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THE SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTURAL RECORD

The Journal of the Transvaal, Natal and Orange Free State Provincial Institutes of South African Architects and the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors.

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COFFEE

From the Studio

Coffee and liqueur arranged by Marguerita Mergentime of New York

PROPOSED SEA-PLANE BASE

DOCK AND CITY EXTENSION, CAPETOWN

By A. ALLEN.

The proposed new dock and seaplane base as designed by J. F. Craig, Esq., M.I.C.E., Resident Harbour Engineer, Capetown, is an achievement worthy of accomplishment.

It is a bold and practical scheme which has been rendered necessary by the advancement of aerial transport and the increasing size and tonnage of modern steamships.

In placing the new dock in the position shown on the plan, Mr. Craig has kept in view the effect of the prevailing wind on landing and taking-off of airships and on the docking of large steamships and also economy in construction.

The latest method for emptying large steamers of their passengers in a minimum of time and with the least possible delay in passing both passengers and their baggage through the Customs is to be incorporated in the scheme. The Customs department will be situated on the second floor of the new dock buildings, into which passengers and baggage will be landed direct from the ship, so that the general public, together with passengers and baggage, will be kept off the quayside out of the way of the other working arrangements for discharging and loading cargo.

This necessitates an elevated roadway with ramps leading thereto so that motor cars and taxis can discharge or pick up passengers on the floor of the Customs baggage department, from which the gangway to and from the ship will be connected.

It will be seen from the plan that the placing of the new dock in the position shown necessitates reclaiming a very considerable area between the new dock and the foreshore of the city, and as the cost of construction and reclamation is to be borne in the first instance by the Government, it is but natural that the Government will expect to reimburse itself through the proceeds of the sale of the reclaimed area for business and industrial purposes.

That being so, the financial success or otherwise of the scheme depends very largely upon the proper planning of the reclaimed area, and I have planned this area:—

1. With a direct attractive and pleasing approach to and from the new docks and the city.
2. With the added area planned on lines which will enhance the value of its building sites.
3. With convenient and suitable sites for departmental offices, Customs offices, new dock railway station, new goods station and extensive and convenient parking areas adjoining the new docks for motor cars and taxis.
4. With a complete working scheme for rail and road transport, which will function economically and smoothly, with no level crossings in the commercial area.

In planning the area between the new dock and the city, I have retained an area of water as a pleasure basin which, I submit, will add enormously to the attractiveness and the approach to the city.

On the side of the pleasure basin I have shown a garden area, and, parallel with this, Adderley Street extended, and, bordering on the other side, a screen of trees with an avenue in the centre for pedestrians. This would be similar to Government Avenue at the other end of Adderley Street.

This arrangement, which is the same on both sides of the basin, will make an effective screen to the industrial area on the one side and the goods station on the other, besides creating shaded approaches to and from the docks and city for pedestrians and adding greatly to the amenities of the city.

With such an attractive approach, in addition to its naturally beautiful setting Capetown would be a city unique, and the view from the elevated amphitheatre forming the central feature of the new dock buildings would create

a lasting good impression in the minds of visitors from overseas, which would be a great asset in itself to the nation. The pleasure basin would be connected to the new dock by two culverts, through which tidal water would enter and discharge. The culverts would be fitted with a screen which would prevent ships' garbage from entering the basin. This basin would be sufficiently large to admit of aquatic sports and other attractions being carried on, and would be a safe and convenient water area for the youth of the city to indulge in sculling and yachting.

A concert hall has been provided for in the scheme, where the City Orchestra could be heard to advantage. Adjoining this concert hall would be an open-air bandstand, where the orchestra could perform on suitable evenings and loud-speakers could be installed at different points around the lake, adding additional charm. Suitably coloured illuminating lights should be placed around the edge of the lake, the reflection on the water of which would show up to advantage and brighten up the area at night. A large illuminated fountain in the centre of the lake would be an added attraction. All this would be a practical scheme which, if carried out on the lines I have stated, would add enormously to the attractiveness and amenities of the city. The replanning of the present railway area between Adderley Street and the Castle presents a more formidable problem and one which requires and demands a great deal of careful thought and vision. As it is at present, it not only constitutes a definite block to progress and development in the city, but from a railway point of view and from a business point of view it is used uneconomically, resulting in perpetual loss.

All interests are agreed that it is a disgraceful shambles right at the entrance gate to our country which is discreditable to the nation, and its reconstruction is long overdue. The proposed removal of the goods station to a portion of the area to be reclaimed on the foreshore and the proposed reconstruction of the passenger station in the city suggests a scheme, the magnitude of which, together with the potentialities of such a valuable area, warrants and demands most careful planning if it is desired to make the best out of the opportunity. Whether the opening up of this area to the city is to be a success or a failure depends almost entirely on the decision of the railway authorities as to the placing of the site for the new station.

In order to arrive at some reliable estimate of the probable increase in population and probable direction in which future expansion will take place, it becomes necessary for us to be guided very largely by what has happened in this connection during the past 25 years and by the physical propensities of the area being dealt with. If we have any faith at all in the future progress of the country, then the lowest estimate of the increase in population of the city during the next 25 years can be safely estimated to be at least equal to the increase in population which has taken place during the past 25 years.

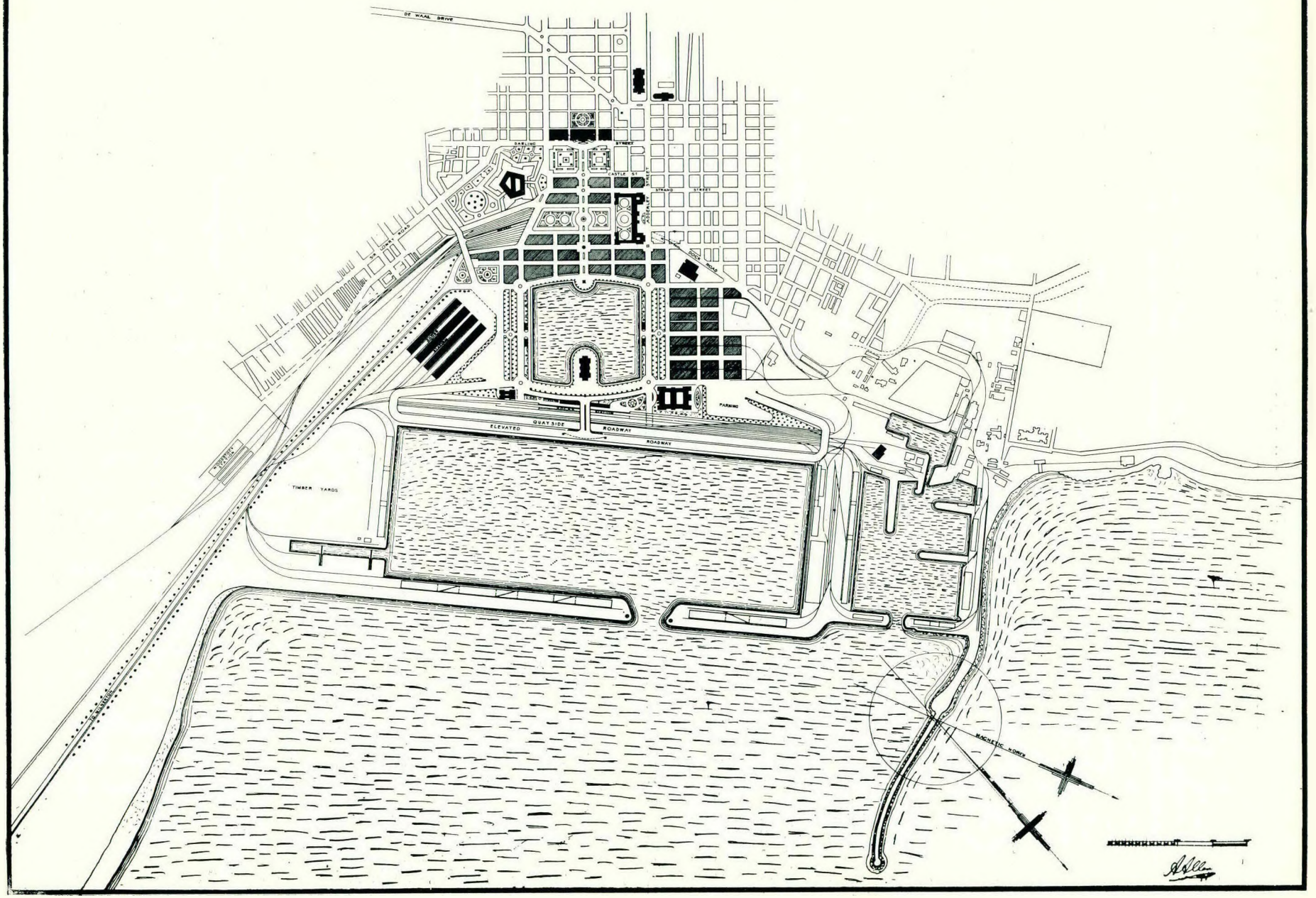
We know definitely the direction in which future development in the city will take place because the city is hemmed in by Table Mountain and the Lion's Rump on two sides; therefore future extension in the city must be in a south-easterly direction or, in other words, towards Woodstock and towards the proposed new dock on the foreshore.

Having this knowledge in front of us, we can with some degree of accuracy arrive at a conclusion with regard to the whereabouts of the probable centre of the population of the city in 25 years' time, and one can safely predict that it will have moved in that period to a point somewhere in the neighbourhood of the Castle.

The next question to be decided is: Would the interests of the public be served better in the future by keeping the station in or near to Adderley Street, where, in 25 years' time, or less, it would not be in the centre of the city, or would it serve the public better if it were in the centre of the population ? Or, alternatively, would the railway revenue suffer if the new station were placed at the lower side of the Castle ?

The Railway Department say definitely it would and appear adamant on keeping it adjacent to Adderley Street. I cannot help thinking that the Department, in coming to this decision, is thinking only of the present and is not considering the future. Thinking only of purely railway interests, and not the interests of the future of the country in whose service it exists.

PROPOSED
CITY AND DOCK EXTENSION AND SEAPLANE BASE
CAPE TOWN



If the new station be placed in the vicinity of Adderley Street and railway connection be kept on the surface, then the city must remain severed in two, which means that the new areas to be opened up on either side would be reduced in value at least by 50 per cent. It means that it would be impossible to plan the area in a way which would make a pleasing entrance to the country or to add an area which would return any adequate value to the city or make Capetown a city worthy of its magnificent natural setting.

To my mind, a fair and businesslike compromise would be either to place the new station fronting on to the proposed new central avenue leading from the City Hall to the foreshore, or, if it is to remain in the vicinity of Adderley Street, the platforms should be lowered sufficiently to allow the new streets to go over them on the present level.

As the Department appears to be adamant on keeping the entrance to the station adjacent to Adderley Street, I have planned the area accordingly, but assuming that the platforms will be lowered and a station constructed similar to Princess Street Waverley Station in Edinburgh.

I would, however, like to emphasise that if the station is placed fronting on to the proposed central avenue in line with the centre of the City Hall, the improvement gained in the layout of the area would add enormously to its value and also to its appearance, and I doubt very much if it would be the means of losing the Department a single passenger or any reduction whatever in revenue.

It has been said that certain subterranean difficulties exist in Capetown which would render the lowering of the Capetown Station impracticable. I am not sure whether I should class this statement as a myth or as a red herring, as it certainly has no foundation in fact, and is not complimentary to the abilities of our engineers.

There are no physical difficulties in the way of constructing an underground station, and when completed its appearance would be very little different to what it would appear if on the level of the street. An easy approach and exit can be arranged for motor car and taxi communication to and from the platforms, and the few steps or an inclined approach which would have to be negotiated by pedestrians could not be considered a disadvantage.

There are also no difficulties in providing railway communication between the City Railway Station and the docks, and it will be possible for the mail train leaving the mail boat berth to draw into the main Central Station in the city before proceeding to the North. Providing railway communication between the Central Station and all portions of the docks, including the new goods station at the end of the new dock on the Woodstock side will offer no difficulties, and if the platforms of the Central Station are lowered, there need be no level crossings in Adderley Street.

I submit and would strongly urge that no thought whatever be given to reconstructing the railway station on the surface in Adderley Street, as it would be disastrous to the future development and prosperity of Capetown. If the station must remain on the surface, then it should be placed at least far enough back so that its front will be opposite the City Hall, or if it must be in Adderley Street then it should be lowered sufficiently to admit of the streets being carried over it on the surface. Either of these alternatives will fit in with a proper town planning scheme which will add value to the city's amenities and enable the city to be brought to its proper status as the Mother City of South Africa.

This great seaplane base and docks will be the forerunner of great expansion in Capetown, and the planning of this expansion, if given careful thought based on common sense, can make the city, with its wonderful natural setting, a unique city without a rival in the whole world.

The carrying out of this great scheme will create the possibility of extensive building operations, which in turn will create employment and increased purchasing power, which means increased home markets for farm produce and increased general prosperity without adding any additional burden on the tax payer. Can any of our politicians evolve a better way of promoting prosperity in the Western Province ? If they can it is their duty to do so.

THE CAPE PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Minutes of the 37th Annual General Meeting of the Cape Provincial Institute of Architects, held in the Argus Boardroom, Capetown, on March 12th, 1936.

Present: Messrs. H. J. Brownlee, W. A. Ritchie Fallon, B. St. C. Lightfoot, Fred M. Glennie, C. W. Roxburgh, Douglas Hoets, F. K. Kendall, C. P. Walgate, E. G. Hart, R. F. Ohlsson, S. Chapman, R. F. R. Day, Reg. de Smidt, L. A. Elsworth, Brian Mansergh, Austin Cooke, J. K. Parker, and the Secretary.

The President, Mr. C. P. Walgate, occupied the chair.

