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MARCH, 1931.

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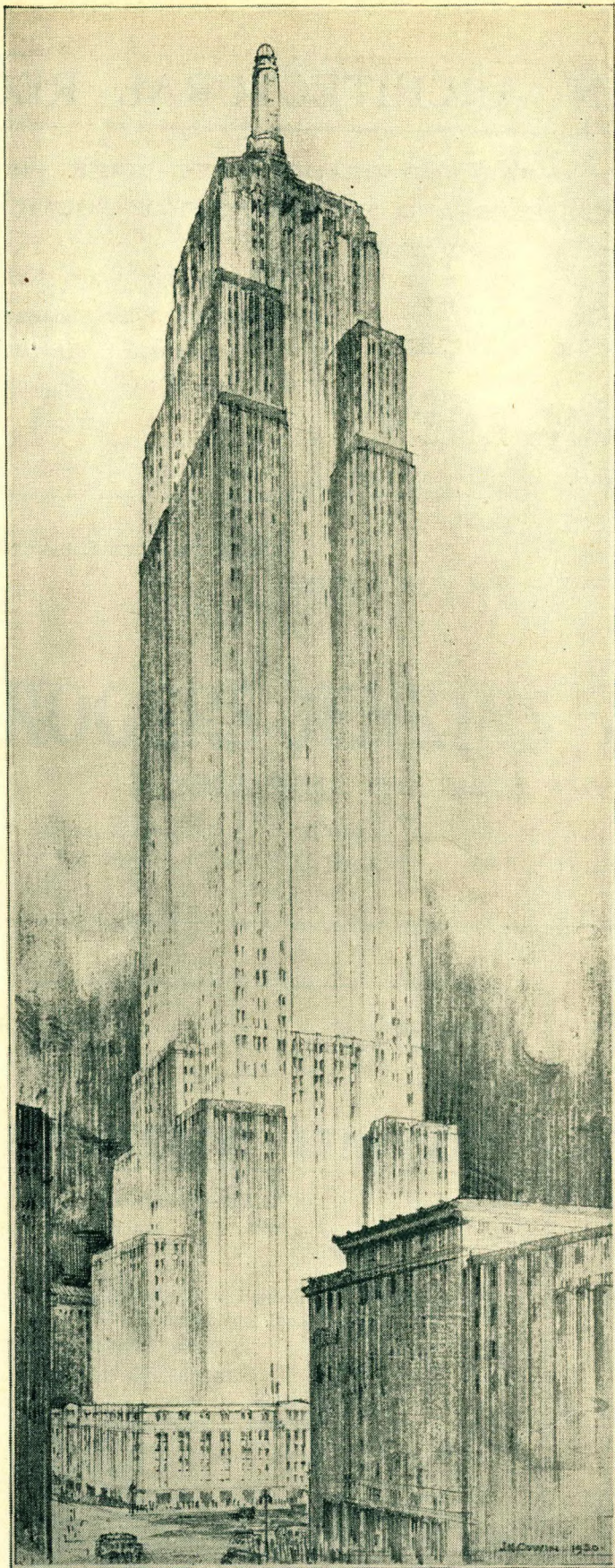
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*Empire State Building, New York.
from a drawing by
J. N. COWIN, B.Arch., A.R.I.B.A.*

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THE HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS.

The following press cutting has given rise to this article, and calls for some consideration of the position with regard to the limitation of the height of buildings:—

"Plans for buildings of fifteen storeys and more are ready to be put before the Johannesburg City Engineer's Department as soon as the present restrictive bye-laws are modified."

"Owing to recent protests of the Ratepayers Association against the alleged relaxation of the height restrictions in the case of a newly completed block, no further steps are being taken for the present by the parties sponsoring Johannesburg's skyscrapers."

With the general advancement of the country and the increased values of stands in the central areas of our Cities, comes the demand for higher buildings, in order that additional returns may be obtained on the heavy capital outlay for the ground. We are told that if we follow the American example and build to unlimited heights we shall support the modern tendency towards centralisation, and the efficiency thereby created, and produce a more beautiful and wholesome city. That would appear to be the view of the Building Owner, and not that of the unfortunate pedestrian who is forced to use streets which are exceptionally crowded, and is deprived in large measure of light and air, due to the congestion arising from the erection of very high buildings or skyscrapers.

The skyscraper originated in New York, where owing to the lack of space, this type of building developed rapidly, and is now being adopted in other parts of America, and for other reasons which are probably the desire for record-breaking and advertisement, and prospects of greater profits, not entirely with a view to centralisation and greater efficiency.

Centralisation as exemplified in New York is responsible for appalling conditions for the townspeople in getting to and fro from their work. Struggling for accommodation in the public conveyances is of daily occurrence, and the Police are powerless to control the traffic in the streets.

An American Architect in an interview recently has said:—

"The chaotic congestion of the streets on Manhattan Island has reached a point which the authorities view with the greatest alarm. During the morning and evening business rushes it is almost impossible to progress by car or foot, and the big stores, employing thousands, have long adopted a system of staggered hours—that is—one store opens at eight-thirty o'clock, the next at nine, and the one after at nine-thirty, so as to give their staffs a better opportunity to get there in time. But in spite of this and other devices, the traffic control is seriously considering a system of two and even three-decker streets for Manhattan.

"It is not possible to control the height of buildings in New York, because the pace is set by one or two companies which are after record-breaking."

A few particulars of the recently completed Empire State Building in New York, designated as "The tallest structure ever reared by man," are of interest, to give one some idea of developments in America.

The building extends eighty-five stories above 34th Street, with two stories below grade. It is 1,043 feet from the street to the roof of the 85th floor, not including the observatory roof or mooring-mast, designed to extend two hundred feet higher. It will house twenty thousand tenants, equivalent to the white population of Bloemfontein!!!

This building is illustrated, and some idea of its magnitude may be gained by comparing it with the building adjoining, which is about the same height as Johannesburg's tallest structure.

Unless the public is prepared to accept the evils resultant on excessive centralisation, we should be wary of the recent tendency to increase the height of buildings in this country, and express our views definitely before the practice becomes general.

Here with our wide open spaces there is no reason whatever for aggravating the congestion in our streets, and curtailing the light and air to our buildings and streets; there is ample room for extension laterally, and there is no necessity for soaring skywards. It is generally accepted that the height of

buildings should be governed by the width of the streets adjacent to them, and a conference called in London recently to consider the situation in respect of the height of buildings came to the following conclusions:—

"That there is a distinct ratio between street capacity to accommodate vehicular and pedestrian traffic and the floor area of the buildings which those streets serve.

"That the height of buildings should be regulated by the relation between the extent and character of buildings and the adequacy of the streets to carry the resulting traffic."

In London generally a building, a church or chapel excepted, may not exceed eighty feet in height, but where the street is less than fifty feet wide a building must not exceed the width of the street. In America some cities have a limit such as Washington, which has a maximum of one hundred and thirty feet, and in certain places allows only ninety-five feet.

The Johannesburg Bye-Law regulates the height of buildings by the width of the street, and with some exceptions no building shall exceed in height one and two-thirds times the width of the street adjacent to it; this gives a maximum height of one hundred and twenty-nine feet in the Central Area, but it is possible, by taking advantage of the exceptions in the bye-laws to erect buildings to a greater height than this. The Barbican Building, recently completed in Johannesburg, is one hundred and forty feet high to the top of the turret.

In Cape Town the maximum height of any building abutting upon any street (irrespective of the width of such street) shall not exceed one hundred and twenty feet, and in Durban the regulations permit a maximum height of one hundred and forty feet, or ten storeys, not exceeding fourteen feet per storey. The Schloss Building, recently completed in Durban, rises to a height of one hundred and thirty-five feet above the pavement.

It would appear then that the existing regulations in our principal towns are a safeguard against the erection of skyscrapers, and it would be a wise policy to maintain these restrictions.

It is not generally known that the skyscraper is deleterious from the standpoint of those who want a quiet city; noises originating in narrow walled-in streets between skyscrapers echo to and fro and are much enhanced.

Very high buildings have nothing to commend them to the average citizen, except that they are spectacular. The owner doubtless can secure greater profits from these undertakings, but they are a menace to the amenities of a city, and add nothing to its architectural values.

Is the Building Owner or the general public to be considered in this matter?

Traffic congestion, it is estimated, is costing New York City £200,000 a day, the interest on £1,200,000,000 principal. Decentralisation it is said has to come in large cities, especially in New York where the congestion is getting worse daily.

A report by an influential Committee appointed by the City Council of New York to study the question of housing includes the following remarks:—

"Buildings are much too high—the tendency is to build higher and higher—existing public open spaces have become inadequate, hemmed in as they are by canyon walls. The City should ensure an adequate amount of light and air to all dwellings of every character erected in the future."

Skyscrapers are unknown in the Cities of Europe, and yet they manage to prosper without them; let us then follow their example, and ban them for all time, saving ourselves from the serious evils which now prevail in parts of America due to the erection of these huge structures.

N.T.C.

THE JOHANNESBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY COMPETITION.

The designs submitted in the above competition were exhibited in the Selborne Hall, from the 9th to the 14th March, and created a considerable amount of interest amongst the general public and members of the profession.

The assessor Mr. E. Vincent Harris F.R.I.B.A., made the following awards:—

First: Mr. J. Perry, F.R.I.B.A., Capetown.
Second: Mr. G. Moerdijk, A.R.I.B.A., Pretoria.
Third: Messrs. Cowin, Powers and Ellis, F. and A.R.I.B.A., Johannesburg.

The following is a copy of the Assessors' Report:—
Confirming my cable dated February 2nd, in connection with the above, my award, after careful consideration, is as follows:—

First Premium	..	No. 22.
Second Premium	..	No. 13.
Third Premium	..	No. 26.

This scheme, No. 22, will function well, and, with careful study, the result will be a fine building.

May I suggest it would be an added amenity if the lecture hall could be arranged so as to be used for picture exhibition purposes; or perhaps accommodation could be provided for this on the first floor.

I shall be happy, should your Council and the successful competitor wish, to give my criticism on any points which may arise in the preparation of the contract drawings.

Yours faithfully,
E. VINCENT HARRIS.

REVIEW.

The problem set the competitors was no easy one, bristling as it was with limitations. This is the second Municipal competition held recently in which the plan has been more or less fixed by the promoters with the result that very little scope is afforded to the competitors.

The requirements laid down that the Reference Room and Lending Library, the two main elements, had to be placed on the Ground Floor and that North light was necessary or desirable for each of them. The Magazine, Children's, Patents and Commercial Rooms and a large Exhibition Hall were also required on this floor. The area of all these rooms was laid down. The arrangements of the Ground Floor were therefore a determining factor in the plan.

In the semi basement a large lecture hall was required with a stage that could be used for amateur theatricals and also a scenery store. This was evidently a considerable source of worry to competitors as the building by-laws, which were to be strictly adhered to, state that "No building in which a stage will be erected, and in which scenery will be used, shall be constructed underneath, or on top of, any part of any other building."

Several competitors, therefore, including the winner, took care that this hall should be isolated as much as possible, hence it became another determining factor in the plan.

Difficulties were also encountered in so placing this hall that it did not cut into the staff working arrangements in the basement to any great extent.

On the first floor the geological museum, music rooms and Librarian, Committee, student rooms and certain staff rooms had to be placed.

A certain amount of feeling has been created amongst competitors owing to these somewhat rigid conditions laid down not having been adhered to.

It is felt by some that the introduction of a mezzanine floor should not have been permitted. On the other hand others argue that on a floor in which rooms of vast dimensions are called for, a great height is necessarily required in order to obtain a satisfactory proportion. To give smaller rooms a similar height would naturally be absurd, hence the introduction of a mezzanine, which is in the nature of a gallery to a floor, is a logical solution and incidentally provides for a more open treatment of the plan.

With regard to the lecture hall the majority of competitors placed it under rooms on the ground floor. This is in direct conflict with the by-laws hence it is felt by many that such competitors should have been disqualified.

Furthermore it was argued that where a room is specifically asked for on a certain floor, to place it on another floor is again a breach of the competition conditions and renders a plan liable to disqualification.

These are all important points that should not be overlooked and the utmost care should be taken in future to see that a clause is introduced in the competition conditions stating very explicitly whether the accommodation asked for on each floor can be varied by competitors if required or not.

In a large competition of this nature it appears most unjust that competitors who are involved in considerable monetary expense in the preparation of their drawings should be placed in any doubt in this respect more particularly when, in the past, designs have been disqualified for slight deviations from competition conditions.

The Central Council, which has been appealed to in these matters, has decided that it would be in the best interests of the profession to take no action in the matter, more especially in view of the fact that in the preliminary discussions with the City Council it was agreed by both sides that the decision of the Assessor should be final and binding on the promoters and the competitors. This agreement too is somewhat paradoxical as a clause in the conditions laid down that a competitor may lodge a protest within a certain period after the exhibition of the drawings.

However, we feel sure that the profession as a whole will agree to the Central Council's decision and that the Central Council on their part will take every precaution to prevent any recurrence of this in future competitions.

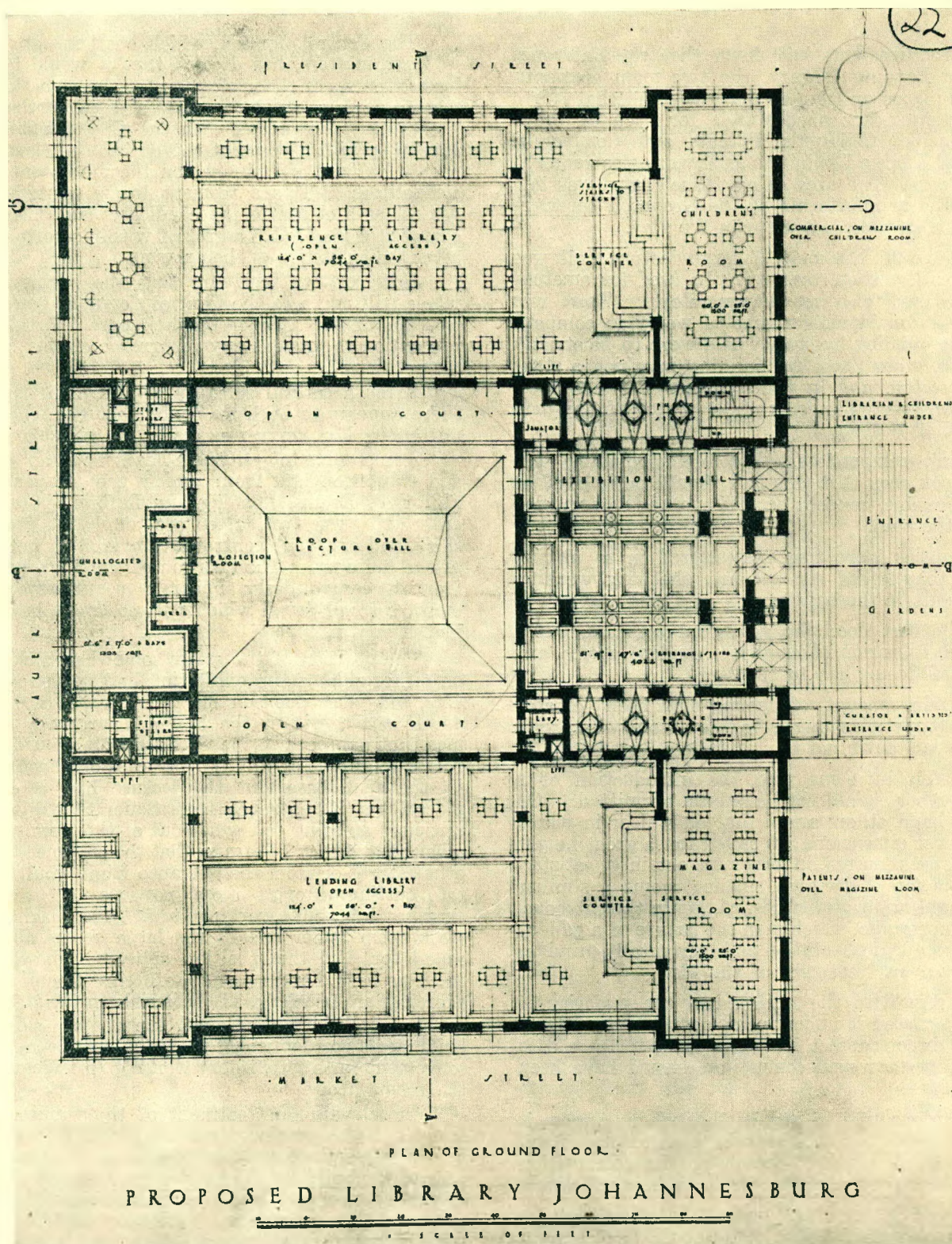
After a careful scrutiny of the plans submitted there appears to be little doubt that the scheme submitted by Mr. Perry was easily the winner.

A monumental entrance leads into an entrance and exhibition hall from which the Magazine and Children's Rooms, Lending and Reference Rooms are entered. The two latter are amply lit from both sides, and excellent control is provided in both wings of the building. The position of the book lifts away from the control desks appears a questionable arrangement, a small detail which will no doubt be rectified in the final scheme.

The position of the stairs somewhat tucked away on either side of the exhibition hall is also questionable, but their position has the advantage of giving ample space within the hall and provides separate means of approach to the Geological Museum and those rooms required for Library purposes on the first floor. In the semi basement the lecture hall is centrally placed, but its entrance from Sauer Street has been criticised as being somewhat out of the way. On the other hand it may be argued that the entrance from any other street or from the entrance front would necessitate cutting through those portions of this floor occupied by a busy working staff. The placing of the stack room under one of the large rooms above was asked for, but this position appears somewhat one-sided as both Lending and Reference Rooms in most Libraries are usually easily accessible to the stack room.

Had it been placed along the Eastern side of the building its position would probably have been far more convenient for a satisfactory working arrangement with the rooms above.

