

THE
JOURNAL
ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL
INSTITUTE OF CANADA



Vol. XIII, No. 10

OCTOBER, 1936

TORONTO



CORRECT

FROM COAST TO COAST



CALIFORNIA

Alameda County Court House, Oakland. Will G. Corlett, Henry A. Minton, James W. Plachek, Wm. E. Schirmer, and Carl Werner, architects. G. M. Simonsen, consulting engineer. Alta Electric & Mechanical Company, heating contractors; Ace Sheet Metal Works, ventilating contractors; San Francisco.

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Municipal Auditorium, Kansas City. Gentry, Voskamp & Neville; Hoyt, Price & Barnes, architects. W. L. Cassell, consulting engineer. U. S. Engineering Company, heating and ventilating contractors.

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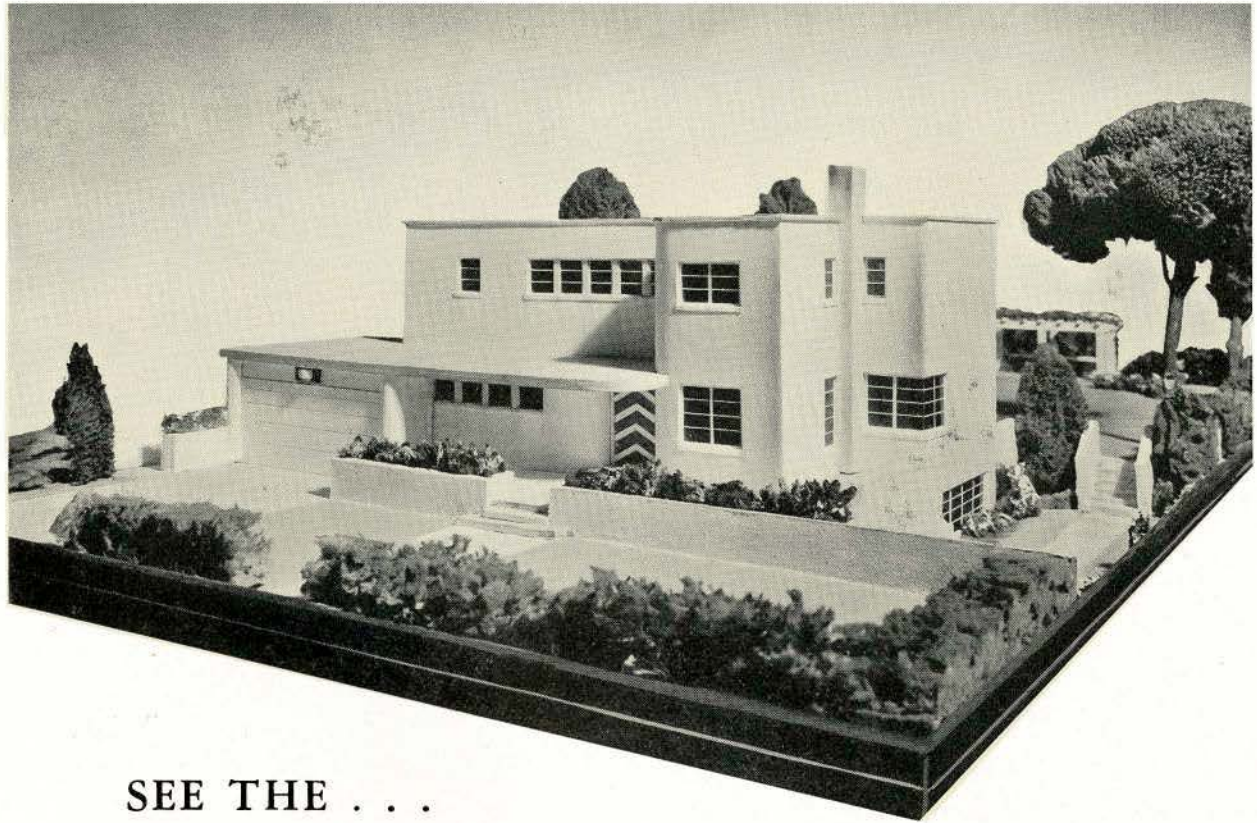
U. S. Supreme Court Building. Photograph used by permission of Mr. Cass Gilbert, Jr., architect. Carrier Engineering Company, air conditioning contractors.

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UPPER RIGHT: Arena, Amprior, Ont.

CENTRE: St. Jacques le Mineur Church, Montreal, Que.

LOWER LEFT: Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto, Ont.

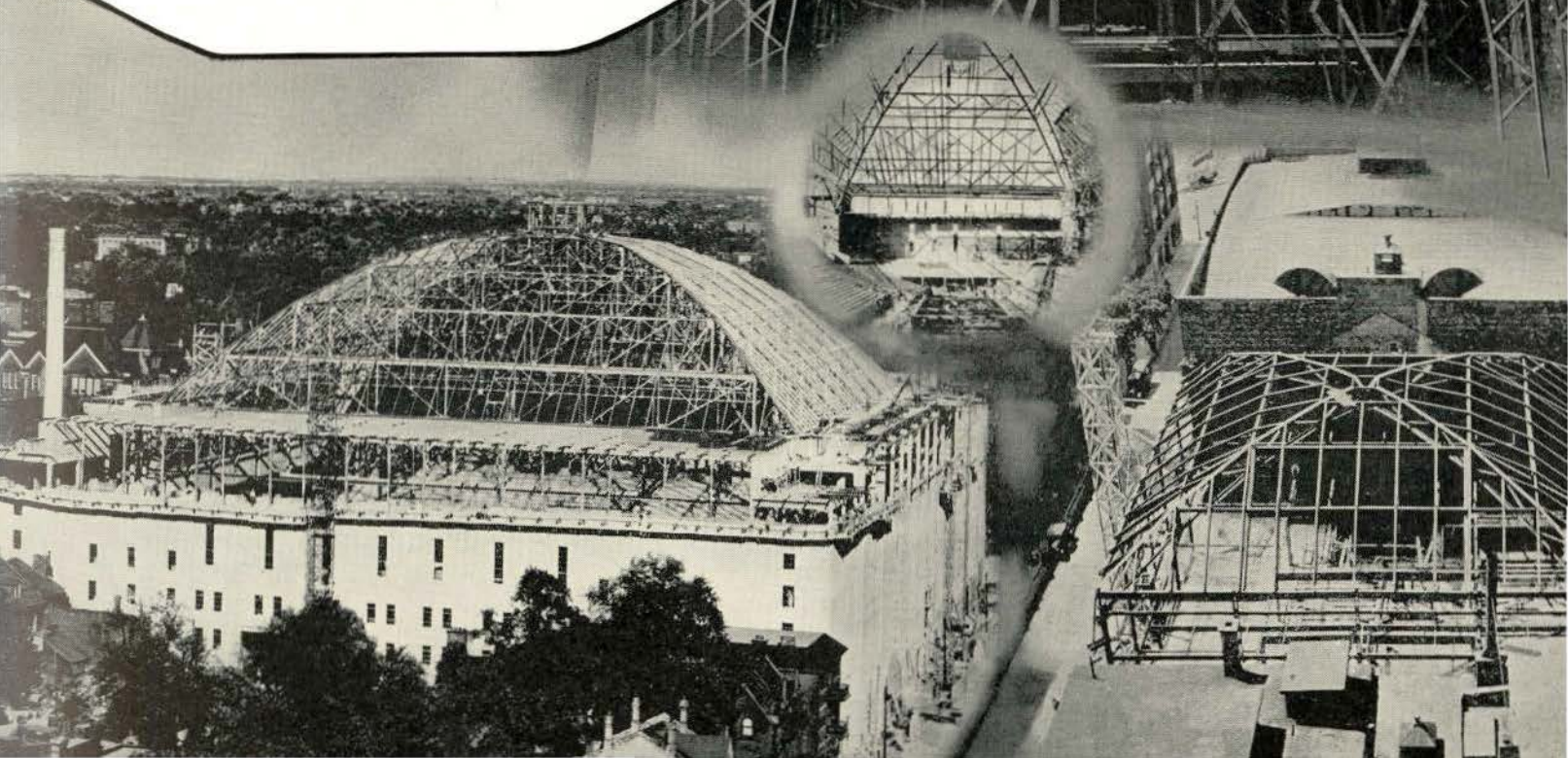
INSERT: Roof Construction, Maple Leaf Gardens.

LOWER RIGHT: Victoria Rifles of Canada, Armoury, Montreal, Que.

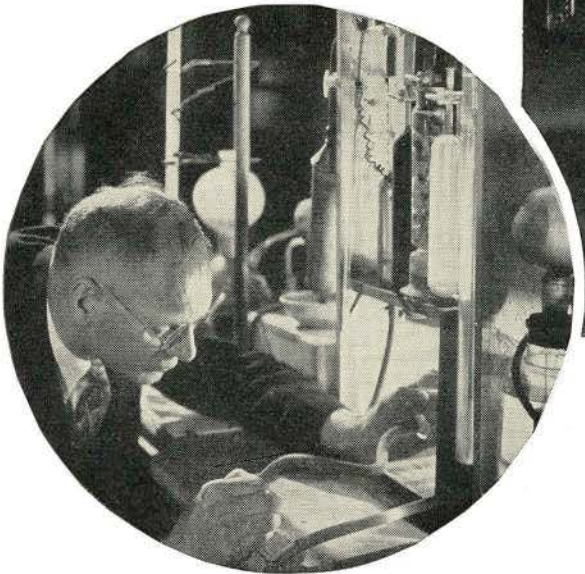
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THE JOURNAL

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

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THE CHURCH OF ST. ETIENNE DE BEAUMONT QUEBEC

RAMSAY TRAQUAIR, M.A. (Hon.), F.R.I.B.A. AND G. A. NEILSON

HISTORY

THE seigneurie of Beaumont is situated on the south bank of the St. Lawrence River about fifteen miles below Quebec. The district was settled at an early date but it was not until the end of the XVII century that a parish was formed and a church built for the inhabitants.

