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CONTENTS.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
A Greeting	117	University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg ...	125
Ad Finem.—II.	117	The Town Planning Association (Transvaal) ...	130
Pretoria Architectural Classes	119	O.F.S. Building Notes	134
Contemporary Work in Pretoria	120	Amendments to By-laws—Architects Private Act, 1909 (Transvaal)	135
The Association of Transvaal Architects	121	Sanitary Notes	136
Transvaal Building Statistics	123	Review	136
Durban Notes	124	Notes and News	138
Students' Competition	124		

A GREETING.

The President and Council offer to the Members of the Association and of all organized architectural bodies and other readers of the Journal the most cordial and fraternal greetings appropriate to the spirit of Christmas and the New Year.

May the same hope, inspiration and renaissance that the old traditions unfliningly for so many generations have brought to humanity be ours again to-day, for furtherance of our ideals, guidance in our work and rebirth of all that was best in human conception.

“Till each man find his own in all men's good
And all men work in noble brotherhood.”

AD FINEM.—II.

By G. W. NICOLAY, F.S.Arch.

What may be called the science of architecture is so bound up with the science of building that it can only be touched upon here. What is meant is that knowledge which enables the architect to use his materials so as to serve the ends of his art, and yet keep the construction of his building free from those errors which may be seen often enough by those who look for them. It is not enough to have the beautiful externals unless they contain the sound body. And so it is found that in the good periods of architecture the building is always carefully designed and executed.

Not, that is, the design of the building for the arrangement of its parts for appearance or convenience, but for strength and endurance against the ravages of time and weather in accordance with reasonable use of material and sound balance of loads and supports.

And in this matter it must be remembered that if we are sons and pupils of the ages, we are also their heirs and present possessors of their riches. All the constructive methods of those who have wrought before our time are recorded both in words and drawings for our own use, and yet we look wistfully back and for the most part rest content with little more than a feeble replica of some particular work which has won our admiration.

Whether the building be great and important or small and of no consideration, we are content with a replica.

The promoters of a competition either state the style of architecture which they intend to adopt or leave the matter entirely in the hands of the competitors. Not so the Assyrian. He knew the great works of Egypt, and no doubt admired them. He passed them by, and all the others in succession did the same: Greek, Roman, either in Italy or Byzantium, the numerous contendants in the south of Europe during what may perhaps be called the struggle for the continuance between the beam and the round arch, followed at once by that apparently contemptuous abandonment of both of them when the pointed arch asserted itself as the most convenient and manageable of all, and when convenient put with it in their buildings any form of which the arch is capable that served their purpose.

Every change brought something fresh. All the arts moved together, the science of building advanced with them. Fine building, fine architecture, fine sculpture and fine colour.

The attraction of its surroundings reflected by each successive age with infinite joy and satisfaction.

Then came a renaissance. Out of the miserable internecine contentions of the men of the day came that change, that pause, and cessation of general interest in art which had persisted in times past so manfully against all social upheavals. It is quite possible that modern necessities were beginning to press to the front. Very soon the engineer appeared, and has since held his place in the advance of constructive science.

Many people might think that he is the cause of all the trouble. But the mediaeval architect would have been with him, and it may be produced work if not at once of high merit, at all events having the promise of it.

The distance almost antagonistic between the ideas of the architect and those of the engineer continue. At the present time they are not supposed to trouble the one about the other, yet the architect is often obliged to accept the engineer's design for the fabric, and the engineer occasionally condescends to consult the architect as to how the work may be fittingly combined with, rather than become a part of, his frame of steel.

The architect is often quite embarrassed and the engineer dissatisfied. It is probably incontrovertible that if a good result is to be attained, the man who designs the fabric and the construction of the fabric should design its general form and all its other functions.

The man who studies how to provide for the ever-growing necessities of mankind and his higher civilisation is indeed great. The man who adds to that what will satisfy his natural craving for beauty with complete success is far greater.

The real and most pressing work which leaves his hands can hardly be the production of the best copy of some familiar model, but may be conceived to be the discovery how the sense of beauty inherent more or less in all of us can be rescued from the destructive force of ungraceful works, magnificent though they be, which span our rivers with rail or roadways, and occupy great spaces in beautiful natural surroundings, or factories, great oblong cubes of concrete and glass, perhaps four hundred feet long and fifty feet wide. No room for even apparent strength, whose very skeleton seems inadequate to support its weight, much less its internal load.

MONEY, FINANCE, PERCENTAGE.

These cannot be made to work harmoniously if another penny is spent on them; neither in shape nor in finish must they be beautified. It is the new, not the old story, yet if the old story is not to come up for settlement, it would be necessary that something should be done, and the signs are not wanting that at all events in some directions a change is desired.

Those who work in these unsightly places are not likely to have very great desires for art or even the beauty that art is concerned with. Yet they can most of them read, have good sight, and it is indeed impossible that they are not at all influenced by the beauty of the country-side, though they would not connect it with any thoughts of art. They think themselves worth looking at; the Greeks did the same. They accordingly have their photographs taken—the Greek did not—though probably on account of his high state of physical culture, more worthy. Had photographs been in fashion, he would probably have preferred a modest statuette.

Among those who employ great numbers of workers, some who are making an effort to remedy the state of things beginning with the home, and in such cases the effort will soon be extended to the workshop or factory, and so enable the whole industrial village to be of attractive appearance. This once achieved, the rest would be easy.

The wealthy can always command such beauty in their surroundings as they appreciate, but they cannot prevent in these times large towns being disfigured, and much of the country being covered by unsightly buildings. The alternative is to hide them, which, however, would not be effectual. Although the giving a building such as one of our modern factories a pleasing appearance seems a Herculean task, the chance lies in some concession as to this plan, but it cannot be impossible, and no doubt will one day be achieved. If a forecast were to be made as to the most likely source of success for the architect of the future, it would be likely to be a good one that predicted the combination of the efforts of the engineer and the architect, notwithstanding the very moderate success that has attended such efforts.

This difficulty is the opportunity of everyone who aspires to distinction. By facing it the engineer has won it. There is no reason why by following the same course the architect should not win the far greater distinction that awaits him on the successful solution of the more difficult work which lies before him.

FINIS.

PRETORIA ARCHITECTURAL CLASSES.

Classes were opened at the Pretoria Trades School and Polytechnic for architectural students early in the second term of 1921. The P.W.D. officials realizing the importance of evening classes for their young assistants, and to give them similar advantages to those enjoyed by their *confrères* in Johannesburg, approached Professor Pearse with a view to arranging, if possible, some assistance from the Witwatersrand University. The latter readily granted this, and arrangements were made with the Principal of the Pretoria Trades School for accommodation, etc. All practising architects were circularized asking them to encourage the young members of their staffs to take advantage of these facilities.

The subjects at first were confined to Design and the History of Architectural Development, and every student was advised to take the school course in Building Construction.

Deep gratification was felt by the lecturers of these subjects, when at the end of the course a very high percentage of passes were obtained by the students. These excellent results were all the more appreciated as they were the outcome of only half a year's work.

The new term 1922 opened entirely under new auspices, as full control and responsibility was now assumed by the Pretoria Trades School. Arrangements were made during the year to conduct an additional class in Building Construction for architectural students only.

This year unfortunately marked a falling off of attendances, but the lecturers had the satisfaction of knowing that the really keen and ambitious students appreciated what was being done for them. The term examinations again produced excellent results, with a good percentage of honour passes and prizes.

The lecturers at the commencement of the present year had to contend with the difficulty of taking at one and the same time classes in three stages of advancement. The time and evenings could not be increased to meet the new conditions, and the limited staff of lecturers had, perforce, to divide the time at their disposal equally between the three stages. Whether this affected the attendances of the classes is difficult to gauge at present, but it is hoped that under the new arrangements for the coming year greater keenness will be displayed.

A small committee under the chairmanship of the School Principal has been established to deal with the architectural classes, and arrangements are to be made for periodical visits from the architectural staff of the Witwatersrand University to give additional lectures throughout the year.

It is also hoped during the year to make a start with a collection of plaster casts, photographs and drawings to adorn the walls of the room, to be placed at the entire disposal of the students.

All gifts to this end will be gratefully received by the committee, who desire to establish, in the course of time, a school equipped with all the necessary adjuncts for as complete an education as possible.

A word to the student is now perhaps not out of place. The tendency of present-day youth seems to aim at taking things as easily and pleasantly as possible. But it should be remembered that art is a hard mistress, and only by strenuous application and willingness to seize every advantage offered can one hope to reach any degree of proficiency and advancement in these days of highly specialized study.

T.G.E.

CONTEMPORARY WORK IN PRETORIA.

The photograph of the perspective drawing reproduced shows the new premises for the Southern Life Association of South Africa, and the Bourke Trust and Estate Company, Limited, at Pretoria, which are now in course of erection. Building operations have been entrusted by the architects, Messrs. Cowin, Powers & Ellis, to Mr. F. Dey, builder, of Pretoria.

In designing this building the architects have been faced with the difficulty of harmonising two separate schemes, and continuity of treatment in the three different facades has been attempted.

Two views of Dr. Jeffries' house in Arcadia are reproduced as an illustration of the standard of domestic architecture now affected in Pretoria. The design is from the board of Mr. Rees-Poole, and the work was carried out by Messrs. Murdoch & Co.

The style, though savouring somewhat of the English country house on a small scale, embodies a familiar type of South African architecture.

Planned round a quiet courtyard with fountain and niches, the charm of the building lies mainly in its simple external treatment, being partly built with kopje stone, rough-cast plastered walls, and an attractive red-brick bed-mould to the cornice. A Broseley-tiled roof gives refinement and colour to the whole.



Dr. Jeffries' House, Arcadia, Pretoria.

V. S. Rees-Poole, Architect.

Based on modern commercial street architecture, the *motif* for the Bourke Trust section in St. Andries Street is the Porta Felicia in Italy, and this and the introduction of the arch to the Southern Life Association section is to meet the wishes of the board of directors. The illustration depicts a view showing the St. Andries and Church Streets frontages. The superstructure is to be built with cast concrete blocks, and the wall terminations between the shop fronts will be of granite from Pietersburg and Pretoria. The joinery throughout is to be of teak, and steel is to be used in the fenestration.