Apologies for their inability to be present at the meeting were received from Mr. W. G. Fagg and Mr. James Morris.

The Chairman, before commencing the formal proceedings, asked all present to stand in silence as a token of respect to the memory of John Quail, a recently deceased member of the profession.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman suggested that as the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, held on March 15th, 1935, had been circulated to all members, these should be taken as read and signed. This was agreed to.

The Chairman, at this stage of the proceedings, declared the ballot closed, and thereupon Messrs. Chapman, Roxburgh and Fallon were appointed scrutineers. The ballot papers having been verified and dealt with in terms of the regulations, the scrutineers retired to count the votes.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

The Chairman, in the absence of the donors, presented the following prizes to students of the University of Capetown:—

The "Architect, Builder and Engineer" prize, for the best work done during the final year of the course, to Miss Patricia Elizabeth Barry.

The "John Perry" prize, for the best work done during the third year of the course, to Mr. Douglas Hoets, on behalf of his son, Mr. John Orpen Hoets.

He announced that in the case of the Argus Medal no award had been made for 1935.

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

The Chairman, in proposing the adoption of the report and accounts for the year ended December 31st, said: The purpose of a presidential address in this Institute has never been clearly defined, and addresses in the past have presented a wide variation of theme. The last time the task fell to me I think I exercised my unquestioned gift of prophesy, and this time, as I am going to be dummy next year, I will take the opportunity of spreading out for your inspection a few details of the Institute's activities.

PUBLICATIONS.

Our kalendar has been published annually by the Cape Institute since 1913, and by bringing in some income by way of profits from advertising, it has helped to keep us solvent during difficult times. For many years Mr. Austin Cooke was the honorary editor and business manager, and when advancing years made it difficult for him to continue this unselfish and valuable service our Secretary took on the management and also the routine editorial work, in consultation with some member of the committee who was appointed to act as honorary editor.

Two years ago the committee tried the experiment of giving out the business management on commission to an advertising agent, but it was not a success, and last year an offer was accepted from a firm which took over the publication, paying the Institute an agreed sum irrespective of its own profit or loss. This arrangement has not run smoothly. A suggestion was made in Central Council that we discontinue publication of our kalendar and

send our local matter for publication in the Central Council's kalendar. It was felt, however, that it would be a pity to break a tradition that goes back long before registration, and I hope that the next committee will have better luck in its undertaking. Our subscriptions should be sufficient to cover the cost of administering the Institute's affairs, and the profit from the kalendar might be earmarked for building up a good reference library.

For a number of years the "Architect, Builder and Engineer" was the semi-official organ of the Cape Institute, and we paid a small subscription towards its cost. During a period of difficult negotiations between the Cape Institute and the Central Council some of the editorial comments were so inconveniently outspoken that our semi-official connection with the publication had to be dropped to facilitate the establishment of better relationship with the other Provinces. At about the same time our financial support had to be withdrawn. The reason for this step was lack of funds, and it occurred only by accident at about the time the official relationship was dropped. We have, therefore, no claim whatever on the journal, but Mr. Delbridge, as part owner, and editor of the architectural section, has always kindly published any notices given to him by our Secretary. For this courtesy, and for the paper itself, I tender him our sincere thanks.

Then, for some years, you have been receiving the "South African Architectural Record." This is published by the Transvaal Provincial Institute as its official organ, and has been adopted by the Natal and Orange Free State Institutes. We have been asked to follow suit and to appoint a local editor to collect material for publication and presumably attend to local advertising business. The idea of one journal for the whole of the South African Institute was attractive, but in view of our long association with the "Architect, Builder and Engineer" no decision was arrived at. The matter will doubtless come up again at the next meeting of Central Council.

CONTRACT FORM.

You will remember that the Cape architects, used to the old blue form, did not take kindly to the present white form, and that negotiations between this Institute and the master builders with regard to its use ended in a deadlock. A special sub-committee, consisting of the vice-president, Mr. Brownlee, and Mr. Fallon, has spent much time and given patient care to the problem, and they have drafted a number of amendments to the white form which we hope will meet with general acceptance and make the form of contract a sound, business-like document that will stand the strain of those fortunately rare occasions when things go wrong with a job and the salutary provisions of the contract have to be brought into effect. I think that a good deal of hasty work went into the drawing up of the contract form, and there has been much hasty criticism of it. Mr. Brownlee and Mr. Fallon have now provided the care, patience and concentration which were wanting. I tender them the grateful thanks of the Institute and wish their draft, which is now in the hands of our legal advisers, the good luck it deserves when it is submitted to Central Council next month.

DUTIES OF AN ARCHITECT.

There is another piece of sub-committee work of which I am unable to report such satisfactory progress. Two years ago Central Council first discussed the possibility of preparing, for general information, a statement setting out the duties, responsibilities and powers of an architect in accordance with recognised practice, as these have never been defined in law. I was asked to write out something tentatively, and last year Central Council discussed my memorandum and decided that such a statement would be dangerous and misleading unless it was formally agreed to by the parties concerned. I was asked to draft a document which would be an agreement between client and architect, and I found myself so unsympathetic towards the task that I begged for a collaborator. Mr. Morris was made the other half of the sub-committee, and I found that his views agreed with mine—that an architect would not care to ask his client to sign any agreement. The effect of the document would be in consideration of a state fee to charge the architect with certain duties and invest him with corresponding authority, and at the same time protect him against undue liability. I think that it savours too much of an attempt to evade our responsibilities. The problem lies there for someone else to tackle, and it is a difficult one.

FINANCE.

This is not one of my favourite subjects, and I have been helped throughout the year by a sub-committee consisting of my partner, Captain Elsworth, and Mr. Day. My personal thanks are due to them, and if you have any hard questions to ask about our balance sheet I shall call on them to reply. Our financial matter has interested me deeply. Among the family of constituent bodies comprising the Institute, this is the one that has always found difficulty in meeting its expenses. At the last meeting of Central Council, which you will remember assembled in Capetown, a more kindly ear was given to our annual plaint, and I believe that in view of our isolation and our scattered formation some special consideration will be extended to us. I would rather have seen the levy on all constituent bodies reduced, but the others appear content to pay one-third of their income for Central expenses. They do not support us in any move towards a reduction, and we must thankfully accept special relief if it is offered to us. While speaking of financial matters, I should like to remind you that at our last Annual General Meeting Mr. Hawke's presidential address contained a recommendation that a special grant be made to our Secretary in view of the drastic curtailment of his remuneration that had been made necessary by our deficit. It happened that the effect of the decisions that had been taken was slow in showing itself, and after reviewing the position the special grant was never made. This year, however, the full effect of the cut has been revealed, and the Secretary has had a very bad year indeed. I trust that the grant which was withheld last year will be made by the new committee without delay.

The outlook of our Institute with regard to social activities has been reviewed during the past year, and it was felt that the poor response that generally was made to any effort on the part of the committee to move beyond its routine duties showed that a very conservative policy was called for. Towards the end of the year we decided to take a few good technical periodicals, and they have just begun to arrive. Members are invited to come and see them during office hours, and we thought you might like to fix a weekly or monthly day when you would meet at the Institute's room for tea, look at the magazines, exchange news and get to know each other better. I thought that either the President or Vice-President should try to be present to answer questions or hear suggestions. This informal meeting might suffice or it might open the way to other social activities. At any rate, you are invited to make use of the meeting room in this way, and if you do not do so the committee will assume that it need not bother any more, and that you do not feel the need of the Institute as a professional meeting ground.

There are two matters which I should like to commend to the attention of your new committee and its representatives on Central Council.

The first is our scale of fees. I have come to the conclusion that the flat rate of 6 per cent. is fair on the average, but not always fair in its particular incidence. It does not seem reasonable to charge the same fee for designing a six thousand pound warehouse as we do for a six thousand pound house or bioscope; then we have recently been reminded by a local authority that we have no tariff for housing work, and some years ago Central Council discussed the desirability of finding some way of helping our members to get the small domestic work which is done under building societies and finance companies without architectural control. In such work full services are not required, and a modified tariff would be applicable. This is deserving of the most exhaustive investigation.

The second point is advertising. We are precluded by good taste if not by regulation from boosting ourselves, and it is a pity that our individual reticences amount to collective reticence. People forget about architects: the small client goes straight to the builder and the bigger client does not always know what an architect does and how to make the best use of his services. Both the R.I.B.A. and the American Institute of Architects have publications designed to inform the public, and something of the kind would strengthen our professional position here. The daily Press offers another field for collective advertising. I have seen on the building page an occasional note about what architects are for, but much more might be done to encourage people to come to us for advice. It must be apparent to the layman, if he is made to think, that we cannot spend our lives dealing with building problems

without learning many things that he has never heard about, and if he grasps the fact that he buys our experience at the cost of a fee that can be saved several times over during the progress of the job, we may yet see coming our way work which is now done without us.

BUILDING REGULATIONS.

Our antiquated and incoherent municipal bye-laws continue to cause great inconvenience. The waste of time and effort in architects' offices and the City Engineer's department and the delay and loss to our clients must amount to thousands of pounds every year. New bye-laws have been under consideration for a long while, but they never materialise. We learn with great satisfaction that the Government is drawing up building regulations intended to apply throughout the Union. I have seen the draft of the plumbing and drainage section, which is modern and reasonable with its provisions and brief and clear in its statement. We hope that the other sections will be as good and that we may have the benefit of them at no distant date.

The Cape Divisional Council is preparing a set of simple building regulations for the rural area under its control. The draft was submitted to us and a number of suggestions we made were courteously received.

I wish to take the opportunity of thanking the retiring Vice-President for his staunch help. Mr. Brownlee, before registration, was intimately connected with this committee, but has not taken any part in its activities for some years. In spite of this detachment, he quickly took a firm grasp of its business, and was a most valuable representative on Central Council. During the year it has become increasingly difficult for me to give up the time necessary for the work of the Institute, and Mr. Brownlee has taken off my shoulders much of the burden. I ask him to accept this expression of my sincere appreciation and gratitude.

To Major Duncan I tender my personal thanks, along with those of the Institute, for his unfailing care in the exercise of his secretarial duties. On more than one occasion this year I have heard appreciative comment on his ability and helpfulness when called upon by persons in difficulty.

I am not seeking re-election to the committee, as I have been on it for fourteen years, and I think it is time someone else took a share of the work, but if ever my experience of the Institute's affairs would be of value, you will know where to find me.

Mr. Austin Cooke seconded the adoption of the report and balance sheet, which was carried unanimously. The Chairman informed the meeting that Mr. Cooke had recently given up practice and been transferred to the retired class of members. Mr. Cooke, he added, was one of the foundation members of the old Cape Institute of Architects, and he acted as Honorary Secretary for a number of years in its early stages. In order to mark the occasion, the committee will entertain Mr. Cooke to lunch and at the same time present him with a token of the Institute's esteem.

Mr. Kendall asked further information in connection with two items mentioned in the report under the head of Central Council, viz., re-arrangement of the regulations and Code of Ethics. The required information having been given by the Chairman, Mr. Kendall referred to the architectural section of the Annual Exhibition of Contemporary Art held in Capetown, pointing out its educational value to the public, and expressing the opinion that members should take greater advantage of this excellent means of bringing their works to notice—a form of advertisement to which no exception could be taken.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR.

Mr. A. V. Solomon (C.A. South Africa) was appointed Auditor for the ensuing year.

DECLARATION OF BALLOT.

The Chairman announced the result of the ballot for the 1936-37 Provincial Committee to be:—

H. J. Brownlee, F.R.I.B.A.; R. F. R. Day, A.R.I.B.A.; L. A. Elsworth, A.R.I.B.A.; Fred M. Glennie, M.I.A.; W. Hawke, F.R.I.B.A.; F. K. Kendall, F.R.I.B.A.; B. St. C. Lightfoot, A.R.I.B.A.; Brian Mansergh, A.R.I.B.A., and J. K. Parker, A.R.I.B.A.

Mr. Kendall proposed a vote of thanks to the scrutineers for their work, and this was carried.

The Chairman, Mr. Brownlee, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Walgate for presiding at

the meeting, said : " I have served as Mr. Walgate's lieutenant during the past year, both as Vice-President of this Institute and as his colleague on the Central Council, and I have never found a happier relationship in all my years of professional experience here and in other parts of the Empire.

" Mr. Walgate, as many of you know, has been a member of this Institute for many years, and he has taken a prominent part in its affairs, both before and after registration. He was one of our first representatives on the Central Council, and it fell to his lot to resist what the Cape regarded as encroachments on the autonomous rights of the constituent bodies, it being largely due to his efforts that the difficulty was ultimately solved and these autonomous rights recognised and safeguarded.

" Through all his years of service the work of Mr. Walgate has been characterised by thoroughness and care. Although on occasion he has disagreed with his colleagues upon matters of policy, it was due to his tact and diplomacy that he never failed to hold their respect.

" I have, in conclusion, no hesitation in affirming that my friend, Mr. Walgate, has done as much, if not more, for the profession in South Africa than any other member of the Institute.

" We learned with very much regret that Mr. Walgate did not seek re-election this year. His wise and mature council will be very much missed, but I wish to express the hope, on my own behalf and of all our members, that after he has enjoyed a spell of rest he will again link up with our professional Councils."

THE NATAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE

ANNUAL REPORT, 1935.

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

MEMBERSHIP.

The membership at the close of the year consisted of forty-seven practising, nine salaried, two absentee and four retired members, making a total of sixty-two members.

During the year three new members have been enrolled and one member has been transferred from the salaried to the practising class of membership.

MEETINGS.

One Annual General Meeting, one Special General Meeting and fourteen Committee meetings, besides several sub-committee meetings were held during the year, and the attendance has been satisfactory.

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

Your President, Mr. E. M. Powers, is this Institute's representative on the Central Council, with Mr. Wallace Paton as alternate. Mr. Powers also represents this Institute on the Standing Committee on education and examinations.

