

https://dspace.org/

South African Architectural Record: Journal of the Transvaal, Natal and Orange Free State Provincial Institutes of South African Architects and the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors

1920

Institutes of South African Architects and the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors

http://hdl.handle.net/10539/18860

South African Architectural Record; Journal of the Transvaal, Natal and Orange Free State Provincial Institutes of South African Architects and the Chapter of South African Quantity Surveyors. 1920 vol 5: 1-4 p338-428

Downloaded from a DSpace repository. https://dspace.org/

BUILDING.

THE JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF TRANSVAAL ARCHITECTS
AND OF THE NATAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

No. 18. Vol. V. JUNE, 1920. [ISSUED QUARTERLY] Price 1/-

EDITOR—
E. M. POWERS, F.R.I.B.A.

ASSISTANT EDITORS—
E. H. WAUGH, A.R.I.B.A., M.S.A.
R. HOWDEN, A.R.V.I.A. M.S.A.

BUSINESS MANAGER—
MURRAY K. CARPENTER,
67, EXPLORATION BUILDINGS.
COMMISSIONER STREET.
P.O. BOX 2266, JOHANNESBURG.
PHONE 5821.

EDITORIAL NOTICE

The Editor will be glad to consider any MSS, Photographs or Sketches submitted to him but they should be accompanied by stamped addressed envelopes for return if unsuitable. in case of loss or injury he cannot hold himself responsible for MSS., Photographs or Sketches, and publication in the Journal can alone be taken as evidence of acceptance. The name and address of the owner should be placed on the back of all Pictures and MSS.

The Association does not hold itself responsible for the opinions expressed by individual contributors.

Annual Subscription per post 5/-. This Journal may be obtained from the principal Railway Bookstalls throughout the Union, or direct from the Business Manager.

CONTENTS.

Members of Council and Committees	354	New Town of Stella	367
Valedictory Address	355	Obituary	367
Viscount Buxton	358	Notes from my Sketch Book	368
Distribution	359	Telephone Complaints	370
Victoria Falls Hotel	363	Competition for the Garden City at the Cape	371
Important to Johannesburg Architects	363	The Garden City at the Cape	371
List of Books in Library of Association	363	Association Notes	374
Design Competition	363	Women Who have made Good	375
South African Academy	364		

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

President: Mr. D. M. Sinclair, M.S.A.

Vice-Presidents: Mr. E. M. Powers, F.R.I.B.A., Mr. J. S. Donaldson, M.S.A.

Council: Mr. D. M. Burton, M.S.A., M.R. San.Inst., Mr. N. T. Cowin, Mr. F. L. H. Fleming, Mr. M. J. Harris, M.S.A., Mr. R. Howden, A.R.V.I.A., M.S.A., Mr. D. A. McCubbin, Licentiate R.I.B.A., Mr. G. E. Pearse, A.R.I.B.A., Mr. H. G. Veale, M.S.A., Mr. Allen Wilson.

Finance Committee: Mr. D. M. Sinclair (Chairman), Messrs. J. S. Donaldson, D. A. McCubbin, D. M. Burton, E. M. Powers.

Practice Committee: Mr. H. G. Veale (Chairman), Messrs. F. L. H. Fleming, Allen Wilson, R. Howden, J. S. Donaldson, G. E. Pearse, D. M. Sinclair, E. M. Powers.

Journal Committee: Mr. E. M. Towers, F.R.I.B.A. (Editor and Chairman), Messrs. E. H. Waugh, R. Howden, M. J. Harris, G. Moerdijk, E. J. Welleman, D. M. Sinclair, G. E. Pearse, Harry Clayton, J. W. Small, H. W. Spicer, J. S. Donaldson, G. W. Nicolay.

Art and Education Committee: Mr. D. M. Burton (Chairman), Messrs. F. L. H. Fleming, G. E. Pearse, G. Moerdijk, E. H. Waugh, V. S. Rees Poole, E. M. Powers, Frank Emley, M. J. Harris, H. G. Veale, G. S. Burt Andrews, H. W. Spicer, Allen Wilson.

Board of Examiners: Messrs. G. E. Pearse, D. M. Sinclair, E. M. Powers, J. S. Donaldson, E. H. Waugh, R. Howden, H. G. Veal, P. J. Hill, S. C. Dowsett.

Witwatersrand University Committee: Mr. D. A. McCubbin.

Seymour Memorial Library: Mr. D. M. Sinclair.

Architectural Classes: Messrs. D. M. Sinclair, H. G. Veale, Allen Wilson.

Pretoria Practice Committee: Mr. W. J. de Zwaan (Convener), Messrs. N. T. Cowin, P. J. Hofman, F. Soff, J. G. Kraan, J. B. Weyers, F. Roberts, V. S. Rees Poole, J. R. Burg, F. G. McIntosh, P. Westmaas.

Valedictory Address

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF TRANSVAAL ARCHITECTS. AT THE GENERAL MEETING HELD, 28th. FEBURARY, 1920.

Delivered by Mr. D. M. Burton, M.S.A. M.R. San. I.

Gentlemen,

I would like to preface my remarks here this evening, by saying that I feel I cannot sufficiently thank the Members of the Council of the Association for the very willing and generous support accorded to me during my term of office as President.

Many times during the past year I have felt very keenly, having so often to call the Members of the Council together to transact important association matters requiring prompt or immediate action. The diligence and loyalty displayed by the Members in dealing with matters affecting the best interests of the profession has been really splendid. The work of the Council increases year by year both in amount and importance, and I hope that the Members of all future Councils will give their President the same kindly, sympathetic and liberal support granted by the retiring Council to me during my term of office.

I must also thank the Registrar for the very great assistance he rendered me during the past year.

Your Association is growing in importance, and the office of President is absorbing more and more of the occupant's time and becoming increasingly difficult. As an institution we have been in existance for 10 years and I feel that we are deeply indebted to the past Presidents and Councils for the excellent manner in which the work was carried on. It has enabled us to attain our present position, and I think I am right in saying that these gentlemen are watching the efforts of each succeeding Council with a kindly eye and keen interest.

I would like to appeal to those Members who have qualified during the past year to render sympathetic and ready assistance to the incoming Council. Such members are prospective Councillors and will in turn probably look for similar assistance. One of the duties of the Council elected is to see that the professional status of an architect is beyond reproach.

Sometimes the Council is called on to impartially investigate the conduct of some Member and, although this is a distasteful part of their business it is a very necessary function, and must, in the interests of the profession be carried out without fear or favour. It should, however, be understood that, whilst any suggestion of misconduct will be investigated by the Council, Members should not bring forward complaints of a trivial and aggravating nature which they are not prepared to substantiate under oath for an enquiry of that nature is a serious business and may involve grave consequences to the Member concerned.

Various matters affecting the Association have been prominently before the public during the past year. From time to time attention has been given to such as closely affect the interests of our art, and it has been necessary to put forth strenuous efforts to ensure that the profession is consulted on subjects having a direct bearing on architecture.

When the Imperial Government set about the question of the erection of 100,000 houses in the United Kingdom, Sir James Carmichael was appointed as Director General of Housing, and he at once set up a Committee with a prominent architect (William Dunn) as Chairman.

He stated that "They would be dipping very heavily into the Public Purse to build the many thousands of Houses required, and whilst they would have the advice of some of the most expert architects and builders in the Kingdom, they would all the time be open to learn anything new. They would be spending Public Money in the Public interest, and would welcome any practicable suggestions from the Public that would help them to build wisely."

This is a statemanlike method of dealing with the problem and is worthy of the careful consideration of those Authorities in the Transvaal who have been elected by the people to work on the behalf of the best interests of the Public.

Our Governing bodies must awaken to the fact, when they are about to undertake the erection of public buildings, it is their duty to consider from every point of view what is in the best interests of the community, and as far as feasible, to ensure that such buildings are as dignified as possible. The mere utilitarian object of a building should not be the sole consideration. I think very often the site is not sufficiently taken into consideration, whereas it should be re-

cognised that the position of a building is usually as important as its design and size. Many a beautiful building has lost much of its grandeur through the unsuitability of its position and surroundings. The ideal building must not only be beautiful, dignified in design and of noble proportions; it must be well placed, and on these matters the Association of the Transvaal Architects should always be ready and willing to give advice, and aid the Authorities concerned as occasion arises.

Johannesburg has suffered more than any other town in the Union by lack of forethought in this respect. The Town Hall, the Law Courts, the Telephone Exchange are standing examples of this. There is a chance offered of remedying, to a certain extent, this defect in respect of the Town Hall and incidentally of commencing a new regime of civic design in Johannesburg, by placing the Post Office in its proper position.

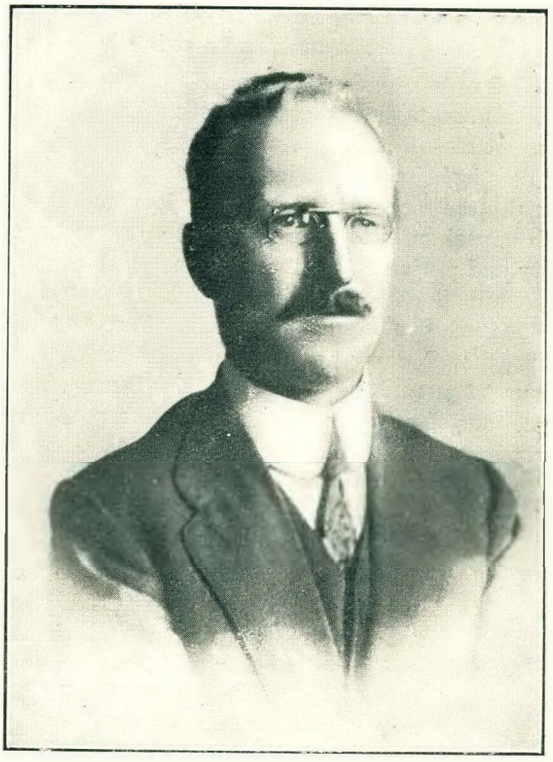
Your Council during the past year has endeavoured to prevent the Government making alterations to the existing Post Office as a splendid opportunity is here offered for civic improvement which should enable us to retrieve the lost dignity of our Town Hall.

It is no use crying out when it is too late to mend matters, we are morally responsible for the beauty of our town, and no effort should be spared to see that opportunities for civic improvements should be immediatly taken advantage of and utilised wherever possible. We cannot expect those are unacquainted with Art to understand what such a change in respect of our Post Office would mean, but we know that such improvements, when they are in reality governed by principles of high artistic arrangement, make for the highest of all forms of order.

Johannesburg is a great city of which we are all proud. All of us would like to see our town become a really great and beautiful metropolis.

We want to be the centre of things. A city combining in itself all those things which make for clean living and high thinking. We want a really beautiful city. We want to put behind us the period of adolescence and irresponsibility, and desire to see our town emerge as a leader, as a teacher of essentials. We are a cosmopolitan community; let us become serious-minded and self-respecting in the best sense, in the only proper sense. Our public institutions should be properly housed, not with vulgar ostentation or display but with artistic, educated and discriminating taste.

It is necessary that our street improvements should be well considered, and wherever an opportunity occurs, advantage should be taken of it to improve the aesthetic value not only with regard to buildings, but also relative to obstructions such as we now find in our principal streets. Our engineering friends do not seem greatly concerned about the ugly standards or poles with endless wires which seem to be promiscuously placed along our main thoroughfares. Let us hope that some genius will solve the problem of running our tramcars without the necessity of the hideous lines of poles and wires at present required. I believe that time is not far distant when this problem will be solved.



Our President.—D. M. Sinclair. M.S.A.

