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AD FINEM.—I.

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

The sketches of the progress of architecture through past into present times which have appeared in the previous papers of this series may fairly be concluded with a summary of the position of architecture regarded as an art and a science at the present time and a forecast of what may be expected in the future. Both attempts present difficulties.

The extraordinary divergencies of opinions as to what is beautiful, if they stood alone in opposition,

would be sufficient to cause great difficulties and to make such an enquiry almost hopeless.

But the divergencies are the result on the one hand of want of knowledge of the subject approached, or on the other resulting from the mental attitude of those who attempt the study of it.

There must be a standard of beauty, a reference to which will present an expenditure of much time and treasure being lavished upon an important building unsuccessfully.

There are many, and two have vindicated their adoption quite triumphantly.

The Greek standard was of the human form.

The mediaeval people changed that and included all living Nature, in which they included trees and vegetation generally, and even rocks and water.

The two combined gave the full range of natural beauty, and that is the standard to which appeal may be made with success.

It is not expected that everyone should suppose that upon sight of a building any achievement of beauty which may appear in it is to be referred to some natural object, but that the means by which that beauty is attained is the same or similar to the means employed by Nature.

For instance, taking the simplest forms.

The most impressive simple figure is the circle, the line without end, infinite, not in length but in form, probably the first definite figure which impressed itself upon the mind of man.

The straight level line seen on the horizon of water or plain, stretching out of sight right and left because only part of it can be used, must be broken into various lengths to form those geometrical figures used in architecture; it is obvious on comparison that of these the circle, of all simple forms, stands pre-eminent among natural forms, as it may be seen through the thickened atmosphere the colour of the topaz at the dawn, or rose or ruby at the setting the most impressive as well as the most beautiful.

It may be remarked at once that circles and curved lines generally have more of beauty about them than any others. A reference to Nature shows at once that the use of curved lines are for the purpose of securing beauty universal.

Straight lines in Nature must be hunted, and when found they produce at best to our senses a feeling of repose allied with that of the horizon.

In architecture, for this reason, a level line rather than one from which beauty will be expected, is necessary for the foundation, and in all ancient architecture buildings were placed on a high platform, which supplied the level line, gave that repose and appearance of stability by which they all gain so much, and the designers of them for ages made this a first rule of building, and in the superstructure maintained the same principle until the slope of the roof covering of composite nature for practical purposes forced upon them the inclined surface so cautiously used by the Greeks, the lines of their gables making with the horizon an angle, say, of fifteen degrees.

It is probable that for the same reason the ancients made their buildings parallelogramatic in form.

Among the Greeks the theatre was circular in plan, also some monumental buildings of small dimensions.

The form of the theatre was dictated by the object for which it was built. The monuments were too small to make the matter of much importance, but the extreme beauty of their detail seem to indicate

the expression of greater freedom which the circular form always inspires.

For simple utility buildings the rectangular form has always been favoured, because it occupies the space allotted with greater economy.

The circle and the other geometrical forms which old Euclid has made so familiar to us, opened out and made way for new thoughts and designs with regard to building.

Everyone would expect the beginning in any direction to be simple, and then the gradual addition or amendment to be applied which is needed for full development.

In Egypt the parallelogramatic form seems to have been constantly maintained from first to last in their buildings; this does not apply to the pyramids, which may scarcely rank as architecture.

The circle was, of course, perfectly well known to them. As a sacred symbol it was constantly before them, carved and coloured on their buildings or combined with the headdresses of the great.

But in constructive work its use was confined to the columns, which were generally in section or plain circle.

In the vertical profile of these they employed curves, sometimes simple and at others of great subtlety and nobility.

In works subsequent to that of the Egyptians, no repetition of this is found.

The feeling that buildings should of necessity maintain horizontal lines absolutely predominant persisted until the destruction of the Roman Empire. The circle began to be used in planning buildings very freely, although still more often within the external walls of the buildings than showing freely.

Here again the theatres and racecourses were principal in the complete departure, as at the Coliseum, where the mighty mass of the building holds up against the sky a line of great extent and of a subtle curve.

In the last stage of the Trabiated architecture known to the ancients, the predominant position constantly maintained for strictly rectangular design gave way and opened the path to that freedom which, whether we like it or not, may be expected to persist to the end.

If architecture were like a pyramid or an egg shell whose surface is not broken until its period of utility has passed, it would present a simple task for the architect, and in its infancy may be conceived to have done so.

But in course of time the necessities of light and air and of access to the various parts of the building became very complicated, and constructive difficulties had to be contended with. But, fortunately, these did not come all at once. The paucity of windows in ancient buildings seems to indicate that these people

used them chiefly for sleeping places, and this applies to times as late as the early middle ages when the people who made and used books, for the most part ecclesiastics, did their work in the open cloister. In earlier times it would have been done in the portico, its prototype.

The progressive necessities of architecture may be taken successively, although they did not happen so, or at the same time.

Even in Egypt the angle of the corner of a building was felt to be aggressive, and a roll moulding was placed on it.

In Greece at an early time the same was felt with the angles formed by the openings for doors and windows, and mouldings were worked upon them.

In the same way the plain surfaces of columns were broken up with flutings, and the monotony of the cornice with devices designed to give increasing and added beauty of light and shade. And these continue to the present time.

The excessive plain wall surface was in like manner enriched by sculpture, and this became the crowning glory of the artistic effort of this architecture.

But man is naturally progressive, and the colours which he saw added by all Nature appeared a necessary finish to his work, and this again was from the beginning and persisted until the decline of the revival of Roman art.

It is clear from this that if architecture is, as many are fond of declaring, the chief art, it cannot reach its highest aim without the others, and should be more properly described as the "opportunity" of the arts.

There are those who regard architecture as being confined to the mass and proportion of buildings, but the skilful handling of both was evident almost at once in Egypt, and has been retained ever since, yet on earlier Egyptian designs the art of modelling, carving, sculpture and painting were deemed necessary for every complete building, and that was maintained with ever increasing insistence until the same period, the decline, namely, of the Roman renaissance.

It appears, therefore, that the builders of past ages regarded architecture, as represented by good disposition of parts and skilful handling of chiaroscuro for the production of fine work, moulding, sculpture and colour as essential, and considered that a building becomes greater or less as the degree in which all these were present and associated.

With what the writer has presumed to name the lesser arts, the same holds good, only such as coloured glass and mosaic are unsuitable in some buildings and desirable in others, and so they associate with the sculptor or painter, and fall under his direction.

There are at the present day sculptors, painters and craftsmen able to give us work worthy of this age,

and which would compare favourably with that of times past, but these are few—probably very few architects capable of directing the efforts of these to a successful issue if the opportunity offered.

The arts have been too long working in separate interests, and have become slack in their interest one with another. Studio work has become fashionable, and the idea of a first-rate painter painting the ceiling of a chapel as Michael Angelo did, or the wall of a state-room as did Tintoretto, has become past thinking. Of the sculptor the same applies.

The difficulty may perhaps reside in the commercialism of the times.

A picture may be painted, as in old time, upon a wall for, say, five thousand pounds, but it cannot be removed five years later and sold for fifty thousand. If done on canvas and put in a frame, it may.

The want of cohesion between artists cannot for long prevent or alone prevent the full expression of art in architecture,

Our public buildings give the opportunity; the means are not wanting.

There are some, even architects, who think that colour is undesirable in architecture; that, in fact, black and white, or, at the furthest, monotone is all that can be needed. But if they found themselves obliged to do without it, they would probably change their opinions.

Black and white are the extreme limits of the most extended range of colours. Black and white occur in Nature frequently in small quantities, and generally with a surface receptive of the colour surrounding them.

When they occur in large masses they are usually out of sight, as coal and chalks, or certain beds of black marble.

Snow which covers the whole landscape covers it in white, but with a mantle of brilliant crystals, which take the delicate and most beautiful colouring from the sunlight with pale blue shades. But, beautiful as it is, it is soon forgotten when the mountain side takes on its splendid raiment of spring flowers and verdure.

The cliff where the chalk is exposed, which is unusual, although stained by weather and patched here and there with foliage, or standing over the green waters of the shallows near land and presenting and contrasting kindly with its bright surface of cool grey soon becomes uninteresting.

Something can be done in black and allied dark tones, more can be done in white and pale tones. But by far the best is to use a full range of colour following Nature which, though always fresh, keeps sound the bond between us and our great antecedents, and tends to make our artists not a band of antagonists but a band of brothers.

ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE.



Back Row.—(Left to Right).—W. S. Payne, F.R.I.B.A. (Natal); John Waterson, F.R.I.B.A. (Transvaal); T. H. Chaplin (Secretary, N.I.A.); Leonard K. Walker (East London); H. J. Brownlee, A.R.I.B.A. (Registrar, C.I.A.); O. J. P. Oxley, A.R.C.A. (Durban School of Art); M. K. Carpenter (Registrar, A.T.A.); ————

Middle Row.—F. L. H. Fleming (Transvaal); Prof. A. E. Snape, M.Sc., M.Inst.C.E. (University of Cape Town); W. Reid, F.R.I.B.A. (Transvaal); F. J. Ing, F.S.A. (Natal), Chairman; E. M. Powers, F.R.I.B.A. (R.I.B.A.); Prof. Pearse, A.R.I.B.A. (University of the Witwatersrand); W. J. Delbridge, A.R.I.B.A. (Cape).

Bottom Row.—A. R. Martin (Natal Technical College); Wallace Paton, F.R.I.B.A. (Natal); Allen Wilson, (O.F.S.); Gordon Leith, A.R.I.B.A. (Kimberley).

Minutes of Meetings of the Architectural Conference
Conference held under the auspices of the Cape Institute of Architects, in the Art Hall, Durban Technical College, Warwick Avenue, Durban, on Monday, 9th July, and Tuesday, 10th July, 1923.

PRESENT.—Messrs. F. J. Ing (Natal Institute of Architects and Society of Architects (London), South African Branch), Professor Snape (Capetown University), W. J. Delbridge and H. J. Brownlee (Cape Institute of Architects), Gordon Leith (Kimberley), Leonard K. Walker (East London), M. Thomas (Union Educational Department, Pretoria), A. R. Martin (Durban Technical College), W. S. Payne and Wallace Paton (Natal Institute of Architects), O. J. P. Oxley (Durban School of Art), Professor Pearse (Witwatersrand University), John Waterson, Allen Wilson, F. L. H. Fleming (Association of Transvaal Architects), Walter Reid (Transvaal Institute of Architects), E. M. Powers (Hon. Corresponding Secretary, R.I.B.A. (London), M. K. Carpenter (Registrar, Association of Transvaal Architects), and T. H. Chaplin (Secretary, Natal Institute of Architects), who acted as Hon. Secretary to the Conference.

OPENING PROCEEDINGS.—On the proposal of Mr. W. J. Delbridge, seconded by Mr. F. L. H. Fleming, Mr. F. J. Ing was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Conference.

Mr. F. J. Ing (President, Natal Institute of Architects) thereupon took the chair and, on behalf of the Natal Institute of Architects, extended a very hearty welcome to the delegates, expressing pleasure at their presence, and trusted much good would result from the business before them. He explained that the Mayor of Durban had been invited to open the proceedings and welcome them on behalf of the town, but owing to a previous engagement, would not be able to attend until later.

The Conference resolved that two sessions be held daily, and that the hours be from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., and 2.15 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

RULES OF PROCEDURE AND ALLOCATION OF VOTING POWERS.—Mr. Delbridge (Cape Institute of Architects) stated that the voting powers of each Institute or Body represented was a matter to be settled by the Conference, and the suggestion made by his Council was that

the votes be accepted as follows:—Five for the Cape, five for Natal, and seven for the Transvaal Association.

After some deliberation, in which Messrs. Delbridge, Reid, Fleming, Paton, Walker, Powers, and the Chairman (F. J. Ing) took part, it was unanimously agreed, on the proposal of Mr. Walter Reid (Transvaal Institute of Architects), seconded by Mr. F. L. H. Fleming (Association of Transvaal Architects), that all delegates have a vote, and that proxies from absentees be also acknowledged in the voting strength of the Conference; and that the Chairman would have a casting vote as well as a deliberative vote.

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS OF PROFESSIONAL FEDERATION.—Mr. John Waterson (Association of Transvaal Architects): This proposal seems to have emanated from the Cape. The idea is an entirely new one and seems to me to be rather vague. Perhaps the Cape members will enlighten us as to what the proposal really is. At the present moment we are rather in the dark.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge (Cape Institute of Architects): I call the attention of the Conference to the fact that in the British Dominions at the present time the R.I.B.A. standard of professional organisation has been adopted in a Chapter in Australia and also in Canada. For a long while it was feared that there was a little difficulty in South Africa with regard to similar procedure by reason of the fact that the Transvaal were not allied to the R.I.B.A. That alliance is shortly about to be accomplished, and having regard to the fact that in the other Dominions the various branches of the Chapter of the R.I.B.A. have been controlled by what is known as a Federal Council, we conceived in that, as we thought, an effective method of securing a platform for professional effort. It appeared to us that in the main the geographical areas of the Union of South Africa would be coherent in a Chapter of the R.I.B.A. That is our proposal. It is an idea that has been presented to the various Institutes from time to time, and it has been felt that owing to certain unavoidable delays with regard to procuring registration that it would be in the professional interests that we should have a common platform to speak from. It has been found in other parts of the Dominions this scheme exists, and the only difficulty in the working of it is that when anything in the nature of union comes about in our particular profession by way of registration, there is a possibility that educational facilities for the younger generation are, if not entirely overlooked, to a certain extent neglected, and experience has proved that to be a very great difficulty. Seeing that the R.I.B.A. has established examinations in the country, and as we believe that the R.I.B.A. standard is the best, we conceive that the establishment of a Chapter of the R.I.B.A. and the setting up of their educational idea constitutes a matter of policy

which might well command the sympathetic attention of this Conference.

Mr. Fleming (Association of Transvaal Architects): It is perhaps a little difficult for us to debate this, as we have not quite a definite motion before us, but I realise it is really an exchange of views in general. The Council of the Transvaal have considered the proposal, and the feeling is that, assuming that complete registration to cover the whole of the Union of South Africa were immediately possible, this proposal of professional federation, to include the Royal Institute man, and the Association of Transvaal Architects, does not go anything like far enough, and, as a matter of fact, the completion of registration in the Union would rather cut away the necessity for federation. It is the Council's earnest desire to see Architects in all parts of the country working together to a common end.

Mr. Delbridge has said that under registration the consideration of education would be overlooked or neglected. I would like to draw your attention to what has happened under registration in the Transvaal. We had the honour to be the first in the Union to be instrumental in setting up a School of Architecture at the Witwatersrand University, where I believe the standards and impressions are as high as anywhere in the world. I feel that the whole of the active movements that have taken place in the Transvaal towards the betterment of architecture and the betterment of the architects in every way, date from the time of the inception of registration. If it can be shown that this proposed federation is going to in any way advance the cause of registration, then I think there is something in it, but if it is going to retard it then there is very much against it. Our hope is to see every person roped in, in the same way as in the Transvaal. It may be there is a certain amount of hardship and difficulty, and there may be certain things coincident with registration which necessarily cause grievance, but, on the broad view and looking forward, we feel strongly that registration is the finest thing in the cause of architecture and in the interests of architects, and we believe that this Conference will do nothing to retard the passing of the Union Act.

Mr. Brownlee (Cape Institute of Architects): It is the conviction of the Cape Institute that the establishment of a Chapter of the R.I.B.A. in South Africa, leading as it would to better facilities in regard to architectural education, would very materially help on the question of registration. May I be permitted to point to an illustrative case? Some two or three years ago in New South Wales an Act was put through for the registration of the architects there, and as President of the Architects' Association of New South Wales I was very intimately associated with the Bill from its inception until it was an accomplished fact. I speak therefore with a certain authority, and I say unquestionably that we found in New South Wales—which is

the very latest Act to have been put through in this connection—that had there not been an absolutely effective educational system, unification, and cohesion among the architects, the Bill would never have been put through. In actual fact the Government made it particularly clear that unless we had unification among ourselves and were prepared to show a means provided for the adequate education of the younger men in our profession, we had better put the Bill aside. It was an absolute *sine qua non*.

Mr. E. M. Powers (Corresponding Hon. Secretary, R.I.B.A., in South Africa): Perhaps Mr. Delbridge would be enabled to enlighten us as to the constitution and establishment of such Chapter. It seems to me that now the Architects' Associations or Institutions of the Provinces of the Union are affiliated with the R.I.B.A. they are in themselves Chapters, and, as you know, in the Transvaal we have one Association comprising all practising architects with members belonging to different voluntary institutes. If such a Chapter were formed, would it comprise only the members of the R.I.B.A., to the exclusion of members of other Associations? With affiliation all our members come into contact with the R.I.B.A., and it is practically a Chapter. In the Transvaal we have the experience of three bodies, which has caused a considerable amount of confusion with lay people, and with the alliance of the Association of Transvaal Architects I understand it is the intention of the Transvaal Institute to return their certificate of alliance because they now become a redundant body. Our object has been to eliminate confusion. If we form a Chapter we make confusion worse, unless such a Chapter would comprise the whole of the architects. It has been suggested that now we are about to be allied, we also must become allied with the Society of Architects, and thus form a South African Institute under R.I.B.A. standards.

Professor Snape (Capetown University): When the Universities establish their schools of Architecture and degrees of Architecture, it seems to be essential that the degrees should be fully recognised by the R.I.B.A. I notice that all the British Schools of Architecture are very keen that their degrees should be fully recognised by the R.I.B.A. At Capetown, when we establish our degrees of Architecture, it must be with the sympathy and help of the practical architects, and we want to set as high a standard as the British Universities adopt. Not only do we want to train students for Capetown and Johannesburg, but for the whole of the Union, and we should like to deal with a federal body representing the whole of the Union. From the point of view of architectural education, we would like to feel that we have absolutely, in establishing a degree for Architecture, the standard laid down by some body for the whole of the Union. We have had Union now for thirteen years, and we

feel that there should be some body we could put our cause before, and get the sympathy and advice of such body on various points.

Professor Pearce (Witwatersrand University): While wholly in agreement with Professor Snape, you must not forget that the Society of Architects has got to be considered. They feel very strongly that their standard is to-day equivalent to the R.I.B.A., and we must not overlook that fact. I would very much welcome a federal body for the Union, and the sooner the better, so that I could get views from the whole of the profession, and it would be very helpful in either improving or any rate enlarging upon the course we have in Johannesburg. Another point which I would like to bring forward is the fact that the course has been submitted to the R.I.B.A., and they have intimated that they will accept it, if not at present for the final, for the intermediate. It has not been discussed fully yet by their board of architectural education. I think the only fly in the ointment is that it is a four years' course, and most of the courses at Home are five years, but I am looking forward to the result of this Conference to bring that into line. I understand that in the very near future there will be a Chair of Architecture at the Cape, and that will be of immense benefit to the profession. The fact must not be overlooked that the Society of Architects must be considered, and in establishing a federal body we perhaps ought not to go straight away for a R.I.B.A. Chapter, unless the matter of the Society of Architects is fully discussed as well, and the whole thing brought into some shape or form which will be acceptable to both sides.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming (Association of Transvaal Architects): I think I should like to bring this to a head by proposing a motion. Mr. Brownlee has given us a very valuable point, that nothing will hold back the passing of the Registration Act so much as the fact that we have no proper facilities for architectural education. Professor Snape appeals to all architects to co-operate on the question of architectural examinations. That is exactly what we feel most strongly in the Transvaal, and I believe that we are one round this table. Looking far forward in the future we see the Union of South Africa containing one body of architects, and control of education and examinations by a central board. We see our educational centres—the Cape and Witwatersrand Universities, Natal Technical College, and possibly other centres—in course of time providing full and proficient architectural education equal to any standard that could be desired. We see this board of control inspecting, assisting and helping these architectural teaching centres, holding or controlling examinations to qualify for membership of the Union body of architects, and we see the standard set being so high that the Royal Institute, the Society of Architects and every other body of architec-

ture in the world would regard it as full and equivalent to their own standard, and a man who passes that examination would then have three options, perhaps more, to become a registered member of the Union Association of Architects, a full member of the R.I.B.A., or the Society of Architects, or, if he wished, all three. Alternatively, if he cared to confine himself to Africa, he would be a full-fledged member here with every ability to practise his work, and he would belong to a society which was in closest affiliation with the Society of Architects and the R.I.B.A., enjoying the benefits of their publications and information, and in that way would be in closest touch with the most important things which exist to-day for the advancement of architecture. That briefly is the scheme which we have in mind, and we hope and trust to see it through. We feel that if we can do something here at once to meet the point that Mr. Brownlee has raised; if we can show that we are striving to encourage architectural education and examination, we shall go along armed to get our Bill passed in the House of Assembly with all that is really necessary. Everyone here must agree that what I have tried to sketch out is a desirable state of things from all points of view, and I should like formally to move this motion:—

"That this Conference affirms the supervision of architectural education and control of architectural examinations shall be vested in a South African Board of Control appointed by the representative architectural bodies of the Union."