With the addition of this important block of buildings, this particular part of the Capital bids fair to becoming a near centre commercially and professionally.

The interior of the building is distinctive with its tastefully-proportioned detail, the built-in furniture, book-cases and fire-places harmonising with the numerous niches and arches. An attractive effect is gained by the use of teak for some of the floors and for the trusses of the plastered ceilings, and red mahogany for the staircase and furniture.

From the entrance lounge three very pleasing views are obtained: on the east, a vista terminates in a summer-house at the end of a pergola; on the north, the windows open on to the courtyard; while on the south the view of the distant hills beyond the town is framed in the arches of the porch.

TURNER NEWHAM.



SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

Minutes of a Special General Meeting of members held in the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies' premises, 100, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Tuesday, the 25th September, 1923, at 8 p.m.

PRESENT.—The President, Mr. F. L. H. Fleming, in the chair; Messrs. Allen Wilson (Vice-President), A. H. Gibbs, R. Howden, C. Hosking, M. J. Harris, J. F. Kroll, G. Leith, J. A. Moffat, E. M. Powers, W. Reid, H. A. Reid, D. M. Sinclair, H. G. Veale, E. H. Waugh, Professor G. E. Pearse, and the Registrar, M. K. Carpenter.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. G. S. Burt Andrews, N. T. Cowin, F. Soff and J. S. Donaldson.

The President declared the meeting properly constituted, and called upon the Registrar to read the convening notice.

1 DURBAN EDUCATION CONFERENCE.

The President moved the first item of business on the agenda: to receive and confirm report of the Council in respect of Durban Conference, July, 1923, and to confirm participation of the Association in the Federal Council on Architectural Education. In support of this the President referred members to the verbatim report of the Conference Proceedings which was published, in extenso, in the September issue of the official Journal. The Conference had been called by the Cape Institute with the idea of establishing a Chapter of the Royal Institute of British Architects, to include all architectural bodies in the Union in alliance with the Royal Institute of British Architects. Such a Chapter would enable the Architects of the Union to deal with the subjects of architectural education and examination upon a common platform; without some such provision the passing of a Union Registration Act would stand but little chance. The Association delegates proposed as a more comprehensive measure the formation of a Federal Council on Education, which would include representatives not only of Royal Institute of British Architects

allied Societies, but all the Architects in the Union and the teaching bodies. Such in fact was the scheme adopted ultimately by the Conference and now submitted to the meeting for ratification.

Mr. M. J. Harris, who prefaced his remarks by stating it would be necessary for him to leave the meeting before its close in order to attend a Municipal Council meeting, referred to the verbatim report of the Durban proceedings, and gave it as his opinion that the decision to establish a Federal Council on Education had brought into existence a dangerous organisation. At the present time the profession in the Union had far too many bodies controlling it. In January last, at a Conference of Architects held in Capetown relative to the proposed Registration Act, the members present were fortunate enough to establish a body known as the Union Architectural Practice Committee to deal with all matters pertaining to the profession throughout South Africa, excluding matters of registration, and he was strongly of the opinion that this Practice Committee should have a voice in the matter of the establishment of this Federal Council. It occurred to him that this multiplicity of bodies controlling professional requirements was wrong, the more particularly since these bodies mainly consisted of the same personnel.

Mr. Harris drew attention to the various motions detailed in the verbatim report of the Durban proceedings, pointing out that the original motion by Mr. Walter Reid was negatived, and subsequently resuscitated by Mr. Gordon Leith, and eventually passed as the motion upon which the Federal Council was established. Taking all matters into consideration, Mr. Harris was of the opinion that the establishment of a Federal Council, as outlined, was not necessary, he therefore moved "that the question be referred to the Union Registration Executive for their opinion and advice, and that action thereon, by this Association, be meanwhile deferred."

The motion was seconded by Mr. D. M. Sinclair, who stated that in his opinion Mr. Harris' main object was that he did not see the necessity or advisability for the establishment of a Federal Council on Architectural Education or any additional architectural body, since all matters concerning the profession could regularly be dealt with by the Registration Executive and the Union Architectural Practice Committee. The motion was accepted as an amendment.

Mr. Harris' motion was received with dissent from members who were present at the Conference not only as representatives of this Association but as representatives of other bodies. Mr. M. J. Harris asked leave and retired from the proceedings.

Mr. Walter Reid, in referring to the Durban proceedings, pointed out that the Cape delegates came

with a resolution for the establishment of a Chapter of the Royal Institute of British Architects, which would have covered the ground now proposed to be taken in hand by the Federal Council. This motion was not tabled because the resolution for the establishment of the Federal Council, which was submitted by the Transvaal representatives, received unanimous support; it was therefore obvious that Mr. Harris' statement, to the effect that the Federal Council emanated from resolutions proposed by the Cape delegates, was wrong.

Messrs. Gordon Leith, Allen Wilson and Professor G. E. Pearse stated their impressions of the Conference, which confirmed the statements made by Mr. Walter Reid.

On the matter of the voting at the Durban Conference referred to by Mr. Harris, in which he laid special stress upon a voting body of eight, which he considered constituted the Cape opposition, Professor G. E. Pearse pointed out that on many divisions delegates were repeatedly in opposition.

The President explained that Mr. Harris' impression of the proceedings was entirely erroneous. The establishment of the Federal Council was entirely due to motions put forward by the Transvaal delegates; he felt sure that if Mr. Walter Reid's original motion had been correctly understood it would have been accepted when moved.

When the creation of a Federal Council on Education was called a dangerous multiplication of bodies, it must be remembered that both the Union Registration Executive and the Union Practice Committee were themselves created for specific purpose by the Architects of the Union in Congress. This same body, after full discussion and consideration, had decided that education and examination were matters requiring deliberation in conjunction with educational bodies, and a personnel not necessarily coincident with that of the other standing Committees of the Union Architects in Congress. Thus there was no unnecessary multiplication or confusion of bodies. The whole movement was consistent and was throughout definitely progressive action by one body, namely, the Union Architects in Congress. It was therefore calculated to advance Union registration, whereas any smaller action, such as the Royal Institute of British Architects Chapter, or failure to participate in the movement now under discussion, must retard Union registration. Moreover, it was an important new principle that the Government and the existing teaching bodies now came under the proposals, into definite collaboration with the Architects. Whatever hope there might be now or in future of these bodies assisting the Architects with the expenses of the Federal Council, the Architects could not fail to recognise the

value of close inter-relationship between the various architectural training and examining bodies and between them collectively and the Architects. In the circumstances, speaking as a member, he felt that Mr. Harris' amendment was unnecessary and inadvisable and should not succeed.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was lost by 12 votes to one, Mr. D. M. Sinclair voting for the amendment, and Messrs. H. A. Reid and R. Howden refrained from voting.

In the absence of further amendment, the President stated that he would put item (1) to the vote.

Mr. E. H. Waugh suggested that the constitution of the Federal Council should be discussed in detail before item (1) of the agenda was put to the vote. This was agreed to, and the following amendments to the constitution of the Federal Council were unanimously recommended and authorised to be forwarded to the Secretary of the Federal Council:—

First paragraph, second line. After "one member" insert the words "elected annually."

By the addition of the words "providing the majority of the Constituent Societies may approve" after the word "arise" in the last line of the first paragraph.

A discussion arose regarding the expenses of this Council. The President pointed out that it was not considered there would be any difficulty in obtaining the necessary funds for the Council to meet its obligations; it was difficult at the present time to estimate what those financial obligations would be, but he felt sure they would be small and that whatever they might amount to would be met by the Constituent Societies and Institutions.

We had experienced no difficulty in the past in obtaining donations to the Draft Act Fund from representatives of the profession in Kimberley, East London, Port Elizabeth and the Orange Free State, and we should not anticipate any difficulty in connection with the expenses of the Federal Council.

Professor G. E. Pearse pointed out that the word "body" in item (4) might be changed to "Societies," since he felt it was not the intention to ask the Educational Institutions to contribute. In connection with the University of the Witwatersrand, the Senate had decided that they would not contribute towards the Council's expenses. This was according to precedent in connection with many other professional governing bodies in the Union upon which the Witwatersrand University was represented.

It was decided that this would be a matter for the Federal Council to deal with.

Item (1) of the business on the agenda was then formally agreed to.

The President, in thanking members for confirming the action of the Council, pointed out that it would be necessary to elect representatives from this Association to the Federal Council, for which purpose nominations had been called; the response had been small, only three nominations having been made, namely, Messrs. E. H. Waugh, F. L. H. Fleming and Gordon Leith. The Council did not consider that it would be necessary to conduct a ballot through the post, since the Council would be in a position to elect the Association's representative from the names submitted. This was agreed to.

2. ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.

Mr. Allen Wilson detailed the events which led up to the alliance of this Association with the Royal Institute of British Architects, pointing out that the Transvaal Institute of Architects, which had been allied with the Royal Institute for many years, had recommended that the Royal Institute of British Architects representation in the Transvaal be continued by the affiliation of this Association with the Royal Institute of British Architects, in which case the Transvaal Institute would disband.

Mr. E. H. Waugh, in congratulating Council on obtaining alliance with the Royal Institute, thought that in future matters of this nature should be submitted to members before becoming accomplished facts.

Item (2) of the business, "to receive and confirm reports of Council in respect of alliance of this Association with the Royal Institute of British Architects," was agreed to without dissent.

The proceedings then terminated.

The initial prospectus of a four years' course of training in the Fine Arts has been issued by the Natal Technical College, Durban, and those interested therein may obtain a copy of same on application to the Registrar of that institution. As stated, the course extends over a period of four years, and includes drawing, design, anatomy, one official language, a modern language or Latin and Greek in the first year. In the second, drawing, modelling, painting or design, and a higher course in languages, logic or ethics are taken. In the third and fourth years, drawing from life, composition, clay modelling for sculpture or pictorial composition in colour, modelling or painting from life or design, surface decoration as part of an architectural scheme or craftwork, history of art and architecture.

TRANSVAAL BUILDING STATISTICS.

The following table of building statistics, for the four months ended the 31st October, 1923, from twelve of the major Municipalities of the Transvaal will prove interesting.