On the 2nd of December, 1693, Louis Marchand of Quebec gave two arpents of land for the erection of a church and presbytery.¹ Here in 1694 the first church was built, of wood, and here, upon the same site, the existing church was built between 1727 and 1734.

¹J. E. Roy. Bulletin des Recherches Historiques. Vol. I, 1895, p. 130.

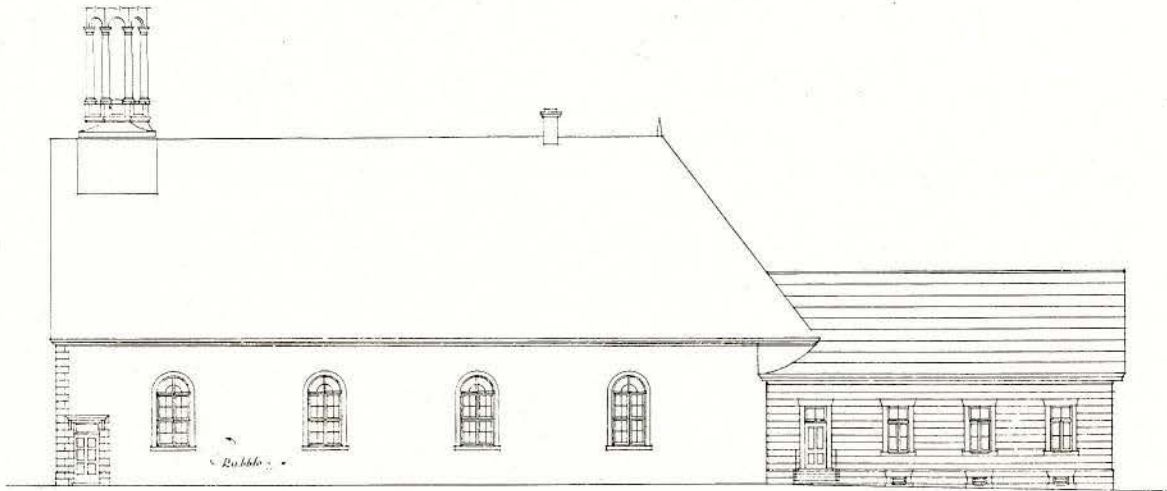
The existing accounts of the parish begin in 1694. They contain no mention of expenses incurred in the building of the first church, only in 1699 and 1700 two payments of six francs were made to Jean Adam for repairs to the altar.¹ In October, 1700, a payment of 83 li. was made to M. Boutville for the roofing of the church and the presbytery and the accounts contain further items for shingles and nails.² In 1705 Jean Adam received 40 francs for making a seat for the churchwardens and a confessional³ and it is evident that the first church was by this time fairly complete.

¹Livre de Comptes de Beaumont. Vol. I, dep. 1699-1700.

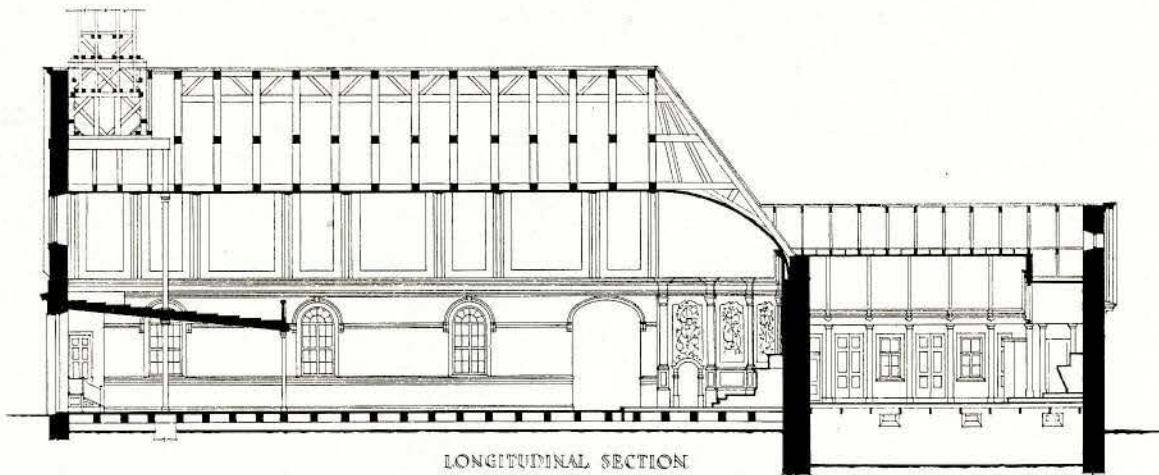
²L. de C. dep. 1700, notes.

³L. de C. dep. 1705.

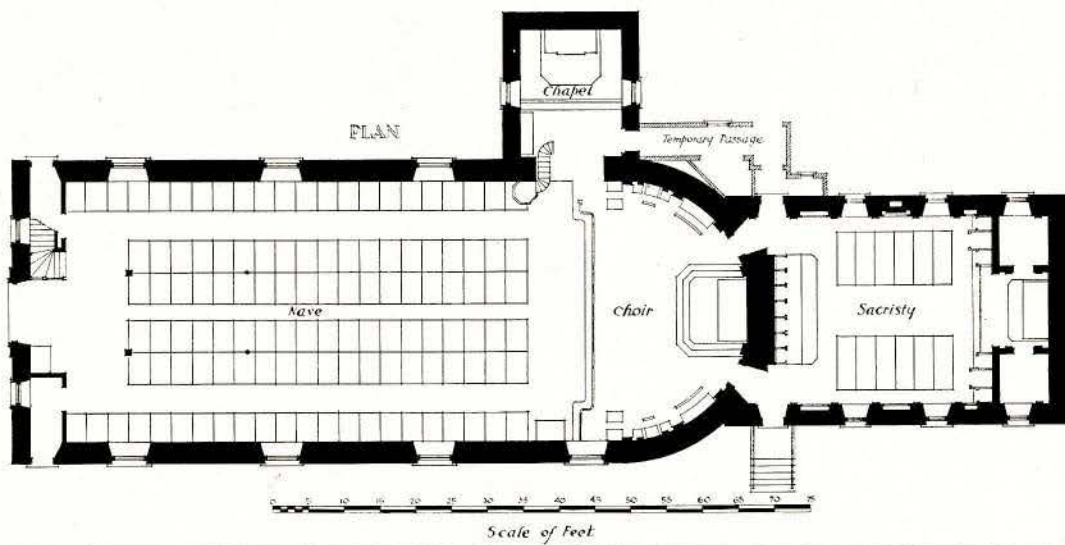
THE CHURCH OF ST. ETIENNE AT BEAUMONT, QUE.



SOUTH ELEVATION



LONGITUDINAL SECTION



Meanwhile the church was acquiring the necessary sacred vessels. In 1705 a silver ciborium was purchased for 100 li., in 1706 a silver monstrance for 40 li., a censer for 11 li. 10s and an Easter candlestick for 3 li., the last probably of wood. In 1712 a mass was celebrated for "Maranda qui a donné à l'Eglise un Crucifix et deux chandeliers".¹

The accounts for 1716 contain a number of items for repairs. M. Mercier received 72 li. for ironwork to doors and presses, René Adam and Joseph la Casse 72 li. for woodwork in the sacristy and Zacharie Turgeon 48 li. for work and wood on the gable of the church. In 1718 Joseph la Casse received 40 li. for a pulpit, and shingled the sacristy at a cost of 11 li.

In an ordinance, dated the 8th of July, 1715, the Intendant, Michel Begon, orders "That the land of the late Jean Cecille, habitant of Beaumont, should be sold at public auction and, once the debts and legacies of the said Cecille are paid, the balance of the money should be used to buy a tabernacle for the church of Beaumont, as stated in the said Cecille's Will.² The old tabernacle was sold to Camourasca in 1719 for 250 li. and the accounts contain a number of minor expenses incurred in fitting up the new one.³

On the 19th of May, 1721, the Intendant issued an ordinance ordering the people of Beaumont to build a stone church, "as the present wooden one is almost in ruins". The church was begun in July, 1726, according to the heading of a list of expenses for materials in the Livre de Comptes and, at the beginning of the accounts for 1727, is the following note:

"L'Eglise de la dt paroisse de St. Etienne s'Etant bati Cette presente année Il est impossible derendre un Compte bien Exact D'autant que c'est un detail quelque Infiny. On fera Le Compte de la depense aussy Juste que faire Le pourra mais pour La recepte comme on fait des quetes Et qu'on recoit bien des petits articles qu'on oublie Il Est difficile d'en faire un Etat."

The churchwardens were clearly in difficulties with their accounts; contributions were being made in materials, or in labour, and it was beyond their abilities to keep track of everything. Thus, at the end of the expenses of 1733, the book contains a copy of an act between Zacharie Turgeon and Le Fabrique, giving Turgeon a right to a seat, and 6 masses, in the new church in return for his having given the wood for the roof.

In 1727, 44 livres were paid for lime and 58 livres for cut stone. The masons were Jean Maillou of Beauport and Jean-Baptiste Nado, the carpenter was Augustin Couture, René Duprat furnished the cut stone.⁴

¹L. de C. dep. 1705, 1706, 1712.

²P. G. Roy. Inventaires des Ordinations des Intendants, Vol. 1, p. 151.

³L. de C. 1719, recettes, et dep.