Notwithstanding the remarks which a popular architect is reported to have made respecting town-planning (as a parting shot on leaving our shores), there is no doubt, in my opinion, that town-planning is essentially the function of an architect or a person well versed in architectural knowledge. Sir Christopher Wren designed a plan of London after the great fire in 1666, and I believe it is generally conceded that no better suggestion has yet been made. I think the time has arrived when architects should make a special study of town-planning as at present, but only a few in this country happen to be competent town-planners. Town-planning is not an affair of laying out pretty suburbs; it is a science which demands an intimate knowledge of general economics of housing, of our industries and our commerce. Here the immediate future undoubtdly offers a great field to the ambitious young

architect who will qualify himself in this most fascinating subject.

Civic art has undoubtedly a commercial value quite apart from the influence it may have on the lives of the Citizens. This fact is usually lost sight of by the man absorbed in business pursuits who fails to see that it pays to have beautiful cities.

Had our towns been planned on proper lines there would have been more satisfactory results which would have appealed more directly to the average rate-payer, while enormous sums of money, which will have to be spent sooner or later in undoing what has been wrongly done, would have been saved.

The man in the street does not realise the true relation of Art to life, he looks upon Art as a luxury: he may be stirred to admiration of a fine building, but it is usually the more superficial or obvious qualities in it which appeal to him, such as grandeur of scale, complexity and profusion of ornament and extravagant display, while the finer qualities which are apparent to the cultured eye are lost on him. I may add, en passant, that I sometimes think some architects endeavour to put all the Art they ever learnt into one design, thus showing an absolute lack of a proper sense of proportion. A building may be guilty of a social offence just as an individual may.

It is a matter of regret that there is no definite authority here to exercise some sort of control over the capricious talents of architects such as obtains in France, Germany and Italy. We might all improve if we had some form of public criticism as fearless as the criticism I noticed some months ago in an Australian Architectural Journal relative to a particular building.

Our Journal is the true medium of thought and expression open to all Members, and I think that it has become a very satisfactory institution. I hope that every Member of the profession will endeavour to keep it up to its present high standard. It is no light undertaking, and the Council looks to the Members to supply instructive articles. When it is considered that all the writings are voluntary, I think it is a Journal we can all be proud of, especially as its standard is second to none amongst the publications in South Africa. May I ask the members present to endeavour to make more practical use of its columns?

REGISTRATION.

During the past few years a Union Registration Act has been a main plank on the platform of professional politics.

The majority of Architects in the Union are very much alive to the necessity of Statutory Registration, being convinced that both architecture and the profession will naturally benefit by such legislation.

The necessity for Registration is to the fore in England, and no less an architect than the President of the R.I.B.A. is now a prominent registrationist. Opponents who base their arguments on those propounded by Viollet-le-Duc years ago, are gradually being eliminated or brought to see that their reasons may hold good for certain members of the profession but taken in a general application to the whole they are, perhaps, a little selfish.

One has only to read the past history of the medical profession to support this view. I find that in 1870 certain leading medical men were definitely and strongly opposed to registration, whereas it is no exaggeration to say that to-day all medical men are unanimous as to the necessity. Progress in these matters is always slow for the change is great, and there are always some who are against any reform whatever. As a rule those gentlemen usually adopt a selfish attitude and have little or no interest in the efforts for reform made by their fellow-men. They consider their views to be final and definite.

I think that most of us are agreed that artists are born and not made. This has always been the case and the same remark can be applied to great physicians, great engineers, great scientists and leaders in any walk in life. It does not follow that the ordinary student cannot attain any high efficiency by training, tested by an examination standard demanding proof that they are capable of carrying out our very specialised work.

Architectural taste and ability may be acquired to a degree by education and experiment, without being inborn. Since attainments are within the reach of all, it is our duty to see that those who are prepared to make the profession their livelihood and life's work are properly protected against the untrained, incompetent, self-styled architect.

I do not think we are likely to have less outstanding genius if the profession is protected by registration, bringing about a state of affairs which will enable a member of the profession to earn sufficient during the lean years to keep the wolf from the door, and be an encouragement for our youth to take up this, to my mind, the greatest of all professions.

Education is as important a factor in the making of a successful Architect as in any other profession. An Architect to-day must of necessity be more than an artist, he must be an expert in various subjects that go to make the fully qualified Architect, for an artist without constructive science is no more an architect than a man with knowledge of constructive science is necessarily an artist. It is, therefore, necessary to examine what is being done to-day to meet these require-

ments. In this connection I would like to mention that during the past year an earnest endeavour has been made to provide facilities for the education of students desirous of entering the profession. The School of Mines and Technology is prepared to carry on classes in Architectural subjects, if sufficient students register, and will hold examinations in any architectural subject if even only one candidate applies. We have a great institution open to us and we should endeavour to make the best of its facilities. I would here like to add a word of praise and thanks to Messrs, Ellis and Spicer who, at great personal sacrifice, undertook to conduct the classes arranged during the past session and thus enabled several students to take up their studies in architecture. It was no small undertaking for these gentlemen, and the fee paid for their services was a neglible quantity. As long as we have members who are willing to make such sacrifices we need have no fear as to the future architecture in this country.

This Association is lacking in its powers in as much as it is not able to spend any of its funds in the teaching of architecture.

It is doubtful whether such power would be beneficial if used in a direct sense, but we should, in some way, be placed in a position to subsidize an institution that would undertake such work. With that end in view I think that the concentrated efforts of the new Council should be directed towards the institution of a Faculty of Architecture at the new Witwatersrand University.

Such a chair is urgently required: we desire architects throughout South Africa to attain a high standard of proficiency and I am confident that, if a Faculty of Architecture were established, we would have students coming from all parts of South Africa. The student of the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries was trained in the three Arts of Sculpture, Painting and Architecture, and in after life practised all three. Their buildings must perforce be the books of the student in South Africa who is unable to study the actual work itself, and their measurement will form the self-education of the Architect. We cannot afford to ignore their experience and we may take it as an axiom that for the intelligent study and practice of design a general knowledge of the architectural history of the past is essential. A Chair at our University would, I think, be the best means of attaining this end in a thorough and systematic manner.

The housing question is probably the most important question before the public to-day. The Government should be urged to make a National Loan for housing; Municipal Authorities should bestir themselves: Delay may have disastrous results. The rateable value of areas, should not, in my opinion, enter into the question. It is a matter of greater importance than that of the questions usually discussed by our Politicians and has a direct bearing on the health of the people and safety of the country and yet our Government does not seem to deal seriously with the subject. The Government should set about putting things in some sort of order and start by organising the supply of building materials with a view to their proper distribution for housing purposes.

It is almost economically impossible to provide houses to-day at a rental or price within the means of people with a modest income, with the result that we have overcrowding and increased rents, we are therefore compelled to seek relief in some form or another from those who are best able to render it

---

VISCOUNT BUXTON, P.C., K.C.M.G.

The following resolution adopted by members at the Annual General Meeting in February last was forwarded to Viscount Buxton, and elicited the subjoined generous reply:—

> "The Association of Transvaal Architects on the occasion of its Annual General Meeting recognise with sincere regret that during the ensuing year His Excellency the Governor-General Lord Buxton will conclude his extended term of office. The Association realises that the personality of Lord Buxton revealed in his alert and sympathetic attitude towards every broad interest and sentiment of the community has been of the greatest value in South Africa. In losing Lord Buxton the Association feels that the country will be the poorer; the architects will lose an appreciative and kindly critic and a good friend. The Association wishes Lord and Lady Buxton God-speed, long life and every happiness."

Government House,
Capetown,
12th April, 1920.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter, and the resolution which the Association of Transvaal Architects have been good enough to adopt.

It is a source of much satisfaction to me to receive such a kind and warm endorsement of such action as I may have been able to take during my term of office here, and I very greatly appreciate the terms of the resolution.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) BUXTON.

The Registrar,
The Association of Transvaal Architects,
P.O. Box 2266, Johannesburg.

Distribution

By G. W. Nicolay, M.S.A.

The arts of the most ancient peoples, at which a glance has been taken, directed particularly to their most remarkable works in Assyria and Egypt, were not confined to those countries or even to their immediate neighbours; but the works of the Canaanites, Hittites and Chaldeans being added, what may be called the central group is complete; and containing in its accumulated methods all the arts both principal and contributary necessary for such climates as are found in open countries in the tropical zone.

If these peoples had been as noticeable for clear acute thinking and well balanced and orderly minds, their arts would no doubt have passed to the surrounding countries, being simply modified by the various necessities and aspirations encountered. But that appears not to have been the case, and this is all the more remarkable because the means of distribution was already established by the Phoeniceans on their western seaboard particularly and in many other directions.

The distribution of the arts followed a very similar method to that distributing mankind. The links which bound the known factors in the process to the unknown factors are lost, and may never be recovered, but something of the tides and eddies, the expansions and contractions of the general process is traceable and very interesting.

Beyond the limits of the most ancient peoples who have left monuments of any great extent that have remained to us, among which presently to be briefly noticed, were the Peluggi; there were many who built with perishable material, and on a restricted scale, whose traditions have come down to us, not by long-lasting monuments, but by the continual use of the same methods handed down by successive similarly constructed buildings. The buildings of wood, thatch and clay have been noticed.

So far we have been occupied with the works of the Hamitic and Semitic peoples. The coloured peoples, dark or yellow, have not been noticed, neither have the more northern Japhetic Aryas except as primitive builders in high lands. But these peoples in succesive migration overrun the neighbouring countries which afforded space for their excessive population or attracted them by their wealth or fertility; settling here and there and mingling with the conquered natives or pushing on to fresh conquests and still further and less known lands.

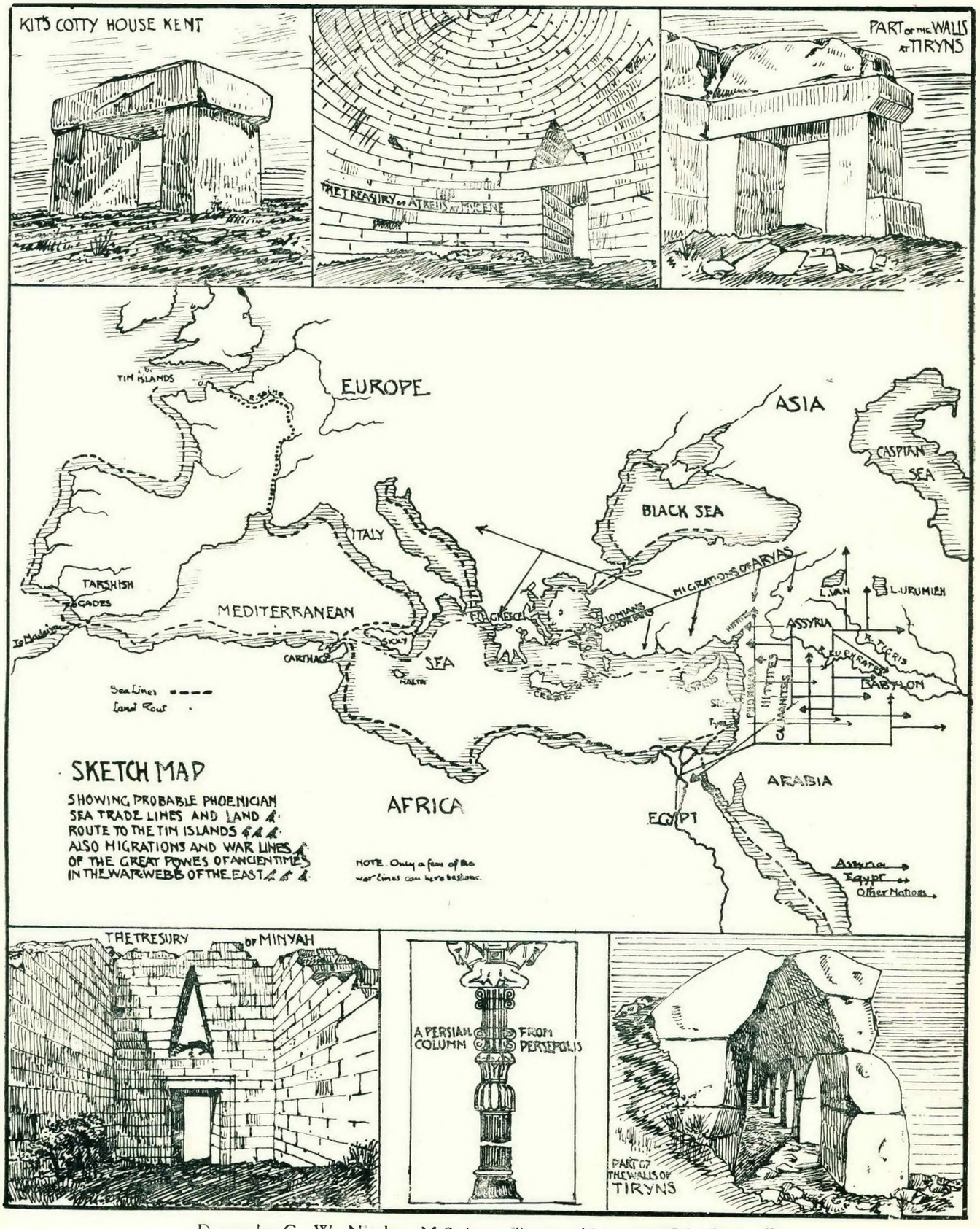
At the eastern extremity of the Western Sea (the Mediterranean) the ancient Phoenician people established themselves, not entirely forsaking their previous and probably original settlement on the islands at the western seaboard of the Persian Gulf, but making the new settlement principal and their seat of government. They were not a numerous people nor warlike, but almost entirely given up to trade, in which pursuit they traversed all the then known parts of the world, both by sea and land.

