

THE SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTURAL JOURNAL



*The Journal of the Association of Transvaal Architects, the Natal Institute of Architects
and the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors.*

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EDITORIAL NOTE.

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*The Association does not hold itself responsible for the opinions expressed by individual contributors
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CHANGE OF NAME.

For some considerable time past suggestions have been made as to the desirability of altering the name of the official Journal of our Association, which is also used as their official Journal by the Natal Institute of Architects and the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors. Acting upon a recommendation put forward by the Journal Committee, the Council

of the Association decided to change the name, and to adopt a title which would the better demonstrate the aims and objects of this publication. It has been decided, therefore, to adopt the name of *The South African Architectural Record*, and the next issue will be under this new title. Further, it is hoped that the change of name will synchronise with the adoption of an artistic design for the cover, for which a competition has been promoted in accordance with the announcement in another part of this issue.

THE ORIENT.

(Sketch No. 3).

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

Curiosity, that troublesome factor in human nature, is constantly arrested in the most provoking manner by the persistent way in which anything approaching a disclosure of even the nature of his business in these distant lands is positively excluded from his diary by Lucas Tudril.

Nothing appears in it as to anything except the garden, the temple, and the general arrangement of the houses grouped about them, although the silk gardens and factory must surely have interested him—possibly folk were less talkative then than now, and diaries irksome.

On the morrow, however, everything seems to have renewed interest and his notes are resumed.

At the rising of the sun, he is taking an early breakfast with Wi-hi and his factor, and immediately after proceeded with them towards the main road.

At the gate of the estate there was an assemblage which rather surprised the traveller, who expected to walk to Fu san su with Wi-hi unaccompanied. Within the gate were some of the responsible people of the estate and one of the priests, and, awaiting Wi-hi on the road, a party of his servants. This party numbered nine, and was comprised of six rather soldierly looking men and three domestics; one who seemed to command the party and two umbrella men. Arrived at the gate, Wi-hi spoke for a few minutes with the factory men, and then, taking leave of the priest, conducted his guest to the road, where the factor took leave of them both and then retired, and Wi-hi walked leisurely along the road towards Fu san su.

Meanwhile, the servants had been moving to their customary places, one about twenty yards and then two abreast about ten in advance of Wi-hi, and then followed, at five yards interval, the umbrella men and the head servant; then at ten yards, two abreast, and last followed, at ten yards from them, one man.

At first, Lucas Tudril was rather displeased with this formality, which seemed to him excessive, but he had never yet seen such a thing done so admirably, and when he had taken a very evidently prominent position in this quaint ceremonial for about half an hour, he realized that it was the most perfectly managed thing of the kind he had ever seen or heard of.

Wi-hi passed along the way with his guest, in easy and entertaining conversation, not at all keeping a uniform pace, which he seemed to regulate by what he was saying, and he seemed quite unconscious of the presence of his retinue.

His attendants appeared in this his counterpart, apparently not occupied with thoughts of him. Yet, when he mended his pace as he threw more energy

into what he was saying, the rest moved forward with him. As he moved more easily or stood still, all conformed to his motions and seemed, for all the world, to be part and parcel of him.

Proceeding in this manner through the fresh morning air, Wi-hi and his guest, in general conversation, laid the foundations of a lasting friendship, and completed the first stage on their way to Fu san su very pleasantly.

They had now nearly gained the top of the rise, which had been continuous, though slight, all the way, and, as they passed over, the sun, rising clear of the mists of a grey cool morning, flooded the landscape with golden light.

Wi-hi stood still for a few moments to point out here and there what he thought would make the scene before them interesting. On the left, the road, descending more rapidly than it had risen, turned to the north-east, and then, taking a long sweeping bend through a considerable wood, took again a nearly easterly course. The country was here more decidedly undulating, and, in the first dip, a brook ran a rather serpentine course, crossing the road about half a mile away, and going through the wood in a northerly direction to join the river, now visible between the wood and the town. Both brook and river were crossed by bridges which, to Lucas Tudril, were very interesting. Little more of the town could be seen than the walls, and these had a grey and forbidding appearance. About a mile to the north of the town lay a village close to the river, and evidently of importance, and here and there Wi-hi pointed out the estates of his wealthy friends. Lucas Tudril's attention had been so engrossed by the prospect before him that he had forgotten the escort, and when he turned to resume his pleasant and interesting morning stroll, he almost started as the "advanced guard" came in sight again, and took a furtive glance over his shoulder, only to find all the others precisely in their places and apparently as oblivious of him and his host as he had been of them.

Wi-hi halted again at the bridge because his guest, from the distant view, thought the bridge interesting, but took no notice of his inspection, seeming pleased and perhaps a little amused at the critical examination, which he watched attentively because it appeared to oblige his new acquaintance.

The bridge, though simple enough in general form, was yet such as Lucas Tudril had never seen or heard of. Nothing more, constructively, than a strong brick tube, contracted in the centre so that longitudinal section taken in any plane passing continuously through the centre, would show the concave on the outside—very flat segments of circles. A dicebox with both ends open might serve to illustrate the form of it. At the ends, the brickwork on each side of the arch was

equally unusual and also concave, being built with the same bricks as the other work, and, in order to adjust the face so as to work along the extrados of the arch, the vertical face was also made concave and was continued so for three courses over the head of the arch; the next course, which was specially made so that the lower third carried on the concave face, and the upper two became vertical face, which was carried up one course higher. Here the special bricks were introduced again, giving an oversail of about an inch and a half, and over this the brickwork had a plain vertical face—about three feet in the centre and half that at the sides. On this the roadway was laid, made of logs of hard wood which, though worn down in the centre, showed at the ends a width of nine inches and a height of twelve. Upon each side these projected about a foot and carried a parapet about three feet and a half high, formed of posts, made in two pieces each six inches by four in section, grooved to receive the ends of boards nine inches by three in section, of which there were two in the height to close the spaces between the posts. The posts were four and a half feet apart and carried a rail twelve inches by six, and the angles all through the work were reduced to quadrants. At either end of each parapet stood a great stone, two feet each way in width and rising seven feet from the ground, and these were finished at the top with lanterns. Of what pattern these were or whether they were of any use, Lucas Tudril's notes reveal nothing. Careful to the last, the notes give the colour. The bricks dark blue-grey, with a smooth vitreous face. "The timber looks like black oak," and the four stone guards "hard stone of dark grey colour."

When the little survey was finished, Wi-hi looked at it with attention, and said he thought it a skilful and interesting drawing, and very quickly done, and, in answer to an apology for keeping him waiting, said graciously that he was entirely at his guest's disposal and the day had scarce begun.

They passed over the bridge and the traveller suddenly became aware that the advance guard had disappeared.

As they entered the wood, Wi-hi leaving the road, led the way to a pleasant place by the brook among the trees where a carpet had been laid out and cushions placed that they might enjoy the fresh morning air away from the sun, which was now making the road unpleasantly warm. In this delicious retreat, where a light meal was served in costly fashion, they spent the best part of an hour, and then resumed their pleasant progress towards the town in the same order as before, but now the umbrellas—very splendid things—were held overhead to maintain the pleasant conditions under which they pursued their little journey.

The walls of Fu san su enclosed a large patch of country, but not a teeming population; the people were wealthy or well-to-do. Remnants of a garrison, dependents, servants and a few shopkeepers made up the total of the residents.

Scarce three miles away, and not far beyond the river, the town stood so that the west side of it almost fronted Wi-hi and his party, and the south side in sharp perspective, this brightly illuminated and that in sombre shade. The south entrance, placed in the eastern half of that side, made only a dark shadow in the view; at the angles and in the centre of this wall, the face being brought forward, formed quasi towers, but these neither rising much above the walls nor projecting decidedly from the face of the wall, could not redeem the monotony of the south side, though it was in bright light. The west side was much longer and divided into three parts instead of two. The angles and divisions were marked by projections similar to those on the south side, but the entrance here, being principal and having the great gate house over it, supplied a feature of importance and even grandeur, and something was done to balance this irregular placing of the principal mass, by adding to the height of the projection nearest the north angle, making the west side picturesque as well as important. The bridge that spanned the river, though remarkable, added little to the interest of the scene, but viewed from the higher ground, as the party came upon the prospect, some high roofs of gaily coloured tiles caught the bright rays of the sun and gave a touch of light and life, but not of sufficient strength to redeem the appearance of the place from the uncompromising hostility of the walls which enclosed it.

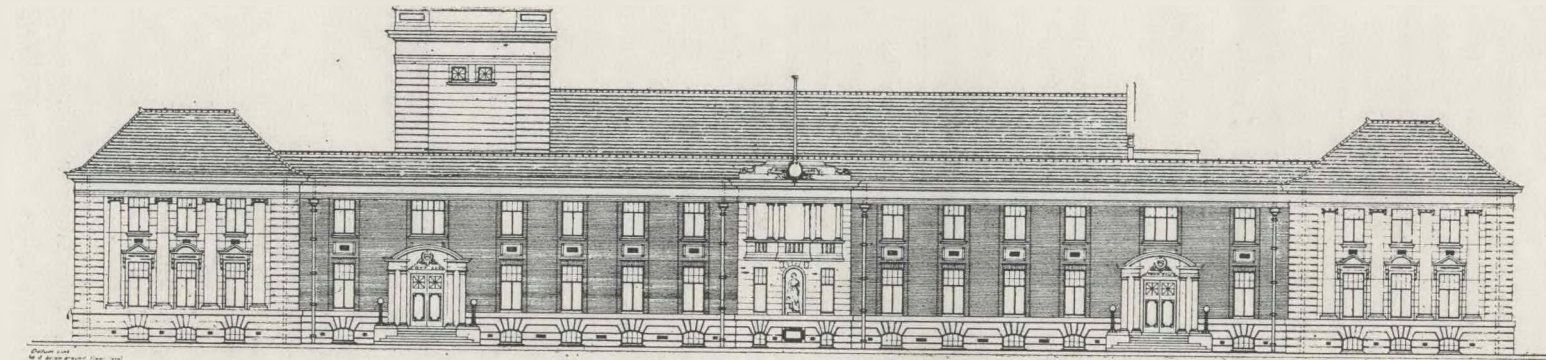
In spite of this, these walls were not lacking in interest. The gloomy defiance they seemed to offer to all-comers, friend or foe, was appropriate, though it might be unpleasant, and became less aggressive on the nearer approach. Some colour came into them, though it was, in the mass of the work, cold. The smaller openings asserted themselves, and the battlements, jagged and in parts ruinous, softened the severity of the outline.

When the party came to the bridge, Lucas Tudril, not in the least doubtful as to what would most please his host, proposed to go on to the town without further delay, and was at once assured that his suggestion met every convenience, and that if he was interested in this bridge also, he would, in the course of a day or two, give him a drawing of it by a native artist. So they passed on without further delay, and very soon Wi-hi led his guest into the house of which he was evidently proud, but thought it wanting in courtesy to say so.

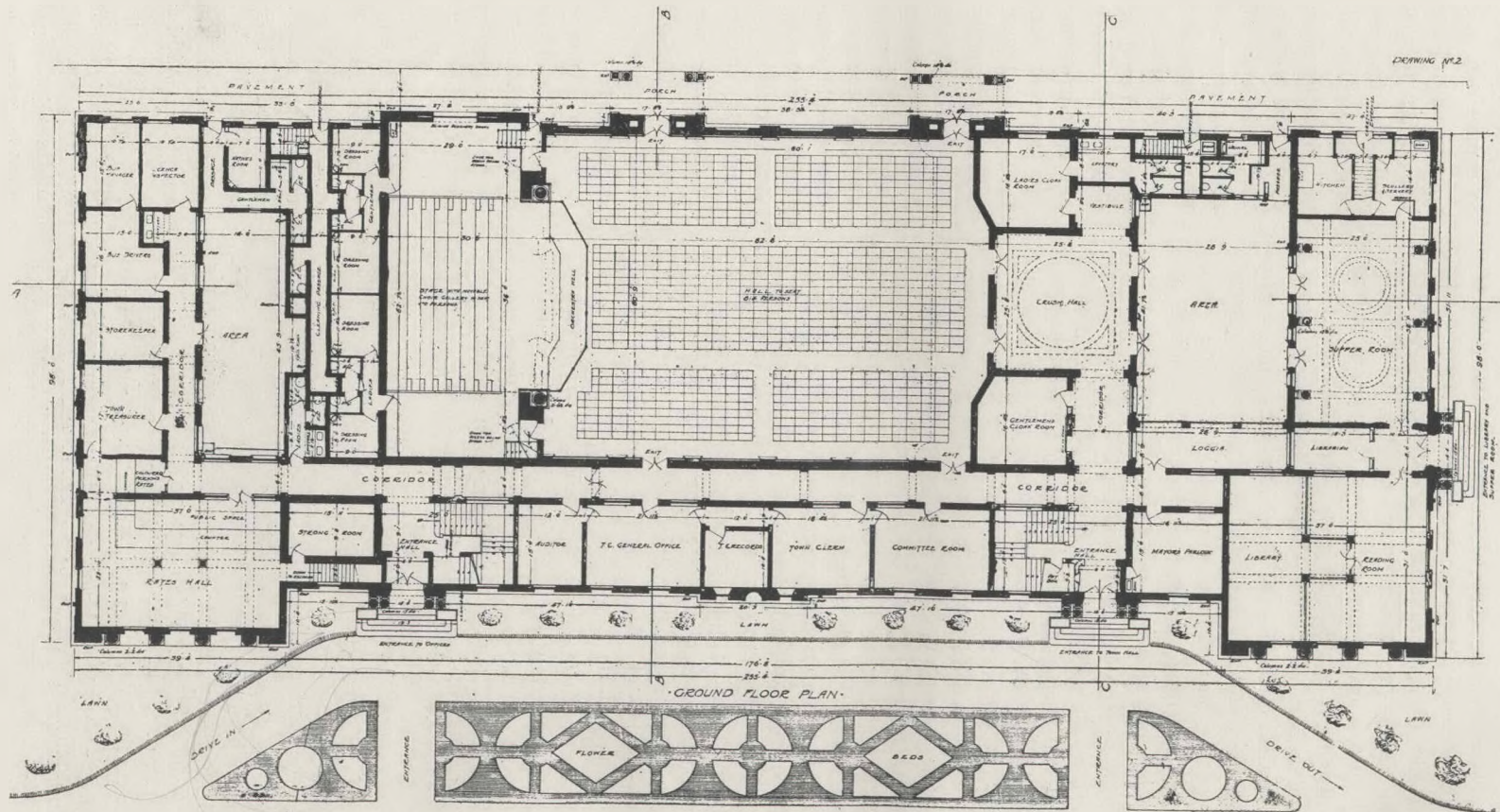
The traveller's notes here digress into other matters, principally social, but before noting anything else, he returns to the walls which he appears to have examined very carefully.

He always notices the colour, which is never wanting on the buildings he describes, a strong contrast to our present most prevalent manner, which seems to indicate clearly enough that the study of colour, at all events upon the exterior of our buildings, is not worth a serious effort.

SPRINGS TOWN HALL.



EAST ELEVATION (SECOND ST.)



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

NEW TOWN HALL AND MUNICIPAL OFFICES SPRINGS.

J. L. HENDERSON and J. S. BOWIE, Architects.

THE TOWN PLANNING ASSOCIATION (TRANSVAAL).

