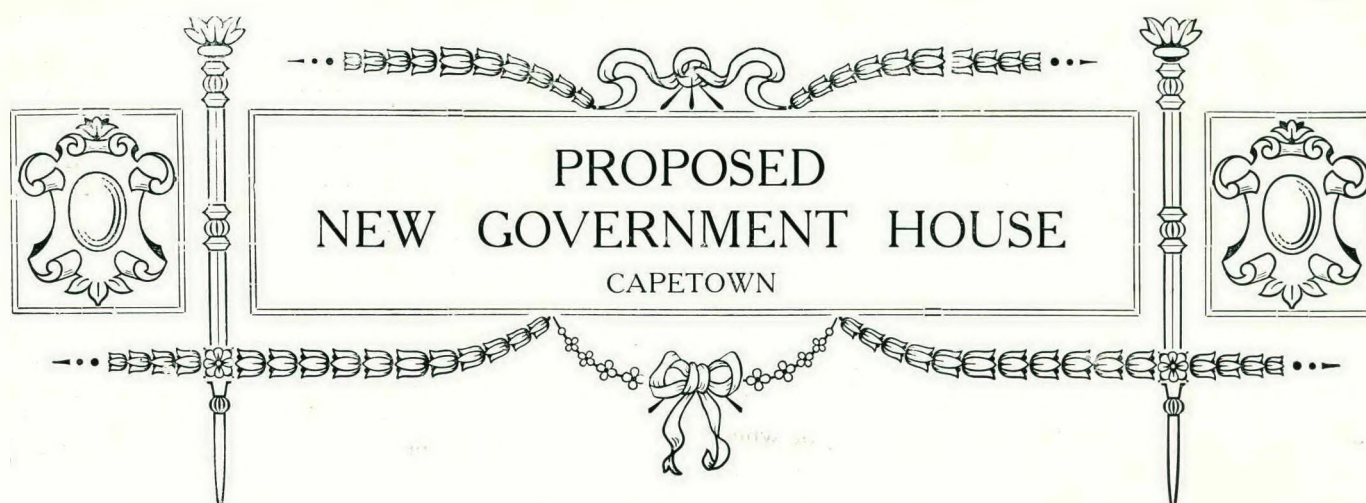
"It is in the public interest that the examinations should be difficult to pass, so that only the best qualified people should be able to practise; but it is in the interest of the architect that the pupil should be compelled to serve time in an office and pay a premium for doing so.

"If this Bill became law, it would limit competition and therefore reduce efficiency, and for this reason alone I hope that every public-spirited individual will use his influence to prevent the measure from becoming law.—I am, etc.,

"C. WHITMAN.

"Capetown, July 17."

List Bros., Johannesburg, for Nickel and Silver Plating, Door Plates, etc.



CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

The following document has been issued by Mr. C. Murray, Secretary for Public Works:—

The Government of the Union of South Africa invite architects to submit designs for a Government House proposed to be erected at Westbrooke, Rondebosch, near Capetown.

Assessors

Appointment of Assessors.—The Government will be advised in the selection of designs by a Board of Assessors composed of three architects, namely, Messrs. H. Baker, P. Eagle, and W. H. Stucke, who will not be competitors nor have any interest in the competition, and whose duties will be to advise the Government on the relative merits of the designs. The assessors will have it in their discretion to reject any designs which do not comply with these conditions or which, in their opinion, could not be carried out satisfactorily for the stated sum of £60,000.

Premiums.—A premium of £300 is offered for the design which may be placed first, and further premiums of £200 and £100, respectively, for those placed second and third. The assessors' awards of the premiums will be accepted by the Government as final, and there will be no appeal therefrom.

Execution of Accepted Design.—In the event of any of the designs submitted being proceeded with—to which, however, the Government does not bind itself—the author of the selected design will, subject to the execution of the agreement after mentioned, be appointed as architect to execute the new building, provided that he is regarded by the Government as possessing the necessary qualifications and experience, failing which the Government in its discretion shall be entitled to ask him to carry out the work under such arrangements as the Government may consider satisfactory and to be mutually agreed upon.

Selected Architect's Remuneration.—The architect appointed will be required to enter into an agreement with the Government for the carrying out of the design, and will be paid for his services on the basis of the scale of fees contained in the Regulations of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Should the selected architect be unable to reside within 20

miles of Rondebosch during the erection of the building, the Government shall have the right to claim that a competent resident architect approved by it shall be appointed to supervise the works at the sole expense of the architect whose design has been selected.

Premium to Merge into Commission.—The premium of £300 awarded to the architect of the design placed first will in the event of the works being carried out by him, merge in his fees.

Quantities

Bills of Quantities.—The Government reserves the right to appoint a quantity surveyor.

Clerk of Works to be Employed by the Government.—The Government will, at its own expense, employ a clerk of works to superintend the work.

Premiated Design to Become the Property of the Government.—The first premiated design shall become the absolute property of the Government.

Conditions of Competition to be Strictly Observed.—The conditions of competitions will be rigidly enforced, and all designs submitted must be illustrated by the drawings specified in these conditions. Should any design be found not to comply therewith, it will be excluded from the competition and returned to the author.

Declaration.—Each competitor (or competitors in the case of joint work) must send in with his designs a signed statement in a sealed envelope stating that the drawings have been prepared in British South Africa under his own personal supervision, together with his name and address and a short statement of his professional experience and qualifications. This will not be seen or used by the assessors till they have made their award, but the Government must be satisfied—before giving the appointment to the successful competitor—that he is qualified in all respects to undertake the work.

Packing of Designs.—Each set of drawings submitted for competition, together with all supporting documents, must be packed in one case and be addressed to the Secretary for Public Works, Public

Works Department, Pretoria, and such case should contain the sealed envelope with statement referred to in the preceding clause. No name, motto, handwriting or signature, device or distinguishing mark of any kind whatever, which might lead to the identification of the competitor, is to be put on any of the drawings, supporting documents, sealed envelope, or case by the competitors or their agents. When each case is unpacked, it and its contents, together with the sealed envelope, will be marked by the assessors for identification.

Designs

Delivery of Designs.—The whole of the drawings, supporting documents, etc., must be delivered at the competitor's expense to the Secretary for Public Works before noon on 15th September, 1913.

Inquiries.—All written inquiries relating to the competition will be answered as far as practicable by the Secretary for Public Works, Pretoria, and a copy of the questions and answers will be sent to each competitor as far as known. No inquiries received later than 15th August will be answered.

Canvassing.—Until after the award of the three premiums has been finally made by the Government, no drawings, photograph, printed, written, or other matter, or statement descriptive of, or alluding to, any of the competitive designs shall be sent or shown to any member of the Government, or any official thereof, or the public, nor shall there be any canvassing of the assessors in favour of any particular design. The design of any competitor violating this condition will be forthwith excluded from the competition.

Right to Exhibit the Drawings.—The Government reserves the right to exhibit in public at such place or places as may be decided upon for a period not exceeding one month, all designs and supporting documents submitted in the competition, together with the assessors' report, but will not do so until the award has been made public.

Return of Unsuccessful Designs.—The designs of the unsuccessful competitors will be returned to their respective authors free of cost.

Custody of Designs by the Government.—All reasonable care will be taken of the drawings and supporting documents, but the Government will not hold itself responsible for the loss of or injury to same, from whatever cause arising, while in transit or in the custody of the Government.

Drawings

Drawings Required.—The following drawings, etc., will be required:—(a) A plan of each floor, 1-16 inch scale. (b) At least four elevations, 1-16 inch scale. (c) At least three sections, 1-16 inch scale, arranged to show the construction and the design in sequence of the chief rooms, corridors, and other important parts of the interior of the building. (d) Sufficient detail showing characteristic portions of both interior and exterior treatment of the building, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch scale. (e) Plan and section showing lay out of ground immediately surrounding house, 1-16 inch scale. (f) Perspective optional. (g) Plan showing positions of

buildings on site and general lay out of grounds with approaches, 100 feet to 1 inch scale. The plan must show how the fine views of the site are made the most of and how the grounds are brought into harmony with the old avenues and the surrounding estate of Groote Schuur. The best trees on the site must be preserved as far as possible.

Method of Finishing Drawings.—All or any of the drawings may be executed in ink or pencil, and tinted at the discretion of the competitor. Only plain lettering to be placed on the drawings, and handwriting or distinctive characters which may reveal the identity of the competitor will not be allowed. The materials intended must be indicated as far as is possible and reasonable. Elaboration or repetition beyond what is necessary to express the design is not required.

Size of Drawings.—The above-mentioned drawings are to be executed on white drawing paper mounted on stretchers, and must be of a uniform size of 3 feet 6 inches by 2 feet 6 inches without frames or glazing.

Dimensions to be Figured.—The dimensions of all rooms, corridors, open spaces, etc., must be figured on the plans and sections, and each room named as per schedule of accommodation.