If we can get this going, I feel that we shall have done a great thing, whether our Act goes through or not.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge: I am entirely in agreement with Mr. Fleming, but does he intend his motion to refer to this item 3 on the agenda?

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming: Yes, I consider it has very great bearing on the question of federation. It supplies the need in a much more efficient manner. It may be beyond the actual subject here we are discussing, and may merge into 4, 5 and 6, but I don't think that makes it at all inapplicable to the present debate. I am trying to suggest that we fancy we have something much better to suggest than a Chapter of the R.I.B.A.; that is the whole point.

Mr. Walter Reid (Transvaal Institute of Architects): I think it would help if at this moment I were to remind you of this part of Professor Ramsay Traquair's minute to the Canadian Institute of Architects. I notice that all their conditions and difficulties are very similar to ours in this country. I would therefore recommend a perusal of this document by every member of this Conference; it would save a lot of discussion on details, and I would suggest that the members of this Conference digest it quietly.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge: The Cape Institute wrote to the R.I.B.A. asking them if they were aware of

this report. We reported that our conditions were so very similar to Canada that the R.I.B.A. might advise us concerning the various modifications, etc., alluded to in the report, and we were assured that they were entirely in sympathy with it. The Cape Institute of Architects have been conducting R.I.B.A. examinations for some time past. We held our first series of final examinations in June, and the R.I.B.A. are subscribers to our views that the whole matter should be modified.

Mr. Allen Wilson (Association of Transvaal Architects): Do I understand that the R.I.B.A. suggested that the examinations should be modified?

Mr. Delbridge: We suggested that there were certain modifications necessary for the examinations in South Africa. Supposing the R.I.B.A., London, set the examinations for design, and it happened to be a workhouse, what chance would a South African student have of acquiring any knowledge as to what might be required? We therefore suggested that the design subjects should be set by ourselves and the papers sent to London for approval.

Mr. John Waterson (Association of Transvaal Architects): We don't want the distinctive South African atmosphere in our examinations. It is all very well for a man to observe South African atmosphere after he has been educated. My idea is that we should accept and carry out the papers of the R.I.B.A. or whatever you like, but that each local body should have the option of setting for themselves the local paper if they like, as a test of local knowledge, but that we should take the examinations of the British standards and ask them to water it down to South African standards seems to me to be laughable.

Mr. H. J. Brownlee: There is not the least possible chance of the examination papers being in any way watered down. The standard is absolutely London standard, and all we can say is that perhaps it might be slightly coloured. I have a set of papers with me, and any member can look through them if he wishes. It will be found that they are up to London standard. It is not our desire to lower the standard, but to increase it, if possible, in the case of students who are unable to travel overseas.

Mr. E. M. Powers: I wish formally to second Mr. Fleming's proposal, and to emphasise the point that he has made, that the one body shall be the body that shall not necessarily conduct the examinations, but have control of the method and standard of those examinations. That is the first point we wish to settle. To concentrate our activities in one body and not as at present where we have at least two or three bodies conducting examinations on the R.I.B.A. standard. Later on perhaps we might discuss standardisation and whether the papers are set locally or overseas.

Mr. W. S. Payne (Natal Institute of Architects): As this report seems to have a very important bearing on the question before the meeting, I suggest that it be read out or the discussion adjourned until it has been gone into.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge: I have been in conference with the mover of the motion, and he has agreed to the following amendment:—

"The Conference affirms that the supervision of architectural education and the control of architectural examinations shall be vested in the South African Federal Council appointed by the architectural bodies in the Union, in alliance with the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects."

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming: Mr. Delbridge wants us to alter the "Board of Control" to the "S.A. Federal Council," which we would willingly accept.

Professor Snape: I am rather nervous about the word "control." It is my duty to take the resolutions of this Conference back to our Senate and to support them strongly. One has to realise the face value of the words there. Here is a resolution which means so much in the actual wording. The interpretation of it by Mr. Fleming is a personal interpretation; it may not be the interpretation of other people. We can only take the words at their face value as they would strike one, and I can only put myself in the place of my colleagues, and say control means something very different. You have the absolute right in every respect. Conditions are different now to what they were in 1909. The medical examinations are not controlled by the medical profession; they are accepted by the Medical Council. In engineering the examinations are not controlled by any of the engineering bodies, but our degrees are accepted by the Engineering Institutions. I think the best suggestion is to form a South African Federation Council and talk about the powers later on, as Mr. Walker has said. It is my duty to speak, as I feel things to apply to us. I have a very keen interest in getting through the question of a big school of Architecture in Capetown which will meet with the sympathy of all architects in the Union.

Mr. Allen Wilson: I would put it forward as an amendment, that we first form an Architectural Federal Board, and then afterwards the Conference can allocate their duties, and we take the agenda as it comes on. This is the amendment:—

"This Conference affirms the desirability of forming a South African Federal Council appointed by the representative Architectural bodies of the Union in alliance with the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects."

Mr. Gordon Leith (Kimberley) proposed that the words "in alliance with the R.I.B.A., etc.," be deleted, as that could be discussed later.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming: I did not want to confuse matters by going into too much detail in presenting my original motion. It is the intention to propose a further motion that this Union Practice Committee, which is representative of all the bodies, should not be the Board of Control, but should nominate it. That is a body of about fifteen members with their alternates, and is too unwieldly a body to be the Federal Council that we have in mind. I think it is unnecessary to go into detail at this stage as to the application of that motion. Once we agree on the principle that examinations for our own purposes should be controlled by one body and not by three bodies, then we can do so; to say that all architectural education is supervised by one body and that all architectural examinations for our own purposes are controlled by one body and not three. I want to make it quite clear about this word "control." It is with the idea of controlling our own household. It is not going to clash in any way with the examinations of the Universities. There is no intention to interfere with the functions of the Universities or the granting of their degrees, but our Federal Council would have to report to the Society of Architects or the R.I.B.A. as to who they passed and who they did not pass. Therefore they must have control. It has been said that we are off the track. In my opinion this is most pertinent to item 3. Although it overlaps on to 4, the only reasons for federation and the Chapter of the R.I.B.A. were educational and examination reasons. Therefore I submit it is most pertinent, and to move the formation of a Federal Council with no definite functions is rather a waste of time, because we must define what their functions are. At present they can only have supervision of education and control of examinations. They could not interfere with local government here, Capetown, or in the Transvaal. This Committee, formed last year, has full power to deal with all matters of practice referred to them, and the idea will be to move the motion that this Union Practice Committee form, not necessarily out of their own numbers but out of their deliberations, the proposed Board of Control or Federal Council to deal with education and examinations.

Professor Pearse: I want to make it quite clear that the Universities run examinations for professional qualifications, and, naturally, they would consult the professional bodies in the country as to the standard required. The Universities do not conduct their own examinations. The papers are examined and marked by external examiners. It would not be necessary to have a Board of Control; I should say an Advisory Board would meet the case. The Universities must meet the professional bodies in the country. As far as the engineers are concerned, there is a South African Association of Engineers, which is in association with the Home Institute. The same applies to the medical

examinations. If this was a board of architectural education to deal with the whole matter for the Union it would meet the case. That Board could say such and such a University course is not to our standard, we will not accept it; and the University in question would have to close the course or bring it up to the standard. I think, therefore, that it would be quite safe to say a "Supervising Board."

Mr. Gordon Leith: I would suggest that a Federal Council of all Architectural Bodies in the Union of South Africa be appointed to direct and co-ordinate architectural education and examinations in South Africa.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge: I second that in place of the previous resolution.

Professor Snape (Cape University): We are not only training students for South Africa. A lot will probably go overseas, but if it is in alliance with the R.I.B.A. and Society of Architects, any degrees we award here to the satisfaction of the Federal Council will receive the imprimatur of the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects. At the present time at the Cape the examinations are being conducted absolutely in accordance with the aegis of the R.I.B.A., and with regard to our students we wish to give them the widest possible scope and influence, so if the examinations are fully accepted by the R.I.B.A. and Society of Architects we have a very high status for the whole of the British Empire. That is why it seems advisable to insert the words "in alliance with the R.I.B.A. and Society of Architects."

Mr. E. M. Powers: I think it would be very helpful if we did include the words "in alliance with the R.I.B.A., etc." Anticipating probably some sort of discussion on these lines, I cabled to the R.I.B.A. and asked them if they would give us a lead in view of such a board being appointed, and this is the reply:—"Board will give sympathetic consideration any scheme submitted jointly by all provinces."

Mr. Gordon Leith having intimated his willingness to accept the alteration suggested by Mr. Fleming, his motion as amended was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously:—

"That a Federal Council representative of all Architectural Bodies in the Union of South Africa be appointed to direct and co-ordinate Architectural Education, with power to act in alliance with the R.I.B.A. and Society of Architects' Examinations."

Mr. Walter Reid (Transvaal Institute of Architects): I am of opinion that, if possible, this Conference should fix the Constitution of this Council which you appointed this morning. As a member of the Union Practice Committee, I think we have quite enough to do on practice matters affecting the profession generally without mixing us up with education. I

think there is plenty of room for two bodies—the Union Practice Committee and an Educational Committee as passed this morning. Those two bodies can in some way or other be co-ordinated.

It is my firm conviction that this Conference should see the thing through. I therefore have pleasure in submitting the following:—

"That a sub-committee of this Conference be appointed to frame the Constitution of the Federal Council on Education appointed as per previous resolution, and to submit same for consideration to this Conference; the sub-committee to be composed of Professor Pearse and Mr. E. M. Powers, of the Transvaal, Professor Snape and Mr. W. J. Delbridge, of the Cape, Messrs. O. J. P. Oxley and W. Paton, for Natal, and Mr. M. Thomas, of the Union Education Department."

We all know the pros and cons, and if you get a body of men like that together we will be through all our troubles if we can get their constitution approved of to-morrow.

As a result of suggestions made, it was agreed that the names of the mover of the proposal (Mr. Reid) and the Chairman be added to the sub-committee.

Mr. Reid's proposal was seconded by Mr. Brownlee and was put to the meeting as an amendment of Mr. Fleming's resolution, the voting resulting as follows:—

Eight in favour, ten against. Declared lost.

The following proposal by Mr. H. J. Brownlee, seconded by Mr. W. J. Delbridge, was then put to the meeting:—

"That the Conference shall define the Constitution of the Federal Council for Education, and that the various Architectural Bodies to be represented thereon shall be requested to nominate their representatives in consultation with the Union Department of Education, the Universities of Capetown and Witwatersrand, and the Technical College, Durban."

The voting resulted in the amendment being lost by seven votes to ten.

Mr. Gordon Leith: I was not quite clear in my mind as to what Mr. Reid had in view. If Mr. Reid intended that the selection of the personnel of the Federal Council should be left to the respective architectural bodies, then I should liked to have voted in favour of the motion. I should like to move a resolution such as this:—

"That this Conference appoints a sub-committee to go into the question of the Constitution of this Federal Education Council, and that they be given distinctly to understand that the selection of the personnel of this Council has to be approved by the responsible Architectural Bodies in the Union."

Professor Snape: It strikes me just as a little strange that this Conference can suggest the Federal Council, but can have no say in suggesting a tentative constitution. This Conference is a body for education and yet has no say in suggesting any tentative constitution for the Federal Council. Why can't we discuss the matter while we are here? It seems rather strange that the Conference will not give power to a sub-committee to suggest a constitution.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming: I am glad Professor Snape has spoken as he has. The moment this first preliminary matter was settled it was my intention to move that a sub-committee be appointed just on the same terms as Mr. Reid has proposed, to report to this Conference. That would be an instruction through this Conference and a guiding star of the Practice Committee that has the thing in hand. It is a matter of procedure pure and simple. We ought to get it defined as to who is the body that has the opportunity in point of time to give this matter the proper consideration it requires, but to say we shall not take advantage of the educational authorities met here is far from our thoughts. The very first thing we should move after this matter is disposed of, is that this sub-committee be appointed.

Mr. Gordon Leith's amendment was seconded by Prof. Snape.

The Chairman then put Mr. Leith's amendment to the meeting as follows:—

"That a sub-committee be appointed to frame a Constitution for the Federal Council of Education appointed as per previous resolution, and to submit same for consideration of this Conference; that this Conference select the personnel of the sub-committee, and that the selection of the personnel of the Federal Council be left to the Architectural Bodies concerned."

The voting was as follows:—Eight in favour and seven against. The amendment was declared carried and became the substantive motion.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming: Is it clear that the order of functioning and matters of detail for this Federal Council will be settled here, and that will be the final basis on which they will work, and will be composed of persons elected by the local bodies? I suppose the sub-committee will report as to what the number of members should be, and the functions of the sub-committee will cease in that respect, and whoever the local bodies may elect that will be the Federal Council.

Mr. Gordon Leith: Yes. I take it the constitution which is to be drafted will be a draft constitution, and I am hoping that the task will not be such a big one as most of us anticipate. I can see it will be a big subject if we are going to bring into consideration the holding of different examinations in this country.

If we concentrate on the education and examination of South African trained students and give them the local University degrees then there should not be so much difficulty involved. If we can discuss the question of granting diplomas from the R.I.B.A. to South African students the prospects might be simplified.

Mr. H. J. Brownlee: Might I suggest that the constitution of this Board is a very simple matter indeed. I don't know about twenty-four hours, it may be done in perhaps two or three hours. We merely wish to form the constitution of the Board. I think that the motion before us makes it quite explicit that this Committee will merely form certain resolutions among its own members to be submitted to this Conference for ratification or modification or absolute deletion.

Mr. Wallace Paton: I am not quite clear as to what is meant by constitution: I take it they mean a defining of the powers and scope of the Board. I would suggest that in a very broad way the power and scope of the Board is already defined in the resolution adopted this morning. Is it the intention that this sub-committee should expand or further define those?

Chairman: Yes, I take it that it is so.

Professor Snape: The Conference is here and the drawing out of the wider definition of the scope is too much for the Conference to do. The sub-committee is to do that and report to the Conference. It is just the few guiding principles. If we have power to form or suggest the Board, surely we have power to carry on and define in general principle the sort of scope and duties of the Board. The Conference is giving nothing away in appointing a sub-committee, because it has to come back to the Conference, who can have its say on it.

On being put to the meeting, Mr. Leith's substantive motion was carried by eleven votes to seven.

Mr. Walter Reid then proposed the following gentlemen for the sub-committee:—

Professors Snape and Pearse, Messrs. E. M. Powers, F. L. H. Fleming, Wallace Paton, O. J. P. Oxley, M. Thomas, W. J. Delbridge, and the Chairman (F. J. Ing).

This was seconded by Mr. Walker, and as a result of further suggestions the names of Messrs. H. J. Brownlee and M. K. Carpenter were added, the latter as secretary to the sub-committee.

On being put to the meeting, the proposal was unanimously carried, and it was agreed that the sub-committee should meet in the Art Hall at 8 p.m.

EDUCATION OF ARCHITECTURAL STUDENTS.—Professor Pearse (Witwatersrand University): I thought perhaps that those who put the item on the agenda might have some proposal to put forward, but so far as I am concerned I would like to get some uniformity which I think would probably be arrived at by this

Federal Council, as to the standard of the examinations or standard of education for the students in this country. As you know, we have a course definitely laid down, and it is not really for me to say any more about it except that the course has been accepted by the Liverpool University, and they have agreed to give students from here a course gratuitously there if they went to it. The R.I.B.A. have been approached and Mr. Powers sent the course Home, but it has not been submitted to the Board of Education yet, so I do not know what they have to say about it.

What I would like to have discussed is the question of a definite course for the Union, and receive suggestions from the other members of educational schools as to their proposals. One thing I would like to urge on the meeting, particularly on the architects and representatives of schools in other parts of the country, is that members should all be asked to collaborate in this movement. I think it is their duty to urge students to take a definite course here. If this is not done, we will find a number of draughtsmen turned out to the detriment of our profession, men who through not having qualifications are not always recognised by architects of high professional standing, and the result is that they drift and become draughtsmen and assistants in various drawing offices. I was going to ask if this Conference could not pass a resolution to the effect that the various societies should collaborate on this question of education. If pupils were urged to take some course, and reports were obtained from the Institution as to their progress, and not to allow them to go on with the course if they were not really as capable as they should be for the profession to be of advantage to them.

If you think it is worth while, I would propose that the various Institutions be asked to collaborate.

Professor Snape: This is the chief matter that has brought me to the Conference. It was in 1917 that I first definitely proposed a resolution in our Senate that the next Chair should be Architecture, but unfortunately for various local reasons I have not been able to get it through. There is no question whatever of competition between schools, and I can assure you that there is no question whatever about watering down courses. The whole idea of the Universities here is to raise the standard. It is purely the moral standard of the University giving the degree which enables that degree to be well thought of. So the first essential principle in instituting a school of architecture is that that school shall have the sympathy of the architectural profession generally in the whole of the country. We have said over and over again that we cannot institute a school of architecture in Capetown against the wishes of the architectural profession. It can only be done with their active sympathy and support. I think we will all admit that the Cape has certainly a right to institute a school of

architecture; the City where we have round about it the only colonial style of architecture—indigenous style—which is in many ways suited to this country. What artistic architecture we have in this country is in the Cape. In considering the origin and the question of the institution of a school of architecture we come to the conclusion that we could not institute a school merely by appointing a Professor of Architecture. We realise it to be specially difficult. That was brought home to us by the representatives of the Cape Institute of Architects, that in this country, where our traditions are not very ancient, we have many special difficulties—more difficult than, say, schools of architecture in Great Britain or on the Continent. However, we felt that that ought not to prevent us from instituting a school for young men of this country, because we have felt, before Johannesburg was instituted, and before the Cape School of Architecture was instituted, that students were simply being dragged up for the profession, as it were, without any definite course of training, and one felt that students did not get the full opportunities they would get if schools of architecture were instituted. In thinking of the width of training required for architecture we, in discussing it in our Senate, came to the conclusion that before we could institute the school, we had a very much wider thing than just the appointment of a Professor. We had to see that we had very definite training and facilities for the outset. We also thought we ought to take the wider vision. It was pointed out that in a school of architecture it was our duty to give a student imagination and vision, and that it was not a mere narrow technical training that was required; and to do that we came to the conclusion that we should establish a Faculty of Fine Arts. The sort of suggestions we had in mind were that we would have a Professor of Fine Arts who would perhaps be deemed a Faculty. We would have our Professor of Architecture who would be definitely related to a professional school, and therefore be kept very busy with all the points connected with that professional school, and he could not probably have the time to give to the general duties that the Dean of the Faculty would have to do.

Then we thought tentatively of a Professor of Applied Art and Design connected perhaps with such subjects as all sorts of designs appertaining to the country, pottery design, lettering and printing, textile designs, etc. And perhaps maybe a Professor of Historics and perhaps a Professor of Sculpture and Modelling. At any rate we have definitely advertised the Professor of Fine Art. After that we are going to have the Chair of Architecture. The idea we have is that the gentleman appointed to that chair must be a practical Architect with of course academic qualifications fitted to give a course of training, but we want to relate the training in the school to practice. You can't pretend to turn out a practical architect from the

University, but to give the basis of training whereby the man can develop into the style of architect you want, that is the aim and object of the school. It was because of the vision that we tried to take into consideration with the School of Architecture that a little delay has occurred. We desired very much to have the Faculty and Fine Arts. We felt that by the Chair of Fine Art and the Professor of Architecture we should get that sympathy which should be in an architectural school. The institution of such a school will react to the good of the engineering school. Then the point came up about the relationship of the school of Art at the University. We have to come to some arrangement with the School of Art whereby we can see that we can get the full width of our training which we feel is necessary in connection with a school of architecture. Of course I have come here not as an architect, but as the member of Senate who has particularly struggled for some years to get our University to institute architecture, and to ask the Conference their suggestions for general principles. I believe that our schools should be instituted on certain definite lines within certain general principles, but I do not believe in tying the University down to a sort of cast iron pattern.