Columns A. and B. give the number of plans passed by the respective Municipalities, together with the aggregate cost.

Columns C. and D. provide the number of these passed plans which have been prepared and submitted by registered practitioners, together with the aggregate value.

Thus it will be seen that out of a total of 1,860 plans passed, involving an expenditure of £1,210,363, only 531 plans, value £598,154, were prepared by qualified persons.

Members will note that unqualified persons have been responsible for 72 per cent. of the architectural work done in the Transvaal in the period of four months under review.

The Council of the Association is endeavouring to get this position redressed, and calls for the co-operation of and support from all members. Correspondence on this matter is invited and will be gratefully welcomed by Council, and should be addressed to the Registrar.

Municipality.	A.	B.	C.	D.
Potchefstroom	17	7,662	3	3,463
Ernielo	9	4,260	—	—
Standerton	7	1,585	—	—
Benoni	56	34,020	35	29,930
Johannesburg	1,374	782,138	343	375,912
Springs	28	19,648	7	2,705
Krugersdorp	41	19,387	27	15,022
Middelburg	7	486	—	—
Barberton	4	2,745	1	2,500
Roodepoort	19	3,990	2	1,200
Pretoria	287	323,435	112	159,770
Witbank	11	11,007	1	7,652
	1,860	£1,210,363	531	£598,154

It is contended that pure white Portland cement is equal in all respects to the ordinary grey Portland cement, and is especially adaptable for internal and external decorative work. It appears to be very little known in South Africa, but is extensively used in high class building operations in other parts of the globe, where its advantages and utility are fully recognised. Messrs. Douglas, Son & Pugh, 184, Marshall Street, Johannesburg, are now carrying stocks, and invite the attention and consideration of architects and engineers to this commodity.

DURBAN NOTES.

Mr. F. J. Ing, F.S.Arc. (President, Natal Institute of Architects) has been appointed Chairman on the Apprenticeship Board, in connection with the Master Builders' Association, Durban.

Col. G. T. Hurst, D.S.O., will represent the Natal Institute of Architects on the New Council of the Natal Technical College.

Preliminary sketches in connection with the new buildings for Messrs. Stuttaford & Co. are being prepared by the architects, Messrs. W. Street-Wilson & Paton, F.F.R.I.B.A., Durban. This fine corner block will have a frontage of 150 feet to Field Street and 103 feet to West Street.

A Selection Committee has been formed to select buildings of South African architecture, to be photographed for display in the proposed Exhibition in connection with the British Empire Exhibition to be held at Wembley Park, London, 1924. The Natal Institute of Architects will be represented on the committee by Messrs. F. J. Ing, W. S. Payne and Wallace Paton.

A building contract has just been signed, and the work will commence immediately, for a six storey building to be erected at the corner of Gardiner and Smith Streets, Durban. The plans and drawings have been prepared by Messrs. J. A. and W. G. Moffat, A.R.I.B.A., M.S.A., architects, Durban. The building will have a frontage of 151 feet to Gardiner Street and 103 feet to Smith Street, and will stand 87 feet above the pavement.

Public opinion on the housing question is again gathering weight. Signs of a movement in the Town Council are welcome. The self-respect of the community, impaired by unemployment and short time, is reasserting itself with the first signs of reviving trade. The people are not content to be members of a nation which lives in lodgings.

The evils of sub-letting, long since obvious to its victims, are now proclaimed by property owners. There is nothing more certain than that bad housing is a cause of an incalculable amount of ill-health, dissatisfaction and economic waste.

Since private enterprise cannot provide dwellings at a reasonable rental, it must fall on the municipality to carry out further housing schemes at a figure to meet the worker.

Mr. D. M. Burton, past-President of the Association, returned to Johannesburg on the 5th instant from a six months' vacation spent in Europe and America.

STUDENTS' COMPETITION.

Assessors' Report and Award.

Only three designs were submitted and, although the standard of work is highly satisfactory, the Council of the Association would have liked the competition to have met with a more widespread response.

The assessors, Messrs. E. M. Powers, F.R.I.B.A., and Gordon Leith, A.R.I.B.A., after carefully considering the relative merits of the designs, have decided to award the first prize to design submitted by N. M. Eaton, St. Mary's Mansions, Johannesburg, the spirit and conception of which is thoroughly in keeping with Byzantine tradition. The design of the narthex and apse are particularly pleasing, though it is felt by the assessors that the method of rendering the drawings does not come up to the desired standard.

The design submitted by G. H. Hall, 22a, Johann Street, Arcadia, Pretoria, in the opinion of the assessors, merits second place. The drawings are rendered in a businesslike manner, and, although courage has been exhibited in the distribution of decoration, there is an absence of charm and attraction. The external elevations are pleasingly simple but lacking in interest. There is moreover a slight confusion between the Romanesque and purely Byzantine features, notably the entrance portico.

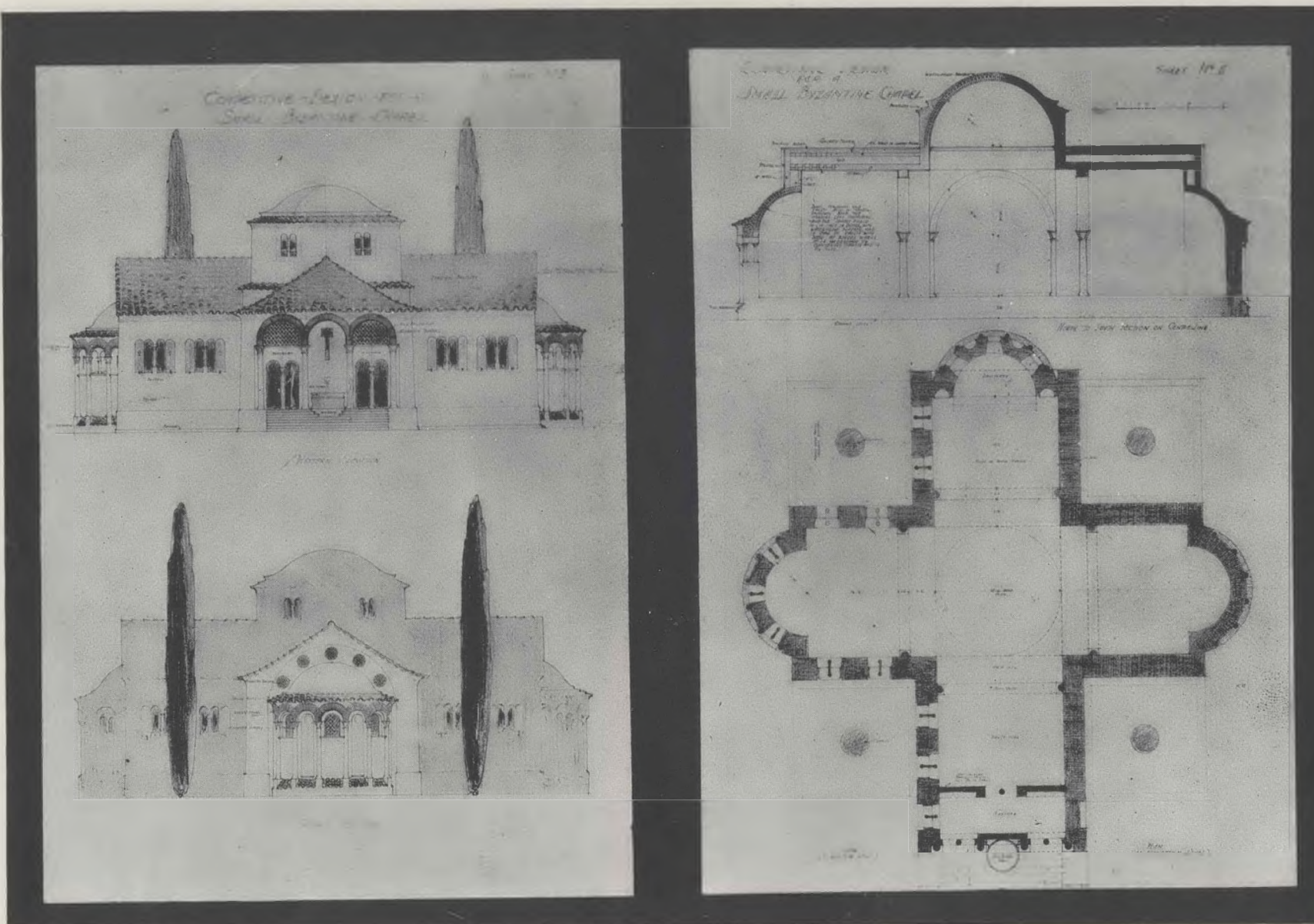
The design sent in by S. H. Schwartzel, Y.M.C.A., Market Street, Pretoria, has been placed third.

This competitor submits a healthy set of drawings finished in light wash. The design has been feelingly conceived and is nicely grouped; the dome, however, is weak and the distribution of apertures is not satisfying as could be desired. The design of the narthex, which is one of the most delightful features the Byzantine church, has received little or no consideration.

Generally speaking, the assessors are highly pleased with the standard of work submitted; they notice, however, that two of the competitors have constructed the roofs of wood embodying the use of lath and plaster. In a design such as has been called for these expedients are deplored.