Minutes of the Fifth Annual General Meeting of members held in the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies Club, 100, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Saturday the 8th November, 1924, at 8 p.m.

PRESENT.—The President, Mr. Harold Porter, in the Chair, Messrs. D. M. Burton, B. W. Brayshaw, H. G. Veale, D. M. Sinclair, Allen Wilson, T. S. Fitzsimons, J. A. Moffat, J. Ralston, C. P. Tompkins, J. R. Stewart, H. Sharp, W. M. Harries, J. Wertheim, F. K. Webber, Professors G. A. Watermeyer and G. E. Pearse and the Secretary, M. K. Carpenter.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting, after which the President welcomed members and expressed regret at the paucity of members present.

1. MINUTES.—The Minutes of the Fourth Annual General Meeting, held on the 17th November, 1923, and published in the December, 1923, issue of the South African Architectural Journal *Building*, and a copy of the publication was sent to each member, were taken as read and confirmed.

2. ANNUAL REPORT.—The Annual Report of the Association's proceedings for the past year, presented by the Council, was read by the Secretary.

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

Council Personnel and Meetings.—The Council elected at the last Annual General Meeting has undergone two changes through resignations.

During the year, Mr. D. P. Howells, a Past President, and Mr. Gordon Leith found it necessary to resign from Council, owing to pressure of official duties and business. These resignations were reluctantly accepted. It is earnestly hoped that both members will, at a later date, be able to again participate in the active work of the Association.

To the first vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. D. P. Howells, Mr. J. R. Stewart, representing the Federation of Ratepayers' Associations, was elected. The second vacancy occurred late in the year, and your Council did not consider it necessary to fill same.

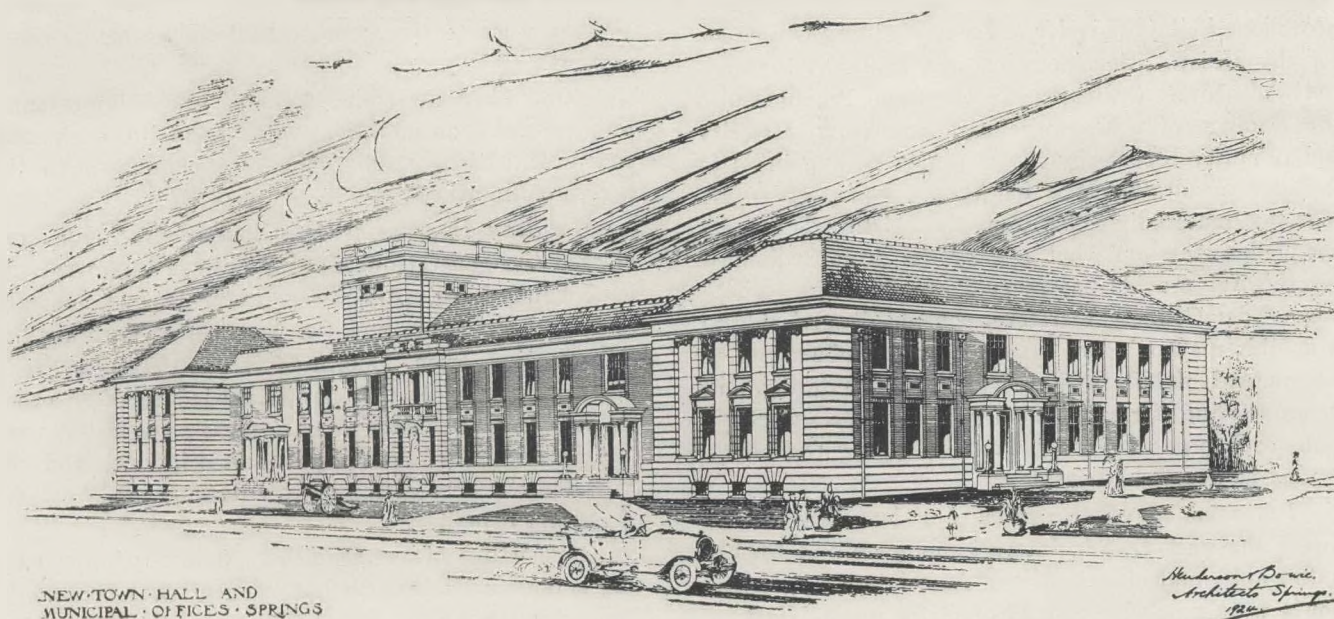
During the year your Council held ten meetings, and the record attendances thereat are given at the end of this report.

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

At the first meeting of Council following the last Annual General Meeting, in conformity with the Constitution, Mr. Harold Porter, architect, Johannesburg, was elected President, and Mr. H. G. Veale, Vice-President.

Election of Members to Council.—In terms of the Constitution, nominations for membership of the Council for the coming year have been invited, and a ballot form was issued to members on the 23rd October, 1924, containing the names of eleven

NEW TOWN HALL AND MUNICIPAL OFFICES—SPRINGS.



NEW TOWN HALL AND
MUNICIPAL OFFICES SPRINGS

J. L. HENDERSON & J. S. BOWIE Architects

persons who had been duly nominated. From this number, ten persons are to be elected to Council. In addition the Institutional members have, in the exercise of their right so to do, made the following nominations to Council:—

- B. W. Brayshaw, land surveyor, Institute of Land Surveyors.
- D. M. Burton, architect, Association of Transvaal Architects.
- Dr. C. Porter, M.O.H., British Medical Association.
- F. K. Webber, land surveyor, Institute of Land Surveyors.
- H. G. Veale, architect, Association of Transvaal Architects.

Main Arterial Roads.—Following the regular consideration given to the provision of Provincial main arterial roads for the Transvaal to link up with similar arterial roads to other Provinces, your Council has seen fit to support the efforts being put forward by the Transvaal Roads League, and for that purpose have appointed Messrs. Harold Porter and H. G. Veale to attend the meetings of the League as representatives of this Association. It is hoped that combined efforts directed upon the provision of main arterial roads will have a definite result.

Town Planning Legislation.—This matter was referred to at the last Annual General Meeting and will again form the subject for discussion at the forthcoming meeting, it being considered necessary that immediate provision be made for the introduction of a Town Planning Act.

Following the consideration given to the drafting of the Code of Model Town Planning Regulations for the Transvaal, sufficiently elastic to permit of easy adaptation to local circumstances, your Council directed their attention to the necessity for adequate provisions being made for a Town Planning Ordinance for the Union. Consideration was given to the contents of a draft Ordinance for the Cape Province, also the findings of a Commission, comprising majority and minority reports by the Commission appointed to consider the draft. It is felt that the proposed draft does not materially differ from the existing Transvaal Townships Act, and that neither the draft Ordinance nor the Act provide necessary Town Planning legislation. Your Council, therefore, consider it advisable to bring this matter before a meeting of members and of the general public with a view to considering and recommending, for submission to the proper authority, such draft proposals for a Town Planning Ordinance as may be deemed advisable.

Propaganda.—Every endeavour has been made during the past year to interest members and friends in the aims and objects of the Association. Arrangements were made by your Council for the publication of Town Planning articles in the South African Architectural Journal, *Building*, and a copy of each issue

has been mailed to each member of the Association throughout the year. It was hoped, by this means, to stimulate interest in Town Planning matters and obtain from members expressions of opinion and criticisms generally upon the Town Planning matters which have been published.

It is regretted that the objects your Council had in view have not been realised. It is proposed, however, to continue these articles and to issue the Journal to members throughout the coming year, and it is hoped that the invitation given to members to express opinions or criticise any Town Planning article will be taken advantage of and that the publication of resultant correspondence will be of general interest to members.

An invitation has been issued by the Johannesburg Broadcasting Company to Professor G. E. Pearse to give a series of ten minute talks on Town Planning matters for the benefit of listeners in. This offer has been accepted, and it is to be sincerely hoped the results will go far towards interesting the general public in Town Planning principles and the support of this Association.

New Townships.—During the past year the Provincial Secretary has submitted, for consideration by your Council, six proposals for new townships. The first of these in point of importance was the Saxonwold Township, within the Municipal area of Johannesburg, and your Council was of the opinion that, notwithstanding the fact that the owners were not prepared to make certain alterations which were suggested by our Association as being of considerable importance from an aesthetic and utility point of view, the proposed lay-out was one of the best attempts at planning so far submitted for consideration by this Association, and felt that the township owners were to be congratulated upon the proposed lay-out.

The other townships were of minor importance, but careful consideration was given to each and recommendations were made and submitted to the proper authorities.

Railway Improvements.—Your Council has considered the general question of railway improvements at Johannesburg, particularly in respect of subways and level crossings, and the question of lowering the railway line from Doornfontein to George Goch Station in order to give much needed relief to other traffic. In this matter your Council co-operated with the Federation of Ratepayers' Associations, and we trust the outcome of the representations made will be of general benefit.

Respecting station facilities at Johannesburg, long and serious consideration has been given to proposals for a new railway station, the necessity for making Johannesburg a terminal station, a proposal to create a new goods station on the south side of the city in

order to do away with any necessity for heavy railway goods traffic through the heart of the city from north to south and south-east, and to provide adequate accommodation for the travelling public both from and to suburban and long distance destinations. This matter of railway facilities for Johannesburg is set down for consideration at the Annual General Meeting.

Open Spaces.—Your Council felt the desirability for the creation of additional open spaces within the Johannesburg Municipal area, and with that object in view approached the Johannesburg Municipal Council with a suggestion that application be made to the proper authorities for the surface rights over a piece of ground adjacent to the Wemmer Pan for the provision of a recreation and sports ground. It was felt that the Mining Company concerned would readily acquiesce with such application, the granting of which would provide the inhabitants of the Southern Suburbs with a very fine sports ground. This matter is still under consideration.

Expropriation.—During the year your Council has considered the existing legislation controlling the expropriation of land and/or buildings for public improvement and find that whilst a number of Expropriation Acts are in force adequately safeguarding public requirements in the way of machinery

to provide for expropriation, it was felt by your Council that the cost to public bodies of setting this machinery in motion was too heavy and thereby defeats the object which public bodies would have in mind when applying for powers under one of the existing Acts of Expropriation. It is felt that an amending Expropriation Act is required whereby applications thereunder might be considered without incurring the very heavy costs at present necessary.

The following are the attendances of members during the past year (maximum 10):—

Mr. Harold Porter...	10	Prof. G. E. Pearse...	6
Mr. H. G. Veale ...	8	Dr. Charles Porter...	3
Mr. D. M. Burton ...	5	Mr. H. Sharp ...	6
Mr. B. W. Brayshaw	8	Mr. C. F. Stallard ...	0
Mr. T. S. Fitzsimons	6	Mr. J. R. Stewart ...	7
Mr. G. Hartog ...	3	Mr. C. P. Tompkins...	8
Mr. D. P. Howells ...	0	Prof. G. A. Watermeyer	3
Mr. G. Leith ...	0	Mr. F. K. Webber ...	7

On the motion of Mr. J. R. Stewart, seconded by Mr. C. P. Tompkins, the Report was adopted.

3. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS.—Members present were provided with a copy of the Balance Sheet and Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1924. The original Balance Sheet drawn up and certified by Messrs. Aiken and Carter was laid on the table.

<i>Expenditure.</i>				<i>Revenue.</i>			
To Printing Annual Report and Accounts	£12	10	0	By Subscriptions:—			
„ Office Rent	15	0	0	32 Ordinary Members at 10s. 6d. ...	£16	16	0
„ Salary	48	0	0	15 Ordinary Members (arrears) ...	7	17	6
„ General Expenses, Postages and				15 Institutional Members at £3 3s....	47	5	0
Printing	22	7	7	3 Institutional Members (arrears)...	9	9	0
„ Bank Charges	0	16	11	Excess of Expenditure over Revenue ...	17	7	0
	£98	14	6		£98	14	6

Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 1924.

<i>Liabilities.</i>				<i>Assets.</i>			
Accumulated Funds—				Cash at Bank	£10	1	6
Balance at 31st March, 1923	£27	8	6				
Less Excess of Expenditure over Revenue							
for the year ended 31st March, 1924	17	7	0				
	£10	1	6		£10	1	6

Professor G. A. Watermeyer moved the adoption of the accounts and balance sheet. This was seconded by Mr. J. R. Stewart and agreed to.

4. APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS.—Messrs. D. M. Burton and F. K. Webber were unanimously

appointed Scrutineers to conduct the ballot for the election of members to Council.

5. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.—The President, Mr. H. Porter, said that, in view of the public meeting which was to immediately follow this annual general

meeting, his presidential address to members would be given later.

6. COUNCIL.—The Scrutineers, Messrs. D. M. Burton and F. K. Webber, submitted the following result of the votes cast for members for the new Council, and the President formally declared the following ten members duly elected to Council for this year:—

T. S. Fitzsimons.	C. P. Tompkins.
W. M. Harries.	G. A. Watermeyer.
G. Hartog.	J. Wertheim.
G. E. Pearse.	The Mayor of Witbank.
H. Sharp.	The Mayor of Vereeniging.

On the motion of Mr. D. M. Burton, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the President, Mr. H. Porter, for his able conduct of the affairs of the Association during the past year.

The meeting thereupon dissolved and the public meeting commenced.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence has taken place between the South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors and the Council, and is published for the information of members:—

27th September, 1924.

The Secretary,
The S.A. Institute of Quantity Surveyors,
P.O. Box 364, Johannesburg.
Dear Sir,

re QUANTITY WORK.

Following the interview had with your Messrs. Hickman and Farrow, and the receipt of your letter of the 30th August, 1924, my Council carefully reviewed the whole question of Quantity Work, and have arrived at the following opinions, which are sent for the information of the members of your Institute:—

1. The entire responsibility for the success of a building contract should continue to be in the hands of the Architect entrusted with the work.
2. The Architect should, therefore, retain complete control of every branch of the work, including plans, specifications, quantities, final adjustment of accounts, and settlement of the work to the satisfaction of the building owner.
3. That the tendency on the part of the practising Quantity Surveyor to secure independent control of the quantities and adjustment of accounts is most undesirable, and not conducive to the success of a building contract.

4. That in the event of the Architect appointed not being a Quantity Surveyor, he should employ a Surveyor to do this work under his instructions and control.
5. Any action or endeavour, either on the part of a Quantity Surveyor or the Quantity Surveyors' Institute to secure quantity work direct from a client instead of through the Architect is deprecated by this Association, who view with strong disapproval any division of control of a building contract for the success of which the Architect is solely responsible.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) M. K. CARPENTER,
Registrar,
Association of Transvaal Architects.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

6th November, 1924.

M. K. Carpenter, Esq.,
Association of Transvaal Architects,
Exploration Building,
Johannesburg.

Dear Sir,

re QUANTITY WORK.

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 27th September, submitting the opinions of your Council relative to the above.

Before replying to these, in detail, my Council would like to make it perfectly clear that the original point which arose was in connection with the appointment of Mr. Wilson for certain buildings for the Provincial Council, and my Council felt they were doing a courteous action in taking no further steps in regard to the appointment of an independent Quantity Surveyor until Mr. Wilson had been definitely appointed for the first service.