If you are going to design anything you may have a few general principles on which you are going to design your structure. It is on those lines that I want you to give us some lines to go upon. If you appoint men you must allow them to have full say in the details of the course; but at any rate you can give us a few points on which you wish the schools based.

I do not understand a remark of Mr. Waterson's this morning that he did not believe in any South African atmosphere. We have a South African atmosphere in engineering. We can only arouse the enthusiasm of our students by illustrating South African examples, and I think you could illustrate your architectural training and education on what South African examples you have, even if you have to criticise them and give your point of view as to why you criticise them. We plead for our schools that we are training up students for South Africa and we want our school so as to influence our country for good. If that is not a South African atmosphere I do not know what is. But there is no question whatever of lowering the standard or watering it down. There is the tendency in Great Britain, I am sorry to say, not to give credit for trying to keep up the standard. I feel that the standard here is higher; at any rate it is for us to make certain that the standard is equal to that of Great Britain.

Here we have architects representing the whole of South Africa, and if a few general resolutions, without tying up the Universities, could be passed as a sort of guide it would be very helpful. For instance, you would like to make it quite clear that you would want to have a very good school of art in connection with

the school of architecture. The idea we had in Capetown was to have five years. The first year would be perhaps more of a preliminary character; the only architectural subject might be a general subject like the history. Then there would be four years at the University, going on to the professional side and working on to the intermediate standard of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and then in the last year on architectural study, and that would be only part time in the University and part time in an architect's office.

What Professor Pearse says with regard to the sympathy of architects is absolutely sound. I feel that a profession that is not considering the wider standpoint, that is not considering the vision, the higher ideals of service to the country in which they are placed, is, in my opinion, a dead profession; it has no ideals of service if it adopts a narrow point of view. One has to make up one's ideals, and the best way to do so is to receive a little sympathy and active help from professional men in the work we are trying to undertake. I feel that I can take the resolution of this Conference back to our Senate, and that we can make a very strong move with your sympathy and help to try and get that Chair of Architecture at Capetown instituted from the beginning of next year, and I can assure you that if you can help us with that, you will not need to regret the meeting of this Conference and the time you have taken in coming here. Of course there are several practical points. It has been suggested that we ought not to give a degree of architecture in this country unless we can say that the students have gone overseas, and we ought not to give the degree until they have a certain amount of study in the older countries. That raises rather a difficult practical issue. It is not so easy for a student to get overseas, and we have felt that we are bound to do our best to get as many post scholarships as possible to enable the students who graduate in the University to receive the training overseas. We recognise the desirability of doing that. If we can only get our degree recognised so that the student can reach the higher standard, if he does get overseas, he will very likely have more chance of getting a post in a London office or a country office in England, which would enable him in his spare time to study architecture in the old country or the continent.

I have just put forward these ideas as they run through my head, and it is for the Conference as Architects closely in touch with practice to consider them. You must remember we have always this difficulty; we must not train up our students in pure architecture; on the other hand, we must in a University give width to that training and vision, so that the student does not come out of the school merely as a technician with his nose down to do a certain amount of routine work, but that student when

he is young must receive an interest at the University that he will carry throughout his life. This is the time to give them the vision.

With regard to my subject of engineering, it is not my duty to cram down a lot of facts and information, but I have taught those students to study for themselves so as to have some ideas in life and carry on for themselves in connection with the practical work which they have to do. Something similar is the sort of ideal which a University ought to have in conjunction with a school of architecture.

Mr. John Waterson: : Professor Snape has talked about ideals. You would not try to teach a man to turn out a surgeon and never have him handle an actual human body. My fear is that if you are going to try and create an atmosphere in a University, and you are going to modify your standard of design, your conception of design, to what you can see in any of the South African towns, you will be in danger of giving any student a very crude and imperfect idea of what an architect really is. I don't see how you are going to give a student a really great idea of the Gothic or any sort of Church architecture unless you can bring home to him what it is really in actual execution. What prompted my remark was that there seemed to me to be something in the mind of the gentleman who made the remark about modifying the standard in South Africa. If a man who is trained in Europe has the opportunity of being continuously in the presence of great architects, he starts in the battle with an enormous advantage over the man who has never been outside of the Cape or Transvaal. What I really meant was that I want to deprecate very strongly any attempt to modify the ideals of Art to bring it within the scope of the environs in which the ordinary student in South Africa has to start his career. The South African environment and atmosphere is a very valuable one in itself of course.

PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS.—Mr. E. M. Powers (Hon. Corresponding Secretary to the R.I.B.A.): The subject of professional publications has been delegated to me, and we would like to have the opinion of this Conference upon the question. It is felt by the Transvaal Association that the time is now opportune when we should have an official architectural journal or an official organ of the Architectural Union in South Africa. As you know, the Association of Transvaal Architects journal has been running for something like seven years. It is edited and produced quarterly by a Committee of the Association, and it has been the policy that the journal, if making any profit, it should be put to the betterment of the production. It is not a proprietary journal in any way, and any surplus of revenue goes to the betterment of the publication. The production of such a journal is not an easy matter, but we have manfully struggled on during this period and have always been able to produce some-

thing of interest to our members. We have paid our way and bettered the journal, but it now appears that the time is opportune when the organ should be representative of the whole of the architectural profession throughout South Africa, and it is that point which I would like the Conference to consider. As you know, there is a journal published in Capetown known as the *Architect, Builder and Engineer*. It is also an excellent journal and comes out monthly. I would like to say frankly that the Transvaal Association could not see its way to produce a journal monthly on account of the amount of work entailed and the difficulty, of course, of getting regular matter, and I believe that the Capetown journal is a proprietary journal, and that to some extent rather puts such a journal out of court as regards being an official organ for the profession. I think we should consider that such a journal should not be a proprietary one but one published by the Association. Then there is a difficulty perhaps that if any particular paper is made the official organ of the constituted bodies, the increased cost of circulating it would have to be met. With our own journal, it is supplied free to the members of the Association, the Port Elizabeth and the Natal members. In our case it is supplied in view of their membership to the Association, so that we practically get no revenue from sales of the journal. It pays its way purely from the advertisements. I propose to make a definite proposition, and that is:—

"That the professional journal as an official organ of the architectural profession throughout South Africa be produced in the Cape, Transvaal, and Natal in rotation under an appropriate title and design, and printed in the centres most convenient and economical."

The object of that will be readily seen. So far as the Transvaal Association is concerned, its work would continue as hitherto; we would prepare and edit a journal quarterly. The Cape Province, if they agreed, would undertake to issue a similar number design and cover for the next month, and the Natal Institute should do the same; so that when we get round to the Transvaal again we come round to the next quarter. Each Province would be responsible for the editing and production of matter once a quarter. We should then get in rotation a monthly publication.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming, in seconding the proposal: I see great advantages in the idea of maintaining editorial functions in each centre. If you have editorial functions taking place only in one centre, it appears that the other two centres are apt to go to sleep and lose interest. The exercise of editorial functions is a great tonic and spur to keep up to date and bring copy from your own members. It appears to me that the scheme is rather novel and might be made very interesting.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge (Cape Institute of Architects): I wish to move an amendment. The novel scheme outlined by Mr. Powers seems to me to be impracticable. First of all, on the score of finance, a rough calculation has convinced me that such a scheme would cost £4,000 a year to finance. A monthly journal such as we for instance are publishing in Capetown costs £2,500 a year at a minimum to produce. We find that each copy of our journal in Capetown costs us 3s. to 4s., and when we have special supplements with blocks such as you find in connection with our journal, each supplement costs us £100 for blocks and printing alone. How a small professional society such as the architects is in South Africa could run a monthly journal therefore passes by comprehension. If we were in the position that was open to us a little while ago, and we could secure mercantile advertisements from builders and builders' merchants and engineering firms, and combine the whole thing in one journal, there would be something in it from a financial point of view. On the score of finance, I do not think it need much discussion. We have gone into it very fully in connection with our Cape journal, and I take it that the price is not very different in other centres. The Cape Institute has definitely made the Cape journal its official journal. My friend Professor Snape and I, who are responsible for the professional conduct of that journal, have put in an enormous amount of labour and, rightly or wrongly, we consider we have the largest subscription advertising medium in South Africa. The idea, therefore, that our journal should disappear—(Mr. Powers: No; amalgamate.)—But Mr. Powers has pointed out that amalgamation is impossible with a proprietary journal. I move that unless there be some other proposal forthcoming, the Conference do not entertain the idea set forth by my friend. My amendment really amounts to a negative of the proposal that has been put.

Mr. Wallace Paton (Natal Institute of Architects): It has been suggested by Mr. Powers that the journal should be published monthly in each centre, including Natal. I see considerable difficulty in the way of the journal being published in Natal with our Institute here, as it is a much smaller one than the other centres. I think we should defer the matter to our own Institute and get their opinion.

Professor Snape: I do not propose to vote on this question, as I do not feel it is my duty to do so. As one having a little experience and interest in the journal, it is true that the *Architect, Builder and Engineer* is a proprietary journal. It is to a certain extent being carried on for the benefit of the widow of the late J. T. Brown. I can assure you that the journal has never made a large amount of money. It does not take a very brilliant sort of man to see that the issues of that journal are the very best in the way of printing, etc.,

that can be done, and will continue to be done. At any rate it has been a hard job to carry it through. I do not see how you are going to get editorial control unless you have an editor. How you are going to have three editors in different places I do not know, because there must be some sort of continuity in a journal. Any official journal that the architects may produce will be just the same and will have my full sympathy and support, and it is for the architects to see from their own standpoint whether they can run an official journal.

Professor Pearse: I would like to propose another amendment. I think this matter is of vital importance to the different centres concerned. In the Transvaal there are three bodies interested in the journal. Lately the Town Planning people have taken a keen interest, and there is also the Natal Institute of Architects who use it, and also the Society of Architects, the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors, and the Institute of Architects in the Orange Free State. So that if there are so many bodies concerned in the Transvaal journal, I do not think it is a matter that the Conference can definitely decide upon. You might get expressions of opinion and then put it to the various bodies. It would be an ideal thing to have a journal for the whole of South Africa, but these points must not be overlooked. I would therefore suggest that we might consider the question of referring the whole matter to the various Institutes concerned and it be brought up at a later date. It can easily be settled by correspondence.

Mr. Walter Reid (Transvaal Institute of Architects): I think the whole matter is rather premature. The interests of the north and the south have been very clearly outlined, and I do not think there is any hope of bringing them together at all. I read my agenda paper before I came down from Johannesburg, and I had a preconceived sort of idea that this proposition would never come off, and after hearing the discussion here this morning I think I was not far out. We have at this Conference started a lot of new machinery, which is very good for the professional interests of the Union, but still the moment is premature for these new bodies to bring out a publication of their own. If our Union Registration Act goes through, we have a clause in that which will give the profession as a whole the right to start what is called a proprietary journal, because it would be included and definitely stated in that Act that one of our objects is the production of a newspaper. The best thing to do is to wait until that Act goes through and then revive the proposal. At the moment it is impossible for the Transvaal to take any interest. We had better go on with the two separate papers for the next year or two.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge (Cape Institute of Architects): I propose this amendment:—

"That this Conference considers the time inopportune for discussion leading to any practical result in the direction of establishing one professional journal for the Union."

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming (Association of Transvaal Architects): Before that is seconded, I would like to suggest that Mr. Delbridge would accept this:—

"That the subject of consideration of professional publications falls within the functions of the Federal Council."

This was seconded by Mr. Walter Reid.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge: I do not see how that is practicable. The Federal Council on Education as it is now constituted consists of representatives of the various architectural societies in the Union and the educational authorities, and they represent various technical journals.

Mr. Walter Reid: I think it should be the Union Practice Committee, and not the Federal Council.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming: I do not mind so long as it is referred to somebody to keep the matter alive.

Mr. Allen Wilson (Association of Transvaal Architects): I would like to know whether it is necessary to have an official organ for the whole of South Africa. Personally, I am strongly in favour of it. We ought to have something that expresses the views of the whole of the architectural profession in South Africa, and not the views of one particular Province or the other. That is what we must aim for, I think. When these journals were first brought into being we were different bodies altogether. To-day the thing is very different. We are more or less alive, and we think a great deal more together than we have done in the past. I should like to hear the opinion of everybody here as to whether they are more or less with me in the feeling that we ought to have an official paper to be called the *South African Architect*. We know that there are different papers published in England by the Royal Institute of Architects and the Society of Architects. The latter have excelled themselves in producing a document second to none in the profession, in my opinion, and we ought to have a paper of that description either on the R.I.B.A. lines or the Society of Architects. They are both working to the advantage of our profession. I feel that perhaps the time is not opportune now, but I do think that later on it should be kept in view.

Mr. H. J. Brownlee seconded Mr. Delbridge's amendment.

Mr. E. M. Powers (Hon. Corresponding Secretary to the R.I.B.A. in South Africa): I would like to make a few remarks in reply to Mr. Delbridge. The main object I had was that as this Conference has come together and established the Federal Council, it

is practically unity of the profession throughout South Africa. I feel now that we want unity of policy, and that can only be done by having one journal. Mr. Delbridge mentioned the financial aspect; it would be a question of going into details. He mentioned it cost £2,000 a year to produce the Cape paper. I should imagine that is correct, because our own journal costs £600 for four issues, and in that case if you have twelve issues the approximate cost of producing it would be £1,800. I do think that if two papers are being produced, one at each end of the Union, and are making a profit, even if only a small one, with those two combined in one the cost of production would be reduced, and if they are each making a profit they are bound to make a larger profit if combined into one. Then the editorial question would have to be very clearly discussed naturally, and is really a matter of detail. I was simply putting forward the matter of principle. I feel that we do want a purely architectural journal. I was pleased and interested to hear Mr. Delbridge say that the Cape Institute had adopted the *Cape Architect, Builder and Engineer* as their official organ, because the paper distinctly states that it is an independent journal. If it is the organ of the Cape Institute, then I fear that the Cape Institute has been somewhat critical on the work we have been doing up-country. The point Professor Snape raised about Mrs. Brown's interests in the journal, I think might be overcome. If she derives a small income from the journal, it would be quite possible in detailing the work of a joint journal that the same proportion of profits might be allocated to her. I would like to put three points before the Conference with a view, even if we do not come to a definite solution at this date, that the matter might be gone into in the future.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge: Mr. Powers, I am afraid, has taken me up wrongly. The *Cape Architect, Builder and Engineer* does claim to be an independent journal. That journal, however, has been nominated by the Cape Institute of Architects as the official medium for the dissemination of its reports; other than that they have no financial control or dictation to the editorial department.

Mr. E. M. Powers: That is my point, that it is supported by the Cape Institute and is not their official journal.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming: May I alter the wording of my amendment:—

"This Conference affirms that a central architectural journal representative of architecture in the whole of South Africa is highly desirable, and refers the consideration of the subject of professional publications to the Union Practice Committee."

This was accepted by Mr. Walter Reid and put to the meeting with the following result:—Ten in favour, three against.

Mr. Fleming's proposition was then declared carried.

Mr. Delbridge's first amendment was then put to the meeting, namely:—

"That this Conference considers the time inopportune for discussion leading to any practical result in the direction of establishing one professional journal for the Union."

The voting being three in favour and ten against, the amendment was declared lost.

Mr. Fleming's amendment was then put before the meeting as the substantive motion, the voting resulting as follows:—Ten in favour, three against.

INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF ARCHITECTS WITH ALLIED CALLINGS.—Mr. W. J. Delbridge (Cape Institute of Architects): In the advancement of such policy as we have in the Cape Institute of Architects we have from time to time considered the advisability of a union of what we call the graphic professions, or at any rate the establishment of personal relationship with those professions for one particular purpose, and that is the forwarding of the movement in connection with Town Planning, which is now so much to the fore in the Union of South Africa. Our idea in putting this upon the agenda was to get some expression of opinion from this Conference in connection with this particular issue and allied matters, as to the advisability of linking our profession up in a more definite method with other callings interested in this particular subject and any others whereby the graphic professions are inter-allied in matters of professional policy, and which may redound to the benefit of the various professions concerned. For instance, to show what a little co-operation can do on these lines: Lacking a union of the graphic professions, a little while ago the Cape Provincial Council introduced a half-baked ordinance dealing with Town Planning. Had we had a union of the graphic professions in lieu of what will no doubt be established in the Union, we would have been able very effectively to fight the proposal which was put forward by the Cape Provincial Administration, and which was definitely in the direction of stopping very desirable progress on the lines of town planning. What we actually did, however, was to call upon the engineers, surveyors, also upon the doctors and lawyers, to assist us in opposing this particular thing, and within twenty-four hours the Cape Administration caused this draft to be withdrawn, so strong was our opposition. As a result of that experience we have since been co-operating with our friends the engineers and land surveyors, and we hope shortly to get some effective inter-relationship between these professions with special reference to town planning, but we do feel that if we can get together on such an issue that the inter-relationship of the allied callings in the graphic professions cannot but be productive of good to the various professions concerned, and we

would like an expression of opinion from this Conference as to whether it is not desirable for our profession more closely to relate itself to the allied callings to the common end we have in view.

I put that to the Conference and would like to move a little resolution.

Professor Pearse (Witwatersrand University): In seconding the proposal, stated that it was desirable that there should be more alliance between the professions outlined by Mr. Delbridge.

Professor Snape (Capetown University): As the representative here of the Engineers I would like to say a few words. The question has been suggested by the South African Society of Civil Engineers. There are two fairly large comprehensive bodies in the Union which have been carrying on for many years. The South African Society of Civil Engineers is over twenty-two years old and embraces engineers all over the Union, Rhodesia, Nyassaland and British East Africa. We are trying to cover Africa south of the Equator. We have all the chief engineers in connection with the civil engineering world and it is more confined to public works engineering nowadays, municipal works, irrigation, railways, sewerage, harbours and so on. We do not embrace mechanical, electrical, or mining engineers, so that we are the profession that perhaps is more closely allied to the architects than the South African Institute of Engineers at Johannesburg. There is no question of jealousy between the South African Institute of Engineers, which has its own sphere of influence, and us. I would like to say we have watched the question of architecture, and it was only a week before I left Cape Town that your Registrar sent us a copy of your Architects Registration Act. I don't think the engineers can approve of that Act as it stands and we will have to oppose it at the present moment. You don't define what the practice of architecture is, and you don't define quantity surveying. Many of our men claim to have the right to put up buildings and we may not all agree upon the interpretation which may be put on the clause. We want our existing rights reserved, to put up our own works for our own purposes, rights that we have enjoyed for years. With regard to quantity surveying we read it that we could not take out quantities for our own work, which would be ridiculous. Those are the chief points about the Act. There is no question that we are desirous of working in close touch with architects, surveyors and the like professions. We have considered a movement—there was a joint conference three years ago of architects, engineers and surveyors in the Free State and they proposed a sort of Federal Council. We have a society covering the whole of the Union dealing with a definite subject, and our difficulty has been that we have no definite federal body representing the architects in the Union. I feel that none of us professionals in South Africa are very numerous and

we are very closely allied in construction work. We have problems which overlap to a certain extent, and certain troubles which may arise between one profession and another, could easily be solved if we had some sort of Federal Council of these professionals. It is perhaps a little premature at present. The main point is to know of a definite Federal Council for architects in South Africa with which to deal.

It is too much to deal with about eight or nine bodies which apparently exist in architecture. I, of course, cannot commit the society I am intimately connected with, but I think I can say that we are in sympathy, and it is our desire that we shall be able to work together. On the subject of town planning, of course the engineers are all interested. I can assure you that we have done everything possible in Cape Town and Johannesburg to forward the great subject of town planning. We all realise the terrible morass in many ways that we have got into in South Africa, and we want to find some way of getting out of it.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge: I was guilty of an unconscious discourtesy just now. I dealt from our Cape Institute point of view. I would like to add that the greatest degree of co-operation obtains now with the allied callings of painting, sculpture, and applied Art.

The very greatest assistance is being given by us in connection with the School of Art in Cape Town and we suggest to the Conference that it might be well for the Conference to give an expression of opinion that also upon the aesthetic side closer co-operation is highly desirable.