⁴L. de C. Vol. 1, Dep. 1727 and notes.

There had been serious delays in building the new church as some of the parishioners had not brought their share of the stone. On the 5th of February 1732 Archdeacon de Lotbinière orders those who had not fulfilled their duties to do so immediately and states that the old church is in such a ruinous state that they have had to remove the tabernacle as it was being damaged by the snow.¹

In 1734 the church was roofed with "fer-blanc", and an iron cross, weighing 150 pounds, was made by Laferiere at a cost of 40 li. The vaulted ceiling and gallery were finished in 1739, and on September 1742 a bell was consecrated. It weighed 297 pounds and was named Charlotte Jean. The church had taken fifteen years to build, from 1727 to 1742.

For the next sixty years little was done in the church excepting the necessary repairs. A statue for the main door was bought from le Sieur Levasseur in 1746 for 24 li. A little altar was made in 1760 for 12 li., some silver vessels, a benitier for 6 li., chalice, ciborium, Basin and Instrument de paix in 1784 for 453 li., a confessional, new seating, and so on.

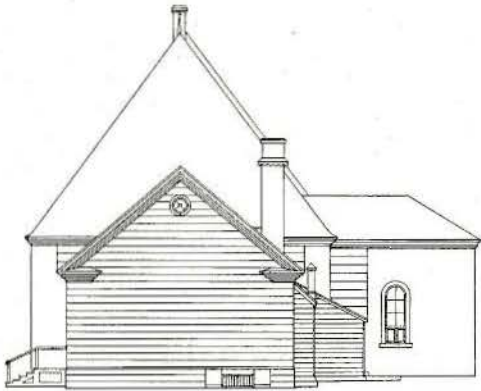
Then, in 1810, we have an item of 3379 li. 14 sols. for a renewal of the vault, in 1811 new doors and 1215 li. for a retable, in 1812 a further payment of 800 li. and, in 1813, 2000 li. paid to Etienne Bercier to account of the retable. Further payments, from 1814 onwards reckoned in pounds sterling, continue until 1816 when Bercier received £25.13.10 in final payment of his work on the retable and pulpit. From 1817 to 1820 Bercier received £70 in payment of work on the cornice; between 1810 and 1820 the interior of the church was evidently completely renewed.

This work, in the main unaltered, is still in the Church. It is an excellent example of the decorative work of the Montreal school of sculptors of the early XIX century.

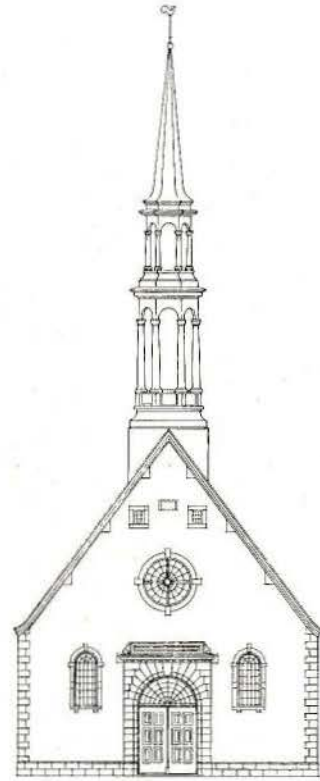
We do not know where Etienne Bercier received his training but his work is in many ways very similar to that found in a number of churches near Montreal, executed by various sculptors in the first quarter of the XIX century. This work is often connected with Louis Amable Quevillon who was the head of a firm of woodsculptors in St. Vincent de Paul from about 1795 to 1823 when he died. With him were associated Paul Rollin, Joseph Pepin and Rene St. James; the firm trained a great number of apprentices and its work is to be found in many churches throughout the province. As was natural most of their work was done near Montreal, but their names are found in the accounts of St. Laurent on the Island of Orleans in 1807,

¹L. de C. Vol. 1. Ordinance inscribed amongst the accounts of 1732.

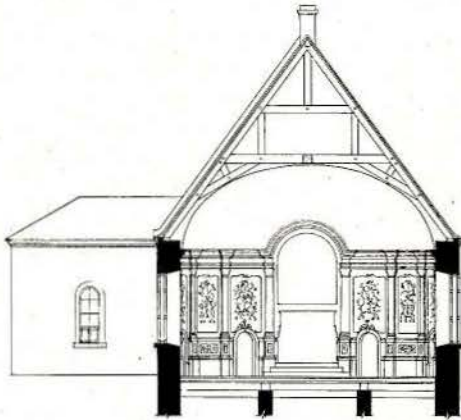
THE CHURCH OF ST. ETIENNE AT BEAUMONT, QUE.



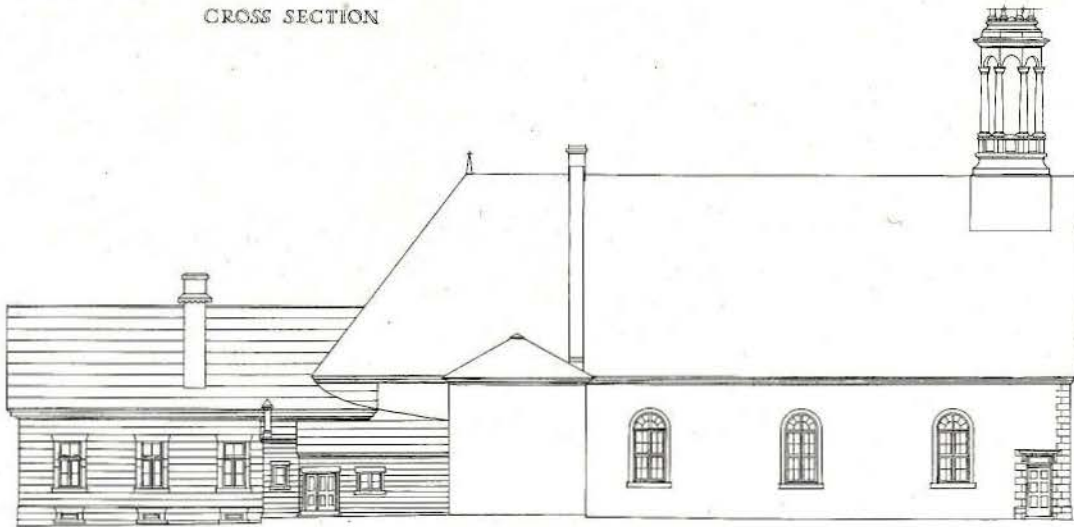
EAST ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION



CROSS SECTION



NORTH ELEVATION



St. Henri at Levis, St. Charles Bellechasse in 1806 and elsewhere.

The churches of L'Acadie, decorated by the brothers Finsterer from 1801 to 1822, Ste Jeanne Ile Perrot by Joseph Turcault from 1812 to 1819, Pointe aux Trembles, Montreal, by Urbain Brien in 1822, and Sault au Recollet, decorated by Fleury David between 1816 and 1823 show work of the same school, though of definitely individual character in each example. We do not know that any of these sculptors were pupils of Quevillon though they undoubtedly bought altar tables and furnishings from the firm. We can only assert the existence of a school of woodsculptors in the Montreal district whose work shows evidence of a common training. Of this school Quevillon, and his associates, were leading members, and to this school Etienne Bercier belongs.

Bercier was a habitant of Beaumont, he received small amounts up to 1848 for work which he did in the church and in one entry of 1847 is referred to as architect. He was one of the notables who examined and signed the accounts in 1847.

Various repairs were executed in 1826, 27 and 28 when the galleries were constructed and work done in the sacristy, but no further decorative work was done in the church.

In 1870 a new spire was added by Mr. Ferdinand Peachey, architect of Quebec. This was replaced by the present front and spire when the church was lengthened by David Ouellet, a Quebec architect, in 1895.

The existing sacristy was built in 1886. In 1894 extensive repairs were executed. The wood vault of the church was renewed and the pilasters which had flanked the nave windows were removed.

In 1932, when the bicentenary of the church was celebrated, a new pulpit and banc-d'oeuvre were installed and a few minor repairs were made to the retable.

The altarpiece, representing the martyrdom of St. Stephen, was painted by Antoine Plamondon in 1826, when the church purchased it for £25.¹

THE CHURCH

The church is a simple hall, without transepts, 94 ft. 6 in. long by 42 ft. 6 in. broad over the walls. These are of field stone, about 3 ft. thick with cut stone dressings to the windows. It terminates in a semi-circular apse, to which is attached the sacristy built in 1886. A chapel was added to the north side in 1894, communicating with the church by an arch.

The church was lengthened, about 15 ft., in 1895 when Mr. Ouellet designed the new front. This is an excellent adaptation of the traditional type and is both dignified and graceful.

¹L. de C. Vol. II, dep. de 1826.

The interest of the church naturally concentrates in the decoration of the sanctuary.

The tabernacle is in carved and gilt wood with a central crown and floriated terminals to the side bays. The central custode has on the door a paschal Lamb, and is surmounted by a high custode for the monstrance. In the crown is a statue of Our Lady with the Christ-child, and six little adoring angels. The carved decoration is somewhat formal, with acanthus foliage, broken scrolls, oval medallions and rococco shells. The whole is in very good preservation.

The character of the work is that which we associate with the Levasseurs of the first half of the XVIII century.

The accounts of the church contain an order by the bishop in 1848 to have the tabernacle repaired and alterations made so as to allow the large monstrance to be placed in the custode, and to allow of candlesticks "de grandeur convenable a la grandeur de l'autel" being placed on the first grade. Later items show that these instructions were carried out, but otherwise there is no mention of a tabernacle until we reach the legacy left by Jean Cecille in 1715, for the purpose of buying one.