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

Mr. Wallace Paton is this Institute's representative on the Art Consultative Committee of the Natal Technical College.

The Committee's thanks are due to these members for giving much of their valuable time to the various matters concerned.

Among other matters, a deal of attention has been given to the revision of Borough building bye-laws, and several conferences have taken place between members of the Committee and the Corporation Plans Sub-Committee during the year, the most important being the promulgation of a bye-law in effect that all plans submitted for the erection of a building over a certain amount shall be prepared and signed by a qualified architect, and also

co-ordination of design and architectural control within the Borough.

A deputation from the Institute waited on the Building Plans Committee to explain in detail the proposal that plans should be signed by qualified architects. It is regretted that as the former draft bye-law proved not acceptable to the Provincial Council, the Durban City Council felt that no good purpose would be served by re-submitting the suggested bye-law even in the altered form and effect suggested by the Institute.

A meeting of the Central Council was held at Capetown in June last, at which this Institute's representative, Mr. Powers, attended. The meeting lasted four days, and, as usual, a great many matters of interest to the profession were dealt with.

The Council makes a strong recommendation to the Provincial Institutes, that wherever possible no pupil is to be taken into an architect's office unless he has first had at least one year tuition at a recognised school of architecture, and in no case should a pupil be articled unless he has obtained the Matriculation Certificate or its equivalent. Failure to observe this recommendation only leads to difficulty and disappointment in the future and is very unfair to the pupil.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ARCHITECTS.

Mr. Robert Howden attended the International Congress of Architects, held at Rome in September last, as representative of the Union Government, the Institute and the Chapter, the Union Government donating 100 guineas towards the expenses of Mr. Howden, the delegate from South Africa, the remainder of the expenses being covered by subscriptions from private members of the Provincial Institutes.

We look forward to a report of the proceedings being published in due course.

ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

The Committee wishes to remind members of the facilities now afforded in courses of architectural education at the Natal Technical College.

Full particulars of these courses may be obtained on application to the Registrar of the Natal Technical College.

FINANCES.

The audited balance sheet and statement of accounts for the year accompanying this report show the financial position, which may be considered very satisfactory.

The revenue and expenditure accounts for the twelve months ending 31st December, 1935, after writing off £10 depreciation on furniture, reflects an excess of revenue over expenditure of £30 0s. 8d., less a donation of £10 10s. 0d. to the "Howden Scholarship Fund," which has been carried to the revenue account.

ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITIONS.

The following competitions were held during the year:—

Prime Minister's residence, Pretoria.

Empire Exhibition (S.A.), 1936, designs for facades, Johannesburg.

Natal Technical College Students' Club House, Durban.

LIBRARY.

Thanks are extended to the "S.A. Architectural Record" for its journal which has been circulated to members during the year, and to the R.I.B.A. and allied societies for their journals and kalendars received from time to time.

Members are reminded that "Standard Progress Certificates," bound in book form, containing 50 certificates, at 2/6 per book, and "Conditions of Contract Agreement" forms, at 1/- each, may be obtained from the Secretary.

Minutes of the Ninth Annual General Meeting of members, held in the Institute's Room, No. 5, Poynton's Chambers, Smith Street, Durban, at 3.30 p.m., Friday, 13th March, 1936.

Present: The President, Mr. Ernest M. Powers (in the chair); Miss G. G. Goodricke, Messrs. F. W. Powers, E. S. Powers, Colonel G. T. Hurst, D. C. McDonald, C. S. M. Taylor, Wallace Paton, B. V. Bartholomew, Melville Poole, H. B. van der Riet, C. R. Fridjhon, R. P. Hamlin, G. E. Le Sueur and T. H. Chaplin, Secretary.

An apology for unavoidable absence was received from Mr. W. B. Oxley.

NOTICE CONVENING MEETING.

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

MINUTES.

The minutes of the Eighth Annual General Meeting, held on 15th March, 1935, having been previously circulated to all members, were, on the motion of the chairman, taken as read, confirmed and signed by the chairman.

The President, in a brief address, welcomed the members present, and particularly the junior members, to whom he wished every success in their future career. He made reference to an " Address to Students " by the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, recorded in the R.I.B.A. Journal of February last, which he would recommend all students to read.

The President stressed the importance of the continuance of their studies and exhorted them to take a keen interest in the profession and to loyally support the Institute which had welcomed them to membership.

ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET.

In moving the adoption of the annual report and balance sheet, a copy of which had been circulated to all members, the chairman said there was little to add in connection with the activities of the Committee during the past year. There, however, was one matter which had been inadvertently omitted, and that was that no reference had been made to the sub-committee appointed to deal with the building bye-laws. The sub-committee had met several times and had done excellent work, members devoting much of their valuable time in this connection; but its activities had not as yet been reported to the main committee.

Referring to the revenue and expenditure accounts, the chairman said that the members would appreciate the Institute's sound financial position, and he thereupon moved the adoption of the annual report and balance sheet for the year under review. The motion, being seconded, was carried unanimously, and the report and balance sheet were laid on the table for discussion.

After discussion, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Fridjhon, to earmark a portion of the interest accrued from the investment account, of a minimum sum of five guineas annually for students' prizes, the amount to be expended to be left to the discretion of the incoming Committee.

PROPOSED ARCHITECTURAL MEDAL.

Arising out of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, a member wished to know what progress had been made re this matter. The President, in reply, stated that it had not been lost sight of, and that he and Colonel Hurst had been deputed by the Committee to deal with the matter, and hoped to report progress in the near future.

ELECTION OF AUDITOR.

Mr. J. E. Duff, chartered accountant, was re-elected Auditor for the ensuing year.

ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE, 1936-1937.

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

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

Messrs. Wallace Paton, W. S. Payne, Colonel G. T. Hurst, E. M. Powers, C. S. M. Taylor, D. McDonald, B. V. Bartholomew, G. E. Le Sueur and W. B. Oxley.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON BUILDING BYE-LAWS: Vide Minute page 27.

Mr. Melville Poole was elected to fill the vacancy on the sub-committee caused by the election of Mr. McDonald to the main Committee.

The election of the remaining four members on the sub-committee co-opted from outside the main Committee, viz:—Messrs. C. R. Fridjhon, L. T. Obel, H. H. Grant and F. W. Powers was confirmed.

It was agreed that the election of the remaining five members from the main Committee be dealt with by the incoming Committee.

PROPOSED QUARTERLY MEETINGS OF MEMBERS.

After discussion, it was agreed that the question of holding quarterly meetings of members be left for the consideration of the incoming Committee.

In reply to a suggestion that the Annual General Meetings in future be held in the evening instead of the afternoon, the President pointed out that evening meetings had been

tried in the past and had proved unsatisfactory, owing to the small attendance of members, who appeared reluctant to attend evening meetings after having left town.

ARCHITECTS' NAMES ON NOTICE BOARDS.

The President stated that complaints had been made of the abuse of architects' names on notice boards on buildings in course of erection, and pointed out that the Central Council made strong recommendations that architects' names on notice boards should be exhibited unostentatiously, in letters not exceeding two inches in height, with the name and title only, but no address other than the town in which they were practising.

The chairman, in thanking the members for the honour of being their President for the past year, expressed his thanks to his colleagues on the Committee for their loyal support during his term of office, and also expressed the Committee's thanks and appreciation of the efficient manner in which the Secretary had carried out his duties.

On the chairman declaring the business of the meeting completed, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him for his successful term of office.

MEETING CLOSED 5.30 p.m.

At a meeting of the new Committee, held on the 30th March, 1936, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

President.—Mr. C. S. M. Taylor, A.R.I.B.A.

Vice-President.—Mr. B. V. Bartholomew, A.R.I.B.A.

Representative on Central Council.—Mr. Ernest M. Powers, F.R.I.B.A.

Alternate.—Mr. C. S. M. Taylor, A.R.I.B.A.

O. F. S. PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

President's Report.

I have much pleasure in welcoming you to the Ninth Annual General Meeting of this Institute and submitting my report for the year 1935.

At the opening meeting for the new Committee the following officers were elected:—

President:—Mr. Wilfrid Tonkin, L.R.I.B.A.

Vice-President:—Mr. H. A. C. Wallace, F.S.I.

Hon. Secretary:—Mr. Fredk. W. Masey, F.R.I.B.A.

Member of Central Council:—Mr. Fredk. W. Masey.

Alternate Member:—Mr. W. W. Tonkin.

Owing to Mr. de la Cornillere's departure from Bloemfontein, and the illness of Mr. W. M. Timlin and Mr. F. W. Rohde, it was difficult to arrange Committee meetings: eventually the Committee, under Regulation No. 6, co-opted Mr. Clement Timlin, of Kimberley, and he has given willing assistance to the members.

For the same reason it was found advisable to form an Executive Committee consisting of the President, Vice-President and Hon. Secretary to deal with urgent matters.

Our relationship with Central Council has been close and cordial. The Registrar has kept the Provincial Committee up to date as to work of Central Council Executive, which was handicapped by the serious illness of Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis, the President-in-Chief.

The O.F.S. Institute supported the President-in-Chief by giving financial assistance to send a South African representative to the International Congress of Architects, held in Rome.

The Registrar applied for leave of absence and then spent the same in accompanying Mr. Robert Howden (our South African delegate) to Rome and London.

Mr. Lewis' experience at the International Congress and his insight into the working of the Mother Architectural Institute of the English speaking race—freely accorded to him by Sir Ian MacAlister—will make him more valuable than ever as a permanent official.

The O.F.S. Provincial Institute has had no voice hitherto on the Standing Committee of Architectural Education as newly constituted; due to correspondence conducted by our Hon. Secretary we now possess an accredited representative in Mr. F. Williamson.

CONDITIONS OF ENGAGEMENT.

This is a long standing want for the assistance of the profession and asked for by your Committee as far back as April, 1932. Central Council is dealing with the matter and is expected to come to a definite conclusion at its next meeting.

M.I.A. EXAMINATIONS.

The desirability of a concise printed pamphlet giving details as to course of study, text books (and how and in what order to use them), previous examination papers and other guidance for youths in the profession who are not resident in a university town was placed before the Standing Committee, and Professor Pearse and the Registrar are preparing an exhaustive pamphlet for general distribution and to be printed in the Year Book.

MUNICIPAL VALUATION OF BUILDINGS.

The O.F.S. Committee is presenting certain aspects of municipal valuation to Central Council for its consideration and action if deemed necessary.

A circular was issued to members on the conduct of a certain person who had interviewed several of our members with a view to their undertaking professional service for him for fees below those prescribed in our regulations.

Owing to the attitude of a certain O.F.S. Municipality, vide the Press, in regard to a proposed new town hall, your Committee wrote a letter of protest and the Mayor was interviewed by your Vice-President. Central Council was also advised and the Registrar is watching the interests of architects in this matter.

Correspondence has taken place with the Secretary of the O.F.S. Provincial Administration regarding the limitations of Town Councillors under the Local Municipal Ordinance, and it is hoped shortly all architects will be as free to serve on the City Council as are lawyers and other professional men.

FINANCE.

The revenue and expenditure account and the balance sheet has been sent to all members.

Surplus.—Our surplus for the year is £23 10s. 0d., as against £7 17s. 0d. last year.

Cash Balance.—Our general position is strong, our cash balance, including furniture valued at selling price and omitting liabilities £23 9s. 0d., and arrear subscriptions £27 6s. 0d., stands at £112 9s. 7d.

Generally.—It is gratifying to note that the year 1935 has shown that a slight improvement has taken place, and I sincerely hope this will be maintained and our members enjoy a greater measure of prosperity in the coming year.

(Signed) WILFRED W. TONKIN,
President.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the O.F.S. Provincial Institute of Architects, held in the Agent's Room, National Mutual Buildings, Bloemfontein, on March 13th, 1936.

Apologies for absence were read on behalf of Messrs. de la Cornillere, Rhodes Harrison, Timlin and Willoughby Williams.

QUORUM.

In the absence of a quorum the President decided to hold the meeting and call a Special General Meeting on Thursday, March 26th, to confirm the minutes or otherwise.

NOTICE.

The notice calling the meeting was tabled and taken as read.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were read and after confirmation duly signed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

This was read by the President, and on the proposition of Mr. Masey, seconded by Mr. H. A. C. Wallace, the President was complimented on his year of office, the report adopted and the Secretary instructed to bind same in the minute book and issue copies to all members, the Registrar and Institute and Board's secretaries.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BALANCE SHEET.

Mr. Wallace proposed and Mr. Tonkin seconded the adoption of the balance sheet. The Hon. Secretary reported that of the £27 6s. 0d. arrear subscriptions, a sum of £15 15s. 0d. had come in after the books had been closed.

INCOMING COMMITTEE.

No further nominations for Committee having arrived, other than those of the Committee's list, the President forthwith declared the following as the Committee for the ensuing year:—H. G. E. de la Cornillere, F. W. Masey, F. W. Rohde, W. M. Timlin, W. W. Tonkin, H. A. C. Wallace, and Mr. C. Timlin was co-opted under Regulation No. 6, in Mr. W. M. Timlin's absence.

AUDITOR.

Mr. Lewis Harrison was elected Auditor for the coming year, and his remuneration for last year's services was voted.

HON. SECRETARY.

The Hon. Secretary applied for leave of absence for 13 weeks; this was accorded and an honorarium similar to that of past years was voted to him for his services.

HOWDEN SILVER MEDAL.

The Hon. Secretary reported that he had asked Mrs. Walgate to prepare a better portrait for the same than that procured from elsewhere.

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD.

Correspondence in regard to representation on the Record Committee and on the merits of the publication generally were tabled.