After careful consideration of the views expressed in your last communication, my Council feels it desirable at the outset to make it clear that the profession of a Quantity Surveyor is becoming universally recognised as separate and quite distinct from that of an Architect, who to-day is faced with altogether different conditions to those of 30 years ago. Whilst my Council recognises that the Architect practising as an "Architect and Quantity Surveyor" (a combination which to-day is condemned in Great Britain) may desire to continue to prepare Schedules of quantities; it is a generally accepted custom, particularly with large contracts and those for which public bodies are responsible, the quantities should be prepared by a qualified Quantity Surveyor, a specialist in this work.

This position maintains in the Cape School Board today, and with almost every public body in the Old Country.

My Council is also of the opinion:

That the responsibility in so far as the success of the architectural side of a building contract is concerned has never been questioned, being one that is entrusted to the Architect.

That the Architect should retain complete control of these branches of the work, viz., preparation of plans, architectural details, specifications and authority, for varying the same, but not the quantities and final adjustment of accounts.

That the independent control of the quantities and adjustment of accounts now becoming a recognised practice not only in South Africa, but also in Great Britain, Canada, Australia and elsewhere is evidence of the success of the system.

In the case of an Architect not being a qualified Quantity Surveyor it is desirable that quantity surveying should be in the hands of a Quantity Surveyor who would act conjointly with the Architect and client and receive remuneration to full extent of the fee paid by the building owner.

That the task of linking up old and new conditions without discord is an almost impossible one, but fear of this must not be allowed to impel the S.A.I.Q.S. to stultify legitimate developments.

My Council realises the growing tendency of public bodies to employ the Quantity Surveyor direct, thus promoting the general interest of the profession and extending their usefulness to the public advantage.

It is not the wish of the S.A.I.Q.S. to relax its strenuous efforts to raise the status of the Quantity Surveyor and to maintain its dignity as an honourable profession.

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) A. LOOTS,
Secretary.

5th December, 1924.

The Secretary,
South African Institute of Quantity Surveyors,
P.O. Box 364, Johannesburg.

Dear Sir,

re QUANTITY WORK.

I am directed by the Council to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 6th November, 1924, and to state that they cannot agree with the views expressed by your Executive contained therein.

The Council intend to publish my letter to you, dated the 27th September, 1924, together with your reply, and this addendum, in the December issue of the Journal.

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) M. K. CARPENTER,
Registrar,
Association of Transvaal Architects.

Messrs. C. C. Deuchar and Alex. Pease, A.A.R.I.B.A., of the Public Works Department, Pretoria, have been registered under Act 39 of 1909, and admitted to membership of the Association.

At the first meeting of the newly elected Council of the Town Planning Association (Transvaal), Mr. H. G. Veale was elected President for the current year and Mr. B. W. Brayshaw Vice-President, for the same period.

Owing to continued indisposition, Mr. H. G. Veale has resigned his seat on the Council of the Association.

Mr. Veale has rendered long and good service to the Association, and the Council deeply regret the necessity which prompted Mr. Veale's action, and sincerely trust that he will again be able to participate in the activities of the Association at an early date.

Intending competitors for the new Railway Buildings required by the Uganda Railways at Nairobi, are advised that practically fourteen days will be required for the transit of designs from the Union to Nairobi; they must, therefore, be prepared to despatch their designs about the 10th of February. Owing to the absence of a sailing list of the British India Steamship Company, who are responsible for carrying the mails to East Coast Ports, for the month of February it is not possible to give a definite date, but if interested competitors will communicate with the Registrar definite information regarding the latest posting date will be sent as soon as available.

UGANDA RAILWAY Proposed New Railway Offices, Nairobi, Kenya Colony.

Competitive Designs are invited from qualified Architects, being British Subjects, for proposed new Railway Offices to be erected in Nairobi, Kenya Colony.

The conditions of Competition will be in accordance with the Regulations of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Premiums of £200 and £100 will be paid to the Author or Authors of the designs placed first and second by the Assessor.

For Conditions of Competition, Instructions to Competitors, and Plan of Site, application should be made to:

THE CHIEF CIVIL ENGINEER,
South African Railways,
Room No. 162, Railway Headquarters,
JOHANNESBURG,

from whom photographs of some existing buildings in Nairobi can also be obtained for examination and return.

Designs must be received at the Offices of the General Manager, Uganda Railway, Nairobi, not later than the 28th February, 1925.

THE TOWN PLANNING ASSOCIATION (TRANSVAAL.)

*Valedictory address by the retiring President, Mr.
Harold Porter.*

If Town Planning is to be the vital force which is to revolutionise the old haphazard methods of City development, if it is to be something more than a superficial garnishing of facades and a straightening of tortuous ways, then it is important that we study the movements and habits of the modern City population and endeavour to understand the particular people whom it is to benefit, and bring all the knowledge of scientific planning into force.

The scope and possibilities of Town Planning are as yet unrealised in South Africa. To the mass of the general public, Town Planning probably means little more than a newly discovered method of preparing by some geometric system a plan for a new town or suburb.

Town Planning as we should understand the meaning of the term to-day, is both an applied art and an applied science. Modern Town Planning aims at understanding and satisfying all the varying needs and interests of our complex democratic system. It does not confine its attention merely to the economic sub-division of an area into so many building lots. It does not concentrate entirely upon the provision of a convenient network of streets and open spaces. It does not aim exclusively at providing fine sites and splendid approaches to buildings, nor are its objectives attained when it has provided healthy housing accommodation for the working classes. It aims at accomplishing all these things and more. Much that is done to-day is highly experimental, and the difficulties are enormous, for we must incorporate all the recently developed methods of transit and the resultant traffic problems, and we must deal with entirely new methods of construction.

Whilst we are expected to satisfy a popular taste for constant interest, convenience and comfort, we must not neglect those ideals which stand for simple beauty, repose, proportion, grandeur and increased scale.

When we hear the phrase "Town Planning Principles," what do we really imagine in our minds? To the average person, a sense of high ideals and visions of the city beautiful, pass before their mental vision. It has often been asked, what are these "Town Planning Principles"? I think the answer to that query may be summed up to "Scientific Planning combined with Sound Common Sense."

Let us now turn our attention to Johannesburg and consider its many shortcomings and particularly its urgent need for important public buildings.

We have often been told by the surveyors, responsible for the original lay-out of Johannesburg, that they had to provide the greatest number of stands, and as many corner plots as possible, these latter, realising a higher sale price. Consequently our streets are numerous and narrow. But we must realise that Johannesburg is like a child who has grown out of its clothes.

Streets that were at one time amply wide, are now hopelessly inadequate for the amount of traffic. Modern conditions of life and developments have changed the whole aspect of the City. It is therefore our duty as good citizens to have these defects rectified as soon as possible.

Picture in your minds a simple cottage, built by a young man and his wife: while the children were young, the cottage was ample; but, as they gradually grew up and the family increased in number and size, father had to consider alterations and additions, which were carried out. Then father's business increased! The old bicycle which was kept on the back verandah is replaced with a fine motor car, for which a garage is built. The single gate and narrow path are replaced by grand entrance gates and an imposing drive.

The narrow entrance hall and passage in the cottage are altered, and a spacious lounge substituted. The alterations and additions to the original humble cottage are so numerous and extensive, that it now represents a large and imposing house.

Let us apply this example to the City of Johannesburg and consider whether the City Fathers have done their duty to *their* children.

The kitchen and offices still remain the same small compartments they were 20 years ago. (Post Office and Magistrate's Court.)

The narrow passages still remain, and no new lounge has been provided! (Want of a dignified civic centre!)

The motor car has to come up the sanitary lane and enter at the back gate, it is sheltered under a lean-to roof, which is an extension of the back verandah! (Park Station.)

The time has now arrived when we must put our house in order.

No artist is so entirely dependent upon public support as is the civic designer. He is called an "Idealist," a "Dreamer" and a "Faddist."

If a man wishes to write a poem or paint a picture and has the requisite skill to do either of these things, there is obviously little to prevent him from exercising his gift; but if any one has the ambition to remodel a town, or even to make a very slight change in its appearance, he is helpless unless he can persuade a large body of people that the alteration he proposes, is for the general good. The question

arises then, "How can civic designers achieve their purpose?" The answer is, of course, that having first acquired definite opinions upon the nature of civic design, they must proceed to popularise the art, that is to say, by some means or other they must persuade that much abused person, the average man, that civic design is of vital importance to him. What is more, this civic achievement is one of the few reforms that over a year may look expensive, over five years proves to be profitable, and over ten years will be an investment, which in subsequent days will make the community regret that it did not adopt it sooner. I want, if I may, to justify this to the "Philistine," the ratepayer, the taxpayer, and the citizen. Civics and Town Planning after all are only giving the town that proper development and science that nearly every other thing has been able to get through progress.

Johannesburg is no longer a mining camp, but the largest city in South Africa, and is still rapidly growing. The mining companies and the merchants have shown their confidence by the fine buildings they have erected, and are still erecting. But yet, Johannesburg is sadly in need of important public buildings. The Town Planning Association has repeatedly agitated for the urgent needs of the city in this connection. A deputation from the Town Council proceeded to Capetown with the city's needs, and waited upon the Ministers of the late Government last year, with very little success. The Press from time to time have also brought the matter before the public.

It is recognised that the best results are achieved from a well-organised combination of effort—combinations of authorities, combinations of professional advisers; and combinations of interests of all kinds. I feel convinced that the correct method of procedure in connection with the improvements for the City of Johannesburg is to have a comprehensive general scheme prepared for improvements and future developments of the whole of the city, including suburbs.

In England, the Town Planning Act of 1909 stipulated that every town over a certain size had to prepare such a scheme within a definite time. But why should we (the foremost city of South Africa) have to wait until we are forced to do so by legislation. Let us set about it without further delay. Every year delayed will mean further expense to the ratepayers. May the Town Council do their duty in this respect.

In conclusion, Ladies and Gentlemen, I do commend Civics and Town Planning to your earnest attention. Let us strive to educate and cultivate our minds to develop that subtle germ, Civic Pride.

HAROLD PORTER.

ARCHITECTURAL BRONZE

and other Metals

for . . .

CHURCH FITMENTS

BANKS

BUILDINGS

RESIDENCES

and Memorials of every description.

Your Plans and Specifications

for Estimates will be

Appreciated by

MURRAY K. CARPENTER,

67, Exploration Building, Johannesburg,

For the BIRMINGHAM GUILD, LIMITED.

The Trustees of the Herbert Baker Scholarship have agreed to the conduct of an examination under the auspices of the Federal Council on Architectural Education. The examination will take the form of a design paper based on a subject set by Mr. Herbert Baker, A.R.A., and a thesis which is to be of the nature of a short description explaining the ideas which the candidate wishes to express in his design. It is anticipated that at least six applicants will compete for this Scholarship.

The Registrar is proceeding on leave over the year end holidays, and will return to duty about the middle of January. It is notified, for the information of members, that the office of the Association will be open, as usual, during the Registrar's absence.

TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

PROPOSED NEW TOWN HALL AND MUNICIPAL OFFICES.

THE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL invite tenders from Members of the Master Builders Associations for the erection and completion of a Town Hall and Municipal Offices at Springs.

Those desirous of tendering to make written application to the Town Clerk, Springs, on or before the 29th day of December, 1924, and such applications to be accompanied by a deposit of £3 3s. payable to the Municipality of Springs, which will be returned on receipt of a *bona fide* tender.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

HENDERSON & BOWIE,

Architects, Springs.

P. O. Box 214, Springs (Tel. 114).

28th November 1924.

THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE. UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND.

Its Aim and Work.

The University offers two courses of study in architecture, one a full-time day course leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Architecture, the other, for part-time students, leading to a Diploma in Architecture.

The aim of these courses is to give the student a sound training for the profession of architecture, so as to make him fitted, at the end of either of them, to enter an architect's office as a fully qualified assistant, and, at the same time, to lay the foundation for the ultimate undertaking of practice on his own account.

The courses, a summary of which is given below, are based on those of the leading schools of architecture in Europe and America.

Thus, the basis of monumental planning and the theory and development of architecture are taught in order that the student may be equipped to tackle the larger problems which architecture presents.

The student is generally encouraged to develop that taste without which the highest technical ability will be of no avail in producing successful architecture.

On the technical side a very thorough training is given. The necessary preliminary mathematical and scientific studies are duly emphasized and the problems of construction and materials thoroughly dealt with. Methods and processes are investigated in the laboratory and by means of visits to workshops, factories and buildings in course of erection.

A well-equipped studio and library have been established, the latter through the generosity of the Association of Transvaal Architects, Lady Phillips and the Witwatersrand Council of Education, who purchased the collection of the late Mr. J. M. Solomon. This collection has been considerably augmented by gifts from various donors, notably Mr. Howard Pim.

COURSES OF STUDY.

The Degree course extends over five academic years, portions of the fourth and fifth years being spent in an architect's office. The subjects are as follows:—

First year: Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry (short course), Graphics, History of Architecture, Elementary Architectural Design and Construction.

Second year: Pure Mathematics (short course), Applied Mathematics, Graphics, Geology (short course), Materials of Construction, History of Architecture, Architectural Design and Construction.

Third year: Strength of Materials, Geology of Building Stones, Sanitation and Hygiene,

Theory of Architectural Design and Planning, History of Architecture, Architectural Design and Construction.

Fourth year: Theory of Structures, Interior Decoration, Colour and Furniture or the History of the Fine Arts, Architectural Design and Construction.

Fifth year: Structural Design, Professional Practice, including Specifications, Contracts, Estimates and Quantities, Architectural Design, Civic Art, Lectures on special subjects, such as Acoustics, Mechanical Plant of Buildings, etc.

The Diploma course, also extending over five years, is somewhat similar, but is not taken so extensively.

The following is a review of the year's work of the School of Architecture:—

At the beginning of this year an exhibition of students' work was held, and prizes, awarded by the Society of Architects (London), South African Branch, were presented to Evening Class students. This meeting has been referred to in the Journal.

Later in the year a representative collection of students' drawings were sent to London for an Exhibition in connection with the International Congress on Architectural Education.

At the request of the R.I.B.A., these drawings have been kept for exhibition purposes in other centres. In the press criticisms of the work of the various schools, the reference to the work of this school is very satisfactory.

It is hoped, during the coming year, to establish an Architectural Students' Society, to promote discussion on various matters connected with the profession, and to have short papers on special subjects read and discussed. Further, it is hoped, in the near future, to publish a year book illustrating the work of the school.

A visit to the Cape Peninsula is contemplated to enable students to visit historic buildings, and encourage sketching and measured work.

The number of day students enrolled this year was 7, and evening students 25.

