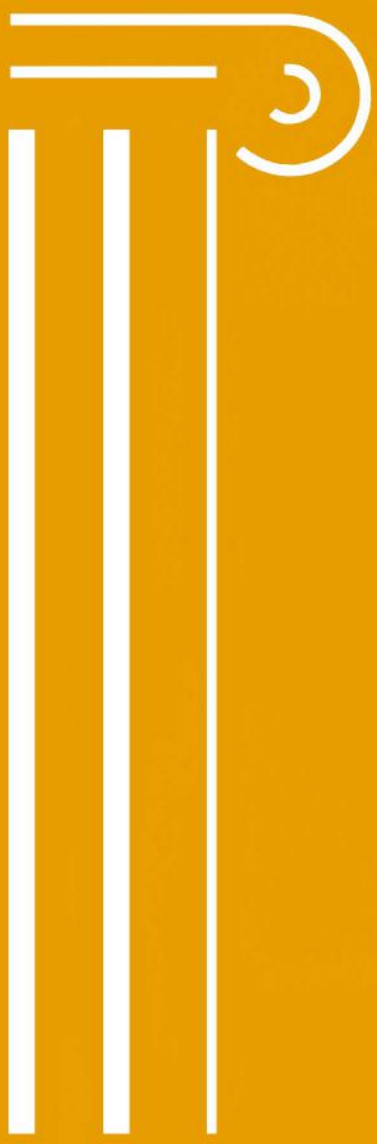
JOURNAL

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA



VOL. 16 OCTOBER, 1939 NO. 10

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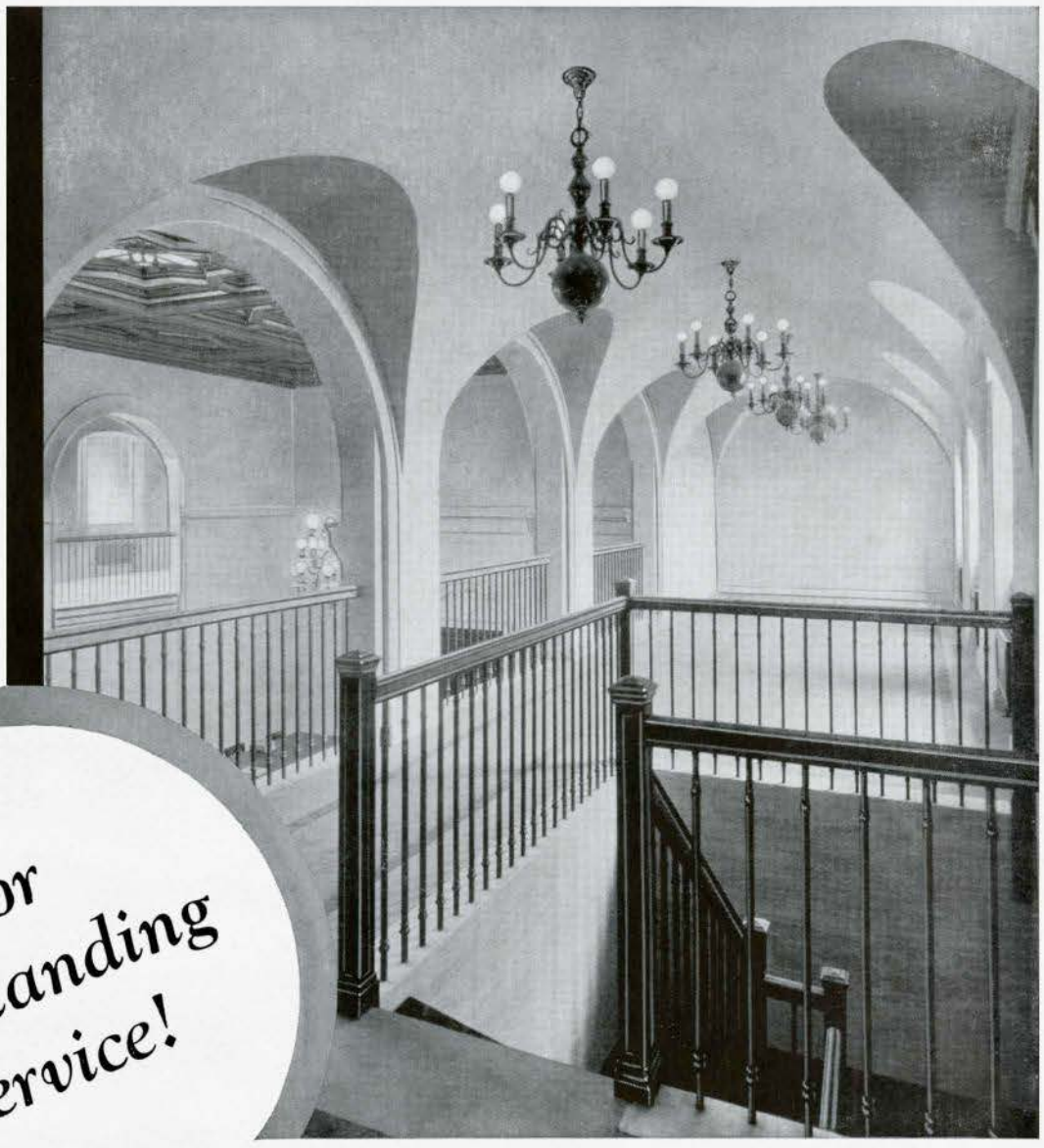

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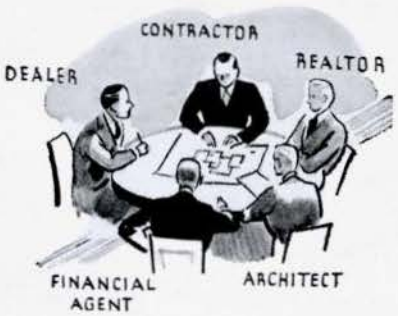

basis, whereby labor and materials are priced and sold together by the J-M dealer's salesmen, representing the whole Guild group.

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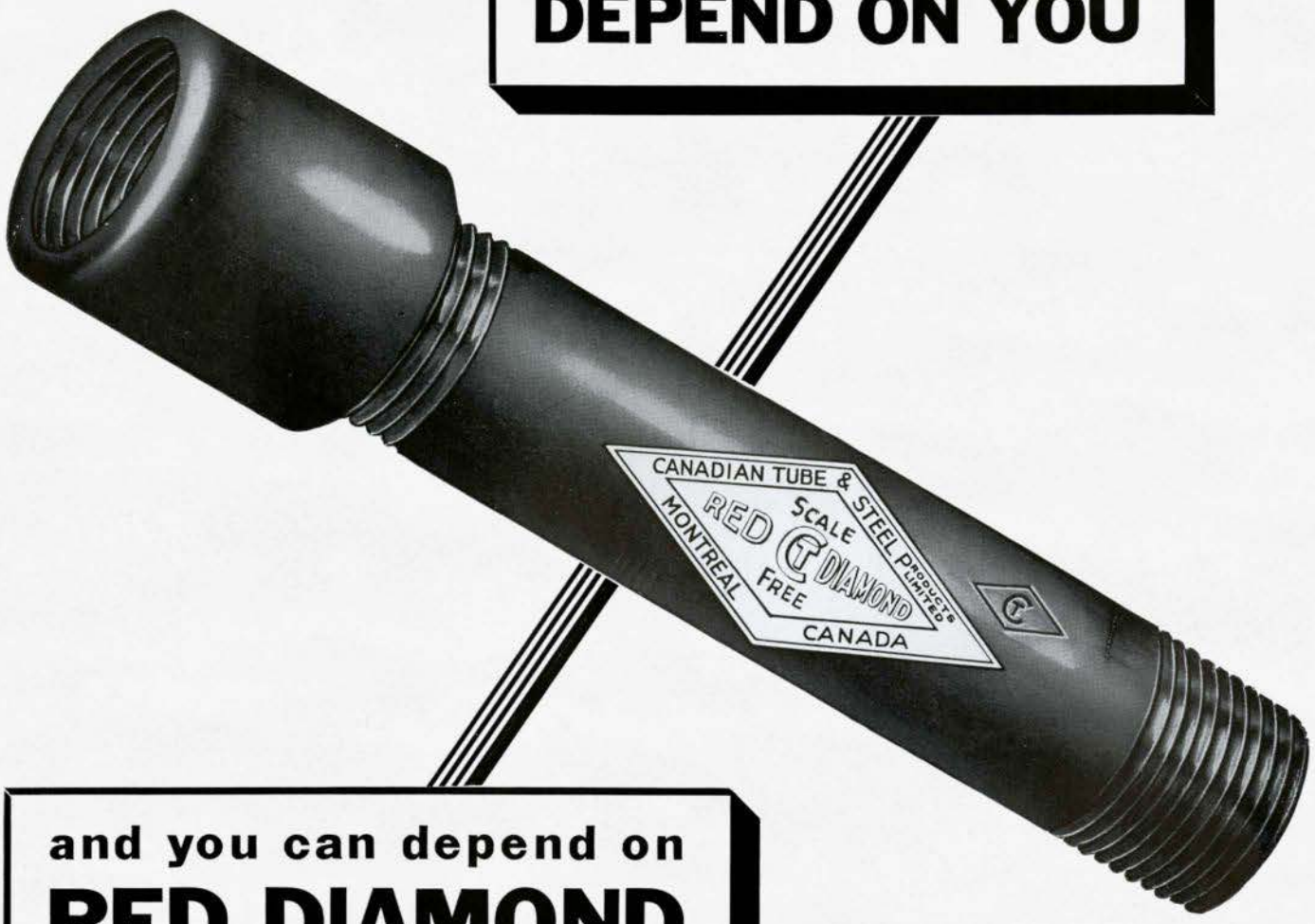

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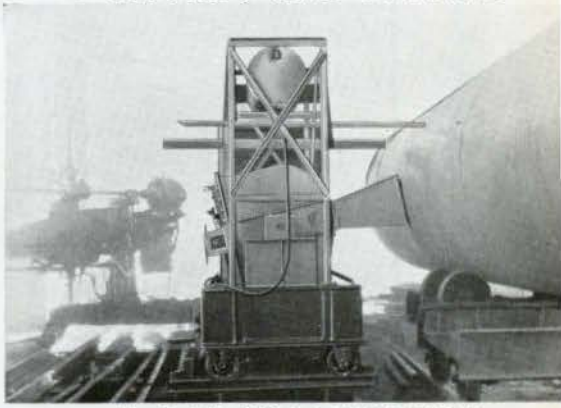