Specification

Estimate and Specification.—Accompanying the design of each competitor an estimate of the cost of the building must be submitted, giving the details of how such estimate of cost is arrived at, cubing prices and dimensions and showing the method of arriving at same, also a typewritten descriptive specification briefly and concisely explaining the construction (which must be fireproof as far as possible), materials, etc., and treatment and texture thereof proposed to be adopted, but a working specification is not desired. The cost of the building is to be £60,000, which sum includes panelling, fire-places, and all other decorative fixtures, but excludes architect's charges, the cost of clerk of work's services, and bills of quantities. For the following items an additional sum of £4,000 has been provided:—Water-borne drainage (including septic tank), hot water supply, electric lighting and fittings, laundry and kitchen fittings, lifts, etc. Competitors are not expected to show details of these items in their designs. A further sum of £2,000 has also been provided for the lay out of ground, including necessary terracing and walls immediately surrounding the house. This lay-out scheme should form part of a complete scheme which will embrace the whole estate. The complete scheme may be carried out under the supervision of the architect, and commission paid, as may be hereafter agreed upon, but the Government may at its discretion entirely omit or alter the amount of work in connection therewith. Competitors are expected to give a complete scheme, indicating such portion as can be carried out for £2,000.

Accommodation

Accommodation.—The attached schedule shows the accommodation required in the buildings, and

each competitor must submit a similar schedule, showing what accommodation is provided by his design, giving in addition the area of each room and the dimensions of same. The superficial area of rooms, as given in the schedule, should be adhered to as closely as possible and not be reduced. Competitors will not, however, be precluded from making reasonably slight increases or decreases in isolated instances should such be necessary to fit in with their planning. Designs should include a porte cochere and vestibules, loggias, etc., at the discretion of the competitors. No provision to be made for stabling or garage.

Site Plan.—A plan of the site and locality is attached to these conditions. The position of the house on the site is left to the discretion of the competitors, but for reasons of view it is suggested that it be kept within the dotted portion of the site plan. The new house must not be too visible from the Groote Schuur Estate.

Departmental Drawings.—Certain drawings which have been prepared by the Public Works Department can be inspected by competitors at the Office of the Public Works Department, Capetown, and copies of same may also be seen at the Offices of the Public Works Department at Pretoria, Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, Pietermaritzburg, Durban, and Kingwilliams-town.

Viewing the Site.—It is considered important that competitors should view the site, and permits for this purpose can be obtained on application to the District Engineer, Public Works Department, Capetown.

Foundations.—For purpose of estimate an average depth of 3 feet 6 inches below ground to be taken.

Style.—The style of architecture is left to the discretion of competitors, but should be in harmony with the spirit if not with the letter of the best architectural traditions of the Cape Peninsula or its neighbourhood.

An epitome of requirements of proposed new Government House, Capetown, is also given in the document.

CANADIAN PROFESSORSHIP FOR AN ARCHITECT

An Edinburgh architect, Mr. Ramsay Traquair, A.R.I.B.A., has been appointed to the Chair of Architecture in the McGill University, Montreal. The new professor, who is a son of the late Dr. Traquair, of the Royal Scottish Museum, and of Mrs. Traquair, Colinton, a well-known artist, received his early education at the Edinburgh Academy, and afterwards studied at the Universities of Edinburgh and Bonn. His term of apprenticeship was served under Professor S. W. Capper, recently of Manchester University. On its completion he was awarded a scholarship under the National Art Survey of Scotland. Mr. Traquair, who has been in practice in Edinburgh since 1905, has had some experience as a teacher, having been in charge of the day classes in architecture at the Edinburgh College of Art since it was founded.

THE COTLITE ACETYLENE SYSTEM OF LIGHTING

A most popular system of acetylene lighting is that known as Cotle, and it has been largely introduced in England. It can also be made most applicable to South Africa, and will no doubt find a growing interest in this country and a large market. The essential feature of the Cotle acetylene apparatus is the use of the portable carbide containers, which are charged at the carbide store and not at the generating plant. These containers, or generators, can be recharged in daylight and stored for use with absolute safety until required, when the exchange of generators is perfectly simple, but cannot be effected before all chance of gas leaking back from the gasometer is stopped by means of interlocking taps. This is a most important improvement, and not embodied by any other maker. Owing to the ease of recharging there is no necessity to have a large generating plant. Larger installations are divided into sections, each supplied by its own generating plant. This removes any possibility of danger, as the volume of gas available is so very small. The system of portable generators is adapted to flare lamps, street lamps, and a variety of other purposes. Throughout the "Cotle" system washers and mechanical joints are entirely avoided, water sealing being employed to confine the gas to its proper place. This should be specially noted, as many instances have occurred in which the leakage of gas from mechanically sealed generators has caused serious trouble.

The Cotle system conforms to the published rules of fire offices, the Acetylene Association, and local authorities. To conclude, the Cotle system is a thoroughly tried and carefully thought-out one. The possibility of accident through carelessness or forgetfulness is eliminated, but no complications are introduced.

A few of the many safeguards provided in Cotle apparatus:—1, no recharging with loose carbide in the acetylene generating house; 2, no opening of the generating plant to recharge; 3, no opening of the carbide container near the generating plant; 4, no accumulation of gas in generating house from spilt carbide; 5, no leakage from mechanical joints; 6, no excessive pressure in portable lamps; 7, no recharging flare lamps except at carbide store; 8, no opening flare lamp generator to see how much carbide is left; 9, no overheating of portable lamps; 10, no possibility of accident due to forgetfulness.

STEWART MEMORIAL TOWER, SOUTH AFRICA.

The competition for this building, which was open to all South African architects, resulted in twenty designs being sent in. The tower stands close to Dr. Stewart's grave on a kop some five hundred feet high, commanding the district round the Lovedale Missionary Institution and the small town of Alice. It is built of beautiful bluish quartzitic sandstone brought from a quarry five miles distant. The stone in the recess bears the inscription, "John Stewart, Missionary." Mr. Orlando Middleton, A.R.I.B.A., of Port Elizabeth, is the architect.

List Bros., Johannesburg, for Wedding and Birthday Presents.

Two Interesting Views of Johannesburg's New Town Hall.



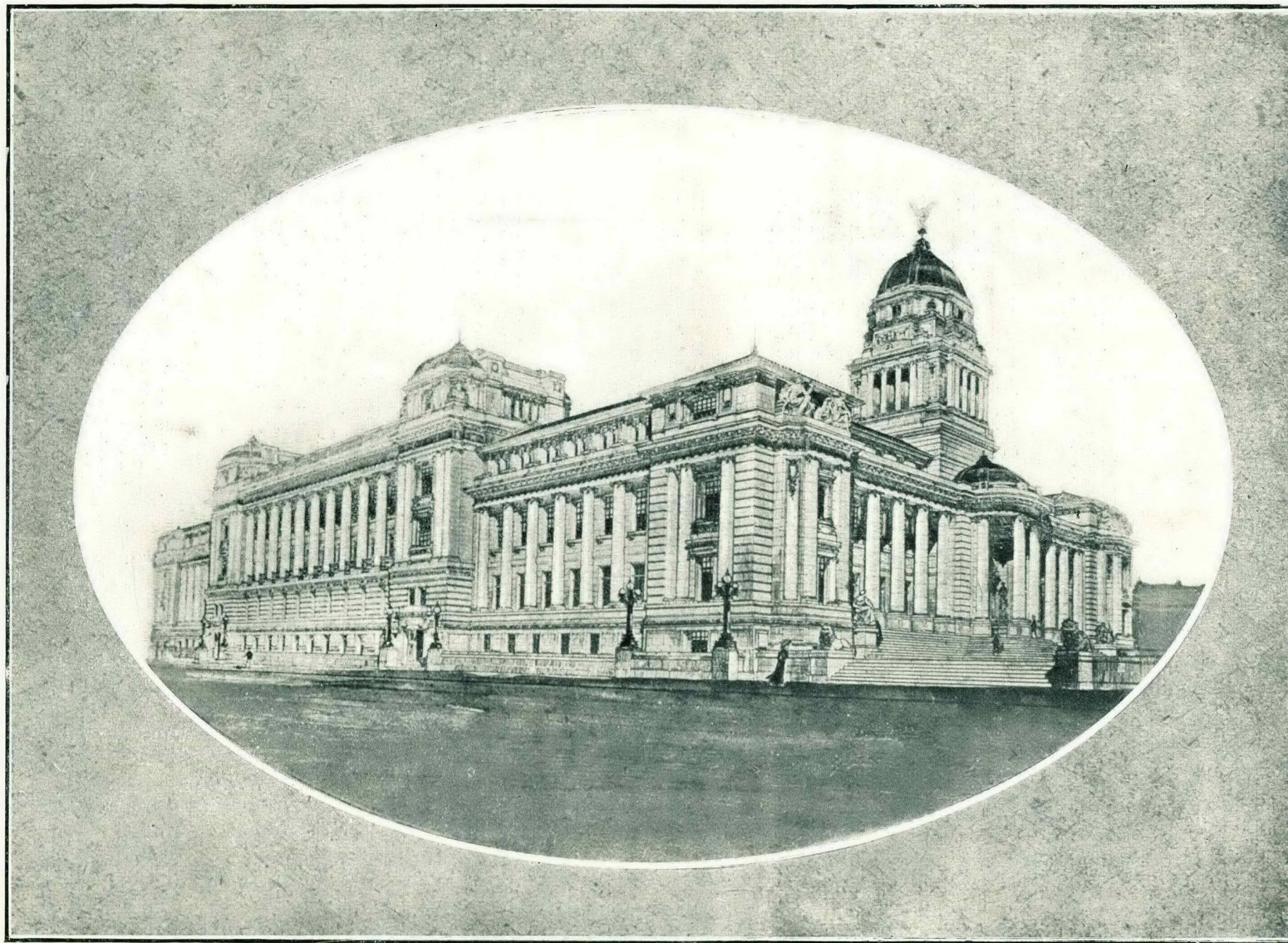
JOHANNESBURG NEW TOWN HALL

Showing present stage of progress. The building did not escape the bullets on the 5th July, for quite a few stone corners in the Market Street elevation are chipped.