There can be little doubt that the present tabernacle is that given by Cecille to the old wooden church. The old tabernacle was sold to Camourasca in 1719 and this one must have been purchased in the same year. The accounts for that year contain a number of items for gold leaf for the "grande Custode" and for a "Voile dindienne", a muslin veil, to cover the tabernacle at a cost of 160 li.

The present altar table is modern but, in the boundary chapel is a very fine altar table with interlacing vine foliage which was probably made by Bercier when he was working on the retable. The general form is that of the Quevillon tables, but the decoration is very individual, of a type similar to that in the panels of the retable.

A small altar-table, of typical Quevillon form, has been incorporated into the front of the new Banc-d'oeuvre. It was probably originally purchased from Quevillon, for use as a side altar.

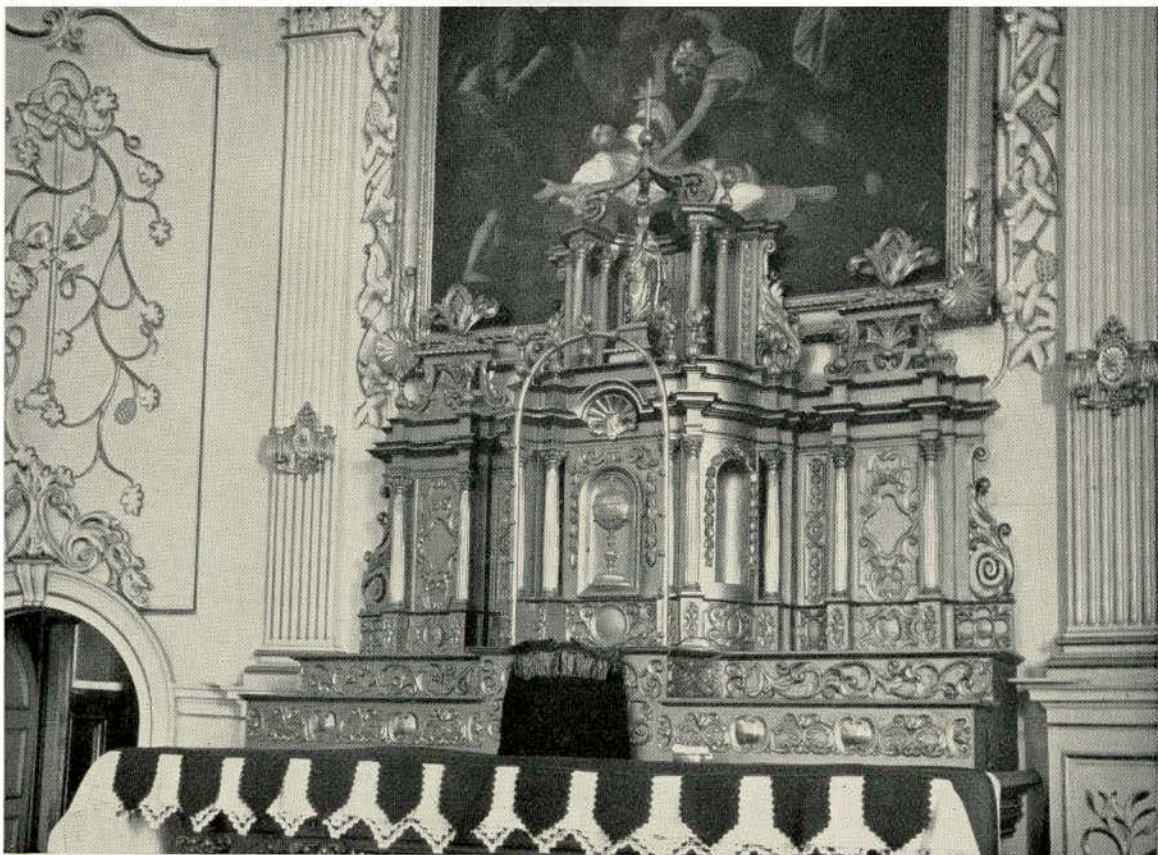
The retable has a large central arched bay, containing the altar-picture and surmounted by a semicircular arch with cresting of cornucopiae from which issue tangled branches of vine foliage.

On each side of this are three bays separated by corinthian pilasters on pedestals. In each bay is a single large panel with a curving top and filled with vine foliage and emblems. The stems, intertwining in loose curves are the principal feature, the leaves only add interest to what is essentially an interlace decoration.

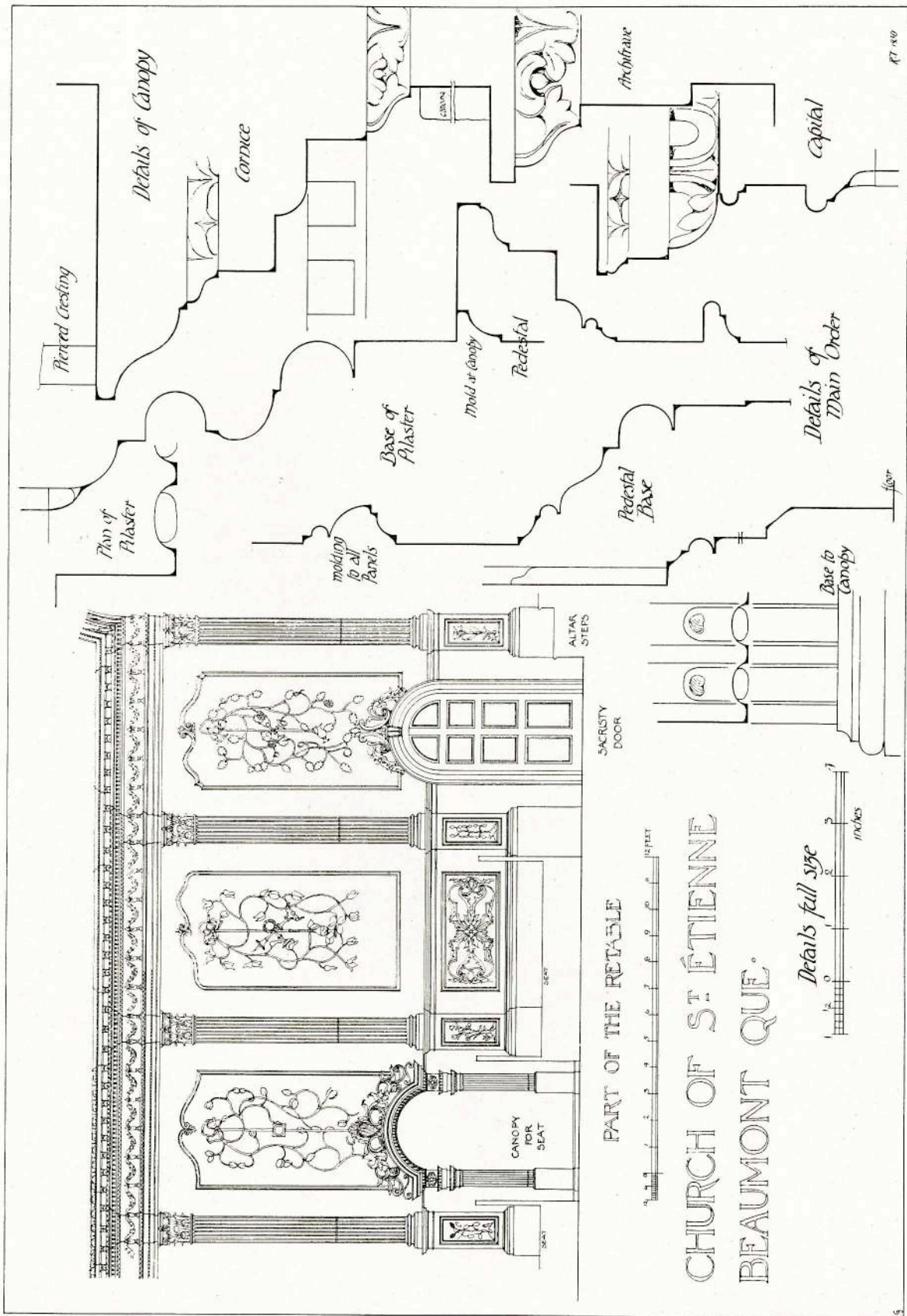
Stem decoration of this type is to be found in the Church at Sault-au-Recollet, in Ste. Jeanne on



THE INTERIOR LOOKING TOWARD THE HIGH ALTAR



THE TABERNACLE OF THE HIGH ALTAR



PART OF THE RETABLO

CHURCH OF ST. ÉTIENNE
BEAUMONT QUE.

Details full size



Ile Perrot and in many of the Quevillon altars.

In the two outer bays are arched canopies for seats surmounted by thin carved crestings.

The cornice is decorated with swags hung from vases, the vault is covered by small square panels.

The whole decoration is thoroughly "Montreal" in type. Specific characteristics are the small coffers in the vault, the frieze decoration of swags, the Louis XV type of panel-heads, the cornucopias over the central arch and the stem foliage.

Yet, of course, the work is not a copy of any Montreal work, nor can it be called with any strictness "Louis XV". It is an extremely individual design of the Montreal tradition.

The Sanctuary lamp was brought from France in 1744. The accounts contain an item of 25 li. paid to a Mr. Parent for freight from La Rochelle

to Quebec. 300 li. on account of a bill of 520 li. was sent in a draft to Mr. Larcher of Paris in payment in the same year. It is a very fine piece, and unmarked.

The church also possesses a good ciborium of early XVIII century type. The mark is worn but seems to be D.G. and a rose, with the crown, fleur and grains. A ciborium was purchased in 1782, which may be this one. Amongst the other silver vessels is a fine chalice by François Renvoyzé, a benitier by Laurent Amyot of Quebec, probably that bought on the bishop's recommendation in 1817 and a small "sauce-boat" by François Sasseville.