LEVY.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to pay during the current month all dues to Central Council.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

THE CHAPTER OF SOUTH AFRICAN QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

At the first meeting of the 1936-1937 Board of the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors, held at Pretoria on Saturday, the following officers were elected unanimously for the year:—

President, Mr. D. J. Laing, F.S.I.; Senior Vice-President, Dr. E. J. Hamlin, F.S.I.; Junior Vice-President, Mr. C. L. F. Borckenhagen, P.A.S.I.; Representatives on the Central Council of the Institute of South African Institutes, Mr. D. J. Laing and Mr. T. Moore (Alternates, Dr. E. J. Hamlin and Mr. C. L. F. Borckenhagen). Mr. R. J. C. Prentice, Chief Government Quantity Surveyor, holds a permanent seat on the Central Council, as a Government nominee.

Minutes of the Ninth Annual General Meeting, held in the Board Room, Kelvin House, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Saturday, March 14th, 1936, at 10 a.m.

PRESENT.

Members: Mr. R. J. C. Prentice, President (in the chair); Mr. D. J. Laing, Senior Vice-President; Dr. E. J. Hamlin, Junior Vice-President; Professor H. Bell-John, Messrs. A. A. Bjorkman, R. Blandy, N. T. Cowin, John A. Cowling, J. W. Cowling, C. H. Deighton, E. B. Farrow, R. Harrison, J. Seaton Hodge, R. Howden, G. E. Howgrave-Graham, A. J. Lane, Arthur Leitch, W. A. McKechnie, Dudley S. Mann, J. A. C. Moffat, T. Moore, G. P. Quail, J. O. Quail, P. M. Roos, W. Selkirk, J. P. Smyth, S. Somers-Vine, H. C. Spencer, A. W. Springthorpe, D. Watson, F. Williamson and Arthur Wood.

Students: Messrs. P. T. Baragwanath, D. J. Beveridge, J. W. M. Clark, P. B. Foley, H. M. Goodwin, J. A. R. Gaisford, G. M. Hetherington, J. H. Kraayenbrink, H. Muller, T. J. Pratt, T. Rose Price, G. C. Smith, W. T. Welsford, N. H. Wiseman and B. F. D. Wood.

The Secretary: Mr. J. S. Lewis.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER.

The members and students present signed the attendance register.

NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. L. C. Austin, Mr. C. L. F. Borckenhagen, Mr. W. Rhodes-Harrison and Lieut.-Col. W. E. Puntis.

WELCOME TO MEMBERS AND STUDENTS.

The President extended a hearty welcome to the members of the Chapter and students of quantity surveying attending the Ninth Annual General Meeting of the Chapter—in particular, to a Capetown member of the Chapter, Mr. Arthur Wood.

ELECTION OF BOARD FOR 1936-1937.

(a) Closing of Ballot.—The President formally declared the ballot closed.

The Secretary reported that 87 ballot envelopes had been received, of which 80 were valid in terms of Regulation 12. He added that in previous years it had been discovered, in respect of apparently invalid votes, that cheques in payment of subscriptions due were contained within the ballot envelope.

It was resolved, on the proposition of Mr. D. S. Mann, seconded by Mr. W. A. McKechnie, that the seven apparently invalid ballot envelopes be opened by the President. On the said envelopes being opened, two cheques were discovered therein. In the five instances where

the ballot envelopes were clearly invalid, the voting papers were destroyed. The total number of valid voting papers thus to be dealt with was 82.

(b) Appointment of Scrutineers.—It was resolved nem. con. that Mr. Roger Harrison, Mr. A. W. Springthorpe and Mr. W. A. McKechnie, with the Secretary, act as scrutineers.

Mr. D. S. Mann proposed, and Mr. A. J. Lane seconded, that it be an instruction to the scrutineers, when submitting to the President the list of members elected to the Board, to prepare such list in the order of the number of votes received. The President pointed out that this proposition was not necessary in that the procedure suggested was the one followed at the Chapter's Annual General Meetings.

The meeting adjourned at this stage to enable the counting of the votes to be proceeded with.

(c) Result of Election.—The President announced the result of the ballot, as certified by scrutineers, as follows 1, R. J. C. Prentice; 2, E. J. Hamlin; 3, D. J. Laing; 4, H. Bell-John; 5, W. E. Puntis; 6, R. Howden; 7, F. D. Hickman; 8, T. Moore; 9, J. W. Cowling; 10, C. L. F. Borckenhagen; 11, L. C. Austin; 12, F. Williamson.

The President thereupon advised the meeting that Mr. F. D. Hickman had withdrawn his nomination on the ballot paper, but that his notice of withdrawal only reached the Secretary after the issue of the ballot papers and after several votes had already been recorded and received. For that reason Mr. Hickman's name had been allowed to remain on the ballot paper. The present position could be met in one of two ways—either by the Board filling the vacancy now existing, or by the Annual General Meeting appointing to the vacant position the candidate placed thirteenth in the ballot.

It was agreed, nem. con., that Mr. Dudley S. Mann, as the candidate placed thirteenth in the ballot, be elected to the Board to fill the vacancy arising from the withdrawal of Mr. Hickman's nomination.

The President thereupon declared that the Board for 1936-1937 consisted of the following members: Messrs. R. J. C. Prentice, E. J. Hamlin, D. J. Laing, H. Bell-John, W. E. Puntis, R. Howden, T. Moore, J. W. Cowling, C. L. F. Borckenhagen, L. C. Austin, F. Williamson and Dudley S. Mann.

MINUTES OF EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

It was agreed, on the proposition of Dr. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Howden, to take as read and to confirm the minutes of the Eighth Annual General Meeting held on March 15, 1935, the said minutes having been duly circulated.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, 1935-1936.

The President read to the meeting his report for the year under review.

The meeting, at the instance of Mr. T. Moore, accorded the President a hearty vote of thanks for his report and for the work performed by him as President during the year.

BOARD'S REPORT FOR 1935-1936.

It was resolved, on the proposition of Dr. Hamlin, seconded by Mr. Moore, that the Board's report be taken as read and that it be adopted.

The meeting, at the instance of Mr. T. Moore, with acclamation, congratulated the President, Mr. R. J. C. Prentice, on his appointment as Chief Quantity Surveyor of the Public Works Department.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

Mr. Howden proposed, and Mr. C. H. Deighton seconded, the adoption of the Chapter's balance sheet and revenue and expenditure account, duly audited and circulated.

(a) Re "Standard System."—Mr. D. S. Mann inquired why the 320 unsold copies of the "Standard System" were shown simply as a nominal asset in the balance sheet, i.e., with no monetary value extended.

The President pointed out that the time was approaching when the Board would have to consider publishing a further revision of the "Standard System"; that the cost of the present edition had long since been covered, and that all subsequent sales of the "Standard System" were credited to a special account for the next reprint. The President added that, since this matter was now under discussion, despite several invitations to members of the Chapter, by means of the Board's minutes, for suggestions aiming at bringing the "Standard System" up to date, only one reply had been received.

Mr. J. Seaton Hodge suggested that the selling price of the 320 remaining copies of the "Standard System" should be reduced from

10s. 6d. to 5s., which was the concessionary rate applicable to students. Mr. D. S. Mann supported the suggestion.

The President expressed his disagreement with the suggestion which was tantamount to what, in commercial circles, was termed a " half-price " sale. He could hardly imagine any practitioner finding himself in the position that the " Standard System " was not worth 10s. 6d. to him. The position of the next edition of the " Standard System " would be prejudiced if the feeling were encouraged—" Oh, we need only wait a little while, and then the new edition will be available at half-price."

Mr. Hodge asked the Board to consider whether the issue of a new edition was necessary, and whether the position could not be met by the issue of " Errata Slips " covering such changes as were required.

As a result of the discussion, it was agreed, on the proposition of Mr. Hodge, seconded by Mr. G. P. Quail, that it be a recommendation to the Board to consider the position of the " Standard System " on the basis of the discussion at the present meeting.

(b) Re " Benevolent Fund."—Mr. N. T. Cowin drew attention to the item " Benevolent Fund, £45 3s. 0d." In his view that was a very small amount to have available for benevolent purposes, particularly in a time which was admittedly prosperous. He therefore suggested that an appeal should be made to members of the Chapter by circular to considerably increase the amount of the Benevolent Fund. He felt that a figure of £500 should be aimed at.

Professor Bell-John suggested that the " moieties " received each year by the Chapter from the Chartered Surveyors' Institution (i.e., on the subscriptions paid in London by South African members of the C.S.I.) should be earmarked for the Benevolent Fund.

Mr. F. Williamson proposed the appointment of a Benevolent Fund Sub-Committee, which, he felt, could, by personal appeal rather than by circular, achieve what Mr. Cowin had in mind. Mr. N. T. Cowin seconded the proposition, which was agreed to.

The Chapter's financial statements were formally adopted.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS.

It was agreed, on the proposition of Mr. F. Williamson, seconded by Mr. D. S. Mann, that Messrs. Aiken and Carter be re-appointed Auditors to the Chapter, and that the fixing of their remuneration be left to the Board.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF ENROLMENT.

The President announced with pleasure that during the year under review the Chapter's membership had been increased by 14 new enrolments—12 new salaried members and two new " solely practising " members. It was most encouraging to find the Chapter's organisation thus being strengthened by the younger generation. Unfortunately, because of pressure of work, it had not been possible for several of the new members to attend the Annual General Meeting for the purpose of having presented to them their Certificates of Enrolment, which would now be forwarded in the ordinary way by post.

PRESENTATION OF STUDENTS' PRIZES.

The President announced that the Board had decided, as an appropriate innovation, to present the prizes awarded annually to students by the Chapter at the Annual General Meeting.

(i) Gold Medal.—The Chapter's Gold Medal for the year 1935 was presented to Mr. H. M. Goodwin (Degree Student, University of Pretoria).

(ii) Silver Medals.—The President stated that as two candidates had to be considered for the position of " runner-up " to the Gold Medalist, the Board had decided to award a second Silver Medal for the year 1935. With his characteristic generosity where students were concerned, Dr. Hamlin had donated the second Silver Medal.

The two Silver Medals were then presented to Mr. T. R. F. Rose Price and Mr. B. F. D. Wood.

(iii) " Professor's Prize." — The prize donated by Professor Bell-John (" for the best student—class work and examination—in Third Year Quantities ") was presented to Mr. R. M. Kennedy.

MATTERS WHICH MEMBERS OF THE CHAPTER WISH TO RAISE.

(i) Mr. J. Seaton Hodge.—Mr. Hodge stated that a considerable time ago he had suggested to the Board that the students who were awarded the Chapter's prizes should, in addition, receive a certificate. No decision seemed as yet to have been made with regard to this suggestion.

The President stated that the suggestion had been duly transferred, for attention, to the Standing Committee on Education and Examinations. The Standing Committee had not favoured the suggestion, which was thus referred back to the Board.

(ii) Mr. G. E. Howgrave-Graham.—Mr. Howgrave-Graham expressed his appreciation of the decision of the Board to nominate more than twelve members for election to the Board. He asked the Annual General Meeting to endorse the Board's decision and to express the hope that the same procedure would be followed for the future. Mr. N. T. Cowin seconded the suggestion, which, on being put to the meeting, was agreed to unanimously.

VOTES OF THANKS.

(i) To Scrutineers.—On the proposition of Mr. Dudley S. Mann, the meeting accorded a hearty vote of thanks to the scrutineers for their work.

(ii) To the Retiring Board.—On the proposition of Mr. Roger Harrison, the Annual General Meeting recorded its appreciation of the work of the retiring Board.

(iii) To the President.—On the proposition of Mr. T. Moore, the Annual General Meeting accorded a very hearty vote of thanks to the President for his attention to the welfare of the profession during the two years in which he had held office as President.

(iv) To the Secretary.—Dr. E. J. Hamlin said he wished the meeting to do more than pass a formal vote of thanks to the Secretary. He knew he was speaking for many members of the Chapter, as well as members of the Board, when he recorded his deep appreciation of the kindly and efficient way in which the Chapter, and its members, were helped by the Secretary. He accordingly moved a hearty vote of thanks to the Secretary, which was accorded with acclamation.

The meeting terminated at 12.35 p.m.

THE INSTITUTE OF SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTS

THE TRANSVAAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of members, held in the Council Chamber, Kelvin House, Johannesburg, on Tuesday, March 10th, 1936, at 1.30 p.m.

Present: The President, Mr. V. S. Rees-Poole (in the chair) and 15 other members, as shown in the attendance book.

The Chairman declared the meeting duly constituted.

The Notice of Meeting was taken as read.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

After enquiring if all members present had voted, the Chairman declared the ballot closed. Messrs. D. M. Cowin, H. R. Skelly and H. C. Tully, with the Secretary, were appointed scrutineers to conduct the ballot.

The names of the members who had voted were called out and checked with the register, the total being 110.

The meeting was then adjourned until 5 p.m.

On resumption at 5 p.m. the President took the chair and 30 other members attended, as shown in the attendance book.

COMMITTEE FOR 1936-1937.

The Chairman received the scrutineers' report, and declared the following members elected as the Committee for the ensuing year : Messrs. R. A. Bruce, S. C. Dowsett, N. M. Eaton, A. S. Furner, R. Howden, Gordon Leith, Gordon McIntosh, Rex Martienssen, V. S. Rees-Poole, H. G. Tomkyns, F. Williamson and Allen Wilson.

The Chairman expressed thanks to the scrutineers.

MINUTES.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting, held on March 12th, 1935, which had been circulated to members, were taken as read and confirmed.

COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1935.

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

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1935.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. N. T. Cowin, in moving the adoption of the accounts, said : " Thanks to the wave of prosperity over the country, we have had a satisfactory year financially; considerable arrear subscriptions have been paid; the current subscriptions have come in well, and the support for the journal by advertisers has been most marked.

The subscription to the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies is a large item, and its payment has precluded any allocation to our Reserve Fund as in former years. This position is likely to continue, and I am afraid that we can only look to an increase in our subscriptions by enrolling new members, and the profits of the journal, to augment our capital in the future. We have made no contribution to the Benevolent Fund this year and, fortunately, the necessity for such has not arisen, as this fund has been able to meet the calls made upon it. We must not, however, forget it, and now is the time to build it up. Our members might bear this in mind in their budgets.