August 1st, 1913.

THE AFRICAN ARCHITECT.

243



The Johannesburg New Town Hall is now taking substantial shape for the public eye to admire. When it is completed the above plate shows how it will appear.
Architects : Messrs. Hawke & McKinley. Contractor : Mr. M. C. A. Meischke.

ON DIT

That the plans of the proposed new station at Park were taken out and dusted during the time the recent fire was in progress, and

* * * *

That they were returned to their comfy resting-place on the amount of damage being ascertained.

* * * *

That the authorities of the S.A. School of Mines may have forgotten the efforts of the candidates who sat for the special Architects' Examination nearly two months ago.

* * * *

That the Government is conducting the competition for the proposed Governor-General's residence at the Cape in a manner very satisfactory to the profession as a whole.

* * * *

That the profession would welcome the mode of procedure on all Government competitions.

* * * *

That the Town Council may have noticed that the burnt-out portion of Park is being erected in corrugated iron.

* * * *

That the question put at a recent architectural examination for the design of a wood floor to carry two tons per foot super was tall, to say the least of it.

* * * *

That it would prove interesting to learn what remuneration the coloured draughtsman received for designing the score or more residences just started in Newtown, and

* * * *

That it could hardly have been based on the recognised professional scale of fees, and

* * * *

That the owners are faced with constructional troubles on the job.

* * * *

That they are curious as to what effect the letter of Mr. Whitman, of Capetown, which appeared in the "Star" on the 21st of July, will have on the draft Act for the Registration of Architects in the Union, and

* * * *

They are also wondering why Mr. Whitman did not follow journalistic etiquette and address his remarks to the "African Architect."

* * * *

That the President of the Association of Architects must have received a shock when a bullet drove out a few inches of plaster close to the window reveal of the room in which he was working on the night of the 4th of July.

DETAILS

The query contained in our columns in this issue from "A.T.S." of Maritzburg would bear consideration by the Councils of the local architectural bodies. We believe that such registers are kept in other cities; why not Johannesburg?

* * * *

An additional wing is about to be erected to the Railway Offices. The longitudinal frontage will be to Rissik Street, and the elevations will be in keeping with the completed wings.

* * * *

It can be readily understood that the recent local industrial disturbances have had a most depressing effect on the building trades, and it is feared that the recovery will occupy a considerable period.

* * * *

We wish Mr. M. J. Harris good luck in his forthcoming contest for Municipal honours. It is a big sacrifice for an architect in practice to take up Municipal duties, and possibly this accounts for the fact that Messrs. H. A. Reid and J. A. Moffat are the only architects, as far as we remember, who have sat at the Johannesburg horse-shoe.

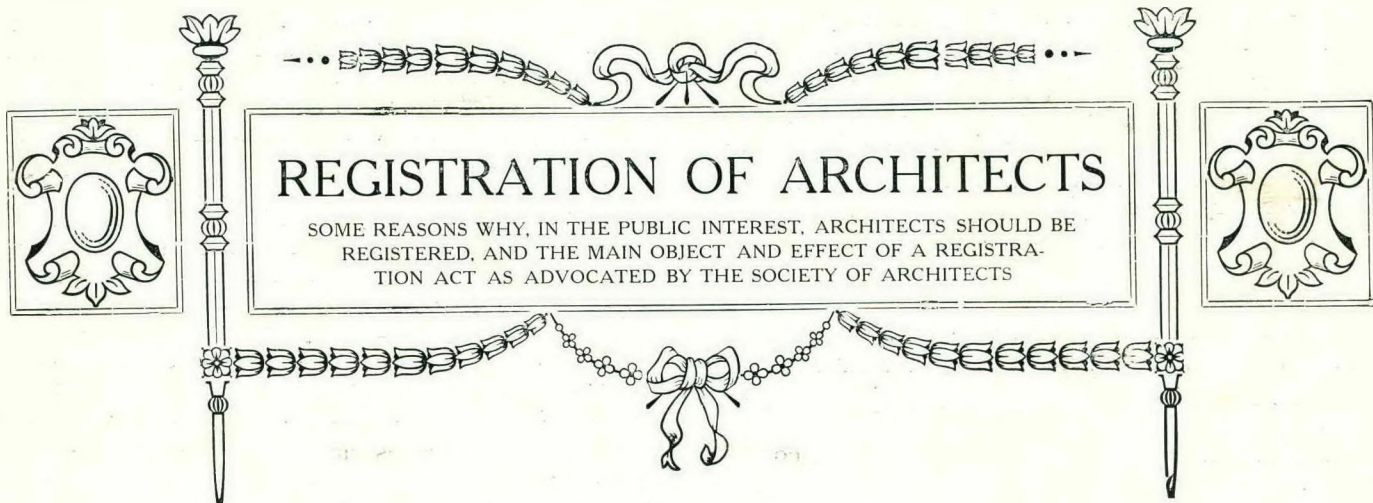
THE R.I.B.A. GOLD MEDAL

The Earl of Plymouth, whose interest in architectural matters is so well known, has kindly undertaken to present the King's Gold Medal for the Promotion of Architecture to the medallist of the year, Mr. Reginald Blomfield, A.R.A., President of the Royal Institute of British Architects. This honour, the highest to which any architect can attain, has been presented annually by the reigning Sovereign since 1848, on the recommendation of the Royal Institute. Cockerell, the famous classic architect, was the first to receive the award, and the list of medallists includes the names of Charles Barry, the architect of the Houses of Parliament; of Owen Jones; of Gilbert Scott, the great "Gothic Revivalist," whose mastery of many styles was shown by his great Government Offices in Whitehall; of Fergusson, the greatest historian of architecture; of Street, the designer of the Law Courts; of Alfred Waterhouse, whose Natural History Museum and Prudential Offices are landmarks of London; of Pearson, the cathedral builder; and of Bodley, one of the last of the great Gothic men.

VISIT TO ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Two parties of members of the R.I.B.A. have recently paid visits to St. Paul's Cathedral, and were shown over the building by Canon Alexander, Sir Francis Fox, and Mr. Mervyn Macartney, the Chapter architect. They made a careful examination of the condition of the masonry, the signs of settlement, and the work now being done on the fabric.

List Bros., Johannesburg, are Diamond Ring Specialists.



The Society of Architects being of the opinion that it is desirable in the public interest that persons requiring professional aid in architecture should be enabled to distinguish qualified from unqualified practitioners, and that steps should be taken to prevent unqualified and incompetent persons from posing as architects, have to that end drafted "A Bill for the Registration of Architects."

Those whose assistance is essential in passing the Bill through Parliament, together with all other members of the public who may be affected by the proposals, are invited to consider the following observations and to communicate their views to the Society so that the Bill may, when introduced, be so far as possible, of a non-contentious character.

Some Reasons for Registration

Architects have the spending in the aggregate of vast sums of public money and the control of matters affecting the life, health, convenience and financial interests of a very large section of the community. The practice of architecture calls for the possession and exercise of many and varied gifts and attainments, chief among which are, artistic sense and feeling, scientific and professional knowledge, practical skill, and business ability.

The various architectural bodies publish registers of their members, but the value of these lists of architects as a guide and protection to the public is very considerably discounted by the fact that the public directories necessarily schedule under the title of "Architect," without reference to his qualifications, any person who claims that designation, whether justified or not.

The proposal for the Registration of Architects is not a new one, nor does it introduce any new principle. It is merely carrying to its logical conclusion of State Registration, the present voluntary system of registration of their members by the various architectural bodies. Registration is in force in several European countries, many of the American States, and a number of our own dominions, while others are applying for it.

Main Objects of the Bill

The proposal is that at the time of the passing of the Act every *bona fide* qualified architect shall

be entitled to register, and that the vested interests of engineers, surveyors, clerks of works, builders, or other persons who may be affected shall be protected, and opportunity afterwards given, to all who wish to practice architecture, of qualifying for admittance to the Register. Only those so registered are to be entitled to recover fees for services rendered as architects.