During the year, the Professor of Architecture was fortunate in having the following assistance:—

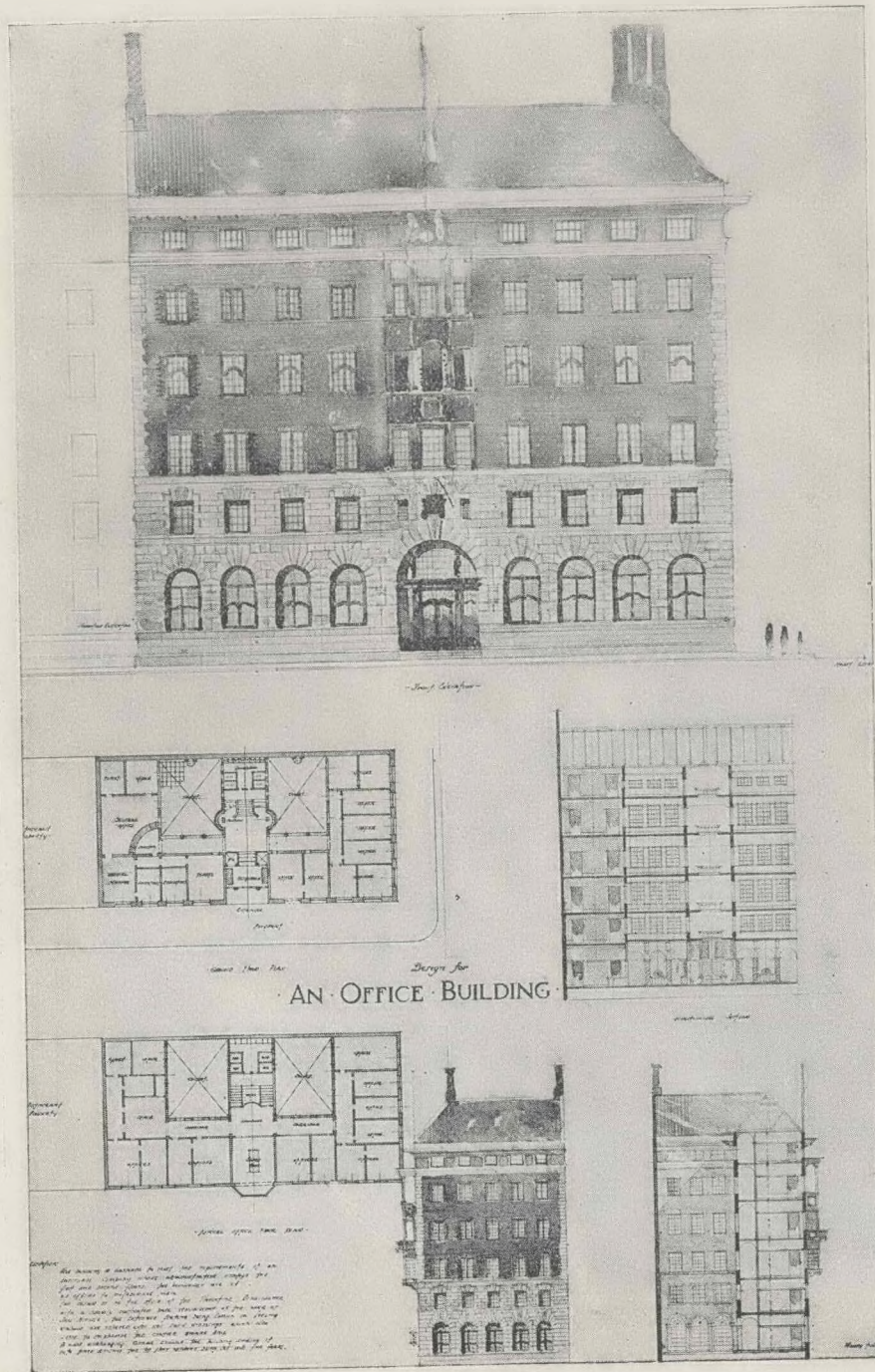
Part-time Lecturer in Design and History for the Degree Course: Mr. Gordon Leith.

Lecturers in Design for the Diploma Course: Mr. H. W. Spicer and Mr. F. Williamson.

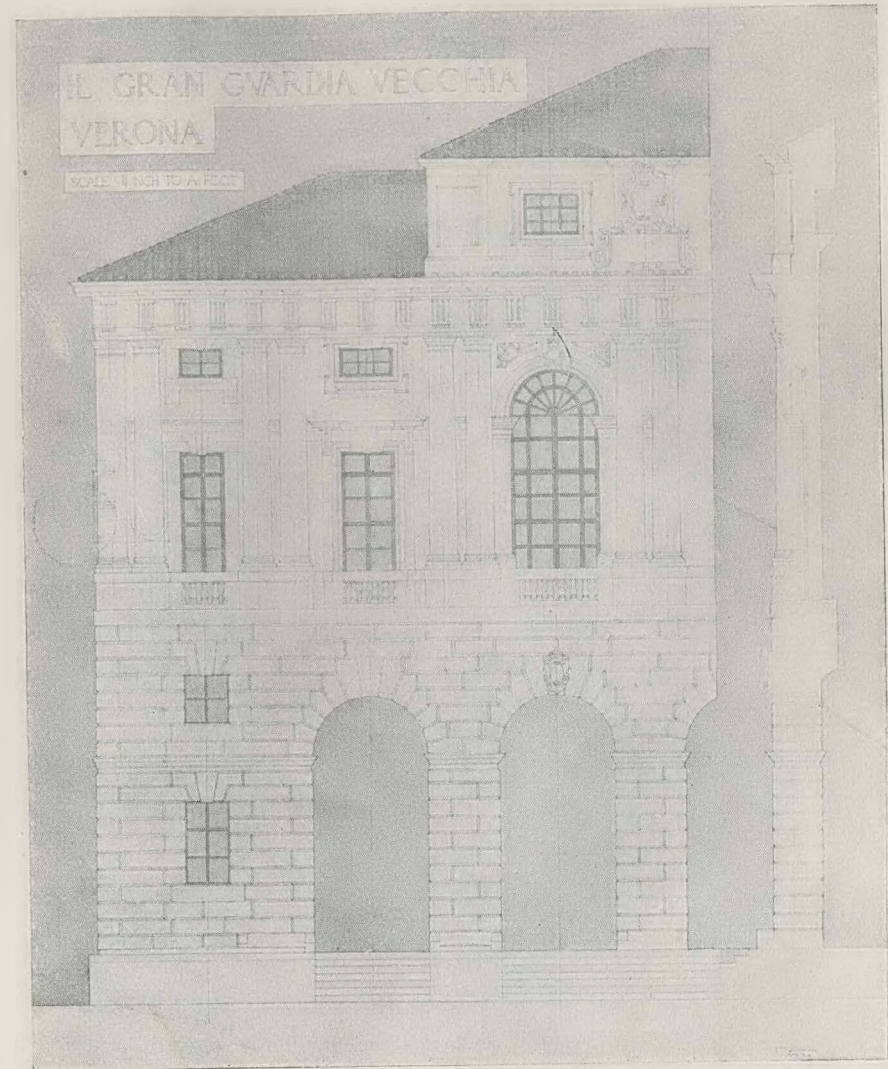
Lecturer in Building Construction for the Diploma Course: Mr. M. J. Heir.

The lectures in Mathematics, Sanitation, Theory of Structures and Strength of Materials were provided by the other departments in the University concerned.

A full-time senior lecturer in Architecture will be appointed at the beginning of 1925.

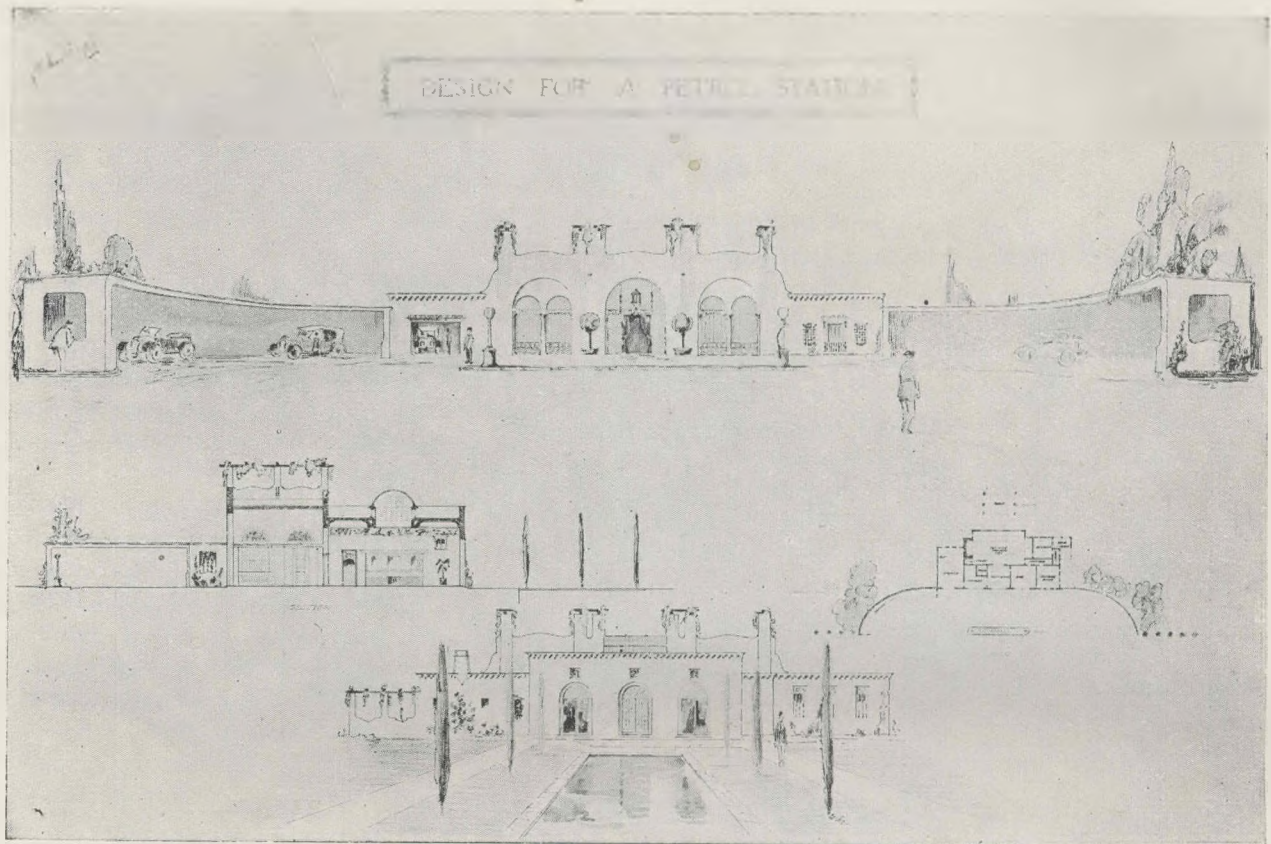


H. C. TULLY. Third Year Work.

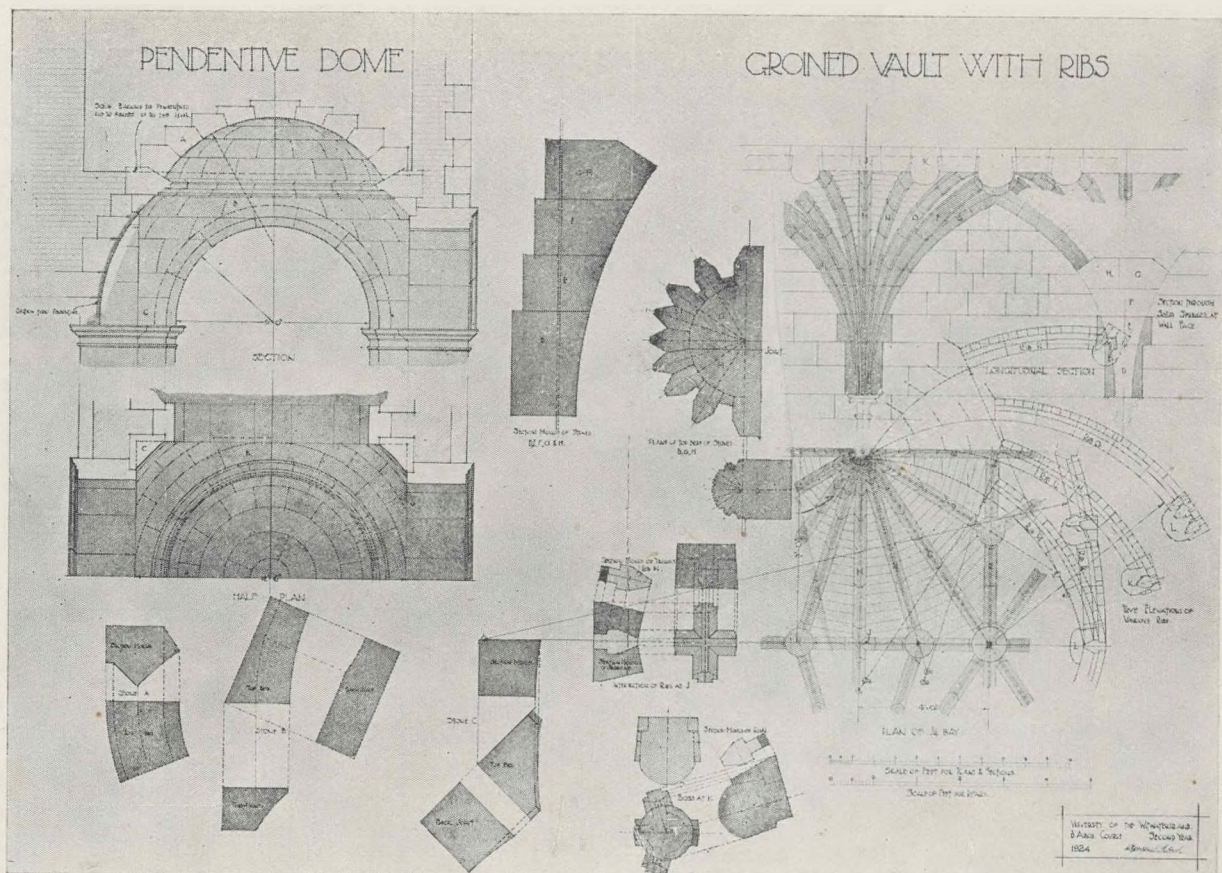


R. D. MARTIENSSEN. First Year Work.

WITWATERSRAND UNIVERSITY.—ARCHITECTURAL STUDENT'S WORK.