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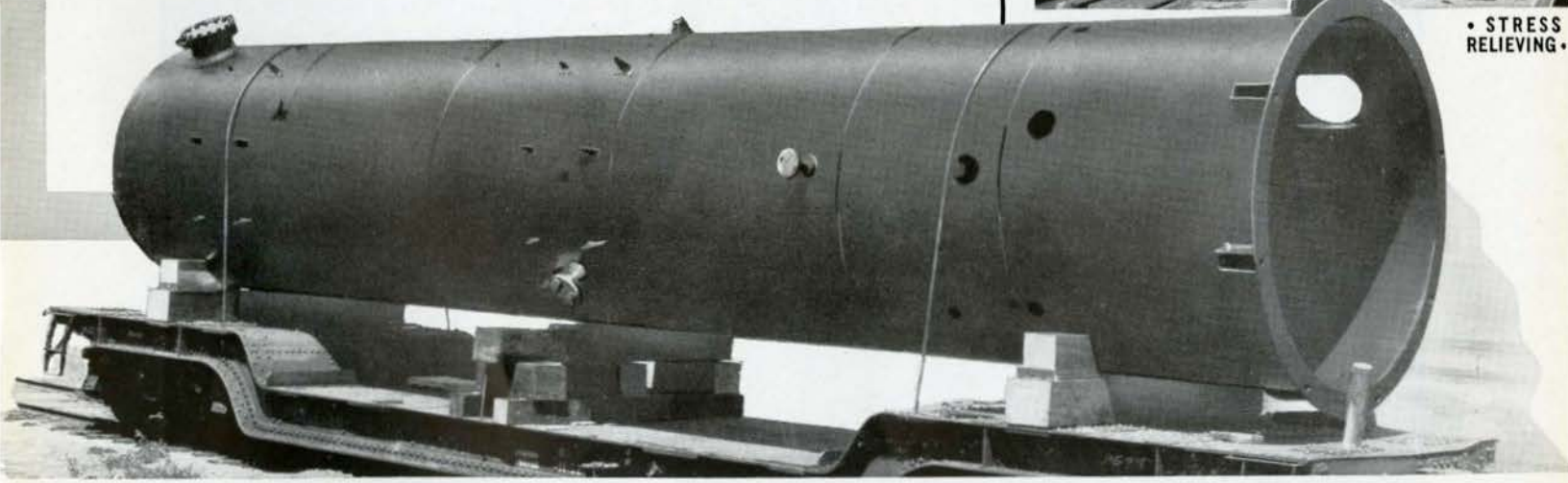

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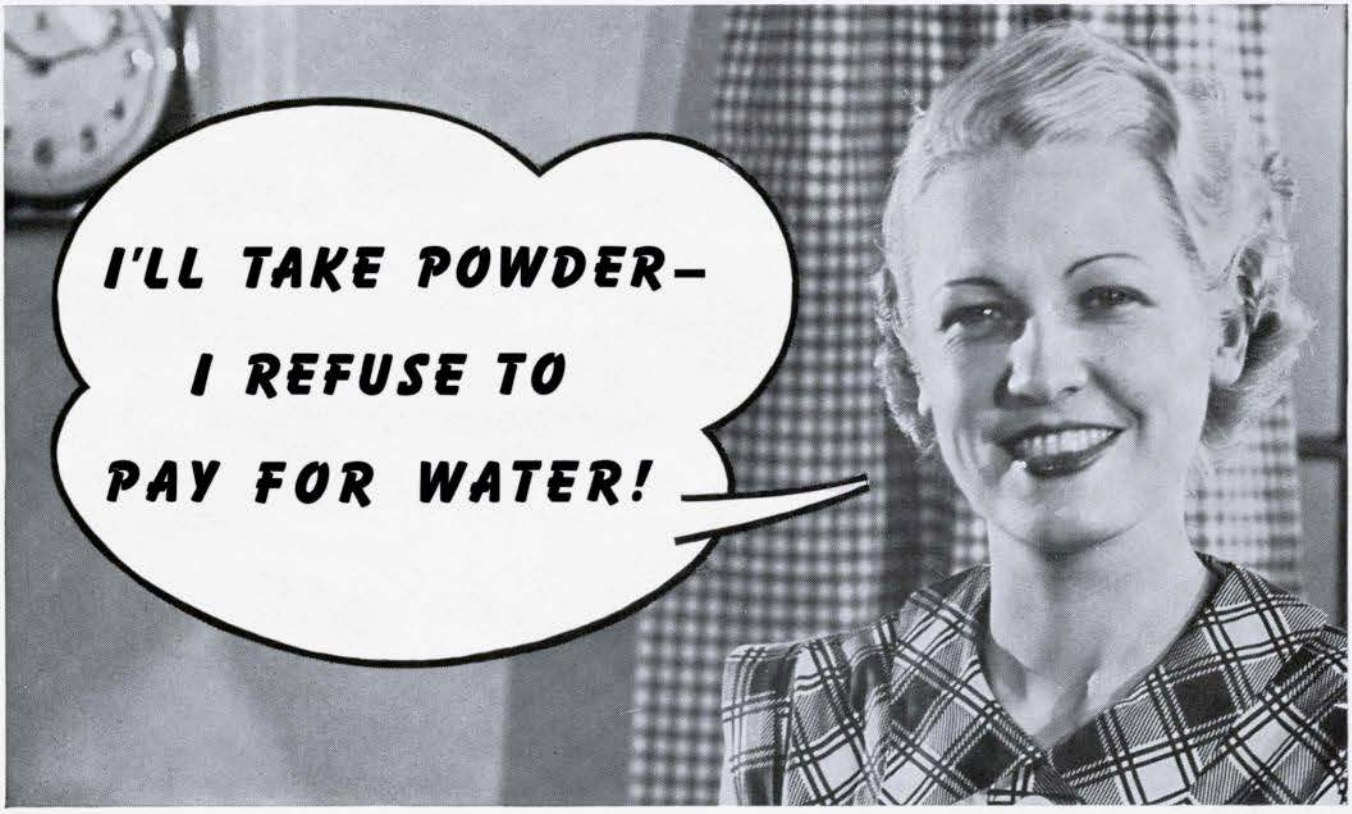
IF WOMEN BOUGHT CASEIN PAINT



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Thrifty Paint Users Buy Powder Casein—Not Paste

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MRS. HOUSEWIFE: Then, I suppose paste and powder are the same price?

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MRS. HOUSEWIFE: Why is that?

MR. PAINT DISTRIBUTOR: Well, the paste contains water and has to be packed in expensive metal containers. The powder is concentrated.

MRS. HOUSEWIFE: I'll take the powder casein paint then. When I bake a cake I buy flour, not dough—I wouldn't think of paying for water!

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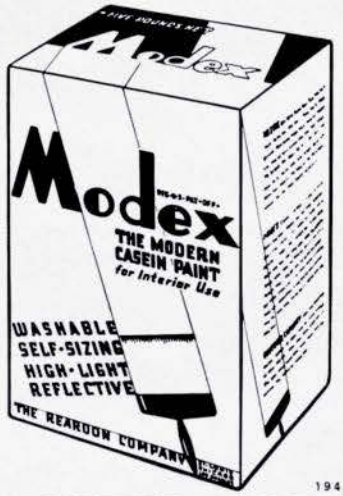

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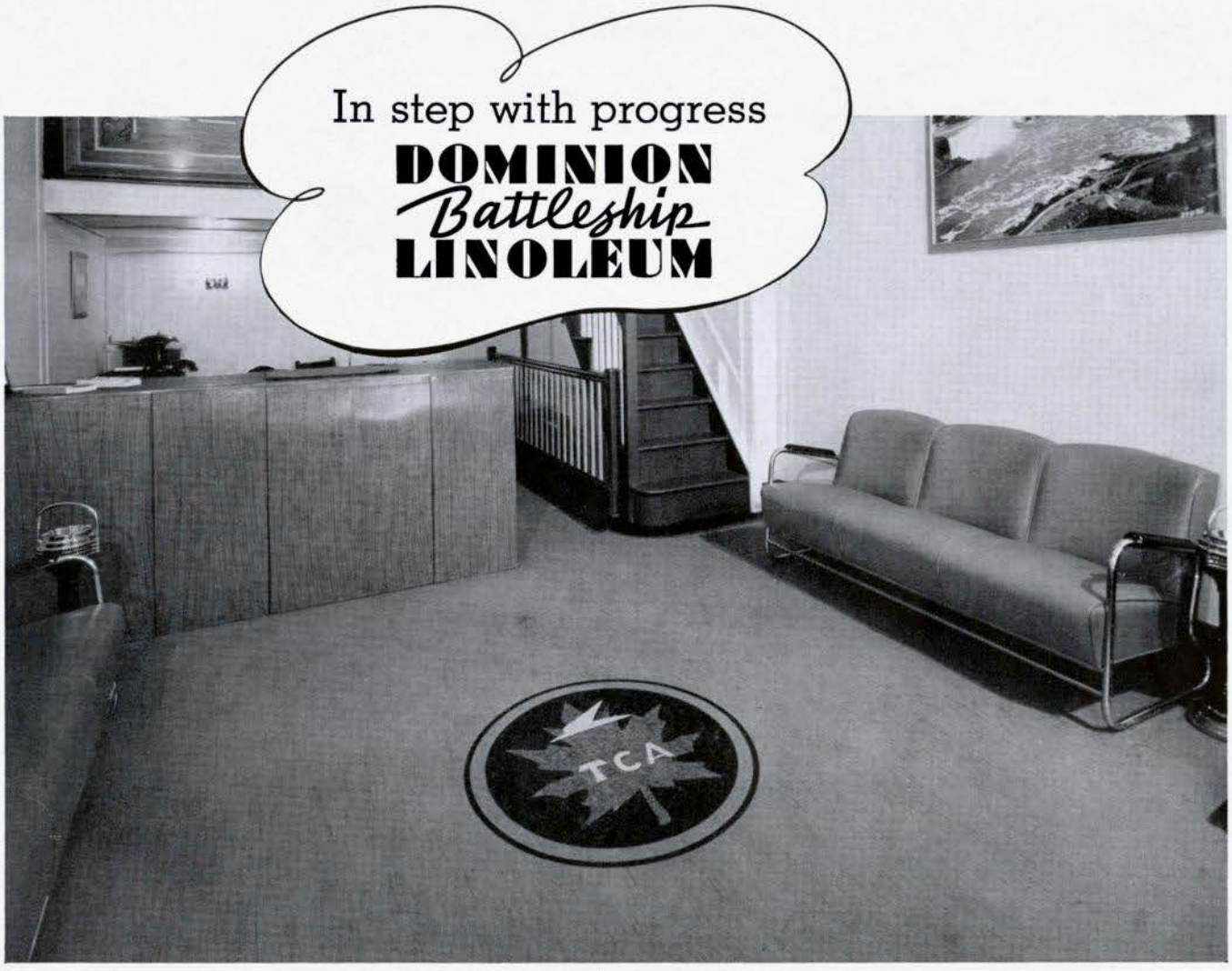

Illustrated above is the City Ticket Office of the Trans-Canada Air Lines situated in the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal. The floor is Dominion Jaspé Linoleum with motif of Marboleum and Dominion Battleship Linoleum