At the time when Tiglath Pileser, the warrior king of Assyria, was waging successful war against the peoples on his north and north-west frontiers, the records of which introduce us to the already fully developed ravenous cruelty of the servants of Asshur, the peaceful Phoenicians were pushing their trade in Cornwall and the Channel Islands; providing their people with the tin necessary for making bronze, The scarcity of tin with them, though copper was plentiful enough, not only induced them to cross Europe from south-east to north-west, but to brave the Atlantic through the Strait of Gibraltar past their station of Grades (Cadiz) in the land of Tarshiole (Spain) and carry on regular commerce by sea, at a time long before the dawn of Greek art.

They were sun and fire worshippers, and so were those who erected the vast open-air temple at Stonehenge, and many other similar monuments. We may imagine them visiting such places, both in their transcontinental journeys and sea voyages, at a time when these monuments were perfect, and no doubt being co-religionists and able to join in the ceremonies they secured safe trading facilities and friendly welcome.

These people traversed in their ships all seas they had access to, passing through the Grecian Archipelago and no doubt searching it carefully for trading purposes, proceeded through the Dardanelles into the Black Sea, skirted the whole littoral of the Mediterranean, found their way to Britain, as has been said, and even, though by stress of weather, reached an island in the Atlantic, which has been identified as Madeira. Eastward they passed the limits of the Persian Gulf and probably reached India. They traded with Egypt, both by the Mediterranean and Red Seas, and with their usual enterprise, proceeded along the coast of Africa down to Somali Land and possibly, as has been suggested, to Rhodesia. It seems, then, that as navigators they were supreme above all, except those of modern times.

They appear to have been the first to establish



Drawn by G. W. Nicolay, M.S.A., to illustrate his paper "Distribution."

regular sea routes, with properly supported stations, and it is noticeable that they kept strictly to their trade instincts, and for a very long period showed no signs of a desire to settle anywhere by means of force; seemingly content to serve their fellow men without a though of subjugating them for a space exceeding a thousand years. They must have been distributors of all the small objects of art, household furniture and utensils, statuettes, jewellery, painted panels perhaps, and textiles, of which those dyed with their famous purple and wrought with their embroidery hardly less valued were in all the palaces of the countries surrounding them.

We humans are a little more steady now. We do not fight a country to submission, then slaughter all who appear restive and march off "the remainder" to serve any useful purpose they may be capable of, in a strange land. We do not after war is over as a further condition of peace to the very land itself make it a waste place where no civilised man can live! In those far-off times, when people, nevertheless, lived, loved and laughed, ate, drank and danced, much as we do; that was the usual order, but the savagery of it seems to have principally developed in the countries lying between the Mediterranean Sea on the West and the mountains beyond the Tigris on the East, the mountains bounding Armenia and Media on the North and Arabia on the south; and this district was for ages the theatre of almost continual war of the most repulsive kind conceivable.

But our present interest is in the distribution of the arts of these remote peoples. Wherever a nation was removed by the its new masters, its mournful procession was accompanied by the transport of all its valuables; so that its artistic productions, if it had any, accompanied the artists into their new habitation; both the one and the other for the use of their new masters.

Here we have another method of distribution not often contemplated, but producing later the mixed aimless architecture of the Persians, which was no development, far less an original type, but a somewhat clumsy agglomerate of all sorts and kinds—but they excelled in glazed and painted clay productions, and have kept faith with them to the present day.

Another distribution was taking place in consequence of the migration of the Aryas, a people of greater natural mentality and fine sense and love of beauty, comely in person and free in thought and action, conquering, but not conquered, mingling with other peoples here and there, and settling with them; in other places passing on to countries more suited to their habits and desires. The Pelasgic were probably an early offshoot and left monuments of great interest in Greece, those cyclopean structures so admirably built though showing no particular indications of artistic aim. Their age is unknown, but they were built long before the time when we came to form historical data with the first Olympiad B.C. 776. The Donians and Ionians followed, and in course of time supplanted the Pelasgi and became the initiators of a new treatment of the elements from which architecture has and will be developed. There was no copying of existing "examples," no following of precedent; but trusting to their own keen intellects and well-balanced healthy sense in 350 years were able to produce the finest sculpture and—within its limitations—perhaps the most perfect work of architecture ever done by man:—Phidias and the Parthenon. Both likely to remain as long as their memory lasts without a rival.

It is probable that in its internal decoration, in its furnishings, and the garments of its officials, and even in its sculpture, the arts in their less prominent features which had been distributed by war and migration were well known to them. The artists working for one set of masters here and another set there, according as they were free or in captivity, and carrying of course their knowledge, experience and artistic faculties with them; those escaping captivity passing from the ruins of their work and the wreck of their country to and (if it could be found) friendly people; traversed the world east to west and north to south, as the warp and woof traverse a piece of woven fabrick. The great statue within the Parthenon was a composite of metals and ivory, a method of work which does not appear in former times; but statues of brass existed probably of equal size.

And the accessories were ready and the cutting and handling of stone, marble and granite were well understood, and the carving of them, even masterly figure carving was brought to a high standard ages before, but that seems to have passed into the purely imitative stage before the highest excellence was reached. And it was locked up, so to say, in Egypt; for those who copied Egyptian work, like most copyists, used the worst and left the best behind.

The Greeks, however, do not betray any knowledge of all this. Their columns were cylinders delicately wrought with what we know as an entasis, and other details treated with the same exceptional and individual refinement, its sculpture so nobly set in the chosen positions as to seem part of the realisation of superhuman idealism. In the distant view the Parthenon forms a dainty crown for the Athenian Acropolis. Nearer, a very majestic pile of light and shade and ethereal colour. If the tide took much time to reach that high water mark, if the flow was long, the ebb was swift enough. Three hundred and fifty years to produce; and in one hundred gone!



Victoria Falls Hotel. Entrance from Station.



Victoria Falls Hotel. Main Entrance.



Victoria Falls Hotel.—Entrance to Western Wing.



Victoria Falls Hotel from the Station.

VICTORIA FALLS HOTEL.

The Victoria Falls Hotel was built during the war period, the contract having been signed a few days before the outbreak and the building completed two years and three months later.

A large part of its interest lies in the remote nature of the locality in which it was built. Far distant from any town, many problems of labour, transport and material had to be considered and carefully worked out. The romantic nature of the site, too, facing the great natural gorge of the Falls, adds a distinction to the building which few others can possess.

The building is a flat-roofed, fire-resisting, skeleton-framed construction in reinforce concrete, the panels being filled in externally with brickwork. The whole is finished in plaster and coloured cream white. Internally, the building is divided up with "Hyrib" partitions, plastered, and has a granolithic floor.

All windows and French casements are steel-framed and intercommunication doors are used throughout.

The necessity for large airy reception and bedrooms with continual through draught and the need of ample verandah accommodation, suitable for a tropical climate, governed the architectural design; a free treatment of such Portuguese work as one sees on the east coast of Africa has been used. The photographs show the interesting portions of the building, which, owing to its position and length cannot well be viewed as a whole.

The drainage system has been most carefully worked out, all soil and waste water is carried by water-carriage to a large septic tank away from the site, where it is rendered inocuous and the effluent dispersed.

In the design of the building I was most ably assisted by Mr. H. E. Kirkby, his association being both helpful and inspiring.

FRANK SCOTT.

IMPORTANT TO JOHANNESBURG ARCHITECTS.

The following letter has been received by the Association from the Town Assizer of Johannesburg respecting proper provision for the storage of petrol in private garages:—

> "I beg to direct your attention to the provisions of the Council's Petroleum By-Laws regarding the storage of petrol in private garages.
>
> "It has been observed that in many cases when private residences are erected the outbuildings for the garage and native quarters are often combined, and that intervening wall is not brought up above the roof. In cases where this has not been done owners of such garages have had great difficulty in obtaining permission to keep a few cases of petrol, and it is thought that if this matter is brought before architects, this defect could be remedied at a very slight extra cost, when the buildings are erected."

LIST OF BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY OF THE ASSOCIATION.

These books may be borrowed by Students and Members on application to the undersigned any day between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.

M. K. CARPENTER,
Registrar.

A Guide to Gothic Architecture.—F. Francis Bumpus.
Aid to Survey Practice.—Lowis D'A. Jackson, A.M.I.C.E.
A Descriptive Handbook of Architecture.— Martin A. Buckmaster, A.R.C.A.
Antiquities of England.
Building Construction, Parts 1, 2, 3 and 4.—Rivington.
Building Construction.—Professor Henry Adams
Constructional Iron and Steel Work.—Francis Campin, C.E.
Domestic Sanitary Drainage and Plumbing.—William R. Maguire.
Ely Church and Cathedral, Part 1.—James Bentham.
Ely Church and Cathedral, Part 2.—James Bentham.
Geometrical Draughtsman.—Different Authors.
Gwilt's Encyclopaedia of Architecture.—Wyatt Papworth.
Hints to Young Architects.—George Wightwick.
Historical Description of the Altar-Piece at Holyrood Castle.—Davis Laing, F.S.A., Scot.
Modern Cottage Architecture.—Maurice B. Adams.
Ornament and its Application.—Lewis F. Day.
Orders of Architecture.—R. Phene Spiers, F.S.A.
Planning and Construction of High Office Buildings.—William H. Birkmire.
Principles of Planning.—Percy L. Marks.
Studies in Architecture.—Reginald Blomfield.
Specifications for Practical Architecture.—Frederick Rogers.
West minster Abbey.—D. Weller.
Winkle's Architectural and Picturesque Illustrations of Cathedral Churches of England and Wales.—Robert Graland, Architect.

DESIGN COMPETITION.

The 1820 Settlers' Centenary (Transvaal Branch) are offering a prize of £10 10s. for the best design that can be adopted for posters, letterheads, stamps, brooches, buttons, etc.; what is wanted is something to catch the eye and at once be associated with the 1820 Settler's movement.