The Bill would provide (*inter alia*) for the establishment of a registering body or council, comprised of members appointed by the Privy Council, the Royal Academy of Arts and the architectural societies, for the administration of the Act and the conduct of the examinations.

The Effect of a Registration Act

The first effect of an Architects' Registration Act would be to give an immediate and definite impulse to architectural education and training, by setting up a compulsory standard of qualification. The chief weakness of the present voluntary system of architectural examinations is that they are not obligatory (except under certain conditions for admittance to membership of architectural bodies). At present such examinations are not in any case essential as a preliminary to the practice of architecture or to the claiming of the title of architect.

The ultimate result of such an Act of Parliament would be that the unqualified practitioner would be gradually eliminated by effluxion of time without inflicting injustice or hardship on anyone, and without creating a monopoly, while the public would have a guarantee that in employing any architect they would secure the services of a person possessed of at least the minimum qualifications required for the proper performance of his very onerous duties.

Some Advantages to the Public

Among some of the advantages to the public which in the opinion of the Society would be secured as a result of the passing of a Registration Act of the kind advocated, would be:—The raising of the standard of architectural education and training by the substitution of a compulsory in place of a voluntary system of qualification, the consequent adequate protection of the interests of that large section of

the public affected, and the recognition by the State of the art of architecture as a great national asset to be fostered and cultivated to the utmost.

C. McARTHUR BUTLER,
Secretary of the Society.

[We had pleasure in receiving the above with the Secretary's compliments, which we cordially reciprocate.—Ed., "T.A.A."]

CONTRACTOR AND SUB-CONTRACTOR

MODEL AGREEMENT IN OPERATION IN NEW ZEALAND

The following is a copy of the agreement now existing between contractors and sub-contractors in New Zealand:—

Dated _____ 191____
with
SUB-CONTRACT
for execution of
AGREEMENT made this _____
191____ BETWEEN
of
(hereinafter called "the Contractor") of

the one part and
of (hereinafter called "the Sub-Contractor" of the other part WHEREBY it is mutually agreed as follows, that is to say:—

1. In consideration of the sum of £
to be paid by the Contractor to the Sub-contractor in manner hereinafter mentioned the sub-contractor agrees to execute and complete in a workmanlike and thorough manner the whole of the work required to be done in the erection and completion of a

for
in accordance with this sub-contract and with the specifications, plans and drawings and General Conditions of Contract prepared by
Architect, and for the erection of which the Contractor has entered into a contract with the said

dated the _____ day of _____ 191____
2. The said General Conditions of Contract and the said specifications, plans and drawings so far as the same are applicable hereto and consistent herewith shall be deemed to be embodied herein as if the same had been fully set out herein or annexed hereto, and in the construction of this Sub-contract and the said General Conditions of Contract and specifications for the purpose of this sub-contract the term "Architect" wherever herein or therein used shall (unless the context requires a different construction) be deemed to mean the said
or such other Architect as shall for the time being be in charge of the work the subject-matter of the principal contract or (if he shall be unwilling or unable to act) the contractor.

3. The contractor will pay to the sub-contractor the said sum of _____ or such other sum as shall become due hereunder in the same proportions and in the same manner as is specified in the said General Conditions of Contract with reference to the moneys payable under the principal contract.

Indemnity

4. The sub-contractor will indemnify and keep indemnified the contractor against any loss or claim which may arise while this sub-contract shall continue in force by reason of the death of or accident to the sub-contractor or any of his workmen while employed in or about the execution of the said work or arising from any other cause whatsoever And will insure the sub-contractor and his said workmen against such death or accident and duly hand to the contractor the policy or policies of such insurance and a duplicate receipt for every renewal premium paid in respect thereof, and if the sub-contractor shall make default in the observance of this provision the contractor shall be at liberty to effect such insurance at the cost of the sub-contractor and to deduct every sum paid by him for such purpose from the moneys which may become due to the sub-contractor hereunder.

5. The sub-contractor will commence and proceed with the said work as and when required by the contractor and will complete the same on or before the _____ day _____ 191____ or within such extended time as may be allowed him for such completion by the contractor or by the Architect.

6. If the sub-contractor fails to complete the said work as and when hereby provided the sub-contractor shall pay or allow to the contractor the sum of _____ per day as liquidated damages for every day (excluding Sundays) that the said work remains unfinished beyond the time herein provided for completion thereof and should such default continue for _____ days or should the sub-contractor otherwise make default in the observance of or fail to perform the terms and conditions herein or in the said General Conditions of Contract and specifications (as construed herewith) contained the contractor may carry out and complete the said work at the expense of the sub-contractor and any such expense may be recovered by the contractor from the sub-contractor and shall be a charge upon or set off against any moneys due by the contractor to the sub-contractor.

AS WITNESS the hands of the parties hereto the day and year first hereinbefore written.

SIGNED by the said _____
in the presence of
SIGNED by the said _____
in the presence of

I consent to the sub-letting by _____ to
of the _____ work
in his (or their) Contract in terms of this agreement.
Architect.

An important meeting of the Executive Council of the National Federation of Master Builder Employers in South Africa was held in Durban in the beginning of last month, when many subjects of interest to both builders and architects were discussed, among them being a standard system of measuring builders' work; and, also, bills of quantities.



The influence of architecture makes for good in a community, and it is because of this that architects worthy the name desire the influence should be more extensive than hitherto. I do not intend to address you at great length this evening, but there are several matters which must be referred to in an address from this chair at the commencement of the session. They are:—

1. Education—What is being done for our students?
2. Architecture as it affects the public—What are architects doing to improve the taste of the public for beautiful works of architecture?

Education

As to education—we are continually complaining and remonstrating with our students for their want of enthusiasm and their slackness in study. I am sometimes obsessed with the idea that we older men are not free from blame in this matter, for if we profess to be so desirous of an improvement in architecture ought we not to leave no stone unturned until we have found the source of the slackness in study and the want of enthusiasm? The students of to-day will be the architects of to-morrow, and if the next generation is not to curse us in our graves, we ought, I think, to take on more serious responsibility in our endeavours to obtain for them a school of architecture which shall be based on the best-known principles. It is not enough to content ourselves by admitting that we have drawn up a course of study, and have suggested methods and means by which the student may be assisted and his individual talent (if he has any, which in some cases I mightily doubt) be fully developed. I say, this is not enough. It has failed in the vast majority of instances, not because as teachers we have been wanting in our duty to students, but chiefly because the system on which we have been working is evidently based on wrong lines. Therefore, until a new system is in working order I want to urge upon all those of you who have pupils and students under your control to accept your responsibilities as seriously as I know some few do.

*From the Presidential Address delivered before the Institute of Architects of N.S.W., by G. Sydney Jones, P.I.A., A.R.I.B.A.

If the principal to which the student is articulated is enthusiastic in his desire for the well-doing of his pupil, the student himself will be sure to follow suit. I am sure it is the wish of every architect that his pupil should turn out successful, and we shall not have them very long with us as pupils, because the system of pupilage now in vogue will, in my opinion, shortly be turned down as out of date. It therefore behoves us to do our best for them if we have at heart the near future of the architecture of this country. I have said that the system on which we have been working has failed because it has been based on wrong lines. What then, you will naturally ask yourselves, is the solution of the problem? I say emphatically that the only satisfactory solution is the establishment of a properly and completely appointed school of architecture. Unless such a school be established at once, I foresee that the work of architects of the next generation will be full of dull placidity, wanting in every attribute that should mark the architecture of a vigorous and progressive people. This being so the matter passes largely out of the hands of architects and becomes one of consideration by Government and people; for those, that is, who pass the work of architects every day in the street and are benefited by or are annoyed by it, according to whether the architecture is good or bad in design. And this matter should not be looked upon lightly or with easy conscience. I believe you will agree with me when I express the opinion that the vast majority of Australians are loyal to their own country, and are proud of its progress and have faith in its future. Then, if this is so, I say that the next generation of Australians (which will be more highly educated in general than the present generation) will expect from its architects a fuller knowledge of the possibilities of modern methods of construction, a higher general culture and power of thought in design, and a far wider outlook over the field of architecture than has been the case hitherto. These expectations, however, cannot be realised unless the public is seized of the fact that to create fine architecture, which will be a reflex of the vigour and progress of a country, they must educate their architects. The architects

of the near future will be given some magnificent opportunities to design in the large and monumental manner—for the knowledge of the value of the influence of fine architecture is fortunately just beginning to dawn in the minds of the Australian public, and it will grow rapidly as the nation grows. If, then, the architects are not trained to be equal to such opportunities when they arise, the public will only have itself to blame. The architectural talent is here in this country, and needs only development in the higher studies of architecture to make it equal to that of any country in the older parts of the world. This talent can be fostered and guided and developed only by one means—a school of architecture.