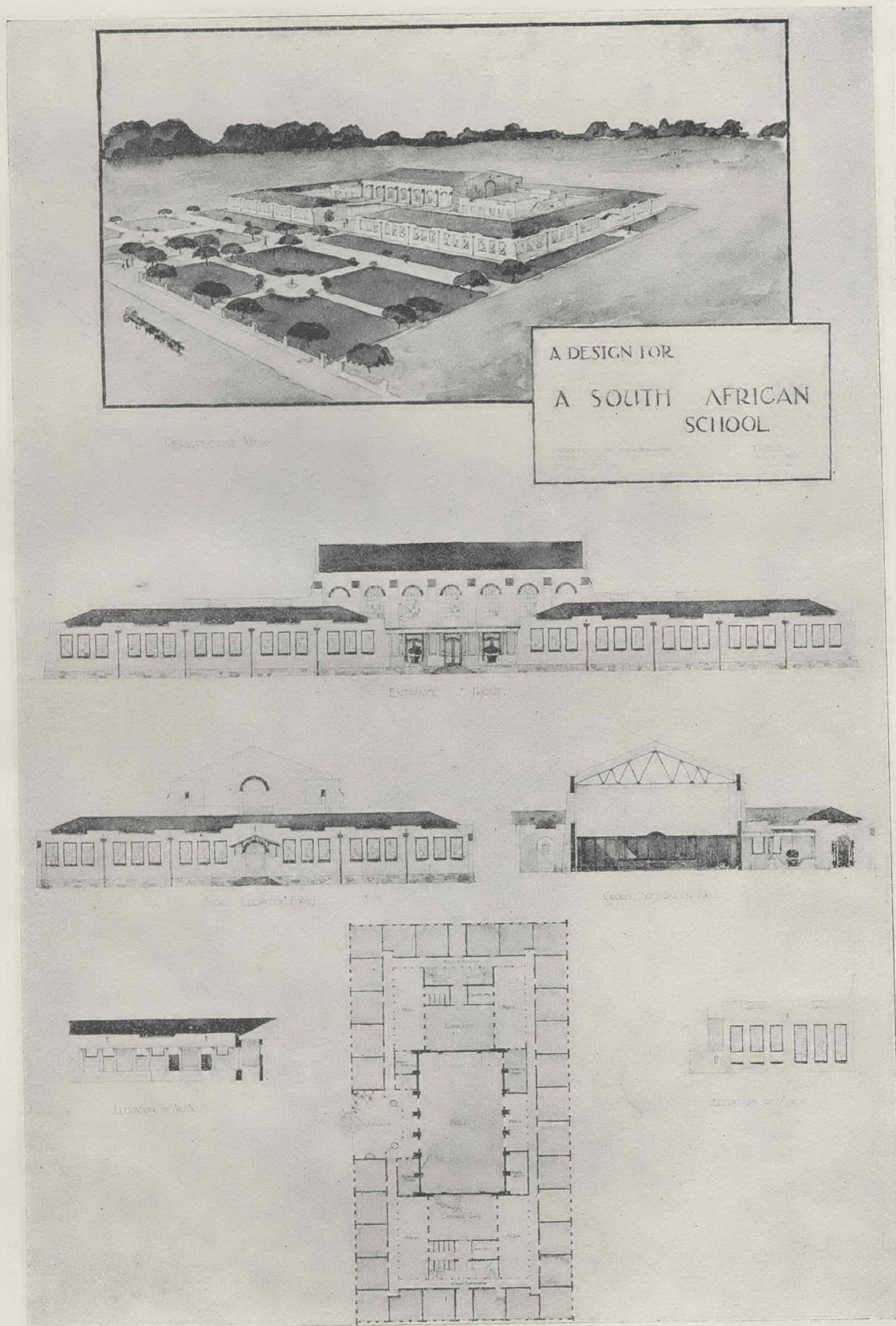


L. R. BUSTIN. Second Year Work.



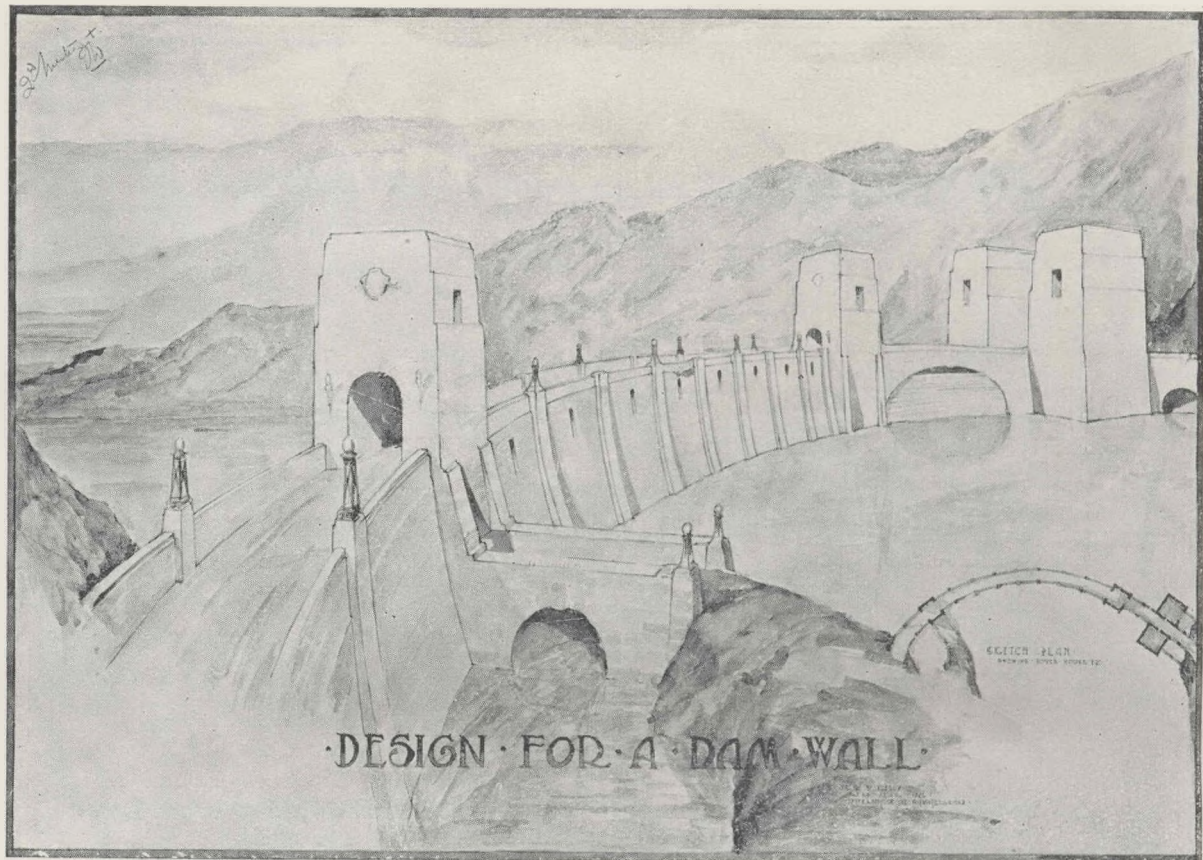
W. G. McINTOSH. Second Year Work.

WITWATERSRAND UNIVERSITY.—ARCHITECTURAL STUDENT'S WORK.

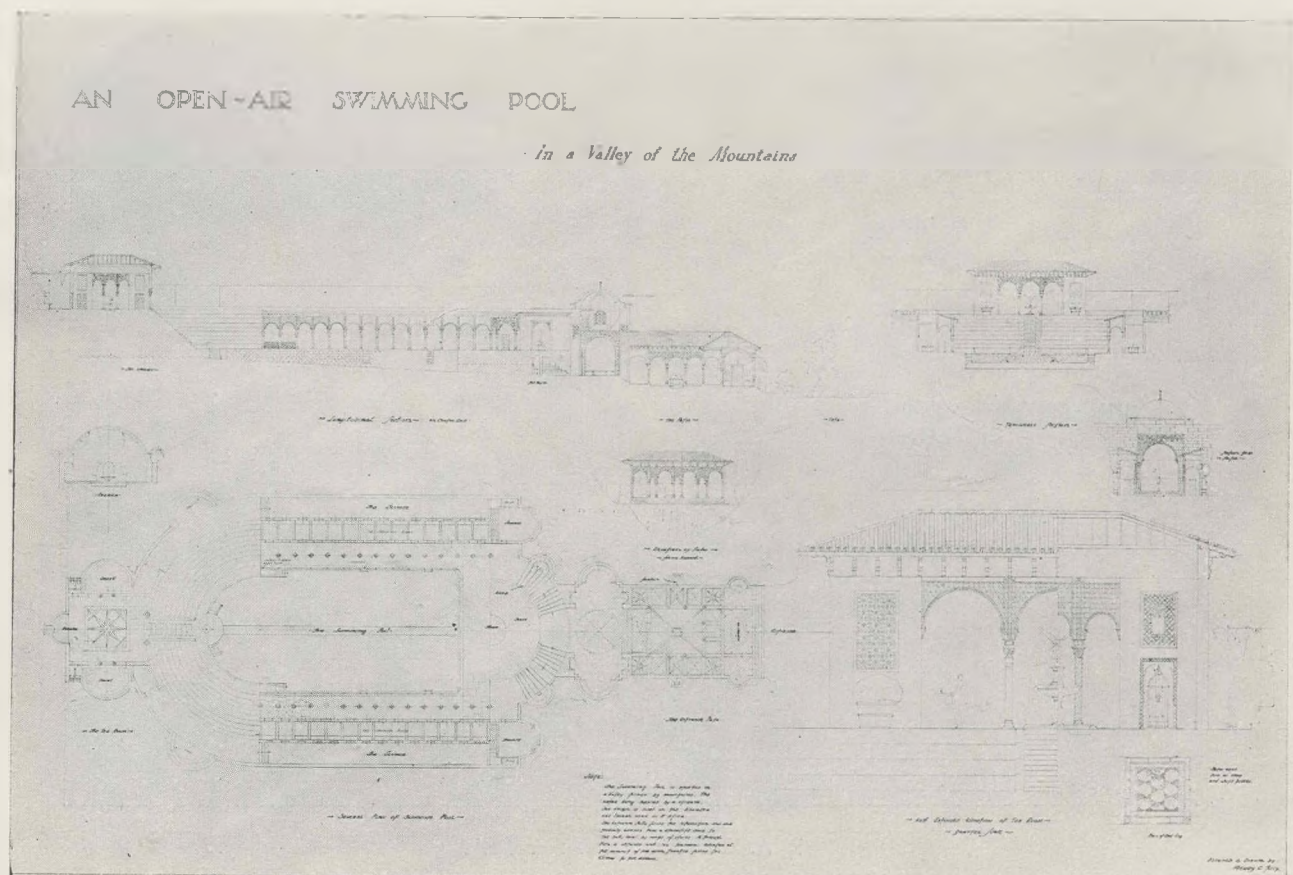


R. A. BRUCE. Second Year Work.

WITWATERSRAND UNIVERSITY.—ARCHITECTURAL STUDENT'S WORK.