St. Etienne of Beaumont is a typical small parish church of the province. It has always been well cared for, it stands on a magnificent site overlooking the river, a memorial to the skill and artistic abilities of the French Canadian craftsmen.

PAVILION OF THE MANUFACTURES CERAMIQUES d'HEMIXEM AT THE BRUSSELS EXHIBITION

Exhibitions such as the "Century of Progress" and the Brussels International of 1935 are invariably of interest to our profession. The design problems involved in such work differ materially from the more restricted ones governing buildings destined for permanent occupation. Encouragement is given to the use of new materials, new methods of construction and the desire is to not only show the up-to-date present but to go beyond this point and indicate the future. With such encouragement much significant work has been done and the trend of design and construction noticeably influenced.

Architecturally speaking the aesthetic weakness or strength of recent exhibitions lies in the domination of stucco as the material used. It is true that its evolution must be continued to finality, and equally true it lacks in beauty and dignity the merits of stone, marble, brick and certain other ceramic materials.

In the Brussels exhibition the pavilion of the Manufactures Ceramiques d'Hemixem, was to me the most refreshing, satisfying and stimulating of the buildings. Evidently permanent, its structure modern in conception, modest in dimensions and evidencing the finest in quality of materials and craftsmanship, it was in every way a credit to the designer and the firm whose products were so comprehensively and competently shown. The dominating feature of the exterior is a "Pylon" the rear of which is shown in the accompanying illustration at the top of the page. The front in perspective was illustrated in the June 1936 issue of *THE JOURNAL*, its decorative feature being a much greater than life size draped figure in polychrome ceramic mosaic, variants of dull gold, silver

and metals adding a restrained richness to the helmeted figure, reminiscent of early Greek work, but modern in treatment and accessory ornamentation. The ceramic material of the exterior is mostly in squared units, black and parchment colour predominating. A horizontal planting of colourful flowers in continuous troughs or boxes added a charm of colour to the composition and emphasized the horizontal fenestration adopted.

My visit was made late in the afternoon and for that reason the information acquired does not enable me to give the name of the architect and the artists, who working evidently in close co-operation created the distinguished figure compositions and other ornament of the exterior and interior.

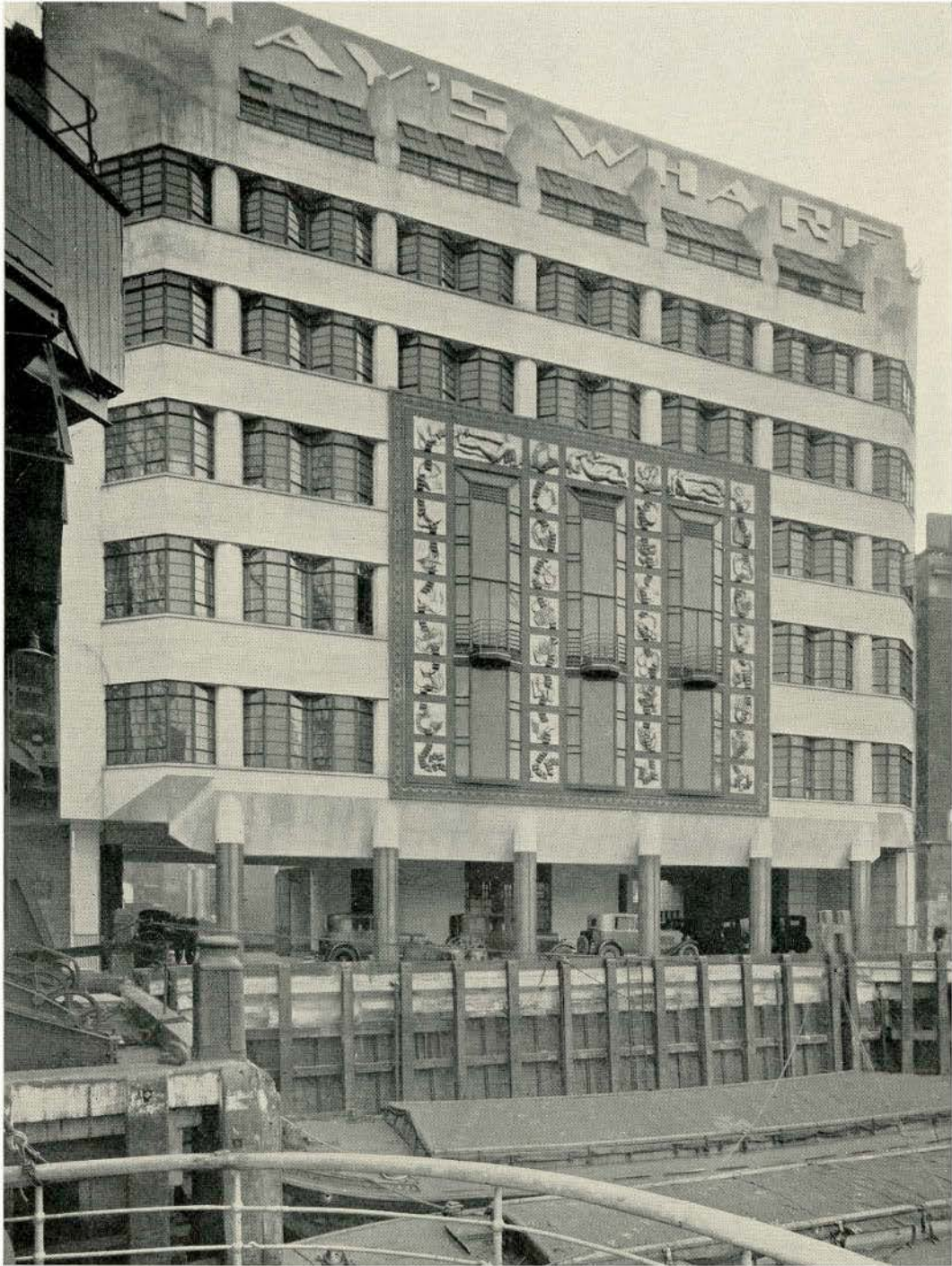
The interiors were of rooms such as one might expect, or hope to have in a well established modern house. It is perhaps too much to assume that a house with ceramic walls, decorations and floors would meet with universal approval; but, inasmuch as materials of this nature are experiencing a Renaissance, a demonstration so ably carried out in materials of intrinsic beauty and with no apparent palette limitation, other than the dictates of good taste, merits encouragement and appreciation.

The interiors in composition and detail are modern in conception and intelligently designed for the materials used. The bathroom (shown in the accompanying illustration) was a very satisfactory room and quite different in colour and general effect to work we have seen on this continent. Taken all in all the building was one of the most interesting I saw in Europe and one of the best ceramic achievements of the century.

W. S. Maxwell, F.R.A.I.C.



PAVILION OF THE MANUFACTURES CERAMIQUES d'HEMIXEM AT THE BRUSSELS EXHIBITION



HAY'S WHARF HEAD OFFICE BUILDING, LONDON, ENGLAND

H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, F.R.I.B.A., Architect

H. S. GOODHART-RENDEL

Mr. H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, who has recently been appointed to succeed Sir Raymond Unwin as the R.A.I.C. representative in London, is one of the most distinguished members among the younger group of the profession in England.

Not yet fifty years of age, Mr. Goodhart-Rendel has been for a number of years one of the most active and regular attendants at the meetings of the R.I.B.A. council. As such he has taken an important and influential part in its various departments, and has moreover served a term as chairman for both the art and literature standing committee.

In 1933-35 he was elected to the high office of vice-president of the R.I.B.A., and only recently has been appointed to the important position of director of the Architectural Association School.

At present he is busily engaged as chairman of the exhibition sub-committee, an organization that has for its object the arranging of popular architectural exhibitions. These have served a useful purpose in the wonderfully successful appeal that they have made to the public.

Mr. Goodhart-Rendel is well known as a writer and as a lecturer of distinction, and at present he holds the honoured position of Slade Professor of Fine Arts at the University of Oxford.

Two of his best known books are those entitled "Vitruvian Nights" and "Fine Art". The former

consists of a selection of his best popular lectures, and is written more especially for the lay mind, whereas the latter book published by the Oxford University Press deals with the subject in a more academic manner.

To Mr. Goodhart-Rendel's activities and talents must be added the fact that he is a Bachelor of Music (Cambridge). With this qualification his many music parallels in his writings are to be explained.

The new London representative is familiar with conditions in the Dominion, and as recently as 1934 Mr. Goodhart-Rendel spent some time visiting Canada. Those who had the privilege of meeting him on that occasion will recall his delightful personality and the keenness and interest that he showed in discussing everything that concerned the welfare of the profession in the Dominion.

Among the various buildings that Mr. Goodhart-Rendel has designed two of the most interesting are Hay's Wharf head offices, and St. Wilfrid's Church, Brighton. Others also that should be mentioned are the headquarters of the Brighton & Sussex Building Society and Betty Joel's furniture factory. Among his pre-war buildings of distinction are the Manor Clubs at Hackney Wick, Clive Buildings in Calcutta, and the house called "The Pantiles" at Englefield Green.

Philip J. Turner, F.R.A.I.C.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES A MODERNIZATION AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMME

A fifty-million dollar programme for repairs and improvements of all kinds of dwellings, urban and rural, was recently announced by the Prime Minister. The plan is based on the recommendations of the National Employment Commission and is intended as a stimulus to employment in the construction trades.