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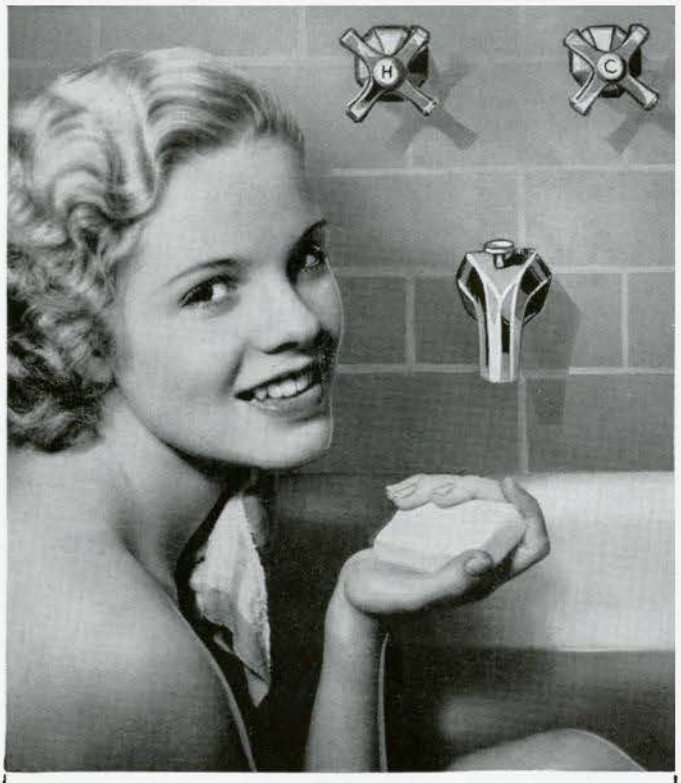

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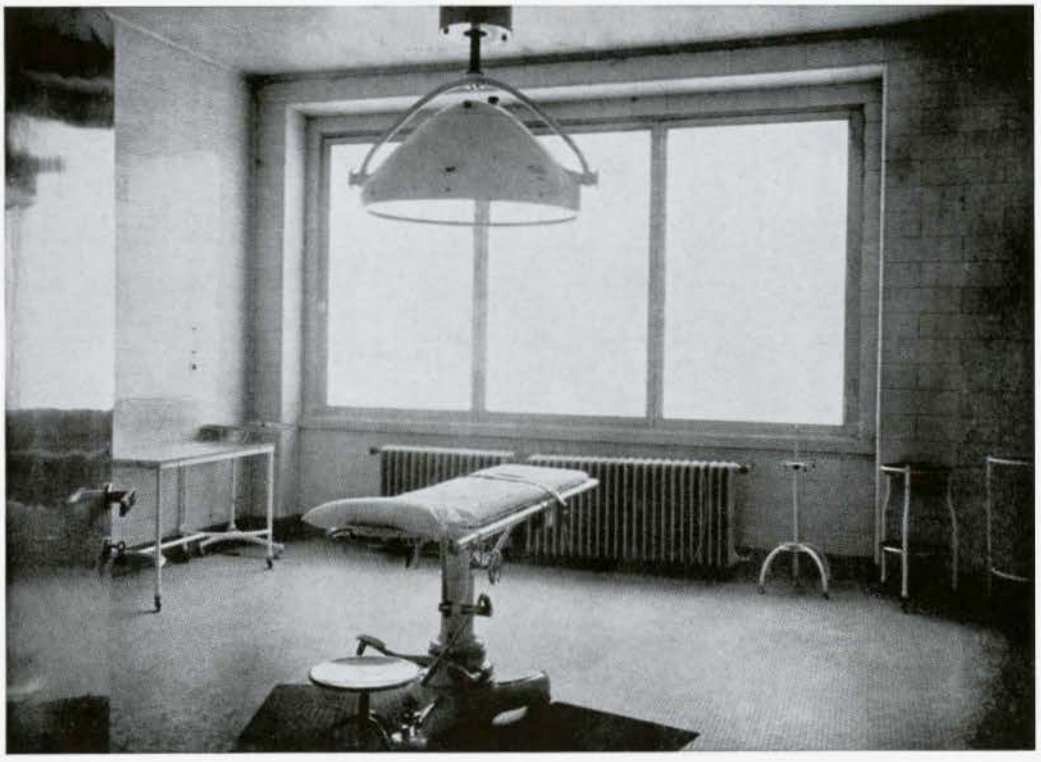

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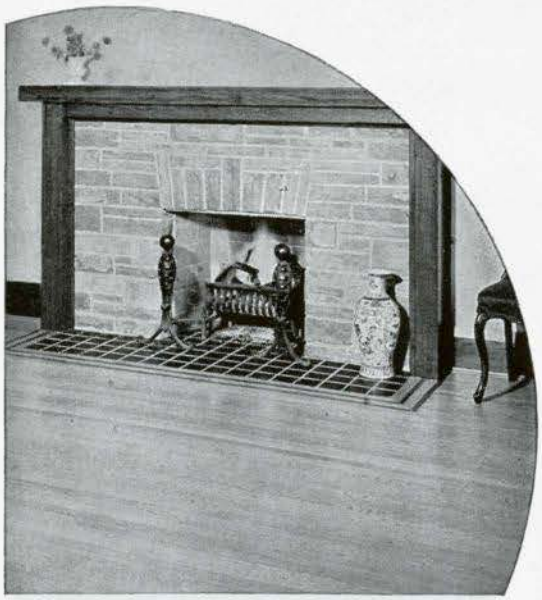

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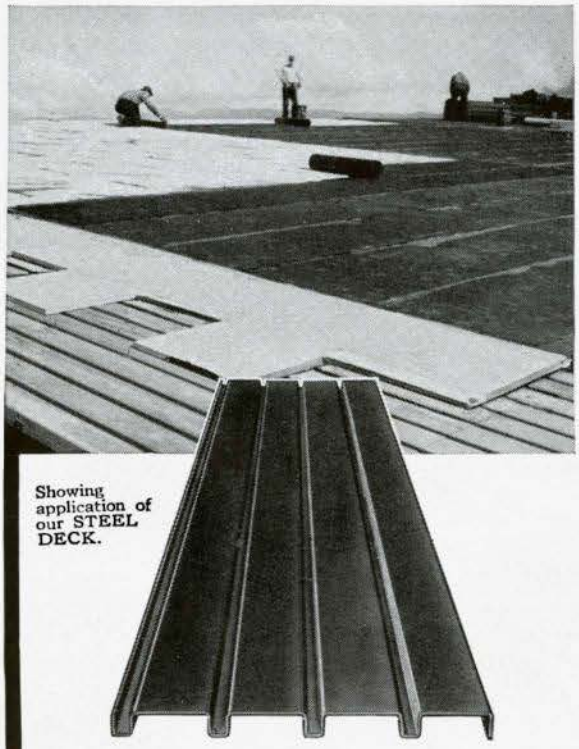

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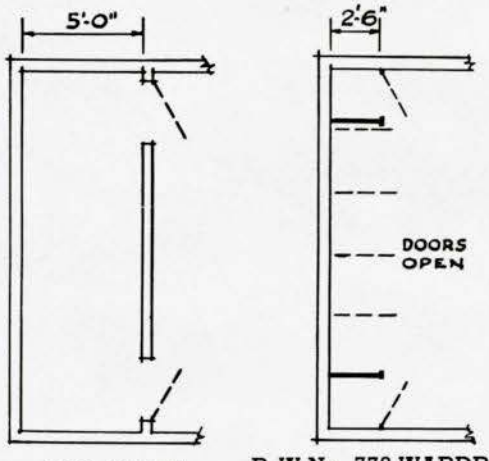

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Details

Each door is 2'-6" wide and the depth of the wardrobe is 2'-0". This will accommodate 10 pupils. The doors swing into the wardrobe the full depth so that only 6" of the door projects in front of the wardrobe when the doors are open. All the doors are connected with a bar so that when the door at the extreme left of the wardrobe is opened and closed all of the doors move together. Only one latch or lock is required and this is installed on the left-hand door. When this door is locked, all of the doors are locked. A teacher's wardrobe 2'-0" wide with a single disappearing door can be furnished to be installed at one end of the pupils' wardrobe if desired.

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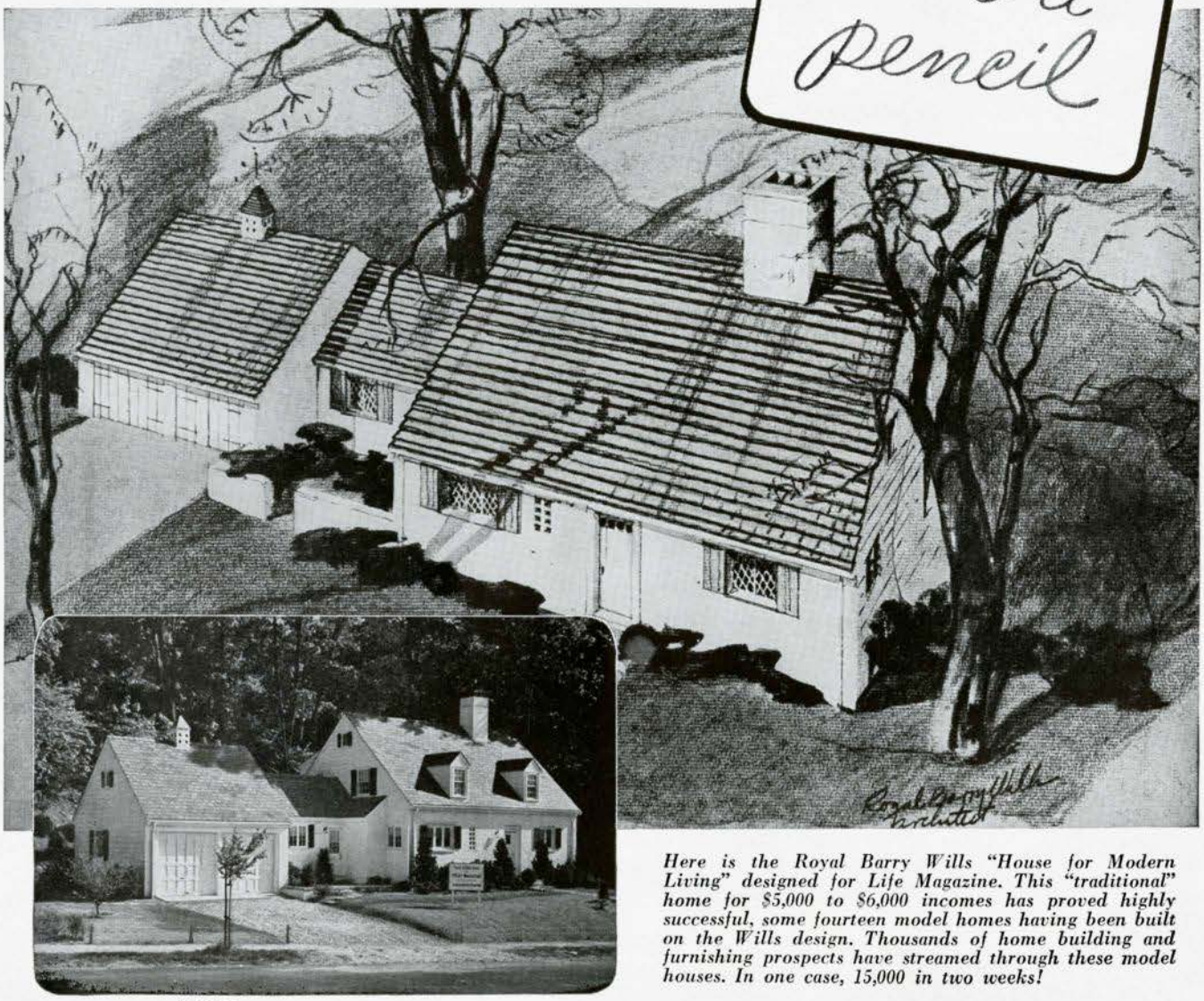

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JOURNAL

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

Serial No. 170 TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1939 Vol. 16, No. 10

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A MONTH has passed since Canada declared War—and gradually through a maze of contradictory rumours the extent and pattern of our participation in this struggle is becoming clear.