Designs are to be sent into Rev. A. A. Kidwell, P.O. Box 6378, Johannesburg, by August 1st, 1920, and any further information required can be obtained from the same source.

The South African Academy.

Sir Lionel Phillips formally opened our First Exhibition at the Selborne Hall, Johannesburg, on the afternoon of the 20th March, when a very large number of art lovers foregathered.

Mr. D. M. Burton, on whose initiative the Academy came into being, when introducing Sir Lionel spoke of the scope which it was hoped the annual exhibition would attain. He said our foundation had been laid on firm and stable ground—in the support and co-operation of practically all outstanding artists in South Africa. Only the best works of the arts and crafts would be accepted for exhibition, and therefore this would mean that only the cream of the year's art would be presented to an appreciative public. By this means art education would not only be fostered, but to some extent controlled.

Sir Lionel Phillips, in the course of a very interesting and instructive speech, incidentally gave great encouragement to the association as well as to the artists who made this exhibition. He said that both his wife and himself were most pleasantly astonished to see such a splendid lot of work, work which would undoubtedly be reflected sooner or later on the every-day condition and life of the people of South Africa.

More especially did he praise the design, colour and manufacture of the exhibits of pottery from Grahamstown and Durban schools of art.

It is impossible for us to give even a small detailed dscription of the works accepted; but it will be understood, pretty readily, that only the very best of those works submitted were accepted, when out of 600 submitted about 50 per cent were rejected as not coming up to the standard of excellence it is desired shall be maintained in after years. The wisdom of this careful elimination was reflected in the many sales which were made. The exhibition was open for a week, free to all, and one of the most gratifying features was the large number of pupils from the high schools attending, usually under the guidance of a master or mistress. Altogether some 5 000 persons visited the exhibition



Pottery.—Made by Students of the School of Art Grahamstown, and exhibited at the S A. Academy.



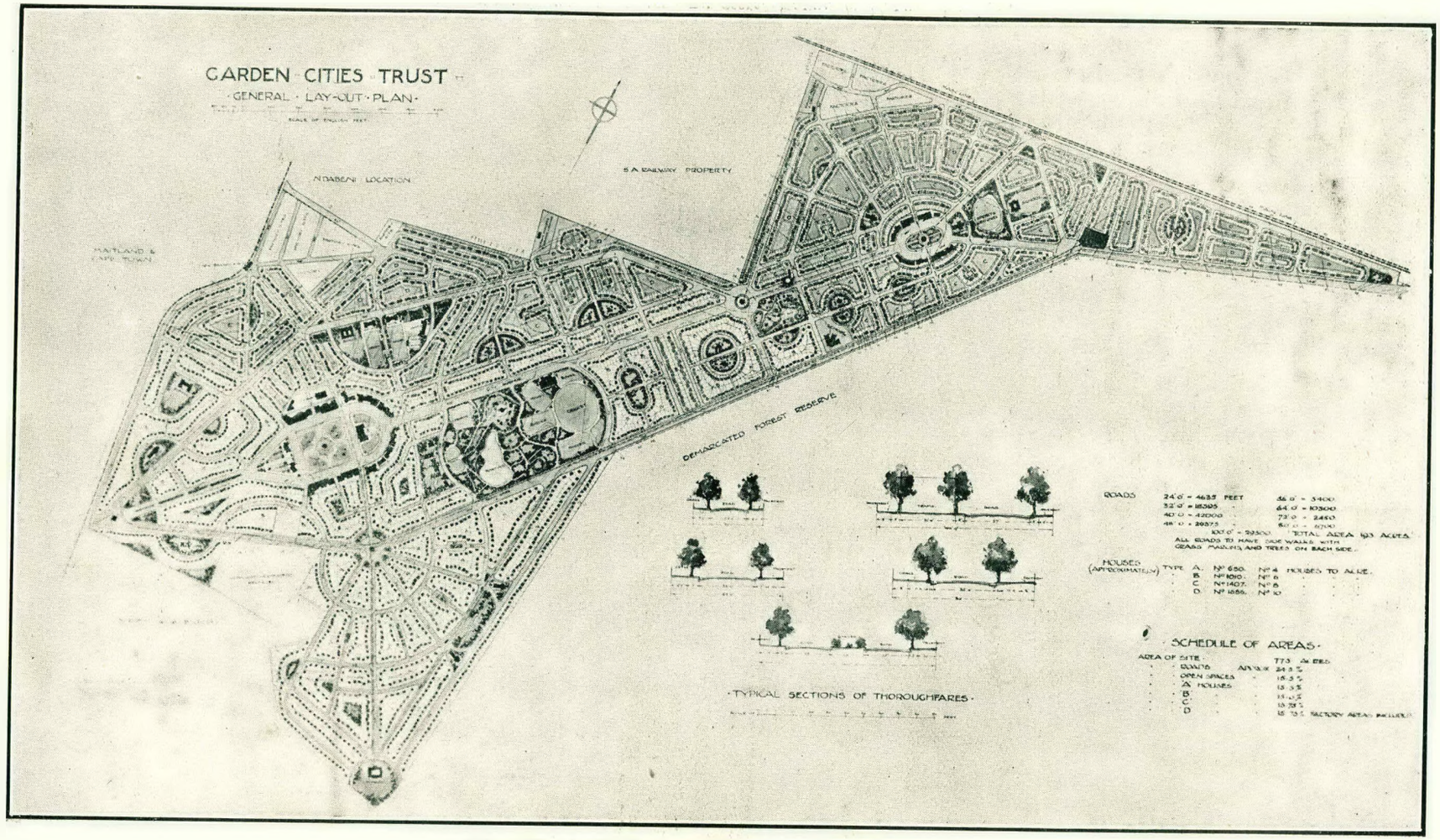
THE FALCONER—A beautiful example of ceramic art. made by John Adams. A.R.C.A., Durban.



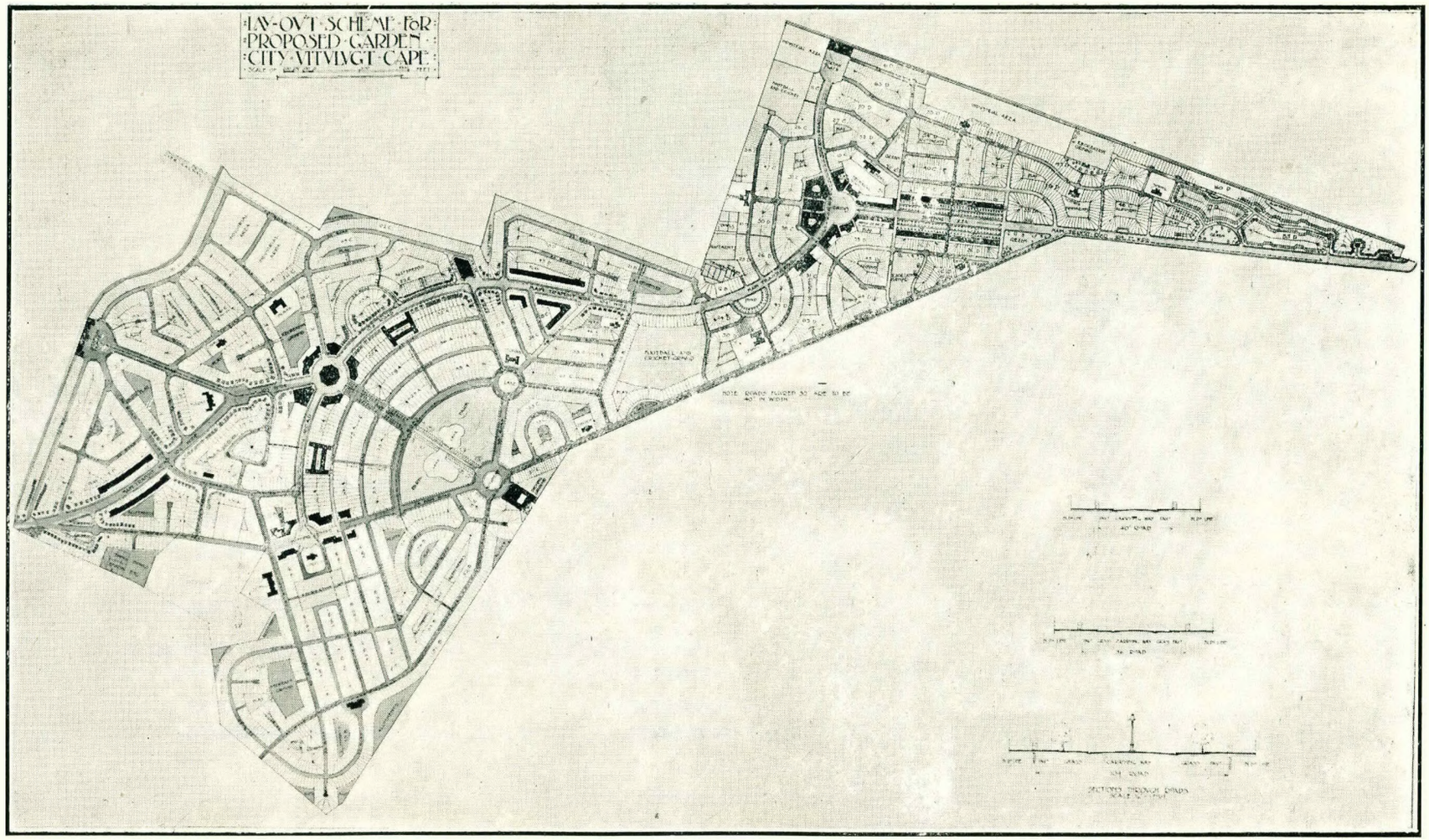
Pottery Designed and Executed by John Adams A.R.C.A., Durban.

during the week, and we may say it was from every point of view an unqualified success. Of course it cost money, and the grateful thanks of the Association are due to those of its members who so generously and whole-heartedly guaranteed and have had to pay the costs of the exhibition. Next year it is hoped the exhibition will be self-supporting. Our thanks are also due to the jury of selection, Messrs. Adams (Durban), Gingell (Johannesburg), Enley (Johannesburg), and Perry (Capetown). It was no small task to undertake the assessing of such a lot of excellent work, and, owing to lack of space, most careful selection was undoubtedly necessary.