I had the opportunity last year, on your behalf, to interview the Hon. Campbell Carmichael, Minister for Education, on the possibility of establishing such a school in connection with the University of Sydney. A scheme was drawn up and approved of by the Minister, who expressed himself as favourable to the establishment of a school at the University, and promised that so soon as the University Bill had passed into law and was in working order, he would give the matter his close attention. The University Bill is, as you know, now on the Statute Book, and the election of the newly-constituted Senate will take place next month, and as I know Mr. Carmichael is sincere in his intentions, I think we are within reasonable distance of this desired goal for the education of the future architects of our country.

Modernism

What has been termed "modernism" in architectural design—the spirit of freedom—is the force at the back of all growth and progress; but in a young and vigorous nation as ours the tendency is to be carried too far in this direction, unless some check is put upon the movement. Scholasticism or tradition—for us the tradition of the English from whom we have sprung—is the element of law and order which is necessary to curb ignorant and vulgar individuality in design. It has been well said that "excessive individualism means energy without order; excessive socialism, order without energy." It is because I foresee that there will soon be chaos in the field of architectural design as a result of excessive individuality unless it is curbed, that I impress upon you the necessity of urging the public and the Government to establish a school of architecture, and it will be one of the tasks of the professors of such a school to teach the true relationship of the complementary forces of individuality and tradition. Our students, being thus trained to design on lines which combine the best traditions in our art with the freedom of thought characteristic of a free country which has before it a great future for the art of architecture, may safely be left to create works of which the people will be justly proud, as being distinctly and in the best sense Australian. That is what is wanted. If, by the establishment of a school, that combination of tradition and individuality can be secured in design, then we need have no fear for the future quality of the architecture of our country. But if we cannot get such a school at once, we know that the future will have in store for the next generation only poor

mediocrity. Of this result we may be certain; therefore, let the public and the Government beware how they treat this question of the training of architects, because, as I have previously said, it has now passed out of the hands of architects and has become a matter for the Government and the public—architecture being essentially a public art. Let us not forget the late Henry Drummond's definition of education: "True education is not to have stored up knowledge, but to have accumulated a force of thought that can be applied at any time upon any subject," and again, let us remember what Matthew Arnold said of one of England's greatest men: "He was a great man because he compared himself and his work not with that of other men, but with that idea of the perfect which he had before his mind."

As the years go by the public looks to the work of architects with an increasing interest, and it also depends upon architects for advice on matters of importance, on new ideas and construction, and on the trend of architectural thought as it affects the welfare and enlightenment of the people of Australia. The wants of our profession are many. We want an Amended Building Act—soon to be on the Statute Book, we hope. We want Registration of Architects—an act which we hope will soon become law, because it has also become a public want. We want our Articles of Association amended to bring them up to date. We want a new set of Conditions of Contract—and we understand that the draft forwarded by us to the Master Builders' Association about twelve months since will shortly be returned to us, we hope, with few amendments, if any. We want other things, which I leave to your imagination; but I have referred to the matters touched upon in this address because I know that you know they are matters of importance to the public for whom we work. You remember how the old Arabian proverb runs:—

He who knows and knows is wise—follow him.

He who knows and knows not he knows is asleep—wake him.

He who knows not and knows not he knows not is a fool—shun him.

He who knows not and knows he knows not is a child—teach him.

Referring to the Rand revolt and building destruction in the early days of July, "The S.A. Master Builders' Federation Journal" says:—"It was an extraordinary sight to see the more intrepid rioters rushing madly about Johannesburg, like savage animals springing on their prey, burning buildings and damaging others, smashing valuable glass windows, while they also stole from the gun-shops rifles, revolvers and ammunition, with which they hoped to keep going their hopeless and inglorious battle. What we wish now to do is to congratulate the masons and allied trades on their dispassionate action in this disgraceful revolt and the grave disorder it caused in every direction. They had no quarrel with the Master Builders, and, therefore, conceived it rightly their duty to plainly say so."

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REGISTRATION, EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION IN AUSTRALIA

Colonel W. L. Vernon, F.R.I.B.A., reviewing the existing conditions of the professions of civil engineering and architecture in Australia (points out "The Journal of the Society of Architects") in his address to the Australasian Association for the advancement of science, says, I think we may claim a considerable advance has been made during the past year in educating the public mind to the desirability of fixing some definite standard of qualifications required in engineers and architects to permit of their practising in Australia. Surveyors, so far as their dealings with real estate and its legal ownership and transfer are concerned, have been for many years required to hold a Government licence—which can only be obtained by those showing their qualifications are up to the required standard. They can then enjoy the emoluments of a practically close profession. With the sister professions this advantage is not yet, unfortunately, the case—and neither the reputable members are protected against charlatanism—nor the public against unskilful and inexperienced exploiters.

It is quite true that as regards engineering, both civil and mechanical, no man can make a practice or a reputation excepting that his abilities are obvious to the keen instincts of the men and corporations who employ engineers, and after a long servitude on the works of other engineers, but with the architectural profession it is somewhat different. The mathematical precision essential to the engineer is only required in the architect to a limited extent, the training in the true principles of art, and which cannot be measured by the foot rule is all important, and the artistic sense has to be developed as well as the purely business one, and an architect can commence practice immediately his cadetship is passed. It must be remembered that every building of note erected, and presumably brought under daily observation and criticism, is a monument to good or bad taste, and an instrument either in raising or debasing the public standard in such matters—to the educated man it may be an offence—to the uncultured, an education. The control of the architectural treatment of buildings upon which large sums of money may be expended is becoming more and more

desirable. Whether or not the liberty of committing all sorts of atrocities in design may be curbed in municipal areas by power to reject, or in addition, whether reform shall come by weeding out incompetent and registering competent architects, is a legitimate matter of discussion and action.

The matter of the expenditure by the architect of large sums of money on behalf of his client, and of the satisfactory or unsatisfactory results likely to accrue according to the selection of the architect, are also of great importance to the community—and it presents as equally strong case as that of the artistic side for closing in the profession within safe and reasonable limits by registration under legal enactment. There are just as sound reasons for so doing with our professions, as for those of the Law, the Bar, and Medicine.

It is gratifying to find the institutes alive to this necessity, and to call to mind the steady although slow progress they are making against passive indifference as well as the active opposition of parliamentarians. If the State Parliaments are too slow, perhaps the Commonwealth Government, with its cherished interference with the States, might give us the status we ask for. If our aims are in due course to be satisfied, it is only right we should take care that our rising professional men, and our students, are efficiently prepared and educated to enable them to render efficient service for the protected advantages that registration will give them.

Training and Education

In Australasia we labour under the signal disadvantage that our students have no artistic traditions to mould them, and no access to the monuments wrought by the masters of our profession in Europe, the East—and to some extent in America. Illustrations, which are of course available in unlimited quantities for study, lack the one great essential, that of training the eye for proportion—and in a drawing or a photograph we lose much of the indescribable charm and dignity of the old masterpieces, whether the breadth and vigour of the Norman-French, the classic grandeur of the Italian Renaissance, the intricacy and grace of the Indian Taj, or the marvellous and evidently Greek inspiration



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of the Bhuddist Temple as exemplified at Boroe Boedoer—these are out of reach of the generality of students training in our technical schools, universities, private offices, and Government Departments. I fear too many aspiring young architects are turned out with a superficial knowledge of style only, and in some cases with none at all.

The Weak Point

An anonymous writer in "The Salon" puts his finger on the weak spot in regard to the value of voluntary examinations, to which attention has been frequently drawn at home by the supporters of registration.

Most of us, I think, agree that an endeavour should be made to raise professional standards. To me, says the writer of the article, it seems the most effective way lies through compulsory examination, and that means registration and legislative control. The history of students' associations show that there must be some defined objective to induce earnest study. The examinations now offered to students attract very few candidates. The Royal Institute tests offer the greatest prestige, but become yearly more difficult; much more difficult, in consequence, to the colonial student, who has to rely on limited means of study. Indeed, in England, where opportunities are greater, the number of candidates who succeed is but half of those who enter. On reading the papers set, it is easy to understand why the percentage of failures is so high. Remembering that the examination is essentially a voluntary test, for the only penalty of failure is exclusion from the Institute, not from the profession in any sense, it might be questioned with advantage; with the addition of another examination as an honours grade. It often occurs to me on reading the examination papers that it is unfortunate for the candidates that the papers are set by experts in the subjects in question. One may sometimes doubt whether Mr. Smith, the famous competition winner and draughtsman, who sets the design papers, would scramble gracefully through the paper on construction set by Mr. Brown, author of highly scientific treatises on related subjects, but who is unknown to fame as an artist.

My proposal is that the Australian institutes

might act together in conducting examinations, so that there might be a uniform, carefully-considered standard, and the papers be set to agree with Australian practice. Such a scheme would, I think, appeal more strongly to the students, and the certificate gained by the examination would, pending legislation, have a greater value than that of a single institute.

WHO DESIGNED THE WHITEHALL PALACE?