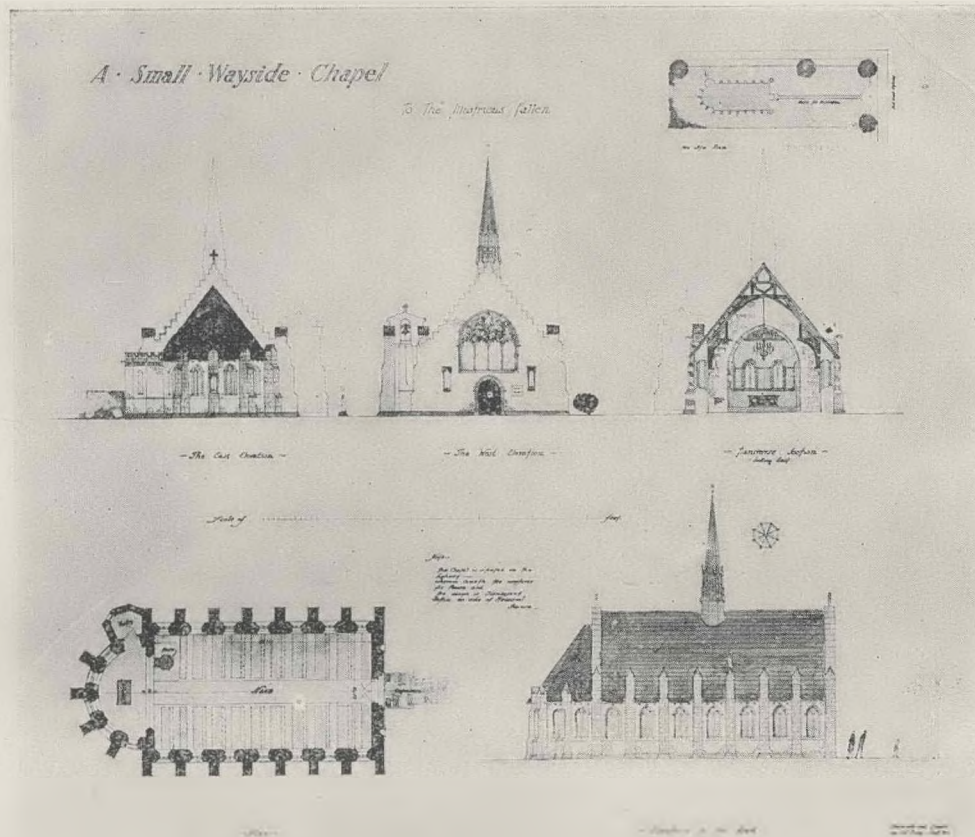


C. W. KELLY. Third Year Work.

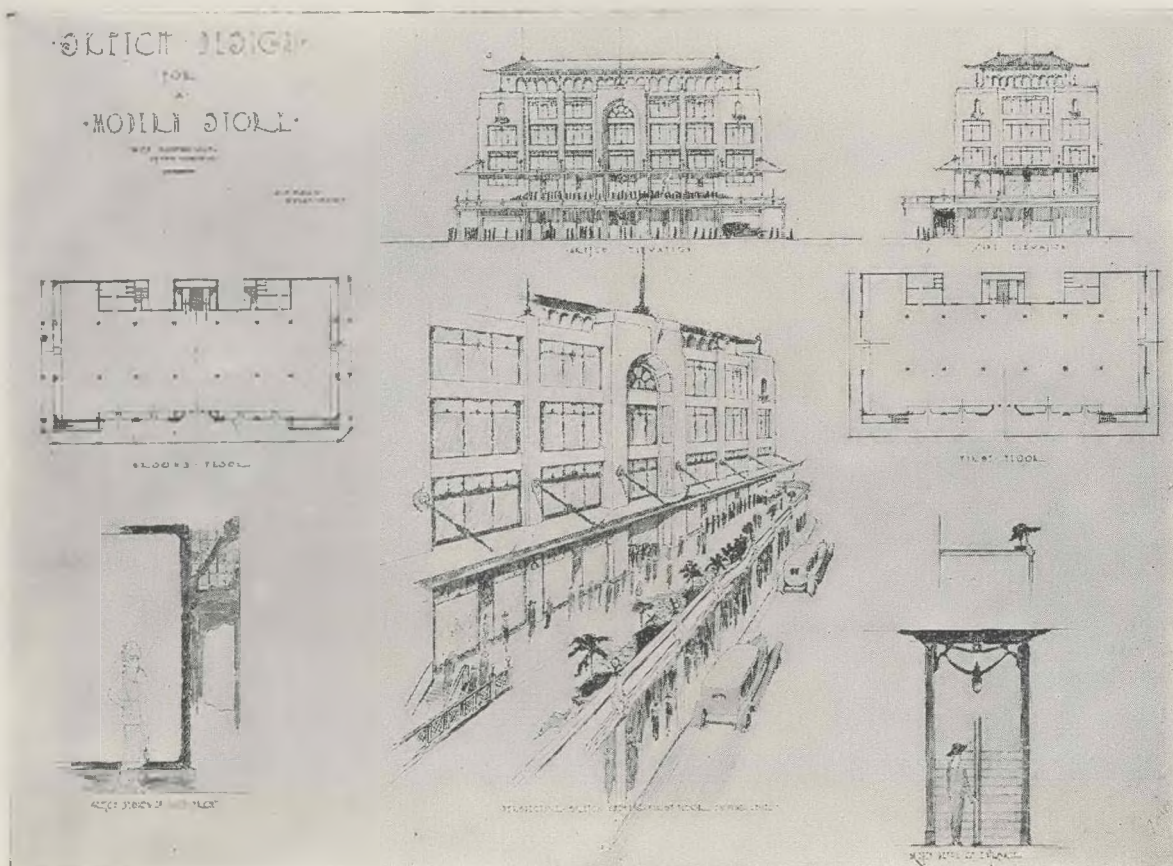


H. C. TULLY. Third Year Work.

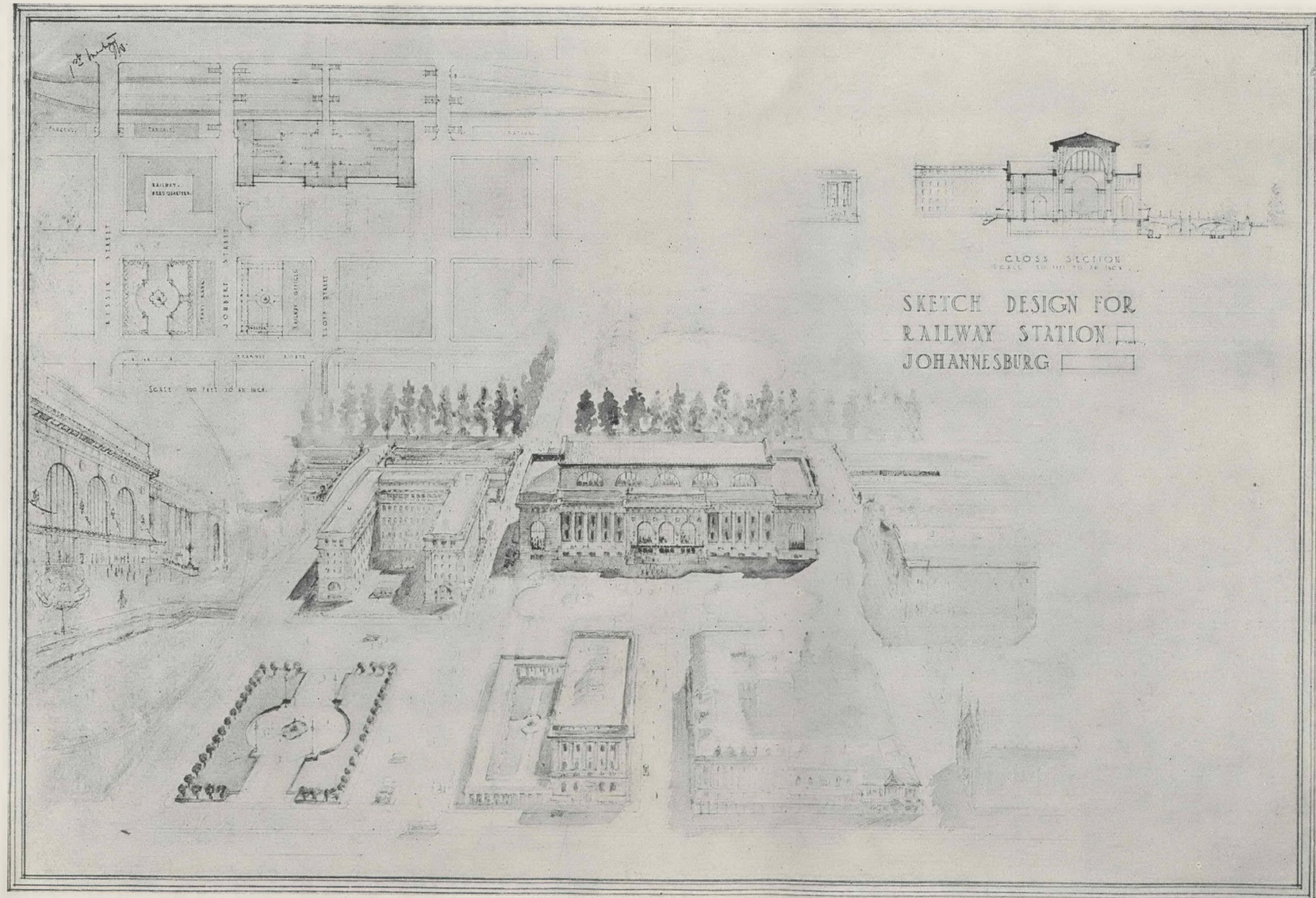
WITWATERSRAND UNIVERSITY.—ARCHITECTURAL STUDENT'S WORK.



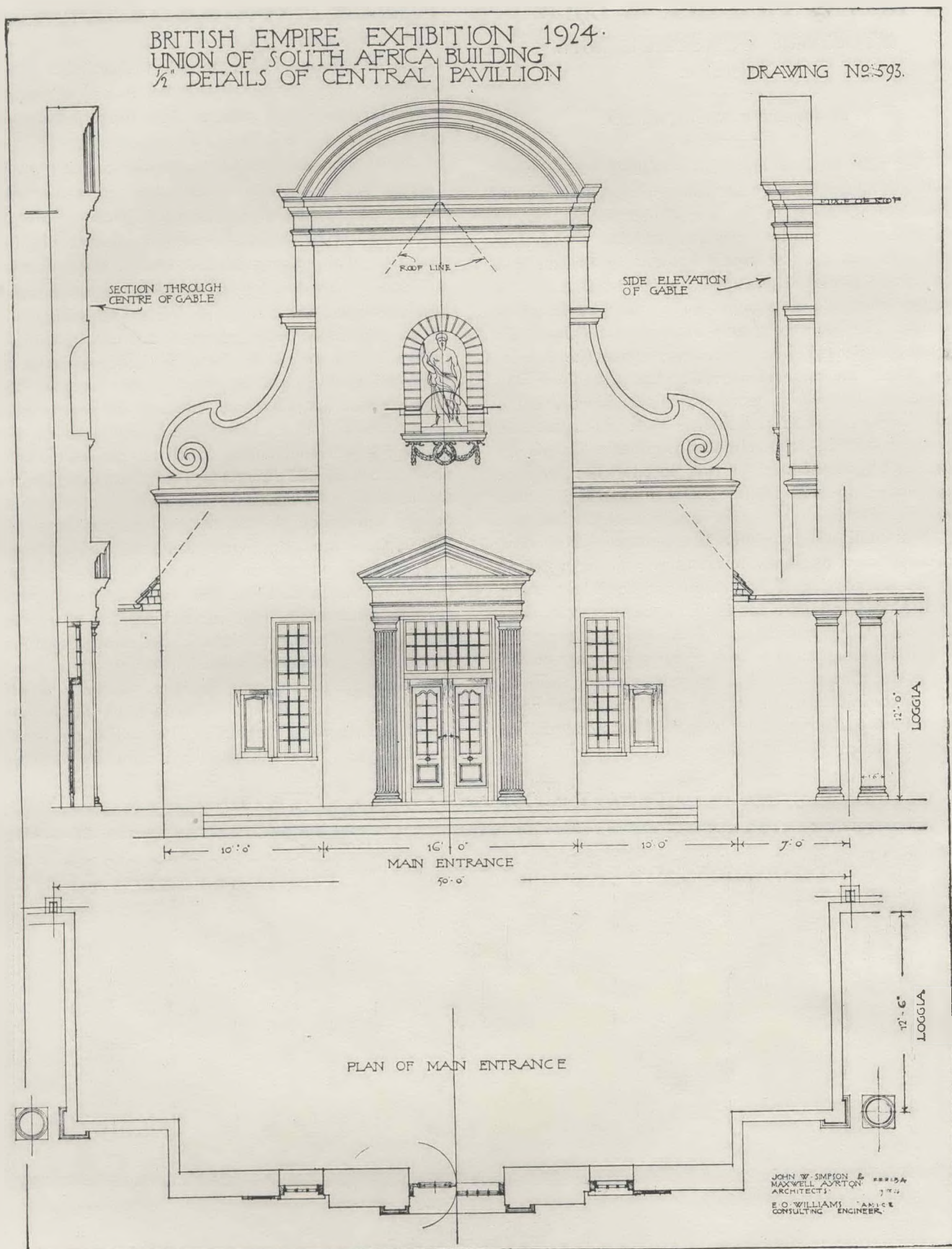
H. C. TULLY. Third Year Work.



C. W. KELLY. Third Year Work.



G. A. GUNDERSON, Fourth Year Work.



A DETAIL OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PAVILION AT WEMBLEY EXHIBITION.

Simpson & Ayrton, P.P. & F.R.I.B.A., Architects.

RECENT PRACTICE IN COLD STORAGE CONSTRUCTION.

ARTICLE II.

By EDWARD H. WAUGH, A.R.I.B.A.

In the first article we sketched the general methods adopted, and concluded by pointing out the effects of moisture in the air of cold storage rooms and referred to the impurities it contains.

At this stage it would be well to explain that the term "direct expansion" employed in the text implies that the ammonia gas is brought in pipes through the storage chamber, viz., the pipes are brought "direct" into the room; hence the expression used. In some countries it has often been the custom to take the ammonia expansion pipes through brine, which, on being chilled, is then taken into the storage rooms in brine circulating pipes. This is an "indirect" method. In this country the "direct expansion" method is practically universal in some form or other.

We shall now consider the phenomena of heat exchange from one body to another. In the world of physics the passing of heat from one body to another is considered to take place in three ways: (1) by conduction; (2) by radiation; (3) by convection.

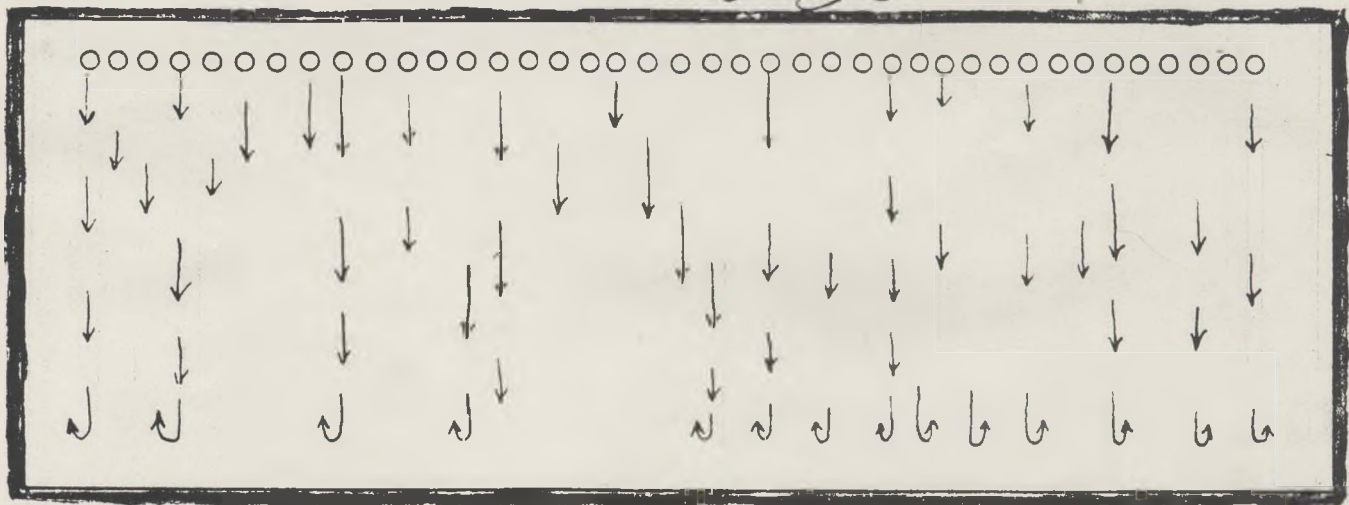
1. Conduction is a flow of heat from a warmer to a colder part of a body. As this is more rapid in some materials than in others, such are called good conductors, *e.g.*, by comparison with those conducting heat less rapidly. Where the conduction is very weak

in cold storage work the material is frequently called a good insulator.

2. Radiation is a direct transmission, as it were, by "rays"—hence the name—and through an intervening medium such as the sun's heat to the earth.

3. Convection is by the bodily moving of the heated matter such as takes place in water when heated. This movement also takes place in air, and is looked for in any fluid matter whether liquid or gaseous. This movement is of first importance in cold storage, as it is largely to this physical characteristic of air that the design is applied. This movement of air or water when heated is that the heated molecules are found to rise and the colder ones are displaced thereby and drop by greater weight. This movement is without cessation until the temperatures of all bodies in a chamber are so exchanged till they are equal. In cold storage such an absolute level is never reached, and in reality there are always movements of air. These convection movements are often called convection "currents," and although the "currents" are very gentle the term is convenient, and we shall employ it. It must be borne in mind that the material to be chilled possesses heat of some degree. The function of the refrigerator is to withdraw this heat and expel it from the storage chamber. Imagine a chamber fitted with expansion pipes in operation. Meat is hung in it at ordinary outside temperature, say, 65°F. Immediately it is hung convection currents begin. The colder air of the chamber picks up or absorbs heat from the meat and

DIRECT EXPANSION SYSTEM



SECTION

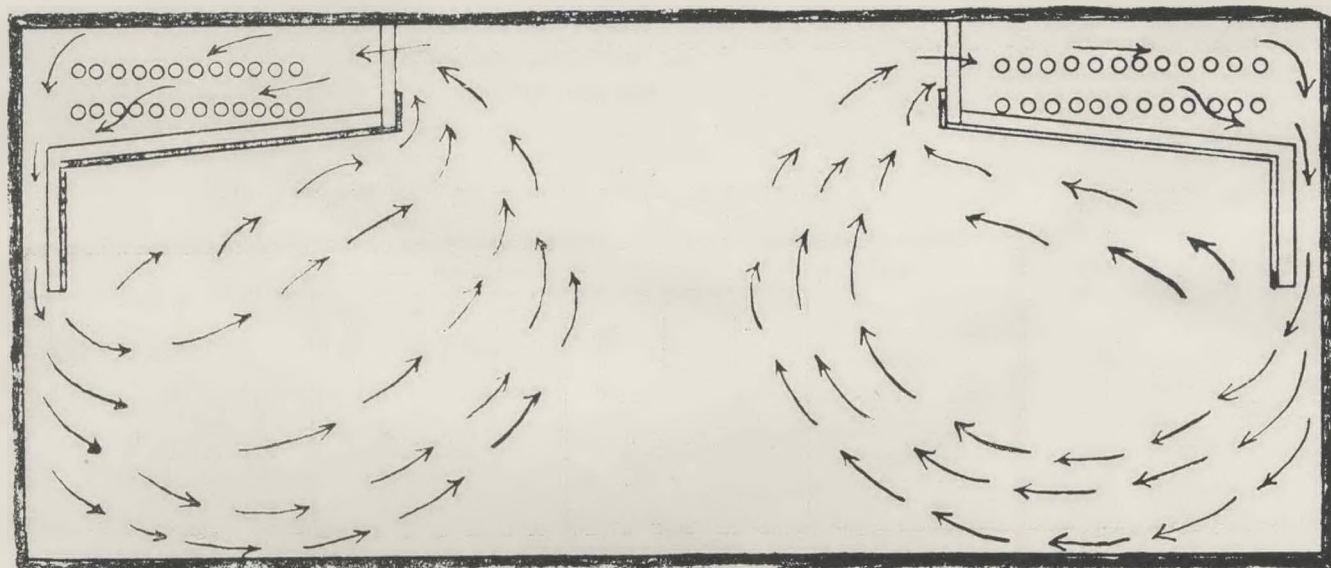
Fig 1 Air circulated by Convection and Constant Circulation is set up

rises, displacing colder air from the top of the room. It has been, and still is, frequently the practice therefore to place the expansion pipes at ceiling level, as there the heat is collected and absorbed by conduction through the iron pipe into the ammonia gas within and thence carried to the condenser past the compressor, where this surplus heat is removed by colder water, after which the gas is once more "expanded" by valves into the expansion pipes completing the cycle of operation. The convection currents in the storage chamber go on without ceasing. Fig. 1 gives a diagram illustrating the action set up and shows the expansion pipes (direct expansion) at ceiling level. As we have said, this system is much used. Its advantages are that the whole of the storage chamber is available, and the pipes are overhead and not out of the way. It is probably the least expensive to put in, as there are no fittings except the piping of the ceiling. The disadvantages are considerable. They arise largely from the moisture referred to in our first article. This moisture rises with the warmed air and is deposited as "frost" on the expansion pipes. As frost is a bad conductor the conduction of heat through it is slow and throws more work on the compressor, which means the expenditure of more fuel or power. The thicker the frost becomes the more the work and the longer the compressor has to run per diem. When this compressor stops the ammonia gas stands still and slowly ceases to function,

and the expansion pipes begin to warm up with the still rising heat from the meat or goods. Now a fresh trouble begins. The frost begins to melt and drip on the goods, bringing back at least some of the exhalations and impurities. To stop the drip, pans are placed under the pipes, but still the return of some moisture impurities to the meat surface goes on and the meat has not such a fresh appearance owing to an infinitesimal film of microscopic impurities. Further, when the frost gets too thick it has to be removed by pumping warm ammonia gas into the expansion pipes, which melts the frost adjoining the pipes on which the outer ring of frost can be knocked off in masses and removed. In this way the surplus moisture is taken out of the rooms by hand—a somewhat troublesome job.