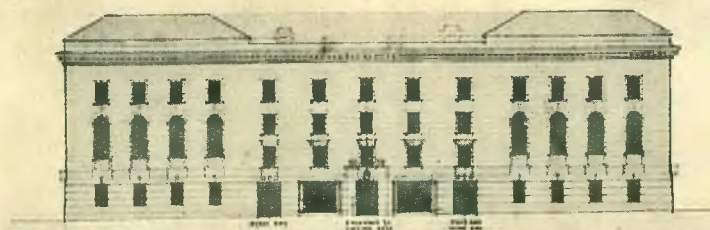
The elevational treatment of the winning design is not quite so satisfactory as the plan. It is questionable whether the main front clearly expresses the purpose of the building. The three great arched entrances at first glance give one the impression of being the entrance to a very large exhibition hall or railway station, but they do nevertheless give a fine monumental effect. The fenestration on either side of the main entrance is still more unsatisfactory and should be given a great deal of consideration before the final solution is reached.



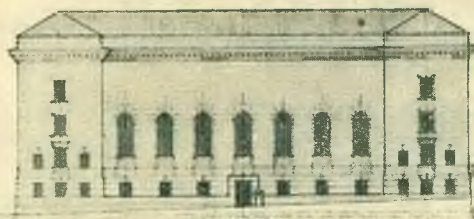
First Premiated Design,

John Perry, F.R.I.B.A.

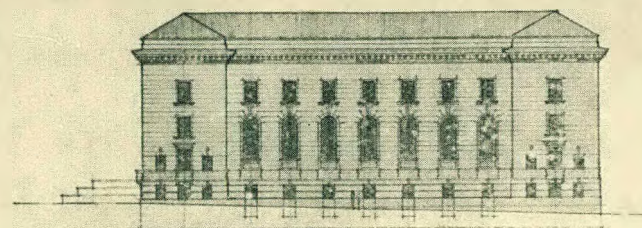
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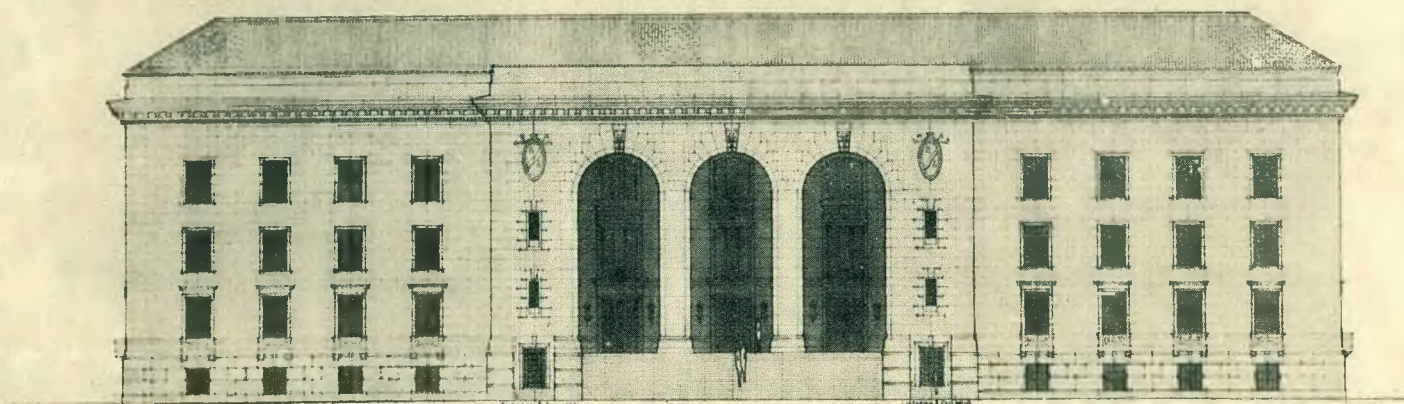
ELEVATION TO SAUER STREET



ELEVATION TO MARKET STREET



ELEVATION TO PRESIDENT STREET

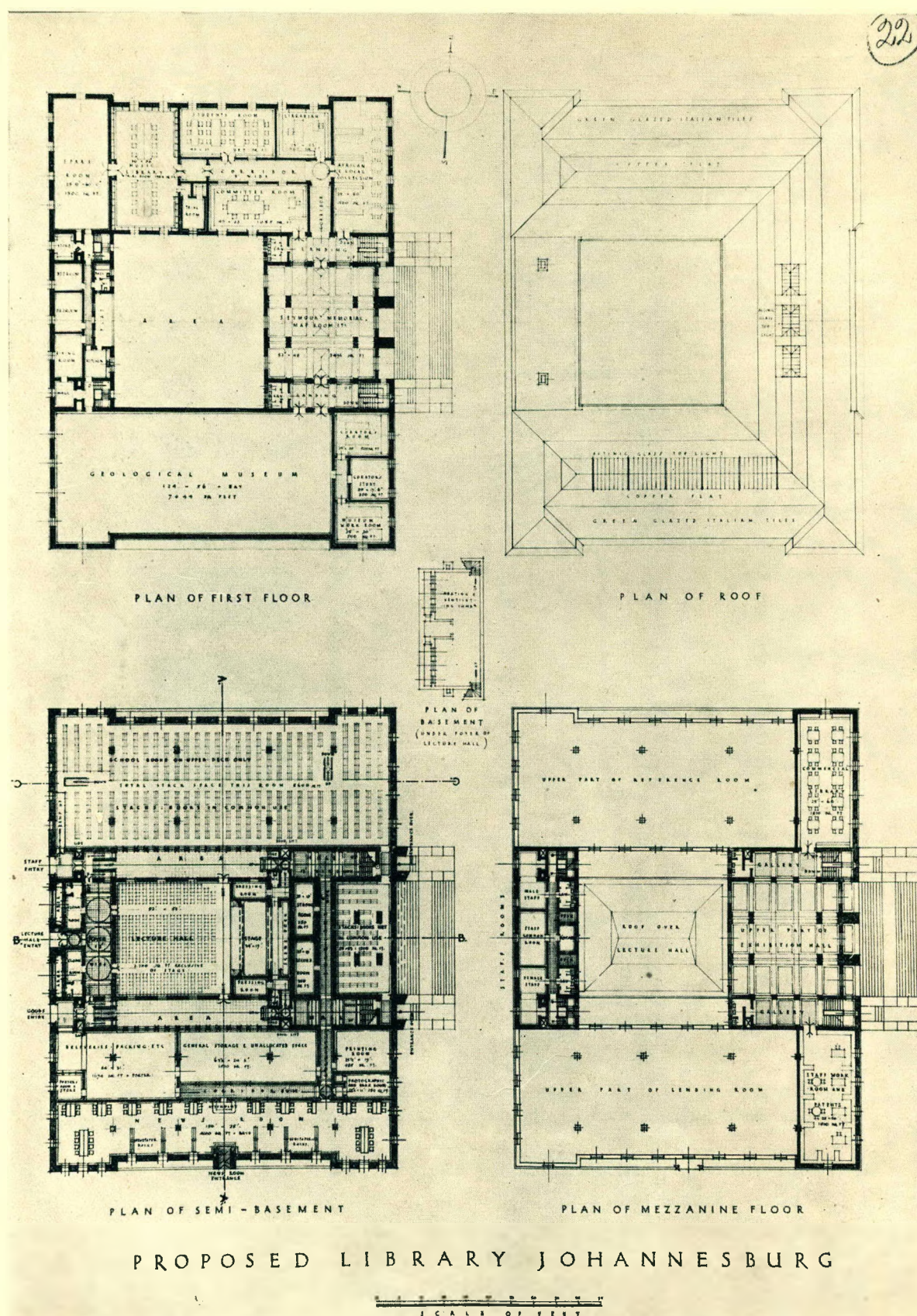


ELEVATION TO GARDENS

PROPOSED LIBRARY JOHANNESBURG

First Premiated Design.

John Perry, F.R.I.B.A.



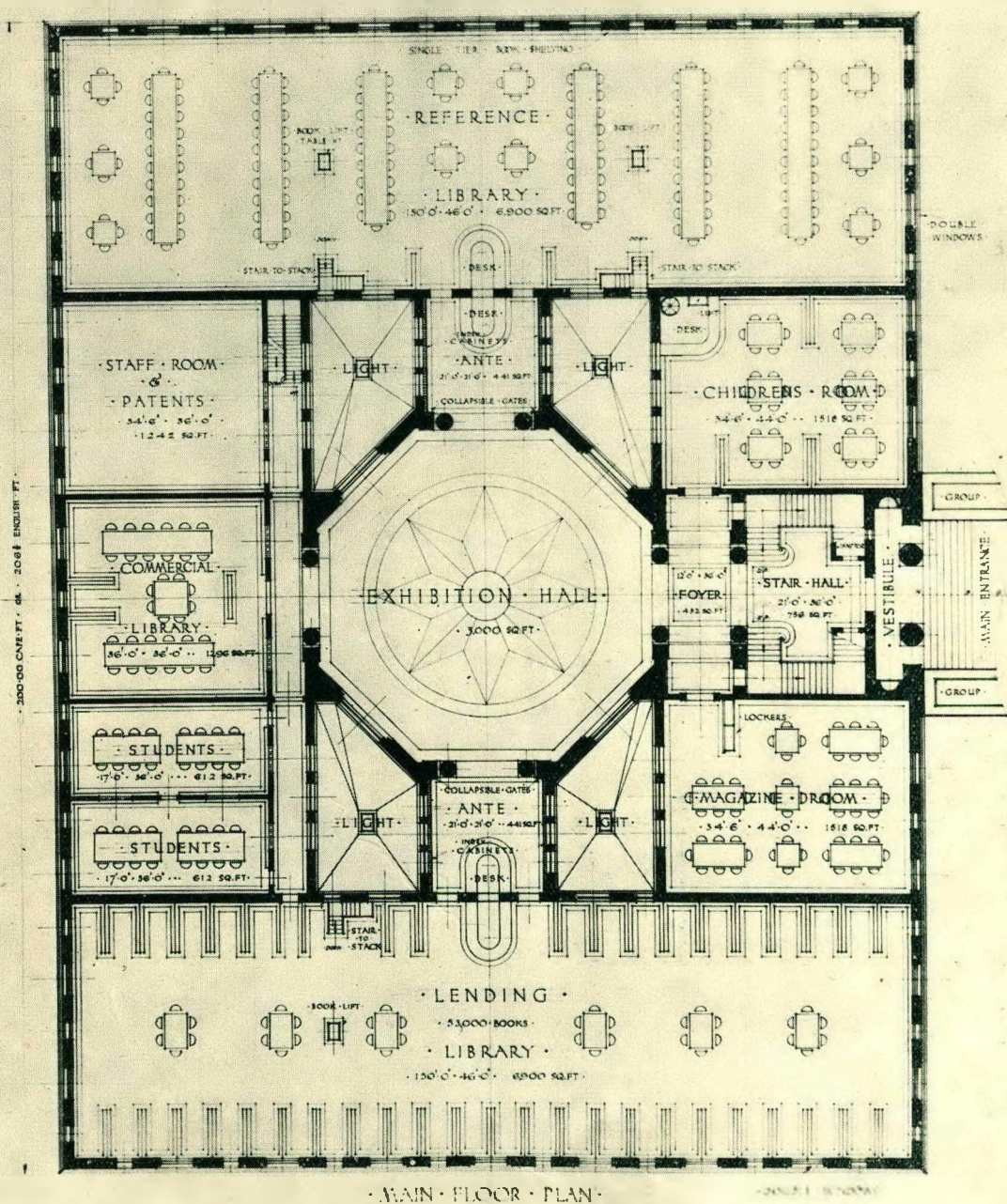
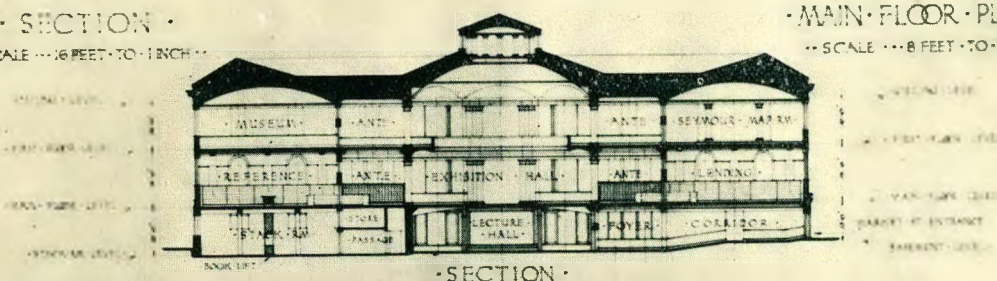
PROPOSED LIBRARY JOHANNESBURG

First Premiated Design.

John Perry, F.R.I.B.A.

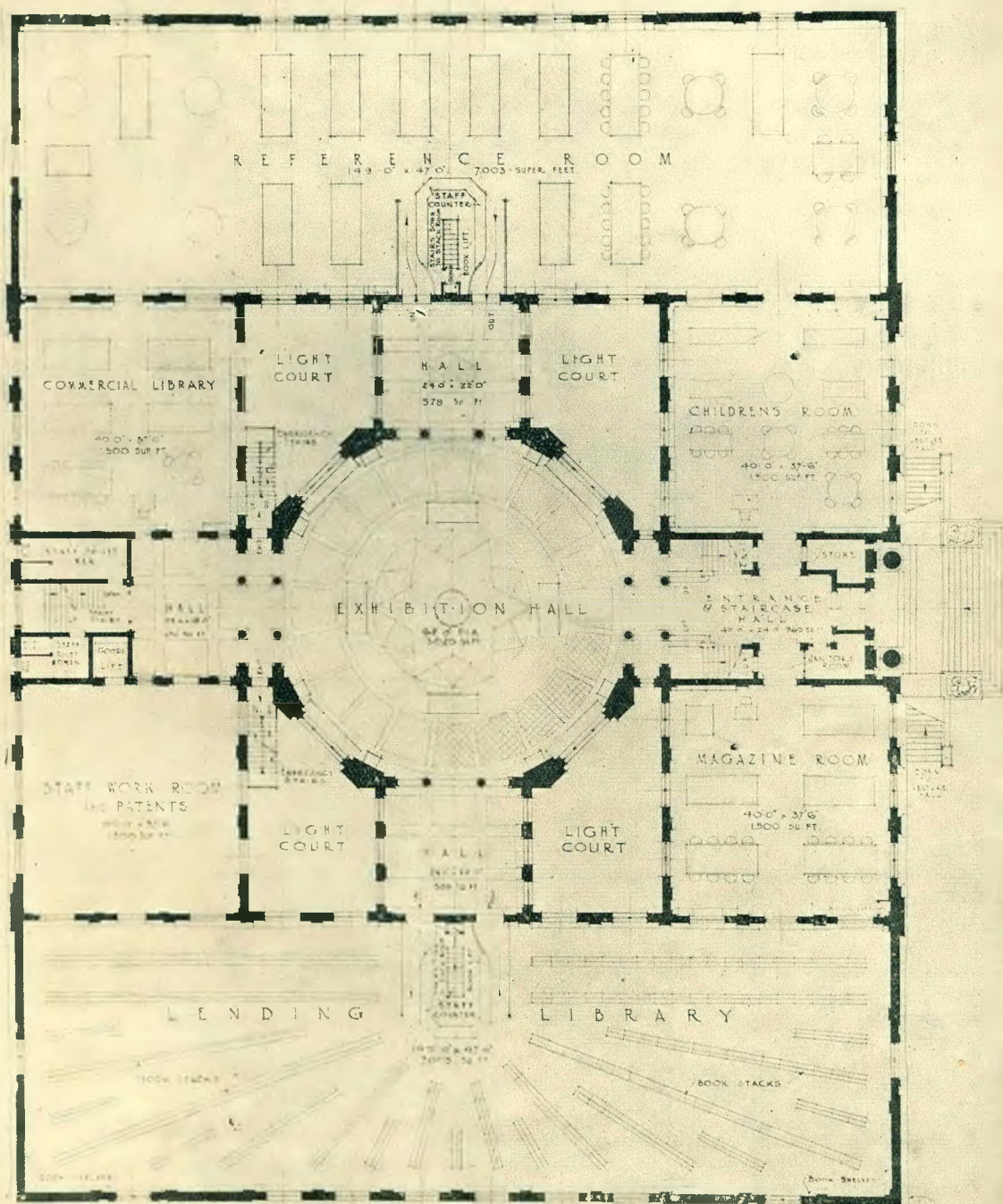
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• MAIN FLOOR PLAN •
• SCALE • • 8 FEET TO 1 INCH •