Mr. O. J. P. Oxley (School of Art, Durban): May I ask that the architects should wherever possible help forward the study and development of craftsmanship. We have instances of craftsmen arriving in this country and not being able to make a living because they are not given the support of the architects. I think it is one of our chief aims to train craftsmen and unless there is going to be a definite outlet we shall not have any good craftsmen coming forward. We can in the various art schools train craftsmen on the right lines provided we have the support of the various architectural bodies, and let the students feel that their efforts when they have finished their training will receive some support. It is rather disheartening at times to find that when a piece of craftsmanship is required the architects go outside the country and send to England. If that continues our art schools will not be doing the good work which they set out to do, because the students will not come forward to be trained. I feel that craftsmanship in most of the crafts is so intimately connected with architecture that they are bound to look to the architectural profession for support, and I ask that more consideration be given to craftsmen trained in this country. At present there are very few openings and therefore the craftsmen will

not come along to be trained. We do not want to see art schools just turning out people who are able to paint or draw a little; we want them to feel that the art school is the place where they can come to definitely train for a livelihood and make it a practical workshop as well as giving the aesthetic training. I appeal to the architects to consider wherever possible the employment of craftsmen trained in this country.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge then put forward the following proposition, seconded by Mr. Powers:—

"That this Conference affirms the desirability of closer co-operation by architects with all allied artistic and scientific societies whose aims are allied in any way to architecture."

Mr. E. M. Powers: I would like to reply to Professor Snape. I am speaking as chairman of the Draft Act Committee and Professor Snape has raised a few points of vital importance to the Act. I would like to tell him that the reason the Draft Act has not been submitted or broadcasted to all societies is that the matter is still under consideration in view of some opposition raised at the Cape Town Conference. He rather complains that architecture is not definitely defined. That is true, and I think if he can give us a very clear definition of it, we shall get a very long way forward. We have done the best we can and the definition here under the title is as clear as it is possible for us to make it. I don't think for a moment that the engineers would wish to assume the duties of an architect any more than the architects would wish to assume the duties of an engineer. The two professions are closely allied and I am certain they can work in co-operation without overstepping the limits or encroaching on the preserves of either party. With regard to the quantity surveyors I admit that does require a little more defining and it is possible the Draft Act committee will consider that point very closely. I think it might be defined somewhat on these lines:—"Quantity surveyors as relating to building operations." I don't think that the quantity surveyors would want to take out quantities for steel work as against the engineers. There is another point which is of very great importance, and that is the valuable assistance that we are getting from the co-operation of allied bodies in Johannesburg in respect of the allied and technical societies. We meet on common ground and we are able to discuss these points of possible opposition without getting to grips. Recently when the engineers met I was present and this matter was brought up—the opposition of the engineers to the Architects Act, and a motion was brought forward and accepted that no constituted body of that society should oppose legislation by any other constituted body without the matter first being referred to the executive committee. It is very logical that if you are a constituted body of allied societies, it would be suicidal for one to oppose the legislation which the other purposes to bring forward. I have no doubt that

the engineers will see that there is very little they want to oppose when the Draft Act is properly completed and put before them.

Mr. A. R. Martin (Technical College, Durban): I am very keen on the proposal of allied societies of craftsmen. I have met several architects who are very keen on helping the craftsmen along if they get the opportunity to do so. I know the difficulties that the architects suffer out here. An architect might like to introduce a nice piece of craftsmanship but the client will cut it out on the ground of cost. I should be very glad if some craftsman could be asked to co-operate on any committee that may be formed. There is a large Crafts Guild in London in which almost every art craft is included. There have been great strides in the last twenty years since craftsmanship was first introduced. In Liverpool, quite twenty-five years ago, different craft trades were introduced and good craftsmen were turned out. I think where the architects could help so much is to approach any craftsmen of known repute in the country or the technical schools and art schools and ask for the names of any craftsmen at that time in the district, so that they could then deal with the craftsmen direct.

Mr. Allen Wilson: The Conference is very much obliged to Professor Snape for all the valuable information he has given, and I think the Conference would be glad to know whether the explanation given by Mr. Powers is satisfactory so far as the engineers are concerned. It is a rather important matter; we have tried to avoid clashing in any direction, and we have met the engineers in Johannesburg, and I think they are satisfied that the wording is satisfactory.

Professor Snape: I must say that we are not satisfied, but if we get the Royal Institute of British Architects Act I shall be satisfied. This is not the time to discuss the matter however.

Professor Pearse: I would like to mention that at the meeting of engineers—I think it was the British Engineering Standards Committee—they spoke very highly of this Act. If the engineers brought forward an Act they would find the Architects Act very useful to them. Mr. Powers spoke just now about the work being done by the societies up there. I don't know whether our confreres in the Cape know of the big strides the Town Planning Society is making in Johannesburg. The Union Government have asked the Town Planning Society to draw up regulations for the Union. Owing to the interest that is taken there, they are sending all plans to this society, and the architects have joined *en bloc*, and the Ratepayers' Associations are writing for representation, too. The co-operation among the different societies there is really very fine, and with further co-operation between the various societies in the country I think the movement will go forward with the greatest ease.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming: I should like to say a word in endorsement of what Messrs. Oxley and Martin have said. I feel that there is a great danger of the good work which we know is being done, say, in the Durban Art School and elsewhere in this direction being starved at the outset. It is a most up-hill fight. There is a danger of it being turned into unworthy and unsatisfactory channels unless we keep our eyes firmly fixed on the practical side of the work they are trying to do. I would like to ask Mr. Oxley if this motion completely covers what they have in mind. It refers only to artistic and allied societies. Perhaps Mr. Martin might think it did not quite meet the Bill.

Mr. O. J. P. Oxley: I think if the word "artistic" is taken in its wider sense to cover craftsmanship it would do.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge: I think this will meet the case if we make it:—

"That this Conference affirms the desirability of closer co-operation by architects with all allied arts, crafts, and callings, whose aims are allied in any way to architecture."

On being put to the meeting, this was carried unanimously.

The *modi operandi* to be discussed relative to any or all of the foregoing, upon which resolutions may be adopted.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge referred to the Federal Council who would act so that the Union of South Africa could deal as one body with the parent society on the other side. This is extremely important when you remember one speaker referred to the Chapters of the R.I.B.A. as being already in existence in South Africa now that the Association of Transvaal Architects is being allied. They are rather paragraphs, and we want to put them into a Chapter under one head. The advantages are obvious in connection with all matters of correspondence from any of the societies in the Union. These would naturally be dealt with by the Federal Council, and the Secretary would correspond with the Royal Institute of British Architects, and we would, as a Union, deal with the parent body on the other side. It is right that the Chapter of the R.I.B. should be kept distinct from the Federal Council in connection with educational matters, because one hopes that these two Councils, if established, would naturally consult the one with the other, but it does seem advisable that the great societies of the Union should be linked together with the R.I.B.A. in alliance, that we should have some central controlling body in matters of general organisation with the R.I.B.A. I therefore propose that we now refer to the Union Practice Committee the question of the desirability of establishing this Chapter and constituting a Federal Council representative of those Chapters

to deal with R.I.B.A. matters within and without the Union of South Africa.

Mr. W. S. Payne, in seconding the resolution: It does not seem to require much to be said. It is the only logical course of carrying on the work. The three societies are allied to the R.I.B.A., and to bring them under one head seems to be the logical way of carrying out the business.

Mr. John Waterson: Mr. Delbridge has put a view forward, and I would like to state how the thing appears from the point of view of the Transvaal architects. We have got our school of architecture, we have got our charter, and we have established a standing committee which will act as a committee to deal with all matters in connection with the R.I.B.A. They will act in conjunction with the Corresponding Secretary of the Institute. So that we have already done in a way what Mr. Delbridge proposes, that is to say, we have our standing committee which acts in connection with all matters affecting the Institute and our own organisations in the Transvaal. The Transvaal Charter is only a step to the Union Registration Act. When we get that Act, then we shall have a standing committee which will take the place of our standing committee, and which will then act as a definite business body between the Institute and the architects and the Institute's interests in South Africa. It seems to me that Mr. Delbridge's proposal is vague and uncertain. What are you going to do when you have got it. At the present moment we have a Corresponding Secretary, and I think for the time being it is enough to go on as we are and wait until we can spread the thing into a Union Act, and then have a definite standing committee to act. That would be a definite energetic business body concentrated in a few hands acting in conjunction with the Union Act.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge: I want it clearly understood that there is nothing antagonistic in question. We have been working for registration for twelve years, but anything that will tend to consolidate our interest at the present time and unify them cannot but be helpful of registration. We are hoping that it will come off this year or the next year. In the meantime if we can establish our hopes in any way as I propose, I feel sure we cannot do better than follow that example, and I want this Conference more than to refer it to the Union Practice Committee, but to add what endorsement it thinks fit.

Mr. Allen Wilson: I think the time is inopportune. Such a thing is very desirable, but at the present moment we are not really ready for it. I don't know exactly what the term "a Chapter" means. I take it that what Mr. Waterson has said is practically the same thing in other words. So far as the Union Bill is concerned in this matter, the Society of

Architects have expressed their satisfaction that they are coming into uniformity with the South African architects, but they do not bring forward the proposition that there should be a Chapter or Committee. The body of which the Chairman is President has power to control and conduct examinations, and we have the particular powers of which Mr. Delbridge speaks as far as the R.I.B.A. are concerned. We have the two bodies, one looking after the interests of the R.I.B.A., and the other after the interests of the Society of Architects. Our own papers have been sent Home and we have kept them posted up to the last moment, and they have expressed great satisfaction at the Union Bill. I don't say in detail, because they won't understand the peculiarities we have to deal with in this country. I think the present is not the time for such a thing as is suggested however.

Mr. Gordon Leith (Kimberley): Although I think it is a most desirable thing to have, the time is not quite opportune. The Royal Institute would have greater confidence in granting a Chapter to a united body of South African architects, and until such time as we have that established I think we might very well continue as we have been doing in the past.

The following proposition by Mr. Delbridge, seconded by Mr. Payne, was put to the meeting:—

"That this Conference refers the matter of the establishment of a Chapter of the Royal Institute of British Architects in South Africa, and the formation of a Federated Council to deal with the affairs of the allied R.I.B.A. Societies in the Union, to the favourable consideration of the Union Architectural Practice Committee."

The voting being five in favour and nine against, the proposition was declared lost.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUB-COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO FRAME CONSTITUTION OF FEDERAL COUNCIL.

Copies of the draft report were distributed among the members of the Conference for consideration.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge, as Chairman of the Sub-Committee, moved the adoption of the report *seriatim*. Various minor amendments were suggested and agreed to, and on Mr. Delbridge moving the adoption of the report and recommendations *en bloc* as amended, seconded by Mr. Allen Wilson, it was carried unanimously.

A motion by Mr. Wilson, that an expression of thanks be accorded to the sub-committee for drawing up the very valuable document they had, and for the work done by them in that direction, was carried unanimously, and Mr. Delbridge, on behalf of the sub-committee, expressed their appreciation.

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL ON ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION.

1. *Constitution.*—That the Federal Council on Architectural Education be composed of one member from each of the following nine constituent societies, with power of alternation, and that the four educational institutions be each invited to appoint one representative; the Council to consist of 13 members, with power to add as circumstances may arise.

Constituent Societies.—The Natal Institute of Architects; The Cape Institute of Architects; The Orange Free State Institute of Architects; The Association of Transvaal Architects; The Port Elizabeth Society of Architects; The Society of Architects (London), South African Branch; The Architects of East London and Border Towns; The Architects of Kimberley; The Royal Institute of British Architects, in the person of the Honorary Corresponding Secretary for the Royal Institute of British Architects in South Africa.

Institutions.—The University of Capetown; The University of the Witwatersrand; The Natal Technical College, Durban; The Union Department of Education.

2. *Meetings of Council.*—Annual meetings of the Council to be held at Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban and Bloemfontein, in rotation, and that each annual meeting decide the venue at which to hold emergency meetings for each year.

3. *Headquarters of the Council and Secretary.*

(a) The Headquarters of the Federal Council shall be at the offices of the Association of Transvaal Architects, 67, Exploration Buildings, Johannesburg.

(b) The Registrar of the Association of Transvaal Architects shall be the Secretary to the Federal Council.

4. *Finance.*—The principle is stated and accepted that the expenses of the Federal Council will be defrayed by the Constituent Bodies on a scale to be laid down by the Federal Council.

5. *Functionary Power.*—In fulfilling the functions conferred on it, the Federal Council shall direct and co-ordinate Architectural Education and in so doing, shall devise schemes for Education and Examinations in the Union of South Africa and submit them to the constituent Societies and Institutions for their consideration.

Such schemes shall be operative unless reversed or amended by a majority of the Constituent Societies and Institutions.

6. *Annual Report.*—The Federal Council shall issue an annual report to all the Constituent Societies and Institutions together with a statement of accounts.

7. *Functions.*—The functions of the said Federal Council on Architectural Education shall include:—

- (a) Endeavours to induce practitioners to provide educational facilities for their pupils and assistants.
- (b) That a register and record be kept of all students undergoing architectural training within the Union.
- (c) The Sub-Committee suggest that the Convenor of the first Federal Council be Mr. E. M. Powers.
- (d) In all matters of internal organisation the Federal Council shall elect its own officers and direct its own procedure.
- (e) That the Federal Council shall have power to nominate representatives to act in conjunction with the various constituent Educational Bodies within the Federal Council.
- (f) The acceptance of the matriculation certificate as the preliminary qualification for entrance into the profession, except in special cases; in any case student shall exhibit evidence of a natural aptitude for architecture.
- (g) Special consideration shall be given in the scheme of training to South African requirements.
- (h) The power to co-ordinate and promote prizes, bursaries and scholarships.

Mr. Gordon Leith: I feel that I must take this opportunity of putting a motion forward with regard to the development and concentration of our energies on the furtherance of these institutions that are already established here. There has been a lot said in connection with the holding of Royal Institute of British Architects and Society of Architects examinations in this country. So far as the personnel is concerned the country is not large enough to warrant so many different boards of examinations, and I put this motion forward to you with all deference to the R.I.B.A. of which I am a great supporter and also the other societies that are concerned. I think that with such development as we promise to have on educational lines here, those institutions such as the R.I.B.A. and Society of Architects will be able to give our students what degrees they think they deserve, but for the present I suggest that this Conference agrees to promote, with all its energies, the development of architectural examinations in South Africa, and that for the present the practice of holding local examinations on behalf of the R.I.B.A. and Society of Architects be discontinued.

Mr. John Waterson, for purpose of discussion, seconded Mr. Leith's proposal.

Mr. Walter Reid: What is Mr. Leith's idea? What is he going to substitute for these examinations which he proposes to eliminate?

Mr. Gordon Leith: The University Examinations.

Professor Snape: We cannot carry out examinations. We have no right to conduct external examinations.

Professor Pearse: Under the old methods we did conduct examinations for the Association of Transvaal Architects. That was essential for registration purposes. I don't know whether it would apply.

Professor Snape: We have no power to do so.

Mr. H. J. Brownlee: On behalf of the Cape Institute of Architects we have no power to agree to that because we are involved in an educational scheme and have our school arranged for some years to come. There is a school of over twenty students there for which the whole thing is arranged and completed with the R.I.B.A., and it would be quite impossible for us to agree to a proposition like this.

Mr. Walter Reid: What is the position at the Cape? I take it that you work a student through your schools. Is that done in close conjunction with the R.I.B.A.?

Mr. H. J. Brownlee: Yes. It is entirely a school run on R.I.B.A. lines. The only examinations we hold are R.I.B.A. examinations. We have about twenty pupils and are holding an intermediate examination next November, and when we go back we have completed arrangements for holding a special overseas final examination and there are other examinations coming on. These examinations, and particularly the one when we go south, are being held at the express wish of the secretary of the R.I.B.A. He has asked us to arrange and conduct the examinations. So that we are so much involved that we could not possibly agree to the proposition. I am sure I need only put this to the gentlemen round the table for them to see that it would be placing the Cape Institute in a most invidious position if they carried it through.

Mr. E. M. Powers: I really do not see any difficulty in the resolution proposed. We have now formed a Federal Board of Education in conjunction with the University authorities. I would like to add a little to Mr. Leith's proposition, and that is that so far as the R.I.B.A. qualifying examinations are concerned, that the professional work and intermediate examination work shall be dealt with by that Board. I know that the Institute are prepared to accept the University course of South Africa as qualified for the intermediate stage. The student should have the opportunity of studying the very best of British Tudor and Gothic work. If the R.I.B.A. are accepting examinations for the intermediate, then every student should go Home and qualify for the final. We do not want South

African standards for R.I.B.A. examinations. I cannot speak for the Cape, but I know that when examinations have been held in the Transvaal, they have been far from satisfactory. If the prestige of the R.I.B.A. is to be maintained we should not go further than the intermediate examinations in this country.

I agree with Mr. Leith in his remarks, and support him. This proposal places no disability on the architectural students in South Africa, who can qualify and practice here, but it is maintaining a very high standard of qualification which is accepted the world over.

Professor Pearse proposed as an amendment that this point be referred to the Federal Council for discussion.

This was seconded by Mr. Wilson, and on being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

The business of the Conference having been concluded, a vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, and also to the Natal Technical College for the use of the Art Hall, and the courtesy extended to the members of the Conference.

Professor Snape, on behalf of the visiting members, expressed their appreciation of the hospitality extended to them and the arrangements that had been made for the Conference.

STUDENTS' COMPETITION.

This competition is open to students whose names are on the students' register of the Association of Transvaal Architects.