The levy to the Central Council represents a third of our income, and some relief from this charge is due, especially since a large sum is being derived by the Central Council for registration fees, of which the Provincial Institutes get no share.

Our journal is an asset of increasing value, and this must be stressed in any negotiations for its disposal, which is contemplated in order that it may become of greater importance and use as a publication serving the whole country.

The main items of expenditure in connection with the journal are the cost of printing and illustrations and commission on advertisements—these absorb nearly three-quarters of our revenue.

Careful consideration has been given to economies in these services, and we have reached a reasonable cost consistent with efficiency. Our printers produce the journal at a lower rate and as efficiently as any others, and the commission on the advertisements is not excessive, bearing in mind that it covers the fees of the canvassers and the business manager, whose work is vital to the existence of the journal.

I trust that the prosperity that we are enjoying may continue for a long time, and I am sure that there is every indication of this, and that we may all benefit by it financially to such an extent that we shall be in a position to face the inevitable depression with equanimity.

I tender my thanks to the members of the Committee and the Secretary for their support during the year."

Mr. Allen Wilson, in seconding the motion for the adoption of the accounts, expressed thanks to the Chairman of the Finance Committee for his untiring attention to the financial affairs of the Institute, which was most valuable.

In referring to the Benevolent Fund, he expressed the opinion that in these prosperous times members should contribute to this fund without being asked, but he said he was quite prepared to go round to their offices and do the asking. He hoped they would build up the fund to a substantial figure in these good times, as he thought the fund should not be only for " down-and-outs," but should be available to help married members and their families through bad years, so that they could draw enough to live through bad times in comfort.

With regard to the journal, he said that the Central Council was considering acquiring it to be run as the journal of the whole Institute. It was now in a good position and showing some surplus, and if this Institute disposed of it to the Central Council at a good figure he would like to see this money earmarked for the Benevolent Fund. He expressed thanks to those members who had contributed to the Benevolent Fund in the past, and again urged them to help to build up a substantial fund.

AUDITORS.

On the motion of Mr. Howden, seconded by Mr. Tomkyns, Messrs. Alex Aiken and Carter were re-appointed Auditors, and their remuneration for the past audit was fixed at £10 10s. 0d. from the Institute account and £10 10s. 0d. from the journal account.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The President, Mr. V. S. Rees-Poole, said : " We are assembled here this evening to receive the reports of the committees who have worked on behalf of the Institute during the past year. My thanks are due to the members and the

Committee for the honour they bestowed upon me by electing me to fill the post of President. I have enjoyed being in that position, but as any ordinary practising member of the profession, I feel that I have not been as successful in that position as I would like to have been. For my inability and shortcoming I ask your forgiveness.

Whilst I am in the chair I wish to welcome the nineteen new members of this Institute who were elected during the year. I trust they will take a lively interest in the work of the Institute and do their best to uphold and elevate the profession to which they belong.

As you all know, our profession is beset with tremendous difficulties. It is, perhaps, the most difficult and exacting profession in the world. Our responsibilities are enormous; they are toward art and toward functional things too—design, convenience, money and time. But, above all, our real duty is to crush ugliness, to search for order and beauty in every department of life, and make as much as possible of the opportunities offered.

It is the task of our lives to try and make the profession of architecture increasingly useful to the community and thereby gain the confidence of the community as a whole, so that the profession, not of architecture only but also of the various arts and sciences connected thereto will be recognised as essential to the well-being of the community.

I have to express thanks to the members of Advisory Committees on finance, practice, bye-laws and the journal, also representatives of other bodies—the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies, Town Planning Association, trustees of the Benevolent Fund and the representatives on the Central Council.

I have to thank the Government and the provincial authorities for giving the members opportunities of carrying out certain works which hitherto have been designed and carried out by their own departments. I feel that it is up to those members to prove their worth and show that we are able to carry out the schemes entrusted to us in a thorough and satisfactory manner, however small the job may be.

A special meeting was held on December 5th last, re " Architects' and Consultants' Fees," and another on February 18th re " Professional Fees." A very able paper was read by Mr. Grinker, and a committee in connection with those meetings has been formed to go into the matter. I must express appreciation that they were so well attended. I hope and trust that meetings such as those will result in closer contact between the Committee and members generally.

I have to bring to your notice that it has been suggested that the " South African Architectural Record " may become the " Journal of the South African Institute " as a whole. In this connection everything, of course, will depend on the support received from the other constituent bodies in the way of matter for publication from the various centres concerned.

As you all know, since April, 1935, the Transvaal Institute has been affiliated to the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies of South Africa, and all members of this Institute are now members of the Associated Societies and are entitled to the use of the Club and reading rooms, etc.

Since December last the offices of this Institute have been in Kelvin House, the premises of the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies.

The past year has been an outstanding one, and the impetus the building boom in this city and along the Reef has given the profession is most remarkable, and I congratulate those members who are in the happy position of rendering valuable and inspiring service both to the profession and the community.

Rapid strides are being made in all departments of architectural education at the Universities of the Witwatersrand and Pretoria. Owing to the ability of Professor Pearse and his efficient lecturers, full fledged architects are being produced in no time. Combined with the efforts of Professor Bell-John in Pretoria, where, I believe, the quantity surveyors come from, I am told that in a few years' time there will be more architects and quantity surveyors in this land than in any other part of the world. This, surely, is an interesting record of the ever-growing and widening means of acquiring education in architecture.

As you all know, Mr. Robert Howden consented to represent the profession at the Architectural Conference held in Rome a few months ago. Fortunately for us, the Government supported the movement and paid half the expenses. Several members were liberal and came forward with handsome donations.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Howden for undertaking the trip, and we look forward to receiving his report, which, I understand, will be ready quite soon.

We have discussed before ways and means of educating the public in architecture and in the services performed by the architect. To my mind, exhibitions as a means of education are of great service. The public, as you know, are reached, informed and stimulated by exhibitions and demonstrations as they are by no other form of publicity. Surely if this is so why do members of the profession, with a few exceptions, neglect the South African Academy Exhibition ?

As the attribute of an artistic profession, I feel that the Academy is not receiving the support it should get from us, and I think the time has arrived when members should be able to put before the public something attractive to demonstrate that the standards of architecture generally are on the up-grade, each year showing an improvement.

I make these remarks because I feel that the public generally do not understand or appreciate the important position an architect holds, or should hold, in all the arts. I would, therefore, like to see a great endeavour made to establish the architectural section. I know many members are very busy nowadays, with little time to consider making drawings or pictures for exhibition, but I venture to think that if that is the excuse the profession is not holding up its head as it should do.

Further, if the general public are to become artistically minded, every opportunity and inducement should be given them to visit the Academy and other such exhibitions.

Gentlemen, I will not detain you any longer, but before I sit down I wish to pass a hearty vote of thanks to our Secretary, Mr. Pearse, for his able assistance and valuable help given me during my term of office.

I wish to thank the general body of members who are interested enough in the welfare of the Institute to be present, and I thank you all for bearing with me so patiently.

Mr. N. T. Cowin moved a hearty vote of thanks to the President for his address and for his services to the Institute, and remarked that though he resided in Pretoria Mr. Rees-Poole had shown a very keen and active interest in the Institute's affairs.

This was carried with acclamation.

CONTROL OF BUILDING OPERATIONS.

Mr. Dowsett said he would like to make a few remarks, more particularly to Johannesburg practising members. The City Engineer's Department had found it necessary to apply more strictly the regulations regarding the way in which builders occupy the public pavements and roadways with stacks of building materials, greatly to the detriment of the ordinary pedestrian. During the past few days the Department had found it necessary to issue a number of summonses; these had not all been served, but builders had been advised thereof and been given an opportunity of putting things in order. A number of builders quite accepted the blame, but one or two also blamed the City Engineer's Department for not having enforced the regulations more strictly and seeing them carried out, and the architects and quantity surveyors for not dealing with the matter more fully in the specifications and bills of quantities. The Department was prepared to accept its share of the blame and on its part to take steps to remedy the unsatisfactory state of affairs, and he thought the architects and quantity surveyors must be equally frank in accepting their share of the blame. Specifications do not sufficiently stress the municipal regulations protecting pavements and streets; they do not insist on all regulations being strictly carried out. He felt that the practising architect must do his part in finding a remedy. He suggested that this matter be considered in the light of specifications and bills of quantities, and stricter clauses should be embodied to enforce the carrying out of these regulations so as to leave the footways and roadways clear. Why he was addressing the architects was in order that they may so word their specifications that they can insist on these regulations being strictly carried out.

Mr. Allen Wilson said he had listened to Mr. Dowsett's remarks with particular interest, as he was a member of the Committee of the Technical Institute, which had recently been discussing this matter. He referred to several instances of material being hauled from the street to high buildings whilst women and children were walking underneath the cranes, and thought a great deal could be done if the carrying out of the regulations were insisted upon in the specifications.

Mr. Cowin thought that this was largely a matter for attention by the police, who should

take action for the protection of the public. Times for deliveries of materials should be limited to before 8 a.m. and after 6 p.m. If architects take steps they should have the assistance of the police.

Mr. Howden said he thought they had a clause that the bye-laws must be complied with. He asked Mr. Dowsett if he would draft two or three clauses to be embodied in specifications to meet these requirements.

Mr. Dowsett said he would be prepared to assist in drafting the necessary clauses. He referred to cases where architects specified that shops in new buildings must be occupied as soon as completed, but the architect did not specify any means of carrying on the work for the rest of the building after the shops were completed and occupied. The present clause, "comply with all municipal regulations," was not sufficient, and should be amplified. There should be correct entries in the bills of quantities, measurements priced out, railings round footways and other protections should be billed and priced so that these are provided for in tenders and architects can see that they are carried out.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Dowsett for bringing this matter to the notice of the members.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

"LE CORBUSIER" - AND OTHER FALLACIES

By L. GRINKER.

"And everyone will say,
As you walk your flowery way.
If he's content with a vegetable love.
which would certainly not suit me.
Why what a most particularly pure
young man, this pure young man must be."
From "Patience."
Gilbert & Sullivan

What extraordinarily pure young men, these pure young men must be—these disciples of Le Corbusier, I mean. They remind me irresistably of Buncombe, strutting across the stage of "Patience," with rapture gazing at the flower held in his hand.

"There is only one God," says the pure young men, "ultra-ultra-modernism—and Le Corbusier is his Prophet." Like all religious fanatics, they ignore, or are unaware, of the 101 other creeds and sects, and see only the divinity in their own.

It is our duty to point out that there were modernists long before Le Corbusier was even heard of. Were not the experiments of Frank Lloyd Wright, Gropius and the Perret Brothers, to name but a few, infinitely more courageous when all the factors are considered, than the present-day so-called modernists, who have had the path well-blazed for them. In any case, it would be a bold man, or, more likely, a deeply prejudiced one, who could mention that Le Corbusier is in the front rank of present-day architects, even if only the modernists are taken into account.

If the ability to make an expensive house look like a well-bred factory is the criterion by which architecture is to be judged, then Le Corbusier is undoubtedly the greatest architect in the world—but we humbly beg leave to apply other standards—such as beauty, fitness for purpose and so on—and by these Le Corbusier must fall far short.

It is indeed regrettable that men of real ability and, sometimes, genius—unostentatiously doing the work of the world, and doing it well, in spite of great practical difficulties—should be almost entirely eclipsed by a man who has written a book !

I, for one, do not believe in this prophet, nor his bible ! Do not for a moment think that I decry modernism—that is, the true modernism which expresses the spirit of the age. But you cannot divorce architecture from life—nor can you practise idealistic systems which would only fit societies not yet in existence. That is the first thing that the pure young men must learn. That there is a true modernism and a false modernism. A true modernism which boldly yet patiently wrestles with the innumerable difficulties which beset the path of architectural practice—such as to name a few—impossible stands, impossible bye-laws, impossible clients, inferior builders, inferior workmanship, financial stringency, and so on and so on.

The false modernism is the one which weaves fanciful theories, divorced from reality, and which can generally be recognised by cant catchwords, such as " free planning," " punctuation," and whatnot.

It would give me unbounded joy to see Le Corbusier or his disciples exercising the principles of " free planning " on a 50 ft. x 100 ft. inside stand (Cape feet), on which the client requires twelve bachelor flats to the floor, for a sum inadequate to pay for the building, in order to yield a return of 14% on the capital invested, which in any case, as Euclid would say, is absurd, because the stand has been grossly overpaid for in the first instance.

This is a typical example, not very much exaggerated, of a common Johannesburg building problem. The wonder is that under such circumstances any building of architectural worth is ever produced at all.

I write these paragraphs particularly for the benefit of students, who lately seem to have adopted a hypercritical, even sneering attitude, towards the work of the local practitioners.

I have so often heard decried the work of my, and other, firms by our " pure young men," who have only one God, that I am beginning to resent it. While I am quite prepared to believe that this work is as bad as they say it is—I nevertheless think that this kind of criticism ill becomes critics whose achievements so far have remained strictly two dimensional, on paper only—and who, if it came to the push, would be hard put to it to get an outbuilding past the Council.

The " pure young men " must realise that it is not enough to be consumed with a " vegetable passion " which doesn't suit you or me.

It is no merit to be an architectural Buncombe strutting across the stage with a Le Corbusier flower in the hand.

Architecture must be approached, humbly, by those who would serve her.

Modernism cannot be donned as a cloak by those who would. It must be wooed and won.

Great architecture must be born from the womb of life itself. It cannot emerge from half-baked theories.