G. Moerdijk, A.R.I.B.A.

COMPETITIVE DESIGN
FOR
PROPOSED LIBRARY BUILDING
JOHANNESBURG

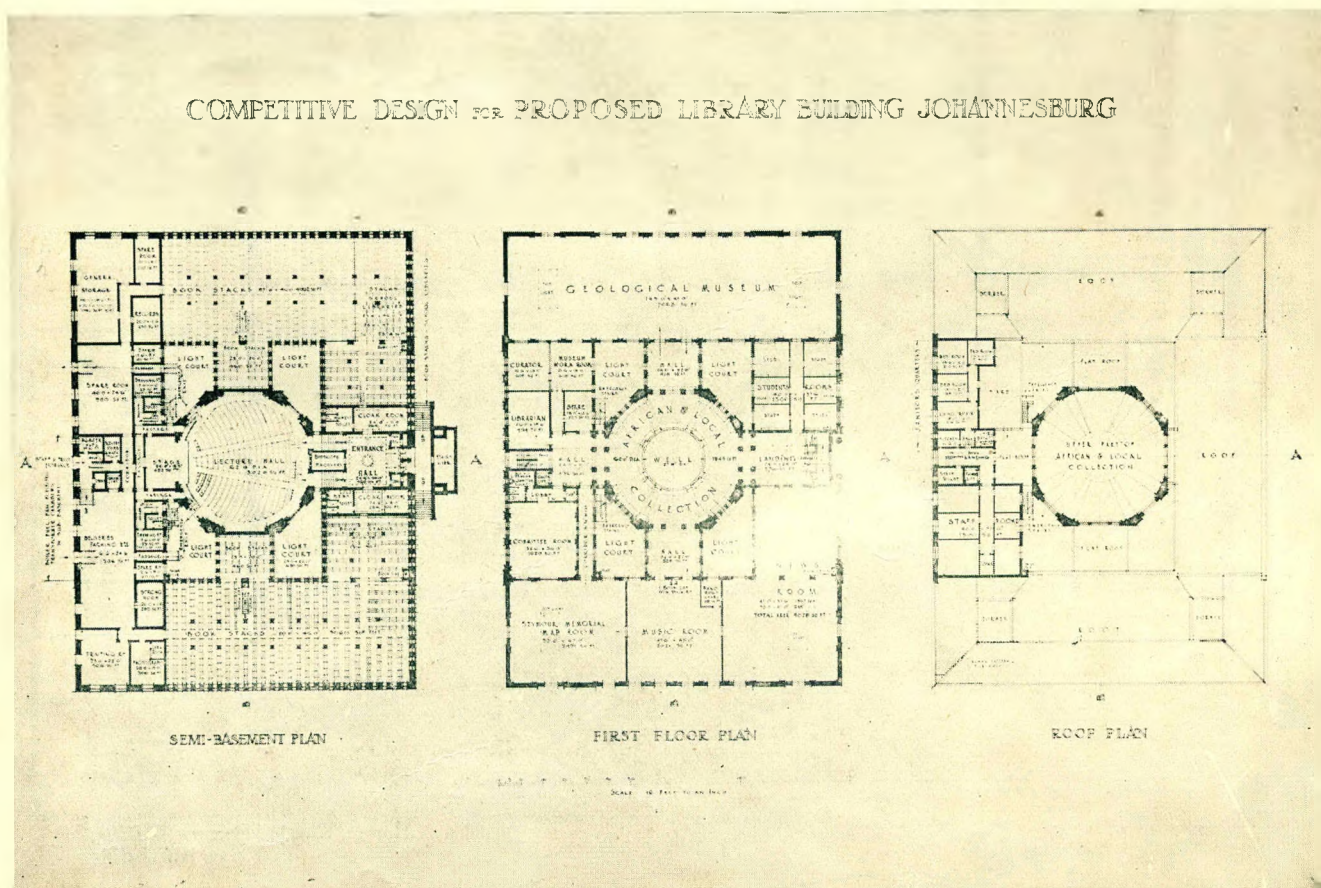
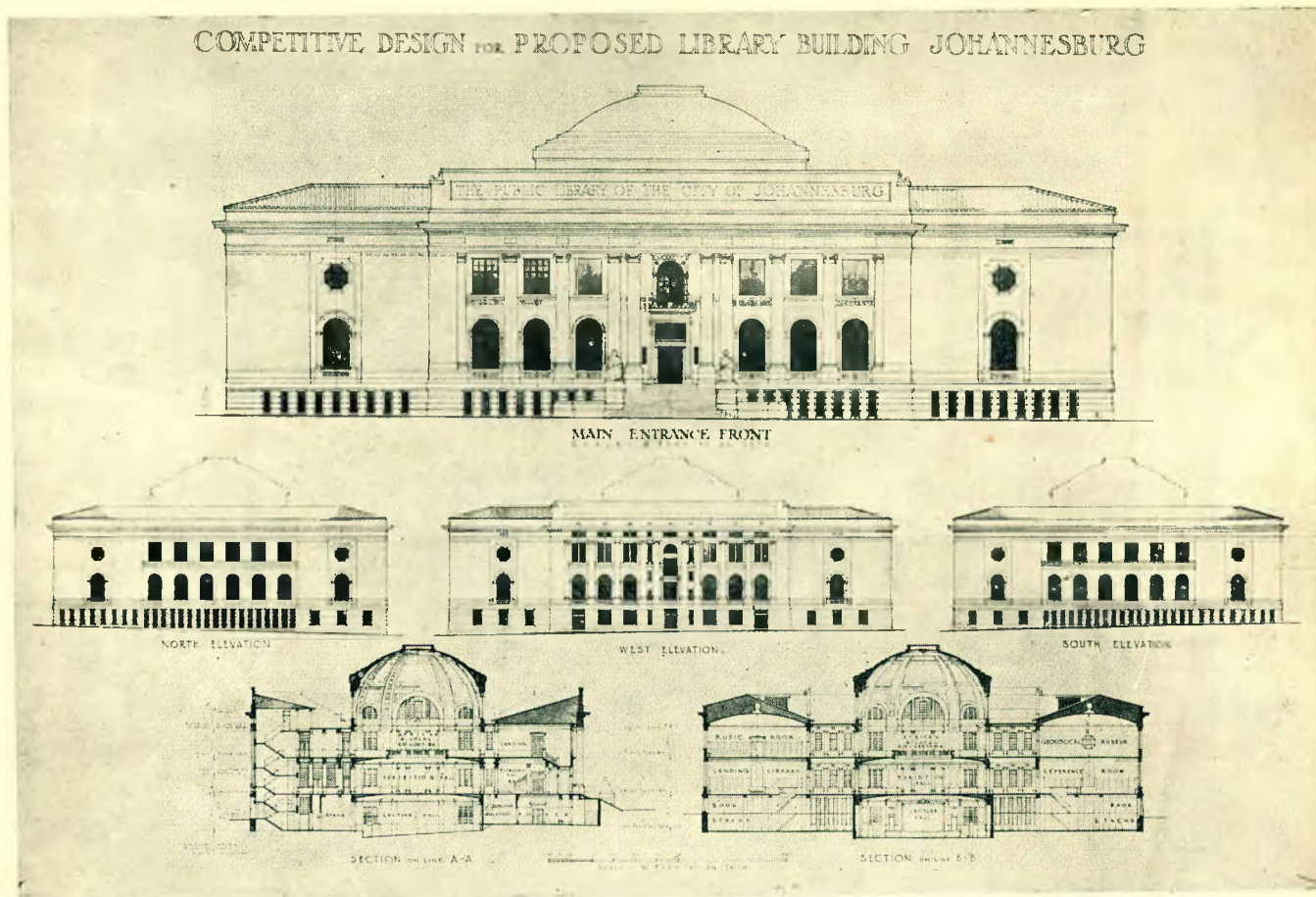


GROUND FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 8 FEET TO AN INCH

Third Premiated Design.

Messrs. Cowin, Powers & Ellis,
L., F., & A.R.I.B.A.



The drawings submitted are undoubtedly a very fine set and reflect great credit on the author as well as setting a fine standard for a competition set of drawings.

The second and third premiated designs are much the same in general arrangement with a centrally placed exhibition hall lit from four internal courts in the angles. In each case the arrangement of the entrance hall and stairs is somewhat cramped and one has to reach the centre of the building before quite realising the disposition of the various rooms.

In each case the lecture hall in the semi basement is under the exhibition hall and its entrance and exits cut across the staff working rooms on the same floor, an arrangement which as has been said, is open to criticism.

On the first floor the majority of the rooms are approached from the gallery surrounding the exhibition hall which is carried up through the two floors.

The elevations of the second premiated design have much to commend them in the general disposition of the openings.

The main elevation of the third premiated design is not quite so satisfactory, the treatment of the ends being somewhat out of character with the central feature.

One cannot help wondering why one or two of the designs which adopted the same general plan arrangement as the winning design were not mentioned, more especially as certain parts of the plan were most excellently conceived.

A good deal of press criticism has been levelled at the inclusion of a lecture hall which can be used for theatrical performances being embodied in the scheme.

The inclusion of a lecture hall is a common practice in modern library design in both Europe and America and in Johannesburg would certainly serve a very useful purpose and fill a long felt want. Neither the Town nor Selborne Halls are altogether suitable for the purpose and if this hall is carefully designed from an acoustic point of view it would be a great acquisition to the City.

Whether it should be used for musical or theatrical purposes is another matter, but there should be no reasonable objection if this is done on evenings when the Library is not in use.

Every effort should be made to persuade the City Council to permit the room devoted to the Geological Museum and which is top lit, being occasionally used for the exhibition of pictures and works of art. If this point were settled at once provision could be made for the proper lighting of the room for this purpose.

THE TWELFTH S.A. ACADEMY.

IMPRESSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.

by DENYS LEFEBVRE.

In regard to the Twelfth South African Academy what appears to be the general opinion seems to me the correct one. The general average was not so high as in some previous years. Not only were some of the better artists content to be represented by their second best work, but the work sent in by quite a number of newer artists (in itself their names were an encouraging symptom) was often amateurish and certainly suggested the potboiler. Several of the younger artists should have sent in less and better exhibits.

The older artists were less conspicuous than usual. In several cases, their work was much below their own standard. There were, however, some exceptions. Sydney Carter's two pictures at Swellendam were placed under the designation of modern art. More properly they might have been styled "decorative art," another distinction adopted at this Academy. Both were essentially decorative and good in composition.

A. E. Gygell, as usual, shone in black and white. His portrait of a somewhat delicate looking lady was full of character and good drawing. His large portrait in oils had distinction in colour and drawing. The landscapes seemed to me somewhat uneven and less spontaneous.

Dorothy Kay was strong in her "Painting the Mast," the etchings and some of the illustrations which would have looked better had they been grouped together. "Margery" was interesting and decorative but a little suggestive of straining after effect. Alfred Palmer's "Arab Fishsellers, Tunis," was a clever bit of painting. Ruth Prowse showed much of her old skill but not quite her usual success in handling. E. Rowarth's three landscapes were characteristic of his present-day work, clever, efficient, but not inspiring.

Percival Small had one or two excellent pastels, especially "The Flower Girl," the chief criticism being a certain slickness in his work that tends to detract from what is often excellent technique. Dorothea Vyvyan maintained her usual average, while John Williams had two small but capable oils.

A. R. Martin's three landscapes were clever in execution but seemed to me lacking in interest. They suggested that the painter could do so much more if he would express himself more clearly. A. Winter Moore had one or two nice water-colours painted with restraint and yet assurance, of their kind the best water-colours in the exhibition.

Bertha Everard's two large canvasses gave a decided impression of the country they were meant



to depict. The hard, harsh technique adopted by the artist seemed to me carried rather to excess, though it certainly conveyed a sense of power. The small oils, "Hertfordshire" and "Native Hut," by Rosamund Everard had some striking colour. Ruth Everard's technique suggested something to say and a difficulty in saying it. Alfred Palmer's modelling for the new Station included some interesting and suggestive, if rather superficial, work. Van Wouw's model of the Steyn Memorial though lacking in the appeal of much of his other work, owing no doubt, in some measure, to its reduced size, reflects the professional to an extent not seen in any of the other modelling shown at this exhibition.

Nils Andersen's water-colour "Homeward Bound with Whales," was admirably complete and a most effective piece of work, but the colour was monotonous. A. Savile Davis in his only picture, a water-colour, "Cannaregio," has some good work, but neither subject nor handling are sufficiently original to give it the interest it might otherwise deserve. Incidentally, he has done better work. S. P. Hodge had some good water-colours. His handling, however, suggested a need for somewhat broader treatment. T. Shillington's "Puck," had plenty of character, but sometimes unpleasant paint. There were good points about "The Induna." C. Thornley Stewart had some excellent, if not very unusual, water-colours. C. Sachse had two woodcuts, one of which had a very interesting

tree. K. A. Goldfoot's portrait gave an idea of further possibilities from its strength and assurance. Val Gillette had some pleasant water-colours. In modelling, Nancy Vincent's "Man With the Broken Nose" (an unfortunate title), and "Our Sunlight Sue," were suggestive. T. J. H. Mills has made a considerable advance in Mr. Desmond Davis's bust and the plaster head of "Colin." J. Franklin seems to have got into a rut, though his plaster bust of Mr. I. Franklin suggests he could do much better. Like many other local artists, he seems to doubt the saying that genius means taking pains.

Emily Fern had an interesting portrait of a Native and N. Field's "Golden Hours" was full of good points in regard to the heads of the children she depicted so graphically. But the feet were of clay! H. Lea's essays in wash and pen and ink were characterised by all his usual life and vigour and, it is to be feared, carelessness of drawing. The little more would make a great difference to his work if he would only realise it! H. E. Winder's three etchings show much increased mastery of a medium that should not be taken as lightly as it often is.

Several exhibitors were obviously still in the student stage. Of these, W. H. Coetzer is easily the first, having made a considerable advance on his last years exhibits. "The Dusty Shelf," is an excellent and very careful bit of work, the painting of the shelf, the colour effect and the composition generally being



Pottery Exhibit.

Top: Professor F. W. Armstrong.
Bottom: Ceramic Studio.

very good, "Blue Gums," is nicely done of its kind and a little less Polytechnic in its methods than the "Portrait," and one or two other studies. In time, the artist will do much better, if he will hasten slowly and develop his own talent. F. J. Kruger is another student of promise, though the need for a bigger acquaintance with the works of the old masters and of much closer study before tackling some of the subjects he attempted, is strikingly apparent. He is able to get a likeness, but must beware of remaining content with that. Neither in the portrait of the Mayor nor the head of a Kaffir does he pay sufficient attention to essentials. It is here that when he tries to compete with Van Wouw, as in the sculpture called, I think ("The Jackhammer"), the need of intensive training becomes strikingly apparent. He has talent, but does not seem to have as yet a sufficient grasp of technique.

R. A. Barnett's architectural excursions in Cubism are well conceived but not, I think, very original. As a young student, however, they do suggest that he will be capable of much better work later on. W. W. Battiss this year does not seem to have made much progress. J. Semple's Charcoal "Nina" has promise and so have the water-colours of Joy Krause. E. H. J. Middlemiss has signs of promise in his two oils. J. N. Cowin had a good drawing of the Empire State Building.

Again, as usual, architecture was not largely represented. Designs by Gordon Leith, K. E. F. Gardiner, W. H. Stucke and Cowin, Powers and Ellis were suggestive. It would be of interest and certainly of value, especially to students, if this section was enlarged on future occasions,

The most interesting part of the craft work is to be seen in the excellent pottery shown by Professor Armstrong, even if a little conventional in some of the designs, and that of the Ceramic Studio which exhibited some very interesting pots and bowls as well as a set of stoneware tiles which deserved close attention. If funds permit, it might be an inducement in the craft section if the Academy could make a small award for the most artistic exhibit. Had this been done, it would, I think, have fallen to the pottery section this year.

The designs and colourings of the leatherwork and pyrography showed an improvement. N. E. Saffel, of Bulawayo, sent at least one embroidery picture which suggested ability in higher things, an impression borne out by a clever pencil sketch in the black and white section. Brass work was only represented to a small extent.

In regard to the "rejects," I can only say that probably in most instances the Judges could not have done otherwise. I only saw a portion of them and it is always possible that a future South African star has been cast out, but nothing that I came across made me think so! I confess that, in some cases, the judges seemed to me lenient, but in an exhibition established avowedly to encourage art, this may be a good point. I question the wisdom of labels at all times and here "modern art" and "decorative art" were used in one or two cases where the work was not especially "modern" and Kipling might have queried the "art"! It also left the unpleasant inference that the huge majority of the exhibits might not be art at all! More seriously, if labels are to be adopted, then great care should be taken that the punishment fits the crime!

Complaints have been made to the effect that the school exhibits should not have been shown together with the work of experienced artists. The fact is often overlooked that the South African Academy is severely handicapped for the want of adequate accommodation. I do hope that those of my readers who can help, will second my efforts to have some accommodation provided for art exhibitions in the new Library Building. The Selborne Hall is admittedly only a makeshift. The ideal arrangement would be a private building with separate rooms, not only for school work, but crafts, black and white and oils and water-colours, to say nothing of "modern" and "decorative" art. But that time is not yet. If a wealthy Johannesburg citizen would only set aside some money for this purpose, there are many worse forms of immortality!

It has been pointed out that a few of the more prominent South African artists did not exhibit this year, but, in this respect, there was, I think, an improvement on last. The main trouble was that in some instances the first-rate artists sent second-rate work,

Possibly it needs a little public-spiritedness and self-sacrifice to exhibit in a general exhibition to the detriment of a private one. But, I think, artists who talk like that should consider the general public. Besides comparisons are useful, even if sometimes odious! The idea suggests, of course, that comparisons are possible. I have known artists who thought otherwise.

In conclusion, I hope the Academy Committee will consider seriously the points raised as well as others that may be put forward. Criticism is always plentiful whether deserved or not, but I do think the exhibition has reached a point where it needs a push forward. No movement, whatever its nature, can afford to stand still.

ANNUAL REPORTS.

TRANSVAAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE.

ANNUAL REPORT. 1930.

To the Members of the Transvaal Provincial Institute.

Your Committee has pleasure in submitting this, the Fourth Annual Report, for the year ended 31st December, 1930, together with the usual accounts and Balance Sheet.

Committee Personnel and Meetings—During the year twelve ordinary and three Special Meetings of the Committee have been held and the record of attendances thereat is given at the end of this Report.

Sub-Committees on Finance, Practice, By-Laws, Art and Education, and the Journal have met as and when necessary and dealt with the various matters referred to them.

Members' Roll.—Three new members were elected during the year, Messrs. J. T. Lloyd, A. Snell and Rex. D. Martienssen.

The Resignations of Messrs. J. E. Humphreys, J. Goddard Wilson and H. C. Luitingh have been accepted and at the end of the year there were 269 members classified as:—

Practising, 110; Salaried, 116; Retired, 32; Absent from the Union, 11.

Obituary.—It is with regret that your Committee has to record the deaths of Messrs. A. H. Scholte and A. A. J. Stratton.

The former had been absent from the Union for some years and the record of his death appeared in the R.I.B.A. Journal in March, 1930.

Mr. A. A. J. Stratton was a prominent Official of the Public Works Department and a member of the Chapter of Quantity Surveyors as well as of this Institute. He came to South Africa in 1902, to join the Staff of the P.W.D. and at the end of 1929 was appointed Chief Assistant Quantity Surveyor, a position which he held until his death at the early age of forty-seven.

Expressions of sympathy have been conveyed to his wife and children.

Work of the Transvaal Provincial Institute.—The work of the Provincial Institute has been carried on by the Committee at ordinary monthly meetings assisted by the various Sub-Committees, and the thanks of the Institute are extended to all who have acted on these Sub-Committees.

In addition to these Committees the Provincial Institute is represented on the following bodies:—The Town Planning Association (Transvaal), The South African Institute of Art, The British Engineering Standards Committee and the Seymour Memorial Library, meetings of which bodies have been duly attended and reports submitted to this Committee.

Finance.—The Revenue and Expenditure Accounts and Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1930, are attached to this report.

It will be noted that the Institute's Expenditure slightly exceeds the revenue, but with regard to members' subscriptions only amounts paid together with subscriptions which it is tolerably certain will be paid, have been taken into revenue account. Arrear subscriptions, the recovery of which is doubtful, have been placed in suspense.