The fact that there is no conscription for national service has placed a grave responsibility on us as individuals, and as members of a Royal Institute to decide how we can be of the greatest use to our country at this time.

Immediately following the declaration of war, there came to us many inquiries from individuals and associations. The individual request was for advice — whether to enlist at once — or to postpone it until further training would fit the architect for some position of greater responsibility in the active forces. May I take this opportunity to state my conviction that architects by their professional training are particularly suited for certain branches of the service, and in this war a logical use of trained personnel is more essential than ever before. May I also say that the registration form which was sent to all architects was to enable each Provincial Association to have on record the particular qualifications of its members and to be in a position to give this information should a request be made for architectural services of any nature. From one association came a request that your Institute should acquaint the Government of our desire to serve—and our ability to do so as architects. In this connexion it is clear that there is an extensive programme of building for war purposes. It is equally evident that there is an urgent demand amongst all thoughtful Canadians, that this work be carried out quickly, efficiently and as economically as the present condition of emergency will permit. The responsibility for such results is one for which the whole construction industry, architects, engineers, contractors and labour, is organized and trained.

No time has been lost in advising the government of our desire to be of service and to offer whole hearted co-operation in these questions with which your Institute is particularly connected. Twice during the month the executive committee of the National Construction Council of which your President is a member, has been to Ottawa and discussed possible fields of co-operation with the Ministers of Finance, Defence, Transportation and Supplies. Our reception has been very cordial, and an opportunity was presented to emphasize the fact, that the associations represented were not only available to the government for consultation — but within these associations were all these services, both professional and constructional to meet any demands for emergency buildings which might arise throughout this country.

It must be realized that there are Governmental Departments organized to look after all peace time requirements, but in the unusual situation which has arisen, our civilian organizations can co-operate with departments, and undertake the erection of those war time buildings, which come into the sphere of the architect and with which many members have had previous experience. It is too early to state what the results of this offer will be, but its sincerity cannot be questioned, and in the practical form in which it is accepted there is every assurance that the co-operation of all can be depended on.

We doubt whether any profession in Canada has so many members as officers in the armed forces or so many members, who for the last 20 years, have given their time and effort to the building up of the Canadian Militia. It is the obvious duty of those who remain to safeguard the tradition of public service of a great profession, and to show the Government that where building is to be done it should, in the national interest, be done by architects. The architects of Canada are standing by for instructions.

In this period of national effort — service to the nation should be our aim — and the measure of success we achieve—may well decide our future opportunities, and the prestige of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada for many years.

H. L. FETHERSTONHAUGH.

CHILDREN'S CAMPS

The following article on Children's Camps is taken from the R. I. B. A. "Journal" of August 14, 1939. It is not suggested that similar provisions will ever be necessary in Canada, but the layout of buildings and their construction should be of interest to architects who may be called upon to design buildings of the hutment type. We have written the R. I. B. A. for further details of military buildings and will continue to show plans and details as they are forwarded to us. If any member has any suggestion as to other methods by which the "Journal" may be of use to the profession and the country, the Editorial Board will be pleased to consider them.—Editor.

ON 16 January this year *The Times* gave its first mention in a leader to the question of camps for peace and war. On 9 February it followed with "On with the Camps", and on 14 February with "Camps at Last". The Camps Bill was passed on 25 May; now fourteen camps are in course of erection, another sixteen are in various stages of preparation, and by the end of August the first of them will be completed.

The Purpose of the Camps

In time of war the camps are in no way intended to provide an alternative to billeting, and the present Government billeting proposals remain as they were; they are being built purely as a supplement to the accommodation available for evacuating children or other members of the population from the more vulnerable areas. It is intended that the camps should permit of rapid expansion under emergency conditions, and that they should be capable of accommodating at least double the number that would normally use them in peace time, and also that with their water supply, lighting, sanitation and cooking facilities they should form a nucleus around which other buildings could be grouped if necessary.

In peace time the camps are to be used mainly to provide school camps for children. Local education authorities already have powers to provide camps for this purpose or to make use of existing ones, but so far relatively little has been done in this direction. There are at present twenty permanent camps for school-children in England and Wales provided and run by local education authorities, between them accommodating about 1,400 children, used partly be weakly and undernourished children from the poorer homes at no cost to their parents, and partly by groups of normal children who spend a week or two at the camps as a change from their town surroundings. The parents of the latter type generally make some contribution, according to their means, towards the cost of food. There are also sixteen school camps in the North of England and in South Wales, provided with the aid of grants from the Commissioner for the Special Areas, between them giving accommodation for about 4,200 children, drawn largely from unemployed families, or for children whose health needs the benefit of a period of camp life. In Scotland, education authorities have only had power to provide school camps since 1936, and none has yet been built, but last year seven education authorities provided fifty-nine children's holiday camps, and 9,000 children have already passed through them with considerable benefit to their health.

Thus the practice of sending school children to camps is past the experimental stage, though it may not yet be very extensive. The camps resulting from the new Act are a good step in advance, and if the usual practice is followed and children are sent to them for a fortnight at a time they will be capable of accommodating about 200,000 children every six months; and since they are to be equipped with at least a minimum system of heating there seems no reason why they should not be used for a large part of the year.

It is also intended that in peace time the camps should be used during the holidays by voluntary organisations for juveniles between the elementary school age of 14 to 19.

Each camp is planned to accommodate 350 children, either boys or girls, with additional accommodation for the staff. It is considered that the minimum age of children using the camps during peace time will be about ten, but since the camps are to be used as evacuation camps in time of war, and may be used by adults in the holidays, the arrangements provide that the camps could conveniently accommodate adults if necessary. During their use as school camps in peace time it is intended that children should go to them in charge of their teachers and do their lessons in the country instead of in the towns. The schooling would no doubt be much modified, and would largely consist of outdoor activities, such as nature study.

The selection of sites presented some difficulty, as the Corporation were required to place the camps from 30 to 35 miles from evacuable towns, which naturally limited their choice of locality, The essential requirements for a site were piped water supply and main electric light and power, and, where no public sewer was available, that the ground should lend itself to individual sewage works.

The sites vary between 18 and 50 acres, and average 25 to 30 acres. This should allow the children plenty of play space, and avoid trespassing on adjacent land—particularly important in rural camps where there is no beach for the children to use for playing. The cost of roads on the site for the delivery of goods and fuel is an important item in camp planning, and in general these are kept reasonably short, and as much use as possible is made of light paths.

Owing to the timber construction of the buildings they have been separated from one another on the site as much as possible in order to reduce the fire hazard to the minimum.

There are nine standard buildings for each camp, all of one storey:—

Assembly Hall, with stage and changing rooms, and the camp manager's office approached from a covered way linking it to the main assembly hall block.

Dining Hall and Boiler House, with teachers' dining room and tuck shop, kitchen and stores. The kitchen has a solid concrete floor on rubble, and the boiler house is constructed with brick walls.

Dormitory Block, with 58 beds in two tiers. The spacing of 3 feet 6 inches clear between each pair of beds was fixed as a minimum by the Ministry of Health after consultation with medical authorities. The beds themselves are of iron, to special design. Further accommodation comprises two single bedrooms for staff supervision, a coatroom, boots and luggage room, and a store and chemical closet approached through an open porch.

Classroom Block, with four classrooms opening on to a terrace, planned in pairs with folding doors between them. Each classroom is intended to accommodate about 36 children. These are experimental, and are only provided in some of the camps, though in all camps provision is made for adding them later.

Hospital, with one six-bed ward and one single-bed ward, a dispensary, bathroom, lavatories, kitchen, and matron's living quarters.

Lavatory Blocks for boys and girls. The girls' type comprises lavatories, dressing-room, bath and shower, latrine, drying room and store. The boys' type is similar, but provides urinals in the latrine, has no bathroom, and in place of the store accommodates lavatories for men and women staff.

Staff Quarters for men and women. Two six-bed dormitories, with common rooms and lavatories.

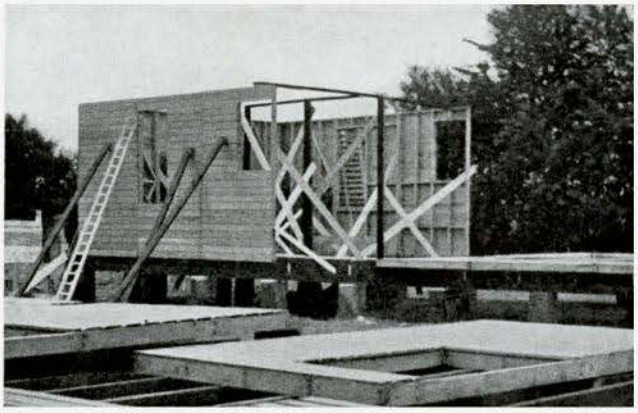
Camp Manager's and Headmaster's Houses, semi-detached, and comprising living room, bedroom, bath and kitchen. Sound-deafening is provided between the two houses.

Construction

Timber was selected as the method of construction because, apart from its good appearance and low cost, it was felt desirable to get the work of prefabrication started while the sites were being obtained, so as to complete erection at the earliest possible moment. Also, there were many firms in the country well equipped to manufacture standardised timber sections, and to start on their production immediately.

The buildings throughout are based on a 6-ft. prefabricated timber wall unit, 10 ft. high from plate to plate in the majority of the buildings, and 8 ft. high in the case of the hospital, staff quarters, lavatories and camp manager's and headmaster's house. These units are formed of 4″ x 2″ studs, diagonally braced, faced with 7″ x 1″ rebated cedar weatherboarding, and are brought on to the site complete with window and door frames. For camps in Scotland or other particularly rainy or exposed sites it is intended to provide a layer of building paper under the weatherboarding, but this has not been considered necessary for most of the schemes.

The foundations are of concrete posts cast *in situ,* 12 ins. square and 3 ft. deep, spaced at 6-ft. centres along the length of the buildings, and in most cases at 9-ft. centres across the buildings. The site itself is covered with 2 ins. of ashes and a tar surfacing after removing the top spit.