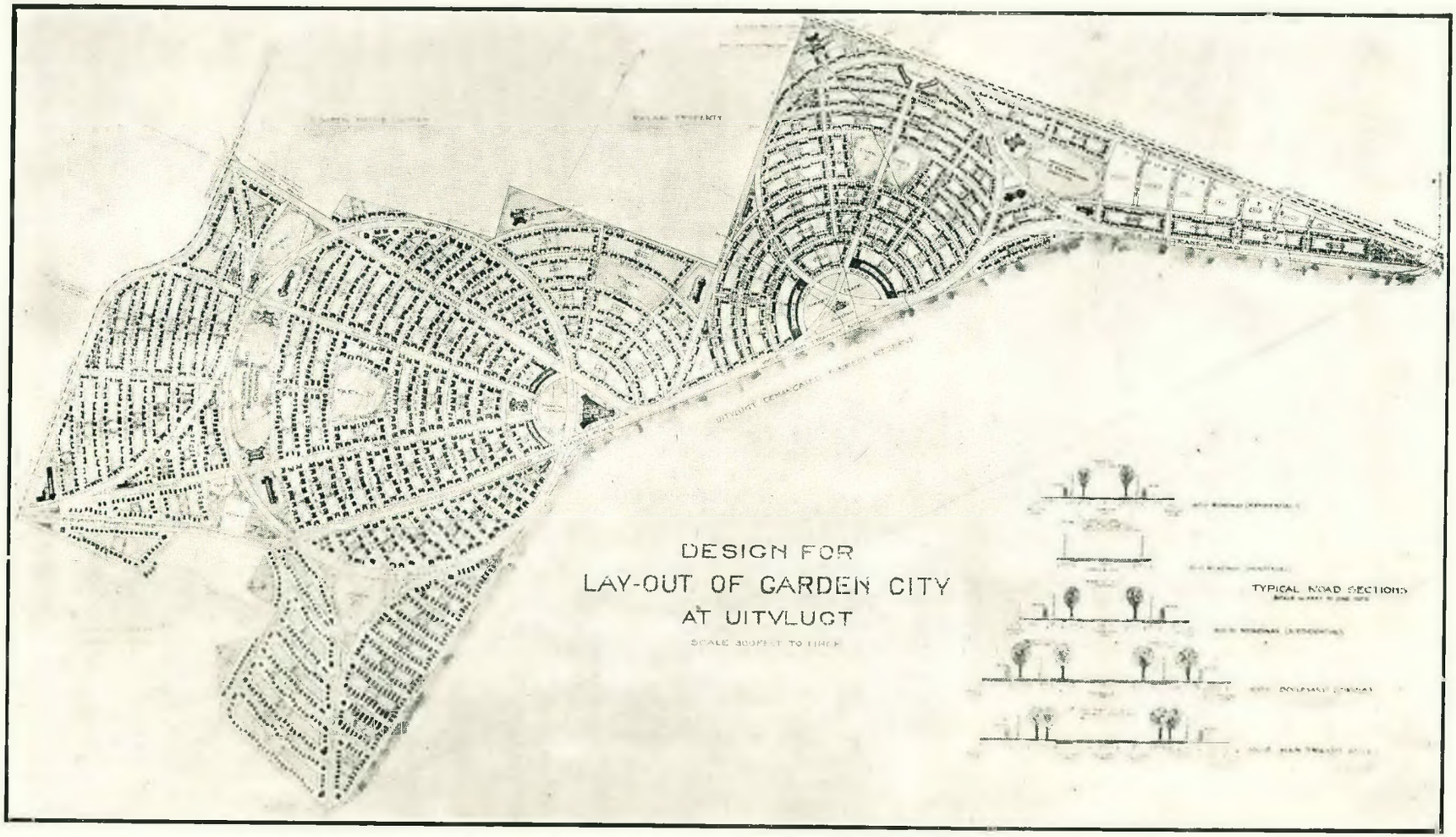
The South African Academy has come to stay. Lord Buxton is President, and many distinguished ladies and gentlemen are patrons, while of course the Academy has its father in the A.T.A. So long as we have men on the Council of the Association who unselfishly devote their experience and time for the betterment of our art, there can be little doubt but that the Academy will grow in importance, and like its great prototype, the Royal Academy, finally become an institution in South Africa which will be acknowledged the real centre of art life. Years back a very eminent lawyer made some reference to the brain power in Johannesburg. Some years after another eminent and revered statesman spoke of Johannesburg as the university of crime. The fact is neither man understood the real life of Johannesburg. Like every cosmopolitan city, we are pretty well represented in both brains and crime—but brains, decent living, and culture obtains here in a large degree, and like its sister music, art and architecture will overcome to a great extent the misery and loss of life enjoyment where such arts do not flourish. It is the object of the Academy to encourage and maintain the best elements of art and architecture.



First Premiated Design.—Mr. John Perry, Capetown.



Second Premiated Design —Messrs. Payne & Payne, Durban.



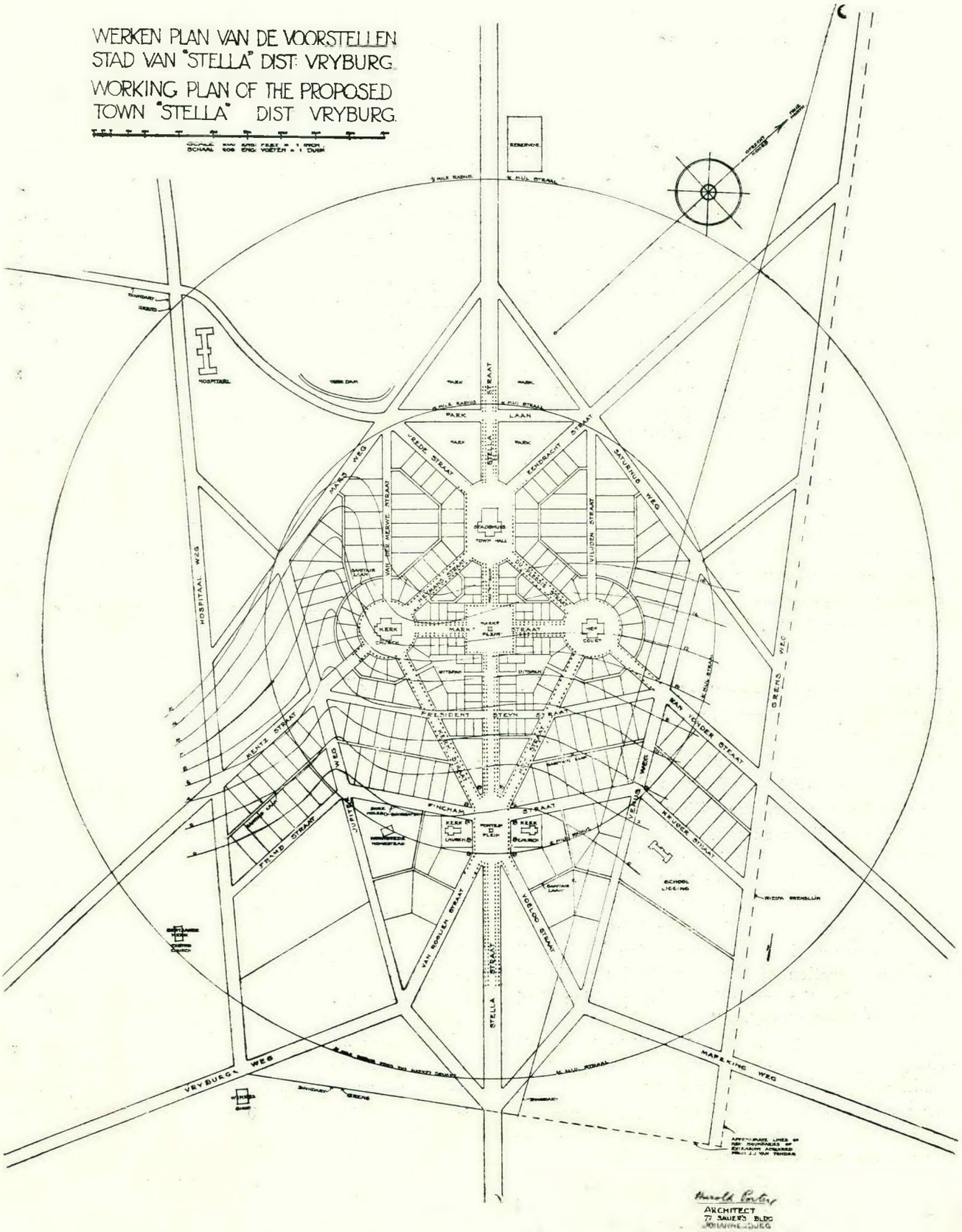
Third Premiated Design —Messrs. Lyon & Fallon, Capetown.

SOUTH AFRICAN ACADEMY.





Two views of the first Exhibition held in the Selborne Hall, Johannesburg, under the auspices of the Association of Transvaal Architects.



Lay-out Plan of the Township of Stella, by Harold Porter, Johannesburg.

NEW TOWN OF "STELLA." DISTRICT VRYBURG.

Country very flat; present Homestead can be seen from eight miles on the road from Kameel Siding. The only rise for miles around is the gentle rise select d for the new town. Abundant water supply from boreholes. The position of the Reservoir is on the highest ground of the Township.

The Town will supply a long-felt want for the surrounding farms of an intermediate town between Vryburg and Mafeking. The local industry is salt making.

Post and Telegraph Office, Government School, Dutch Reformed Church with resident parson, Bank in attendance once a week, Police Station, General Dealers' Store and Blacksmith's Shop.

Harold Porter, Esq., District Vryburg,
Architect, May, 1920.
Johannesburg.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry as what was the south of Mafeking, and about 10 miles from the nearest ship of "Stella," the following will briefly explain.

Some 12 years ago I acquired a farm in the district of Vryburg, named "Beisjesbult," but commonly known as "Groot Chevaing," i.e., in Setchuana?—"Big Salt."

It is situated 30 miles north of Vryburg, 70 miles south of Mafeking, an dabout 10 miles from the nearest siding, Kameel.

The members of the Dutch Reformed Church community were at that time desirous of severing from Vryburg, and approached me with a request for land upon which to build a church. This I gave them—free of any expense—and with a verbal promise that should they at any future time wish to found a Township, sufficient land would be sold to them. About nine months ago the community severed from Vryburg—under the name of the "Congregation of Stella"—(in commemoration of the short-lived republic of Stellaland). In the meantime the position had changed at "Groot Chevaing."

I had successfully developed a fairly large salt industry, and a company had been formed. This company had acquired the land which had been intended for a township and common land. The position now being that a church had been built, the boundary of which abutted on my private property, and on to the land of the company. The company refused to sell. Remembering the old promise (which however had lapsed), and realising the difficulties of the community, I decided to sell to them at a reasonable rate, and not to take advantage of my favourable position. I however pressed upon the newly-formed Kerkraad of "Stella" that I hoped they would please me by having the township planned according to town planning principles, which would rebound to our credit—suggested that an amount should be offered as a prize for competitive designs.

The Kerkraad were gratefully pleased with the leniency and assistance given them throughout by me, and knowing the relationship which you bear to me, they showed their appreciation by commissioning you to prepare a plan. They were delighted with and accepted your design, and a surveyor is now busy pegging it out. I am pleased to say that the whole community now realise the many advantages of a town well planned as compared with the far too usual "gridiron" plan.

Yours sincerely,
ARTHUR W. FINCHAM.

OBITUARY.

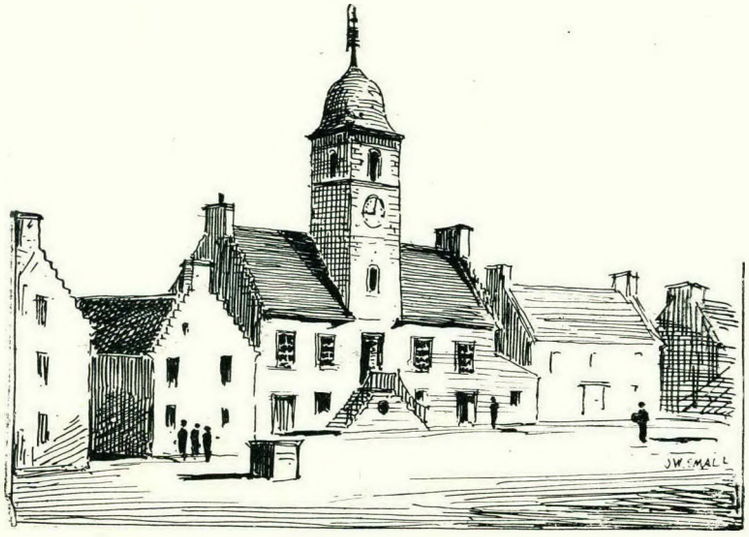
We regret to notice the decease of Mr. C. A. MacDonald, of C. A. MacDonald, Limited, refrigerating engineers of Durban and Johannesburg. Mr. MacDonald passed away at the Monte Rosa Nursing Home, Capetown, just as we went to press. He had attained a ripe age and made many friends in this country. His fine appearance, with a snow-white beard and happy, kindly manner, coupled with his life-long refrigerating experience, caused him to be regarded as the "G.O.M." of Refrigeration. Born in Scotland, most of his life was spent in North and South America, Australia, and for the last ten years in South Africa. In 1882 he invented the "Hercules" ammonia compressor, which still maintains its position in the forefront and is handled by his company. He was an enthusiastic exponent of "Dry" compression, and his machine worked on this principle. It can be claimed to be a fine expression of his engineering genius for its simplicity and economy is hard to beat. A fearless pioneer of refrigeration from its early days of the seventies of last century, he has kept a front place ever since, and his passing is a sad loss not only to the expert world which he adorned, but to very many friends who held him dear for his generosity and loveliness of spirit. His son, Mr. M. S. MacDonald, who is a Durban Town Councillor, was trained by his father and also given the best education in refrigeration afforded by the universities and attained his degree. He manages the company's affairs in Durban. We extend to him our sincerest sympathy.