The Moieties on Subscriptions from the R.I.B.A. have not been received this year pending the decision of the Central Council as to how this income is to be dealt with. This has resulted in a reduction of revenue by about £80.

An amount of £25 has been written off the account "Epitomes of Building By-Laws" as the sale of these publications has been most disappointing, and it is not anticipated that the stock will be disposed of.

During the year the Central Council refunded a further £120 of the balance outstanding under the Architects' Act Fund, reducing that balance to £362 8s. 9d. which is to be repaid if and when funds permit.

Accumulated funds have therefore been increased by £120, less the small balance from Income and Expenditure Account of £18 14s. 11d. and the amount written off the cost of Epitomes of Building By-Laws £25, to £399 5s. 0d.

Central Council.—Valuable work is being done on behalf of the Institute by the Governing Body, on which your Provincial Institute has been represented throughout the year by Professor G. E. Pearse, and Messrs. R. Howden, Harold Porter and F. Williamson.

Matters dealt with by the Central Council will be recorded in the Institute's Year Book, which will be issued in April.

Competitions. — Johannesburg Fire Station.—Assessor: Mr. E. H. Waugh, A.R.I.B.A. Thirty-six designs were submitted and the awards made were: 1st, Mr. Charles Small; 2nd, Messrs. Kallenbach, Kennedy and Furner, A.R.I.B.A.; 3rd, Mr. H. G. Ward; 4th, Mr. P. E. Treeby, F.R.I.B.A.

Bloemfontein Town Hall.—The President-in-Chief of the Institute, Mr. W. Hawke, F.R.I.B.A., acted as Assessor. Fifty-four designs were submitted, the awards being: 1st, Mr. G. E. Gordon Leith, A.R.I.B.A.; 2nd, Messrs. J. C. Cook and Cowen; 3rd, Mr. P. Eagle; 4th, Mr. Leonard McConnel, A.R.I.B.A., of Capetown.

Pretoria Moeders Bond (Maternity Home).—A limited Competition was held in Pretoria, Mr. J. S. Cleland, F.R.I.B.A., being the Assessor. The following awards were made: 1st, Mr. J. R. Burg; 2nd, Mr. W. Gordon McIntosh, A.R.I.B.A.; 3rd, Messrs. Hofman and Hofman.

Johannesburg Public Library.—Assessor: Mr. E. Vincent Harris, F.R.I.B.A. Forty-six designs were submitted and the following awards were made: 1st, Mr. John Perry, F.R.I.B.A., of Capetown; 2nd, Mr. Gerard Moerdijk, A.R.I.B.A., of Pretoria; 3rd, Messrs. Cowin, Powers and Ellis, L. F. & A.R.I.B.A., of Johannesburg.

Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society, Durban.—Designs for this Competition are invited and must be received in Capetown by the 31st March, 1931. Mr. W. Hawke, F.R.I.B.A., is the Assessor.

Johannesburg Building and Drainage By-Laws.—Your Committee was invited to appoint delegates to attend a Conference of Representatives of the Municipality, the Government, Architects and Builders, called by the City Engineer, to consider a general revision of the City By-Laws. All members of this Institute were invited by circular to submit proposed alterations and amendments but your Committee regrets that this invitation met with very little response.

Several meetings were held and a number of amendments and additions were fully discussed.

The revised By-Laws are now under consideration by the City Council. As an outcome of this Conference a Standing Committee, on which this Institute will be represented is likely to be established to consider future questions relative to Building and Drainage By-Laws.

Conditions of Building Contract.—A report of the Sub-Committee of Architects, Quantity Surveyors and Builders, which dealt with the proposed Revised Conditions of Contract, was submitted to your Committee by the Central Council for consideration and report.

A special meeting of the Committee was held to discuss this report and it was decided to refer the matter to a general meeting of members which was

held in October last. The matter was fully discussed and a report of the meeting was considered by your Committee when it was agreed to recommend that the existing document be adhered to for the present and that it be used as a basis for discussion with representatives of the Master Builders' Association. This matter will be dealt with at the next meeting of the Central Council.

Pretoria Local Committee.—Your Committee is pleased to report that a very representative meeting of Pretoria members of this Institute was held last month at which it was decided to form a local Committee. It is anticipated that valuable assistance will be given by that Committee in the interest of the Profession.

Architectural Education.—Full information regarding Architectural Education and Examinations will be found in the Institute's Year Book.

R.I.B.A.—Examinations have been held by your Board of Examiners during the year and Messrs. R. A. Bruce and D. S. Haddon passed the Final Examination. Mr. Bruce has been elected an Associate of the Royal Institute.

The Royal Institute has decided to discontinue the holding of their examinations in this country.

The method of procedure for R.I.B.A. students is now under discussion and definite arrangements will be announced at an early date.

Readmission after Resignation.—This question, which was referred to your Committee at the last Annual Meeting for further consideration, was discussed fully and as opinions were divided as to whether any member of the Institute, after resignation, could rejoin, it was decided that no good purpose would be served by pursuing the question further, until a concrete case came before the Committee.

The Journal.—The Quarterly issues of the *S.A. Architectural Record* have been very much appreciated by members for the standard of excellence attained and the many articles of interest to the Profession which have been published.

Your Committee again urges members to assist by sending in articles and photographs for publication or drawing the attention of the Editor to any interesting matter appearing in other journals.

The thanks of the Committee to the Honorary Editor and members of the Journal Committee are gratefully recorded.

The proposal that the *Record* should become the official organ of the Institute of South African Architects has been under consideration by the Central Council and it is anticipated that a decision will be come to at the next meeting of that body.

South African Academy.—The Eleventh Annual Academy Exhibition was held at the Selborne Hall in April last, and the opinion was expressed generally that the standard of work submitted showed an advance on previous years.

The Committee records its appreciation of the generous grant from the City Council of Johannesburg which enables it to hold the Exhibition in the Selborne Hall.

The lighting effect in the hall was very much improved by altering the window blinds. It is still a matter of regret that Johannesburg does not possess a hall eminently suitable for Art Exhibitions and it is hoped that the day will come when some generous member of the Community will make a grant towards the acquisition of such a hall.

The Architectural Section was not so well supported as in previous years and members are urged to send in representative designs of their work.

The Academy offered prizes last year for the best Essay from pupils from Schools visiting the exhibition.

Some excellent essays were submitted and the awards made were: Miss Diana Ferrers, Parktown Convent, and Master B. O'Donovan, Parktown Boys' High School, bracketed First; Master L. de Jager, Parktown Boys' High School, Third.

Your Committee extends its thanks and appreciation to the members of the Academy Sub-Committee, the Jury of Admission, the Hanging Committee and all who assisted so ably in preparations before the opening also to Messrs. D. F. Corlett and D. Aitchison for work and material generously supplied.

The Twelfth Annual Exhibition is being held from the 16th to 28th March inclusive.

Town Planning.—Your Committee is represented on the Council of the Town Planning Association (Transvaal), which body continues to carry on its valuable work.

A series of lectures were given by members during the year at the University of the Witwatersrand and were well attended. These were all reported fully in the Journal.

The report of the Town Planning Commission was considered by the Transvaal Provincial Council and a draft Town Planning Ordinance was prepared and referred to a Select Committee. Opportunity was afforded to members of the Town Planning Association to give evidence before the Select Committee and subsequently a revised Draft Ordinance was prepared and it is anticipated that this will be passed at the next session of the Provincial Council.

As the outcome of a visit to this country of Professor Adshead, a past President of the Town Planning Institute, England, the Transvaal Association has been in communication with that body and it is anticipated that closer relations with the English Institute will be arranged shortly.

Members who are interested can become members of the Association at a subscription of 10/6 per annum and thus help this very useful work forward.

Publications.—The Committee desires again to draw attention of Members to the following useful pamphlets which are obtainable at the Office of the Institute, viz.:—Scale of Professional Charges, 6d.; The Act and Regulations, 2/6; Epitome of Johannesburg Building Bye-Laws, 2/6.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Abridged Minutes of the Fourth Annual General Meeting of Members of the Transvaal Provincial Institute of South African Architects, held in the Chamber of Commerce Board Room, Johannesburg, on Thursday, the 12th March, 1931, at 8 p.m.

Present.—The President, Professor G. E. Pearse (in the Chair), Messrs. B. R. Avery, A. O. Coltman, J. C. Cook, M. Cowen, N. T. Cowin, C. C. Deuchar, J. S. Donaldson, S. C. Dowsett, F. L. H. Fleming, N. W. Gallagher, A. H. Gibbs, G. H. Hall, J. Lockwood Hall, G. M. Harrison, Robert Howden, J. F. Lambert, W. G. Lansley, A. Leitch, J. T. Lloyd, S. V. Mann, D. A. McCubbin, V. S. Rees-Poole, H. W. Spicer, R. Wild, F. Williamson, Allen Wilson and A. S. Pearse, Secretary.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Messrs. A. O. Edmeades, A. S. Furner, Gordon Leith, A. J. Marshall, Harold Porter and E. H. Waugh.

Minutes.—Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on the 13th March, 1930, which had been published in the Institute's Journal, were taken as read and confirmed.

Election of Committee.—A proposal by Mr. Lansley, that the number of votes cast for each nominee for Election to the Committee be announced, did not receive the support of the meeting and was not seconded.

Mr. McCubbin, referring to the ballot for Election of the Committee in March, 1930, said that the minutes did not record the names of the members who had voted and moved that the names of all members voting be recorded in the minutes. This was agreed to.

The Chairman asked for all Ballot papers to be handed in and then declared the ballot closed.

The following Scrutineers were appointed:—Messrs. D. A. McCubbin (Chairman), B. R. Avery, G. M. Harrison, G. H. Hall, J. T. Lloyd and S. V. Mann.

The names of all voters were then called out from the Ballot Envelopes and checked with the Register, after which the Scrutineers proceeded to count the votes.

Votes were recorded from one hundred and twenty-two members, out of a total of two hundred and sixty-nine on the Register, of whom thirty-five were absent from the Union. On the completion of their work the Scrutineers handed their report to the President, who declared the following members elected as the Committee for the year 1931/32: Messrs. C. C. Deuchar, S. C. Dowsett, A. Stanley Furner, J. Lockwood Hall, Robert Howden, G. E. Gordon Leith, G. E. Pearse, Harold N. Porter, V. S. Rees-Poole, H. W. Spicer, F. Williamson and Allen Wilson.

Annual Report and Accounts.—The Committee's Annual Report, having been circulated to members was, on the motion of Mr. Cowin, seconded by Mr. Donaldson, taken as read and adopted.

Revenue and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet.—The chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. Allen Wilson, in moving the adoption of the accounts, referred to the small debit balance of £18 on the year's working and said he felt that this was very satisfactory seeing that an amount of £32 had been placed to Reserve against subscriptions and that for the year under review the Institute had not received the usual moiety from the R.I.B.A. Had this moiety been received, the accounts would have shown a surplus of about £40.

As could be seen from the Balance Sheet, the Central Council had repaid a further £120 of the amount provided by this Institute towards the cost of promotion of the Act. This amount had been added to Accumulated Funds which amounted to £399 5s.

Owing to the very poor support by members, to the purchase of the Epitomes of Building By-Laws, few of these had been disposed of and the Committee decided to write off the balance of this account, amounting to £25 and to offer the remaining stock to members at 2s. 6d. per copy.

Your Committee has voted a sum of £25 to the Benevolent Fund, from the amount of £120 returned by the Central Council as a refund of part of the Expenditure incurred in connection with the promulgation of the Architects' Act.

After discussion, the motion for the adoption of the Accounts was put to the Meeting and carried unanimously.

Work of the Provincial Institute.—Mr. Fleming, referring to the Committee's Report congratulated the Provincial Committee on maintaining the principles which the Institute had nearest at heart in the old days, but thought that new subjects were absent. He realized that many matters were now dealt with by the Central Council and suggested that a report of the year's work of the Central Council might be submitted to the Annual Meetings of all Provincial Institutes for discussion.

He felt that one or more General Meetings should be held throughout the year, though he recognised the difficulty, in previous attempts, to make a success of such meetings, and hoped the Committee would find some interesting means of bringing members together.

He referred to the progress generally in Johannesburg and said he could not miss this opportunity of protesting against the flagrant abuse of advertisements on hoardings. He could not see how a city could advance whilst half the length of a main thoroughfare like Twist Street was covered with abominable advertisements. In his opinion, this Institute was competent and in duty bound to deal with this matter.

Mr. Cowin said, in defence of the Committee not calling General Meetings, that the general apathy of members made the success of such meetings very doubtful. Even when a series of questionnaires were sent out and a meeting called, only a very small number of members attended.

The President, in reply, said he agreed wholeheartedly with Mr. Fleming's remarks and admitted that the Committee's Report was somewhat scanty. He, however, hoped to deal very fully, in his address, with all matters dealt with, not only by the Provincial Committee, but also by the Central Council. The difficulty regarding General Meetings was that members could not be persuaded to take sufficient interest to attend such meetings. On the matter of advertisement hoardings, he said a great deal had been done Overseas and societies had persuaded advertisers to remove their large advertisements. He thought that with the support of the Johannesburg Publicity Association and the Federation of Ratepayers Associations, it would be possible to get something done. All these matters would be brought to the notice of the incoming Committee.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

Gentlemen,

On an occasion such as this one feels that so much can and should be said. We are striving for so many ideals and each year they seem farther off than ever but, nevertheless, I cannot help feeling that we are slowly and surely getting there.

I should like to take this opportunity, the first I have had, of thanking the members of the Transvaal Provincial Institute for electing me as a member of the Committee and also the Committee once again for electing me as their President for the past year and for their valuable support and assistance during my year of office.

I should like particularly to thank the Chairmen of the various Committees for the great amount of time devoted to the many important matters referred to them and to record the Committee's appreciation of the work done by the Secretary during the year.

In the last issue of the *Architectural Record* I referred briefly to the work done during the year, but I should like to take this opportunity of dealing with it a little more in detail.

I know that a certain amount of feeling exists amongst some members of the profession that they are being kept in the dark as to our activities.

It is quite impossible, gentlemen, to submit in detail in our Annual Report all that is being done nor is it possible to circulate copies of our minutes to all the members of our profession. I have therefore decided to give you a short account of the more important aspects of our work.

At the last annual meeting two important questions were raised and referred to the incoming Committee.

These have been very fully considered during the year.

Perhaps the most important of these was the question of the scale of fees. Your Committee feels that any modification of the regulations dealing with this point, which had been very carefully considered when they were drawn up, was unwise at this stage of our career and that, whilst it was felt that the regulation was not being strictly adhered to, such regulation was necessary to enable the Institute to enquire into reported cases, where work was being carried out for reduced fees.

The Committee considers therefore that the Regulation should be retained as a protection for members and should not be cited as a breach of regulations if not always strictly adhered to.

There are so many varying circumstances to be considered and each case therefore must be treated on its merits.

Constant breaches, however, of such a regulation would naturally have to be severely dealt with.

A considerable amount of discussion has also taken place on the question of readmission after resignation, the other point referred to at our last Annual Meeting, and legal opinion has been obtained on the question.

We are informed that a member, unless he was a member of one of the established Institutes in South Africa prior to the passing of the Act, cannot rejoin after resignation.

The Committee felt, therefore, that no good purpose could be served by raising this question until a concrete case came before it.

To amend or attempt to amend regulations before they have been given a fair trial is not considered to be the wisest policy, unless, of course, it is the unanimous wish of members of the Institute.

The Central Council is being constantly confronted with problems in connection with the Act and Regulations and is conscientiously working to clear up any ambiguities that might occur. One or two regulations have been amended where absolutely necessary and one or two new regulations have been adopted.

On the question of competitions much might be said. One of the first activities of the Central Council on its formation was to draw up standard conditions of competition. These were very carefully considered and based upon conditions prevailing overseas. In drawing them up, every effort was made to protect the Architect in every possible way.

Unfortunately, as you are aware, a considerable controversy took place between the Central Council and the City Council of Johannesburg, firstly on the appointment of an overseas assessor and secondly on the Conditions of Competition. This matter has been very fully discussed in public and has been fairly fully reported in the *Record*.

I should, however, like to take this opportunity of saying that in this matter the Central Council gave its executive full power to act even to the extent of banning the competition and that our thanks are due to Mr. Howden, the chairman of the Executive, who handled the whole matter in a most dignified manner and acted solely in the interests of the profession. The case was very much misrepresented in the Press and by City Councillors and would no doubt have been settled most satisfactorily had it not been for the fact that individual members of the profession, instead of leaving matters in the hands of their elected representatives, took it upon themselves to interfere in the dispute. By their action the City Council and the public were given the impression that the majority of the profession were opposed to the views of its controlling body.

I mention this, gentlemen, because your Committee whole heartedly supported Mr. Howden, in the difficult and onerous task that he had to undertake.

We were not so much concerned with the appointment of an overseas assessor, to which a dignified protest was made, as with the fact that the City Council refused to accept our Conditions of Competition.

All our representations were completely ignored and veiled threats were made from time to time by City Councillors themselves.

This autocratic attitude of the City Council of Johannesburg is in complete contrast to the very friendly attitude of the Municipalities of Salisbury and Bloemfontein who not only accepted our recommendations of an assessor, but also accepted our conditions of competition.

In connection with the Johannesburg Library Competition I might mention that we had an opportunity of meeting Mr. Vincent Harris during his visit and were very impressed with the professional attitude that he adopted, but owing to his very brief stay in Johannesburg, it was quite impossible to arrange any sort of reception for him.

We were glad to meet such a distinguished visitor from overseas and were prepared to assist in every way in making his short visit as pleasant as possible. Even our actions in this respect were grossly distorted by Members of the City Council.

A matter of vital interest to our Provincial Institute is the question of the R.I.B.A. moieties. As most of you are aware every member of the R.I.B.A. has to pay an annual subscription to London. A percentage of this is remitted to our Institute and it was agreed by your Committee, upon the formation of the Central Council, that this sum should be handed over to the Central Council for educational purposes. This meant a considerable loss in revenue to our Institute but it meant on the other hand that a fund would be created for a very worthy purpose. Owing to the fact that there is not complete unanimity with the other Provincial Institutes in this scheme, it is likely that such moieties will be retained by our Provincial Institute in future.