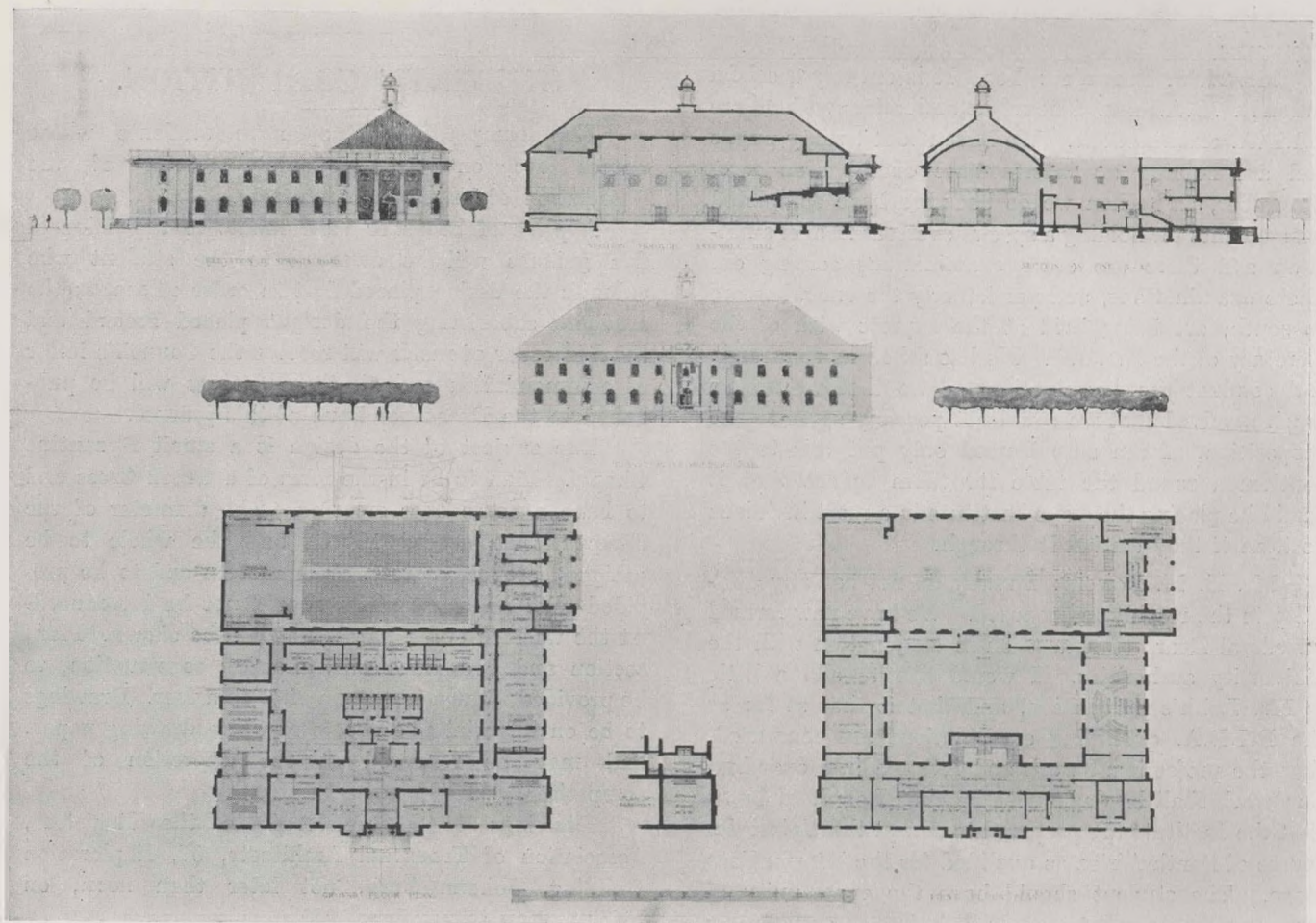
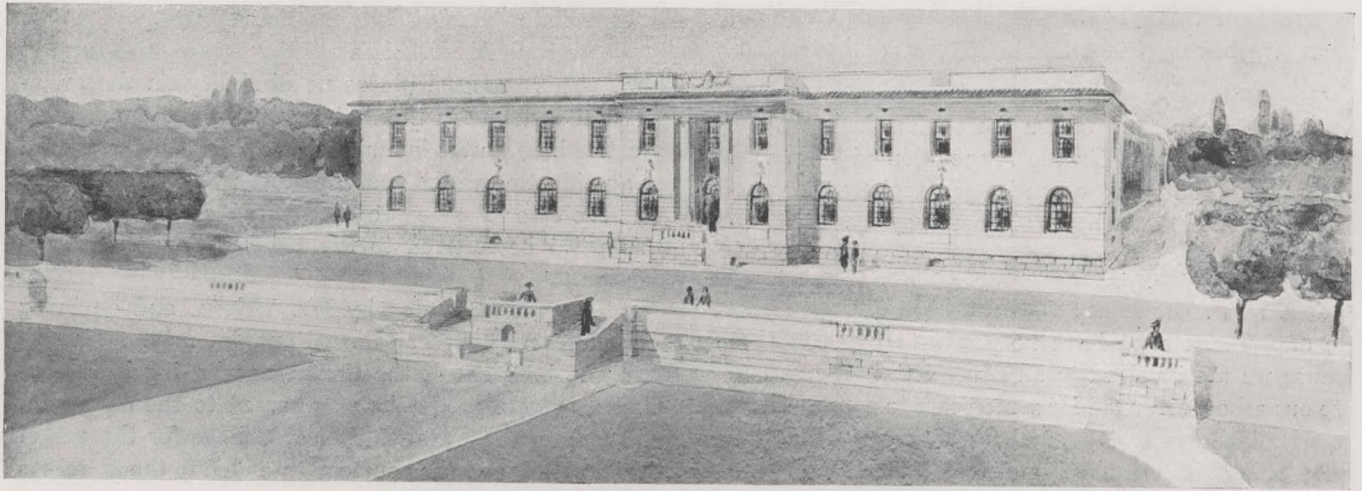
A prize of books or instruments to the value of five guineas will be awarded to the student who submits the design placed first in order of merit; the students submitting the designs placed second and third in order of merit will receive the Council's letter of commendation and all three designs will be published in the December issue of this journal.

The subject of the design is a small Byzantine Chapel. Plan to be in the form of a Greek Cross and to have a dome over crossing. The diameter of the dome not to exceed 18' 0" and the whole to be designed proportionately. The eastern end to be provided with an apse; aisles should not be introduced. At the western end a narthex should be shown. Plan, section and two elevations, showing construction, to be provided, drawn to a scale of $\frac{1}{4}$ " to a foot. Drawings to be on imperial size sheets of white drawing paper, and may be rendered at the discretion of the competitor.

Drawings to be delivered to the Registrar, Association of Transvaal Architects, 67, Exploration Building, Johannesburg, not later than noon, on Friday, 30th November, 1923.

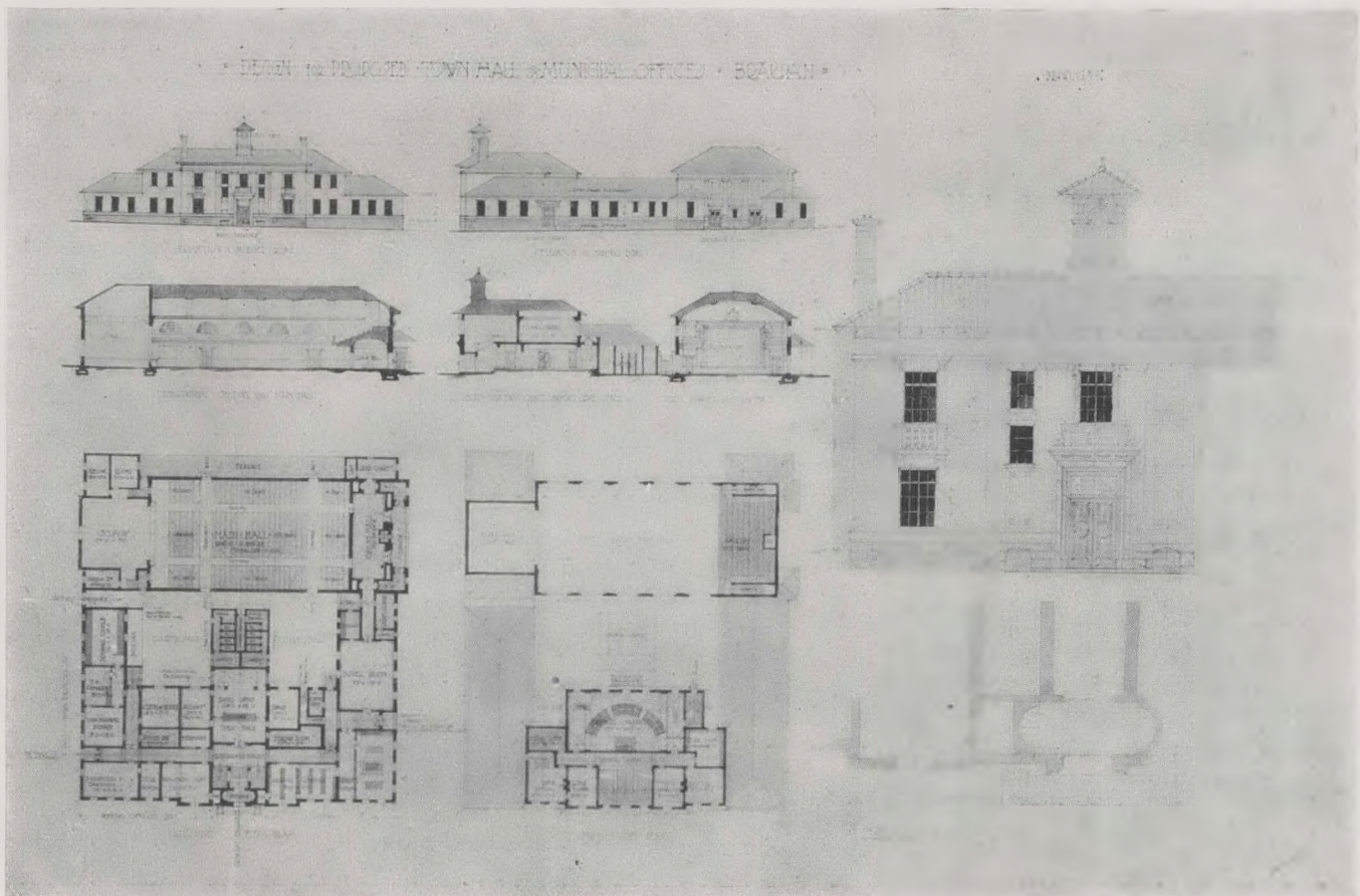
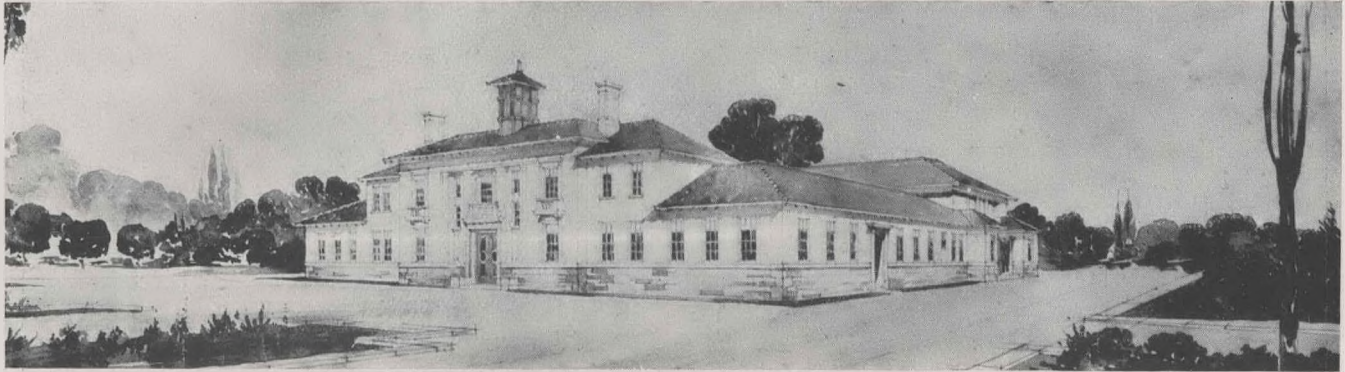
Messrs. E. M. Powers, F.R.I.B.A., and Gordon Leith, M.C., A.R.I.B.A., will adjudicate, and their decisions will be final and binding on all parties.

BRAKPAN TOWN HALL COMPETITION.



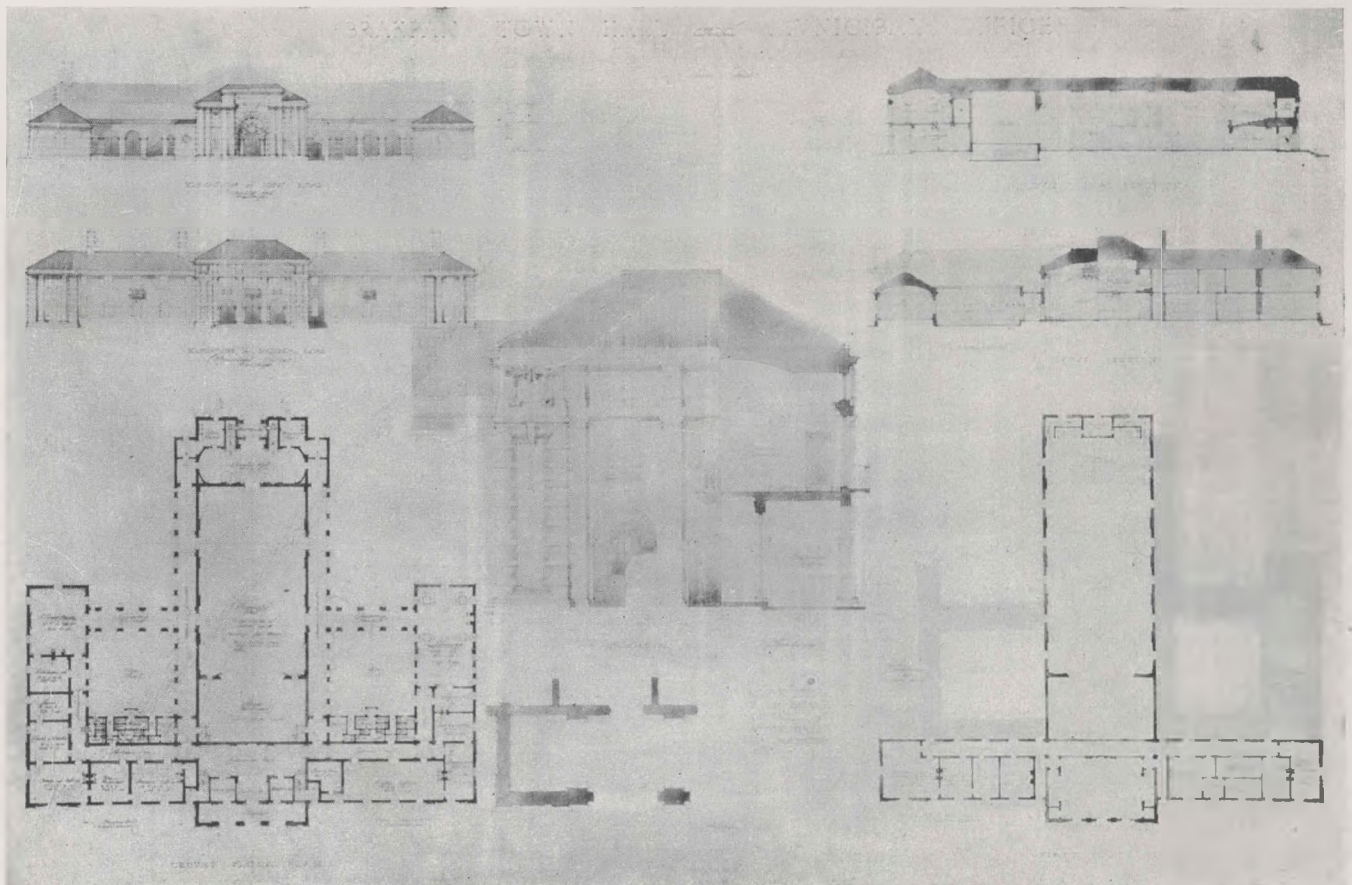
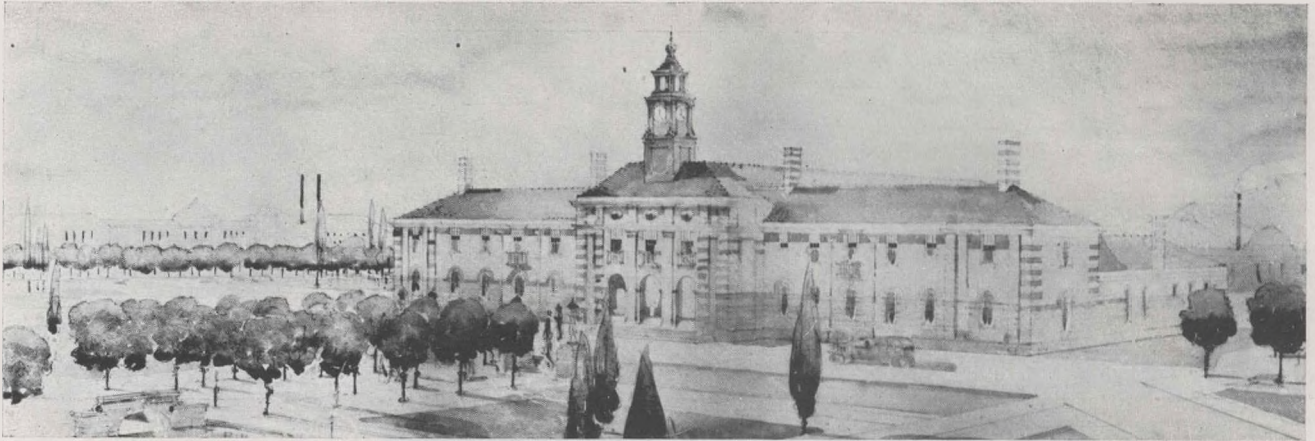
FIRST PREMIATED DESIGN.—V. S. Rees Poole, Architect, Pretoria.

BRAKPAN TOWN HALL COMPETITION.



SECOND PREMIATED DESIGN.—Cowin, Powers & Ellis, F. & A.R.I.B.A. Johannesburg.

BRAKPAN TOWN HALL COMPETITION.



THIRD PREMIATED DESIGN—P. Eagle, Architect, Pretoria.

BRAKPAN COMPETITION.

Assessor's Report.

To the Mayor and Town Councillors of Brakpan,
Municipal Offices, Brakpan.

GENTLEMEN,

Re Competition for Town Hall and Municipal Offices.

The Architectural Competition which you invite for this building has been largely responded to, and I now have the honour of reporting to you as follows:—

Thirty-five sets of designs have been submitted from architects throughout South Africa. A large number of these designs show considerable merit, and it has been no light task to examine them. However, although it has taken some time, every design has been given its due consideration.

In assessing the competition the first and most important point was the matter of planning a suitable building consistent with the rather limited funds available for its construction. Secondly, a dignified structure being essential.

I am very pleased to say that nearly all the competitors have borne these two paramount points in view in their designs, and have shown not only cleverness in the planning but restraint in the way of elaborate architectural embellishments which could not be afforded.

In coming to a definite award it has therefore been necessary to strictly consider the matters of cost and the suitability of planning as well as the architectural treatment, so that the best result may be obtained at a cost somewhere in the neighbourhood of the sum available.

With the consent of your Building Committee, a qualified Quantity Surveyor has been engaged to check my approximate estimates of costs, and his figures are appended hereto.

I desire to say that your Building Committee have three times closely examined the plans, and thanks are due to them for the pains they have taken in making these visits to Johannesburg.

My award is:—

First Premium, No. 23, price £20,165.

Second Premium, No. 26, price £20,510.

Third Premium, No. 28, price £20,850.

Many fine designs are badly planned: some common faults being scattered sanitary arrangements, Mayor's parlour and Town Clerk's department being on different floors to the Council Chamber, scanty sizes for assembly hall and its appurtenances. Again, too little notice has in some cases been taken of the emphatic instructions regarding the question of cost.

REMARKS ON DESIGNS 23, 26 AND 28.

No. 23. The general suitability is excellent. The plan compact and economical, and the sizes of apartments in accordance with schedule.

The elevations, although plain, will be dignified.

The cost, according to my own and the Quantity Surveyor's estimate, comes within the limit laid down.

The author has shown restraint and skill in his design, and I think the building would prove very successful.

No. 26.—The planning is very good indeed, and readily lends itself to cheap future extension. The hall is well designed, and the municipal offices extremely well placed. I give full marks for suitability of plan. The elevations are good. It has been difficult to decide between this design and No. 23, but finally the question of cost was a factor.

No. 28.—This plan is clever, but in practice the assembly hall would have to be reversed. The municipal offices are satisfactory, and the building lends itself to easy extension. The elevations are simple and good. The author has shown a conscientious endeavour to supply a building as near as possible within the neighbourhood of the funds available, and has planned with skill.

Yours faithfully,

H. G. VEALE.

OBITUARY.

We regret to have to record the death of Mr. Frank Scott, which took place at Bulawayo on the 20th August last.

The late Mr. Frank Scott will be remembered by the older practitioners in his association with Mr. Frank Emley. At one time Mr. Scott was in partnership in Durban with Mr. Stanley Hudson, and the partnership was responsible for the design and erection of the Durban Town Hall. Subsequently, Mr. Scott settled in Bulawayo, in which town he was responsible for many of the buildings erected there during the last few years, including the Grand Hotel, Albany House, the Masonic Temple, the A.B.C. Bank and the Rhodesia Club, and quite recently completed the fine pile of buildings forming the new hotel at the Victoria Falls.

To Mrs. Scott and family we extend our deepest sympathy in their sad bereavement.

Mr. Jan H. Rutgers, of 55, Market Street, Pretoria, has been registered as an architect in the Transvaal and elected to membership of this Association.

PROPOSED ARCHITECTS' ACT FOR THE UNION.

Précis of a Conference of Architects and Quantity Surveyors, held under the aegis of the Architects' Union Registration Executive Committee at Capetown, on Wednesday, the 10th January, 1923, and succeeding days, in the Board Room of the Argus Company's Building, St. George's Street, commencing at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT.—Messrs. W. J. Delbridge, W. A. Ritchie Fallon, E. Austin Cook, John Perry, Fred. Cherry, F. W. Glennie, H. A. McQueen, L. Norman, H. J. Brownlee, W. G. Fagg, F. W. Hesse (Cape Institute of Architects), F. H. Kendall (Port Elizabeth Society of Architects), G. T. Hurst (Natal Institute of Architects), H. G. de la Cornillere (O.F.S. Institute of Architects), M. J. Harris, Allen Wilson, N. T. Cowin (Association of Transvaal Architects), E. White (S.A. Institute of Quantity Surveyors), and M. K. Carpenter, Secretary to the Registration Executive, who acted in a similar official capacity to the Conference.