The recommendations of the Commission which the government has tentatively accepted are as follows:

1. The Dominion to guarantee chartered banks and other responsible approved lending institutions against losses up to 15 per cent. of the aggregate value of loans made by each such institution for the financing of repairs and improvements of all kinds of dwellings.
2. The limit of the aggregate loans to be \$50,000,000, and the limit of the government risk, \$7,500,000.
3. The government to retain the right to announce at any time that no further loans will be guaranteed for all lending institutions or for a particular one.
4. The government administrative action to be limited to accepting and recording loans for guarantee; receiving claims and paying them.
5. The conditions which the lending institutions will have to meet in order to obtain the government guarantee are:
 - (a) Maximum loans on one property, \$2,000.
 - (b) Loans to bear not more than $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. discount rate repayable in equal monthly installments over one year or a pro rata discount rate for other periods. No service or insurance charges nor any additional charges of any kind except as provided for arrears.
 - (c) Duration of loans: One to five years.
 - (d) Loans to be used solely for rehabilitating and improving existing real property owned

by the borrower. Fixtures but not removable attachments or appliances to be considered as improvements.

- (e) No endorsements to be required.
- (f) Loans only to be made to owners.
- (g) Stipulated penalties for arrears.
- (h) Taxes, mortgage payment etc., to be in standing acceptable to lending institution.

Although legislation will be required to make the modernization and rehabilitation plan effective, both the National Employment Commission and the government are anxious that a start be made in many of the larger communities without delay, and to this end the Prime Minister has promised retroactive legislation at the next session of parliament.

In addition to the modernization programme, the

government has indicated that it will amend the present Dominion Housing Act with the object of broadening its scope, and also providing for a slum clearance and low-cost housing programme.

Following the announcement of the rehabilitation programme, representatives of the National Construction Council conferred with Mr. Arthur B. Purvis, Chairman of the National Employment Commission, and recommended that the scope of the programme be extended to include improvements to commercial buildings. The Council also suggested that much encouragement would be given property owners to improve their properties if some provision could be made in the proposed legislation whereby municipalities would provide fixed assessments or grant exemption of taxes on improvements over a period of years.

IMPORTANT CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DOMINION HOUSING ACT

The Honourable Chas. A. Dunning, Minister of Finance, recently announced important changes in the administration of the Dominion Housing Act designed to promote the financing of low-cost dwellings and to make the facilities of the Act more readily available to the smaller and more remote communities.

While the Dominion Housing Act has been responsible for a substantial volume of building in the larger cities and in towns of moderate size, and while a number of loans have been made for amounts running as low as \$1,400 and \$2,000, nevertheless, it was felt that the Act had not gone far enough in meeting the needs of the smaller and more remote communities or of individuals of low or moderate incomes.

In the original contracts which were entered into with approved lending institutions, no distinction was made between large loans and small loans, or between loans in large cities and loans in small centres. The formula which was originally arrived at provided that if at the time the loss occurred the amount owing under the mortgage was more than the amount advanced by the lending institution, two-thirds of the loss would be borne by the government and one-third by the lending institution, and if at the time the loss occurred the amount owing was less than the amount advanced by the lending institution, one-third of the loss would be borne by the government and two-thirds by the lending institution.

While this formula has proved satisfactory in the general run of cases, the degree of risk which the lending institutions have had to assume has

been too great to encourage the companies to make small loans or loans in small places on any extensive scale for amounts as high as eighty per cent. of the cost or appraised value of the property. The government has therefore decided to amend the formula for allocation of losses in certain cases in order to encourage the building of low-cost homes and to make the facilities of the Act available to smaller and outlying communities.

The new formula which has been devised provides that in the case of any eighty per cent. loan on a single family house, the government will bear eighty per cent. of any losses where the amount of the loan is \$3,000 or less, seventy-five per cent. of the loss where the amount of the loan exceeds \$3,000 but does not exceed \$3,500, and seventy per cent. of the loss where the amount of the loan exceeds \$3,500 but does not exceed \$4,000. Appropriate variations are made in this formula to cover the cases of duplexes and apartment houses.

To meet the difficulty arising from the high cost of making loans in smaller and more remote centres, the government has also agreed to bear as a cost of administering the Act a share of the special travelling and inspection expenses involved in making such loans.

With these important changes, which become effective immediately, Mr. Dunning has expressed the hope that all approved lending institutions will co-operate whole-heartedly in the government's programme of stimulating the house-building industry as a factor in fostering business recovery and absorbing unemployment.

SYNOPSIS OF A RECENT COURT CASE OF INTEREST TO ARCHITECTS

Editor's Note: The following court case has recently come under the purview of the R.A.I.C. Committee on Professional Usages, and a synopsis of it is printed herewith for the information of our readers. The Institute will be glad to receive reports of other court actions affecting the profession.

ACTION TAKEN BY AN ARCHITECT IN NOVA SCOTIA AGAINST THE TOWN OF BERWICK, N.S., FOR FEES IN CONNECTION WITH THE PREPARATION OF PLANS FOR A NEW SCHOOL BUILDING TO BE ERECTED IN THAT TOWN.

BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT, KENTVILLE, N.S., JUNE, 1936

In this action, the architect claimed from the Town of Berwick the sum of \$1,200.00 for services rendered in supplying plans for a new school building that was to be erected in that town. The defendants claimed that the plaintiff had submitted the plans with the understanding that there would be no charges if the plans were not accepted and used.

Tenders were called on the plans submitted by the architect, the lowest tender received being \$54,022.00 not including electric wiring or heating, and others were \$55,400.00 and \$63,630.00 respectively. On a modification of the plans, tenders were submitted for \$42,440.00 and \$49,552.00, and on further deletions from the original plans \$40,300.00. The school eventually cost \$23,408.00, including site and equipment, the evidence showed.

In reviewing the evidence, Mr. Justice Hall observed that it was known that the ratepayers of the town would not agree to pay more than \$40,000.00 for the proposed building. The architect, in his evidence, claimed no knowledge of this condition, but it was the opinion of the judge that "he must have been mistaken."

"Upon the whole evidence," stated His Lordship, "I am convinced that the architect prepared plans and specifications upon the distinct understanding that there would be no charge unless the plans were adopted and the building constructed. I accept the positive evidence of this contingent employment and find plaintiff not entitled to recovery. The action is dismissed with costs."

ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTE

A meeting of the executive committee of the council of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, was held in room 306, 74 King Street east, Toronto, on Wednesday, September 16th, 1936, at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Messrs. W. L. Somerville, president; H. L. Fetherstonhaugh, honorary treasurer; L. Gordon Bridgman; Mackenzie Waters; Eric W. Haldenby; Allan George; and I. Markus, secretary.

Housing: A letter was read from Mr. F. W. Nicolls of the Housing Administration at Ottawa with reference to the demonstration home being built in Edmonton by the *Edmonton Bulletin* from the prize winning design submitted by Mr. Wm. Ralston of Toronto in the recent Dominion Housing Act small house competition. A copy of a letter sent by Mr. Nicolls to the publishers of the *Edmonton Bulletin* was also read to the meeting in which he suggested that when photographs of the house were published, it be clearly stated that the design had been considerably altered by the builder.

National Construction Council of Canada: The secretary informed the meeting that a further conference had been held on September 11th between representatives of the National Construction Council of Canada and the chairman of the National Employment Commission at which a number of matters were discussed with reference to housing, including the recent announcement by the Prime Minister providing for a \$50,000,000 programme for the modernization and rehabilitation of dwellings. It was explained to the meeting that this plan provides for loans to be made by chartered banks and other approved lending institutions for the financing of repairs and improvements to dwellings to the aggregate value of \$50,000,000, the Government to guarantee the loans made by each institution against losses up to 15% of their aggregate value. These loans to be made only to property owners, the maximum amount of which will not exceed \$2,000 on each property. The loans are to bear not more than 3¼ per cent discount rate repayable in equal monthly installments over a period of from one to five years. The secretary further informed the meeting that the chairman of

the National Employment Commission had asked for suggested amendments to the Dominion Housing Act in order to make it more effective. After some discussion, it was decided to ask the R.A.I.C. housing committee to give some study to the matter and submit its recommendations.

Arrangements for the next Annual Meeting: The president was requested to tender an invitation to the president of the Royal Institute of British Architects to attend the next annual meeting of the R.A.I.C.

A letter was read from Mr. Philip J. Turner informing the executive committee that the Royal Institute of British Architects had received a copy of the film produced by the Gaumont-British distributors entitled "Why the Oak Beams", illustrating the new R.I.B.A. building in London, and offering to loan the film to the R.A.I.C. if they cared to have it shown in Canada—It was the opinion of the executive committee that this might prove to be an interesting attraction for the annual meeting and that arrangements should be made to borrow it for that occasion.

Miscellaneous: It was the feeling of the meeting that the Government should be apprised of the activities of the Institute in connection with its efforts to promote architectural education in Canada, and that as other learned societies were receiving grants from the Dominion Government in recognition of similar efforts, a request should be made by the R.A.I.C. for some government assistance in carrying on this work—It was suggested that the president and Mr. R. H. Macdonald confer with the Prime Minister in connection with this matter at the earliest opportunity.

A letter was read from the Ontario Association of Architects drawing the attention of the Institute to an item which recently appeared in the press to the effect that general contractors were being requested by the Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Company Limited to submit plans and bids for the proposed extension to their building in Toronto—The secretary informed the meeting that the matter had already been referred to the joint committee of the R.A.I.C. and C.C.A. and it was further suggested that the matter might also be

drawn to the attention of the R.A.I.C. public relations committee for suitable action.

The president informed the meeting that a dinner was to be given that evening by the Ontario Association of Architects in honour of Sir Raymond Unwin, past president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and urged that every member attend if possible.

The president informed the meeting that he had extended to Professor Jules Poivert of Montreal, a Fellow of the

R.A.I.C., the congratulations of the Institute on his having recently been created a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour by the French Government.