E. H. W.

NOTES FROM MY SKETCH BOOK.

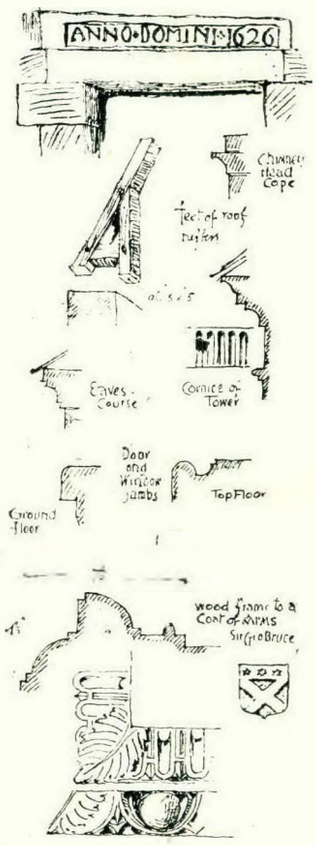
By John W. Small, F.S.A., Scotland.

In one of my last papers I mentioned the old Royal Burgh of Culross, which is situated on the north shores of the Firth of Forth, in a detached bit of Perthshire, in the Country of Fife. This old Burgh was at the height of its prosperity about 1600 A.D., or a little later. The first time I visited the place was by a little boat hired on the opposite shore, and the view on approaching the other side was beautiful. I thought I had never seen anything so quaint and old-fashioned—this is where my weakness lies, in everything old. The red tile roofs of the hundreds of little houses running up the hill, crowned by the tower of the old church, and the town hall tower on the sea level. I explored the whole place on several occasions, and was in the seventh heaven of happiness at all I came across.



The town hall is a building dating from 1626 as is shown on a lintel; the tower was erected subsequently, about 1780, and shows the Adams' influence in the cornice of the tower. The older portion has crow-stepped gables, moulded window jambs to top floor. In the Council Hall there is a quaint chandelier for burning candles. The central hall is of wood, with wrough iron brackets all round, pulley in roof for raising or lowering.

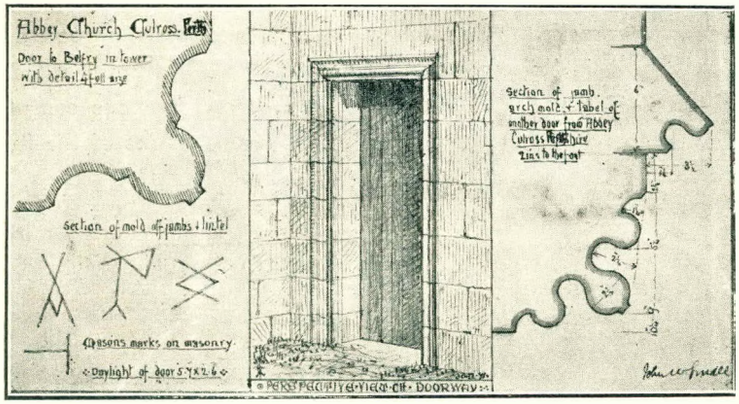
There is an elaborately carved oak frame, enclosing a coat of arms of Sir George Bruce OI, aseltex and chief QU, on the latter three mullets of the first; there is also a carved stone arms of the Burgh at the foot of stair leading to tower. Further up the main street and just opposite the Town Cross is a building locally called "The Study," which shows some good detail in its woodwork. I show the window lintel and date, you see in the A, a lingering of previous centuries' forms. The section which I give of one of the inside doors show good detail; the door is of 6 panels, 6ft. by 2ft. 9in. I give a sketch of its iron handle or sneck as we call it; also detail of an aumbry door, a very common thing in old Scots houses, just what one would call a hole in the wall. This little door had wrought iron tail hinges and drop handle. The dining room of this house is elaborately panelled in oak and inlay, and shows very beautiful detail in its moulding, but this is fully described in my book, "Scottish Woodwork."



Another old building of 1611 date, locally known as "the Palace," has a mine of detail in every room. Here we have in the decoration of the beams, in colour, also the walls and barrel lined ceiling of top floor, the best example of old Scots' painting. I only give a little iron handle from an aumry door and two key-hole shields of date. On referring back to the view of town

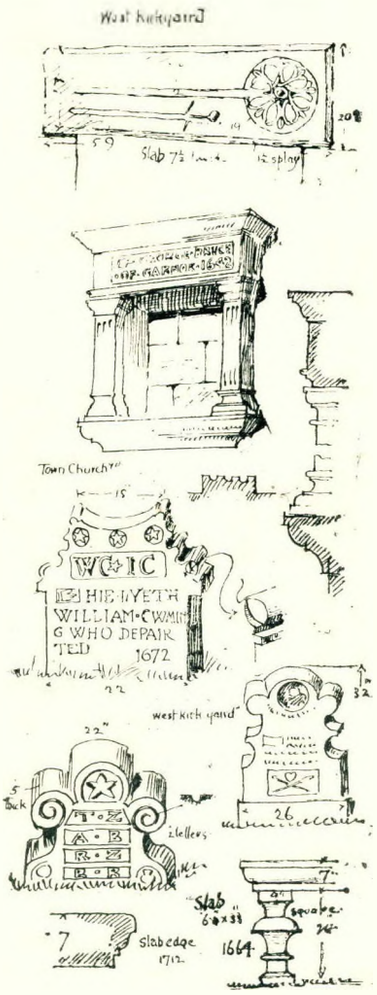
hall you will notice in the foreground a square mass of mason work called "the louping on stane."

The houses of the town are mostly all old and

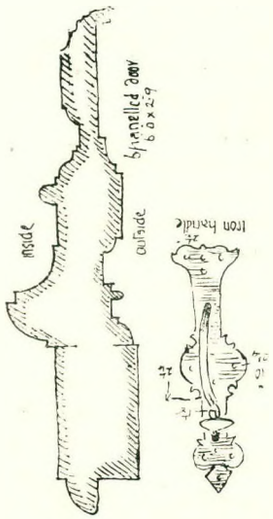


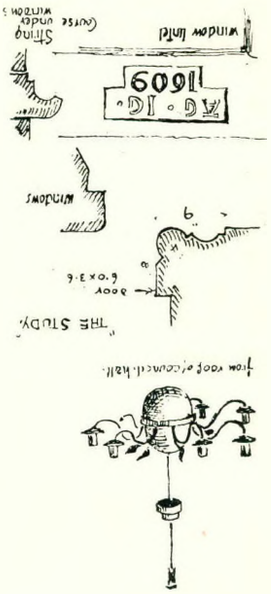
have quaint panels on their fronts. I give a few examples.

The old Abbey Church at the top of the town has some good examples of early "English" Gothic work



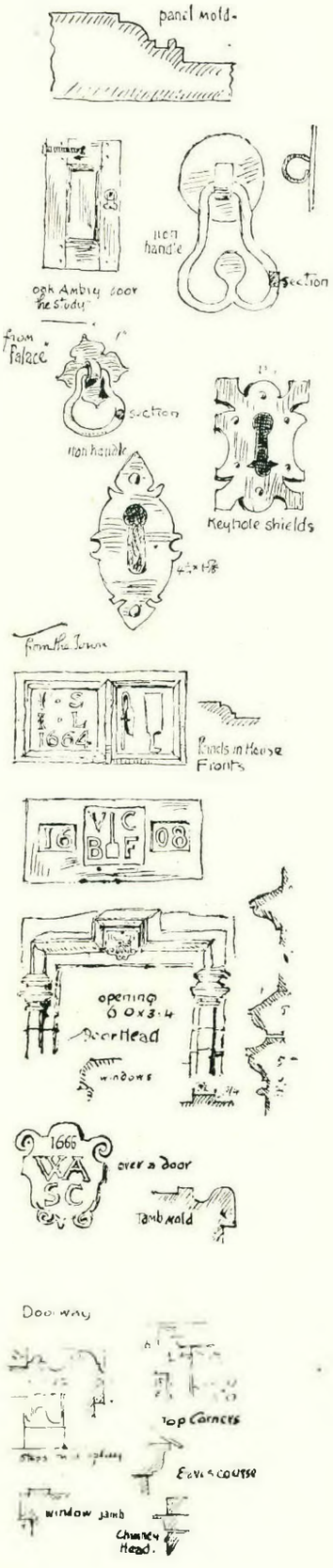
in the ection of moulding shown; one can easily detect their beautiful contour, the characteristic roll and fillet is always in evidence.





There is another little ecclesiastical building in the "West Kirk Yaird," as well as a number of quaint tombstones of the 17th century. The old 14th century slab of a knight has been used as a lintel in this little church; the other head stones show the general characteristics of the many more head stones here.

From the churchyard surrounding the old church and abbey buildings I give an example of a 1760 erection, also a pilaster monument, the square vacant space evidently designed to hold an achievement of



arms. This I presume to be the same Sir George Bruce mentioned before.



The old town cross stands on an open space opposite "the Study," but its place is occupied by a new cross erected about nineteen years ago by Sir James Sivewright of Tullyallan.

JOHN W. SMALL.

TELEPHONE COMPLAINTS.

In response to the resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting respecting the unsatisfactory Telephone Service, the following reply has been received from the Divisional Traffic Superintendent:—

With reference to your communication of the 27th ultimo, wherein a lack of satisfaction in the Telephone Service is expressed, and request made that a well organised attempt be immediately made to put the Service on a satisfactory basis; I have the honour to inform you that specific cases have not been quoted, therefore it is not possible to make investigations to enable disciplinary or other action to be taken. Members of your Association would render great help to this Department by reporting cases to "Complaints" (2022 Central) directly such occur.

It may, however, be stated for the information of members of your Association, that owing to lack of equipment, caused by world-wide unsatisfactory manufacturing conditions, the provisions of a thoroughly efficient service is impossible. Large stocks on order overseas fail to come forward, and the Department is forced to cope with rapidly increasing traffic with the equipment at its disposal. Your Association may, however, be assured that every effort is being made and will continue to be made to render as efficient service as the conditions permit.

Competition for The Garden City at the Cape.

Published by kind permission of the Garden City Trustees.

CRITICISM OF THE THREE PREMIATED DESIGNS.

SELECTED PLAN.

Shows a well conceived scheme on excellent lines. The difficulty of planning a Garden City of this magnitude comprising areas for European and non-European without absolute segregation has been well obtained.

The principale traffic is kept along definite routes. Some of the smaller streets might be eliminated although the street area is within the limit laid down in the conditions, and courts on the cul-de-sac principle might be introduced in place of some of the smaller streets in question. The industrial areas have been split up.

Two centres, one for civic purposes, but both, as shopping centres are shown although the second one at the north east end of the city is small it might well be reconsidered—these entail upkeep and are expensive. Places of interest have been introduced at end of vista. The city avenue connecting the two centres is of good width and lined with trees as suggested, would give a noble appearance suggestive of the Newlands and Government avenues.

The several buildings pertaining to the City have been well distributed.

It is noticed that what might be termed "Parklets" are introduced at certain points, also that in some instances a building such as a church is suggested on them; this is all to the good as the grounds would be kept in order by the occupants.