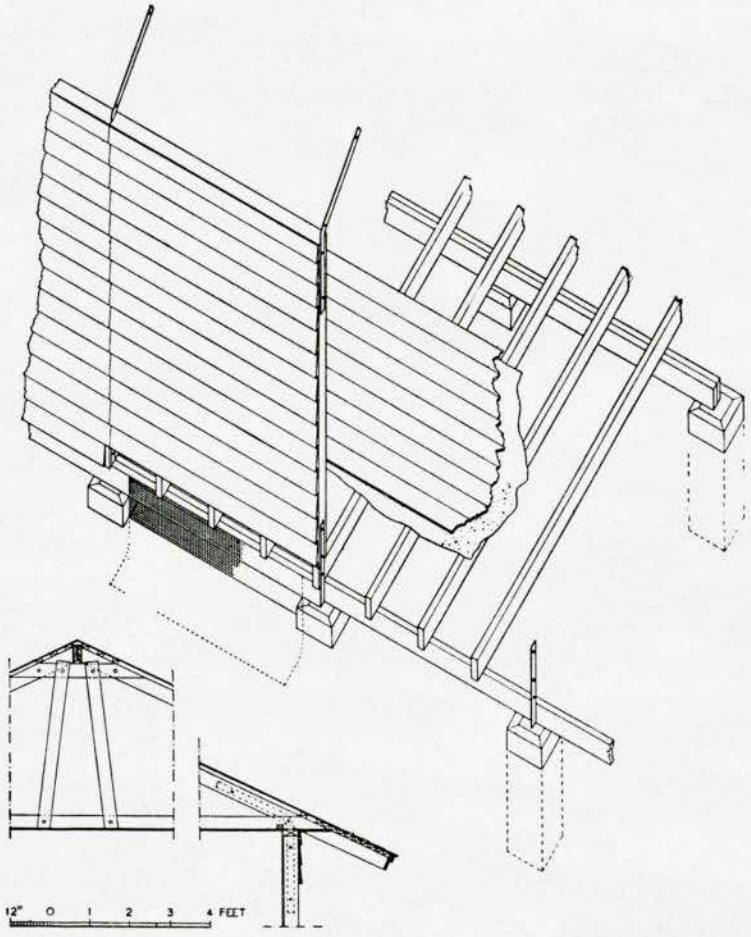


A photograph showing some of the timber wall sections erected at the camp at Horsleys Green, Bucks. Other wall sections can be seen in the foreground.

Two 6″ x 2″ bearers bolted together span from post to post on the longitudinal axis of the buildings; under the outside walls the inner bearer is in 18-ft. lengths, and the outer in 6-ft. lengths to allow a 2″ x ⅜″ wrought-iron strap cast in the foundations to pass up between the bearers to the joists and wall sections.

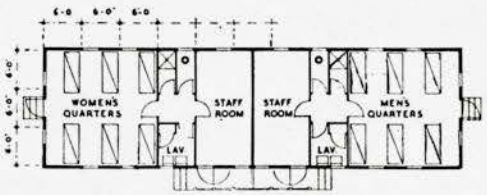
At 18-in. centres 6″ x 2″ floor joists span from bearer to bearer, and are covered with an untearable building paper and $\frac{13}{16}$-in. T. & G. flooring. The floors are not in prefabricated sections. All woodwork under the floors is dipped with creosote or other timber preservative. At 6-ft. centres the floor joists are bolted to the wrought-iron ties to the foundations.

The prefabricated wall sections rest directly on the floor joists, the wrought-iron ties passing up about 1 ft. between

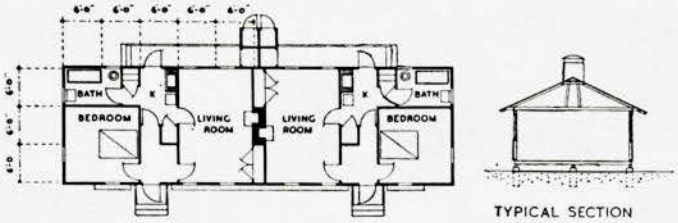


Axonometric, showing the method of erection of the floors and wall sections. The bearers under the outside walls are cut in two lengths, the inner bearers being 12 feet long, and the outer ones 6 feet long in order to fit between wrought iron straps cast into the foundations.

A section through the eaves and ridge of a standard roof spanning 18 feet.



STAFF QUARTERS FOR MEN AND WOMEN



CAMP MANAGER'S AND HEADMASTER'S HOUSES

adjacent sections. At the head of the wall sections corresponding wrought-iron knee braces are let in between the sections to provide a fixing to the rafters and cross-bracing to the whole structure. Adjacent sections are secured together and to each tie and knee-brace with bolts. The weatherboarding laps about 1 in. over the stud of the adjoining section, and no cover fillets have been considered necessary. One additional course of weatherboarding is fixed on the site to cover the ends of the floor joists.

The rafters are brought on to the site in prefabricated sections, each section being complete from eaves to ridge, 6 ft. wide, and formed of four 4″ x 2″ rafters battened with 2″ x 1″ battens at 5-in. centres. These sections are bolted together through the wrought-iron knee braces at the head of the wall sections, and to a 4″ x 2″ collar beneath the ridge plates. 4″ x 2″ ceiling joists are fixed on the site, and 4″ x 1″ ties are bolted to the collars and joists. The roofs are covered with cedar shingles. At the gable ends the framing and weatherboarding above the head of the prefabricated wall sections is built up on the site.

At all external corners the wall sections are bolted together with wrought-iron angle cleats at the head, centre and sill of the framing, and the weatherboarding finishes up against vertical wood fillets.

Internally most partitions are 3″ x 2″ stud built up on the site, and the general internal finish throughout is a ⅜-in. plasterboard on the walls and a ¼-in. plasterboard on the ceilings. Walls and ceilings are papered and distempered.

In the lavatory blocks the walls are faced with an asbestos cement sheet with a smooth polished surface.

To prevent vermin from getting under the structure, a ⅝-in. wire mesh is fixed between the foundation posts on the perimeter of the buildings, secured to the bearers and taken down about 1 ft. into the ground. Where the buildings are on a sloping site 6″ x ¾″ sawn fir boards are fixed between the foundation posts, nailed to vertical battens cast in the posts. The wire mesh is fixed to the bottom boards, and a ⅝-in. ventilation space is left between the top boards and the underside of the bearers.

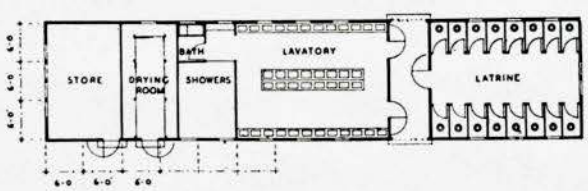
All Western red cedar is left untreated. Window frames, doors, posts and rails to loggias, etc., eaves soffits and window shutters are painted.

Heating, Ventilation and Sanitation

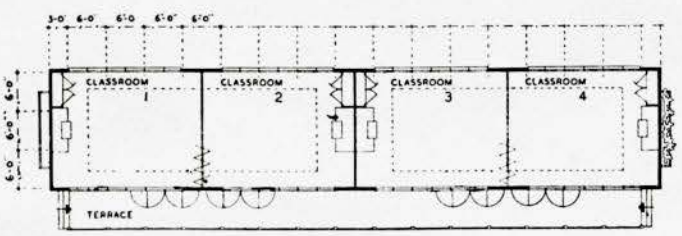
The dining-room block and the assembly hall have louvre ventilators on the roof ridges, and all other blocks have circular louvre ventilators to the roof space in the gable ends.

All heating is from the central boiler house with underground mains. The huts, with the exception of the staff quarters, which are fitted with radiators, are heated with single pipe ring mains at skirting level. The main function of this heating is to keep the buildings dry in winter.

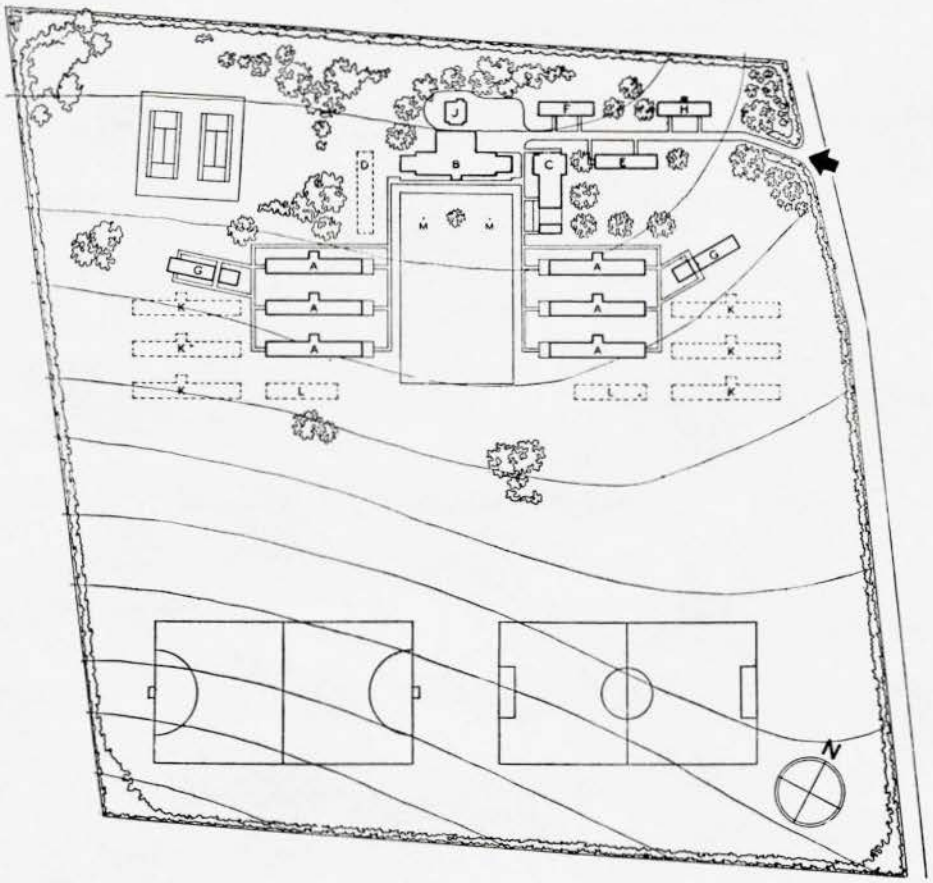
Water sanitation is used in all camps, either connected to main drainage or to a private disposal plant.