Another revenue producing asset is *The South African Architectural Record* which your Committee decided to hand over to the Central Council as a Union Journal, but this question also has not yet been settled. In the meantime we continue to successfully produce a quarterly journal and, as honorary editor, I should like to appeal to members to contribute to it either with articles or correspondence which might raise interesting points for discussion. Members might also assist in obtaining advertisements by urging those firms with whom they deal to advertise with us.

The Year Book issued by the Central Council has been much improved in its last issue and it has now been decided to still further improve it by publishing the Act and Regulations as amended from time to time, and also much useful data so that it may become an even more valuable and indispensable reference work and have a larger sale amongst that section of the public closely allied to us.

Several important competitions were held during the year in which members of our Provincial Institute were successful. The Central Fire Station, Johannesburg, was won by Mr. C. Small, and the Bloemfontein Town Hall, by Mr. Gordon Leith. Mr. Moerdijk was placed second in the Johannesburg Library Competition.

I should like to appeal to members to assist in bringing to the notice of the Central Council any limited Competitions which may be promoted. This is really most important in order to prevent the misunderstanding and unpleasantness that have arisen and are likely to arise unless these competitions are fairly conducted.

Our alliance with the Royal Institute of British Architects is, I am glad to say, becoming stronger every year. We are now represented on their Council, on their Board of Architectural Education and at their Allied Societies Conferences.

Minutes of all their meetings are submitted to the President-in-Chief and we are thus kept in close touch with Architectural activities in the other Dominions.

Friendly relations also exist between our Institute and the Institutes or Societies of Architects in Rhodesia, Kenya and the Belgian Congo. It is hoped in time that these ties will be strengthened and thus a fine spirit of co-operation will be maintained throughout Africa.

Important conferences have taken place during the year in connection with Building By-Laws and the Standardisation of Bricks. In connection with the former, which is mentioned in the Annual Report, I should like to refer to the excellent work done by our representatives, Messrs. B. R. Avery, H. Porter, A. J. Marshall, F. Raine, and G. M. Harrison and more particularly by Mr. Allen Wilson, who devoted a great deal of time to the matter. The results of this conference should be of far reaching importance to the profession.

A discussion of the utmost importance took place with the Administrator of the Transvaal on the questions of Provincial Government work being given out to private practitioners and officials in public offices undertaking private work.

The Administrator was not only extremely sympathetic but acted immediately in the matter.

As a result a provincial architect has been appointed and a provisional panel of architects set up, to whom work has already been allocated.

One of the first important works carried out under this scheme was the new Normal College Hostel in Johannesburg, for which Mr. Moerdijk was the architect. Members of the Committee were invited to be present at the opening ceremony at which the Administrator expressed himself very well satisfied with the result. On your behalf I thanked the Administrator for his action.

In this connection I would like to correct a misapprehension that may have arisen owing to a press report in which I was reported to have expressed most emphatically that "both economically and artistically as well as morally it is desirable to scrap the Public Works Department." In fairness to the Department whose members are our colleagues and who have given us the most valuable assistance in the management of our Institute I should like to repudiate this somewhat drastic statement.

I stated clearly that we owed a great debt to the Public Works Department for the excellent standard of work they had set up in the Union and pointed out that they had served a very useful purpose during a period in which it was not easy to obtain fully qualified and competent architects. I expressed the opinion that to-day conditions were different and it was possible to obtain many fully qualified men who were capable of carrying out work of the greatest magnitude.

With reference to the question of public officials undertaking private work, the Provincial Council has laid down that this can no longer be done for remuneration. I feel sure that the majority of our colleagues in the public services will appreciate our action in this matter and that it will lead to a better spirit of co-operation in the long run.

During the year a general meeting of members was called to discuss the proposed new Conditions of Contract. At this meeting, a resume of which was published in the last issue of the Record, it was agreed to recommend that we should adhere to the old conditions and amend those clauses which had caused dissatisfaction in the past amongst the building contractors. This recommendation with the minutes of the meeting have been forwarded to the Central Council, who will discuss the matter fully at their next meeting, when, no doubt they will have the views of the Provincial Institutes before them.

The Central Council has done some very excellent work during the year and is doing its utmost to keep down expenses. It is but natural that in its initial stages the expenses must be heavy.

So many matters of Union importance have to be dealt with—differences of opinion between Provincial Institutes—problems arising from the interpretation of the Act—educational matters, and a general consideration of policy—all these questions once having been satisfactorily settled, it necessarily follows that their work will eventually become a matter of routine.

With regard to Architectural education I feel that I must devote a part of my address to this all important matter. Here again we are still passing through an initial stage and have not yet reached an entirely satisfactory result but a great deal of spade work has been done. Educational facilities now exist in Capetown, Johannesburg, Pretoria and Durban and in Port Elizabeth and East London facilities are now likely to be provided.

It is now possible for students in any part of the Union to study privately for the examinations conducted by the Universities of Capetown and the Witwatersrand. Provision has also been made for persons who have had training and experience overseas to take a special qualifying examination. The Royal Institute of British Architects has decided not to conduct any more examinations in this Country and has agreed to accept recommendations from the Central Council's Standing Committee on Architectural education for exemption from their examinations.

This marks a very big step and will prevent any confusion and duplication in the future.

It is gratifying to be able to report that a very satisfactory working arrangement exists in connection with the examinations. Our local school of architecture is very well equipped and is being strongly supported by the profession. In Pretoria excellent work is being done by Professor Bell-John and a part time staff of lecturers at the University and these gentlemen are to be sincerely congratulated on the splendid progress they have made.

What we really require is a keener and livelier interest displayed in the work of the students and in their activities by the profession.

Another step forward is the decision to establish a local committee of our Provincial Institute at Pretoria. This should serve a very useful purpose in bringing our members over there into closer co-operation with Johannesburg.

In dealing with the question of Architecture generally in this Province, I should like to refer to the great responsibilities involved by practising Architects under our Act, and our liabilities to the general public.

One hears so often of the so called commercial architect, the business man of our profession, who is not only prepared to submit a building scheme but is also prepared to assist financially in that scheme by doing the work for a nominal fee.

From a business point of view this may sound very attractive to the building owner but the results do not appear to justify it from the architectural point of view.

Johannesburg and Pretoria are rapidly changing. Rebuilding is taking place on a large scale and there is every evidence of improvement in the standard of work. It is therefore a great opportunity for making the public realise that we are professional men, that the fees charged for work done are extraordinarily low when compared with those charged by men in other professions.

The practice therefore of competing unfairly with other architects by charging lower fees is not only seriously damaging our profession in the eyes of the general public but is also, incidentally, depriving a large number of assistants of a livelihood.

It is but natural that if a member of the public is aware of the fact that he can get professional services for an absurdly small fee he will take them.

Invariably, it is true, he suffers by so doing and will be a wiser man next time he embarks on a building scheme but in the meantime the damage is done and he will prefer to entrust his work to the speculative builder rather than to employ an architect.

Another important question is the standard of work being done by Architects. Our buildings are being planned and designed in a manner which still leaves much to be desired and with the steadily increasing commercial activity in South Africa the demand is likely to come in the very near future for better planned buildings and more up to date arrangements.

Many new blocks of flats or offices still follow the old tradition of having small, badly lit and inconveniently planned entrances and lifts, the offices or rooms themselves being small and inconvenient. The blame lies largely with the Architect who does not keep himself closely in touch with modern development elsewhere and is more inclined to accept his clients requirements rather than to attempt to influence him to do something better.

The result is that he is setting up a standard that can be and is being easily followed by the speculative builder to the detriment of our members as professional men worthy of the name.

We talk glibly of mistakes being made in the past, we do not consider sufficiently the mistakes being made in the present. Most architects are a law unto themselves and they are not prepared to discuss with their brother practitioners their problems.

Buildings are being erected which any far seeing man, architect or layman, must realise are unsuitable for their purpose and are such unattractive additions to our street architecture that they must soon develop into tenements or must be pulled down.

A badly planned and badly designed building is not only a bad advertisement to the architect himself but is a serious drawback to the architectural profession as a whole and further, a bad business proposition to the building owner.

I should like to see a greater spirit of co-operation amongst architects. I should like to see architects come forward with the plans of their buildings and explain them and discuss them in detail—the difficulties of site—the difficulties of planning and construction and even the difficulties of design.

The value of such discussions would be enormous both to practitioners and students many of whom go to the same sources for inspiration and are confronted with similar problems.

It is this lack of co-operation amongst practitioners that makes it so difficult to inculcate co-operation amongst students to-day and to make the public realise the value of an architect's services.

Members of other professions meet together constantly and are constantly interchanging views and discussing their problems in practice. The general public takes a live interest in these discussions and is therefore well acquainted with their problems. We, however, are insufficiently known to the general public and are rarely looked upon as professional men in the truest sense of the word.

Many may say we have heard all this sort of thing before but it leads nowhere.

Well, gentlemen, I am not convinced of that and it shall ever be my aim to produce that spirit of co-operation so urgently required in a new country such as this.

Other countries have been and are successful in this respect. Why shouldn't we be? Finally, gentlemen, I should like to refer to the apparent lack of any sense of professional ethics amongst many members of the profession. It is a matter that one feels somewhat reluctant to mention but there are so many complaints from members on the subject that one feels compelled to refer to it.

Here again we can do so much by co-operation rather than by going behind the other fellows back and belittling him in order to sneak the job.

We find it, too, in many instances where our members are serving on committees or public bodies and the question of an appointment comes up or a report from a professional colleague is to be discussed. Instead of meeting as colleagues and discussing the matter beforehand frankly and honestly one hears indirectly afterwards that every attempt was made to belittle a fellow professional man or men in the eyes of the other members of the committee or public body.

It is surprising how often this happens with members of our profession and how rarely, if ever, it occurs with members of other professions.

The man who goes about attempting to sneak another man's job or attempting to damage the reputation of a colleague is to my mind the most despicable of men. Not only does he cause serious trouble within the profession but he also brings the whole profession into disrepute in the eyes of the general public.

I must thank you, gentlemen, for your patience and courtesy in listening to this somewhat lengthy discourse but sincerely trust as a result that we may see in the future a greater spirit of harmony evinced in the profession than has been the case in the past.

On the motion of Mr. Lockwood Hall, a hearty vote of thanks to the President for the able and interesting manner in which he had dealt with the affairs of the Institute was carried with acclamation.

Johannesburg Library Competition.—Mr. J. C. Cook submitted a memorandum regarding certain conditions of this Competition not having been complied with, and a motion for consideration by the meeting.

After some discussion it was agreed to refer this memorandum to the Central Council for attention.

Central Council.—Mr. S. V. Mann asked when the Central Council would be issuing a Financial Statement. On being informed by the President that this was not customary he proposed that the Central Council should be requested to do so in the future. This was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Lansley, seconded by Mr. Lockwood Hall, it was agreed that, if the Central Council holds back the R.I.B.A. Moieties, they be asked to vote £100 towards the Benevolent Fund.

Auditors.—On the motion of Mr. Allen Wilson, seconded by Mr. Lockwood Hall, Messrs. Alex. Aiken and Carter were reappointed Auditors, and their remuneration for the past Audit was fixed at £10 10s.

The President moved a vote of thanks to the Scrutineers and there being no further business, the meeting terminated at 11 p.m.

The following Officers, Provincial Committee and Sub-Committees have been elected for the current year:

Provincial Committee: S. C. Dowsett (President), C. C. Deuchar (Vice-President), A. S. Furner (Vice-President), J. Lockwood Hall, Robert Howden, G. E. Gordon Leith, Harold Porter, G. E. Pearse, H. W. Spicer, V. S. Rees-Poole, F. Williamson, Allen Wilson.

Finance Committee: M. Cowen, W. G. Lansley, H. Rowe Rowe, D. M. Sinclair, Allen Wilson.

Practice Committee: N. T. Cowin, J. Lockwood Hall, Robert Howden, G. E. Gordon Leith, Harold Porter, V. S. Rees-Poole, H. W. Spicer, F. Williamson, Allen Wilson.

Building By-Laws: B. R. Avery, A. L. Chapman, G. M. Harrison, Harold Porter, F. Raine, F. Williamson, Allen Wilson.

Art and Education: F. W. Armstrong, D. M. Burton, J. S. Donaldson, F. L. H. Fleming, A. S. Furner, K. E. F. Gardiner, A. E. Gyngell, D. Lefebvre, J. T. Lloyd, J. Peel Nelson, G. E. Pearse, F. Williamson.

Journal Committee: A. S. Furner, K. E. F. Gardiner, W. G. Lansley, G. E. Gordon Leith, T. Moore, J. Peel Nelson, G. E. Pearse, Harold Porter, W. E. Puntis, V. S. Rees-Poole, H. Rowe Rowe, H. W. Spicer.

Representatives on Central Council: S. C. Dowsett, Alt., A. S. Furner; Robert Howden, Alt., G. E. Gordon Leith; F. Williamson, Alt., G. E. Pearse; J. Lockwood Hall, Alt., C. C. Deuchar.

A. S. PEARSE,

Secretary.

67, Exploration Building,
P.O. Box 2266,
Telephone, 5821,
Johannesburg.

THE CAPE PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1930.

Membership. The membership of the Institute at the close of the year consisted of one hundred and eleven Practising, forty-three Salaried, three Absentee and three Retired Members—a total of one hundred and sixty members, as compared with one hundred and fifty-nine a year ago.

It is with much regret that the death, late in the year under review, of Mr. C. H. Smith, A.R.I.B.A., is recorded. Deceased was one of the foundation members of the Cape Institute of Architects, and for many years took a prominent part in its Councils.

Meetings. One Annual General Meeting and twelve Committee Meetings were held during the year.

Members will note with regret that the names of Messrs. F. K. Kendall and C. P. Walgate are absent from the list of candidates for membership of the incoming Committee, these gentlemen having announced their intention not to seek re-election. Your Committee desires to place on record its appreciation of the many years of faithful and efficient service that Messrs. Kendall and Walgate have given to the Institute—of which they are both Past-Presidents. The name of Mr. Walgate will always be remembered for his work in connection with the Registration Act. He was a member of the Special Committee that watched its passage through Parliament, and in that capacity he rendered signal service to the profession

in South Africa. He was also a member of the first Central Council, and took a very active part in the preparation of the Regulations under the Act.

Financial. The financial position of the Institute is set forth in the audited Statement of Account. Reference to the figures therein will show that the year's operations have resulted in a nett profit of £24 17s. as compared with a loss of £37 9s. 7d. in 1929. A pleasing feature of the accounts is the profit that has been made from the publication of the Year Book.

The Balance Sheet shows that the Institute's finances are in a satisfactory state, its assets exceeding liabilities by the sum of £176 1s. 3d.

The Institute's contribution to the funds of the Central Council remains upon the same basis as heretofore, the efforts of your Committee to obtain a reduction of the levy not yet having met with success.

It is again the unpleasant duty of your Committee to direct attention to the large amount outstanding at the close of the year in respect of unpaid subscriptions, which then totalled £194 2s. 10d. Members are reminded that subscriptions are due and payable on 1st January of each year, and asked to regard this obligation as one to be discharged without unnecessary delay.

The Central Council. Three meetings of the Central Council were held during the year under review, in February, April and May. This Institute was represented at the first two meetings by Messrs.

Hawke and Fallon and at the last meeting by Messrs. Hawke and Williamson—the latter being Mr. Fallon's alternate on the Council. The thanks of the Institute are due to these gentlemen for their services. The year's activities of the Central Council and its Executive Committee cover a wide range of subjects, including the preparation of Competition Regulations, Model Competition Conditions, Amendments to Regulations, Registration of Architectural Students, Standard Conditions of Contract and many other matters affecting the profession in South Africa. Mr. W. Hawke, our esteemed President, was elected President-in-Chief of the Institute in April last.

Royal Institute of British Architects. Mr. G. C. Lawrence, R.W.A., F.R.I.B.A., of Bristol, England, again consented to act as this Institute's representative on the Allied Societies' Conference of the R.I.B.A.

Local Committees. The Port Elizabeth and East London Local Committees have carried out their useful functions during the year.

Vigilance Committee. A considerable number of alleged breaches of the Act and regulations were brought to the notice of this Sub-Committee and dealt with during the year.

One of the most important problems that engaged its attention is the activities of non-registered practitioners who under the name of "Draughtsmen," "Designers," "Owner-Architects," etc., continue to usurp the functions of Registered Architects.

Joint Practice Committee. In March of the year under review a meeting, composed of local representatives of the Master Builders, Quantity Surveyors and Architects, took place for the purpose of discussing matters of interest to the Building Industry. The meeting, arranged on the suggestion of the Master Builders, decided that the interests of all would be best served by the formation of a permanent Joint Practice Committee, to consist of two members of the Master Builders' Association, two members of the Cape Provincial Institute of Architects, and one member of the Chapter of Quantity Surveyors, and this was accordingly done. The primary object of the Joint Practice Committee is the promotion of harmonious working between the Constituent Bodies and the co-ordination of interests in the building industry generally.

Since its inception the Joint Practice Committee has had several most profitable meetings, at which many matters bearing upon the welfare of the industry were brought forward and discussed. Your Committee has only to add that it sees in this movement the establishment of a much-needed link between builders and Architects, an effective means of becoming acquainted with each other's viewpoint in matters of common interest, and an incentive to the maintenance of good relationship between the Constituent Bodies.

Civic Service Committee. Late in the year a Sub-Committee was appointed to co-operate with other local bodies in the formation of a representative and influential Committee whose primary functions will be to keep a watchful eye over the amenities of the City of Cape Town with a view to their preservation and betterment. Actuated by the responsibility of citizenship, the Cape Institute has from time to time

devoted a good deal of attention to these matters, but its efforts do not appear to have always met with that appreciation from the authorities its good intentions warranted.

The question has of late become an acute one chiefly owing to the controversy that has arisen out of the proposals of the Railways and Harbours Administration in connection with the foreshore; and your Committee therefore felt that the time had arrived when this, and with it the whole problem of the city's future development, should be reviewed and a comprehensive scheme be formulated to meet the requirements, for many years to come, of the various interests to be served.

City of Cape Town Building Regulations. Your Committee has recently been furnished with a Draft of the proposed new Building Regulations, and at the invitation of the City Council it again prepared a large number of suggestions and amendments thereto for the consideration of the authorities. It has been suggested that before the regulations are finally adopted a round table conference should be arranged at which Architects, Engineers, Builders and other interested parties may be given the opportunity of putting their views before the Council.