PRELIMINARIES.

Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon, President of the Cape Institute of Architects, formally welcomed the delegates and expressed the wish that much good would result from the deliberations.

The Conference unanimously elected Mr. W. J. Delbridge as Chairman, and Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon as Deputy-Chairman. Mr. Delbridge then took the chair. It was resolved that the hours of meeting be from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.15 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. daily. Mr. M. K. Carpenter, Official Secretary, then presented the following report from the Union Registration Executive Committee:—

"The Architects' Union Registration Executive Committee desires to greet the Conference with best wishes for the advancement of Architecture and for happiness and success to all members of the profession in South Africa during the year 1923.

"We present for the consideration by the Conference the proposed Architects' Act, in form arrived at after further discussion and amendment at some forty meetings of the Executive following upon the Architects' Congress at Johannesburg in September, 1921.

"This proposed Act has been circulated to the profession throughout the Union, with the request for comment. Many Architects and Quantity Surveyors have responded with criticism, comment and suggestion, and in most instances—general approval. Further, on our suggestion, meetings have been held

at various centres for the purpose of focussing professional attention upon the subject—Pretoria, Johannesburg, Benoni, Bloemfontein, Durban, Port Elizabeth, East London, each of these centres gathering members of the profession from the surrounding district. Only the western portion of the Cape Province has so far remained silent, due no doubt to the decision of the Cape Institute of Architects, as embodied in their letter of the 7th December last, stating that 'they had no comment to make at that juncture, as the Council of that Institute considers it best to leave the matter for discussion at the Conference.' This Conference will thus, it is hoped, complete the collation of professional opinion upon the details of the proposed Act.

"We are anxious that your Conference shall be fruitful of result in the expression of your opinion upon the draft Act as now presented, the better to enable us further to carry on and complete the work of preparing the Act, in form embodying the wishes of the profession as a whole, and suitably for presentation to the Legislature. With the experience gained after many lengthy meetings spent in eliciting and elaborating detail, as well as in discussion upon essential principles, we would therefore recommend to the Conference:—

- (1) That any suggestions to amend detail, or tending to modify in minor form any essential principle of the proposed Act, be noted only, and referred to this Executive for full consideration.
- (2) That the Conference limit its discussions to those suggestions, if any, that may tend to the negation or radical modification of any essential principle of the proposed Act, *i.e.*, the principles embodied in the Association of Transvaal Architects Draft 1913, adopted (with the exception of section 9—see later) at the Capetown Conference of 9th and 10th January, 1919, and adopted in entirety at the South African Architectural Congress at Johannesburg in September, 1921: such principles, ten in number, having been as follows:—

Principle 1.—That the Conference be empowered to promote an Architects' Act for the Union of South Africa.

Principle 2.—The absorption of all existing legislation in the Provinces of the Transvaal, Natal and Orange Free State that relates to the registration of licensing of Architects.

Principle 3.—Statutory incorporation of Provincial Institutes of Architects, each with legally defined powers to govern and represent the profession in its own Province.

Principle 4.—Statutory incorporation of an Institute of South African Architects, consisting of a Federation of the aforementioned Provincial Institutes, and vested with legally defined powers to administer the Act where collective action is required for the whole Union as defined in the said Act.

Principle 5.—Membership to consist of Associates and Fellows, with provision for Honorary Members and Students.

Principle 6.—A scale of Architect's charges.

Principle 7.—A code of professional ethics.

Principle 8.—Provision for a nominated first Council to carry out the inaugural work of the Provincial Institutes and of the federated Institutes.

Principle 9.—Provision for a Chapter dealing with Quantity Surveyors.

Principle 10.—Such further powers to the Federated Institute and its subsidiary Provincial Institutes as may tend to debar unqualified persons from practice, and to promote and uphold the professional status of South African Architects.

"We sincerely hope that your deliberations will result in one more step towards assuring the advancement of architecture and an uplifting of the standard of professional attainment and status in South Africa."

A short general discussion ensued, Messrs. Delbridge, Kendall and Harris having spoken.

Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon proposed that the report as presented be received, subject only to such modification as might be deemed advisable by the Conference after discussion of the draft Act. This was agreed.

DISCUSSION UPON DRAFT ACT PRINCIPLES.

Clause 1, recommending that suggestions to amend the draft Act in minor detail be referred to the Executive, was adopted without discussion.

Clause 2 was next dealt with, the preamble being agreed to and the principles set forth considered *seriatim*.

Principle 2.—It was suggested and agreed that this be amended by the addition of the Cape Province to the list of territories whose existing legislation on the subject must be absorbed by the Act.

Principles 3 and 4 were re-affirmed unanimously.

On Principle 5, Mr. Cowin stated that a certain amount of objection had been raised to the proposed division of members into two classes. Opposition under this head might endanger the Act when presented to the Legislature.

Mr. M. J. Harris expressed the opinion that there were sound reasons behind the proposal, which merely followed a salutary principle recognised by professional institutes in other parts of the world. The South African Institute of Architects, when created by the passing of the proposed Act, might from time to time pass regulations upon matters affecting professional practice. All such regulations and by-laws under the Act would have to be submitted to and accepted by vote of the general body. Where matters of practice were concerned, it would obviously be unsound to allow voting by men who had had insufficient personal experience of practice. The proposal was that Fellows—architects who had had not less than seven years of personal practice—would be entitled to vote upon such questions. Associates, who would in the nature of things always constitute a majority of the members (*i.e.*, qualified assistants as well as junior practitioners of less than seven years' standing), would thus constitute an irresponsible as well as a swamping voting power upon matters regulating practice. The division of members into the two classes—Fellows and Associates—only the former to vote upon matters of practice—had been prompted by those considerations.

After further discussion, Mr. Cowin stated that in view of the considered suggestion put forward by the Executive he was not prepared to table a motion for the amendment of Principle 5, which was thereupon reaffirmed unanimously.

Principle 6.—In reply to a question, Mr. H. J. Harris stated that it had been considered advisable to include the scale of charges in the Draft Act. He had studied the record of misadventure that befel the promoters of the Accountants' Bill when that ill-fated measure was presented to the Select Committee of the Union Legislative Assembly in March, 1913.

It was useful to remember that, that measure was, in effect, a proposal to extend the provisions of the Accountants' Act (Transvaal) to the remainder of the Union, and that the Accountants' Act referred to had also been the model upon which had been based the provisions of the Transvaal Architects' Act. In March, 1913, the accountants found their extension Bill referred to "Select Committee," and there confronted by hostile parliamentary agents briefed to fight it on behalf of an organised opposition. The following passages occurred during the opposing cross-examination:—*

742.—"What limit have you put upon the tariff of charges which the members of this body can make?"

—"They are not dealt with in the Act."

**Vide* Minutes of Evidence, paragraphs Nos. 742 to 745, page 90. Report of the Select Committee on the Accountants Registration (Private) Bill, printed by order of the House of Assembly, Capetown, March, 1913.

743.—"They will be settled by the Council?"

—"That is not one of the duties assigned to the Council."

744.—"Do you not think that, in the interest of the general public, there should be some arrangement as to the tariff which is to be charged?"

—"Tariffs vary so. The cost of living in different places is different, and the cost of staff assistance also varies."

745.—"You leave it to the Council?"

—"It will have to be left to the Council or to the members."

The omission of the tariff had thus been seized upon as a weakness, and suspicions aroused as to the undisclosed intentions of the promoters. In his opinion, therefore, the safe and proper course would be to include the tariff, and with equal clearness to state every other intention they had under the Act, the more fully to inform the legislators to whom they had to apply, and whose first concern was for the interests of the general public.

Principles 6, 7 and 8 were thereupon re-affirmed.

Principle 9.—Mr. M. J. Harris stated that a certain amount of opposition to the Act was threatened on account of the inclusion of this principle 9, providing a Chapter for the Registration of Quantity Surveyors. The Natal Branch of the Institute of Civil Engineers had intimated an intention to oppose the Bill on this ground. It was further reported that Quantity Surveyors resident in Natal did not appear to be unanimous in regard to their inclusion under the Chapter, and again that architects in the Natal Province were of the opinion that such inclusion would constitute an element of weakness and considered that the Bill should be put forward as for architects only. Mr. Harris further pointed out that the proposal to register Quantity Surveyors was a unique one, since in no other part of the world were they so closely allied to the architectural profession.

Colonel E. White, in detailing the origin of the inclusion of the Quantity Surveyors' Chapter in the proposed Act, said that, at a meeting of the members of the profession held in Johannesburg, in 1910, at which he represented the Quantity Surveyors' Institute, the question of the inclusion of Quantity Surveyors in this proposed Act originated from a question asked as to whether he, as representing the Quantity Surveyors' Institute, would be prepared to consider the question of including that profession in a Chapter under the proposed Act. Colonel White stated that he attended that meeting with a mandate from his Institute to oppose any reference to Quantities in the proposed Architects' Act, in which opposition his Institute was backed by the National Federation of Building Trade Employers. They had agreed to inclusion, and it

was very disappointing, after all the work that had been done, and after all these years, to hear that the agreement arrived at might be put aside. Mr. M. J. Harris mentioned the objections that had been raised by the Quantity Surveyors themselves, and referred particularly to the letter that had been signed by Mr. A. T. Babbs and other Quantity Surveyors resident in the Cape Peninsula, stating an intention to oppose the Bill because of their inclusion.

Colonel White stated that his Institute wished to be included in the proposed Legislation, and although they fully recognised the right of Architects to continue to take out their own Quantities, it was still desired that the Quantity Surveyors' Chapter should be included in the proposed Act. Respecting one of the objections referred to, this arose from members of his own profession who objected to Architects taking out their own quantities; this opposition was very small, and the major portion of the members of his Institute were friendly disposed to the architectural profession and desirous of being allied to it by being registered under the Act.

Colonel White, in dealing with the objection raised by the Natal Branch of the Institute of Civil Engineers pointed out that the position of Quantity Surveyors in the country was solely in respect of architectural works, and that the work of taking out Quantities for engineering proposals was a totally different branch of the profession in which members of the Quantity Surveyors Institute had not specialised.

Mr. N. T. Cowin proposed the re-affirmation of principle 9 making provision for a Chapter dealing with Quantity Surveyors.

Mr. M. J. Harris suggested that further consideration of principle 9 be deferred for a time, with a view to inducing the attendance of Mr. Babbs. They should give him, and those who thought with him, every opportunity to appear with a view, if possible, to straighten out differences of opinion. At all events the executive should be placed in a position to state at a later date that every opportunity had been given to Mr. Babbs and his friends thus to appear and state the objections they wished to raise. Mr. Harris moved as an amendment, to defer decision upon principle 9 until Friday afternoon, and pending the outcome of the further invitation sent to Mr. A. T. Babbs and his co-signatories.

This amendment was carried by 7 votes to 4.

Colonel E. White moved, in respect of the objection raised by the Natal Branch of the Institute of Civil Engineers, that the matter be referred to the executive with a request that a new clause be drafted more definitely defining the Architectural Quantity Surveyor and protecting the Engineer.

Colonel G. T. Hurst stated that this proposal rather encroached upon a resolution which he had to

make on behalf of the Natal Institute of Architects, which was to the effect that in view of the opposition to be raised by the Engineers and also by a certain section of the Quantity Surveyors themselves, this Conference refers the matter of principle 9 back to the Architects' Union Registration Executive Committee, for further consideration as to whether the inclusion of the Quantity Surveyors should or should not be entirely dropped and the promotion of the Architects Act proceeded with independently.

Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon, from the chair, pointed out that in view of Mr. Harris' amendment (which had been agreed to) to defer further consideration of Clause 9 until Friday, both Colonels White and Hurst were out of order in continuing the discussion.

THE DRAFT ARCHITECTS ACT.

Leaving the general principles, the Conference then decided to consider as tabled the full text of the proposed Architects Act, of which a printed copy had been issued to every member of the profession throughout the Union on the 27th October, 1922.

The suggestions and proposed amendments received from Architects throughout the Union, which were compiled in one document by the secretary and circulated by him to the delegates under date 18th December, 1922, were dealt with *seriatim*. Most of these were not discussed, being of minor character and having been scheduled for consideration by the executive, are not further detailed in these minutes.

Respecting Clauses 11 (h) and 11 (i) of the Draft Act the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—

"That this Conference approves of the provision in the Act whereby a definite proportion of the funds will be set aside as a minimum contribution for Educational and Benevolent purposes but recommends to the executive that such stipulated minimum shall be not more than one-tenth of the gross annual income for both those objects, any additional allocation to be left to the decision of members in general meeting at the triannual Congresses."

A lengthy discussion ensued respecting Clauses 21 (a) and 21 (c).

Mr. H. J. Brownlee, who spoke at considerable length, strongly protested against a purely academic qualification being accepted under the proposed Act for admission to the future Institute. At the close of Mr. Brownlee's speech the chairman said the proceedings should now be adjourned; but Mr. M. J. Harris begged for one minute further, so that, overnight, Mr. Brownlee could verify his (Mr. Harris') statement that the academic qualification proposed was very clearly *to be in addition* to four years' practical experience, so

that Mr. Brownlee would see he was in error in supposing that a *purely* academic qualification could be accepted under the proposed Act.

Next morning, upon resumption of the discussion, Mr. M. J. Harris pointed out that the proposals had originally been to place the additional academic qualification at the entry to Fellowship. Mr. Allen Wilson substantiated this by producing an earlier published edition of the Draft Act, and suggested that the academic qualification should not be a bar to Associateship, as that might prevent many an otherwise qualified man making his living. He contended that the University Degree should be one of the qualifications for the admission of Fellows and that provision be made for this under Clause 21 (b), but that this requirement shall not take effect until ten years after the coming into operation of the Act.

Mr. Allen Wilson then formally moved that Clause 21 (a) and 21 (c) be referred back to the Architects' Union Registration Executive for the purpose of being remodeled on the foregoing lines and to include a further clause under 21 (b), providing that all members elected to Fellowship shall possess a University Degree, and that the operation of this proposed new clause shall not take effect until ten years after the date of coming into operation of this Act.

This was seconded by F. K. Kendall and unanimously agreed to.

TARIFF OF CHARGES.

Respecting the tariff of charges provided for in Clause 23 (d), Mr. H. de la Cornillore stated that his Institute were of the definite opinion that the old tariff of 5 per cent. should be adhered to, as in their opinion any attempt to increase the scale of charges would mitigate our chances in Select Committee, whereas the adherence to the old tariff would eliminate opposition from that quarter and further serious opposition which would be bound to arise from representatives from the country districts. After careful consideration, Conference decided to recommend that the proposed tariff of six per cent. and the various sub-divisions on that basis be allowed to stand.

The Conference suspended further consideration of the Draft Act pending the attendance of Mr. A. T. Babbs.

CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT.

Mr. N. T. Cowin moved that the item respecting Conditions of Contract be eliminated from the Agenda. This was not seconded.

Colonel White proposed that the present form of Conditions of Contract be considered and suggested amendments thereto be received. This was seconded by Mr. Allen Wilson and agreed to.

Mr. N. T. Cowin proposed that any amendment to the form of Conditions of Contract be deferred for a period of two years. This was seconded by Colonel G. T. Hurst, and on being put to the vote was negatived by 7 votes to 6.

Mr. F. K. Kendall on behalf of the Port Elizabeth Society of Architects moved that Clause 3 of the Agreement stand as printed to the end of the 1st paragraph at the words "time being," the remainder of the Clause, not being perfectly clear, to be deleted and the following two paragraphs substituted for the portion deleted, viz:—

"The Architect shall only be liable to the Employer for any defects in the structural design of the building or the consequences thereof, and in his supervision of the carrying out of the works he shall have the power to secure the rectification by the Contractor of any defective work or material or of any unauthorised deviation from the Drawings or Specifications; but he (the Architect) shall not be liable for the carelessness of operatives nor for any defective workmanship or material, nor for any unauthorised deviation from the Drawings or Specifications, nor for the consequences thereof or any of them, which may escape his notice whether same became evident either before or after the issue of the final Certificate."

"The Contractor shall be liable to the Employer for any unauthorised deviation from the Drawings and Specification or for any defective workmanship or material or the consequences thereof or any of them which may become evident either before or after the issue of the final Certificate, and he shall make good any defective work or material and correct any unauthorised deviations from the Drawings or Specifications when called upon to so do by the Architect previous to the issue of the final Certificate, provided, however, that the Contractor's liability shall terminate after a period of.....years from the date of issue of the final Certificate."

This Society is also advised that in its present state Clause 5 of the Agreement as printed in the Standard Conditions may under certain eventualities cause trouble, and to avoid this our solicitor recommends the addition of the following to Clause 5:—

"and it is hereby agreed with the Architect that he shall be deemed to be employed upon that basis."

This being added to Clause 5 the Architect would then sign under the signatures of the Employer and Contractor, and be duly witnessed.

Mr. M. J. Harris seconded those amendments in order that they might be referred to the framers of the

original document for consideration. This was agreed to.

Mr. W. J. Delbridge in criticising the document, said that his experience pointed to the fact that not only were many Contractors not members of local Master Builders Associations, but also they were not in a sufficiently strong financial position to become members or to shoulder all the responsibilities the document contained; big Contractors were prepared to accept and sign the provisions the form contained, which savoured very much of creating a monopoly to the exclusion of the small Contractor. He therefore suggested that this Conference might readily agree to the document as containing the essential principles for a basis for such amendments as might be agreed to.

Colonel E. White suggested that the standard conditions of contract be accepted on trial for a period of two years, subject to necessary alterations that may be required by the contracting parties.

Colonel G. T. Hurst in concurring, suggested that the document be referred to the Union Registration Executive Committee for revision.

Mr. M. J. Harris pointed out that actually there was no body responsible for the Conditions of Contract, the form under consideration was arrived at and agreed to at a Conference of Union Architects held in Johannesburg, in September, 1921, therefore it would not be in order to refer this document to the Architects' Union Registration Executive for revision.

In order that the matter might be put on a proper basis, Mr. M. J. Harris gave notice that, on the following day, he would move that the Architects' Union Registration Executive Committee be asked to accept further duty as a con-joint Committee for the Union, under the title of the Union Architectural Practice Committee, to deal with the matter of revising the new form of Conditions of Contract and any other matter affecting Architectural Practice that may from time to time be submitted by the profession throughout the Union.

On resuming on the last day of the Conference, Mr. M. J. Harris moved the foregoing resolution which was seconded by Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon and unanimously agreed to.

In speaking in favour of the resolution, Mr. W. J. Delbridge moved, that a communication be made to each of the Architectural bodies represented on the Registration Executive, conveying to them the foregoing resolutions with the request that during the period the conditions are on trial these bodies shall note any difficulties which may arise and communicate them to the Secretary of the Union Architectural Practice Committee. This was unanimously agreed to.

Following the foregoing suggestions, Colonel E. White moved:—

"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."

This was seconded by Mr. W. J. Delbridge and unanimously agreed to.

Mr. H. J. Brownlee moved as a recommendation to the Executive that, after revision, the Conditions of Contract be circulated to such bodies as the Associated Chambers of Commerce, The Chamber of Mines and Industries, the large Municipalities, the Government Works Department, and other large employing bodies, Corporations, or individuals representative of the Building public and of Architects' clients generally, with a view to obtaining and considering their opinions prior to accepting the document as "Standard." After a short discussion this was agreed *nem. con.*

Colonel G. T. Hurst moved a hearty vote of appreciation and thanks of the members of the profession throughout the Union to the Union Registration Executive Committee for the splendid work done by that body which resulted in the issue of the Draft Act, with this expression Colonel Hurst referred to the work done by the Secretary. The motion was carried with acclamation.

QUANTITY SURVEYORS CHAPTER.

On Friday afternoon, the 12th January, 1923, at 2.30 p.m., Messrs. A. T. Babbs, R. S. Shepherd, H. G. Labdon and H. Foulds attended the Conference and were welcomed by the Chairman, in so doing it was suggested that Mr. A. T. Babbs might be prepared to lay before members reasons prompting his original objection to Clause 40 (e) and the subsequent statements contained in the first letter quoted on page 6 of these minutes.

Mr. Babbs in accepting this invitation stated that in his opinion and that of his colleagues, certain essential principles have to be borne in mind when drafting documents such as the proposed Architects' Act and the inclusion of Quantity Surveyors, the first should have been to preserve the status of the Quantity Surveyor.