GIRLS' LAVATORY BLOCK



CLASSROOM BLOCK

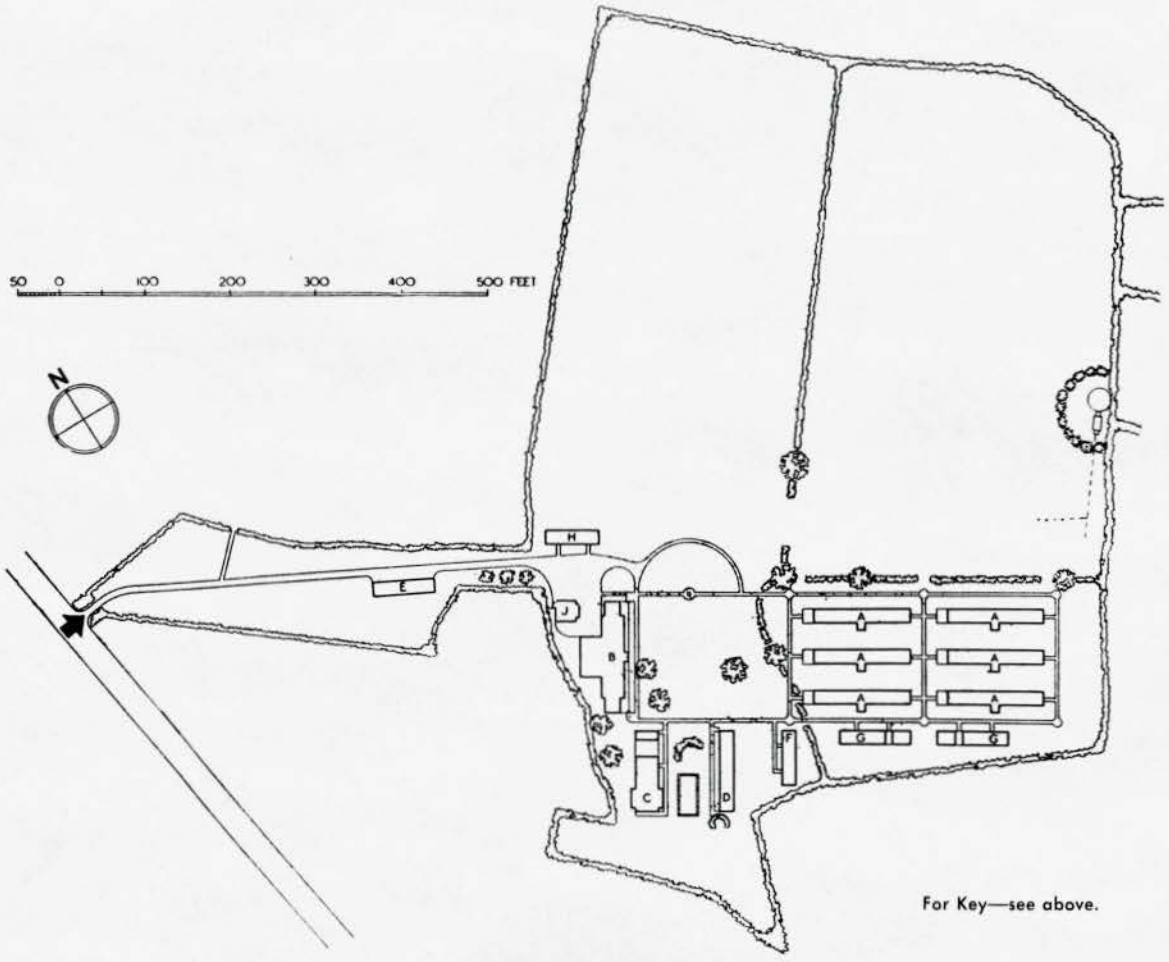


TWO SITES LAID OUT BY SIR JOHN BURNET, TAIT & LORNE

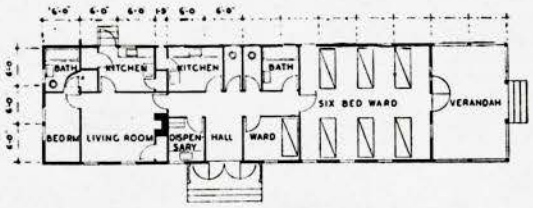
Left: Laverstoke, near Overton, Hant.
Facing page: Horsleys Green, Bucks.

KEY:

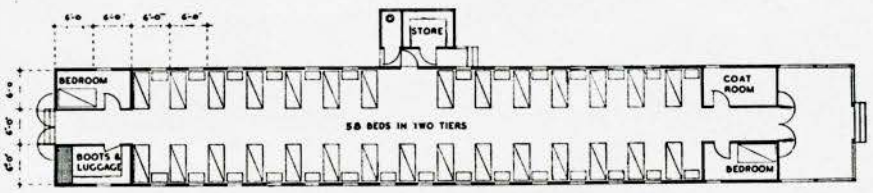
A. Dormitories.
B. Dining Hall and Kitchen.
C. Assembly Hall.
D. Classrooms.
E. Hospital.
F. Staff Quarters.
G. Lavatories.
H. House for Camp Manager and Headmaster.
J. Boiler House and Fuel Store.
K. Dormitories—future.
L. Lavatories—future.
M. Flagstaff.



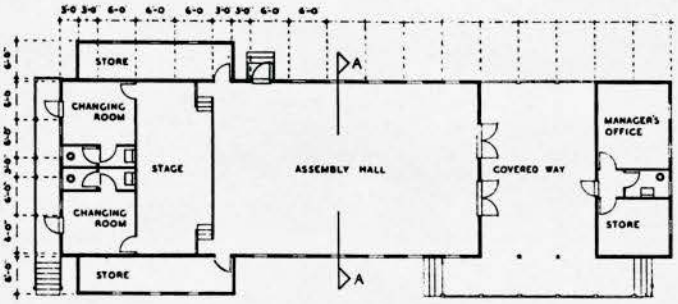
For Key—see above.

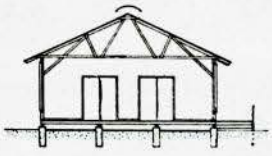


HOSPITAL WITH MATRON'S LIVING QUARTERS

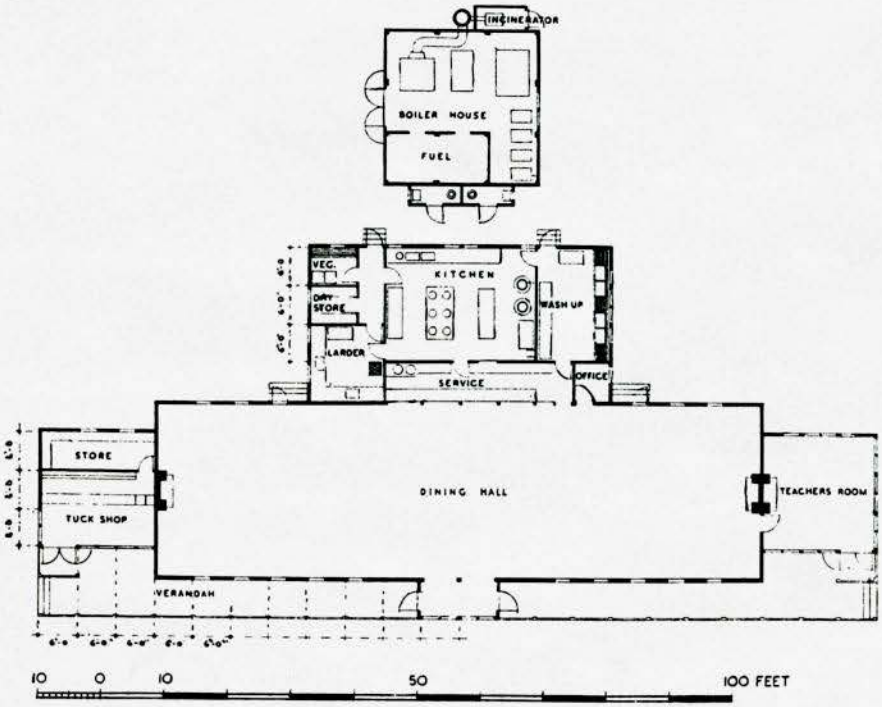


DORMITORY BLOCK



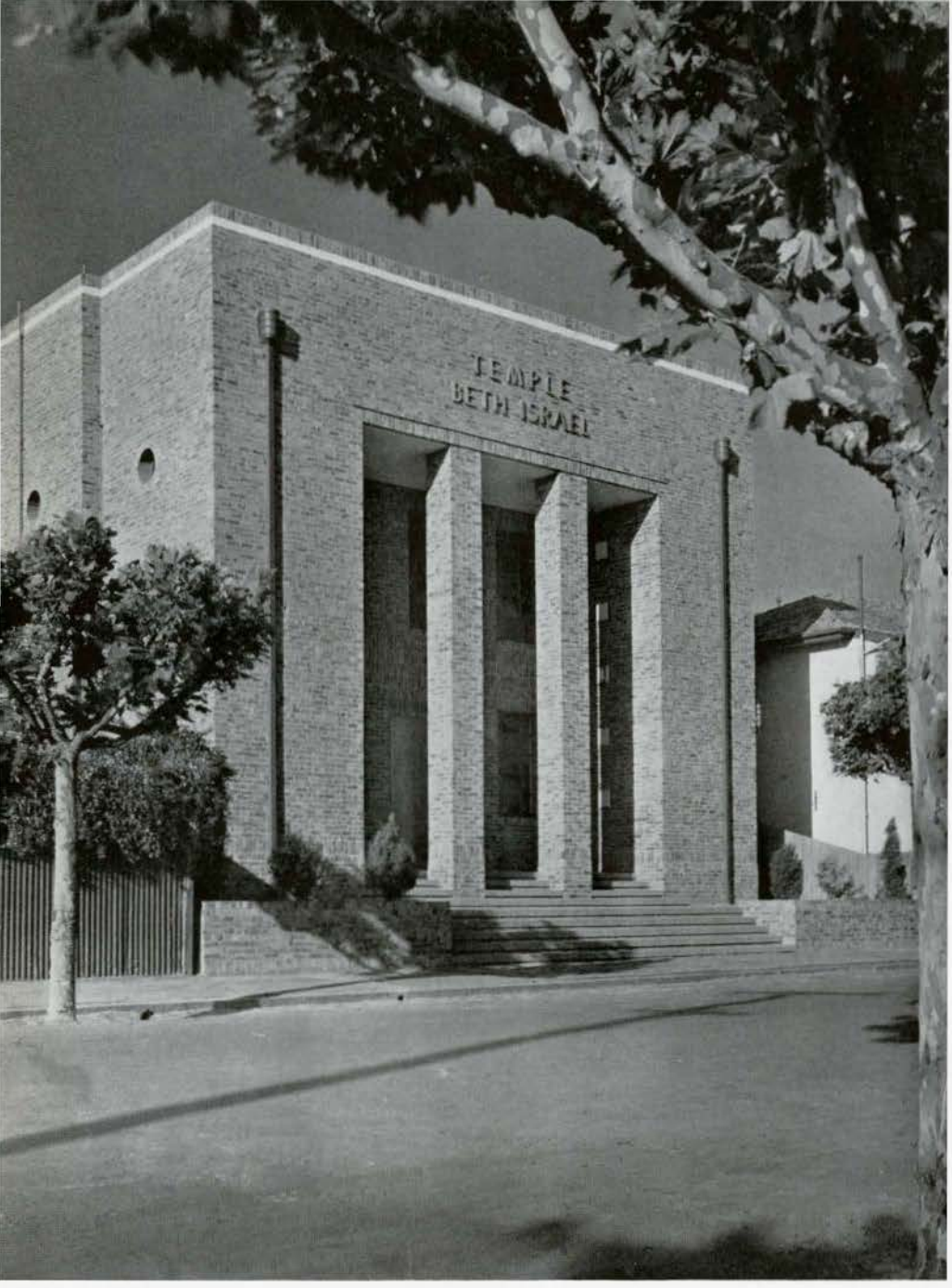

SECTION AA

ASSEMBLY HALL, WITH CAMP MANAGER'S OFFICE.



BOILER HOUSE AND FUEL STORE. THIS BUILDING IS IN BRICK.

DINING HALL AND KITCHEN. THE TEACHERS' ROOM IS USED FOR THE SERVICE OF MEALS.