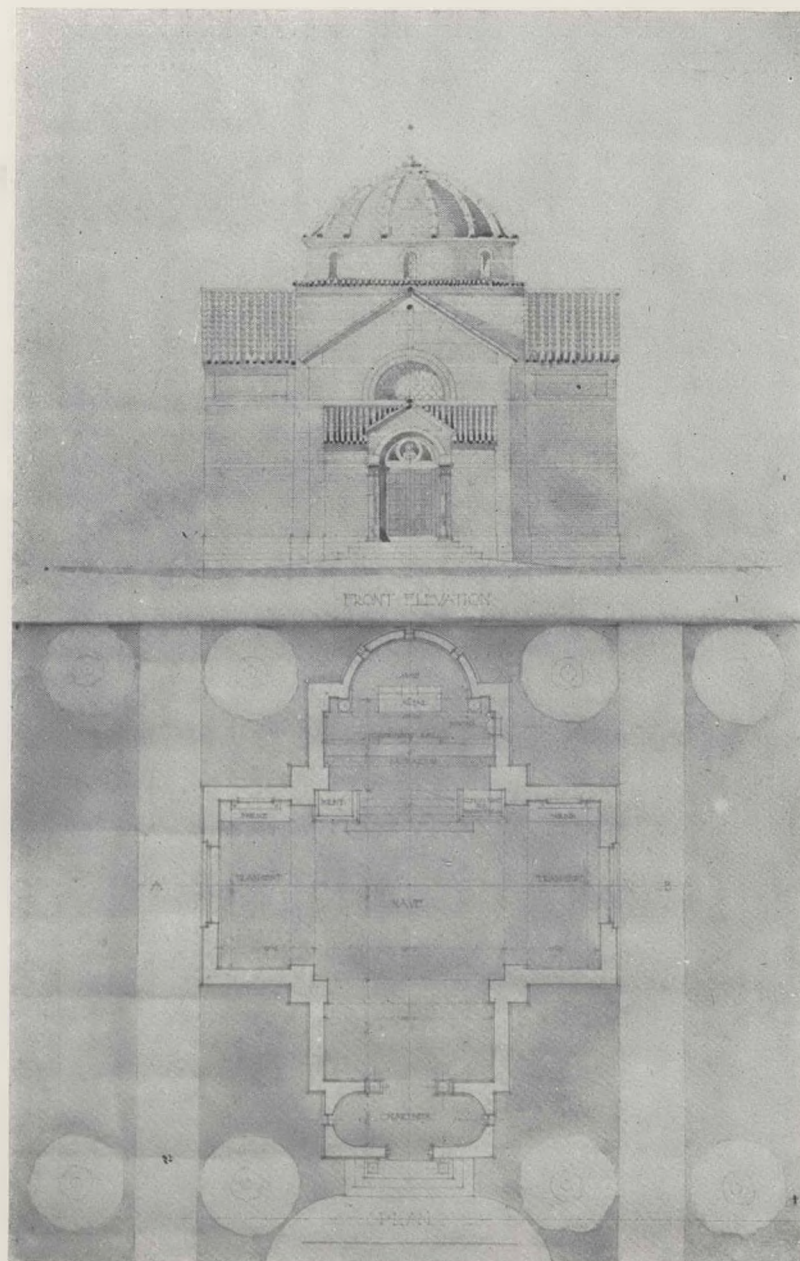
Messrs. Enduro, Limited, of 12th Avenue, Mayfair, Johannesburg, have been appointed sole South African agents for the steel collapsible lift and entrance gates manufactured by the Bostwick Gate and Shutter Co., Limited, of London.

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG.



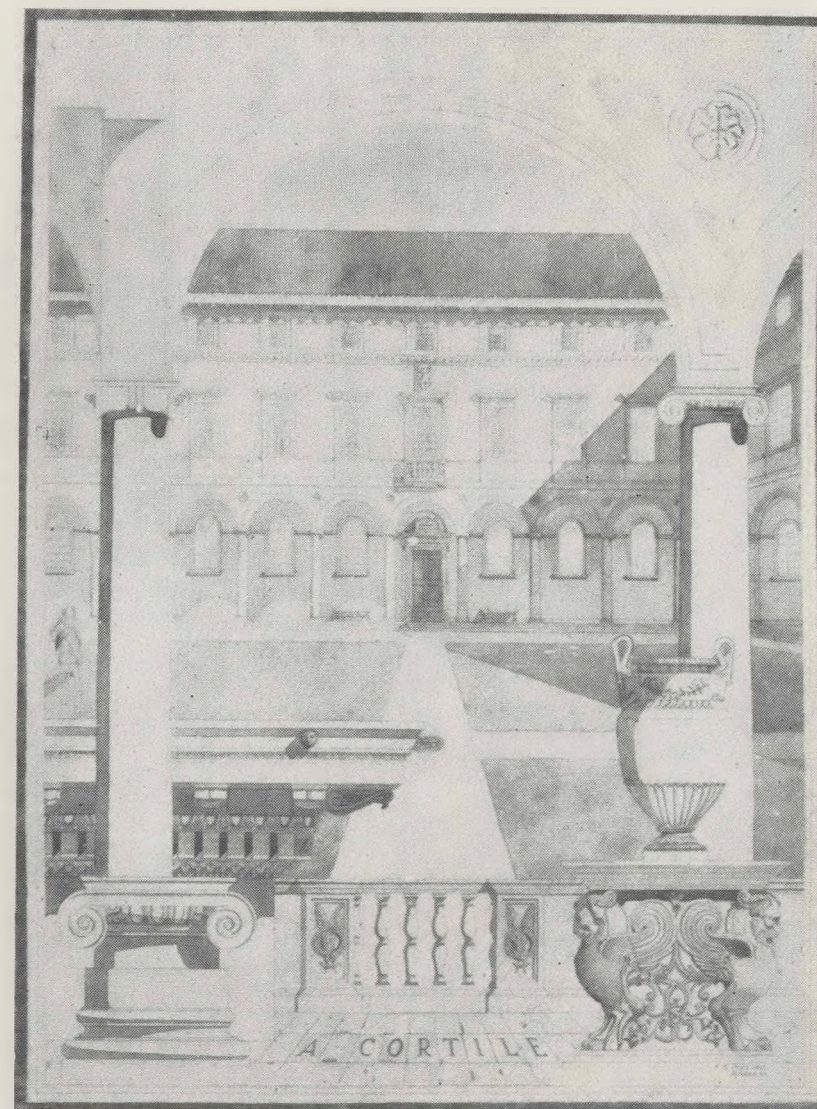
STUDENTS' COMPETITION, FIRST PREMIATED DESIGN—N. M. Eaton, Johannesburg.

STUDENTS' COMPETITION.



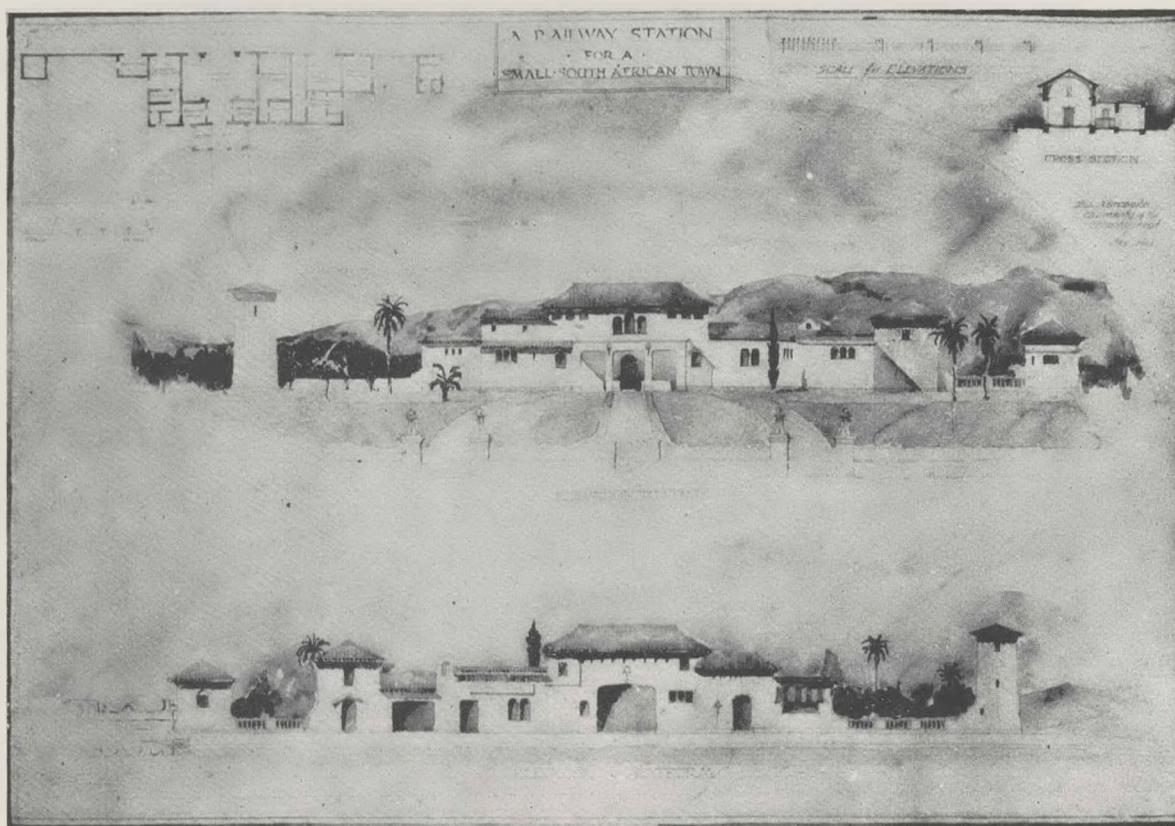
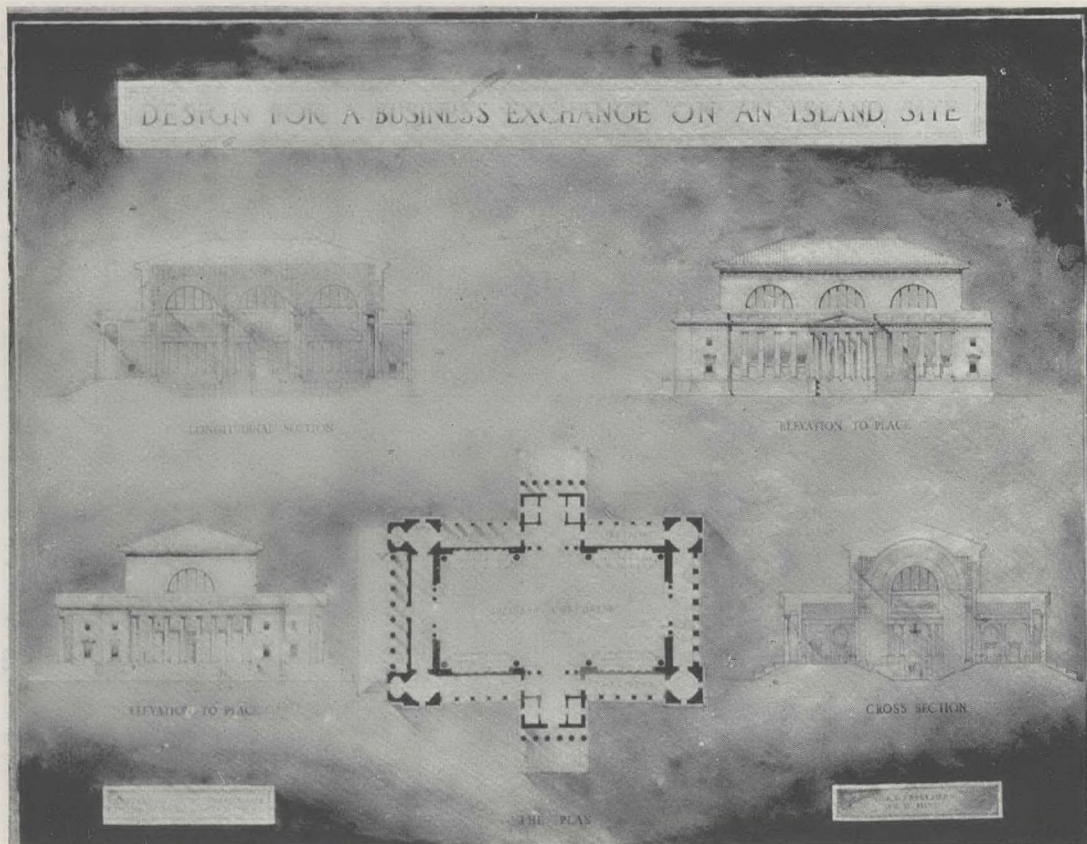
DESIGN PLACED SECOND—G. H. Hall, Pretoria.