Date and Place of Next Meeting: It was decided to hold the next meeting of the executive committee in Toronto during the month of November, the exact date to be fixed by the president.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1.00 p.m.

NOTES

Philip J. Turner, F.R.A.I.C., of Montreal, delivered an illustrated lecture on the Liverpool Cathedral in the Christ Church Cathedral at Hamilton on September 22nd, and at the Simpson Avenue United Church, Toronto, on September 24th.

* * * *

Woodruff K. Aykroyd, M.R.A.I.C., of Toronto, left on October 1st for an extended visit to England.

* * * *

The long established and well known architectural firm of Molesworth, West and Secord has dissolved partnership. Mr. Gordon M. West, who is a past president of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada and president of the National Construction Council of Canada, will continue his office at 43 Victoria Street, Toronto, and Messrs. Molesworth and Secord have opened an office at 18 Toronto Street, Toronto.

* * * *

Sir Raymond Unwin of London, England, past president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, has been appointed director of the town planning studio at Columbia University. Sir Raymond will have charge of studies in town planning and housing under a grant from the Carnegie Foundation.

* * * *

The examinations for the admission to the study of architecture or membership in the Province of Quebec Association of Architects will take place in the association rooms, 627 Dorchester St. West, Montreal, on November 16th and following days, commencing at 9.00 a.m. each day.

* * * *

The Windsor Chapter of the Ontario Association of Architects acted as hosts to the council of the association at its meeting held in Windsor on October 16th. Members of the council and visiting architects were taken on a sight-seeing tour to Cranbrook School and Art Centre at Cranbrook, Mich., Greenfield Village at Dearborn, Mich., and several other places of architectural interest. In the evening of October 17th, a dinner was held in the Prince Edward Hotel, Windsor, at which representatives were present from the Windsor branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada, the Detroit Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and the Michigan Society of Architects. Following the dinner, Norman A. McLarty, M.P. for Essex West, spoke on the Dominion Housing Rehabilitation Project, and A. S. Mathers of Toronto, delivered an illustrated lecture on the architecture of the Nineteenth Century.

* * * *

Charles D. Sutherland, M.R.A.I.C., has been appointed chief architect of the Federal Department of Public Works, in succession to Thomas W. Fuller, M.R.A.I.C., who retires on November 1st. The new chief architect has served thirty-five years in the department, and has many important jobs to his credit, chief among them being the supervision of the construction of the new centre block of the Parliament

Buildings, erected following the fire in February, 1916.

The retiring chief, Mr. Fuller, leaves the department after fifty-two years continuous service, during which he has been responsible for the major portion of the construction work done under Federal Government supervision.

* * * *

An exhibition of the designs submitted in the recent T. Eaton Company house competition is now being held at the College Street Store of The T. Eaton Co. in Toronto. Models of the six major prize-winning houses together with miniature reproductions of twelve rooms, two of each house, are also being shown and form a very interesting part of the exhibition.

Prior to the opening of the exhibition, Mr. J. J. Vaughan, director of The T. Eaton Company stated that the object of the competition was to awaken interest in good architecture, particularly in the design of small and medium sized houses and to this end those visiting the exhibition were being invited to cast a ballot for the design they liked best.

* * * *

Percy Thomas, F.R.I.B.A., president of the Royal Institute of British Architects paid a hurried visit to the United States during the past summer. Accompanied by William H. Hamlyn, F.R.I.B.A., he made a tour of several of the larger cities where he visited a number of the larger office buildings, hotels and railroad stations.

While in New York Mr. Thomas was tendered a reception by the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

* * * *

Suggestions for a planning committee to study the whole question of future buildings at the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, and for consideration of an entirely new industrial area of privately-owned buildings are contained in a survey of the subject which is being submitted to the C.N.E. management by Mr. B. W. Keightley, president of the Association of Canadian Advertisers. It is suggested that not only new types of construction but even the creation of new building materials to suit the purpose may be required.

* * * *

Tremendous advances have been made in Great Britain's Housing Programme since the World War. In July last the 3,000,000th new house was completed, representing an increase, during the past seventeen years, of 40 percent in the number of houses in Great Britain.

* * * *

The C. A. Dunham Company Limited, Toronto, announce the appointment of Mr. Wm. Worton as manager of their Winnipeg sales office. Mr. Worton, who has been engaged in consulting engineering on heating, ventilation and air conditioning work in Winnipeg during the past few years, succeeds the late Joseph Leonard in the Winnipeg branch office.