THE BETH ISRAEL TEMPLE, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

J. PLOTTEL, ARCHITECT

TEMPLE INTERIOR

STORE AT LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA

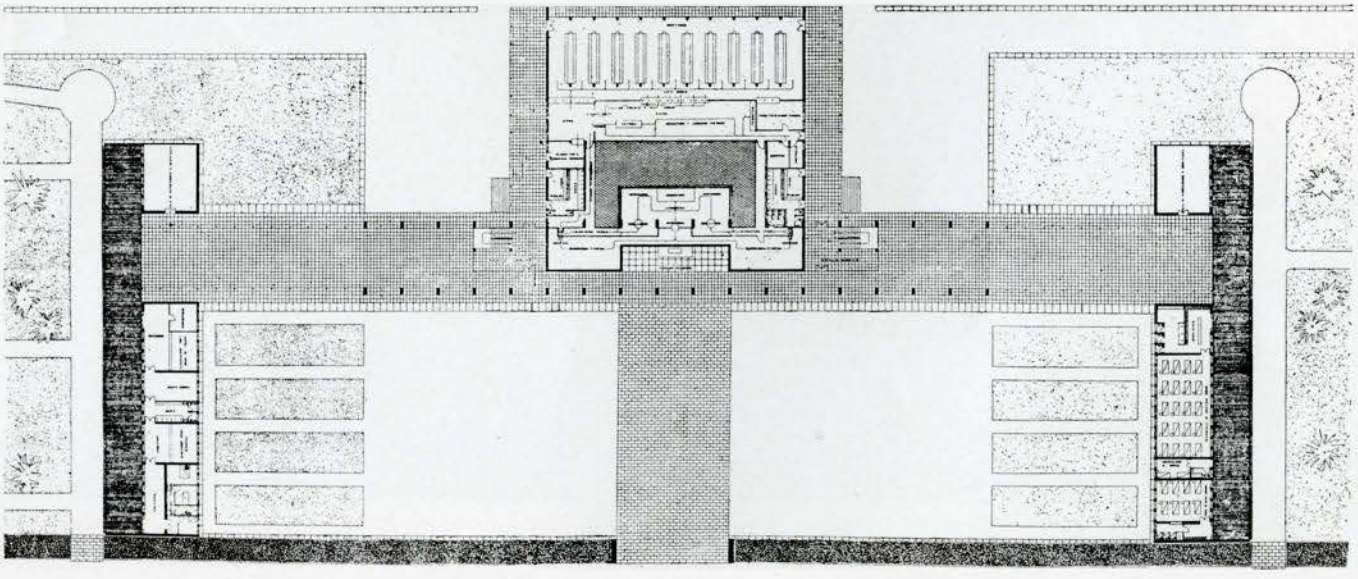
MEECH AND MEECH, ARCHITECTS

STORE FRONT OF LAKE SIMCOE ICE AND FUEL LIMITED, TORONTO, ONT.

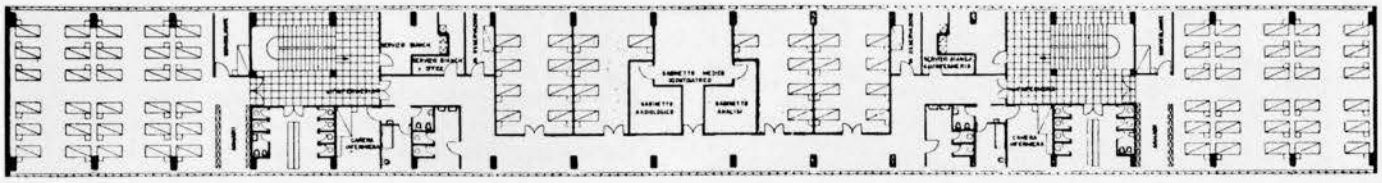
ALLWARD AND GOUINLOCK, ARCHITECTS

THE "SANDRO MUSSOLINI" SUMMER COLONY FOR DELICATE CHILDREN AT CESENATICO, ITALY

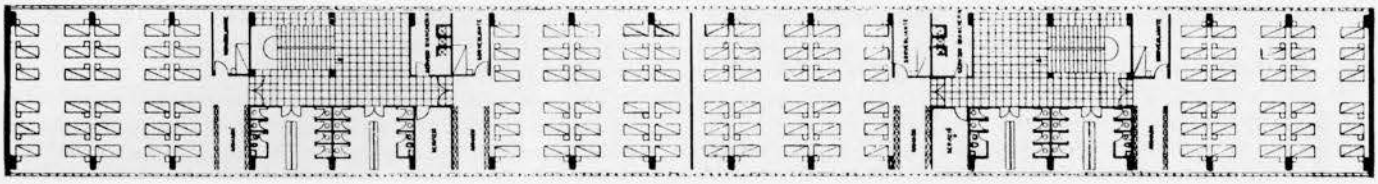
GIUSEPPE VACCARO, ARCHITECT



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

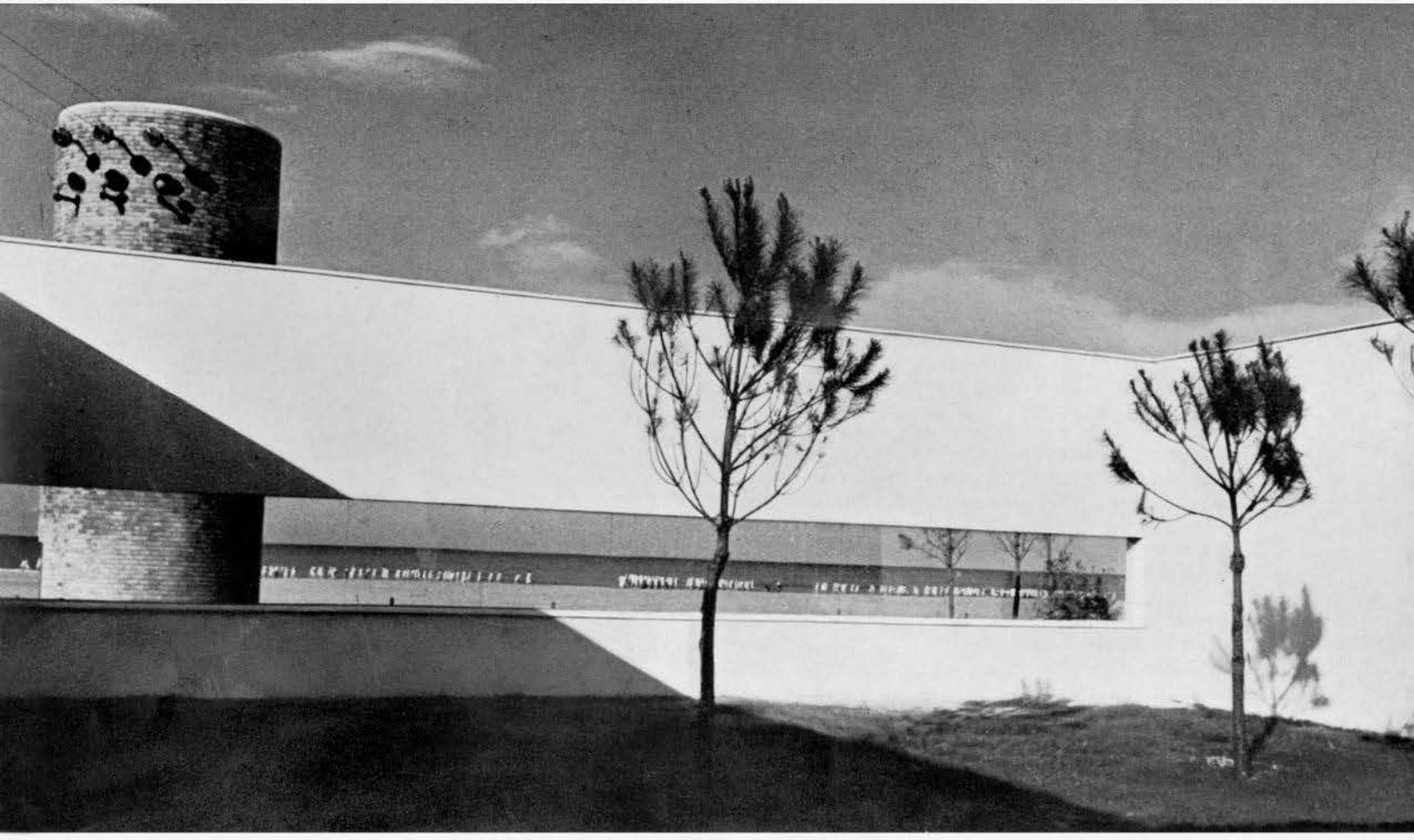


FOURTH FLOOR PLAN



SECOND AND THIRD FLOOR PLAN

WALL OF THE ISOLATION PAVILION AND THE TOWER OF THE ELECTRICAL TRANSFORMER



AN ARCHITECT LOOKS AT TRINIDAD

By A. MACKENZIE BRYDON

TREASURY AND POST OFFICE BUILDING, PORT OF SPAIN

IT does not often happen that a Canadian architect has the opportunity of doing work in the tropics, and my experiences may be of interest. My work was in Port of Spain, the capital of Trinidad which we reached in the splendidly equipped *Lady Hawkins* from Boston.

Trinidad, or as the Caribs called it Iere, "The land of the Humming Bird", is the most southerly of the West Indian Islands, being only ten and a half degrees from the Equator. The first view of the island was through a low hanging haze as we emerged into the Gulf of Paria from the Boca de Huevos, one of the narrow straits or Bocas through which ships pass from the Carribean Sea, to the anchorage off the "Port".

Port of Spain being first built as a port for sailing ships, is in a sheltered bay facing south-west, and, as it gets the full strength of the sun, is very warm. The cooling breezes from the Atlantic are diverted from the city by the mountains to the north and east.

While the climate is warm it is not unpleasantly so, and the cool evenings make sleeping quite comfortable. Heavy rains are of almost daily occurence except during three or four months starting about December.

The temperature varies only a few degrees during the whole year, being slightly cooler in the dry season.

These climatic conditions have a controlling influence on the architecture of the island as it is necessary that protection from the rains be considered as well as shade from the sunlight. The sun is not so actinic as it is in Canada during the summer months and it is quite possible to go round bareheaded without danger.

Mosquitoes and flies are not very troublesome; but bats are at times a nuisance and I have dined with them zooming over the table. In some parts of the island a small vampire bat is a grave danger as his bite produces rabies. Windows are not usually screened in Trinidad and I found it better to sleep under a net.

The older houses are mostly of weird design with frilly "jigsaw" ornament at gables and eaves. Even the houses of the well-to-do are indifferently planned and poorly constructed according to northern standards.

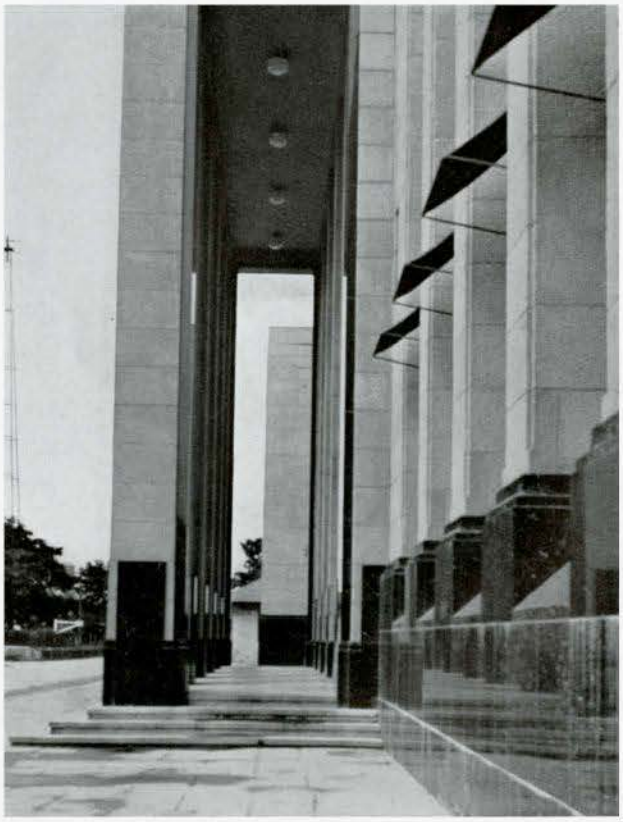
Tropical window construction is a product of the climate. The ordinary box frame is largely used, but it is often flanked or surrounded by Venetian slatting which acts as permanent ventilation. Sections of these louvres can be pushed out at the foot with a short pole for increased airiness and are named Demeraras after their place of origin.