REPLY BY KURT JONAS

That there is only one God is indeed to-day the creed of the whole civilised world. So why should it not apply to architecture ? But there is more than one prophet. Those pure young men of whom Mr. Grinker speaks consider Gropius, Mies van de Rohe, Welzenbacher and many others as equally admirable exponents of this monotheistic art.

But they do not consider Gilbert and Sullivan as exponents of art, and it is therefore rather difficult for them to take seriously the arguments of a man who thinks it necessary to base his attack on modern architecture on an operetta couplet.

Mr. Grinker resents. That is his right. But this only adds to our hesitation to take his argument seriously. For any psychologist knows that a " ressentiment " is the most distorting factor in human judgment.

Mr. Grinker's ressentiment is directed against three groups of people:—

1. The better architects, i.e., Le Corbusier and others.
2. Those who recognise the better architects, i.e., the critics.
3. The students of architecture, because these hope, one day, to become better architects.

So this ressentiment may explain his harsh judgment about these three groups, but it does not excuse the lack of logic in his arguments. Therefore we must analyse these more closely.

(a) There does not exist anything like " ultra-ultra modernism." An architect is either modern, that is to say he expresses the

spirit of the age, or he is not. Neither fanaticism nor compromise touch the real issue of art.

(b) If Mr. Grinker feels it his duty to point out to us the forerunners, let us point out to him that to recognise the merit of Adam, who was the first, does not exclude the appreciation of Michel Angelo, who came after. And let us remind him that the one forerunner of importance (for Gropius, belonging to the same generation as Corbusier, cannot be counted among them) is Adolf Loos, Viennese architect, who revolutionised architecture, on paper. (You would not believe it, by writing books !) To state that by these efforts the path was well blazed for men like Le Corbusier shows, to say the least of it, little acquaintance with the facts.

(c) An architect who speaks of Corbusier in the way Mr. Grinker does only proves that he has never seen in reality or in pictures the Swiss Pavilion, the Cité de Refuge or the Palace of the Centrosoyus, to mention only those important projects which by now are actually executed. The talk about " well bred factories " Mr. Grinker had better leave to the rabble.

(d) Whether a term like " free-planning " or " punctuation " remains just a catchword depends entirely on the amount of thought which the architect gives it. And that restricted sites and impossible bye-laws are not the decisive factors, is borne out by the flat and settlement houses erected by Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe and Gropius under such limiting conditions. Le Corbusier was even able in his Paris apartment house to solve this problem without the few additional inches which the Cape feet would have given him. Now Mr. Grinker should be overwhelmed with unbounded joy.

(e) We thank Mr. Grinker for taking the trouble of writing particularly for the benefit of students whose criticism he resents. Sitting in a fashionable overseas restaurant, I was once served with an utterly spoiled soup. On complaining to the waiter, I was referred to the cook, to whom I suggested which ingredients, to my mind, were lacking in his soup and of which others he had used too much. Behold the cook's answer: " I resent your criticisms," he spoke. " It ill becomes a critic whose achievements in the art of cooking have so far remained strictly two dimensional, on paper only, and who, if it came to the push, would be hard put to it to be passed in the easiest preliminary cooking examination." Why should the architect argue better than the cook, since it is not his task to think or talk, but to build (however bad) ?

(f) Let us state once and for all that we are not prepared to discuss the principal issues of architecture any longer with men who make practice, or success in themselves a criterion of value. We hold that, for instance, the designs of Mies van der Rohe for the Alexander Platz in Berlin, which have remained unbuilt, are none the less a greater architectural achievement than all the work of the " local practitioners." (What a nice and fitting term !)

(g) But we must highly praise Mr. Grinker for agreeing without false modesty, though not to the critics, yet to their criticism. As to getting our outbuildings or buildings past the Council, he may leave that to those whom it may concern.

After we have thus dealt with the single arguments, i.e., eruptions of the ressentiment of Mr. Grinker, we must still say a few words about the principal question involved.

Architecture, dear Mr. Grinker, is not a question of mixing half-baked metaphors, but one of character. The life of Michel Angelo was full of strife and hardship. So was that of Brunelleschi. The old age of Rembrandt was one of bitter poverty. Gropius eats the dry bread of exile. For all these men architecture (or painting) was a question of conviction, not of money making.

If one of those Popes of the Renaissance whose character is so similar to that of many clients had approached Michel Angelo with a task such as that outlined by Mr. Grinker, Michel Angelo's reply would have been: " Sir, if you cannot give me that minimum amount of freedom and reasonable conditions which would make it possible for me to work up an artistic solution, I must refuse to undertake the work." And he would have rather lived in poverty than prostituted his art.

If all local architects thought the same way, their strike would soon bring the local clientele into line. Since that is not so, the architect has to choose between being a not too well off prophet of an artistic idea to which the future belongs or a well-to-do member of a money making profession.

That is what the argument comes to in the end: prophets or profits !

BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION

The Case for the Standard Plug and Socket Outlet for Domestic Purposes.

The British Standards Institution made a wide-spread inquiry throughout the electrical industry in 1933 as the result of which there was an overwhelming majority decision that complete interchangeability of plugs and socket-outlets for domestic purposes was desirable. This decision was unanimously endorsed by the Council of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, and in the current edition of the Institution of Electrical Engineers' Regulations for the Electrical Equipment of Buildings (commonly referred to as the Wiring Regulations) it is laid down that "every plug and socket-outlet shall conform in all respects to the appropriate British Standard Specification."

The reasons underlying the adoption of a plug having standardised dimensions to secure interchangeability and complying with certain safety requirements were broadly :—

(i) the convenience of the public ;
(ii) the safety of the public ; and
(iii) the convenience of the manufacturers and suppliers who have to carry stocks.

In view of the fact that there are still those who advocate the use of plugs which are non-standard from the point of view of interchangeability, the Electrical Industry Committee of the B.S.I. desires to emphasise the fact that, however inherently safe a non-standard plug may be when used with its own outlet, the use of such plugs nevertheless introduces a potential source of danger through the mere fact that they are not properly interchangeable with standard plugs.

In general, an appliance fitted with a standard plug will sooner or later be required to be connected to the non-standard socket-outlet, and if such a connection can be made at all bad contact will result and a condition of danger is established. If, on the other hand, such a connection cannot be made there is a risk that the plug will be removed from the flex and the bare ends of the wire pushed into the socket, again setting up a dangerous condition.

Further, the encouragement of the use of non-standard plugs and socket-outlets will encourage the use of plugs with adjustable contacts, again introducing potential dangers.

Apart from the question of the danger referred to above, it should not be overlooked that many complaints of interference with broadcast reception have been traced to the use of badly fitting plugs.

It is universally agreed that complete interchangeability between electric lamps and their holders is essential in domestic premises, and technical developments in the direction of improved lamp-holders have not been restricted by standardisation, nor has public opinion allowed such developments to interfere in any way with interchangeability. On similar grounds of convenience of the public (and quite apart from the above considerations of safety) interchangeability of plugs and socket-outlets is more than justified. In fact, it is the view of the Electrical Industry Committee of the B.S.I. that technical development in plug and socket design should be directed rather to improving the existing standard type than to the introduction of alternative types, however good such alternatives may be.

The I.E.E. Wiring Regulations require the installation of an earth wire to practically every socket-outlet, and the use of a two-pin (non-earth) plug is only in accordance with the Regulations in a few cases. Again, a plug containing a fuse must, according to the Regulations, be non-reversible. The two-pin (non-earth) plug is, therefore, virtually ruled out for all new installations.

It is, therefore, urged that a determined effort should be made by all concerned towards the adoption of a rigidly standardised system of plugs and socket-outlets for domestic purposes, and that the only plugs and socket-outlets to be used to this end should be those complying with British Standard Specification No. 546, Two-pole-and-Earth (i.e., three-pin) Plugs and Socket-outlets.

By the universal adoption of plugs and socket-outlets complying with British Standard Specification No. 546, the following features are secured :—

(i) Safety from shock during insertion and withdrawal of the plug.
(ii) Non-reversibility, thus ensuring that single-pole switches on the appliances can be correctly connected to comply with the I.E.E. Wiring Regulations.
(iii) Fused plugs can be used under the conditions laid down in the I.E.E. Wiring Regulations.
(iv) Standard ratings, corresponding to the standard ratings of fuses, are provided. (A rating of ten amperes is non-standard and is not permitted by the I.E.E. Wiring Regulations.)
(v) The earthing requirements laid down in the I.E.E. Wiring Regulations can be complied with.

In this connection it is pertinent to point out that all manufacturers of portable electrical appliances who are members of the B.E.A.M.A., and practically all non-members of that Association, are now sending out their appliances fitted with three-core flex, a label bearing the following words being attached to the free end of the flex :—

"Earthing.—This flexible is intended for use with three-pin plug and socket. The brown lead should be wired to the earthing terminal on the plug. Under no conditions should the brown lead be connected to the supply terminals.

If your installation is fitted with two-pin plugs and sockets consult your Electrical Supplier."

In conclusion it may be stated that plugs and socket-outlets complying fully with B.S.S. No. 546 are available from several makers.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY AND THE BUILDING SOCIETIES

By KEITH G. FLEMING, F.I.S.A.

I have been asked to address you this afternoon on the relations between the Building Industry and Building Societies, and to invite your attention to the directions in which it is suggested such relations might be improved.

May I at the outset say that it was with some trepidation that I accepted the invitation to address you to-day. I realised that I would be talking to a body of men well versed in Building Society affairs with years of experience behind them, and who, no doubt, during those years have come into touch with all types of builders and all classes of structures. There is this advantage, however, in addressing experts—that they appreciate far more quickly and more accurately the various points raised than would the ordinary layman.

My pleasure in addressing you is enhanced by the fact that some two or three years ago the organisation which I represent endeavoured to get in touch with Building Societies on the Witwatersrand with a view to securing some form of co-operation. We were unsuccessful at that time, but trust that the day is not far distant when the various interests in the Building Industry will collaborate with your Federation more closely to the mutual advantage of all parties.

I take it, Mr. Chairman, that I am not expected this afternoon merely to give expression to a series of platitudes, but that if my paper is to be of any real value it must be critical and perhaps provocative. I appreciate that you cannot all agree with my views, but if I leave here having given you some cause for thought, then I will not have entirely failed in my mission.

I had hoped to be in a position to give you some figures indicating the extent of the Building Society movement in this country as it affects the Building Industry, but unfortunately the Registrar of Building Societies has not been able to assist me in this matter to any extent. I have, therefore, been forced to fall

back on an analysis of the balance sheets of such societies as I have been able to secure, and while the figures obtained from this source are interesting, they cannot in any way be considered as complete. So far as I can gather, these figures for the Union are fairly accurate. The total number of loans at the end of 1935 was 40,000 odd, the value of which was in the neighbourhood of £25,000,000. The amount of loans granted each year is about £10,000,000.

Let me also give you some figures for Great Britain which I was fortunate enough to come across recently. They are of particular interest, indicating as they do the tremendous effect the Building Society movement has on " house production " in the " Old Country."

At the end of 1934 the Building Societies in Great Britain administered 3.6 million accounts, of which over one million alone represented borrowers currently purchasing their homes.

During the post-war years the Building Societies' advances have exceeded £100,000,000 per annum, and at the same time the number of houses built has averaged approximately 300,000 per annum.

These figures will give you some idea of what Building Societies mean to the Building Industry in Great Britain, and I feel that once the Registrar is in a position to publish complete figures for South Africa we will be amazed at the exent to which the Building Society movement has progressed and is progressing in this country.

At the present time one of the chief difficulties we have to contend with is that the three principal agencies which should be used for the purpose of obtaining higher building standards have been working along different and at times divergent lines.

Until quite recently I think it would not be unfair to suggest that many Building Societies have been solely concerned with the financial aspect—which, I admit, must always remain their main consideration—but which cannot be divorced from other considerations; the builders who have perhaps been too much concerned with the purely practical and material aspects of the problem, and the architects—the trained designers—who have been so concerned with the purely aesthetic side of building that they have lost complete touch with what we have come to call cottage building.

Dealing firstly with the architect: You are all aware that for practically all the cottage work financed by societies or other financial agents the services of an architect are dispensed with. There are in this city, and doubtless in others, estate and financial agents with drawers full of drawings. If a person desires to build a house, all he has to do is to name an approximate price. An appropriate drawer is pulled out and the owner can have his selection of three or four types of houses, usually all designed by an unqualified draughtsman. It is realised, of course, that many people erecting houses for themselves consider that they are unable to afford the services of an architect. The nett result is that you may often see a street of houses of a most heterogeneous type bearing no relation to each other nor, often, respecting the appearance of each other. The absence of any influence tending towards unifying the standard of construction of houses in any area without in any way depriving each house of its own individuality is to be regretted.

The point arises : " Is it possible for the Building Societies to insist on types of construction of houses, and to what extent can they carry such insistences ? " I know many well-meaning persons—who have studied this subject superficially—who point out that as the Building Societies find the money they can call the tune. I feel, however, that this is but partially true. Sir Harold Bellman, Chairman of the National Association of Building Societies in Great Britain, is reported to have said recently : " We do not build houses, we only lend money to those who wish to buy houses; and however sympathetic the Societies are towards higher standards of design they cannot act too far in advance of their public without defeating the object they have in view."

This, coming from a man like Sir Harold Bellman, must be accepted at its face value. Have you ever interested yourselves in the mental processes of many critics of modern building when they deal with this question ? Their first line of attack is the unfortunate builder. " Why does he build such ugly houses ? " If they can see past the builder, their second line is : " The Building Societies finance these jobs, so why cannot they insist on a higher standard ? " They then cast aspersions on the public, who like these " ugly " houses,

and ask : " Why can't they be made to want something better ? " and finally even sometimes the architects come in for their share of blame for not organising in an endeavour to improve matters.

This all shows that the problem is not as simple as some critics would have us believe, but an extraordinarily complex one, for which there is, possibly, no complete solution.