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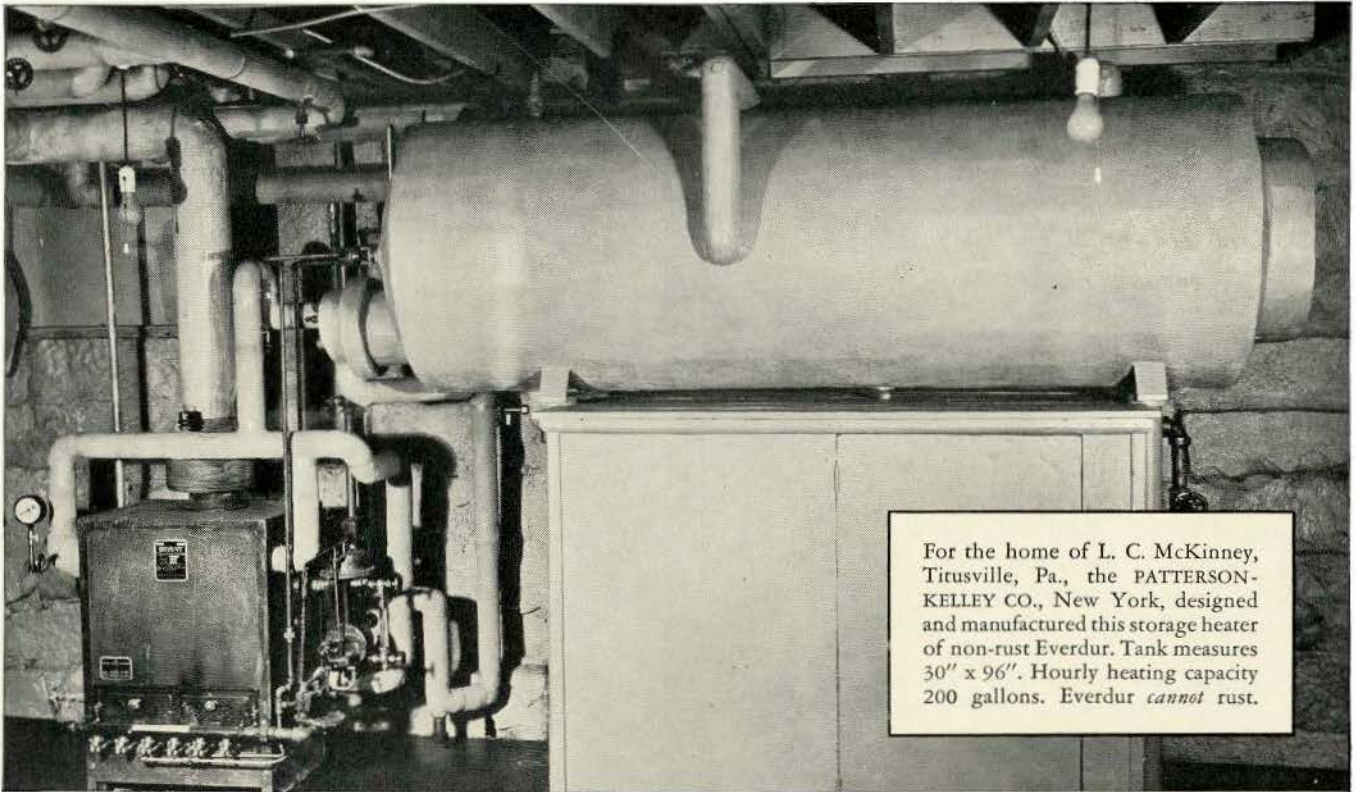
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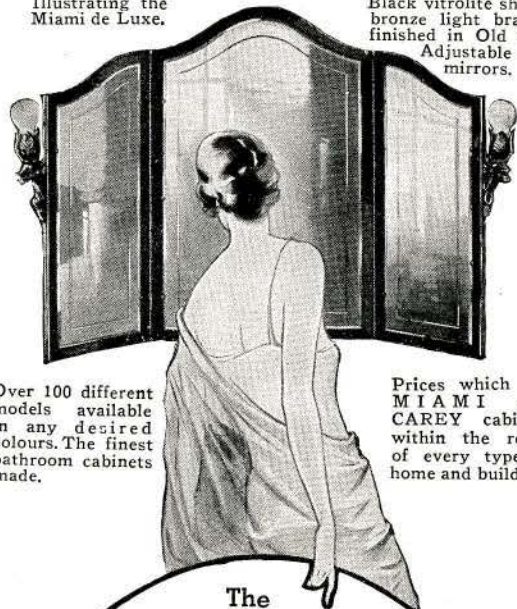
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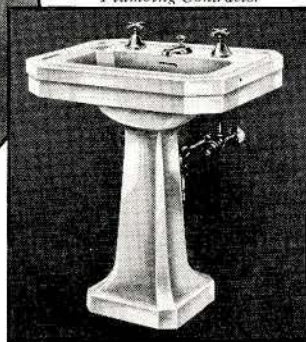
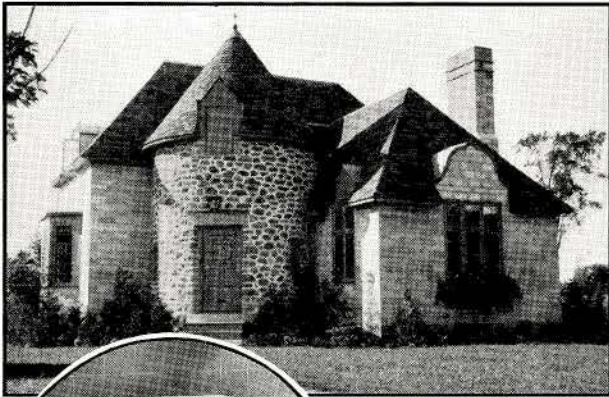
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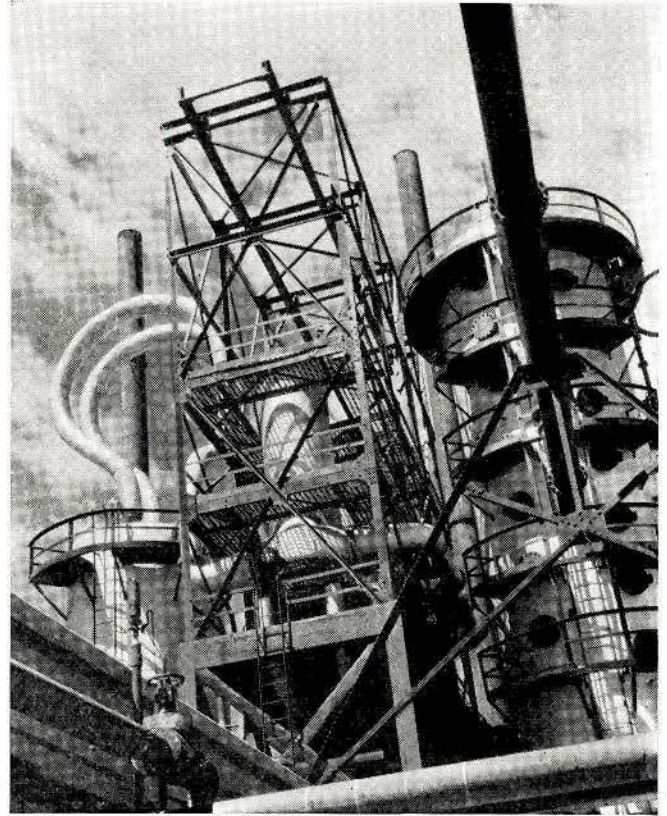
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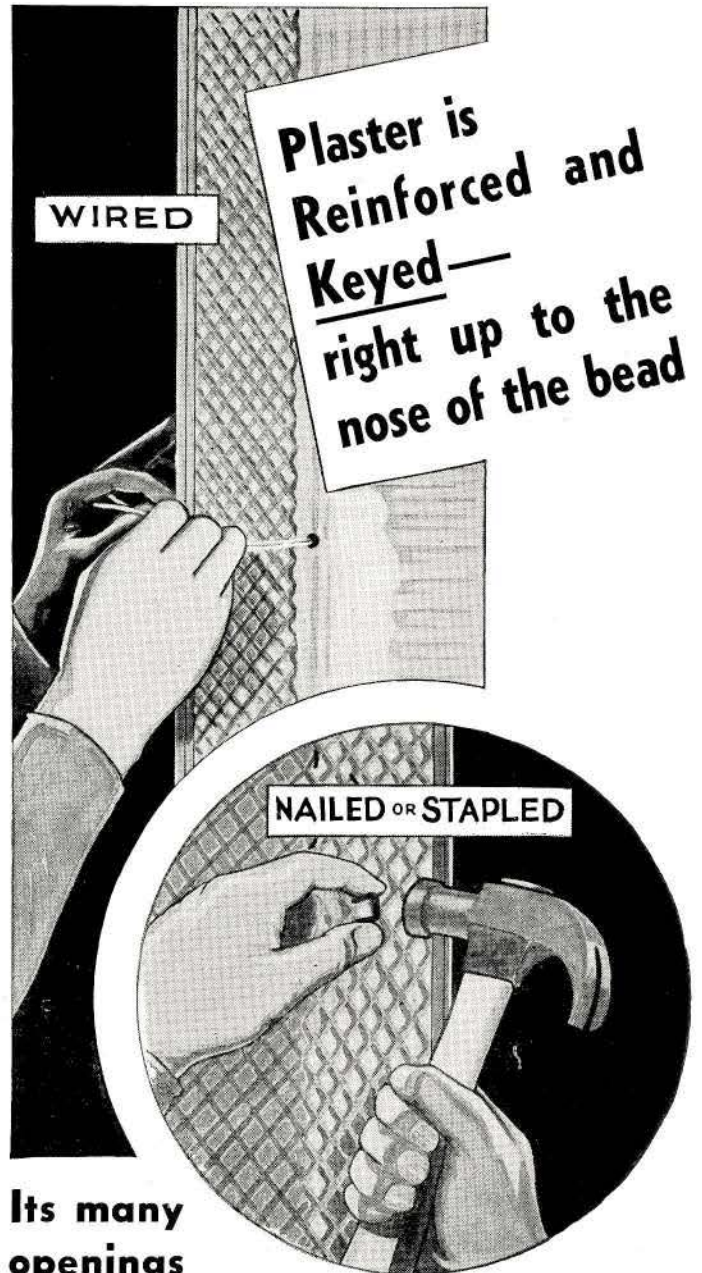
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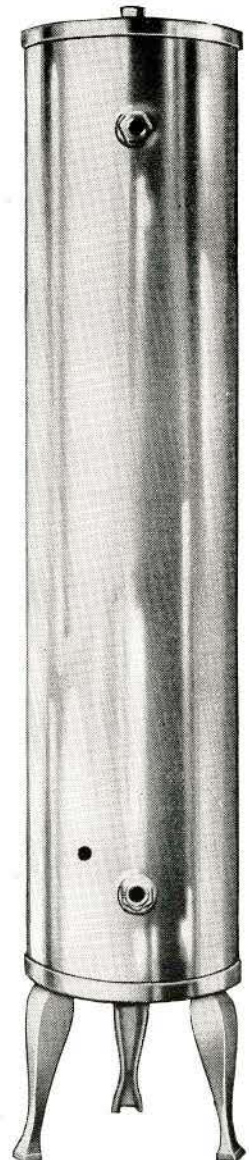
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Higher Stresses Practicable in Rail-Steel Bars

- Measured Stresses in Steel and Concrete Well Below Design Stresses—No Apparent Objection to Higher Design Stresses in High-Elastic-Limit Steel

A REPORT by H. J. Gilkey¹ and G. C. Ernst,² published in Vol. 15 of the Proceedings of the Highway Research Board, describes the tests conducted at Iowa State College in operation with the Highway Research Board, to determine facts concerning high-elastic-limit steel as reinforcement for concrete, with special questions bearing upon design stresses for concrete bearing upon the weight and shrinkage and crack surveys, and conditions, and values. Elastic stresses for floor slabs, Part I of this report, Vol. 14, Part I of the Highway Research Board.

This headline is only one of many evidences of the present day trend to high elastic limit rail steel (C. E. S. A. Standard) for concrete reinforcement.

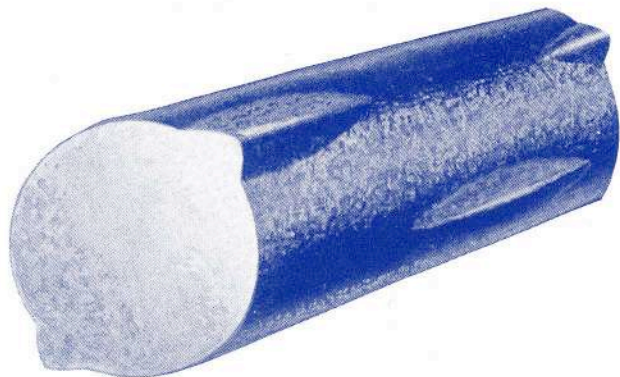
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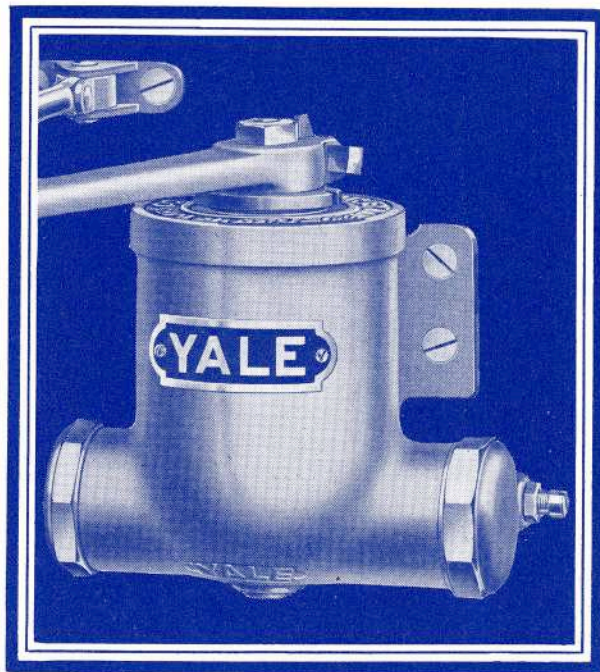
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RAIL STEEL
for concrete reinforcing

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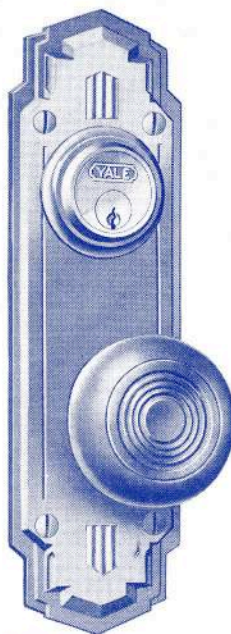
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