Before a meeting of the Manchester Society of Architects, Mr. J. A. Gotch read a paper on the authorship of the designs for Whitehall Palace. In February of last year Mr. Gotch first put before the Archæological Society his theory that the designs for this never completed palace, which had until then been attributed without question to Inigo Jones, were in reality the work of Jones's assistant and nephew, John Webb. The plans were prepared, it has been hitherto supposed, for either James I. or Charles I., but the only portion which was actually built was the existing banqueting hall. This was undoubtedly the work of Inigo Jones, and was completed in 1622. Mr. Gotch's contention is that the time the banqueting hall was built it was simply intended to replace the one on the same site which had been burnt down in 1619, and that the scheme for the complete Whitehall Palace, in which the banqueting hall was to be embodied merely as a part, was not then contemplated. When, some time later, the more or less complete plans for the palace were entered on, Mr. Gotch, from an examination and comparison of the existing drawings and document which bear upon the subject, decides that they were executed by Webb.

PERSONAL

Mr. Ivor Lewis is proceeding to England for a six months' trip, leaving Johannesburg on the 7th inst., and will be accompanied by Mrs. Lewis. During his absence Mr. S. C. Dowsett will act as hon. secretary to the Society of Architects.

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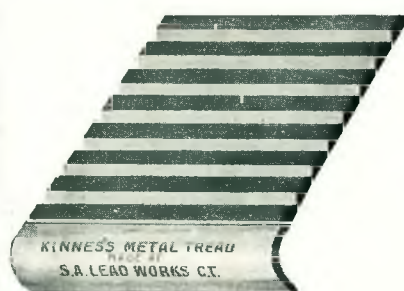
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BUILDERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS

IMPORTANT TO ARCHITECTS AND BUILDERS

The following are some remarks on the law affecting builders and property owners, from "The Illustrated Carpenter and Builder"—

A few remarks on quantity surveyors will not be out of place in these notes. Our readers will not require a long description of the functions and duties of quantity surveyors; we will just stick to certain legal points that arise in connection with their employment.

The great question in regard to quantity surveyors is about their payment. If the builder is required to bear this expense a memorandum to this effect should be written on the bill of quantities. The builder can then add the amount to his estimate for the work.

If the quantity surveyor is employed with the direct authority of the building owner there is, of course, no difficulty about payment, but where an architect employs a quantity surveyor—and this may often be necessary—without the authority of the building owner, then the trouble begins.

If an architect employs a quantity surveyor without the direct authority of the building owner, it always has to be ascertained whether a sufficient authority to do this can be implied. When an employer authorises an architect to obtain tenders, such an authority will very often be employed. The case of *Waghorn v. Wimbledon Local Board* illustrates this very well. Here a Burial Board instructed their surveyor to prepare plans and so forth and procure tenders for certain work. When the surveyor had prepared the plans he instructed the plaintiff, a quantity surveyor, to get out the quantities, and advertised for tenders. No tenders were accepted. The Board repudiated any liability on their part to pay plaintiff on the ground that they had never authorised their surveyor to employ him. But the Court held that as the Board had instructed their surveyor to procure tenders, and as tenders could not

be made without quantities, they had impliedly authorised the surveyor to get the quantities taken out. There was judgment for the plaintiff accordingly.

Quantity Surveyors

In our last instalment of these notes we were discussing the question of quantity surveyors and of the architect's authority to employ them. In this connection we think the remarks of the Judge in *Taylor v. Hall* will be found illuminating and useful; they put the whole matter in a nutshell: "No doubt a usage exists in the building trade to the effect that if an architect is employed to prepare plans of a contemplated building and obtains proposals for the execution of the work, he employs a surveyor to make out quantities so as to enable the builder to calculate for what sum he can execute the work; and a copy of the calculations so made by the surveyor is supplied to each builder who intends to send in a tender for the execution of the works, and no doubt an express or implied contract is made by each builder who so obtains the surveyor's calculations that if he is the successful candidate whose proposal is accepted, he is the person to pay the surveyor his fees. If no tender is accepted, or if for any reason the owner changes his mind, and no contract is entered into with the builder, the owner is, of course, liable to the surveyor, he being the person for whom the work has been done, and the architect having the express or implied authority of the owner to employ the surveyor." Very well worth bearing in mind, these remarks, by all connected with the building trade. The case of *North v. Bassett* is a very clear example of the law as expressed above. Here North, a quantity surveyor, was employed by an architect to take out quantities for a building proposed to be erected. Bassett, a builder, tendered on a specification containing a clause as follows: "To provide for copies of quantities and plans, twenty-five guineas to be paid to North out of the first certificate." Bassett's tender was accepted, and he duly received the first instalment of the price. North brought an action against Bassett to recover the twenty-five guineas. Evidence was given that,

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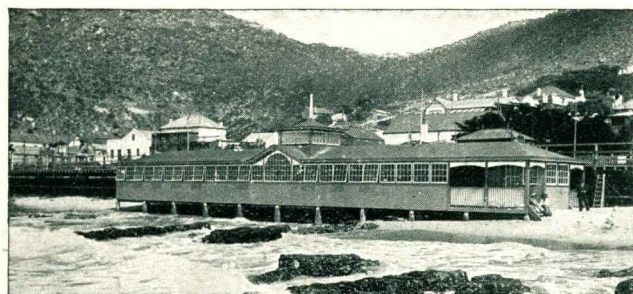
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by the usage of the building trade, the builder whose tender was accepted had to pay for the quantities, but that if no tender the employer or the architect had to pay. The Court held that the custom was reasonable, and that there was evidence of a contract between Bassett and North on which North was entitled to recover the amount of his claim. The principles laid down in this case and in Taylor v. Hall should be borne in mind by our readers.

A good deal of doubt and trouble arises when an architect, instead of employing a quantity surveyor, takes out quantities himself. There is in such a case no implied contract on the part of the employer to pay the architect for his trouble in this particular, nor is there any such implication as regards the builder. There must be a distinct understanding, express or implied, between the individual parties if the architect is to recover anything in such a case; there is no general rule of law which will enable him to do so.

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THE STRUCTURAL IDEAL IN ARCHITECTURE

We quote the following interesting letter by Mr. W. R. Lethaby to "The Builder," on the above vexed but nevertheless important question:—

"The interesting paper and discussion at the Institute reported recently possibly opened up the way for some approach to agreement on this exciting subject. In the main, two views only were expressed—one that modern building should be in a Renaissance manner, the other that it should chiefly be inspired by what we may call the structural ideal. I should like to point out certain difficulties in the way of the former scheme, and to make some explanation of the latter.

"As to the attempt to revive the Renaissance—

"(1) Is our aim to be similar to that of the artists of the Renaissance? That is, are we to try to work according to their general ideas and theories, whatever they may have been? Or are we to be inspired by what they did? This is a vital distinction at the outset.

"(2) What type of Renaissance is to be selected—the Italian school or the French? The mature English manner? Or should we try to pick up the thread where Wilkins, Cockerell, and Burton dropped it?

"(3) Any such choice, or indeed any decision for the Renaissance as a whole—if it is possible to conceive such a whole or to come to a decision—involves all sorts of further questions. For instance, must we attempt to rule out all ideas obtained from Greek delicacy of moulding, Byzantine splendour in surface casings, Gothic directness in structure?

"Leaving all this vain entanglement I will try to explain what should be understood by such a phrase as 'the structural ideal' in modern architecture.

"All fine forms of architecture have had certain general qualities apart from the special differences of style. Without any attempt at system or a full analysis, I would set down the following as characteristics common to many 'styles':—

"(1) Ordered arrangement—clearness, space, light.

"(2) Fine construction—directness, simplicity, daring.

"(3) Suitable materials—soundness.

"(4) Masterly craftsmanship—swiftness.

"(5) Adequate finish—refinement.

"(6) Some figure sculpture and ornamentation of many kinds.

"All these, save the last, may be covered by some such phrase as the 'constructional ideal,' and even the last does not necessarily involve 'working in a style.'

"I am anxious to make it clear that by the 'constructional ideal' in architecture it is not meant that the mere commonplaces of a poor tradition are enough; but it is suggested that some such general ideas as those set out above cover nearly all that can be meant by architecture. If these structural ideals

are seized on as being the heart of architecture, we need not mind that some style vestiges should survive for a time; but I do think that the time has come when only power in general ideas can interest us.

"I want now to suggest that the structural ideal as explained would furnish us instantly with a firm basis for reasonable and helpful criticism of modern buildings. All the rest is mere vague wash of wavering opinion.

"W. R. LETHABY."

THE ALBERT MEDAL OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS

At a recent meeting the Council of the Royal Society of Arts passed the following resolution:—"On the occasion of the fiftieth award of the Albert Medal of the Royal Society of Arts the Council of the Society desire to offer the Medal to H.M. King George V., for nine years President, and now Patron of the Society, in respectful recognition of his Majesty's untiring efforts to make himself personally acquainted with the social and economic condition of the various parts of his Dominions, and to promote the progress of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce in the United Kingdom and throughout the British Empire." The Albert Medal was established in 1862 as a memorial of H.R.H. the Prince Consort, who had been President of the Society for eighteen years. It is awarded annually for "distinguished merit in promoting Arts, Manufactures, or Commerce."