The School of Architecture. The number of students attending the School is forty, of whom twelve are Probationers R.I.B.A., and fifteen Students R.I.B.A. At the end of the year five sat for the Intermediate Examination and two for the Final.

The holder of the Degree or Diploma in Architecture awarded by the University is eligible for membership of the Institute of South African Architects.

Students who complete the first three years of the curriculum for the Degree or Diploma in Architecture may be granted exemption from the R.I.B.A. Intermediate Examination. Students who qualify for the Degree or Diploma in Architecture may be exempted from the R.I.B.A. Final Examination under certain conditions.

Antwerp International Colonial Exhibition, 1930. Early in the year under review your Committee was invited by the Board of Trade and Industries to contribute plans and other documentation bearing upon town planning, architecture and architectural decorations, for display at the above exhibition. The invitation was accepted and twenty-two photos, etc., of works carried out by members of the Institute and twenty photos of old Cape residences were forwarded to the Exhibition.

Social and Other Functions. In February, the Annual Dinner took place and was much appreciated by members and guests who were able to participate in the event.

In May, a visit to the new University Buildings, Groot Schuur, was arranged upon the invitation of the University authorities and the Associated Architects.

In December an exhibition of local designs (and photos of the winning design) for the Bloemfontein Town Hall was held in the "Argus" Board Room.

The Library. The following additions were made to the Library during the year: twenty-two valuable architectural works (many of them rare and out of print) the gift of Mr. B. G. L. Mansergh, and one volume of "The Wren Society" acquired by purchase.

A few months ago Mr. F. W. Masey, L.R.I.B.A., President of the O.F.S. Institute, kindly presented to the Cape Institute six very interesting sketches, the work of his late brother Francis, a past President of the C.I.A.

The Architect, Builder and Engineer has, as heretofore, been circulated amongst all our members.

The Library, as members are aware, is housed at the Michaelis School of Fine Art, which has recently been moved from Annandale Street to Orange Street, where the works may be consulted on week-days between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Your Committee feels that the time has arrived when arrangements should be made to have the Library moved into a part of the City where it will be under the Institute's immediate control and be more accessible to members than it is at present. This is one of the questions that the incoming Committee will be asked to consider.

General. During the year a large number of applications for employment were received and dealt with. A register of Architects seeking assistants and of assistants seeking employment is kept at the Secretary's Office.

The Scale of Professional Charges, in pamphlet form, may be had from the Secretary at 3d. per copy.

Honorary Auditor. The services rendered to the Institute by Mr. Fagg, its honorary auditor, are gratefully acknowledged.

The Secretary. The thanks of the Institute are again due to the Secretary, Major Duncan, for the unflinching care and attention he has devoted to its affairs during the year under review.

W. HAWKE, *President.*

ANNUAL MEETING.

Minutes of the 32nd Annual General Meeting held in the Argus Board Room, St. George's Street, Capetown, on 12th March, 1931.

Present: Messrs. C. P. Walgate, W. Hawke, W. G. Fagg, B. G. L. Mansergh, L. A. Elsworth, W. A. Ritchie, Fallon, W. J. Delbridge, E. Austin Cooke, T. W. Stainthorpe, F. C. W. Dakers, C. H. Edwards, Gurth H. Cox, R. H. Jones, W. Twine, L. M. Earle, H. L. Roberts, H. H. Woolley, and the Secretary.

The President: Mr. W. Hawke, occupied the Chair.
The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

Minutes of 31st Annual General Meeting, held on 11th March, 1930, were read and confirmed.

The Chairman at this stage of the proceedings declared the ballot closed, and thereupon Messrs. R. H. Jones and G. H. Cox were appointed scrutineers. The ballot papers having been dealt with in terms of the regulations, the scrutineers retired to count the votes.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts for 1930, said:—

I wish to make a few comments upon one or two matters that may be of interest to the members assembled here to-day. The report gives you a fair idea of the outstanding activities of the Committee in the past year, and it is therefore unnecessary for me to do more than touch upon one or two of the matters that have engaged our attention in the period. It is just over three years since the Registration Act came

into operation, and at this stage we are more or less in a position to assess with a tolerable degree of accuracy the results it has brought about.

I am very much afraid that those who saw in the passing of the Act a panacea for all our professional troubles, have been disappointed. Quite rightly they are inclined to attribute the non-fulfilment of these hopes to some defect in the Act itself. But on reflection, I think most of us must realise that whatever the limitations of our Act, it is a measure that provides a sound foundation upon which the future prosperity of the profession in South Africa can be built up.

The chief complaint with regard to the Act is that it is not sufficiently water-tight to prevent unregistered persons from usurping the functions of legitimate practitioners. To those who would like to see the Act amended, the only reply is that the Act, as it stands, represents the extreme measure of protection Parliament is, at any rate for the present, willing to give us.

In view of the fate of the Veterinary Bill, it would be futile and impolitic to make any attempt to get the Act amended at the present juncture.

In any case we have something to congratulate ourselves upon since the Act has created an Institute, whose functions are to consolidate and safeguard the interests of its members and to build up ideals and traditions that will command, we trust, the respect of those who follow after us and reap the benefit of our labours. Our Institute is still in its infancy and the place it will fill in the future is entirely dependent upon the loyalty and devotion of its members.

I am entirely at one with the Committee in its report to you that the time has arrived when the Library should be brought under the immediate control of the Institute, and be moved to a part of the City where it will be more accessible to members than it is at present. The Library comprises a varied and valuable collection of works which we all hope will be added to from year to year and we think it would add much to its usefulness if it were more conveniently situated. But this will involve the provision of a special room, the expense of which is hardly warranted by the present state of our finances. I am hoping, however, that in the near future the position will be eased by a substantial reduction in the Annual Levy demanded by the Central Council, with a corresponding increase in the Institute's spending powers for the benefit of its members. This hope is based upon the fact that a great deal of the initial work of the Central Council has already been accomplished and that its activities should soon be almost entirely confined to matters of routine.

I must congratulate Capetown on its recent success in the Johannesburg Public Library Competition, and also Johannesburg in securing the first award in the Bloemfontein Town Hall Competition.

I shall conclude my remarks by moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1930.

The motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Fallon, was carried unanimously.

Honorary Auditor. On the motion of Mr. Fallon seconded by Mr. Delbridge, Mr. B. G. L. Mansergh was appointed Hon. Auditor for the ensuing year.

Cost of Administration. The following motion, proposed by Mr. T. W. Stainthorpe and seconded by Mr. C. H. Edwards was put to the meeting and, after discussion, was defeated by the casting vote of the Chairman:

"that the annual cost of administration of the Cape Institute of Architects is excessive and altogether out of proportion to the annual income and immediate steps should be taken to ensure a reduction, in the true interest and welfare of the Institute."

Arising out of the discussion a recommendation was adopted that our representatives should continue making every effort to obtain a substantial reduction in the levy payable to the Central Council.

The Scrutineers at this stage of the proceedings reported the result of the ballot to the Chairman who thereupon announced that the following members had been elected as the Provincial Committee for 1931/1932:—G. Angelini, W. J. Delbridge, L. A. Elsworth, W. G. Fagg, W. A. Ritchie Fallon, W. Hawke, B. G. L. Mansergh, C. H. N. Merrifield, and J. K. Parker.

Quarterly Meetings. On the motion of Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Austin Cooke, it was resolved:

"that it be a recommendation to the incoming committee to make arrangements for holding quarterly general meetings of the Institute in future."

The meeting concluded with hearty votes of thanks to the Scrutineers and to the Chairman.

THE NATAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1930.

Your Committee present the following statement of its activities during the past twelve months, being the fourth Annual Report of the Natal Provincial Institute of the Institute of South African Architects.

It is with regret that your Committee has to report the loss by death of one of the Institute's members, Mr. J. C. Seneque.

During the year one member has enrolled. The membership now stands as follows:—Forty-one Practising, ten Salaried and three Retired Members.

It is pleasing to know that it has not been found necessary to increase the Annual Subscriptions, for membership, which remain as follows:—Practising Members, five guineas; Salaried Members, three guineas; and Retired Members, one guinea.

Members are reminded that the subscriptions fall due on 1st January in each year and payment should be made as early as possible and so save a deal of trouble and expense in rendering accounts and collecting the amounts.

From the Revenue and Expenditure Account, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, it will be seen that this Provincial Institute is in a very sound position. Of the outstanding subscriptions shown in the Balance Sheet part of these have come in since the closing of the books.

During the Session seven Committee Meetings have been held, and, although your Committee have had a quiet year various matters concerning the profession have been dealt with. Its advice has been sought by local bodies, and every endeavour has been made to justify this confidence, either by co-operation, assistance, and in appointing one or more members to act on committees. All disputes have been amicably settled.

Mr. W. S. Payne was re-elected as this Institute's representative, with Mr. E. M. Powers as alternate, on the Central Council of the Institute, and these gentlemen have attended the meetings held at Johannesburg.

Your President, Col. G. T. Hurst, is this Institute's representative on the Natal Technical College Council, and Mr. B. V. Bartholomew was appointed to act on the Engineering and Building Advisory Committee of the College. Thanks are due to these members for giving much of their valuable time to the various matters concerning the Institute.

Among other matters, consultation with the Durban Town Council, in connection with Municipal architectural work being entrusted to private practising architects has received a good deal of attention, and the Committee is hopeful of good results.

Certain amendments to the Rules and Regulations of the Act have been framed and have been passed by Parliament during the year, copies of which have been circularised to all members of the Institute.

Cases of "cutting of fees" by members of the Institute have been brought to the notice of the Committee from time to time and efforts to check this practice have been made.

In nearly all cases your Committee have been faced by the difficulty of obtaining sufficient proof without which their hands are tied.

Booklets containing the Scale of Charges may be had, gratis, on application to the secretary, 2, Poynton's Chambers, Smith Street, Durban.

Proposed amendments to the Standard Conditions of Building Contract Agreement submitted by the Central Council are being considered, but no final draft has been agreed upon as yet. It may be stated that it is the considered opinion of your Committee that there is no call for revision of the existing Conditions, except in a few minor matters which experience has proved to be desirable and your Committee has reported to the Central Council to this effect.

The movement for a general revision has, it may be stated been promoted by the Federation of Master Builders.

A "Joint Advisory Committee" has been formed, consisting of two members of the Natal Provincial Institute, two members of the Master Builders' Association and one member of the Chapter of Quantity

Surveyors, the object being to promote harmony in working in so far as it may be possible between the Constituent Organisations on the carrying out of their several functions and duties. A Draft Constitution has been drawn up and agreed upon by the Committee. It is felt that such a committee will be helpful in many ways where differences arise between architects and builders.

Public Buildings and Private Architects: For years past it has been the custom in the Cape, for the Administration to place a good deal of their work in the hands of the private architects. This custom has recently spread to the Transvaal but to a more limited extent than in the case of the Cape.

Your Committee has taken up the matter in the hope that the good work may be extended to Natal and to this end Messrs. G. T. Hurst and E. M. Powers have been appointed as a Sub-Committee to interview the Administrator of Natal. At the time of writing this report the Administrator has not notified the date upon which he will receive the deputation.

During the year the "South African Architectural Record" has been delivered, gratis, to all members and has, no doubt, been much appreciated.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Minutes of the Fourth Annual General Meeting of members held in the secretary's office, 2, Poynton's Chambers, 339, Smith Street, Durban, at 3.30 p.m., Friday, 13th March, 1931.

Present: The President, Col. G. T. Hurst (in the Chair), Messrs. H. E. Chick, B. V. Bartholomew, L. A. Peyton, W. S. Payne, L. T. Obel, H. H. Grant, D. C. MacDonald, F. J. Ing, E. M. Powers, W. B. Oxley and the Secretary.

Apologies for unavoidable absence were received from Messrs. R. N. Jackson and T. Read.

Notice Convening the Meeting: The Secretary read the Notice convening the meeting.

The President welcomed those members present and declared the Fourth Annual General Meeting duly constituted.

Minutes: The Minutes of the Third Annual General Meeting, having been circularised to all members, were laid on the table and on the proposition of the Chairman were taken as read and confirmed.

Annual Report and Balance Sheet: The Annual Report and Balance Sheet having been circularised to all members were laid on the table and on the motion of the Chairman were unanimously approved and adopted.

With reference to the Investment account, it was suggested that the incoming Committee consider the advisability of dividing business with other Building Societies.

Election of Auditor: Mr. J. E. Duff, F.I.A.A., was unanimously re-elected auditor for the ensuing year.

The President addressed the meeting and traversed the year's working of the Institute and dealt in detail with a number of items of the Report.

As a result of a discussion regarding Committee Meetings it was suggested that meetings be held at fixed dates during the session and this be a recommendation to the new Committee to deal with.

Professional Fees: Some discussion took place re cases of "cutting of fees" by members. The Chairman explained that efforts to check this practice had been made but unless sufficient proof was forthcoming in cases reported, the Committee could do nothing; and he urged upon members to do their best to assist the Committee by reporting any case which came within their knowledge and so assist in checking this reprehensible practice. He further emphasised that the fees were approved by regulation under Act of Parliament, and members were expected to adhere strictly to the scale of charges therein, and any member deviating from the schedule without first notifying his Provincial Institute of such deviation was liable to a fine of £50 under Regulation 89 of the Act.

After some discussion it was unanimously resolved that the tightening up of this Regulation, so as to make it more effective, be brought before the Central Council and it be an instruction to this Institute's representative on the Central Council to have this matter placed on the Agenda to be dealt with at the next meeting, with a view to having this regulation amended by Act of Parliament.

Architect and Client: One member suggested that when discussing with a client the cost of a proposed building, the architect should add his fees and include same in the total cost and not make them a separate item to be paid by the client but recover them from the builder. It was agreed that this matter be left with the incoming Committee to deal with.

Borough Bye-Laws: Referring to balconies over any public pathway, some doubt existed among members as to the correct interpretation of the Borough Bye-Laws, and, as a result of some discussion on the matter, it was resolved that a letter be addressed to the Mayor and Town Council requesting a definite interpretation of the Building Bye-Laws referring to the erection of verandahs and balconies over public pathways.

Election of New Committee: The two scrutineers appointed to take the ballot submitted their return of nine members to the new Committee for the current year, and the Chairman formally declared the following members duly elected in accordance with the ballot cast:—Messrs. W. S. Payne, W. J. Paton, E. M. Powers, F. J. Ing, H. E. Chick, G. T. Hurst, C. S. M. Taylor (Salaried), W. B. Oxley and W. G. Moffat.

Vote of Thanks: On the Chairman declaring the business of the meeting completed a vote of thanks was accorded him for his term of Office.

At a Committee Meeting held on the 27th inst., Mr. W. S. Payne was elected President and Mr. W. G. Moffat, Vice-President for the ensuing year.

Mr. W. S. Payne was elected Representative with Mr. E. M. Powers at Alternate on the Central Council.

ORANGE FREE STATE PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE.

ANNUAL MEETING AND REPORT, 1930.

The O.F.S. Provincial Institute held their Annual General Meeting on Friday, the 13th March. The following were elected as the Committee on the President's declaration, no further nominations having been received:—

Cartwright, L. D., Salaried; de la Cornillere, H. G. E., Practising; Fyvie, H., Practising; Masey, F. W., Practising; Tonkin, W. W., Salaried; Wallace, H. A. C., Practising. No Change.

Immediately after the Annual General Meeting a Special Committee Meeting was held, for the purpose of electing the President, Vice-President and Central Council Delegate, etc.

The following were unanimously elected:—

President: F. W. Masey.

Vice-President: H. A. C. Wallace.

Central Council Delegate: F. W. Masey, Alternate, H. Fyvie.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you here this morning to the fourth Annual General Meeting of the O.F.S. Provincial Institute of Architects.

I beg to Report as follows for the year ending December 31st, 1930.

Increase of Number Forming Committee. This recommendation of the Third Annual General Meeting led to a special General Meeting held on April 22nd last, after all members had been circularised and a ballot held; this resulted in the Committee being increased from five to six and Mr. L. Cartwright elected to the vacant chair.

Vice-President. Your Committee deemed it necessary in accordance with Regulation F. 71, that a Vice-President should be appointed and Mr. H. G. de la Cornillere was unanimously elected to the Office at the Meeting held on March 27th.

Committee Meetings. Since the last Annual General Meeting your Committee has met thirteen times.

Finance. The Revenue and Expenditure Statement and the Balance Sheet has been circulated to all members. The Credit Balance of £55 18s. 11d. is gratifying but members must realise that the item £16, is unlikely to be paid for a considerable time; it is pleasing, however, for me to announce that £8 8s., has been received against the sum of £30 9s., outstanding subscriptions, etc.

Central Council. Our relations with the Central Council are, as in previous years, all that can be wished for.

The hoped for unofficial visit of our President-in-Chief to Bloemfontein during the past year unfortunately, owing to pressure of work, did not eventuate; but it is possible that Mr. Hawke, even if he is no longer in the Chair may be able to accept our hospitality after the next Central Council Meeting,

and if our Registrar can accompany him the visit of these two Gentlemen will be of the greatest value to us.

Year Book. This has already proved useful not only to Architects but also to Contractors and Advertisers who thereby have no necessity to consult the Four Provincial Directories.

All members should bring the Year Book to the notice of Contractors and Supplies Agents, many of whom are still unaware of its existence and would be only too pleased to obtain copies for their Office use.

Architectural Education. Information on this subject is fully dealt with in the Year Book. Members are doubtless aware that the higher status of our Profession owing to the passing of the Architects Act has already begun to make itself felt in that the new blood coming in has to pass the test of Examination as drawn up by our Standing Committee on Education and Examinations. Examinations have been held, and in the O.F.S. we can congratulate Mr. Eddy who sat successfully for the modified examination last November in Bloemfontein.

Candidates desiring to gain R.I.B.A. Membership will shortly have circulated to them the procedure by which this may be effected.

Architectural Pupils. Members desiring to take Pupils are reminded that they are required to communicate with the Registrar on this matter.

Competitions. It must be a matter of congratulation to the whole of our Profession that Public Competitions have been handled so successfully in the immediate past, the advisory services of the Central Council given to Promoters in the initial stages has been of the utmost value in this connection.