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG.



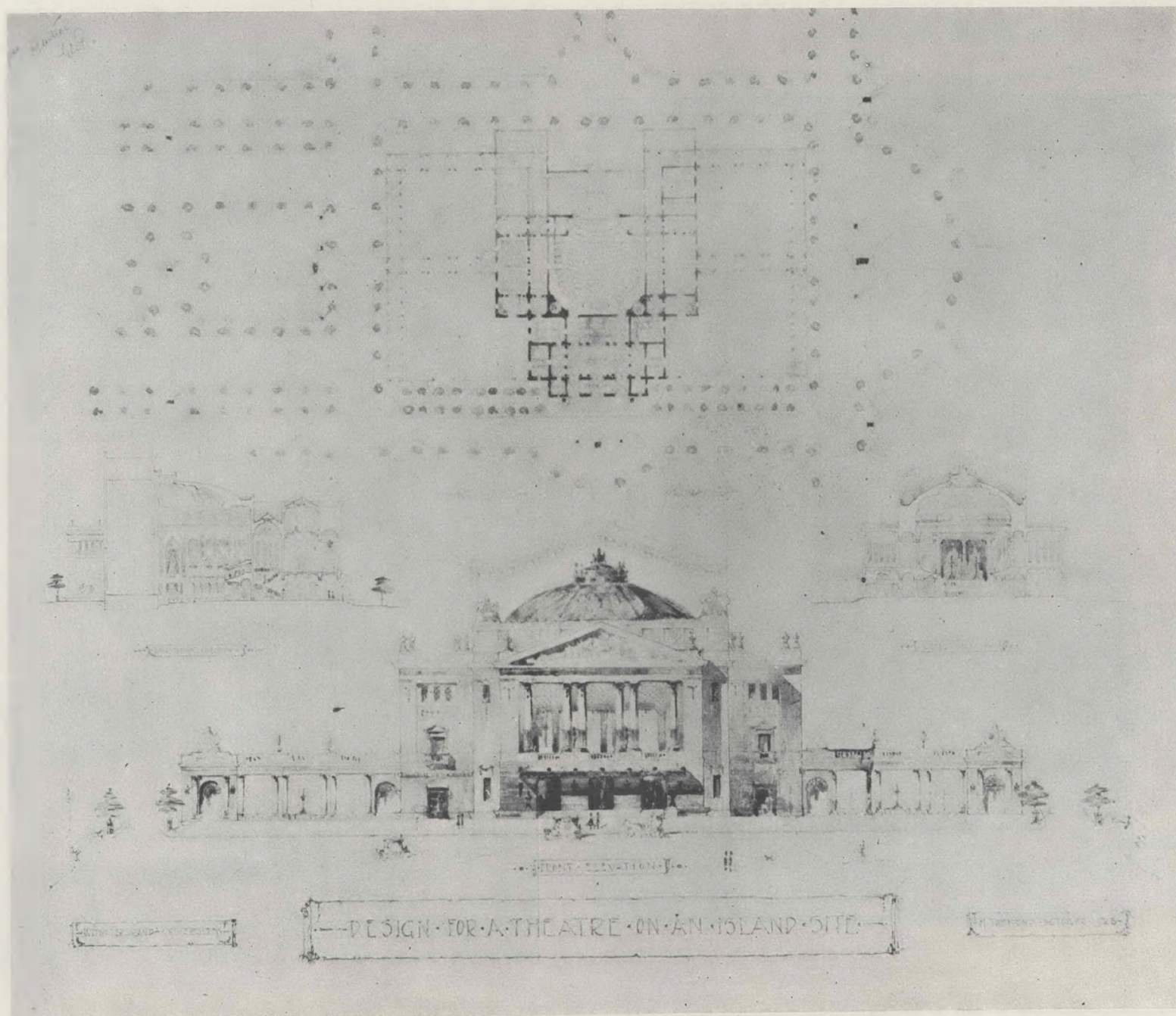
SECOND YEAR STUDENTS' WORK—H. C. Tully.

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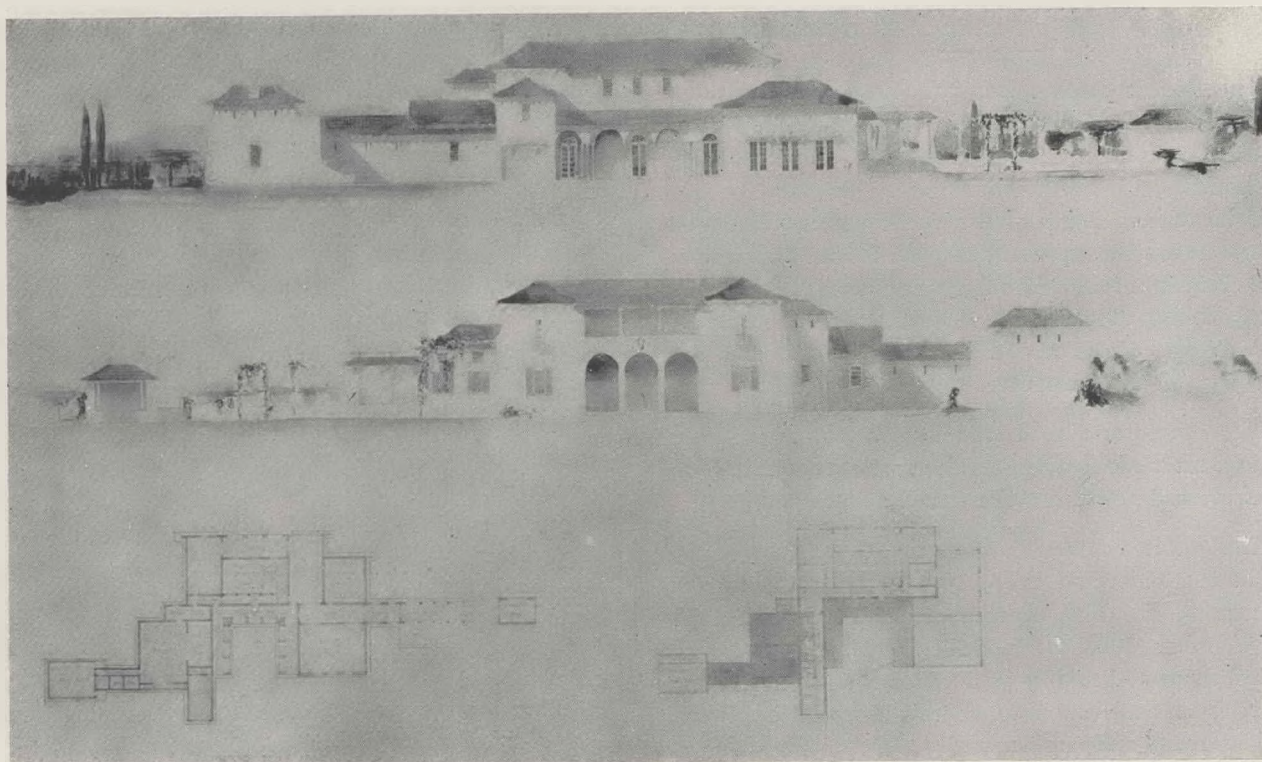


THIRD YEAR STUDENT'S WORK—G. A. Gunderson.