To obviate some of the defects of this method, the design shown in Fig. 2 is sometimes adopted. The lofts cost some money and take up some space. A refined objection is also that the centre of the room does not probably get the full value of the convection currents. The drip can be properly dealt with and removed by drains outside. The frosting of the coils is still present and must be removed by the same troublesome processes as before stated. There is by this frosting a continuous loss of efficiency and of power, and while the pretty snowy pipes look very attractive to the visitor to the storage room, to the refrigerating engineer they spell nothing but lost work.

DIRECT EXPANSION IN LOFT



SECTION

Fig. 2 Pipes housed in to prevent moisture dropping on Goods.

Another method frequently used with direct expansion pipes is to fix the pipes in coils on the sides of the chambers, generally on the walls and as high up as practicable. The dripping is then not on to goods but on to the floor or drain prepared for it. The removal of the frost is less troublesome, as the pipes are more easily reached at the sides than in the ceilings. This method is not illustrated in the diagrams shown, but is easily understood from the text.

The foregoing methods have the advantage of low first cost over other methods, viz., cost of construction. They have the disadvantages of the pipes

becoming non-conductive through frost and consequent loss of efficiency and increase of mechanical work. The piping has to be of greater length than in the method subsequently described, but although the piping might cost a little more the saving on partitions, tanks and depositing appliances is on first cost considerable, and this factor too often causes the adoption of these methods in place of more scientific methods which ultimately should give better results by greater efficiency, elasticity and saving of motive power or fuel, as well as by a fresher appearance of the goods and a control of the moisture.

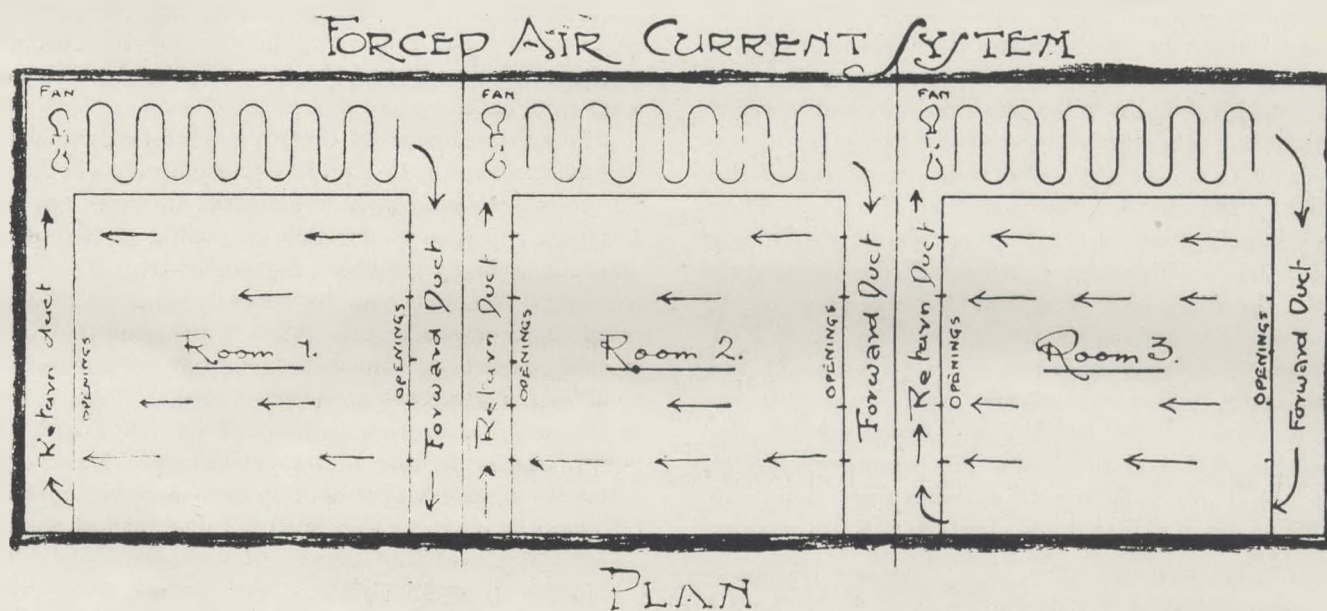


Fig 3 with a battery or stack of pipes for each room.

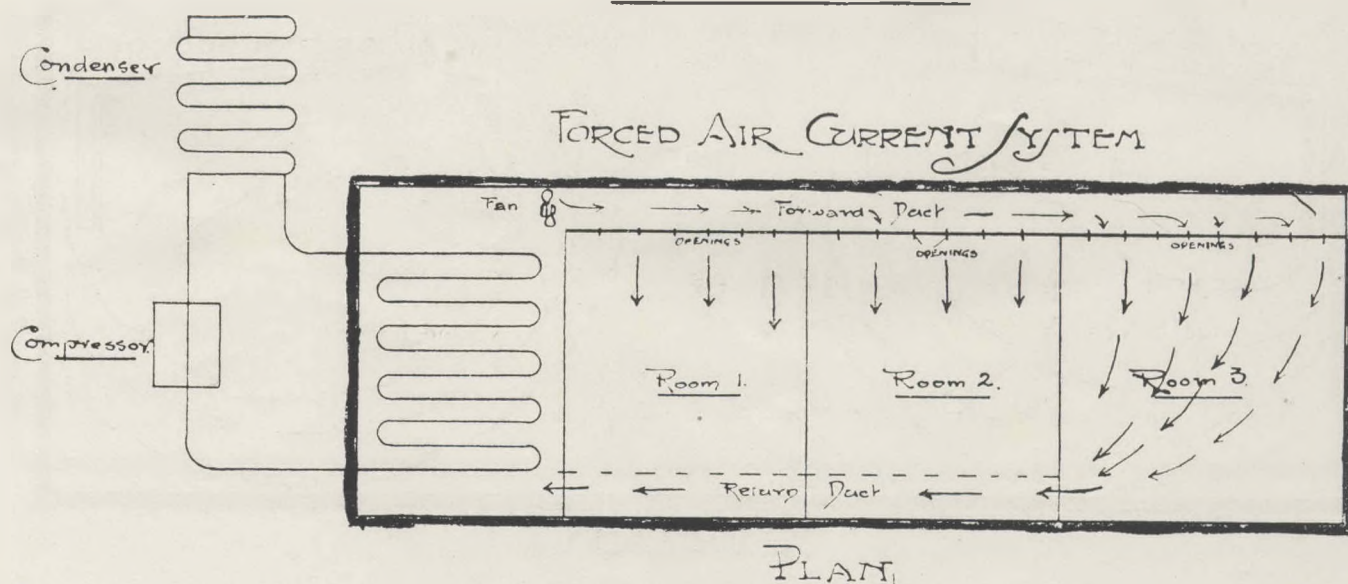


Fig 4 Forced Air Current system with a common Battery or Stack of Expansion Pipes for Two or More Rooms.

We can now pass on to a description of another, and more recent, method, viz., the air circulation system. This is illustrated by a plan, Fig. 3, and a section, Fig. 4. These two designs only differ in that one—Fig. 4—has a common stack of expansion pipes for several rooms, while Fig. 3 shows each room or chamber with its own battery or coil of piping. Essentially, the air circulation system consists of forced air draft by means of multi-blade fans of the type usually employed for ventilating small apartments. The expansion pipes are placed in a chamber adjoining the storage rooms and generally occupying a space along one side or end of the latter. The piping is arranged on a close system of stacks so that there may be about thirty-two coils in the height of the stack about seven to eight feet in height. There are two stacks parallel and about two feet apart, and between these the fan blows the air which is deflected on to the expansion pipe coils by upright baffle plates. After delivering the heat it has drawn from the room on to these pipes, the now freshly chilled air is pushed on through a duct to discharge at a high point along one side of the room. At its now coldest temperature, it is forced across the room, tending to drop towards the floor, and in doing so absorbing heat from the stored goods. On thus acquiring heat it is drawn through apertures on the far side of the chamber into the return duct shown, and so on back to the fan, and in due course once more delivering its temperature to the expansion pipes. The expansion pipes, as in the natural convection "direct expansion" systems, will frost up very quickly, but being out of the chamber itself any drip will not fall on the goods. This system, however, has the advantage of making it easy to provide a system of defrosting pipes, and even more than that in keeping them quite clear of frost altogether, the mechanical, physical and economical advantage of which is very great. This system of keeping the iron of the pipes quite naked of frost will be described in the next article.

(To be continued.)

THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF QUANTITY SURVEYORS.

Fourth Quarterly Report of the Council.

Since the issue of the third quarterly report, two meetings have been held, one in Johannesburg and one in Pretoria.

Another Council meeting will take place before the end of the year, as the Council have several important matters in hand, but the meeting will be too late for publication in this journal and will be recorded in the Council's report for the year.

Mr. A. W. Springthorpe duly accepted the vacancy on the Council, caused by Mr. Turner's resignation, and was cordially welcomed at the first meeting of the quarter.

A considerable amount of correspondence has taken place with the Transvaal Association of Architects, in regard to the direct appointment of Quantity Surveyors for certain work, and it is hoped to place this matter before the Annual General Meeting of members for their consideration.

The Council have received a list of proposed revisions to the Union Architects Act, but, inasmuch as copies of the Act are being reprinted with the proposed revisions embodied therein, the Council have left the matter over until the revised edition is received, and will then prepare a report for submission to members.

The Council are also in communication with the Government in regard to the employment of practising Quantity Surveyors for work which the existing staff are unable to cope with, in preference to engaging further assistance on a temporary basis.

The Council are still waiting for The Master Builders' Federation to make an appointment to hold a joint meeting with a view to revising certain items in the Standard System.

It is necessarily a rather long business for the Federation to receive and tabulate the points raised by the various associations, and, doubtless, this is the explanation of the delay.

The President received a letter from London from Mr. N. T. Cowin, stating that he had, as instructed by the Council, interviewed a sub-committee of the Surveyors Institution of Great Britain, with regard to the proposed affiliation, and reported the proposal had been favourably received by the Committee. The Secretary has written Mr. Cowin, expressing the Council's appreciation of his services.

At the last Council meeting, the Institute's financial position came up for consideration. The Council are pleased to state that apparently there will only be a small deficit this year after paying all outgoings and replacing the sum drawn from the Educational Fund. It is hoped that this deficit will be made up by voluntary contributions from members.

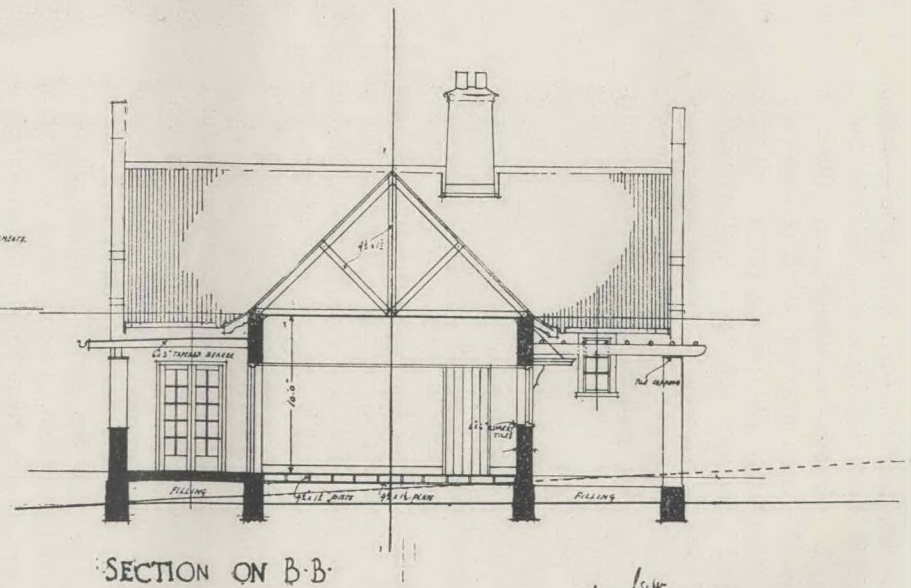
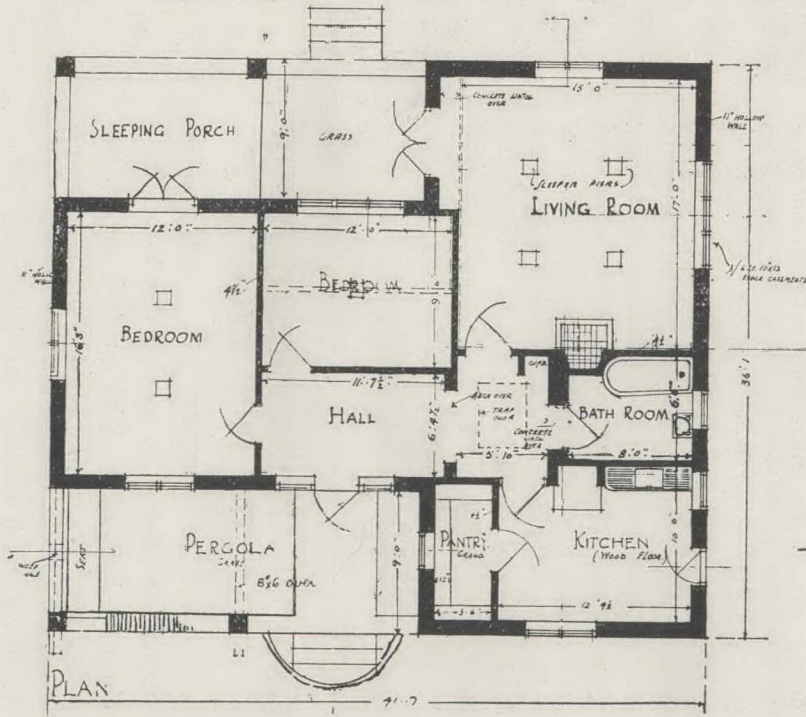
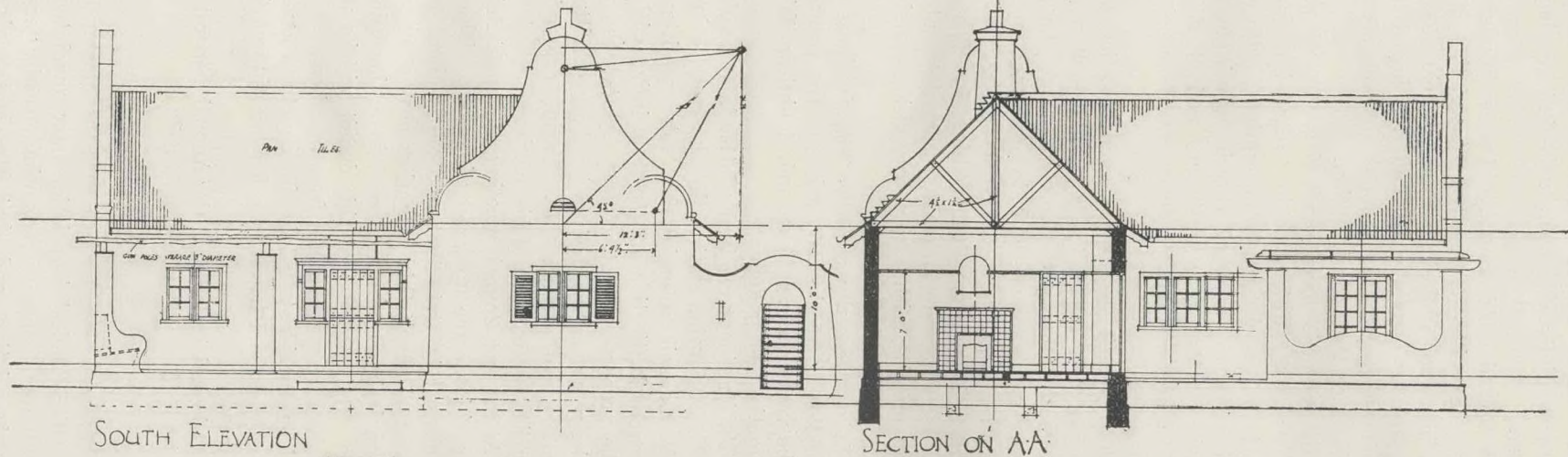
The President will be in Capetown at the end of the year, and hopes to call a meeting of the Cape members.