However, I do want to suggest that the Building Societies can wield great power in the direction of improving the planning and constructing of houses for which loans are granted. The directors of societies are men of considerable experience, from whom a word of friendly advice would often be welcomed by the building owner who is probably venturing into the building arena for the first time.

Now let us pass from the question of planning as affecting Building Societies and architects to the builders. I am merely quoting an axiom when I say " that good design does not necessarily mean good building." So I suggest that the responsibility of the Building Societies is not limited to the design of houses, but must also be carried into the larger field of actual construction. The societies should satisfy themselves that the quality of construction is such as will ensure the building owner getting an asset and not what is sometimes unfortunately a liability.

There is on the Witwatersrand what is known as the Industrial Council of the Building Industry, with which organisation all persons carrying on work as employers in the industry are obliged by law to register. You will no doubt be interested to learn that at the 31st December, 1934, the number of persons registered with the Council was 1,300, and at the end of last year no less than 2,100, of which 340 are associated contractors. To provide revenue for the Council a levy of 3d. per man per week is imposed. The 340 associated builders pay 66 2-3 per cent. of the total amount collected by the Council, while the other 1,700 only contribute 33 1-3 per cent.

Now, I want to suggest that this sudden growth of employers in the Building Industry from 1,300 to 2,100 in one year has been brought about chiefly as the result of the comparative ease with which these men are able to get a footing in the industry by reason of carrying out work financed by Building Society loans in a time when there is great activity in the Building Trade. The Building Society system of granting loans and accepting cessions is undoubtedly an attraction to these men to start contracting.

I am not exaggerating when I say that 90 per cent. of the cottage work carried out on the Witwatersrand as the result of Building Society loans is done by men who are not generally recognised as competent contractors, by men who have come into existence as builders simply as the result of the boom, or by men without financial qualifications to carry on work as builders. Naturally, I do not suggest that all cottage work carried out is done by unqualified men. I know many builders who do this type of work who are thoroughly competent and reliable. But I also know of hundreds of men who, in fairness to the eventual owner of the building, should not be allowed to carry out the work. Why should these men, many of whom have no respect whatever for the regulations governing the industry and who cannot obtain credit in a country where credit is usually comparatively easily obtained, be supported and encouraged by the Building Societies ? Is there, however, any way in which the Societies can assist in the elimination of these men ?

I want to suggest that the solution for this problem is the abolition of cessions, preferably as the result of collaboration between the various Building Societies.

Let me show you the abuse of cessions which is being practised to-day. I will illustrate my point by several specific and authentic cases.

Case 1.—An estate agent has certain ground which he wishes to sell. He picks on a man of straw and a deal is put through. The man is to buy ground from the agent and is to erect a house. What is the procedure ? A Building Society is approached for a reasonable loan, which is granted. The first " draw " or payment is ceded to the agent. That is the price of his ground, plus commission, and you can be sure the price is well above the current market value of the ground. The agent is, therefore, well protected. A cession is granted to the timber merchant and to various other merchants for goods supplied. The men employed to do the actual work are paid ridiculously low wages, and towards the end of the job are generally left in the lurch. These rules and

regulations governing the Building Industry are completely ignored, the work is often scamped, and generally the poor building owner suffers. The Building Society sees that it has sufficient cover for the loan, the agent sees that he is well paid for his ground, the merchant—or at least the wise ones—make sure that they are protected for goods supplied by means of cessions, and the workmen, building owner and trusting merchant are left entirely unprotected.

Case 2.—A loan is secured from a Building Society for the erection of a house, and the builder cedes the whole loan over to a merchant. This merchant supplies all the materials he can in the ordinary course of business, pays all wages, and is adequately protected by the cession. The Building Society has its cover, the merchant holding the cession is content, but in nine cases out of ten the brickmaker and other suppliers, who knew nothing of the cession and supplied materials in good faith, are left in the lurch, and the workers themselves are usually exploited. What the so-called builder makes out of the job beyond a small weekly wage it is difficult to see.

Case 3.—This is an actual case of which I have the Court record. A house was to be built for just over £1,000—a contract being signed for the amount in question and exhibited to the Society. A Society lent £800 on the house. The man who obtained the loan let out the contract for the erection of the house for £650. This man in turn told his employees that the house was to be built for £500, and that a bonus of £75 would be paid if this was done. The wages paid, or supposed to be paid on this job, ranged from £2 10s. to £4 per week, against the legal wage of over £6 10s. Piecework was rife, the work was scamped, and cessions were granted to cover practically every purchase. Do you wonder the case ultimately came to Court ?

Case 4.—A man asked for a loan from a Building Society, which was granted. One of the first cessions registered by the Society was by a bank. The second cession registered was from a merchant. These were registered before even the foundations were in. Enquiries were set on foot, and it was found that the man had granted the bank a cession on this job in settlement of an overdraft on his account, and that he had granted the merchant a cession in settlement of a long-standing account applying to another job altogether.

These four cases—and there are innumerable others of which you have all had experience—indicate very clearly the extent to which cessions are abused, and I suggest that when a privilege is abused it should be withdrawn. It is difficult to see in what way legislation can assist in this matter save by making the registration and publication of cessions compulsory. The initiative must come from the Societies themselves, and I would suggest that this evil—for evil it is—be one of the first major points tackled by your Federation. The interests of the small and legitimate contractor will be amply protected, for the merchants are prepared to extend credit to a builder of repute with a limited amount of capital, so that any action taken by the Societies is not likely to injure them.

Now I want to make another suggestion of vital importance, and that is that the Building Societies should consider the adoption of a standard specification for building work setting out the minimum requirements which the Societies are prepared to accept. I know that giving effect to this suggestion depends to a great extent on the much larger and more important question of co-operation which is outside the purview of my paper to-day. Probably such a movement could best be inaugurated by an agreement between the representative bodies of the Building Societies, the Building Trade and the architects, and should your Federation consider the adoption of such a suggestion as this as a practical solution of some of our mutual problems. I can assure you that you will have the full support and co-operation of the builders' organisations throughout the country. I am given to understand that a movement of this nature is on foot in Great Britain, but am not, unfortunately, in a position to give you any precise information at the moment.

And then, Mr. Chairman, I want to suggest that some basis of co-operation between the various Societies be found for the elimination of the " jerry " contractor. This is a subject bristling with difficulties (and if I may say so, also with relatives). However, something should be done towards protecting the unsuspecting building owner, who is often a working man putting his whole life's earnings into his new home, and who is entitled to expect a soundly-constructed house at a reasonable cost and with a minimum of trouble.

There are two suggestions I desire to make in this connection, and the first is that municipal inspection of buildings in course of erection should be tightened up. No reputable builder need fear strict inspection, and I am certain that if the majority of these cottage builders knew that there was to be strict supervision of their jobs they would quickly go out of business. Especially should this stricter supervision apply to the sanitary and electrical items. I am advised by directors of Societies that the sanitary arrangements in some of the Reef towns are a disgrace, and are a serious menace to the health of the community, and this on jobs financed sometimes by the Societies.

I submit that it is the duty of the Building Societies and the Building Trades organisations throughout the country to combine in approaching the municipalities to endeavour to secure stricter supervision of building work in each centre.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I feel that I have taken up enough of your time this afternoon, but I would just like to summarise the main suggestions in my paper, which are:—

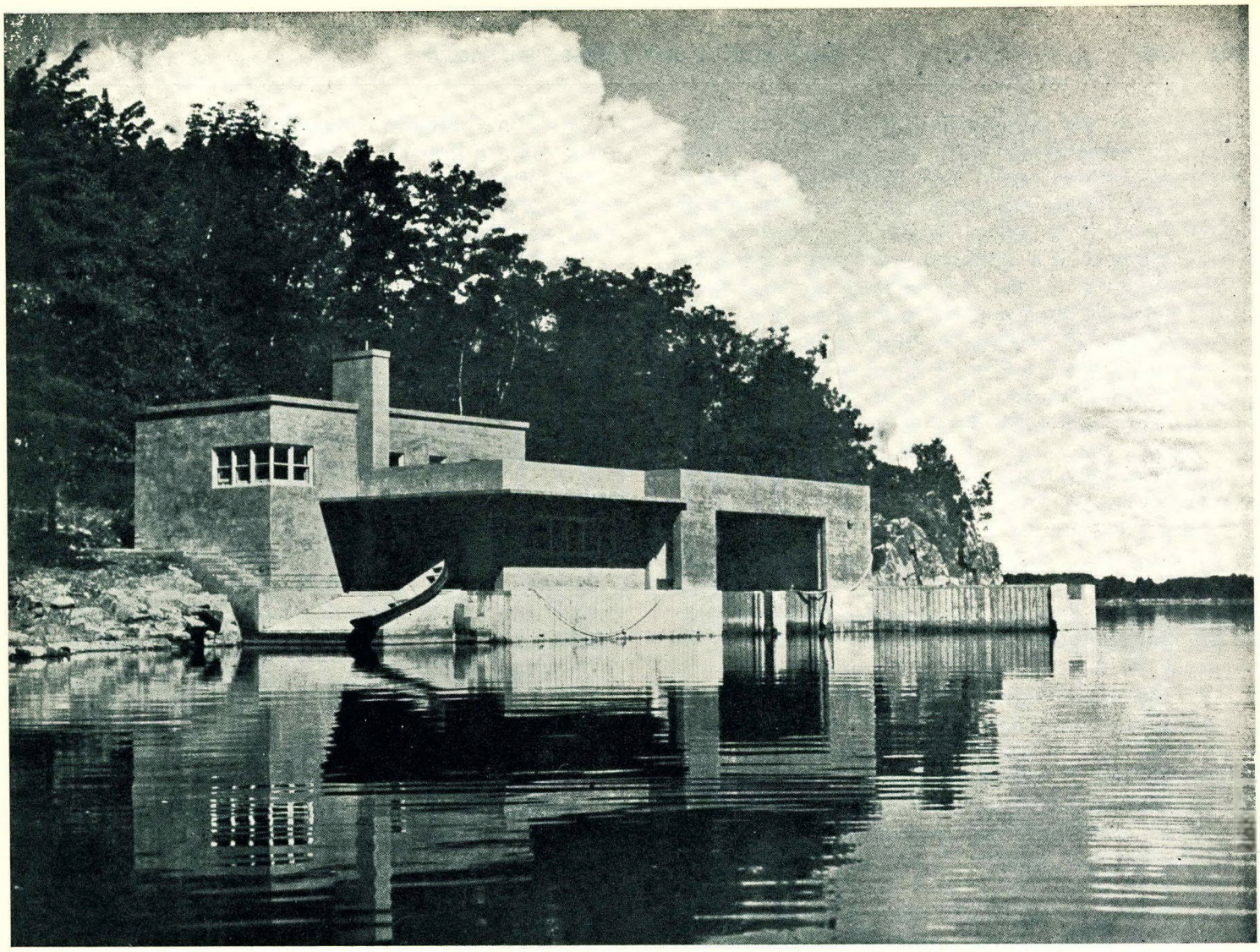
1. Closer co-operation between the Building Societies and the organisations in the Building Industry.
2. The abolition of cessions.
3. The adoption of a standard specification.
4. Stricter municipal inspection.
5. Collaboration between the various Societies in the direction of eliminating the " jerry " builder.
6. Some regard to what a previous Prime Minister of Britain once said : " What a man does with the inside of his house is his own affair, but what he does with the outside is his neighbours'."

May I quote the words of Sir Enoch Hill, who said at the International Congress of Building Societies of Salsburg:—

> " In upholding the banner of success in our efforts to promote home-ownership we stand firmly upon the twin rocks of personal endeavour and co-operation. The consummation of our objects is the opening of the door to the ownership of the private home—the haven of rest and peace—for all our families of whatever nation "

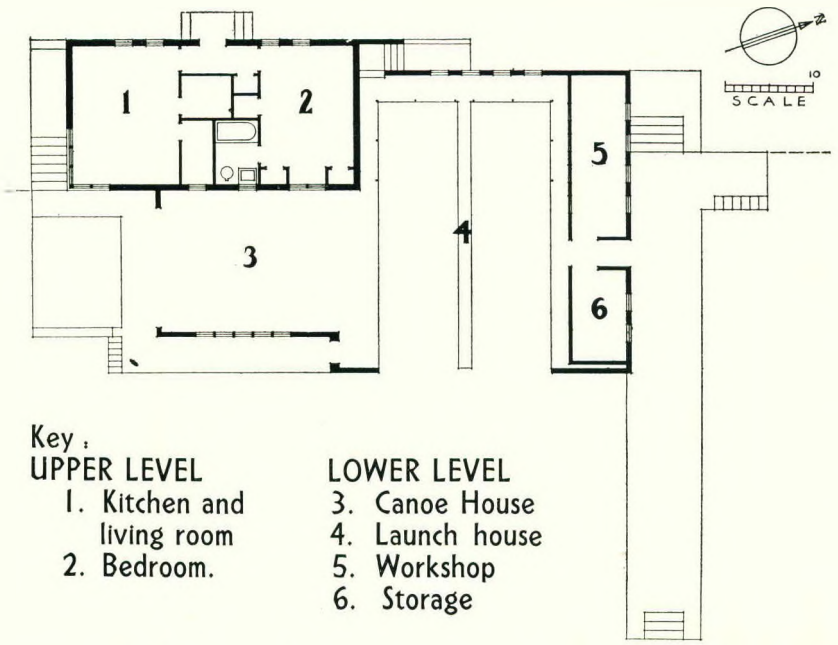
and conclude by expressing the hope that efforts will be made to give the wider interpretation to the powers and duties of the Societies in the directions which I have endeavoured to indicate in my address.

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BOATHOUSE OF SHERMAN PRATT

The main house is on a rock bluff 35 feet above the river over which it commands an extensive view. The rocky shore below drops off steeply. to depths of water varying between 100 feet and 200 feet. It was therefore necessary to locate the boathouse a few hundred feet to the west on the southern shore in a small natural cove. Some rock excavation was done in order to move the boathouse inshore and thus reduce the depth of the underwater foundations.