The enormous amount of unproductive time spent by our profession in Competition works asks for serious attention, and I trust some means may be found by which time so spent may be materially reduced in the not far distant future.

Use of the Title of Architect. Two cases have engaged the attention of your Committee during the past year and the use of the title discontinued.

Conditions of Building Contract. The Sub-Committee of Architects, Quantity Surveyors and Builders dealing with this matter drew up a Report and proposed New Conditions of Contract, and your Committee has considered the same and is not prepared to recommend the acceptance of the new proposals without certain alterations, or alternatively and preferably the revision of the well known existing form in the light of experience gained since its last issue.

Municipal Bye-Laws. By the courtesy of the City Engineer, Bloemfontein, your Committee has been able to peruse a Draft of the proposed new Building Bye-Laws. After general scrutiny a sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. Fyvie and Wallace was formed to go more closely into certain Clauses and confer with the City Engineer and report at a later date,

We are all anxious that new Building Bye-Laws be published, and from correspondence it appears that Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban are in a similar situation.

Special General Meeting. In addition to the special General Meeting held for the increase of the Membership of the O.F.S. Provincial Committee a further Meeting was held on April 22nd on the desirability of forming an:—

O.F.S. Town Planning Association. To this Meeting the Mayor of Bloemfontein, the Chief Justice of the O.F.S., the Surveyor General, and other Provincial and Municipal Officers were invited as well as representative Citizens and the Press.

Mr. W. W. Tonkin read a paper outlining the activities awaiting the attention of such an Association and the Chief Justice and the Surveyor General followed by the majority of those present spoke in favour of the project.

There has been some delay as to further steps pending the possibility of financial assistance from the Central Council, but this after due consideration was found impossible. I trust the Provincial Hon. Secretary will shortly call another Meeting and that the Association will soon assume permanent shape.

Professional Fees. May I repeat the words of my Predecessor in the Chair—we are no longer a voluntary body, our tariff passed by Parliament is obligatory and departure from the same unless made by definite agreement at the time of engagement *and notified to our Provincial Secretary* constitutes an act of unprofessional conduct.

Provincial Circulars. I beg to direct members attention to Circulars issued from time to time by the authority of the Provincial Committee and especially to the one requesting that all drawings issued by members bear the name of the individual or firms responsible.

Robert Howden Testimonial. Members will be pleased to hear that this Fund has been subscribed to by nearly three hundred members of the Architectural and Quantity Surveying Professions and that the presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Howden and formation of the Howden Scholarship desired by them will shortly be accomplished.

In conclusion may I quote from the Editorial of the "South African Architectural Record," of December last:—

"We should like to take this opportunity of appealing to members to play the game. The constant complaints of unprofessional practice that are coming forward, the unfair competition that appears to exist, the touting and the commercialising of our art are all deterrents to progress and it cannot be expected that we shall ever obtain that respect from the general public both for our professional status and our art until these practices cease."

Wishing the O.F.S. Provincial Institute of Architects continuous prosperity and success, and tendering my thanks to our Vice-President and Members of Committee—including our Hon. Secretary for their unflinching attention to the business placed before them from time to time.

F. W. MASEY,
President.

CHAPTER OF SOUTH AFRICAN QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1930.

To Members of the Chapter,

Your Board has pleasure in presenting its Annual Report. The Board for the year under review consisted of: "Solely Practising" Members: Messrs. H. Bell-John, E. B. Farrow, D. J. Laing, T. Moore, and S. Waters. "Dual Practising" Member: Mr. R. Howden. "Salaried" Members: Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis and Messrs. A. W. Springthorpe and R. J. C. Prentice.

Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis was unanimously elected President for the year, and Messrs. H. Bell-John and D. J. Laing, Senior and Junior Vice-President, respectively.

The following Committees were appointed for the year:—Urgency Committee: W. E. Puntis (Chairman and Convenor), T. Moore, R. Howden and D. J. Laing. Finance Committee: D. J. Laing (Chairman and Convenor), E. B. Farrow, A. Stratton and the President (*ex officio*). Practising Committee: T. Moore (Chairman and Convenor), A. W. Springthorpe, S. Waters and the President (*ex officio*).

During the year under review there were eleven Board Meetings, and one meeting of the Finance Committee. The following is the attendance record at the eleven Board meetings: T. Moore, 11; W. E. Puntis, 10; H. Bell-John, 10; S. Waters, 9; D. J. Laing, 9; R. Howden, 8; E. B. Farrow, 8; A. W. Springthorpe, 8; R. J. C. Prentice, 8.

Central Council. The following members represented the Chapter on the Central Council of the Institute during the year: T. Moore, Alternate, H. Bell-John; D. J. Laing, Alternate, F. D. Hickman.

Under the Regulations pursuant to the Act, Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis, in his capacity as Chief Government Quantity Surveyor (Alternate, Mr. W. M. Warne), is one of the two Government nominees on the Central Council, and as such is entitled to a permanent seat.

Membership. The total membership of the Chapter, compiled as at February 28th, 1931, from the information available to the Secretary, is one hundred and fifty, composed as follows:

Members Practising Solely as Quantity Surveyors	24
Members Practising as Architects and Quantity Surveyors	45
Salaried Members	50
Retired Members	26
Absentee Members	2
Honorary Members	3

New Enrolments. The Board has pleasure in recording four new enrolments: D. M. Sinclair (Junior), Pretoria, Fred. G. Yates, Johannesburg, S. Pogoda, Pretoria, Geo. Roxburgh, Pretoria, all aforementioned being Salaried Members.

Honorary Members. During the year two additional Honorary Members were elected, on the recommendation of the Board, in appreciation of the signal services rendered by them to the profession of Quantity Surveying in South Africa: Mr. O. W. Staten, Secretary for Public Works, Pretoria; Dr. S. F. N. Gie, Secretary for Union Education, Pretoria.

Obituary. The Board much regrets to report the death, on July 11th, 1930, of Mr. Alan Stratton, of the Public Works Department, Pretoria. The late Mr. Stratton (who was alternate on the Central Council to Col. Puntis), was highly esteemed by his colleagues and regarded as one of the outstanding Quantity Surveyors in South Africa. The profession is much the poorer for his untimely passing.

Resignation. Mr. J. B. Dey, of the Public Works Department, Pretoria, tendered his resignation as a member of the Chapter on December 11th, 1930.

Local Committees. The Board has pleasure in referring to the forward step taken in the formation at Capetown and Durban of representative Local Committees of the Chapter, on May 5th, and July 18th, 1930, respectively. The Board's minutes, despatched to all members, are fully descriptive of the inaugural meetings of these Local Committees.

Quantity Surveying Education in South Africa. As the result of much consideration, the Board resolved to recommend to the Institute's Standing Committee on Education and Examinations that the existing Three Year Course in Quantity Surveying at the University of the Witwatersrand and the University of Pretoria, be extended and the standard raised. The existing course is of the status of the Intermediate Examination of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution, and it is felt that the time is now ripe for the Final Examination status to be reached and maintained.

Accordingly, a Four Year Diploma Course, and a Five Year Degree Course, have been agreed to by the Standing Committee and by the University of the Witwatersrand, both courses to be of the status of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution Final Examination. The Degree Course requires a minimum of two years' full time study at the University.

It is hoped that the approval of the Minister of Education, to whom the recommendations were duly submitted, will be obtained so that the new courses may be brought into being as and from March, 1931.

The Board wishes to place on record its keen appreciation of the helpful services of Professor G. E. Pearse, of the University of the Witwatersrand, in this matter.

Quantity Surveying Education at Capetown. The Board regrets it is unable to record any progress in the direction of establishing Quantity Surveying courses at the University of Capetown.

Students' Progress. In 1930, thirteen new students enrolled for the University Courses in Quantity Surveying, making a total of twenty-one at Pretoria, and twelve at Johannesburg. It is anticipated that there will be at least six new enrolments for 1931.

The Board is advised that the results of the South African examinations in Quantity Surveying, have been very satisfactory, and indicate that the organised scheme of study now available, spread over a given period, is to be preferred to the student mapping out his own course of study and working on it as he may from time to time feel inclined.

Student's Prizes. The Chapter's Gold Medal, Book Prize for two guineas and Book Prize for one guinea, were awarded respectively to the following students during 1930: Third Year, C. L. Borckenhagen; Second Year, J. S. Hodge; First Year, E. V. Kohler.

The Board has once again to record its deep appreciation of the generosity of Mr. T. Moore, who has borne the expense of providing the Chapter with the die from which the gold medal will be struck every year, and with the first gold medal presented.

Government Work (Transvaal Province). During the year under review the Executive Committee of the Province of the Transvaal, decided to employ private practitioners for the erection of school and hospital buildings. Several new schools are now in course of erection in the Transvaal to the designs of Architects in private practice.

The Board is in communication with the Provincial Administration with regard to some of the conditions on which the Quantity Surveying work has been given out.

Cape Province. Negotiations have continued during the year with the Cape Provincial Administration with regard to conditions pertaining to work entrusted to Quantity Surveyors for school and hospital buildings in the Cape Province.

Standard System. The New Edition of the Standard System of Measuring Builders' Work in South Africa, referred to from time to time in the Board's minutes, is now obtainable from the Secretary. The New Edition has a very pleasing appearance as a professional text-book, and is of the utmost value to all connected with the building industry.

Mr. T. Moore's services with regard to the production of the New Edition are very much appreciated.

Issue of Minutes to Members. With the object of maintaining a steadfast interest in the affairs of the Chapter, the Board has during the year despatched its minutes to all members; formerly, only to those members who applied therefor. Helpful appreciation of this step has been forthcoming from several individual members. The costs of administration have naturally been increased, and it is for members to say whether the despatch of Board minutes to all members is to be continued.

Chapter's Financial Position. The audited Balance Sheet and Revenue and Expenditure Statement have already been despatched to members of the Chapter. It will be observed that on the year's working there is a shortfall of £132 19s. 6d. it was anticipated that the deficit for the year would be between £50 and £75; but because of the following reasons: (1) accumulating arrear subscriptions; (2) additional expense in despatching minutes to all members, and (3) certain

unforeseen items of expenditure during the year, this anticipated deficit has reached the sum of £132 19s. 6d.

Outstanding Subscriptions. The Board much regrets the indifference and inconsiderateness of several members of the Chapter in the matter of their subscriptions. At the last Annual General Meeting thirty-one votes submitted were perforce disqualified because the members concerned had not paid their subscriptions. The total of arrear subscriptions due by members is £142.

New "Conditions of Contract." During the year a Joint Committee of two members of the Institute and Chapter, and two members of the National Federation of Building Trade Employers held several meetings at Johannesburg with the object of recommending for adoption in South Africa a "Conditions of Contract" document satisfactory to all concerned.

The Joint Committee took as a basis the 1928 "Conditions of Contract" which was recommended for adoption in Great Britain but not ratified by members of the R.I.B.A. As a result of the labours of the Joint Committee, a document has been unanimously agreed upon for recommendation to the Institute and the Federation.

The Federation at its Congress in October, 1930, adopted the proposed new conditions. At the next meeting of the Central Council, which will be held in April, 1931, the proposed new document will be considered, having already been in the hands of the Provincial Institutes and the Chapter.

Joint Practice Committees. The question of Joint Practice Committees of Architects, Quantity Surveyors and Master Builders, has been referred to the Chapter for consideration. The Board entirely approves the suggestion, but has recommended to the Central Council that the principle of a South African Joint Practice Committee be first decided, and a constitution agreed upon; thereafter the formation of local Joint Practice Committees to be considered.

Donation from Dr. Hjalmar Reitz. Dr. Hjalmar Reitz, M.P., M.C.Q.S. (Hon.), recently donated a sum of five guineas to be divided equally between the "Prize Funds" of the Institute and the Chapter. This further demonstration of goodwill from one who has done so much for the Architectural and Quantity Surveying professions in South Africa, is heartily appreciated by the Board.

The Chartered Surveyors' Institution. With the permission of the Privy Council, the Surveyors' Institution is now designated "The Chartered Surveyors' Institution." The initials used by members remain unchanged.

Board's Thanks to President. The Board has to record its deep appreciation of the services rendered by your President, Col. Puntis, and for the unfailing interest he has at all times taken in the welfare of the Chapter and of the Quantity Surveying profession in South Africa.

Board's Thanks to Secretary. The Board is very appreciative of the very great help rendered by the Secretary, Mr. J. S. Lewis, during the past year.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Chapter was held in the Committee Room of the Pretoria Town Hall, on Saturday, March 14th, 1931. The meeting was the largest gathering of South African Quantity Surveyors ever known, and sat from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

It is not possible to include in this issue the minutes of the meeting, which will be published in detail in the June edition of the "Record."

The Board for 1931-1932, in the order of the number of votes recorded, is as follows: Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis, Mr. R. Howden, Mr. R. J. C. Prentice, Mr. T. Moore, Mr. D. J. Laing, Mr. H. Bell-John, Mr. E. B. Farrow, Mr. W. Selkirk and Mr. A. W. Springthorpe.

At the first meeting of the new Board held at Pretoria on the 26th instant, Mr. R. Howden was unanimously elected President for the forthcoming year, and Messrs. H. Bell-John and D. J. Laing, Senior and Junior Vice-Presidents respectively.

The retiring President of the Chapter, Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis, has pleasure in announcing that up to the present he has received donations totalling seventy guineas from practising Quantity Surveyors, towards eliminating the deficit with which the Chapter was faced (largely as the result of unpaid subscriptions).

PRESIDENTS REPORT.

The Report of your Board, summarising as it does the business dealt with and recorded in the Chapter's minutes, makes it unnecessary for me to review these items again; but there is one important matter which I feel should be referred to, *i.e.*, the relationship between the Architect and the Quantity Surveyor.

It is with much diffidence that I undertake this important and difficult task, but I do so actuated by the keenest desire for the honour and welfare of the two professions of Architecture and Quantity Surveying with which I have had a life-long association and in which my outlook in life is indissolubly enwrapped.

It is my conviction that, especially because of recent events in the Transvaal, a continuation of which will only lead to dangerous embitterment, the relationship between the Architect and the Quantity Surveyor, and the duties and responsibilities of each, require investigation and recommendation by an impartial authority; such recommendation to be accepted implicitly by both sides. One must, in the meantime, deprecate the tendency to indulge in recriminations.

The building public, which includes governmental and local authorities, must have the completest confidence in the professions of Architecture and Quantity Surveying, because of their national significance. I therefore appeal earnestly to both Architects and Quantity Surveyors not to be influenced solely by personal motives, but, where differences arise, to react to that sound piece of statutory advice to be found in the Regulations, "to improve the integrity and maintain the status of the professions."

The year has been a busy one for your Board. As will be seen from the record of attendances, members of the Board have not spared themselves in attending not only regular but emergency meetings. I take this opportunity of expressing, on your behalf, to the Vice-Presidents and Members of the Board my keen appreciation of the loyal support accorded me, and to the Secretary, Mr. J. S. Lewis, for the very able and satisfactory manner in which he has carried out his responsible duties.

W. E. PUNTIS,

President, 1930-1931.

Obituary.

Mr. W. H. STUCKE.

The death took place recently, after a short illness, of Mr. William Henry Stucke, F.R.I.B.A., P.A.S.I., M.S.I., the well-known architect.

The late Mr. Stucke was born in Cheltenham and educated in that town and Sydenham. He was articled to John Middleton and Son, who were ecclesiastical architects for the Gloucestershire diocese. At the age of twenty-four he came to Johannesburg and after a few months moved to Bloemfontein until 1894, when, having won the competition for South African Mutual Buildings, Harrison Street, he returned and as soon as the building was completed occupied the offices which the firm are in to-day. His present partner, Mr. J. E. Harrison, joined him in Bloemfontein, in 1895.

The late Mr. Stucke was a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects, a professional associate of the Surveyor's Institution, and a member of the Sanitary Institute. He was also a Rand pioneer.

The firm have carried out work in every town of any size in the Union and Rhodesia, and among other works they are now carrying out is the new Standard Bank Buildings, in Pretoria.

Mr. Stucke acted as Assessor in the following competitions:—

University of the Witwatersrand; National Bank, Pietermaritzburg; Boksburg Town Hall and Municipal Offices; and in collaboration with Sir Herbert Baker: Government House, Capetown, and New Post Office, Pretoria.

He was successful in winning the following Competitions: Original Fire Station, Johannesburg; Synagogue, Johannesburg; S.A. Mutual Buildings, Johannesburg; S.A. Mutual Buildings, Capetown; Standard Bank, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg; and the Rand Regiments Memorial.

Among the well-known buildings erected by the late Mr. Stucke are the following:—

Standard Bank, Johannesburg; S.A. Mutual Buildings, at Capetown, Port Elizabeth, Durban, Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, Grahamstown; Bank of Africa Buildings, at Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth; Exploration Buildings; Permanent Buildings; Cuthberts Buildings; First Grey College, Bloemfontein; Lower Flanking Wings, General Hospital, Johannesburg; Anstey's Original Buildings, in Eloff Street; Farrar Buildings; Barsdorf Buildings; Livingstone's Buildings; Numerous Hotels for the S.A. Breweries; Market Buildings, Fordsburg; Hotel Imperial, Bloemfontein; Old Club, Bloemfontein. Recent Buildings: Anstey's Building, in collaboration with Howden and Stewart; Cuthbert's Wholesale Warehouse; Starfield's Building (Lion Trading Co.), Market Street; Landau Bros. Building (H. Beemer & Co.), Market Street; Nunnerley's Building; Locarno House; Geneva House; Calcutta House; Union House, in collaboration with Emley and Williamson; Harvard Buildings, in collaboration with Kallenbach and Kennedy; Bazaar Mansions, Pretoria; Cathedral Mansions; St. Mark's Presbyterian Church Yeoville.

Mr. Stucke was associated with Mr. W. E. Banister from about 1902 to 1907, and was President of the Association of Transvaal Architects for the year 1913.

The late William Henry Stucke was of a retiring disposition and was engrossed in his work. He was particularly painstaking in his attention to small details and took infinite trouble to ensure correctness.

He was always a keen tennis player and was a regular visitor at the Doornfontein swimming baths. Only a few years ago he was a member of the Rand Hunt Club, and on one occasion rode his own horse Happy Slave in a point-to-point race at Bedford Farm.