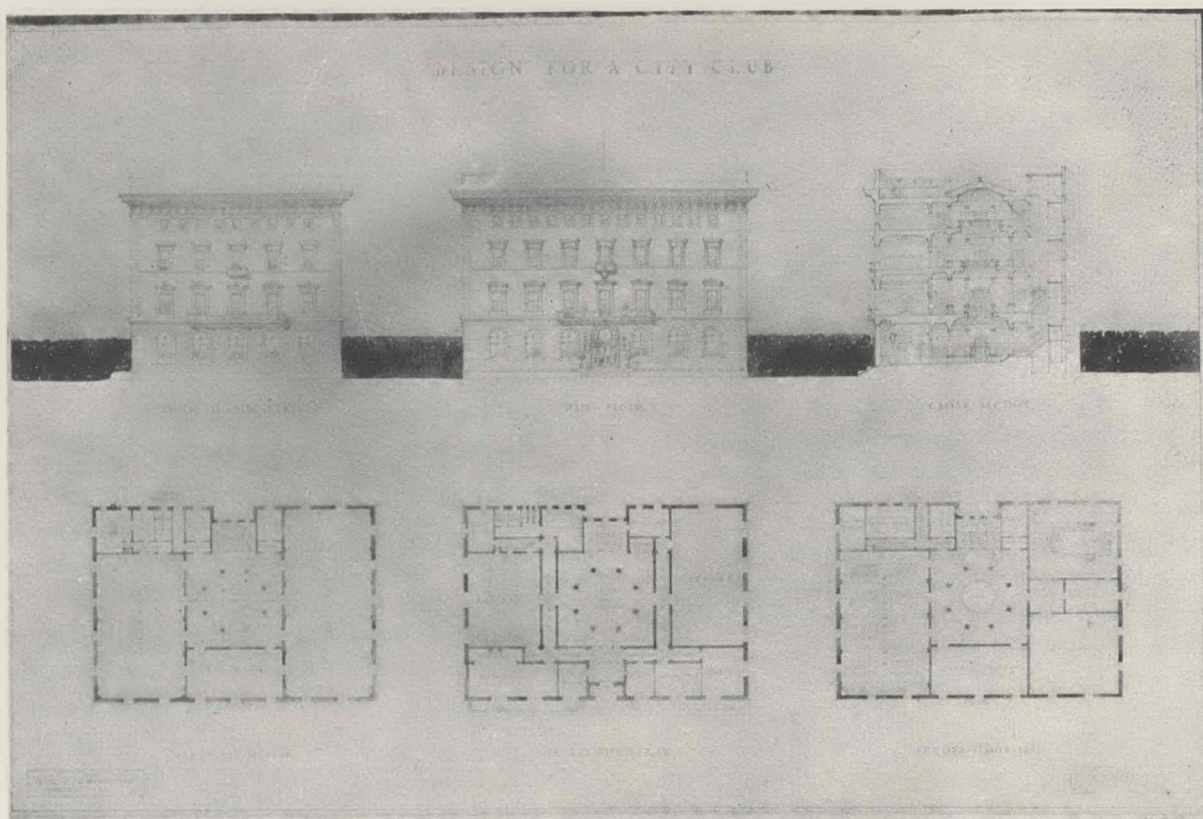
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THIRD YEAR STUDENT'S WORK—D. L. Nurcombe.



SECOND YEAR STUDENT'S WORK—H. R. L. Wintle.

THE TOWN PLANNING ASSOCIATION (TRANSVAAL).

The Fourth Annual General Meeting of members was held in the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies' premises, 100, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Saturday, the 17th November, 1923, at 8 p.m., under the chairmanship of the President, Dr. Charles Porter. There were present Messrs. B. W. Brayshaw, T. S. Fitzsimmons, Harold Porter, Professor G. E. Pearse, J. R. Stewart, H. Sharpe, C. P. Tompkins, H. G. Veale, Professor G. A. Watermeyer, and the Secretary, M. K. Carpenter.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting, after which the President welcomed members and expressed regret at the small attendance.

The minutes of the Third Annual General Meeting, held in the Scientific Club, 100, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on the 18th November, 1922, published in the December, 1922, issue of the South African Architectural Journal *Building*, a copy of which publication was sent to each member of this Association, were taken as read, and confirmed.

Members present were provided with a copy of the balance sheet and accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1923, the original balance sheet prepared and certified by Messrs. Aiken & Carter being laid on the table.

Mr. Harold Porter drew attention to the diminished revenue in the form of current subscriptions. The Secretary pointed out that for some unaccountable reason many members refrained from paying their subscriptions during the year under review, and that many of the shortcomings of that year had been made good during 1923 to the extent of a 50 per cent. increase in the subscriptions received to date over the total received during the year 1922.

In reply to an inquiry, the Secretary stated that the members' roll was compiled from the lists signed by those persons who were present at the inaugural meeting held in the Town Hall in 1919.

These persons had not been duly proposed, seconded and elected to membership, as was the present procedure, and it was not possible to state how many persons, on these lists, intended to become paying members. The only way to ascertain would be to address a special letter to all those persons who had omitted to pay subscriptions or have failed to communicate with the Association.

Mr. H. G. Veale moved, and Professor G. E. Pearse seconded, that the annual accounts be accepted and passed.

The President stated it would be necessary to ascertain the position of each person who had signed the attendance lists at the inaugural meeting of the Association, and since there was no provision in the constitution for the elimination of the names from the roll of membership of those persons who failed to pay their annual subscriptions it would be necessary for the incoming Council to define the position of such persons, and recommend such amendment to the constitution as will enable the names of such persons to be removed from the roll of such membership.

Mr. C. P. Tompkins suggested that a new membership roll be completed eliminating the names of those people who had failed to pay subscriptions in the past. This was seconded by Mr. B. W. Brayshaw.

Mr. H. G. Veale, in supporting the motion, suggested that the best action would be to address a letter to each person and act according to replies received, and to remove from the roll of membership the names of those persons who failed to reply.

The matter was referred to the incoming Council for consideration and action.

The motion was agreed to.

The Secretary read the following report for the year 1922-1923, presented by the retiring Council:—

Your Council submits this, the Fourth Annual Report of the Association's proceedings for the past year, together with the usual annual accounts, which latter have been duly audited.

The Council elected at last Annual General Meeting remained intact until the end of the period under review. At that time Mr. W. Mackenzie Smith automatically forfeited his seat on Council through non-attendance, and Mr. J. R. Stewart, representing the Federation of Ratepayers' Associations of Johannesburg, was elected to the vacancy thus caused. Your Council held thirteen meetings during the year, the record of attendance thereat being given at the end of this report.

The work and activities of your Association continue to increase, and a *résumé* of the matters dealt with during the year and reported upon from time to time is embodied in this report under their respective headings.

At the first meeting of Council following the last Annual General Meeting, in conformity with the constitution, Dr. Charles Porter, Medical Officer of Health, Johannesburg, member of the Public Health Council of the Union, was elected President, and your Council has dealt with the following matters:—

Arising from the business transacted at the Annual General Meeting of 1922, your Council has to

report that in connection with the proposed new station for Johannesburg, the Railway Authorities have not made any move in the matter, doubtless owing to continued financial stringency.

It will be recollected that only the ordinary business of the Association was transacted at the last annual general meeting, and that a lantern-slide lecture by the newly-elected President (Dr. Charles Porter) on "Town Planning, Past and Present" was subsequently given at the adjourned annual general meeting, held in the Scientific Club, Johannesburg, on the 9th December, 1922. The lecture was published in extenso in the *Architectural Journal* of December last, of which a copy was posted to each member of the Association.

Much consideration was given by your Council to the drafting of a code of Model Town Planning Regulations for the Transvaal in a sufficiently elastic form to permit of easy adaptation to local circumstances. This draft was duly issued to members during the year, with a request for criticism and suggestion, to which many institutional and other members of the Association helpfully responded. In this connection the thanks of the Association are specially due to the Institute of Land Surveyors of the Transvaal, who gave these draft regulations their closest consideration and advanced various important constructive suggestions, which are embodied in the revised draft now submitted to you.

Pursuant to the terms of the constitution as revised at the last annual general meeting, nominations for membership of the Council for the coming year have been invited, and a ballot form was issued to members on 2nd instant, containing the 15 names proposed, from which 10 members are to be elected to Council. In addition, the institutional members have, in the exercise of their right to do so, made the following nominations to Council:—

- B. W. Brayshaw, Land Surveyor, Institute of Land Surveyors.
- D. M. Burton, Architect, Association of Transvaal Architects.
- Dr. Charles Porter, M.O.H., British Medical Association.
- C. P. Tompkins, Land Surveyor, Institute of Land Surveyors.
- H. G. Veale, Architect, Association of Transvaal Architects.

Your Council was approached respecting the site for the proposed Johannesburg War Memorial, and recorded the opinion that the proposed site in the forecourt at the eastern end of the Town Hall is much less suitable for this purpose than a site at the western end of the Town Hall, and recommended accordingly.

Your Council has had under consideration the provision of provincial main arterial roads from the Transvaal to link up with similar arterial roads to other provinces, and has made suitable representations to Government and local authorities, which it is hoped will prove effective.

Throughout the country there is an awakening in regard to the necessity for regulated Town Planning. During the year this feeling took practical expression in the Cape Province in the appointment of a Commission to consider a Draft Town Planning Ordinance for that Province, and this Commission has recently issued a majority and minority report, which will doubtless receive the early attention of your new Council.

During the year the Provincial Secretary submitted, for the consideration of Council, the proposals in regard to three new townships for the Transvaal, and its suggestions—including in one instance the provision of a main road through the proposed township to link up Johannesburg with the Natal main road—have been well received.

In response to a request, conveyed by the President, from the Secretary of Public Health for the Union, your Council, in collaboration with the Association of Transvaal Architects, considered draft regulations for rat-proofing precautions for buildings in urban areas. Your Council's recommendations were received with appreciation and suitably acknowledged by the Secretary.

Your Council has under consideration the question of instituting monthly or quarterly lectures or discussions with a view to maintaining the interest of the general body of its members and of enlisting that of the general public in those various aspects of modern Town Planning which are of such essential importance, especially in a new country.

Arrangements have been made for further propaganda work by means of a series of articles in the daily press.

The following are the attendances of members during the past year (maximum 13):—

Dr. Charles Porter (President)...	10
Mr. Harold Porter (Vice-President)...	13
Mr. B. W. Brayshaw...	6
Mr. D. M. Burton (leave of absence granted for six months) ...	4
Mr. T. S. Fitzsimons ...	9
Mr. G. Hartog ...	3
Mr. D. P. Howells ...	1
Mr. G. Leith ...	1
Mr. M. G. Nicolson ...	0
Prof. G. E. Pearse ...	9
Mr. D. M. Sinclair ...	5

Mr. W. Mackenzie Smith...	0
Mr. C. P. Tompkins ...	11
Mr. H. G. Veale ...	9
Prof. G. A. Watermeyer ...	5

Mr. Harold Porter formally moved the adoption of this report. This was seconded by Professor G. A. Watermeyer.