INDIAN MERCANTILE APPOINTMENT

"The Journal of the Society of Architects" says: We have been asked by the home representatives of a large firm of contractors in India to invite applications for a position of responsibility in connection with the planning and erection of buildings in India. Applicants must be of good social standing, and public school men will be preferred. They must be unmarried, about 25 to 30 years of age, and well qualified in the practical as well as the artistic side of the profession. Free passage, liberal salary and excellent prospects are offered to the selected candidate. We shall be pleased to act as the intermediary of qualified candidates.

THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION EXCURSION

The excursion of the Architectural Association will this year be to Normandy, and the headquarters will be at Rouen.

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WOMEN ARCHITECTS AND THEIR AIMS

Mrs. Elspeth Spencer, an architect in practice at Chelsea, who spoke recently at the Women's Institute in Victoria Street, Westminster, on "Architecture as a Profession for Women," considers that there is a growing demand for women to design comfortable houses. Nearly every woman, she said, has lived in a dream house, and knows how it is planned down to the smallest detail. She builds, as a home should be built, from the inside outwards, and knows little more about the exterior than that it must have roses growing over the porch, whereas the average man cares for the external appearance of the home he wants, and has the vaguest ideas about all the rest. The woman architect, Mrs. Spencer holds, is above all practical. What woman would plan a basement house? She never puts the windows so high that no one can see out of them, nor builds cupboards only to be reached by step-ladders. Mrs. Spencer was most interesting concerning ideal cupboards—staircase cupboards with doors at the side, larders

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with ventilators below as well as above, store cupboards, with shelves for little things on the doors, all cupboards shallow with doors opening widely enough for everything to be reached. Women architects, like men, must understand their work thoroughly, including applied mathematics and every branch of building. They must be able to supervise, and they will find the workmen interested and pleasant to work with. It is not easy to get into an architect's office, but the experience to be gained is invaluable, though no one can teach anyone else to design. The first commission is the difficulty. People are shy of commissioning a woman to do expensive work, but if her work is good she has a good chance of further success. For one person who wants a new house ten are anxious to make the best of the old, and Mrs. Spencer thinks women will find a great part of their work in connection with structural alterations, where a woman's advice is often of special value. Mrs. Spencer exhibited models and plans of houses which she had designed, and said she had not stopped at the mere walls of a house, but had made the complete residence, by designing and planning for furniture and fittings.

In the "Liverpool Echo" occurs an article, entitled "Women as Architects," with the sub-title, "Why they are so much needed in the Profession." We are always learning, often with sadness and in tears, but still learning. We are told that "the demand for women who can design modern, beautiful but comfortable houses is increasing," which strikes us as a cheerful fact, for where the demand exists the supply is likely to follow. We have not yet come across a case where the employment of a woman as an architect was made a "sine qua non," but we are anxious to believe that this is the case. Possibly the

recent Suffragette activity in burning down houses is caused by a laudable wish to accelerate the demand! If our fire insurance companies will give preferential rates in those cases where houses have been designed by women, a further improvement in the demand may arise. We are further told that, "After all, the work of a house is done by women, and the difficulty or ease of working it depends largely on the building of the house; it seems absurd to employ men as architects for this particular work." Here we have the thoroughgoing sense of conviction which will overcome all objection and produce the perfect faith which is, of all things, what we most need. We learn that there is some difficulty in a woman getting into an architect's office in order that she may qualify herself. Well, we have so much admiration for women that if they will apply to us confidentially we think we may find means for enabling them to overcome a difficulty which we believe to be overstated; but, if not, we will work overtime to bring about the consummation of their desires. We then learn that once a woman is qualified "there is a field of limitless work awaiting her." Is there any "arrière-pensée" here? If not, the problem is solved. There is a limitless field of unpaid work for all of us, but that does not solve all difficulties. But if we are to understand that the limitless work is paid even at the present miserable scale fees, we would make a practical suggestion. Many among the present toilers in the vineyard, being mere males, have not found the delectable pastures mentioned, but many of them could perhaps run a house, and would be willing to do so while the woman worked in the limitless field before mentioned. Would matrimony be considered as a positive bar? If not, we might perhaps add to our labours that of finding



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men partners in every sense of the word, and we should then be the pioneers of a new and greater Renaissance; and to bring ourselves into touch with new conditions we would take the title of the "Lady-Builder."

THE NEW DELHI AND THE INDIAN CRAFTSMAN

There seems to be but little danger of the new Delhi being rushed up with unseemly haste. It is true that the Government of India have almost decided upon the site; but, as if to atone for this precipitancy, they have made an arrangement which promises to act as a very efficient check on rash speed. They are, we are told, "steadily adhering to the policy of encouraging indigenous talent." Before

encouraging it, however, they have to find it. "First catch your hare." Studios are to be formed, where will be welcomed "any Indian craftsman who may show himself by practical work to be able to assist in furnishing decorative details for important buildings. Opportunity will be accorded in this way for indigenous artistic talent to find expression, and to be trained to further development in adaptation to modern Indian requirements." Certainly one is at a loss as to exactly how long it will take to develop an indigenous artistic talent, but there exists a vague general impression that the process might be somewhat languorous; in which case the new city is not likely to be built—or, at all events, decorated—with indecent haste. Of course, the idea is not at all new. Sir W. B. Richmond, in training his mosaic workers for St. Paul's, was following Italian precedent. But in these cases the workers were taught by some master of the crafts. Presumably this is to be so in Delhi, with the difference that there, probably, the masters will be under a greater obligation to learn as well as to teach, in the ductile spirit of Chaucer's curate. With all this reciprocity, if the teachers are to be Europeans, the adaptation of indigenous artistic talent to modern Indian requirements should result in a new blend of East and West which may chance to be no less curious than beautiful. From the considerably more than a million native builders it should certainly be possible to draw a fair percentage of artistic craftsmen, from whom their teachers will have much to learn; and the fate of Indian craftsmanship will turn on the European capacity for assimilating and applying the knowledge. The position is as interesting as it is critical.—'Architects' and Builders' Journal."

Another new wool store at Durban is being added to the number of fine wool stores already existing on the Bay Side, the latest being for Messrs. W. H. Muller and Co. It has a frontage of 103 feet to the Esplanade, and is 225 feet deep. A very handsome and commodious two-storey structure with a saw-tooth roof has been designed by Mr. Arthur G. Cross, Lic. R.I.B.A., Durban, and is to cost over £10,000. The main contractor is Mr. W. Cornelius, while the steelwork, comprising nearly 200 tons of stanchions, compound girders, roof trusses, etc., is in the hands of Messrs. J. Owen Jones and Co., Durban. The building is to be completed before the end of the year.

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TENSILE TESTS OF CONCRETE

A series of tests on concrete specimens measuring 18in. long by 6in. square has recently been made in the engineering laboratory at Cornell University. The specimens were of three different mixtures, the first a 1:2:4 mixture containing limestone crushed to pass a 1½in. ring, the second a 1:2:4 mixture containing sandstone, crushed to pass a 2½in. ring, and the third a 1:2½:5 mixture containing crushed sandstone similar to that of the second mixture. In six tests the 1:2:4 limestone concrete showed an average tensile strength of 278lb. per square inch, the highest being 308lb. per square inch, and the lowest 253lb. per square inch. In nine tests, the 1:2:4 sandstone concrete showed an average tensile strength of 150lb. per square inch, the highest being 178lb. per square inch, and the lowest 128lb. per square inch. In nine tests, the 1:2½:5 sandstone concrete showed an average tensile strength of 129lb. per square inch, the highest being 179lb. per square inch, and the lowest being 97lb. per square inch.

It is worthy of note that in many instances particles of sandstone were split in two in the plane of the fracture instead of breaking the bond with the mortar. This was particularly so in the case of the red sandstone, and illustrates the importance attaching to the skeleton of aggregates for employment in concrete work.—"Contract Record."

BUSHMAN PAINTINGS

At the monthly meeting of the South African Royal Society at Capetown, the president, Dr. Peringuey, observed that there appeared to be a little controversy going on with regard to the pigment used for the Bushman paintings in East Griqualand. Personally, he did not think there was anything in the theory that the paintings were fixed after the rocks had been smeared with honey. Referring to another theory that the fats were mixed with ochres, he thought if that were so the pigments would dis-

appear. An interesting fact in connection with the paintings made with red ochre was that they lasted longer than the others, the yellow ochre paintings coming next in point of durability to the red. He suggested that the oxide of iron in the red ochre acted as a preservative. He was also of the opinion that Bushmen applied the pigments by means of wooden sticks, and that juice from certain plants were mixed with the pigments. Dr. Marloth agreed that the smearing of the rocks before painting was quite out of the question, and said that he had been informed that the Bushmen used milk and the resinous juices of plants when they made the paintings.

THE R.I.B.A.

South African members of the Royal Institute of British Architects will be glad to note the steady increase in the membership of that body, which is recorded in the annual report. The numbers are now 847 Fellows, 1,630 Associates, 54 Hon. Associates, and 2,101 Licentiates. There is, however, a slight decrease in the Fellowship. There are now 847 Fellows, as against 859 in 1912, 862 in 1911, and 874 in 1910. In spite of the fact that ten out of twenty-one Licentiates who have passed the requisite examination have been duly elected to the Fellowship.