A happy mean has been kept in the use of straight and curved roads and the contour lines have been maintained. Sport well provided for and concentrated in defined areas. As a whole this plan is well in front of any others submitted. There are minor faults, but undoubtedly these will be dealt with in the preparation of the working plans.

By John Perry, F.G.I.A., Capetown, £200 1st Premium.

No. 2 DESIGN.

This plan does not display the broad comparatively simple treatment of the winning design, but has many points of interest.

At the first glance it gives the effect of simplicity but to a great extent this is owing to houses being only suggested here and there.

The long curved main transit road 104 feet wide, used as it would be by heavy traffic, would be terribly expensive in up-keep, and as the main centre are placed on it be exceedingly noisy.

The winning design keeps the main traffic away from the heart of the city and leaves the broad connecting avenue more for pedestrians' use.

Shopping centres are well placed and sports' centres are placed here and there, not concentrated at certain points as shown in the winning design.

The design well deserves second place, but has not the straightforwardness of the design placed first.

By Messrs. Payne & Payne, 2nd Premium, £100.

No. 3 DESIGN.

This plan differs in a marked degree from the first and second designs, and at first gives an effect of ingenuity which on further consideration appears commonplace, considering that it is only the "gridiron" type encircled.

There is no definite civic centre but many parks introduced at points of intersection.

The circles form a maze which at times would require the thread of Ariadne to extricate one's self

Conclusion.—On the whole the Assessors' work cannot have been too arduous, as the three winning designs stand out by themselves, the remainder calling for not special comment.

It is to be regretted that a greater response was not given to a competition of this nature, as it will be the first Garden City in South Africa. However, the author of the design placed first can be congratulated on what might be termed a clear win.

By Messrs. Lyon & Fallon, Capetown, £50 3rd Premium.

The Garden City At The Cape.
(By "Progress.")

There are many beautiful stretches of open road in the Cape Peninsular; but to my mind, the five or six mile stretch of road connecting the main highway to Belleville and the North, with Mowbray, coming out at a point just beyond the old Mill which dominates the high ground beyond Maitland, is without a rival. Within sight and sound of the City a modern miracle was worked with that bleak, desolate sandy track of country which lies between Maitland, Goodwood and Bellville on the one hand, and the southern suburbs on the other, was converted into a magnificient pine forest the true value of which to the country is yet to be revealed. As the forest gradually grew out of nothingness, the main artery which traverses it—perhaps one

of the least used roads in the Peninsular—took to itself an appearance altogether different from the generality of South African highways. In springtime it is a golden fringed ribbon of brown where the pollen from the wattle powders everything with a golden sheen. There are sections of the road where the country opens out, revealing the hills and the mountains, seen through the shimmering haze of the Flats in the distance. Winding and turning, the pine woods recede, or close in, almost overhanging the roadway in places, with the south-easter sighing in the towering branches. It is a wonderfull bit of road, yet little more than twenty years ago there was no road, no forests, nothing but wild waste land.

THE FOREST-FRINGED ROAD.

This is the road which is to form the main boundary of that Garden City which it is hoped is to be the pride and glory of the Mother City of Africa. This beautiful stretch of road will be the main artery, running almost from West to East, so that all along its five mile stretch the pine forests on the right will form a natural protection against the south-east winds. The country, as distinct from the town, will to all intents and purposes extend in its full and natural beauties, right up to the gateways of the new residential city. From Mowbray to Woltemade—No. 3 Station—the road and the forests will form the southern boundary of the city which is to be the model residential community of South Africa. The forests stretching from the road to the south will remain, but towards the north side, where there is to be the well laid out township—a self-contained community with everything needed—the very strictest care is to be exercised in designing houses, roads, and in laying out parks and open spaces, so as to preserve in its full integrity the forests and trees which add a thousandfold to the natural beauties of a site which lends itself admirably to the purpose.

RINGED BY MOUNTAINS AND HILLS.

There are those who love to bask in the shadow of the grand old Mountain; there are others who are never happy unless they are listening to the call of the sea and are able to watch its ever-changing moods and passions. But the Garden City will be built on a stretch of country which is ideally situated, combining as it does wonderful vistas of mountains and hills in the distance, the panorama of Capetown stretching to the Bay on the one hand. To the south Cape Hangklip can be seen thirty or forty miles away, keeping its everlasting watch at the entrance to False Bay. The extent of country rises gradually to the highest point near the Mowbray end of the estate, but there is no levelling to be done, and when "the great idea" has been accomplished, it should be a wonderfully fair community, ringed in by the hills and mountains, with the forests breaking in waves on its southern boundary.

GO AND SEE.

The very best advice that can be offered to those who seek information in regard to the situation is "Go and see for yourself." On the left hand the Forest Reserve will be left as it exists to-day; on the right hand lies the grounds on which the Garden City is to be laid out. More than four miles of it, all along the broad road, which is to be made capable of bearing a city's heavy traffic. This is no little village scheme. A residential city 4½ miles by 1½ miles, containing in all 775 acres, with space for over 5,000 houses, the smallest to have sufficient ground for gardens; parks, several recreation grounds, easy of access to the various outlying portions of the town, allotments for general gardening, hospital, clubs, libraries and shops in certain clearly defined areas. How, then, is it possible to attain the ideal. To over-crowded, rent-racked Capetown, the mere thought of such possibilities is sufficient to arouse enthusiasm. But it is the why and the wherefore that has to be clearly stated.

FESTINA LENTE.

Rome was not built in a day, nor does the completion of architects' plans bring the Garden City within reasonable distance of attainment. Development must be gradual, because there is much that has to be arranged. But in the course of time the various difficulties will be overcome; in the meantime all that can be done is being done. Particular stress is laid on the fact that just at the present the main idea is to go through the plans, and decide which will be the best method of beginning what is, after all, going to prove a very big undertaking. Certain essentials in respect to water and electric supply and drainage have to be attended to. The general idea seems to be to develop certain areas or blocks, lay out the necessary roads, and in the meantime dispose of those particular stands for building purposes. In respect to water and electric power, the hope is expressed that the Capetown Municipality will see its way to supply these essentials on the same terms as to the ratepayers.

THE TRUST—OR TRUSTEES.

The question of the disposal of the residential sites is one which concerns all those whose hearts are set on possessing a house of their own in a locality which will eventually prove to be a model township. The Gardens City Trust—about which more details will be given later on—will dispose of the sites direct to individuals or to building societies, to Government departments, to employers or to industrial enterprises. All individuals or corporations will hold these blocks on identical terms. In certain areas the extent of the plot will be larger than in others, extending from 10

to an acre—the smallest—to a quarter of an acre. Not more than one house can be erected on each plot, but it will be permissible for a purchaser to erect a house on one block and utilise another as a garden.

SPECULATORS WARNED OFF.

In such a scheme the great thing is to prevent speculation. That is where the Trust comes in. The term "Trust" does not seem to be a very happy choice of a name which is invariably looked upon with suspicion nowadays. But the "Trust" in relation to the Garden City is to all intents and purposes the Trustees. In this case it is composed as follows: Three nominee of Government by virtue of the grant of land which has made the scheme possible: four trustees who have accepted all responsibility with regard to the carrying out of the great idea and who have contributed in no small degree to the general fund. Just at present, as will be seen, the Trust consists of seven; but it is laid down that as soon as 200 houses have been erected the householders have the right of electing one to serve on the Trust—to represent their interests, in fact. As further houses are erected the Trust will be increased automatically in this way, so that residents will have a voice in all matters which concern them.

That, however, will not prevent speculation, and it is speculation which has to be guarded against, The Trust has acquired all the ground, and the plots will be sold at a fixed rate, all the revenue derived from this and other sources being used in the further development of the estate. But a plot once sold cannot be transferred or sold to another except with the consent of the Trust. If a house is built on the plot, that house cannot be sold at a profit without first giving the Trust the option of purchasing house and plot, or the plot alone, at the price at which it was built or purchased. The Trust consequently holds the power to check speculation in its inception, so that those who look on this as a happy hunting-ground for the easy accumulation of small fortunes by property speculation will have to pass on to another township of their own. This clause may seem a little harsh, but any speculation would simply "kill' this Garden City in its inception, and so this must be looked upon as a far-seeing and benevolent Trust.

ADVANCES FOR BUILDING PURPOSES.

But at the present moment how is it possible to build? The Gardens City Trust looks with hope to the measure which Government is to introduce during the next session, to enable advances to be made of eighty or even a hundred per cent. of the cost to people who are prepared to build under certain conditions. It is hoped that the Government will place the Garden City Trust in the same position as any of the local authorities in regard to obtaining loans for the purpose. If this goes through, the man who is prepared to build at a time when costs are high, and is rendering a service to the State in a period of house famine, will receive a little of the encouragement which he deserves. Every house built nowadays means that a house or accommodation will be available for others, and if this scheme goes through, the Trust will be in a position to advance the necessary amount, or at least a big proportion of it, to those who are prepared to build. It may be as well to keep this important matter in view when Parliament meets. The great advantage in respect to building on the Garden City estate is that the area is outside the Municipal area, that expenses will be lighter, and that it will probably be found possible to reduce the cost by building on certain well-defined uniform plans. That, however, is a matter for adjustment once the big question of loans is settled. Apart from that, there are various Building Societies to help and assist, and it is thought that many employers will be prepared to erect residences for their employees. The possible effect on the labour market of such a demand for labour and material must not be overlooked, but there are optimists who do not hesitate to predict a settlement of all such difficulties within the next six months, and a considerable decrease in the cost of all necessaries.

BRICK MAKING.

One thing the Trust has already done. It has utilised a splendid bank of clay which has been struck, and has turned out some excellent bricks. The cost of this makes it clear that there will be a saving of forty or fifty pounds on each house in respect to bricks alone. The only regulation which will be imposed in respect to building is that the plans should be approved by the architects, so that there are practically no restrictions in respect to the character and design of the buildings which will be erected. So that there is no set design or plan for each house, as many thought, and it will be possible for the owner to erect the ideal dwelling which he or she has had in mind for years. One has heard so much of the cheapness of Piseroomed earth-houses, of late, that it was asked if there would be any objection to the erection of this type of dwelling. The reply is that there will be none whatever, provided the plans are passed by the architects.

RESIDENTIAL—NOT FARMING.

Perhaps it is as well to sound a little warning note. This is not a scheme which will provide a townsman with a little farm near the city. Ground will be too valuable as residential sites for that, though there will be a lot of available spaces for some years. But a Garden City must look after its gardens; every house has its garden, and it will be incumbent upon the

owner to keep the garden in proper order, to the satisfaction of the trustees, which will otherwise carry out the work and charge the owner. That is as it should be, for in such a model community, with parks and open spaces everywhere, it would be anomalous to allow private gardens to be dust-heaps. Almost anything will thrive, because though the top surface is sand in many places, there is a grand bank of clay underlying. If anyone takes the trouble to properly trench the ground, the productivity of the soil is astounding. Some of the forest rangers' gardens are models of what South African gardens should be; there are ramblers in two cottage gardens that I know, each of which cover an area 30 feet by 30 feet, and are absolutely smothered with giant clusters of blossoms. Fruit and flowers flourish at Uitvlugt, whilst the emerald green of a paddock near the Mowbray woods demonstrates how grass thrives even in a dry summer. The presence of clay at three feet is a surprise to those who know the deep sand of the southern suburbs, but it ensures many happy hours for the keen amateur gardener whose lot is to be cast in the garden city without the city's gates, a residential area where the south-easter, ere it reaches them, passes over miles and miles of pine forests, and comes as an ever-welcome cool breeze in the torrid days of midsummer.

—From the "Cape Times."