The President, in reviewing the work of the Association during the past year as set out in the annual report, referred to the urgent need for Government Town Planning control, and suggested that this was an opportune time to represent the matter once again to the Minister of Public Health, and moved the following resolution:—

"This Association desires to represent most strongly to the Minister for Public Health the pressing necessity in the Union of South Africa for the organised and effective Government control of Town Planning on modern lines, and most strongly to recommend that for this purpose the scope of the Central Housing Board be extended so as to make it a Housing and Town Planning Board for the Union: its Town Planning functions to be carried out in conference with the Provincial Administrations in the same way as its housing functions, and its membership to include a Town Planner of recognised standing with wide and varied practical experience of such work."

In the discussion on this motion, Mr. C. P. Tompkins voiced the opinion that this Association would not be acting wisely in endeavouring to tie up Town Planning with the Central Housing Board and its schemes. The Central Housing Board were only engaged in the interests of already planned towns and urban areas, and the functions of the Town Planning Association were, he considered, more closely connected with the revision of proper lay-out of the country generally, more particularly from the standpoint of creation of new townships. In this connection the absence of main roads in this country was a distinct hardship on the inhabitants, but we could not look to the Central Housing Board to do anything which would provide the main arterial roads required. Mr. C. P. Tompkins was strongly of the opinion that the Government should be asked to create a separate entity for the control of Town Planning outside the scope of the Central Housing Board.

Replying to the debate, the President stated that the only practical possibility at present of getting anything done in the direction of Government supervision of Town Planning would be by putting the matter into the hands of the Housing Board as a first step towards obtaining the Government's recognition of the importance of this work. Once this recognition was accorded

and established it would be a relatively easy matter to make representations for better or wider Town Planning control.

On being put to the vote, the resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Following the foregoing resolution, Mr. C. P. Tompkins suggested that every endeavour be made to broaden the scope of Town Planning in order to bring to the notice of the Town Planning authority, for acceptance or otherwise, all proposals for the sub-division of land in South Africa, wherever situated. The sub-divisions of the farms was a matter requiring immediate control. His experience pointed to the fact that farms were being sub-divided daily and afterwards fenced in such a manner as to do away with roads which have been looked upon for lengthened periods as main arterial roads in the particular district, and the abolition of the right of inhabitants to use these roads was proving a very great hardship. If such sub-divisions were in future sanctioned by a Town Planning authority, the existing public rights-of-way would be taken into consideration and provision made for their continuance.

This suggestion was supported by Professor G. A. Watermeyer and agreed to.

Mr. H. G. Veale moved that a letter be addressed to the Minister for Railways pointing out the urgent necessity for the provision of better railway station facilities for Johannesburg, asking if it was the intention of the Administration to provide such facilities at an early date. This was agreed to.

Mr. J. R. Stewart brought forward the matter of the urgent necessity for alteration to the existing railway line leading out of Johannesburg to the East Rand, pointing out that it appeared necessary to his Federation that something should be done to eliminate the Jeppe Subway and to make such provision as would enable the main cross thoroughfares to the east of Johannesburg as main arteries without interference by railway traffic running through them. This idea was behind a proposal now under consideration by the Ratepayers' Associations, namely, to lower the railway line from Doornfontein right through to George Goch Station. In this connection Mr. Stewart asked the Association to give the proposal every support.

The President pointed out that the suitability of such a proposal was one depending upon many items of amenity and finance. Obviously the questions of sewerage, cost of bridges, and provision of subways were of such importance that all would have to be carefully considered before definite support from this Association could be given to such a proposal.

Mr. B. W. Brayshaw concurred with the views expressed by the President, and moved that the incoming Council be asked to obtain full information on the matter, because in his opinion it was far too big a subject to tackle that evening or to give an opinion on without very great study and access to all information respecting such a change and the vested interests such a change would disturb.

This was seconded by Professor G. E. Pearse and agreed to.

The President stated that following the issue of these draft regulations to members, much time had been given by Council to further consideration thereof, in conjunction with suggestions received from institutional members. In this connection he paid a warm tribute to the Institute of Land Surveyors of the Transvaal, and especially Mr. Tompkins for the important constructive suggestions advanced by that body and subsequently included in the revised draft of the regulations. With one exception, that of clause 19, the substance of which was agreed to, but which required to be remodelled, the draft regulations now submitted were in order.

Mr. Harold Porter moved the adoption of these amended regulations, and that a copy be sent to the Secretary for Public Health in the Union with a suitable covering letter. This was seconded by Professor G. E. Pearse and agreed to.

Mr. Harold Porter introduced the subject of the slum areas within the Municipality of Johannesburg, and proposed that representations be made to the Municipal authorities for the urgent necessity for the eradication of such areas and the general improvement of the town. In this connection, he pointed out that in the past the question of sewerage had been put forward as one of the main causes of the creation of these slum areas, and pointed out that this difficulty no longer existed, because the adoption, by the Municipal authorities, of the vacuum tank system with its attendant pumping outfit had obliterated this cause. This was referred to the incoming Council for consideration and action.

The scrutineers, Messrs. B. W. Brayshaw and H. G. Veale, submitted the following result of the votes cast for members for the incoming Council, and the President declared these members duly elected:—

B. W. Brayshaw, P.O. Box 2811, Johannesburg.
D. M. Burton, P.O. Box 3565, Johannesburg.
T. S. Fitzsimons, P.O. Box 215, Boksburg.
G. Hartog, Corporation Building, Johannesburg.
D. P. Howells, Town Engineer, Benoni.
G. Leith, P.O. Box 3590, Johannesburg.
G. E. Pearse, P.O. Box 2527, Johannesburg.
Dr. Charles Porter, P.O. Box 1049, Johannesburg.

H. Porter, P.O. Box 2527, Johannesburg.

C. F. Stallard, P.O. Box 5156, Johannesburg.

H. Sharpe, P.O. Box 331, Krugersdorp.

C. P. Tompkins, Barkly Road, Parktown W., Johannesburg.

H. G. Veale, P.O. Box 5983, Johannesburg.

G. A. Watermeyer, Witwatersrand University, Eloff Street, Johannesburg.

F. K. Webber, P.O. Box 3243, Johannesburg.

The retiring President, in a short address, stated that this would be the last occasion in which he would occupy the chair, and took the opportunity of expressing his thanks to the members of the retiring Council for the kindness and support accorded to the Chair during his period of office. The subject of Town Planning was one in which he was, and would remain, deeply interested, and although he was vacating the Chair, it was not his intention to retire from the active participation in the Association's work and the meetings of the Council.

The President resumed his seat amid applause.

Mr. H. G. Veale, in appreciative remarks, moved a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring President, Dr. Charles Porter, for his services to the Association during the past year and as a strong supporter of the aims and objects of the Association since its inception.

This was carried with acclamation, and the meeting terminated.

At the first meeting of the new Council, held on 6th December, Mr. Harold Porter was unanimously elected President for the current year, and Mr. H. G. Veale elected Vice-President for the same period.

THE TOWN PLANNING ASSOCIATION

(TRANSVAAL.)

67, EXPLORATION BUILDING,
JOHANNESBURG.

EXPERT ADVICE GIVEN ON
GENERAL LAY-OUT AND
TOWN PLANNING SCHEMES.

ALL ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY.

O.F.S. BUILDING NOTES.

By W. F. WALDECK.

Building in Bloemfontein has been fairly brisk during the last few months, and quite a number of large buildings are springing up. The new Dutch Reformed Church (architects, Messrs. Louw & Moerdyk; contractors, Messrs. Craig Bros., of Johannesburg) has just been completed in blue hammer-dressed ironstone quarried on the town commonage, a tiled roof of rather a bright red colour, the tower some 90 feet high, making a new landmark in the town. The building has seating accommodation for about 850, the woodwork throughout being entirely of teak. The building took eleven months to complete, which is a very good time, considering the nature of the building, and costing in all approximately £13,000.



Lych Memorial Gate, St. Margaret's, Bloemfontein.

Operations have also begun on the new Dutch Reformed Hall, which building will cover an approximate area of 6,000 square feet, and is expected to be completed by the end of August, 1924. The outside of the building is being carried out in a beautiful white stone, obtained from Bothaville, in the Orange Free State. The design is by the same architects as that of the Dutch Reformed Church, and the contractors the Orange Free State Concrete Construction Co., the cost of the building being approximately £13,300.

Messrs. Masey & Harrison, architects and surveyors, the first-named being chairman of the British Empire Service League, have just completed several war memorials, notably the jarrah wood lych gate of St. Margaret's Church, Bloemfontein, a set of wrought

iron gates for Thaba 'Nchu Town Hall, and a cenotaph-like monument at Maseru, in Basutoland, a most striking and handsome piece of work built of the stone of the district, typically South African in treatment; plain, but very effective; its decorative features being a simple Crusader's sword of heroic size in bronze, garlanded with a wreath of honour. The contractors are Messrs. Nelvin & Todd, of Ficksburg.

In Bloemfontein the same architects are busy with additions, sample rooms and staff quarters for Polley's Hotel, and motor show rooms for Messrs. Lambon & Co. The former is a building covering an area of 3,800 square feet, and is four storeys high, erected in reinforced concrete. The contractor for both buildings is Mr. C. W. D. Reed.

The new Standard Bank, at the corner of Maitland and West Burger Streets, is a great improvement in the centre of the business quarter of the town, and is the first building of its kind to be built here, pre-cast concrete blocks being employed for the strongly designed Doric classic exterior. The banking hall, with its South African black marble columns, panelled, fine plaster work, and solid oak block floor is a rich and effective composition. The design is by Messrs. Perry & Stocks, of Capetown, and the construction by James Thompson, of Johannesburg.

There are continual applications for housing loans, about twenty-four applications are now being dealt with, and about a dozen private residences have recently been completed under this scheme at an average of some £1,200 each.

Town Planning.—During the past month Mr. A. J. Thompson, the Town Planning Expert, visited Bloemfontein, and spent four days in going over our suburbs and sketching schemes for new extension in the Bayswater and Westdene neighbourhoods. At the end of his visit Mr. Thompson gave a short and interesting lecture to the members of the Housing Committee and Councillors on town planning in general, and it is to be regretted that it did not occur to the Town Council to invite members of the architectural profession to attend the meeting and to receive at first hand the lecturer's ideas on parts of the town with which they will eventually have so large a hand in dealing.