The miners' strike was productive of much damage to property in Johannesburg, amounting probably to £40,000, roughly estimated as follows: Park Railway Station, £5,000; "Star" newspaper, £20,000; Walshe's gun store, £800; Bright's outfitting store, £800; Perrins' gun store, £500; Chudleigh's store, £2,500; Shimwell's gun store, £800; plate glass in city stores, looting, etc., £10,000. In addition to this sum—which is only a rough estimate, although compiled as a result of inquiries in responsible quarters—much other damage was done in the way of despoiling property, blowing up railway trucks, smashing trains, and destroying mine property.

ROME SCHOLARSHIP IN ARCHITECTURE

The Faculty of Architecture of the British School at Rome met recently to assess the designs submitted by the competitors in the first competition for the Rome Scholarship in Architecture, and selected from among them the following to compete in the final competition: Thomas Braddock, H. C. Bradshaw, Ernest Cormier, Richard Duckett, Louis de Soissons, William H. Thompson, and Edward G. Wylie. Two of the seven—Mr. Bradshaw and Mr. Thompson—were trained in the Liverpool School of Architecture. Mr. Duckett and Mr. de Soissons are also eligible for the Jarvis Studentship of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

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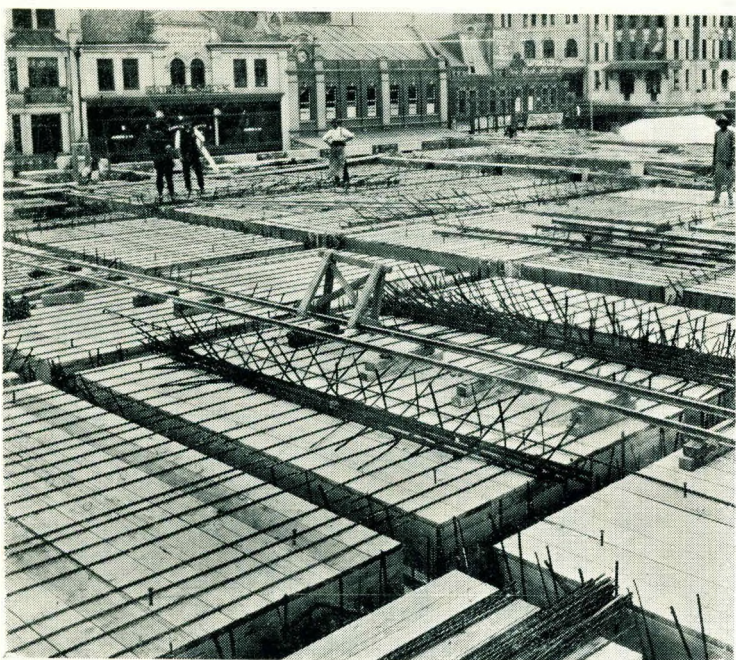
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Erection of school for Indians, Ladysmith, Natal. Mr. D. Shearer, Ladysmith, Natal.

Supply and delivery of certain furniture, Union Buildings, Pretoria. Mr. A. Redman, 425, Schoeman Street, Pretoria; Messrs. L. P. Boyce and Co., Zeerust; Messrs. D. Isaacs and Co., Longmarket Street, Capetown; Messrs. T. W. Beckett and Co., Ltd., Pretoria; Mr. J. Gurney, Box 2116, Johannesburg.

Fire exits, Pietermaritzburg Gaol. Mr. G. Mattin, Pietermaritzburg.

Colouring and painting Colonial Office Buildings, Pietermaritzburg. Mr. S. P. Smith, Pietermaritzburg.

Erection of quarters and offices, Native Affairs Department, Rooiberg Tin Mines. Mr. R. A. Wilkinson, Box 1862, Johannesburg.

Storm water drainage, Addington Hospital, Durban. Mr. J. McCormack, 707, Currie Road, Durban.

Erection of school for sixty-four pupils, Vaalbank No. 116, Lichtenburg. Mr. A. P. Leonie, East End, Lichtenburg.

Erection of school for forty-eight pupils, Goede Hoop No. 20, Carolina. Mr. A. P. Campbell, Carolina.

Erection of school for sixty-four pupils, Zoek-makaar No. 189, Zoutpansberg. Mr. P. Gallo, Box 145, Pietermaritzburg.

Erection of school for eighty pupils, Parkmore, Johannesburg. Messrs. Moir and Harper, Box 1987, Johannesburg.

Supply and delivery, etc., of science fittings, boys' schools, Edenburg and Reddersburg, and girls' school, Wepener. Mr. A. S. Mitchell, Paardekraal, Bloemfontein.

Supply and delivery, etc., of science fittings, boys' schools, Bethlehem, Bethulie, Parys, Boshof, and Heilbron, and girls' schools, Winburg, Lindley, Ficksburg, Ladybrand, Bethlehem, and Kroonstad. Mr. H. H. Beamish, Box 152, Bloemfontein.

Erection of teachers' quarters, Creighton, Natal. Mr. A. C. Bell, Pietermaritzburg.

Erection of an X-rays building, Addington Hospital, Durban. Mr. J. R. McKinlay, Old Dutch Road, Durban.

Additions to Alexandra Hospital, Maitland, Capetown. Messrs. A. B. Reid and Co., Capetown.

Erection of a school, Crown Reef Mines, Johannesburg. Messrs. Moir and Harper, Box 1987, Johannesburg.

Erection of a school for sixty-four pupils and teachers' quarters, Sabie Township. Mr. W. S. Lampen, 137, President Street, Pretoria.

Certain repairs to Old Somerset Hospital, Capetown. Messrs. Tidswell and Goodman, 21, Commercial Street, Capetown.

Erection of bridge over Indumeni Spruit, Dundee Town Lands, District Ladysmith. Messrs. Peattie and Stannard, 180, Church Street, Pietermaritzburg.

Additions to school, Zastron, O.F.S. Messrs. Rowe and Marshall, Box 65, Kroonstad.

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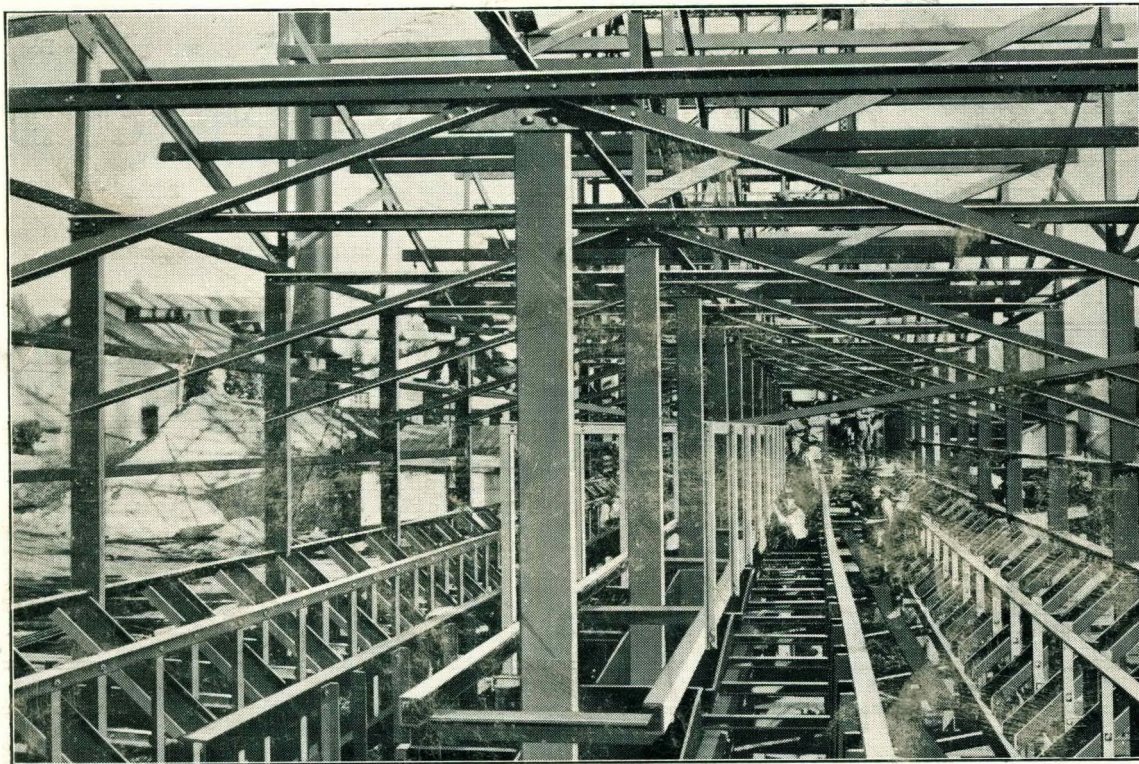
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