Key :

UPPER LEVEL
1. Kitchen and living room
2. Bedroom.

LOWER LEVEL
3. Canoe House
4. Launch house
5. Workshop
6. Storage

From the Architectural Record America

BUYING A HOUSE IN A SHOWROOM

AMERICA'S AMAZING EXPERIMENT IN ARCHITECTURE.

Reprinted from the "Star"

America's newest industry, applying the "line" method of automobile manufacturers to the production of ultra-modern homes, is now in full swing.

The "motohome," as the product is known, is pre-fabricated in factories, shipped to any site in a single mammoth truck, and set up for occupancy within a fortnight or three weeks.

The finished home is turned over to the home-owner complete to the last detail, and including two days of food supplies in the pantry and refrigerator—all for the original contract price.

The "motohome" is a product of the most advanced thinking in the realm of domestic architecture. The equipment and the method of fabrication were brought to perfection only after six continuous years of experimentation. It is framed of pre-fabricated steel into which are set pre-fitted fire and soundproof panels, is insulated, air-conditioned, indirectly lighted and assembled with no other tools than wrenches and screwdrivers. It may be "unbuttoned" at any point so that additional rooms, or even entire storeys, can be added at will; or it can be dissembled and moved with the furniture to a spot miles away from the original site.

The "motohome" dooms the familiar gables in future roof construction by supplanting them with an attractive sun porch. Its kitchen is air-conditioned, mechanically ventilated and fitted with a single streamlined unit of monel and enamel containing the range, mechanical dishwasher, refrigerator, basin and storage closets, and drawers scientifically arranged so that all are within easy reach.

The "motounit," the mechanical nerve-centre of the pre-fabricated house, is one of the most advanced improvements in the building industry. It contains in a steel cabinet no larger than a pantry air-conditioning, heating and hot water units and all basic plumbing and electrical connections, eliminating the need of a basement.

Installation of plumbing in the "motohome" is a matter of hours; it is only necessary to set in the kitchen and bathroom fixtures on opposite sides of the "motounit" and tighten a few nuts. All the fittings and most of the connections have been pre-built in the factory. Indirect lighting fixtures have also been pre-built into the walls, eliminating many costly connections on the job.

The "motohomes" are now under close observation on a seven-acre open-air laboratory near Purdue University, in the State of Indiana. Many data are being collected regarding the weathering, durability and quality of the materials used in the construction.

It is not necessary to paint the "motohome," save for the window trim, which is made of metal. The outside materials of the home have a warm grey shade which becomes rich-toned with age. The aluminium alloy trim around the house weathers to a mellow pewter colour.

All the "motohomes" have garages attached. The one-storey homes have two bedrooms, living-room, bath and kitchen; while the two-storey house has three bedrooms—two upstairs and one downstairs—a dining-room and living-room, kitchen and two bathrooms. In addition, the flat-roof surfaces of the two-storey house provide a sun-deck and a covered porch, which is planted with shrubbery.

Rainwater from the roof drains into the ground through a pipe running down through the centre of the house—one drain instead of the customary half-dozen.

A single switch controls the elaborate mechanical equipment in the "motounit." This magic unit, contained within a steel shell, performs all the drudgery of the house. The electric refrigerator, sink, laundry-tub and stove are arranged in a straight line. All cooking and laundry odours are removed from

the kitchen by a silent mechanical exhaust. The " motounit " is so silent that one is not aware of its operation. The furnace may be used in connection with coal, oil, gas or electricity, depending on which is most economical in a particular community.

The house materials are not perishable. They are steel, aluminium alloy and a wall substance fabricated from asbestos and cement. They will withstand earthquakes, high winds, storms, and are able to withstand any amount of rain, snow or sunshine. Interior walls are of a mineral compound, covered with a non-fading material that can be washed with soap and water. Flooring is of steel-reinforced mineral compound as used in the roof, and the finished floors are of compressed hardwood fibres which take on a high lustre when waxed.

In the States " motohomes " can be bought on the " hire-purchase " system at a very low rate of interest, as the idea is receiving encouragement from the Government, who have secured the mortgages.

Exclusive of land and furniture, the four-roomed " motohome " sells for £1,284. This, of course, includes all heating, ventilating, refrigerating, cooking and bathroom equipment, also wireless equipment. The five-roomed house sells for £1,560 and the six-roomed house sells for £1,950. Larger houses are in proportion.

The ' motohome " is purchased from a showroom. The would-be house-owner merely walks in, looks over the sample homes, selects the one he wants, signs his name to a contract, and within three weeks or so he can move in.

BOOK REVIEW.

BUILDERS' ESTIMATES AND PRICING DATA

By H. A. Macemin. Chapman and Hall. 12/6 nett.

The title of this book implies that it is intended for use by builders. The preface and the contents go rather to show that the author meant it as a guide for quantity surveyors and students. In the hands of a man of experience there is no doubt the book would be an additional help, but the student in South Africa will be confused by much of the detail and misled by some of the principles adopted and recommended. The author decries labour " constants," but is forced to use them. Not scientifically and because he likes them, but perforce of circumstances.

On the subject of " constants " in general, while deprecating their use, he mentions a well known handbook as being the best of its kind. I have by me only a rather old edition (14th), but there such " constants " as are given are in days. A day may be almost anything, but the fundamental basis of labour in the building trades is hours in most industrialised countries. " Constants " are used in the book in a most confusing way, and very few are set out in tabular form.

As an example, the author uses such bases as " two labourers for three hours." He then proceeds to give the combined hourly rate for two labourers. Surely the simpler way is to reduce labour to man-hours and price at the hourly rate for one man so many hours. A book giving tables of " constants " in such a form as to make reference easy, and examples of how the tables should be used, the local rates being easily applied, would be much more useful to both practitioners and students, except, perhaps, those who practice where the rates quoted are applicable.

Some of the author's explanations of the " shrinkage " of the materials used in concrete when mixed and his methods of setting down the calculations for arriving at the quantity of mortar in a brick wall are poor, but no doubt the final results are correct. There is no doubt that throughout the book the author's conclusions, that is, the prices arrived at, are sound. But no one but a very experienced and able estimator could write such a book. The practitioner in South Africa will, however, want a readier manual, and the student will need a simpler and less confusing one.

H. BELL-JOHN

PROFESSIONAL NOTES AND NEWS

University of Pretoria.

Architectural and Quantity Surveying Students Association.

At an enthusiastic and well attended meeting of the above mentioned association at the University on Monday night, March 23rd, the following committee was elected for this year:

President, Mr. F. A. Longworth; Vice-President, Mr. S. W. R. Geldenhuys; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. L. Papendorf; additional members: Messrs. L. B. Woods, R. Cornell, R. Hope, S. Howgrave-Graham.

The President cordially welcomed the new members. He asked for their full co-operation, since the future of the association depended mostly on them.

Some brilliant suggestions were put forward as to the activities the association could follow. If everything goes off as well as anticipated, the U.P.A.Q.A. will have a very successful year.

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The Institute of South African Architects.

The Central Council.

PERSONNEL FOR 1936-1937.

Cape Provincial Institute:—Members: H. J. Brownlee, F.R.I.B.A.; J. W. Parker, A.R.I.B.A. Alternates: W. Hawke, F.R.I.B.A.; B. Mansergh, A.R.I.B.A.

Natal Provincial Institute:—Member: E. M. Powers, F.R.I.B.A. Alternate: C. S. M. Taylor, A.R.I.B.A.

Orange Free State Provincial Institute:—Member: Fredk. W. Masey, F.R.I.B.A. Alternate: W. W. Tonkin, L.R.I.B.A.

Transvaal Provincial Institute Members:—A. R. Howden, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I.; W. G. McIntosh, A.R.I.B.A.; V. S. Rees-Poole, F.R.I.B.A.; F. Williamson, A.R.I.B.A. Alternates: H. G. Tomkyns, A.R.I.B.A.; Gordon Leith, F.R.I.B.A.; Rex Martienssen, A.R.I.B.A.; A. S. Furner, A.R.I.B.A.

Chapter of S.A. Quantity Surveyors:—Members: D. J. Laing, F.S.I.; T. Moore, F.S.I., L.R.I.B.A. Alternates: E. J. Hamlin, D.Sc., F.S.I.; C. L. F. Borckenhagen, P.A.S.I.

Government Nominees:—Members: J. S. Cleland, F.R.I.B.A.; R. J. C. Prentice, F.S.I. Alternates: W. Mollison, C. H. Deighton, F.S.I.

J. S. Lewis, Registrar.

Messrs. Roos and Roos, Quantity Surveyors, have removed their offices from Stanley House to London House, Loveday Street, Johannesburg.

●

Architect desires partnership or senior assistantship with a view to partnership. Creative power and initiative. Wide overseas and local experience with prominent architects. Capital available. Strictly confidential.—Apply c/o Secretary, Transvaal Provincial Institute.

●

Mr. J. O. Quail and Mr. G. P. Quail, Quantity Surveyors, have transferred to practising membership, and have commenced private practice in partnership, under the style of "Quail & Quail." Their address is London House, Loveday Street, Johannesburg.

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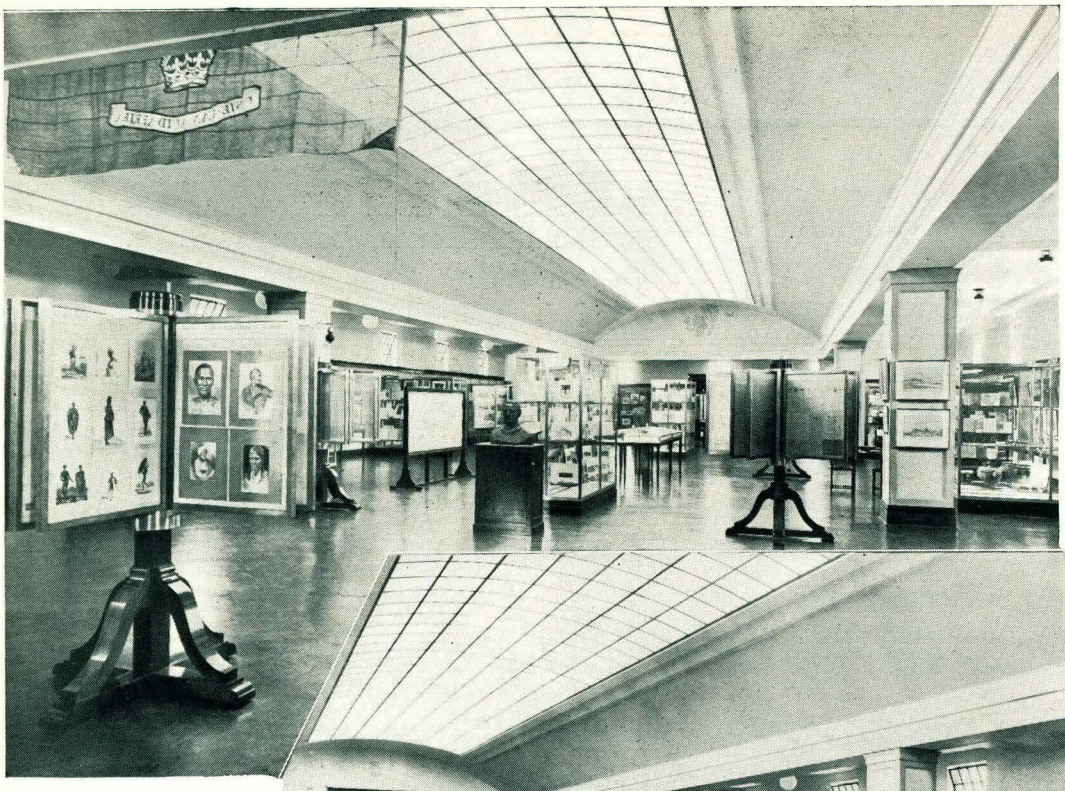
Mr. H. B. van der Riet has commenced in practice on his own account as an architect, with offices in Central Buildings, Prince George Avenue, Brakpan. Trade catalogues would be appreciated.

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Standardisation of Building Bricks.

The following letter from the South African Standards Institution is published for the information of members:—

"As your Institute is aware, a few years ago the South African branch of the British Standards Institution, which is now incorporated in this Institution, agreed to the adoption of a building brick having a minimum size of $8\frac{7}{8}$ in. x 4 5-16 in. x $2\frac{5}{8}$ in. and a maximum size of 9 in. x $4\frac{3}{8}$ in. x 2 11-16 in. as the standard size of brick, this being the same size of brick as had been agreed to by the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Brickmakers' Association in England, other sizes of bricks to be known as "specials," and I now have to advise your Institute that, as from January, 1937, this Institution intends to standardise brick sizes in accordance with those adopted by the Royal Institute of British Architects."



Two views of the AFRICANA MUSEUM, JOHANNESBURG. showing the work manufactured by our London House

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National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.
Museum and Art Gallery, Belfast.
Museum of Zoology, Glasgow University.
Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge University.
Ashmolean Museum, Oxford University.
Rhodesia Museum, Bulawayo.
Hanoi Museum, Indo-China.
Trocadero Museum, Paris.
Lord Rothschild's Museum, Tring.
McGregor Memorial Museum, Kimberley.
Capetown Museum.
Royal Naval College Museum, Greenwich.
Gordon College Museum, Khartoum.
Museum of Archæology, Jerusalem.

AFRICANA MUSEUM, JOHANNESBURG.

This installation includes Centre Cases and Wall Cases, all in Bronze Metal, and Special Revolving Print Stands with metal framed leaves and teak bases. It is a good example of the high quality of work performed by the Museum Department of Frederick Sage & Co., Ltd.

SAGE

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Box 777. Phone 22-7555.

Journal of the SA Architectural Institute

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