It is anticipated that the Annual General Meeting will be held early in February next.

We have been advised that the Master Builders' and Allied Trades' Association have appointed Mr. T. S. McLaren, honorary consulting electrical engineer to their Association, and that Mr. McLaren's services are available for the purpose of drawing up electrical specifications, etc.

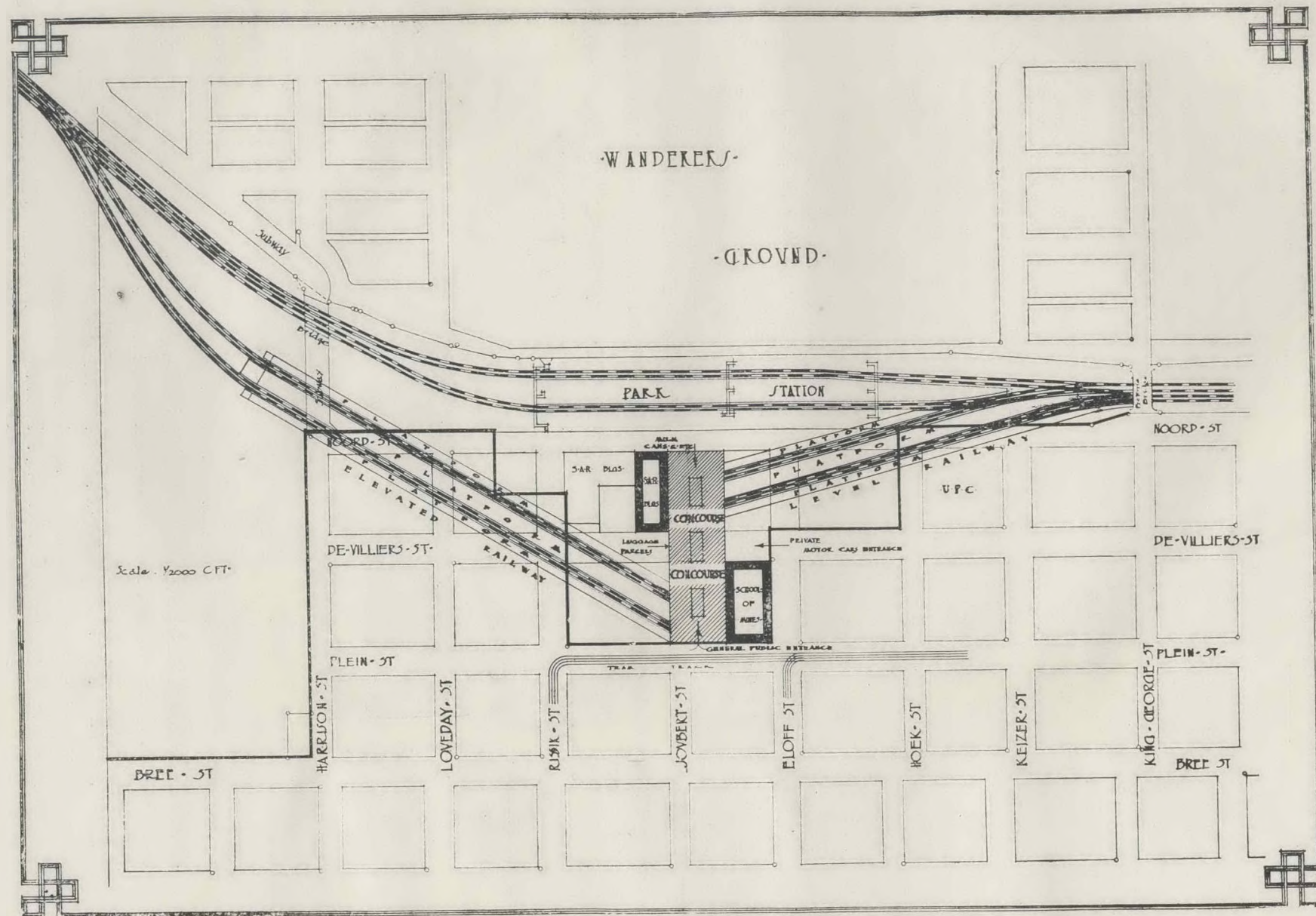
HOUSE AT PARKVIEW FOR EDGAR FEARNHED ESQ

WORKING DRAWING SCALE $\frac{1}{4}$ INCH TO ONE FOOT



Handwritten notes:
 ARCHT. 9/11/21.
 FOX STREET JOHANNESBURG
 Revised 10/1/21. S.C.

PROPOSED SCHEME FOR A TERMINAL RAILWAY STATION AT JOHANNESBURG.



ROBERT HOWDEN, F.S.Arch., A.R.V.I.A.

RAILWAY STATION, JOHANNESBURG

By R. HOWDEN, F.S. Arch., A.R.V.I.A.

The question of a new railway station for Johannesburg is to some extent bound up with the question of city improvements generally, but at the same time, when one investigates the matter one finds that the numerous schemes, mostly of a very extravagant nature, that have been put forward have been based on the assumption that it is impossible and impracticable to obtain a terminal station on the existing site of the railway property.

The scheme submitted is for the purpose of showing that it is possible and practicable to obtain a satisfactory terminal station on the existing site, with very little expropriation of property outside that at present owned by the Railway Administration.

It is fair to assume at the outset that the property owned by the railways, as shown by the thick line, is as central a position as could be wished for, particularly when the concourse, as shown in Plein Street, brings the station two streets nearer to the centre of the town than it is at present.

One of the main advantages of the scheme is that it still leaves Rissik Street a through street under the elevated railway, which could be continued under the existing lines to the northern suburbs if such a reconstruction of that part of the town were favoured.

By erecting a large centrally situated concourse in the position shown, it would have the distinct advantage of utilising, firstly, the existing through lines for goods traffic, and secondly, the up-to-date buildings, viz., the Noord and Joubert Street Railway Offices and the late School of Mines Building, Eloff Street, both of which, with very little reconstruction on the ground floor would make excellent waiting, retiring and refreshment rooms, etc., all opening direct on to the concourse, while the upper floors remain as offices for Railway Administration.

The position further lends itself to the particular requirements of a terminal station in that it has so many separate entrances and exits. The public would enter direct from Plein Street, passengers' luggage, parcels, etc., from De Villiers Street West, private motor cars from De Villiers Street East, in Eloff Street, and Noord Street would be used for the proverbial milk cans, etc., while pedestrians would have access to each and all the above mentioned entrances and exits.

Regarding the question of through suburban traffic, this seems a misnomer; a very small percentage of people go through from Springs direction to Randfontein direction, and *vice versa*; the trains are practically empty when arriving at Johannesburg from east or west, and refill with new passengers from Johannesburg; in any case, a person from Randfontein going to Pretoria or Benoni must change trains,

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and the small percentage of people going through are no worse off than any other terminal station. On these lines, therefore, the existing through lines would be used entirely for goods traffic, shunting, etc. It will be observed, then, that the whole of the railway traffic generally looked upon as obnoxious to passenger traffic, is relegated to the background, the passenger entering the large concourse from Plein Street passes to the respective platforms on east and west direct.

The main concourse entrance from Plein Street, also the bridge over Rissik Street, and the screen wall at the end of Eloff Street naturally require to be architecturally treated, and if so, no disfigurement would occur to mar that portion of the town which otherwise lends itself so satisfactorily to the solution of this burning question.

The concourse at first sight seems large, but with suburban booking offices, bookstalls, etc., etc., situated as islands down the centre of same, the remaining space would not be more than is required for the purpose of a terminal station for the future City of Johannesburg.

Regarding the levels, the railways running east are linked up at King George Street Bridge, practically on the same level as the existing lines, while those running west are elevated. This elevation being obtained by the natural fall of the ground from Eloff to Rissik Street, which is ten feet, and the height of

the ground floor of the School of Mines being five feet, makes fifteen feet in all, allowing for the tracks being lower than the platform or concourse, leaves a clear twelve feet under the bridge over Rissik Street from the road level.

The space under the platforms between Rissik Street and the concourse could be conveniently used for railway storage, cab and taxi ranks, etc., while private motor cars could be parked in Eloff Street.

The cost of such a scheme would be small as compared with any scheme yet proposed, firstly, on account of the very small expropriation necessary, and that chiefly of property of little value; and secondly, because it utilises the existing property and buildings belonging to the Railway Administration, and at the same time meets the demands for a centrally situated terminal station.

The Provincial Grand Lodge (I.C.) have erected in the Plein Street Temple, Johannesburg, a War Memorial to the Fallen. The Memorial is in the form of a marble tablet executed in cast bronze, with the names of the Fallen cast in, surmounted by the Coat of Arms of the Constitution, executed in Champveuve enamels, in true Heraldic colours, the whole mounted on a dove-coloured marble mount. The Memorial was manufactured by the Birmingham Guild, Ltd., to the design of Mr. W. Tait Connor, A.R.I.B.A.

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It is satisfactory to note the enthusiasm being shown in Pretoria. Messrs. Lockwood Hall, C. C. Deuchar, and Alex Pease have conducted classes at the Pretoria Trades School. The thanks of the profession are due to Mr. C. J. Reindorp, the Principal, for providing the necessary facilities for these classes. At present the students are taking the examinations of this University, but can only obtain certificates, which are accepted for registration under the Architects' Act in the Transvaal.

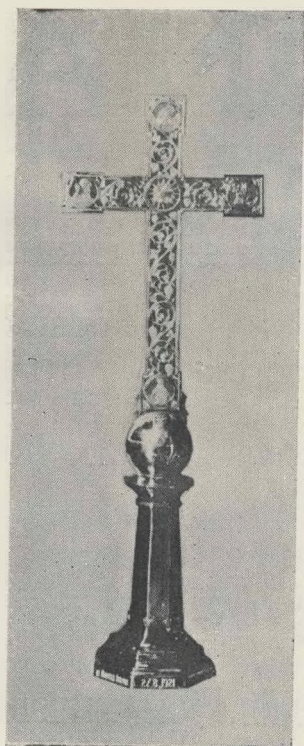
It is hoped to arrange for closer co-operation whereby the Pretoria students can be examined in Johannesburg and receive the University Diploma.

In this issue are published a few drawings by students, representative of the work of the school. Later, it is hoped, the drawings sent to England for exhibition purposes, will be published.

Mr. W. H. Stucke and Mr. N. T. Cowin have returned to Johannesburg from their European trips.

Mr. J. Lockwood Hall of the Public Works Department, Pretoria, has been elected to a seat on the Council of the Association, *vice* Mr. H. G. Veale, resigned.

An examination to qualify for Associateship of the Royal Institute of British Architects is to be conducted at Pretoria during the month of December. It is understood that six candidates will present themselves.



MEMORIAL CROSS AT ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH, YEOVILLE.

This fine piece of craftsmanship was executed in Johannesburg by Mr. G. Ness. The work of the upper portion is entirely carved in brass, the lower portion being cast. The design is by Professor G. E. Pearse.

DESIGN COMPETITION.

The Council of the Association are desirous of obtaining a suitable design for the outside front cover of this Journal, for which purpose an offer of £5 5s. is made for the most suitable design submitted. All designs are to be executed in detail in Indian ink on Bristol board to the exact size of the front page of this Journal.

Competitors are asked to bear in mind the new title of this publication, namely, *The South African Architectural Record*, which must form a prominent feature of the design.

Submitted designs will be assessed by the Editor and Members of the Journal Committee, whose decision will be final. The Council does not, however, bind itself to adopt the premiated or any other submitted design. All designs are to be delivered to the Registrar, 67, Exploration Building, Johannesburg, on or before the 1st February, 1925.

The competition for the Permanent Parliament House, for the Federal Capital of Canberra was indefinitely postponed in 1916. Shortly afterwards the Australian Government, in response to numerous letters from competitors complaining of the breach of faith in postponing the competition, while not admitting any liability, determined, as an act of grace, to set aside the sum of £3,000, being half the total amount of the premiums payable under the conditions of competition, for allotment amongst the registered competitors who had performed work in the preparation of designs.

All the 215 registered competitors were invited to submit the work done; 78 submitted work in various stages ranging from mere indications that study of the subject had been commenced to sets of drawings practically completed.

The Government thereupon appointed a Board of three members to ascertain the value of the work carried out by competitors and make an award.

The report of the Board has just come to hand and with it a list of the awards made. The compensation moneys paid, were on a scale of from £10 to £100. Amongst the recipients we notice the names of Hawke and McKinlay, Cowin, Powers and Ellis, Phillip E. Treeby, William Lucas, H. A. Drury and Gerard Moerdijk.

It is a matter of gratification to be able to record that the Australian Government recognized its moral obligations in so tangible a manner.

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