IN PUBLIC LIFE.

So far as his public life is concerned he was elected a member of the Provincial Council in 1917, for the Von Brandis division in the Unionist Party interest, a seat which he retained for six years. He was a member of the Rand Club, Johannesburg, the City Club, Capetown, and the Bloemfontein Club.

The late Mr. Stucke's friends can speak of his sterling good qualities. He gave a helping hand in no mean manner to many, and he will be missed by most institutions in this city.

He leaves a wife and three children.

With acknowledgments to the "Star." 11/4/31

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL. 1931-32.

Cape Provincial Institute:

W. Hawke (President); Alternate, F. Williamson.
W. A. Ritchie Fallon; Alternate, Gordon Leith.

Natal Provincial Institute:

W. S. Payne; Alternate, E. M. Powers.

O.F.S. Provincial Institute:

Fredk. W. Masey; Alternate, H. Fyvie.

Transvaal Provincial Institute:

S. C. Dowsett (President); Alternate, A. Stanley
Furner.

J. Lockwood Hall; Alternate, C. C. Deuchar.

R. Howden; Alternate, Gordon Leith.

F. Williamson; Alternate, Prof. G. E. Pearse.

Chapter of S.A. Quantity Surveyors:

T. Moore; Alternate, H. Bell-John.

D. J. Laing; Alternate, F. D. Hickman.

Government Nominees:

J. S. Cleland; Alternate, F. D. Strong.

Lt.-Col. W. E. Puntis; Alternate, W. M. Warne.

J. S. Lewis, Registrar.

THE CHARTERED QUANTITY SURVEYOR AND HIS WORK.

Published by the Surveyors Institute, London.

The profession of the Quantity Surveyor is a distinct calling, which has come into being owing to the custom of inviting several builders or contractors to compete for the execution of works, and the consequent necessity of supplying them with detailed particulars of the material and labour required.

This is done by measuring the work shown on the architect's drawings, or described in his specification, and embodying the result in a document called a "Bill of Quantities." In the latter the quantity of each item is set out in detail; there is also a money column which is left blank for entry by the builder of his prices and totals. In this manner he arrives at the estimate on which his tender is based.

The quantity surveyor must, therefore, possess a thorough knowledge of building construction and the ramifications of the building trade to enable him correctly to construe the drawings and specification.

The duties of a Quantity Surveyor (who has been well defined as a "technical accountant") in connection with a building contract are to prepare the Bills of Quantities, as referred to above, to value the work in progress, and report thereon for payments on account, to measure and value the variations which may arise during the progress of the work, and to advise as to the amount payable by the building owner to the contractor on completion of the work.

In any industry an important factor towards the attainment of prosperity is the elimination of waste, and it is in this direction that the usefulness of the Quantity Surveyor to a great industry, that of building, has been proved. The utilisation of his services is, in fact, nothing else than a step towards rationalisation.

There has been a gradual evolution in the method of obtaining competitive tenders. At first, each competing contractor himself took off the quantities or employed a surveyor to do so. If there were a dozen competitors the work of eleven was wasted, an uneconomic state of affairs for which indirectly the building public had to pay. Moreover, unless the drawings were unusually complete and the specification unusually definite, there might be a dozen different interpretations of those documents with resultant disputes as to their real meaning. The next step was that of contractors agreeing among themselves to employ one surveyor to prepare the bill of quantities for all of them, his fee being paid by the successful competitor.

Gradually, that system changed into the one now prevailing, under which the architect appoints the surveyor on behalf of his client, who, as a rule, leaves the selection to him. While the architect has no actual prerogative to decide who shall be appointed, private clients seldom have any preference, although public bodies as a rule keep the appointment in their own hands. Under the usual form of building contract to-day, the building owner and contractor agree that variations which may arise on the contract shall be settled by the Surveyor named therein acting as quasi-arbitrator.

In the settlement of variations bills of quantities are invaluable, providing as they do an agreed schedule of rates for the valuation of items added to or omitted from the contract. It was for this reason that the Surveyors' Institution in collaboration with the Institute of Builders and the National Federation of Building Trades Employers of Great Britain and Ireland agreed upon a Standard Method of Measurement. A once fruitful cause of disagreement, and its resulting waste of time, temper and energy, has thus been eliminated. The Standard Method is now generally adopted by all Chartered Quantity Surveyors in London, and its use

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is spreading rapidly in the provinces. The examinations of the Surveyors' Institution ensure that all young men qualifying in the quantities branch of the profession are familiar with the rules it lays down.

It has already been stated that the usefulness of a Quantity Surveyor lies in his saving of time and money to the building owner, who is ready to pay for what he gets, and the contractor, who asks only to be paid for what he gives.

The advantages to the building owner are:—

1. He is provided from the outset with the closest possible estimate of the cost of the work.

2. He will have to pay only the fair value for any variations he may require to be made from the contract during the progress of the work.

The advantages to the contractor are:—

1. He is spared the waste of time and money involved in preparing his own bills of quantities.

2. He competes upon the same basis as others, and his risks are defined.

3. Disputes are prevented by the employment of a technical expert, who will embody in terms of a bill of quantities, the client's requirements as shown on the drawings and specifications.

Obviously, therefore, all parties to a building contract stand to benefit by the employment of a quantity surveyor. It is equally obvious that the latter must be a man of tried experience, thoroughly versed in the technique of his profession and possess the temperament required for the exercise of functions which are often of a judicial character.

The first examination of the Surveyors' Institution, the Preliminary, is merely a test of general school education to insure that the future Chartered Surveyor possesses a suitable foundation upon which to base his technical training. This is followed by two technical examinations, the Intermediate and the Final, the standard of which is high and success in which may be taken as proof that a candidate has acquired a thorough practical and theoretical knowledge of the field in which he proposes to practise. On passing these examinations and after satisfying the Institution as to his practical experience he is entitled to election as a Professional Associate of the Institution (P.A.S.I.). It is not, however, until he has been in independent practice or in a position of equal responsibility for at least five years that he becomes eligible for the higher grade of membership, namely, that of Fellow (F.S.I.).

Unlike the legal and medical professions, that of quantity surveying is not closed by Act of Parliament. Only those, however, who have been elected to membership of the Surveyors' Institution after passing the examinations in quantities are permitted to describe themselves as Chartered Quantity Surveyor when referring to their vocation. Membership of a chartered society is now more than ever recognised by the public as the hall mark of professional standing and efficiency.

The following extract from page eleven of the Interim Report of the Building Industry Council of Review of which the Right Hon. Lord Amulree, K.C., was President, in dealing with the work of the quantity surveyor, confirms, from an authoritative and independent source, the statements contained in this pamphlet:—

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"The Committee was impressed by evidence which indicated that the industry does not at present receive the full benefit of the training and experience of quantity surveyors.

"The duties and status of the quantity surveyor could with advantage be defined more clearly. He is tending more and more to become the technician of the industry, as well as the technical advisor and accountant. In present practice, however, his special knowledge is largely wasted in the advisory stage of the preparation of a building scheme.

"It is felt, therefore, that in the interest of the building owner the collaboration of the architect and the quantity surveyor at the earliest possible stage in any proposed building work should be encouraged. Not only does the quantity surveyor possess a highly specialised knowledge of the technical side of the building, but he has a wide experience of the cost of materials and of market conditions."



CORRESPONDENCE.

HOE EN WAT ONS SUID-AFRIKA GEBOU'T.

To the Editor,

The South African Architectural Record.

L.S.

Die Kunskommissie van die S.A. Akademie is begerig om die uitgaaf te bevorder van 'n *Album* met afbeeldinge van en informasie oor tiepiese Suid-Afrikaanse geboue, vanaf die hartebeeshuisie en die éénkamer-woninkie tot die groot landhuis of die deftige dorps-verblyf.

Daar bestaan, oor die lengte en breedte van ons land, sowel histories as andersins karakteristieke en interessante geboue, wat werd is om met behulp van die fotografiese toestel en die tipografiese apparaat vir algemene en blywende waardering vasgelê te word. En dis nie alte kosbaar en tydrowend vir welgesinde persone nie om die Akademie by te staan deur toesending van foto's, met korte besonderhede aangaande juiste ligging en vermoedelike ouderdom van die afgebeelde (klein of groot) gebou.

Verwag word dat in elke distrik of dorp een, twee of meer belangstellende vriendinne en vriende daarvoor wil sorg dat sodanige dorp of distrik 'n passende ruimte in die *Album* kry.

Indien publikasie van hierdie *Album* slaag, sal moeite gedoen word by die uitgewer om prysvermindering toe te staan aan alwie se foto of foto's in die *Album* opgeneem word.

Stuur asseblief foto's en kort besonderhede aan ondergetekende, 164, Lisdegan-Laan, Arkadië, Pretoria.

Die Kunskommissie voornem bestaan uit Dr. N. L. du Toit, Dr. Engelenburg, Mnre. Gerard Moerdijk en J. H. Pierneef (alger van Pretoria), en Dr. C. F. Visser (Bloemfontein).

S. P. ENGELBRECHT,

Sekretaris S.A. Akademie

vir Taal, Lettere en Kuns.

Johannesburg,

6th March, 1931.

The Secretary,

Institute of Architects of the Transvaal,

Dear Sir,

It has been brought to the notice of my Council that it is the practice of some Architects to replace missing pegs of stands on which buildings are being erected under their supervision.

In the majority of cases this work is not performed with the object of obtaining an extra fee, but rather to save the client expense.

I would, however, beg to draw your attention to Section 15 of Act No. 9 of 1927 (Survey Act), a copy of which I enclose, which renders anyone not being a qualified Surveyor liable to a heavy fine for performing such work.

I would also draw your attention to the fact that often during building operations, pegs placed in position by an admitted Land Surveyor, are removed by the workmen, and sometimes replaced after a period,



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often in a position other than that previously occupied by them. This practice is also a contravention of the Survey Regulations and is punishable by law.

My Council requests that you will notify your members of the above provisions of the Survey Act for their own protection in the future.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. ADAMS,
For Asst. Secretaries.
The Institute of Land Surveyors
of the Transvaal.

NOTICE No. 71 of 1929.

The attention of the public is drawn to the provisions of sections thirty-three and thirty-five of the Land Survey Act, 1927.

Section thirty-three provides that except with the consent of the Surveyor-General it shall not be lawful for any person to place any fence, post, or fence anchor or any other erection or to make any excavation within three feet of any trigonometrical station.

Section thirty-five provides, inter alia, that any person who, without lawful excuse (the burden of proof whereof shall be upon him), alters, moves, disturbs, or wilfully damages or destroys any beacon, bench mark, reference mark, signal or trigonometrical station shall be guilty of an offence and be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding £100, or, in default of payment to imprisonment with or without hard

labour for a period not exceeding six months, or to such imprisonment without the option of a fine, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

A. H. CORNISH-BOWDEN,

Chairman of the Survey Board.

COPY OF SECTION 15 OF ACT No. 9 OF 1927.

Unauthorised Practise as Surveyor.

15. After the commencement of this Act no person, except a land surveyor entitled to practice as such, shall:—

- (a) perform any survey for the purpose of preparing any diagram or general plan to be filed or registered in any deeds registry or referred to in any manner whatsoever in any other document to be so filed or registered;
- (b) perform any survey affecting the delimitation of the boundaries or the location of the beacons of any land registered or to be registered in any deeds registry; or
- (c) hold himself out in any manner whatever as a land surveyor.

Any person who contravenes any provision of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or, in default of payment of such fine, to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding six months.

PROFESSIONAL NOTES AND NEWS.

COMPETITION.

COLONIAL MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

The Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society, Ltd., announce that the prize winners in the competition for the design for their new buildings in West Street, Durban, are as follows:—

1. Mr. J. Gibbons, Johannesburg.
2. Messrs. Lyon and Steekhoven, Capetown.
3. Mr. G. le Sueur, Durban.

The new building, it is estimated, will cost between £60,000 and £70,000.

The successful candidate's design is for an eight storey building, in the most modern style. The outer facing of the ground floor is of polished black granite, while the seven storeys above it are of white sandstone from Steenpan, in the Free State. The building is equipped with two dual-controlled high speed lifts, and has on the first floor the company's suite of offices, and on the second, third and fourth floors offices suitable for professional men. The fifth and sixth floors are vacant, and the seventh floor is equipped for photographers. The eighth floor contains the lift-motor rooms and the caretaker's flat. The windows will have frames of bronze, with bronze panels between them.

Mr. Gibbons was born in Kimberley, and studied architecture at the Witwatersrand University from 1922 until 1925. After working in Johannesburg for two years, he went to Rhodesia, where he has undertaken important work. Returning to the Union, Mr.

Gibbons worked in Boksburg. "It was the first competition I entered for," said Mr. Gibbons in an interview, "and as there were about sixty-six other candidates I consider myself lucky for one so young."

He intends to go overseas to keep in touch with the latest developments in modern architecture.

With acknowledgments to the "Star." 15/4/31

* * * *

In the last issue of the *Record* was published an article on the Conditions of Contract which, to many, purported to be the considered views of the Architectural and Quantity Surveying professions. The article in question was written by the Editor and was a resumé of the minutes of a special meeting of the Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects which was held in November last to discuss the proposed new Conditions of Contract. It is regretted that this was not made quite clear in the article.

* * * *

We regret that in our June issue an error occurred in the reference to the Johannesburg Fire Station Competition when it was reported that Mr. P. E. Treeby secured third place and Mr. H. G. Ward fourth. The correct awards were Third, Mr. H. G. Ward and Fourth Mr. P. E. Treeby.

In the September issue we referred to the third premiated design for the Bloemfontein Town Hall as that of Mr. H. G. Ward whereas the third premium was awarded to Mr. McConnell, of Capetown.

* * * *

Members of the Institute are reminded of the Central Council's circular issued on July 15th, 1930, to the effect that the existence or contemplation of every Architectural Competition, limited or otherwise, should be notified at once to the Central Council.

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Members of the Institute are further reminded that it is in their own best interests that this instruction be complied with. Difficulties that have arisen from time to time would have been obviated had the Institute's Conditions of Competition been made applicable.

* * * *

The International Federation for Housing and Town Planning is holding its thirteenth International Housing and Town Planning Congress in Berlin, from June 1st to 5th, 1931. The Congress is receiving the hearty support of the Reich and Prussian authorities and the Magistrat of Berlin. At the same time there will be a great German Building Exhibition, one of the largest held for many years. An important section of this will be the International Housing and Town Planning Exhibition, in the organisation of which the Federation has given its whole-hearted co-operation.

The two main subjects for discussion at the Congress will be:—The Abolition of Slums and the Traffic Problem in Relation to Town and Regional Planning. Important delegations will attend the Congress from all parts of the world and a large number of leading authorities from different countries will present reports to the Congress. During the Congress there will be visits to housing schemes in Berlin and Potsdam. After the Congress, visits will be made to the Spreewald, Dresden, Hamburg and Essen.

Full particulars of the Congress can be obtained from the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning, 25, Bedford Row, London, W.C.1.

BOOK REVIEW.

The Story of Architecture in England, Part II.
by Walter H. Godfrey. B. T. Batsford, London. Price 6/6.

This delightful little volume so characteristic of many Batsford publications, deals with the Architec-

ture of England from Tudor Times to the end of the Georgian Period. It is attractively written and very well illustrated with a frontispiece in colour and one hundred and fifty-two photographs, drawings, engravings and prints. As a general, concise and informative period history of architecture it would be hard to beat and Mr. Godfrey's interesting style of writing makes an appeal to both architect and layman.

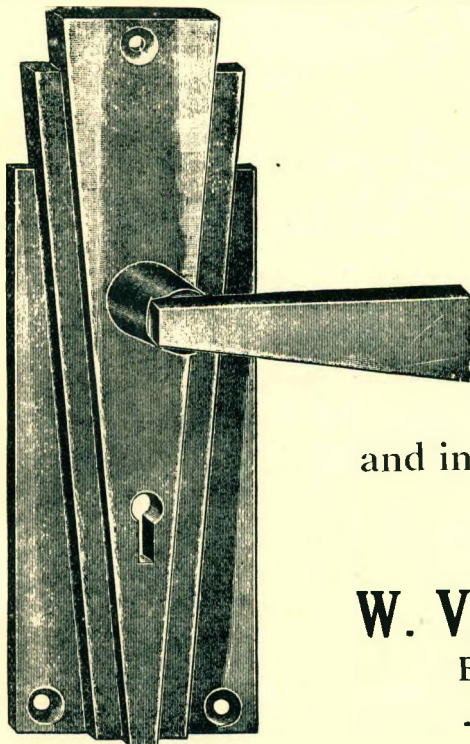
Many of the illustrations in pen and ink are the work of such well-known architects as M. B. Adams, A. C. Bossom, W. Curtis Green, and Prof. Leslie Wilkinson.

The chapters on 16th century work are particularly interesting and give one a good insight into the interior decoration of that period.

The cost of the work brings it within reach of most students and it is a valuable addition to any architect's library.

Edifices de Rome Moderne by Letaromilly:
J. Tiranti, London.

The last volume of this valuable reprint in an inexpensive edition is now to hand and deals with the Churches and Convents in Rome. Messrs. Tiranti are to be congratulated on their splendid achievement in bringing out one of the most valuable reference works in a cheap edition. The series of six volumes published at the extraordinarily reasonable price of 7/6 a volume makes it possible for every architect and student to acquire a work which for many years was only available to the privileged few. The reproductions which are very clear, not only give the plans, sections and elevations of many important structures but also provide a wealth of detail of great value to the practitioner.



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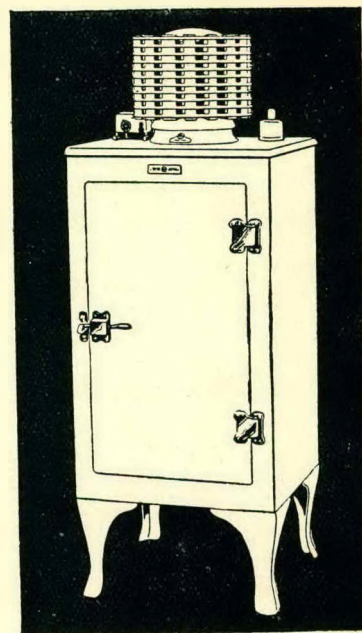
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