ASSOCIATION NOTES.,

White Housing Scheme at Johannesburg.—The Council of the Association have this matter under consideration and are in negotiation with the Municipality respecting the best methods to adopt to obtain the best possible results.

Native Housing Scheme.—The Council has put suggestions re the lay-out of site, etc., to the Municipality and is now awaiting their reply.

Qualifying Examination.—A qualifying Examination for membership of the Association and registration as an Architect in the Transvaal was held during the month of May at which the three following candidates were successful in passing: C. B. Stocks, Capetown; A. A. Tait, Capetown; F. A. Jaffray, Pretoria.

Competitions.—Members have been advised by circular that the conditions governing the proposed competitions for a new Town Hall at Vryheid, Natal, a War Memorial at Harrismith, O.F.S., and a new Town Hall at Matatiele, East Qriqualand, are not in keeping with the requirements of the profession; members are again advised to refrain from taking part in either of these competitions.

Vereeniging Town Hall.—The question of the appointment of the Assessors in this competition has been considered by Council and it is hoped to be able to make a definite statement on the matter on the 25th instant.

Architectural Classes.—The Architectural Classes held at the School of Mines and Technology, Johannesburg, are now attended by 21 students, and the lecturers, Messrs. G. E. Pearse, A.R.I.B.A., and H. W. Spicer have been greatly taxed in order to keep the classes going; in this connection it is pleasing to state that Mr. A. Forrest, another of our members, has offered his services as a further lecturer in Building Construction, which will greatly relieve the situation.

The successful students of last year's classes were presented with the prizes gained by them at a special meeting of Council called for the purpose and presided over by the President.

Students' Competitions.—Particulars of three competitions for students will appear in the next issue of the Journal. The closing date for these competitions has been fixed for some time in February, 1921.

University Competition.—The sending-in date for the new University Buildings at Milner Park, Johannesburg, is Monday, the 28th inst.

Model Conditions.—The following were the conditions issued by the promoters of an architectural competition for a War Memorial:—

1. Area 15 foot square; foundation space.
2. Cost £800.
3. Material, South African stone.
4. With tablets.

South African Academy.—It has been decided to hold the second exhibition early in 1921. Due notification will be made to all members, in the meantime a close inspection of some of the illustrations in this issue will provide an impression of the first exhibition last March, which proved such a success.

Acting Editor.—Mr. E. H. Waugh, A.R.I.B.A., who for a lengthy period was Editor of this Journal and who subsequently became an Assistant Editor, is responsible for this issue.

Mr. E. M. Powers, Editor of this Journal, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Association Library.—On another page will be found a list of the books at present comprising the Association's Library. The collection of these books, which was due to the initiative of Mr. D. M. Burton, is to provide students with the necessary opportunity for study and reference.

Gifts of books are urgently needed for the benefit of the students at present attending our Classes. Members desirous of contributing volumes should advise the Registrar, who will make all arrangements for their removal to the office of the Association.

Associated Scientific and Technical Societies, S.A.—The housing of Scientific and Technical Bodies on the Rand has received the hearty support of your Council since its inception, and we are pleased to state that the inaugural meeting of the participating Societies on the occasion of the formal opening of the club premises by the Administrator was an unqualified success. Your President represented the Association and conveyed the decision of the General Meeting of Members of this Association to wholly support the undertaking. Members are specially requested to subscribe to the funds of the Association Society as money is urgently required for decorations and furnishings. All donations to be sent to the Registrar, Box 2266.

Mr. Arthur H. Reid has been elected President of the Cape Institute of Architects for the current year.

Mr. F. L. H. Fleming, of the firm of Baker & Fleming, and an old and valued member of the Council of this Association is on a visit to the old country. Mr. John C. Kerr is in charge of the office during Mr. Fleming's absence.

The Town Planning Association (Transvaal) will hold its annual general meeting at the end of July.

Conditions of Contract.—The new conditions of contract lately issued by the National Federation of Building Trade Employers in South Africa are receiving careful consideration by Council, members will be advised of the result of these deliberations at an early date. Members are directed to note that these new conditions were not submitted to the members of this profession for consideration and criticism, nor have they received the sanction of council.

Women who have made Good.

(From the "Lady's Pictorial".)

ARCHITECTURE: MISS ANNIE HALL, M.S.A.

"Primarily," said Miss Annie Hall, "you wish me to tell you how a girl who aims at becoming an architect should proceed. To begin with, she should not start too young—twenty is plenty soon enough, and above all things it is essential that she should be well educated. If possible she should have a full University course in arts or science previous to starting her professional training in architecture. It is good for her mentally, morally and physically, as it broadens her outlook on life, and widens her sympathies. Then hobbies and accomplishments should not be neglected, photography, sketching and such arts are both interesting and helpful to her. A thorough knowledge of the domestic arts is of the utmost value also, and will be of real assistance to her in her professional life. There are two usual methods of training. One of these is attendance at one of the recognised schools of architecture for the regular three years' course leading to the B.A. degree with Honours in Architecture. The second is to serve articles with an Architect, usually for a term of three years. Personally I advocate a combination of the two systems, the theoretical side to be taken in the school, and to be followed by two or three years' practical experience to be gained as an improver in an architect's office."

"This, I suppose, must be fairly expensive, as it makes the training long?" I queried.

"Yes, the cost has to be reckoned with. You see the training lasts for a period of five to seven years, and the fees for tuition at the University Schools of Architecture amount to 120 guineas, as a rule, for a period of three years. In addition there is the expenditure on instruments, books, drawing materials—all expensive items—examination fees, sketching, holidays, and foreign travel, etc. The premium charged for three years' articles are often from 300 guineas to 500 guineas, according to the office selected. A smaller premium will be accepted from a pupil who has had a University training previous to entering an office. To that must be added the cost of living if away from home."

"And in choosing an office, Miss Hall, would you give the preference to a small or a large one?"

"Personally I advocate a small one—a high class domestic architect's office is possible, as in that way the pupil is more likely to come into fairly constant contact with her principal, to obtain more individual tuition, to get a wider range of experience, and better all-round training than in a larger office where there are many assistants, and the work is specialised and departmental. Another great advantage is that in a small office a pupil, if capable, may have the opportunity of dealing with her principal's clients, and the builders, contractors, artist craftsmen employed, all of which should prove valuable experience to her later on.

"Any other advice you can give the would-be architect?" I queried, like Toddie, "asking for more."

"There is so much in the architect's career, so much, much more than outsiders have any idea of," was the reply. "For instance, agirl should have any id was the reply. "For instance, a girl should visit different parts of the country during her holidays, sketching and making measured drawings and detailed notes of good specimens of domestic architecture, both new and old. Rapid and accurate sketching—in pencil, pen and ink, and water-colour—should be continuously practiced Besides this I recommend women students to take

post-graduate courses in the following subjects: (a) the general principles of town-planning and civic design; (b) garden design—for this is one branch of an architect's practice, and a delightful one for the garden lover, and who should design the garden that 'goes with' the house so well as the architect? (c) furniture design, for often nowadays the architect is called upon for the decoration and furnishing of the house."

"This profession seems to demand encyclopaedic knowledge," said I.

"It sounds rather like it, I admit," was the reply. "But one form of knowledge dovetails into another; she who is keen on her work will find each branch of absorbing interest. I also advise prospective students to read the following books prior to professional training: 'Architecture,' by P. L. Waterhouse; 'Architecture: Introduction to the History and Theory of the Art of Building,' by W. R. Lethaby; 'English Architecture,' by T. D. Atkinson; 'Essentials in Architecture,' by J. Belcher; 'The Growth of the English Home,' by J. A. Gotch; 'A History of Architectural Development,' by F. M. Simpson; 'Architectural Drawing,' by R. Blomfield. Most of these books can be borrowed from public libraries, but it is a far better way to buy and keep them. I also advise—for reference—the R.I.B.A. Calendar, and the Year Book of the Society of Architects, and the wise will subscribe to, and keep, the 'Architectural Review.'"

"And what about the future prospects of the woman architect?"

"These would appear to be decidedly good. It was uphill work in the past as all pioneer work always is. But after much discouragement I may say that there are signs that the woman architect has come into her own at last. Architects do not advertise, and the general public is, as a rule, pretty ignorant of their work, and of them. To prove this point it is only necessary to read almost any newspaper account of the opening of a public building of importance to see how rarely the architect's name is mentioned. Then, again, in most good work the architect is employed to design the work in its entirety, the building, outbuildings, grounds, etc., in many cases designing all the furniture and fittings, and sometimes the hangings, or where these are not specially designed, the architect selects everything."

"And now will you tell me something about yourself and your own career?"

"It was my father's wish that I should become an architect—personally I wanted to be a doctor—but he said I had special talents for drawing and design, and

Waygood-Otis, (South Africa.) Limited.

(INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND.)

LIFT AND GENERAL ENGINEERS.

LOCAL WORKSHOPS:
MARSHALL STREET. (EAST).

HEAD OFFICE AND WORKS:
FALMOUTH ROAD LONDON, S.E.

TELEGRAMS & CABLES:
"WAYGOOD · JOHANNESBURG,
A.B.C. 5TH EDITION.

TELEPHONES 4171 & 4172
P.O BOX 2729.

WAYGOOD-OTIS LTD.
By Special Appointment
to H. M. the King.

Corner
Anderson & Loveday Sts.

JOHANNESBURG.

an inborn taste for, and appreciation of, the best in architecture and the allied arts. My father took pains to cultivate my gifts, and I can remember the delight with which, when I was six, I received as a birthday gift from him a 'grown-up' sketch book exactly like his own, on the first few pages of which he had drawn little sketches in pencil for me to copy. I suppose he instilled in me the love of architecture, for in my baby days I was with him while he was sketching the Yorkshire Abbeys.

"I myself was privately trained in the provinces. There was not the same facilities then that there are now, as several of the principal schools would not admit women students. After my training was over I started in practice on my own account, and shortly afterwards removed to London. I had made up my mind to get offices in one of the Inns of Court, and after many difficulties and much opposition I managed to get chambers in Gray's Inn, where I remained for some years until after the outbreak of war."

"And what do you consider the qualities essential for an architect?"

"One needs to be a born artist, with plenty of vision, a creative artist and no mere copyist. Fine draughtmanship is most desirable, but great powers of design come first. This facility in design may be cultivated and developed by the right training, but it can never be acquired by those who do not possess it as a natural gift. Within the first two years of training a student's work will show whether he or she has or has not talent for design, and without it is pretty hopeless to pursue this career. More than average ability is necessary; it is a profession in which there is no room for mediocrity; at least, no room for a woman unless she is well above the average. It is useless any girl to attempt this work unless she learns easily, and is head and shoulders above her fellows. Unless she can easily manage a University course she should not attempt to become an architect. Pluck, patience, and perseverance are needed. Attention must be given to detail; it is the little things that matter, and a satisfied client is worth his—or her—weight in gold. Powers of visualisation are needed; also the gentle art of persuasion, and that gift of personality above all. Health, too, is an important asset, and, as I have always had less than my share, I speak feelingly. Finally I will utter a word of warning. There are numerous possible pitfalls, but most of these can be avoided by a thorough knowledge of one's work, by a reasonable amount of care, a large supply of sound common-sense and knowledge and experience of the world. I would caution the budding woman architect to beware of people trying to pick her brains, exploiting her, or wasting time which to her is money.

C. A. Mac Donald, Limited.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS

FOR THE

Design, Construction and Equipment

OF

ABATTOIRS, MEAT FREEZING WORKS

AND

COLD STORAGE WORKS.

44, NATIONAL MUTUAL BUILDINGS
JOHANNESBURG.
PHONE No. 947.

Head Office & Works:—
542, POINT ROAD, DURBAN.
PHONE 136.

Journal of the SA Architectural Institute

PUBLISHER:

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

LEGAL NOTICE:

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the Library website.