The new Municipal Market is now out for tenders, the reinforced concrete details being, with quantities, well in hand. The building is to cover in all some 1,867 super yards.

Waterworks.—The Mazelspoort lifting gate piers are almost complete, and various sections of the new gates are already in position. At Mockesdam the shuttering is well ahead, and the erection of the same should be completed by the end of the year.

The P.W.D. are also very busy. The following are in the course of erection:—

Bloemfontein Grey University, additions and alterations, in all to a total of	... £32,310
Bloemfontein National Hospital, Nurses' Quarters	... 6,260
Bloemfontein National Hospital, Native Ward	... 2,830
Dealesville School	... 3,657
Kroonstad School	... 4,527
Rouxville Post Office	... 2,300
Senekal Post Office	... 2,000
Springfontein School Additions	... 3,050
Tweeling School	... 2,449
Winburg Vet River Bridge	... 3,619
Wesselsbron School	... 2,085
Other minor buildings to the total of	... 12,735

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS ISSUED UNDER THE ARCHITECTS PRIVATE ACT, 1909 (TRANSVAAL).

His Royal Highness the Governor-General has been pleased, in terms of Section 29 of the Architects Private Act, 1909 (No. 39 of 1909, Transvaal), to approve of the following amendments to the by-laws issued under that Act:—

(1) Addition as clause (b) to By-law No. 30:—

If any member of the Association should be absent from the Union of South Africa for a period of 12 consecutive months and the Council be unable to ascertain his address after careful inquiry, or if the Council, being aware of his address, should not receive payment of his arrear subscriptions within six calendar months in response to a registered letter addressed to such member requiring payment thereof, or if the Council should not receive within six calendar months in response to a registered letter addressed to such member a definite declaration from him that he intends to continue as a member of the Association, the Council shall be entitled to treat such member as having resigned, and thereupon his name shall be removed from the register, and he shall cease to be registered as an architect and cease to be a member of the Association.

(2) Addition as clause (b) to By-law No. 47:—

(b) The expression "assistant" contained in section 7 (a) of the Act, shall mean a person who, having had not less than two years' preliminary and probationary experience as a pupil or junior, is competent to assist, and in full time employment does competently assist, an architect in architectural work; provided always that—

(i) a whole-time student having entered upon and regularly and diligently studied under the degree or diploma course in architecture provided by the University of the Witwatersrand, and having been, during the whole of such period of study, attached to the office of an architect for spare time and vacation time study, and having obtained thereby professional and practical experience, may, upon completing such period of study, be recognised by the Council as an assistant within the meaning of the Act of standing equivalent in point of time to one-half of such period of study not exceeding two years in all; and

(ii) a person duly appointed clerk of works under an architect and engaged in practical supervision of works may be recognised by the Council as an assistant under the meaning of the Act for the period of such engagement or engagements not exceeding one year in all.

(3) Cancellation of clause 51 (f) and substitution therefor of the following:—

Advertising by members by the placing of names on boardings and site boards in letters exceeding six inches in depth; provided always that publication by card, name-plate, stationery, upon office windows, or upon site boards or foundation stones within the limits above prescribed shall not be deemed as advertising within the meaning of this by-law.

The foregoing amendments to the by-laws of the Association were passed by members in special general meeting on the 27th February, 1923.

Further, they were promulgated in the Union Government Gazette, No. 1348, published on the 26th October, 1923.

Copies of these amendments will be issued at an early date to members, on gummed slips, for insertion in the individual copies of the Act.

SANITARY NOTES.

One of the most recent additions to the sanitary world of the Transvaal is the large by-products plant just completed at a cost of about £25,000 at the Johannesburg Abattoirs. This plant will be capable of taking eight tons of offal or diseased meat or carcasses at one charging, and to not only render it innocuous but will transform it into most valuable fertilizer. The plant will also be of size large enough to take in dead animals off the streets and avoid the old wasteful and extravagant method of burning the carcasses in the destructor fires, which yielded no return, the carcase being completely consumed to ashes in the process.

* * *

The new plant will treat the carcasses with steam heat and save the valuable fats and preserve the nitrogenous qualities of the product. It consists essentially of four large cylinders or pots which, after being charged, are sealed till the cooking process is completed at a temperature of 312 degrees, which destroys all bacterial life and leaves a residue of dry meat and bone meal.

* * *

Another addition to the town's sanitary amenities will be the completion of the second Yeoville storage reservoir to hold ten million gallons of water pumped up by the Rand Water Board. This huge masonry structure has been a year in progress, under the design of Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews, whose father designed the large reservoir adjoining over thirty years ago, a somewhat unique association of father and son in two large works side by side, yet at such a long gap of time. The formal opening will take place this month.

* * *

The passing of the Urban (Native) Areas Act will throw a great amount of liability on local authorities in the provision of sanitary apartments for natives. There are at least 15,000 natives in Johannesburg living in a promiscuous manner amongst white populations who are often lacking in moral character and decency, and the infamous conditions which arise from this state of affairs is too serious to be longer ignored. The appalling degradation of both the whites and blacks has at last forced a dilatory Legislature to some action, and the segregation of these natives will be forced on the Municipalities. In Johannesburg £75,000 is to be spent at once on "hostels" for the

reception of single natives of both sexes in a plain but wholesome manner, and a like sum is still needed to provide for decent married natives. On the completion of these proposals it will become possible to stop natives living amongst degraded and demoralized whites whose condition often makes one despair of the presence of the divine in man.

* * *

One of the most interesting features of this reform is the provision of a native improvement and recreation centre on the lines of a Y.M.C.A., where decent "boys" can meet each other, write letters, play games and get innocuous enjoyment away from the temptations of the liquor-sellers or woolly-haired harpies seeking to encompass their destruction for private gain.

* * *

The "boys" in these hostels will be able to have a bath (shower), and it is proposed to have ten in each living room, with a large open fireplace in the centre of each, with ample cross ventilation from windows on opposite sides.

* * *

The hostels will accommodate over 3,000 natives, and will be arranged in the form of a very small town with a "grid view" plan, so that all rooms will catch the sun at some hour of the day.

* * *

Natives have in towns outgrown the "rondavel," or round room. They object to it largely because it does not adjust itself to rectangular furniture, and because the roof is troublesome to build unless of thatch, which is objectionable on account of vermin and combustibility.

REVIEW.

Architecture and its Place in a General Education, by Sir Banister Fletcher, F.R.I.B.A. and F.S.I. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., London. 1s. 1923.

This booklet was originally reprinted from the Transactions of the Seventh International Congress of Architects, London, 1906. It is now revised and brought up to date owing to the demand for it. It consists of two parts, the first being an historical

sketch of architecture, and forms a brilliant outline of the movement of architecture along the whole plane of history which the author's long experience and scholarship renders him very competent to delineate. This outline leads up to Part II., which forms an argument for the inclusion of the subject in educational curricula. The writer shows the probable result of such inclusion and the benefits to the general community.

The author argues that with some knowledge of architecture "each street becomes a picture gallery which each may enter without so much as the payment of an entrance fee."

Bishop Creighton has said: "Architecture is the most democratic of the arts, that it goes literally into the market place; that it is for everybody; and that rich and poor may alike enjoy it." How essential that the public should have a knowledge and a desire for good buildings!

The author's intention is to impress the value of some knowledge of how to enjoy good buildings and consequently to cause the public to thus re-act on architects by calling for better things and appreciating the better architect for his art's sake as well as simply for his business and managing capacity. He, however,

fails in his booklet to bring definitely before the reader how this is to be brought about, and ends up in a rather delightful peroration, into which Longfellow comes:—

"Painting and Sculpture are but images,
Are merely shadows cast by outward things
On stone or canvas, having in themselves
No separate existence. Architecture,
Existing in itself, and not in seeming
A something it is not, surpasses them
As substance shadow."

Very fine sentiment and true! But only a partly or fully trained man will look at architectural drawing where thousands look at pictures. The reason is that people are more interested in life than they are in form, and the picture represents both, but it is the former that attracts and helps to appreciation of the latter. The architect's difficulty is to express his form in terms of life.

To engage the public in a general appreciation of architecture is a formidable task, but not impossible, and even a half-dozen short lessons to an adolescent in the elements he should look for would be of great benefit in his or her after life as a soul enlargement and liberalizer and training to think for oneself.

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Mr. M. J. Harris, past-President and a member who has always evinced great interest in the aims, objects and welfare of the Association, particularly in respect of statutory registration under a standard qualification, has been elected Mayor of Johannesburg for the current year. We believe this to be the first instance in which a member of the profession has been elected to this important civic position in South Africa. We tender to Mr. Harris our hearty expression of good wishes for a successful and pleasing term of office.

* * *

We have been advised by the Imperial War Graves Commission that at present it is collecting the names of Architects who are desirous to compete for the Memorials to the missing to be erected at Armentieres, Bethune, Cambrai, Soissons. The conditions to govern the competitions, outlines of which were given in our September issue, are being drafted, but will not be ready until the beginning of next year. In the meantime there is no reason why Architects, eligible under the conditions, should not send in their names to the Secretary, the Imperial War Graves Commission, 82, Baker Street, London, W.1., for registration, so that the conditions may be forwarded to them as soon as they are printed.

The following resolution passed at the Architectural Conference, held at Capetown, in January, 1923, is published for general information:—

"That the Standard Conditions of Contract be accepted on trial till December 31st, 1924, necessary alterations being permitted as arranged between the parties to each contract, but in the meantime the Union Architectural Practice Committee be requested to consider all amendments and proposals for its betterment."

* * *

The newly-formed Federal Council on Architectural Education will hold its inaugural meeting in January, 1924. The convener, Mr. E. M. Powers, honorary corresponding secretary for the Royal Institute of British Architects in South Africa, has convened the meeting to be held on January 3rd, 1924, at 10 a.m., in the Board Room of the Argus Co.'s premises, St. George's Street, Capetown. It is known that there will be present at this meeting representatives from the Union Department of Education, the Cape, Natal, and Orange Free State Institutes, the Association of Transvaal Architects, the Society of Architects, London (S.A. Branch), the Universities of Capetown and Johannesburg, and the Natal Technical College. Other bodies will signify their intention to be represented following a meeting of the respective Societies concerned.

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