Mr. Babbs took strong exception to the title of principle 9, liking it to the old story of the lady and the tiger, pointing out that no provision had been made for a Quantity Surveyor even becoming President of the Institute. Mr. Babbs stated that he was quite willing to agree to the provision of the Chapter, provided that the separate status of the Quantity Surveyor was recognised and that the Architects were not

permitted to prepare bills of quantities even for their own work, as he did not recognise the right of any Architect to prepare schedules from his own designs. Mr. Babbs further stated that he had been in Cape Town for 25 years and the whole trend of his work during that period has been to try and make Architects recognise that Quantity Surveying is distinctive to Architecture and thus enable the Architect to devote himself entirely to the *artistic side of his profession*.

In reply to a question by Colonel White, Mr. Babbs stated that he was in agreement with the Chapter providing that Quantity Surveying was made a separate profession as he had previously suggested, and gave it as his opinion that the Chapter and probably the Act, would stand or fall on section 40 (e) which must be eliminated before he could consider supporting the inclusion of a Chapter. He had no sympathy with the proposed modification to Clause 40 (e) put forward by his own Institute.

Mr. Allen Wilson cited the case of an Architectural practitioner who for 25 years had prepared Bills of Quantities from his own drawings and asked Mr. Babbs if his intention was to debar such practitioners from continuing to take out their own quantities, to which Mr. Babbs replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Babbs, in answer to a further question stated, that he would be opposed to Quantity Surveying being included in the Educational Curriculum for Architecture, and after three or four other questions, the Chairman rose, thanked Mr. Babbs and his friends for attending, and stated that their views would receive consideration. Upon this Mr. Babbs and his friends withdrew.

On the resumption, Colonel White moved the re-affirmation of principle 9, providing for a Chapter dealing with Quantity Surveyors, this was seconded by Mr. Allen Wilson.

Colonel G. T. Hurst moved the following amendment:—

"That in view of the opposition threatened to be raised by the Natal Branch of the Institute of Civil Engineers, and also by a certain section of the Quantity Surveyors themselves, this Conference refers the matter of principle 9 back to the Architects' Union Registration Executive Committee for further consideration as to whether the inclusion of the Quantity Surveyors Chapter should or should not be entirely dropped and the promotion of the Architects' Act be proceeded with independently."

Mr. M. J. Harris stated that in view of the attitude adopted by Mr. A. T. Babbs and his colleagues from the Cape, he felt that he was only voicing the feelings of his brother practitioners in the north, responsible for the Draft Act, in stating that they

would not be prepared to risk the expenditure necessary to promote the Bill, with the Quantity Surveyors' Chapter included, without very serious consideration of the position taken up by certain Quantity Surveyors, and for that reason he would not record his vote on the matter.

The Chairman pointed out that the vote to be taken really meant whether the recommendation should be for the inclusion of the Chapter dealing with Quantity Surveyors or whether this Conference should recommend that the Quantity Surveyors' Chapter be dropped.

The amendment was lost, only the mover and seconder voting for it.

On being put to the vote, principle 9 was re-affirmed by 9 votes to 2. Messrs. G. T. Hurst and E. Austin Cook voted in the minority and Messrs. M. J. Harris, W. J. Delbridge and H. A. de la Cornillere (absent) did not vote.

Following the foregoing, Colonel White moved that further consideration of amendments to the proposed Act having reference to Quantity Surveyors be referred to the Registration Executive to bring into line with the provisions made for the Registration of Architects. This was unanimously agreed to.

Principle 10 was re-affirmed, and it was recommended that "and Quantity Surveyors" be inserted following the last word "Architects."

TOWN PLANNING.

Mr. F. K. Kendall, on behalf of the Port Elizabeth Society of Architects moved that the resolutions respecting Town Planning appearing on the Agenda in their name, be taken as read and adopted. This was seconded by Mr. John Perry.

Mr. W. A. Ritchie Fallon moved as an amendment that representations be made to the authorities for the provision of efficient Town Planning Legislation. This was agreed to in place of the resolution moved by Mr. Kendall.

Members voiced their hearty appreciation and thanks to Messrs. W. J. Delbridge and W. A. Ritchie Fallon for their able conduct of the Conference from the Chair. Mr. Delbridge, in acknowledging, stated the pleasure he had derived from the amicable deliberations of the many points considered, and trusted that the Executive would continue their work of revising the Draft Act, and prepare it for early presentation to Parliament, he also paid a tribute to the Secretary for the work done in connection with the Draft Act and for the conduct of the Conference.

The Conference broke up at 6.30 p.m. with mutual expressions of goodwill.

SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS (LONDON).

South African Branch.

In a quiet and unassuming manner the South African branch of the London Society of Architects has for many years past been earnest and alive to the betterment and welfare of the profession in this country. Through the efforts of its Council, it may be said that it was one of the principal factors in launching the Architects Registration Act for the Transvaal in 1909. Since that time the more prominent members have devoted much time and thought to the extension of that Act throughout the Union. Financial assistance has also been readily and cheerfully offered for registration and education. In fact the Society of Architects, we believe, is the only body of architects which had consistently encouraged in a financial manner the study of architecture in the Transvaal. Year after year, for a long time past, it has donated funds for prizes at the Technical College to be awarded to successful students in building and architectural subjects.

When a chair of Architecture was mooted for the Witwatersrand, the branch whole-heartedly entered into the idea and worked to the end of establishing that chair (happily accomplished) at the University. It was honoured by the University authorities in consultation as to the appointment of the Professor, and in the appointment of Professor Pearse the branch has congratulated itself.

Following on its policy of encouraging architectural education, the branch, last year, granted a sum of £50 for a bursary at the new Witwatersrand University. This bursary was awarded to Mr. A. E. Bishton, of Harrismith, O.F.S., and he commenced his studies under Professor Pearse in 1922. The Professor speaks in the highest terms of Mr. Bishton's abilities, and thinks he will go far in his adopted profession. This report has given the greatest satisfaction to the Council of this branch, and it is its earnest desire, if funds permit, to donate a similar sum for a bursary this year. Of course, the usual grant of ten guineas has been passed for prizes for students in the architectural classes. From the foregoing it will be seen that, although the Society of Architects does not in this country come very much into the limelight, it very unselfishly devotes its energies and funds to the best interests of the profession.

The Hon. Secretary (Box 5062, Johannesburg) will at all times be happy to furnish information regarding the activities of the Society in London, where scholarships, etc., are open to overseas students.

CURRENT ARCHITECTURE.

By H. W. SPICER.



The two illustrations show the residence of Capt. O. W. Sherwell, recently erected on the site terminating Pallinghurst Road, Westcliffe, Johannesburg.

The house has been planned so as to nestle in on the north side of the kopje, well protected from the prevailing winds, and taking full advantage of an existing natural plateau, just sufficiently wide to receive the building.

The motor court shown on the south side has been excavated so as to level up with the plateau, and the surplus soil being used in forming the new terrace immediately in front of the open stoep facing north, where the kopje falls rapidly to the lower levels of Parkview.

From the front terrace, magnificent views are obtained of Aasvogel Kop and the surrounding country to the west, the Zoo Lake, reflecting like a mirror in its dark setting of the Sachsenwald trees, to the east, and the ranges of the Magaliesberg, to the north.

The foundations have been built of stone obtained from the kopje side, with its natural face left exposed. The rising walls are of brick, finished with rough cast, and coloured stone grey.

The roof has been thatched with Tambootie grass, with double thatch on the ridging, fixed with wood lacing.

The chimney stacks are built of selected brown wire-cuts with a tile creasing at each offset.

The windows throughout are steel casements hung to teak frames, and glazed with plain leaded lights, steel cored. Both windows and doors have patent steel frame mosquito-proof screens.

The whole of the interior has been arranged to harmonise with the treatment of the exterior, with open timbered roof and plaster ceilings, the lounge being furnished with an ingle neuk with spacious fireplace receiving old-fashioned wrought-iron dogs for log fires, with hammered beaten copper hood over, on either side of which are two teak seats with panelled sloping backs, with shaped arm sides, and with small recesses to receive smoker's companion and needlework basket, in quaint old English style.



"SOME OLD ITALIAN CHIMNEY-POTS."

Tourists in Italy, visitors from its old towns have returned home with memories left upon the mind and impressed there, never to be effaced. Outlined against the fair sky of the past, their recollection of Italian scenes and pictures are set apart from recollections of all other places. Scenes of lovely flower lands, of the green and sunlit country-side, of picturesque villages, of merry shepherd boys, form incidents of their recollections; pictures also of the old towns, of marble palaces, of fair churches, of quaint costumes, canals and gondolas. Each picture is distinct and a thing of perfection in itself, yet all are united and running into one another, so well woven and blended as to form a maze of beautiful and glittering visions. Mixed up with them are some dim mist-covered remembrances of hours passed in dreaming and meditation, and piercing through the mists are sights and objects of that evening hour, mere unassuming objects that never before impressed the sightseer, but which now, since they were seen in a different light, have been discovered to form little picturesque bits of architecture and antiquity.

Such little picturesque bits are the charming chimney-pots arrayed on the house-tops in the old cities of Italy. Writers and travellers have written on all that is beautiful in Italy. We have many rare and exquisite descriptions, both in poetry and prose, of the parts, places, people and palaces of Italy—but few, very few, alas! have ever written on the beauty and picturesqueness of the Italian chimney-pot. Would that we could know more of them and take more interest in them! For then, perhaps, in place of the existing monotony of rows and rows of little cylindrical pots or square flat tops which represent our chimneys, and which are a sure sign of our artistic decadence, we might hail with delight the modern revival of the artistic and picturesque chimney-pot of bygone days.

Suppose, at sunset, we were to take a walk along some quiet back street in the poorer quarters of an old Italian city. And suppose, moreover, we did this for the simple and excellent purpose of interviewing the upper parts of romantic architecture, which suffer much neglect, but which we hope will make us realise how the Italian builder gives evidence of great taste and power, even in the production of such minor and simple objects as chimney-pots.

In Pavia, we meet the conventional tiled roof that shelters a dirty row of poor dwellings. Rising above the roof, there are some quaint piles of rough brick, tile and plaster, with occasional bits of stone, which, when built up into one, take on the appearance of ancient

and weather-worn chimneys. Lack of uniformity in design is most remarkable, for here is to be seen the spindle-shaped pepper box, the capped pyramid, the stork's-nest type, square or rectangular flat-topped chimneys with a few more beautiful little specimens of octagonal shape, ending in a group of narrow columns and surmounted by a pointed cap. All these are on one building, and the picturesqueness of their company is all the more enhanced by the presence of great numbers of pigeons which haunt their blackened tops. From the windows beneath washed garments flutter and wave in the breeze as if to attract the attention of passers-by, who otherwise may not observe the beauty of the old chimney-pots above. Usually in company, these Italian chimney-pots form the most pleasing appearance, yet sometimes a solitary smoke-shaft rears a weather-worn head, perhaps in the form of a monster circular column, or designed to represent a miniature temple or a miniature mosque, it extends high above the roof and overlooks the old women nodding over their fruit and vegetables in the shady arcades below.

In Milan, a city rich in all that is artistic, there are many choice little chimney-pots grouped together or straggling over the house tops and seeming to parody the beautiful marble pinnacles and finials that crown the cathedral close by. There is a marked variety of design. Here a round specimen, like unto a lighthouse, extends above its less tall neighbours, which, though short, are quaint and beautiful. One consists of a pile of bricks that seem to have jostled together in any manner, yet so settled as to finally represent a dilapidated edition of the pigeon-house. Others again are square of body and have three-cornered tops shaped like a pyramid. Some appear to stand aloof, and these generally are designed after the church belfry.

Bergamo yields some old and grimy monsters, unique in themselves, for their twisted columns consist of upward curves and bends of the most delicate symmetry. In their old age, they are more beautiful than their restored neighbours, for the effect of wind and storm and age has enriched their mouldings, has softened and rendered them more mellow of colour.

Verona seems to have monopolised the V-shaped battlement, for it is a common and usual sight to see the little Veronese courtyards dominated by same fine circular turrets crenelated at their tops and having at their bases six grimy embrasures, out of which curl the tender blue wreaths of smoke from the wood-fires beneath. These are truly picturesque, but not more beautiful than some other rarer specimens of square shape, built of bricks and stone and piled high to

represent, on a smaller scale, some tall Grecian temple. At Mantua there are no very fine chimney-pots, but all are pleasing and artistic of design. Grouped or scattered, the predominant specimen is representative of a dove-cote, but frequently some tall chimneys stand out as fragments, broken and patched where bricks and stones have fallen away.

It is interesting to note that in Italy, where fires are but little used, it is quite common to see even upon the wrinkled roofs of the poorest houses, as well as on the well-preserved tiles of palaces, the most picturesque sprinkle of little structures, shaming by contrast the monstrous designs with which we crowd our roofs. When we consider that nearly all these Italian chimney-pots are built up in the same way, of rough brick, tile and plaster and a few bits of stone, do we not experience a feeling of shame or contempt for our own mean little production? Is it possible to grow weary of studying the variations of the Italian chimney-pot? We might engage in an expedition for that particular purpose, and while deriving much pleasure and experience from such, at the same time we may learn that there is a vast profusion of subjects. Perhaps in no city have the Italian chimney-pots reached their highest and most picturesque standard as in Venice. Unique in its situation, its art and its attractions, Venice stands alone also in the matter of chimney-pots. Very ancient, broken, patched, black and deformed, they are ranged like the stumps of mighty masts from old Spanish galleons.

How happy is the sky line of even the very poorest part of an old Italian city. Oh, that our British chimney-pots could burst forth into beauty of design and production, even as the Italian chimneys have done! If only a little more attention were paid to our house tops, can there be any reason why country, town, suburban street, or city thoroughfare, should not give as fine a silhouette as any cathedral roof or college top? To the city toiler then, every homeward walk might be filled with varied pictures of fantasy and beauty, cast against the deepening sky-line, by the artistic and picturesque chimney-pots.

EILEEN HANCOCK.

ENTRANCE DOORWAY, TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC, JOHANNESBURG.

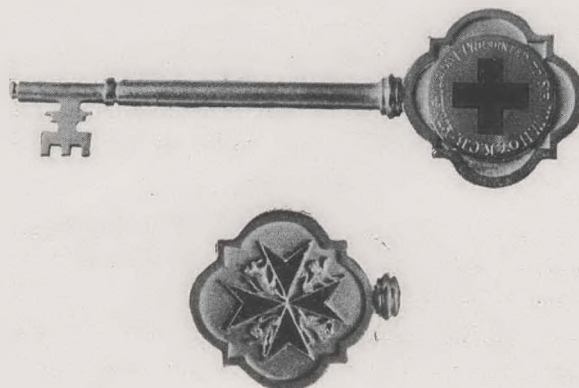
This doorway, opening into the vestibule under the staircase, is constructed of deep red facing bricks with flat arch and cornice over in red quarry tiles and enclosed in semi-circular arch recessed in three rings. The arch, jambs and plinth are faced with

brindled orange-colour bricks and the channel rustications formed with courses of thin tiles. Above the doorway on each side are placed the emblems of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem and the Red Cross Society executed in tile faience.



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

The key presented to Sir William W. Hoy at the opening ceremony of the Tuberculosis Clinic was executed in silver by Messrs. Mappin & Webb from the architects' design. The emblems of the Order of St. John and the Red Cross Society are formed in relief on the obverse and reverse.



THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

Extracts of Minutes of the Fourth Council Meeting, 1922 Session, held at the Scientific and Technical Club, Johannesburg, on Saturday, 7th July, 1923.

PRESENT.—Messrs. T. Moore (President), G. E. Howgrave-Graham (Vice-president), N. T. Cowin, E. B. Farrow, F. D. Hickman, D. A. McCubbin, H. Rowe-Rowe, and A. Loots (Secretary).

ARCHITECTS' CONGRESS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT.—Lieut.-Col. Everard White had attended the Congress in Capetown in January last on behalf of the Institute and had also acted as the Institute's delegate in connection with the matter of Conditions of Contract.

PROPOSED ARCHITECTS ACT.—The President and Mr. Hickman were deputed to proceed to Capetown in order to interview the Institute's members there with regard to their opposition to the inclusion of a Quantity Surveyors' Chapter in the proposed Architects Act.

CONGRATULATIONS.—A letter from Mr. Wevill, dated February 21st, 1923, had been received, in which he expressed his regards and congratulations to the Institute in connection with the proposed registration of Quantity Surveyors.

ARCHITECTURAL CONGRESS AT DURBAN.—The Secretary was instructed to telegraph to Messrs. Priestly & Thompson, Durban, and to the Secretary of the Conference that, in the event of a discussion affecting Quantity Surveyors arising, Messrs. Priestly & Thompson be consulted, who have been empowered to act for the Institute.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.—The annual general meeting will be held at Pretoria in the Town Hall on Saturday, 25th August, and the Secretary was instructed to notify all members accordingly.

Extracts of Minutes of the Fifth Council Meeting, 1922 Session, held at the Institute's Offices, 26-7, Connaught Buildings, Pretoria, on Saturday, 25th August, 1923, at 11 a.m.

PRESENT.—Messrs. T. Moore (President), N. T. Cowin, E. B. Farrow, W. E. Puntis, H. Rowe-Rowe, and A. Loots (Secretary).

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.—These had been circulated and were taken as read and confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.—Letters were received, *inter alia*, from:—

- (a) Associated Scientific and Technical Societies having reference to the proposed Architects Act, and the Secretary was instructed to reply that the Institute is a party to the Bill and approve of same.
- (b) Messrs. Priestly & Thompson, Durban, to the effect that they understood no matters affecting Quantity Surveyors were brought up at the Architectural Congress recently held in Durban.

VISIT OF DELEGATES TO CAPETOWN.—The report of the visit to Capetown of Messrs. Moore and Hickman was handed in, and the suggestions brought forward by the Capetown members dealt with.

NOMINATION OF COUNCIL AND OFFICERS FOR COMING SESSION.—No further nominations beyond those of the Council had been received.

Regarding the nomination of Mr. Howgrave-Graham as President, the President stated he had received a letter from Mr. Graham asking permission to withdraw his acceptance of nomination for the Presidency, as he had come to the conclusion that such acceptance would be prejudicial to his position as a Government servant.

After discussion, the matter was left for the general meeting that afternoon to deal with.

BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION.—Mr. Graham's report for submission to the B.E. Exhibition by the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies was received, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Graham.

The President asked the members present to forward any further suggestions for incorporation in the report to the Secretary as soon as possible, and it was decided to invite Messrs. Moore and Farrow to collaborate with Mr. Graham in the re-drafting of the document before finally submitting it to the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies.

STANDARD SYSTEM.—An informal discussion took place with regard to the advisability of appointing a sub-committee to revise the Institute's publication, "The Standard System," and it was decided to leave the matter for discussion by the incoming Council.

Minutes of the Fourteenth Annual General Meeting, held in the Town Hall, Pretoria, on Saturday, 25th August, 1923, at 3 p.m.

PRESENT.—Messrs. T. Moore (President), G. E. Howgrave-Graham (Vice-president), N. T. Cowin, J.

W. Cowling, C. H. Deighton, E. B. Farrow, D. J. Laing, W. E. Puntis, H. Rowe-Rowe, S. Waters, and A. Loots (Secretary).

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. F. D. Hickman and D. A. McCubbin.

NOTICE OF MEETING.—The Secretary's letters, dated 25th July and 14th August, convening the meeting were read and passed.

The President, in opening the meeting, apologised for the delay in convening the general meeting, which was due to the late receipt of the official minutes of the Architectural Congress held in Capetown in January last. Before continuing with the business of the meeting, he also expressed regret at the very serious illness of Messrs. Babbs and W. Harrison, and proposed a vote of sympathy with these members.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.—The minutes of the thirteenth annual General meeting, held on the 22nd April, 1922, were taken as read and confirmed, as also were the minutes of the extraordinary general meeting held on the 2nd December, 1922, and adjourned to 7th December.

COUNCIL'S REPORT.—This had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting.

Referring to the Architectural Conference on page 7, the President stated that as a result of the visit of Mr. Hickman and himself to Capetown, the whole complexion of the Council's report would be altered. A report had been prepared and will be dealt with later.

Proposed by Mr. Puntis, and seconded by Mr. Cowin, that the report be accepted. Agreed.

BALANCE SHEET.—This had been incorporated in the Council's report and appears on pages 20-21. The President dealt with the items seriatim and stated that he hoped the expenditure for the coming session would be greatly decreased, as there would in all probability be no contribution towards Architects Act Fund next session, and several other items would not recur.

A Committee, consisting of the Council, was appointed to consider ways and means of reducing expenditure and raising revenue, and to prepare a report for circulation to all members before the next annual general meeting.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.—The President dealt shortly with this, as the address had been circulated to all members.

Mr. Cowin, in proposing a vote of thanks to the President, paid a tribute to Mr. Moore for the work he had done during the past year in the interests of Quantity Surveyors and quantity surveying. He could

appreciate the work done by the President in connection with the proposed Architects Act, judging by the time and labours put in by his partner, Mr. Powers.

Mr. Cowling associated himself with Mr. Cowin's remarks, and a vote of thanks to the President was passed with acclamation.

Mr. Moore, in replying, expressed pleasure at having had the honour of representing the Institute on the Executive Committee of the Architects' Union Registration Executive Committee, and paid a tribute to Mr. Cowin's partner, Mr. Powers, in whom, he stated, the members can have every confidence in getting the Act before Parliament.

DELEGATION TO CAPETOWN.—The President informed the meeting that Mr. Hickman and he had been delegated by the Council to proceed to Capetown, and meet the members there with a view to getting the opposition to the Architects Act withdrawn, and the result of the visit was to put quite a different complexion on the matter.

The delegates' report was handed to the members present, and the President briefly explained what had transpired and what amendments to the draft Act were proposed.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL AND OFFICERS FOR 1923.—As no further nominations had been received, the recommendations of the Council, Mr. Cowling proposed, and Mr. Deighton seconded, that the present Council and officers be asked to accept nomination and remain in office until the end of the calendar year, and a fresh Council be elected then. Agreed.

The National Federation of Building Trade Employers in South Africa have intimated that there is a scarcity of plasterers in the Union, and have expressed a wish that architects will endeavour to eliminate as much plaster work as possible by substituting face brickwork and other finishes. The Federation have also made representations on the subject of specifying only South African made joinery. The latter with the view to the creation of openings for the employment of the youth of the country as artisans.

APPOINTMENT OR PARTNERSHIP.

Associate R.I.B.A., with life experience, including own practice in England, able to assume full control, including preparation of quantities, is open to take charge of a branch practice or would enter partnership.—Replies to "PARTNERSHIP," P.O. Box 2266, Johannesburg.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN ACADEMY AND ITS CRITICS.

Your correspondent, "A.E.G.," who, incidentally, also shares in "the touch of modesty which adds initials" to his criticisms, would have us believe that he writes with authority, and "not as one of the scribes." None the less, I should like to point out one or two other "critical considerations."

In defence of the Press critics, I must say that they do not stand on a pedestal, nor even pretend to be always original. In my experience of many years' standing, the great majority of the mild remarks made by the more accredited of local critics only reflect what has been said before and since by visitors to the South African Academy, both lay and professional.

Then, too, the professional artist is also human—and sometimes inhuman! I have known few artists who have not smiled approvingly on criticism, lay or otherwise, so long as it was appreciative! "A.E.G." thinks "praise and blame may be equally objectionable." Does he prefer a catalogue, because, I fear, a catalogue alone will not help an exhibition?

But let us take some of his complaints:

The school exhibits might well be placed more apart. At the same time, I think it may be an incentive to retain them as a section of the Academy. I doubt whether the Education Department is the right institution to stepfather Art. At present it patronises it.

The hanging was admittedly done in a hurry. I understand, however, that, on more than one occasion, local artists have declined to spend their leisure hours in what is a tiring and thankless task. Hence it is not surprising if work done by capable but busy hands does not always come up to "professional" expectation.

Undoubtedly, too, crafts and sculpture needed "criticism." Numbers might be reduced with advantage. It was regrettable that Kottler, the Cape sculptor, was not represented. The Academy should be South African. Here it is comforting to note that "A.E.G.," like the Press, laments that many well-known artists did not contribute to this year's exhibition.

This year's Academy has taught us something. One difficulty appears to be the jury. It has been suggested that future Academies (and the idea might well be adopted in the selection of the pictures for the British Empire Exhibition) should do away with a jury of admission. In its place, an advisory committee might be appointed, that would ask for a limited number of contributions from well-known South African artists. In order to encourage the younger generation, it would be necessary for the advisory committee to have a certain discretion as to the space to be allotted to new-comers, who, however, should be encouraged to send in promising work. This discretion should be exercised carefully, without any undue leniency or harshness. Room should be allotted, not only for convention and correctness, but for good work with the hall-mark of originality.

A point, only alluded to indirectly by "A.E.G.," is the entry fee. This should, I think, be lowered in the case of an artist sending in several pictures. Artists, especially young ones, are not usually wealthy.

To return to "A.E.G." for a moment. Is he not also a critic? He gives faint praise to the pictures, laments the dearth of established exhibitors, and damns the hanging. Was his article written to encourage Art, or to discourage too observant criticism?

In Whistler's historic book, perhaps "A.E.G." will remember, that great artist called Balaam's Ass the "first great critic," but was reminded and admitted—characteristically, but still admitted—that it was the ass who saw the angel of the Lord, not Balaam!

But enough. Surely artist and critic may have an individual opinion and a common object—the development of Art in South Africa? By different ways, both may attain the same goal. The fine work done by the Association of Transvaal Architects should be continued and strengthened, not by petty disputes between artist and artist, or lay and professional, but by the concerted effort of all sections, to make this annual exhibition a real help to Art and artists. We do not need platitudes, but constructive thought; not mild depreciation, but earnest workers.

DENYS LEFEBVRE.

THE ALLIANCE.

Following the alliance of the Association of Transvaal Architects with the Royal Institute of British Architects the following communications have been exchanged by the Presidents:—

July 23, 1923.

Dear Mr. President,

It is with much pleasure that I send you a few words of friendly greeting on behalf of the parent body of the Royal Institute.

The Allied Societies have of late years been growing ever more closely in touch with the Institute; and the point needs no urging that this increase of loyal co-operation is of the greatest benefit to the Institute and its Allies.

I know that you will help us in every way you can; and we, on our part, shall be delighted to help you in all cases where our assistance is sought. It is a proud reflection that by these mutual good offices our combined influence can now penetrate to the most remote parts of the habitable globe.

I am, dear Mr. President,

Yours most cordially,

J. A. GOTCH,

President.

The President,

The Association of Transvaal Architects.

August 22, 1923.

Dear Mr. President,

I am very sensible not only of the kindly and fraternal spirit which prompted your letter to me of the 23rd July, but also of the honour and dignity which has been added to my Association by affiliation with the Institute.

I read your letter to Council, who desire me to say that as a body they heartily reciprocate your greetings and goodwill, and will co-operate with the Institute in every way possible for the advancement of common and public interests.

With every good wish to the Institute and its Allies for guidance and success in their work, believe me, dear Mr. President.

Yours very sincerely,

F. L. H. FLEMING,

President.

The President,

Royal Institute of British Architecture.

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION.

Memorials to the Missing in France.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The Imperial War Graves Commission invite architects who served during the war as members of the Military, Naval, or Air Forces raised in any part of the British Empire to send in their names for admission to a competition for the designing of the undermentioned of the memorials to the Missing to be erected in France by the Imperial War Graves Commission.

The memorials to the Missing proposed are to commemorate those who fell in the war in France and Belgium, but have no known grave, and will be in the neighbourhood of the following places, and will have inscribed on them the following number of names:—

At Bethune, 20,000 names; at Armentieres, 15,000 names; at Cambrai, 6,000 names; at Soissons, 5,000 names.

Applications for particulars of premiums and other regulations from those desiring to compete are to be addressed to the Secretary (Works Branch), Imperial War Graves Commission, 82, Baker Street, London, W.1., and must be received there not later than 1st January, 1924, and must be accompanied by a statement giving particulars of the War Service and professional career of the applicant, and clearly stating which of the memorials it is desired to compete for.

A deposit of two guineas for each set of plans, regulations and other particulars applied for must accompany the application, and such deposit will be returned either on receipt of a *bona-fide* design or on the return of the plans, regulations and particulars in good condition.

The Assessor appointed by the Imperial War Graves Commission to examine and report on the designs submitted is Sir Aston Webb, K.C.V.O., P.R.A.

The Municipality of Johannesburg contemplate laying out the site at the west end of the Town Hall, and propose to call for competitive designs from practising architects.

ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITIONS.

The question of the governing conditions for architectural competitions and the best method of judging competition designs have lately been considered by a body of the members of this Association who have, in the past, acted as assessors in architectural competitions. The findings on these matters will prove to be interesting reading to the vast majority of members who regularly enter architectural competitions and are published in the hope that they will be critically studied and that members having suggestions to make thereon will do so in writing to the Registrar, so that the Council may consider them in due course. Any suggested amendments or criticisms will be welcome and dealt with in a manner which will prove acceptable to the profession.

The conditions governing architectural competitions issued during the past few years have contained many rigid clauses, particularly one respecting the amount of money to be spent on the buildings called for in each competition. It is felt the inclusion of a clause stating the amount the promoters are prepared to spend is frequently inadequate to provide the stated accommodation and requirements, which, coupled with enforcing and unstated necessities arising in the working out of the design, greatly hampers competitors.

It would be far better to give the site area and the approximate areas required for rooms and apartments without a definite cost and, while not eliminating the influence of cost in adjudication, it should not unduly hamper the assessor. It is always practicable, after the competition, to bring a plan down to reasonable cost requirements and financial possibilities where the accommodation asked for is in excess of these.

Rigid conditions should be kept within limits, and, as far as possible, these should be confined to questions involving fairplay and honour between promoters and competitors and between competitors themselves and strictly essential requirements, as far as possible, in every scheme, should be left to the designer.

It is considered advisable to institute preliminary competitions for work, say, over £10,000 with considerable freedom from rigid or onerous conditions or

very extensive draftsmanship, the assessor to select, say, six for final competition, giving a report of his opinions on each particular design for the information of the author only, but open to publication after the award is given.

Strictly economical plans producing clever solutions of rigid conditions of requirements frequently insisted upon by promoters rarely produce the best results architecturally.

The method suggested of a final competition, in which the selected authors would have the benefit of the assessors' criticism on their preliminary sketches, would tend to improve the final results, the authors having an opportunity of remodelling their architectural treatment by slight modification of their plans if considered desirable.

Experience has proved that the best economic plan does not always demonstrate the best architectural conception; it is suggested that an equitable condition should be provided, to operate in such cases, enabling the co-operation of the author of the selected plan with the author of the design showing the best architectural conception.

Respecting the methods of assessing competitions in the Transvaal, the following have been made use of in some of the competitions lately promoted:—

1. Sole Assessor (Architect).
2. Sole Assessor (Architect) with Advisory Committee of one to three persons representing the promoters.
3. Jury (of more than one) of Assessors (Architects).
4. Jury of Assessors of one or more Architects with one lay Assessor, who is one of the promoters.
5. Jury of Architect Assessors with lay advisory members representing the promoters.

Where lay committee (advisory) have been appointed to advise architect assessor on local requirements, the final decision has been made by the assessor. This has worked well since the promoters have felt that the assessor is informed clearly

of their desires and in practice does not deprive the assessor of his authority.

In several cases one of the board or jury of assessors has been a layman (one of the promoters) who was chosen by the promoters for his particular knowledge of the practical requirements. There is no objection to this method, providing the more technical and architectural aspects are safeguarded by the presence of architectural assessors.

Method of Choosing Assessors.—In most cases the Association of Transvaal Architects is invited to submit the name of an architect as assessor. Sometimes the promoters select an assessor and ask for the agreement of the Association of Transvaal Architects. Of late years, owing to propaganda work, the appointment of only lay assessors has disappeared to a large extent.

It is considered that the best method for adjudicating competitions is the provision of a jury or board of, say, three architectural assessors with two persons as an advisory committee, chosen by the promoters for their particular knowledge of the practical requirements of the case, the architectural assessors to make the report and sign the award. Further, the definite opinion has been expressed that assessment by competitors themselves is impracticable for many reasons; that distance would prevent many competitors giving proper consideration, that persons of poor judgment and experience would be allowed to assess the works of superior men,

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

At a Conference of Architects and Educationists held at Durban in July last (when your Association was represented by delegates) it was unanimously decided that a Federal Council representative of all Architectural bodies in the Union of South Africa be appointed to direct and co-ordinate architectural education and examinations with power to act in alliance with the Royal Institute of British Architects and Society of Architects (London).

A form of constitution for such Federal Council was drawn up and adopted by the Conference and a copy is attached hereto for your information.

Your Council, desiring that members shall have the opportunity to express their interest in this important matter, has called for nominations for the guidance of Council in electing the Association's representative to the Federal Council.

Notice is hereby given that a Special General Meeting of members of this Association will be held at the Scientific and Technical Societies' Club, 100, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Tuesday, 25th September, 1923, at 8 p.m., in connection with this matter. Will you kindly endeavour to be present. If unable to be present, please make use of the enclosed form of proxy.

AGENDA.

1. 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.
2. To receive and confirm report of Council in respect of alliance of this Association with the Royal Institute of British Architects.
3. To consider and accept, with or without amendment, such resolutions as may be moved pertinent to the business above stated.
4. Discussion upon general items of professional interest.

By Order of Council,

MURRAY K. CARPENTER,
Registrar.

The Johannesburg War Memorial Committee intend inaugurating a competition for a memorial to be erected in the centre of Johannesburg, for which Messrs. Wallace Paton of Durban, Mr. G. S. Burt Andrews and Prof. G. E. Pearse of Johannesburg may be appointed to assess.

AUSTRALIA ADVANCES.

The growth of Sydney and Melbourne is assuming mammoth proportions. Last year the annual increase in each city was about 29,000 souls. It took Paris ten years to put on 18,000. As a sequence, the building trades are extremely busy, and there seems to be abundance of work, with the usual complaint about the workmen slowing down—a trouble not unheard of in South Africa. Bricklayers are stated to be laying half the number of bricks as compared with pre-war performance. To combat the efforts of trades unions to restrict apprentices, the Sydney Master Builders' Association lately started a school of bricklaying, and in a very short time 208 lads presented themselves, whereupon the Bricklayers' Union declared that its members would refuse to work on jobs where these trainees might be employed. The answer of the masters to this sectionally selfish behaviour is not yet to hand, but it will certainly happen that in time the public will refuse to be exploited for the peculiar benefit of a bricklayers' aristocracy.

* * *

It is strange how history repeats itself. In 1346 in England similar conditions prevailed, when the men's unions of that time restricted apprenticeship, demanded excessive wages, and restricted the output of labour, and the public worm at last turned and brought in restrictive Acts against the workman, which held them in a kind of serfdom till early in the nineteenth century. So the human pendulum swings slowly backward and forward, dispensing favour alternately to one section and then to the other.

* * *

The Australians, however, congratulate themselves that their conditions are far better than those in America, where bricklayers are reported to be earning £3 15s. per day, and the fire-brigade men have been begged to lay bricks for schools for children, of which there is a great shortage. The conditions of human affairs to-day tend to assail freedom and democracy and run countries for the sake of classes or sections of workmen and others.

* * *

The shortage of houses in Melbourne is 12,000 and, while about 10,000 per year are being erected, the

shortage is not being fully overtaken. Both Sydney and Melbourne spend vast sums in new building, for in each city the value is close on £10,000,000 per annum.

* * *

The largest enterprise in structures at the moment is the Sydney Harbour Bridge. The cost will run into several millions, and the designer, Mr. Bradfield, claims that it will be the largest fabricated bridge in the world, probably because of its accommodation of different classes of traffic. The centre span will be 1,600 feet and high enough to allow the masts of the tallest ocean liners passing below. The bridge will carry railways, tramways, several lines of vehicular traffic and a wide footway. The centre trussed girder will be 1,200 feet long and will weigh 4,000 tons. It is to be built on specially made pontoons and floated down the harbour under the great cantilever arms, from which long pendant girders will hang, on which the centre girders will be raised four inches at a time by four 1,000-ton hydraulic jacks. It will take two days to raise and bolt it up. Tenders are expected on November 30 next.

* * *

The Federal Government is proposing to proceed with a provisional Parliament House, to cost £229,000, to last for about fifty years at the new capital of Canberra. Previous Ministries have promoted competitions, stopped them twice, and former competitors are anxiously asking why the Federal Government is proposing to give the provisional houses to the Federal P.W.D. to design and supervise. It is understood that the Federal Minister of Public Works is considering compensation to the disappointed competitors. The latest cabled phase of this question is that the Federal Senate has rejected the proposals for a provisional House, so we must wait for the next mails to hear what alternative schemes are now being brought forward.

* * *

Hoskins Limited have informed the New South Wales Government that they will lay down a steel making plant at Port Kembla at a cost of £2,000,000 sterling, if the Government will extend the rail to that port from Moss Vale. Port Kembla is about 40 miles south of Sydney. Australia has been enormously profiting of late years by industrial expansion, and it makes one in South Africa wish for similar expansion here. Comparatively, South Africa is very stagnant

and the level of prosperity is far lower than it is in Australia.

* * *

The State Government is now proposing to build a new Parliament House in Sydney. A similar announcement was made on January 24th, 1891. The present building, which is portion of a design premiated in competition, is fragmentary. The original competition was won by a Dublin architect about 70 years ago, but the building has never had a fair chance and is unworthy of the great country which owns it.

* * *

Some facts about Australia:—

It is larger than the United States of America; but the United States has a population 21 times greater than that of Australia.

Australia is 25 times larger than the British Isles, but the latter has ten times more people.

New South Wales has 2,105 picture palaces and halls of entertainment. She possesses 700 architects, and is the mother State, being the oldest and carrying the most population (about 2,000,000), of which nearly half are in Sydney, largely owing to industrial expansion.

The trustees of the Benevolent Funds gratefully acknowledge receipt of the following donations to the Benevolent Fund of the Architects of the Transvaal:

F. L. H. Fleming	...	...	...	£10	10	0
Allen Wilson	...	...	...	10	10	0
John Waterson	...	...	...	10	10	0
Anonymous	...	...	...	5	5	0
E. J. Wellman	...	...	...	2	2	0
D. M. Sinclair	...	...	...	2	2	0

The donations made by Messrs. Fleming, Wilson and Waterson represent the amounts of their expenses incurred in attending the Architectural Conference at Durban, which these gentlemen requested the Association to place to the credit of the Benevolent Fund instead of making repayment to them.

Further donations are urgently required, and members are invited to make a contribution to this fund in order that urgent calls now in hand may be met.

* * *

Members are reminded of the special general meeting which will take place in the Associated Scientific and Technical Society's premises, 100, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Tuesday, the 25th instant, at 8 p.m.

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ENAMELLED STEEL TILES.

For some time past the profession at Home has been greatly interested in the production of steel enamelled tiles for all purposes, externally and internally: this new commodity is now perfected and there appears to be no limit to their utility. So far a standard range of tiles has been produced in white, ivory, cream, and colours, to sizes acceptable by the profession. This patent tile has been extensively used on the underground railways in London during the last two years: three and a half millions have been ordered and fixed and have proved infinitely superior in every way to the earthenware variety. Subject to the tiles being correctly fixed, they will remain in condition and position until forcibly removed; being made from sheet steel, the tile is impervious to moisture, an important feature, because in the past it has been found that moisture has actually oozed through the cracked glaze of earthenware tiles, resulting in discolouration and

discomfort. In extensive tests which have been carried out, where steel enamelled tiles have been fixed alongside tiles of ordinary glazed earthenware variety, the former have successfully withstood the very severe conditions imposed, whereas the earthenware variety, in every case, developed a bad crack on the surface, and most of them actually cracked across the body. These steel enamelled tiles are usually fixed with cement and sand on a rendered surface of cement; the tile is provided with lipped edges which, when set in cement, effectually withstands ordinary attempts at removal. Tiles of small sizes, half tiles and closers are made; in fact, any size or shape required can be provided. The consensus of opinion at Home is that the brick-like effect of these tiles will ensure their general adoption; in this country the economic feature of receiving, in good and serviceable condition, the net quantity required, without the necessity for making allowances for damage and breakages in transit, will prove a benefit.

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