Sanitary conditions are poor and even in large houses the bathroom equipment is often of inferior quality. Only in a few houses did I find fixtures that could be called modern and these were, in many cases, of cheap quality. Many of the baths in the older houses are made of concrete sometimes tiled inside and out. In the newer buildings, however, there is a decided improvement in plumbing equipment. Planning and design are also improving.

As an example of conditions in San Fernando, the second largest town, I saw a septic tank on the ground floor of a building, spilling into the street gutter; there was no distribution bed. It is well that the heavy rains keep the streets and gutters clean. Bath-water often spills into an open gutter at the side of the house and flows some distance before entering the drain. All rain-water is lead to the street gutters and during a heavy shower flooding is usual.

There is evidence that at one time the buildings in the island had considerable architectural merit; but unfortunately taste seems to have departed. Yet one finds interesting bits of wrought iron, simple mouldings and other features which tell clearly of past beauty. Stone work has been painted and slate and tile roofs have been stripped and re-covered with corrugated galvanized iron to save the trouble of repairing. These iron roofs have been in turn neglected, adding to the shoddy appearance of many buildings. I have seen piles of good old tiles lying discarded and broken on the ground.

The houses of the poorer people are crowded together in narrow streets and the district of "Piccadilly" in Port of Spain is an outstanding example of bad housing. I understand, however, that the city is taking steps to improve living conditions.



MAIN PORTICO, TREASURY AND POST OFFICE BUILDING, PORT OF SPAIN

A usual method of building the better class of moderate sized house is to erect a frame, morticed, tennoned and pinned together in good old English style. The frame is then nogged with concrete and the whole plastered over. The roof is formed by widely-spaced rafters, with ribbons to carry the sheets of iron. "Rain on the Roof" is quite Wagnerian in Trinidad.

The workmen are quite clever in the use of cement and make good gallery (verandah) balustrades and handrails of concrete. This is really necessary as termites are an ever-present pest. Plastering is done mostly with bricklayer's trowels and, when finished, looks like it.

The largest and most important building to be built recently in Port of Spain is the new Treasury and Post Office Building for the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago.

The architect was Mr. H. G. W. Brinsley, M.C., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.I. The general construction work was carried out by the Public Works Department with their own labour. I had the interesting experience of acting as assistant architect on this building and I had to take over full control during Mr. Brinsley's six months' absence in England. As I had not competent assistance during this time, the work was somewhat arduous. The engineering was done by the P. W. D. and the steel frame was fabricated in Glasgow, Scotland. The building was finished with cast stone which was made in sheds close to the building. The making of this stonework was an interesting experiment. Steel moulds were made of the required dimensions and the concrete cast in them face down. While the three inch thick slabs were still green, East Indian workmen with sharp steel points picked over the surface, giving a crandled effect which was very satisfactory. The Belgian granite base was made to our details in England and was beautifully executed. The floor slabs were cast on high rib metal. The steel frame members are bolted together since there are no riveters on the island.

The building has a U plan with the open side to the east so that cool breezes from that direction can penetrate through all parts of the building. The Sorting Office and P. W. public space occupy the easterly part between the side wings, and are one storey high, the balance of the space forms a courtyard for the mail vans. The main vault is enclosed with burglar-proof steel grilles and is patrolled by a sentry with fixed bayonet. Trinidad seems to have a fixed bayonet complex.

The building provides accommodation for the Treasury and Postmaster General's Departments, Inland Revenue, Letter, and Parcels Post Offices.

A feature which is not to be found in our buildings are the "Breakfast Rooms".

OLD FRENCH BUILDING, PORT OF SPAIN

OLD SPANISH BUILDING, SAN FERNANDO

The first meal of the day in the West Indies is "Early Morning Tea", at about seven o'clock, and at noon an hour is taken off work to eat "breakfast". My own E. M. T. was served in my room at seven sharp by the coloured maid. The service was very punctual and efficient, but once in a while I had to call, "Frances, you have forgotten the salt." Frances would bring it in a hurry, showing a glistening dental crescent.

The "breakfasts" are carried to offices in granite-ware containers nested together in a metal frame with a handle on top. In the Treasury Building these containers are taken to the breakfast rooms which are used for this noonday repast. There is no "Siesta" in Trinidad. Working hours are as long, or longer, than in the North and no one should go to the tropics to work, under the impression that he is going to have an easy time. Work is even more difficult there, owing to lack of modern equipment, and lack of experience on the part of contractors and workmen.

There are not many buildings of the Spanish period. One at San Fernando, which is shown in the accompanying photograph, remains unaltered except from the ravages of time. The piers, caps and arches are of cut brick and the casement windows are of Mora or some other native wood. This building is used as a dwelling at present, but what its history is, I was unable to discover.

The island has many interesting kinds of wood. Mahogany is being grown to some extent, and Mora, a tough coarse wood of great strength, is plentiful. Forest Cedar is much used for doors and trim and makes a good job, although it is rather soft. Experiments in Teak growing are being carried on; but as yet the trees are small and many years must elapse before the lumber can be cut. Other woods are Balata, Crapo, Cypre, Purple Heart, and many others, strange to people from the North. Many of these woods make excellent furniture and are most satisfactory. It would be interesting to see some of these woods used in Canada if they could be obtained at a reasonable cost.

Trinidad has a most interesting population. East Indians form about one-third of the whole and Hindu Temples and Mosques are found throughout the island. Zebus and water buffalo can be seen in rural districts grazing or working in harness. Men in the habit of Ghandi and women with saris, wearing nose and ear ornaments, rubbed shoulders with me in the streets.

Many races are represented in Port of Spain; but the bulk of the population is negro or coloured. The white population is small.

I found the life most interesting and my contact with people of many races a worthwhile experience.

PROVINCIAL PAGE

MANITOBA

I have been absent from this Provincial Page for several months. I hope I have been missed. The monthly report from Manitoba has been well taken care of by my fellow-architects so the Province has not been missing entirely from this page.

I returned a few days ago from an extended visit to the United States. For the first time I had an opportunity to visit New Orleans and the impression of being in a French city is so very strong that one is almost surprised to find the English language spoken on the streets. It is much like Quebec City, more extensive in size, more southern in its architecture, more colourful because of the brilliant foliage of its gardens and the bright sunshine that paints the stucco buildings in rich, warm tones. There is a freer use of iron work in New Orleans than in any American city I have ever visited, and the designs of balconies and grilles and fences are varied and fascinating. There is imagination in the colour schemes, in the dark brown of the iron work against cream stucco, black against gray, the green against pink or lavender. They are all tied together harmoniously by the general unity of their architectural style and the horizontal lines of their belt courses and windows.

While the streets offer interesting colour patterns, it is the courtyards that glow with the richly contrasting tones that Nature uses with profusion and that man uses only with restraint. A curious mixture of Spanish, French and Italian, these outdoor living-rooms present certain characteristics of them all. Deep balconies, screened with wooden or iron grilles, are supported by the low, wide arches so common in Spain and the Spanish Colonial work in Mexico. The casement windows with their heavy shutters are much like those of the cities of the south of France, and the widely projecting cornices that cast a deep shadow are very reminiscent of Italy.

The old French section, like the older section of the most of our American cities, has been subject to the changes that come about with a mechanical age. Many buildings have been torn down to make way for faster traffic or to provide parking lots and filling-stations. With a mixed feeling of pride in the charm of the old buildings and the knowledge that the American people pay well for atmosphere, New Orleans has at long last passed legislation in an attempt to preserve what is left. No building can be changed on the exterior without the consent of an architectural commission appointed for that purpose, and there are regulations governing the placing of signs and billboards on all buildings and streets in the French Quarter. They are seriously trying in New Orleans to preserve the charm of the old without in any way interfering with the desire for modern living conditions, and the results seem to be reasonably successful.

It is a fascinating journey from New Orleans to Baton Rouge and return along the levies. There is a fast highway built through the swamps where you see nothing but cypress and water-oaks, but the levee road takes you past fine plantation houses, many of them unoccupied or fallen into decay through the changes in the economic structure of that country. They mark the leisurely, baronial life of a civilisation built upon slave labour, with thousands of acres of land under cultivation of cotton and sugar-cane. The huge plantation houses with their colonnades on all four sides, the rich plaster ornamentation of the ballrooms, the dining rooms and halls, and the groups of smaller buildings for the superintendents and the workers remind one very much of the feudal castles of the middle ages. It is a sad sight indeed to see such buildings as "Uncle Sam" and "Belle Grove" falling into decay, but they stand today only as a reminder of a gone and almost forgotten day.

— Milton S. Osborne.

ONTARIO

We are now entering upon the melancholy period of a melancholy year. Alarms, respites and more alarms have given place to the dreaded certainty; many architects are already on military duty, others preparing for it, offices are being closed and the green glades where the aesthetes once held court are abandoned to the Simon Pure functionalists. Surely Der Fuehrer's crime sheet is now complete! If not, let us hasten to add that the home fires are being kept burning in Toronto by a stop-order on the Bank of Montreal building and reduction of the staff on the Postal Terminal work to a mere skeleton.

Nothing daunted by all this, however, the University of Toronto has included in this year's extension work a weekly class in Architectural Appreciation. The lecturer will be Richard A. Fisher, one of our confrères on the Editorial Board. We feel certain that if he fails to awaken an intelligent interest in the subject it will not be his fault. We do not know whether he has made any special study of subterranean construction, but we note that he has included in his programme a section on "the city and dwelling unit of the future"!

Congratulations are in order to Mr. Thomas Edward Aikenhead, who, on October 1st, completed sixty-five years with Aikenhead Hardware Limited, of Toronto. We trust that whether in presiding over the affairs of his firm, or in chasing black bass or speckled trout, he will have many pleasant years yet before him.

Congratulations also to Mr. John E. Lea, of the Canadian Ornamental Iron Company, Toronto, who boldly plunged into the still uncharted waters of matrimony on September 30th. Among the arts, architecture is almost unique in its dependence upon the co-operation of skilled craftsmen—and craftsmanship in ornamental metal work is a tradition of the Lea family. We cannot wish Mr. Lea anything better than a measure of the esteem which his father, "E. J.", enjoys among those privileged to know him.

— Gladstone Evans.

QUEBEC

Owing to a change in the ownership of the property, the Architects' Association has had at a short notice to vacate their excellent office accommodation at 627 Dorchester Street West. It will be difficult to find other premises so convenient, or as central as those on the top floor of the old Builders' Temple Building; these rooms have been the headquarters of the P. Q. A. A. since 1930.

Certainly the large meeting hall, 48 feet long by 28 feet high, was an ideal place for exhibitions and meetings. Shortly after the premises were leased, this hall was in 1933, redecorated and remodelled under the direction of Mr. W. S. Maxwell, who also designed the special furniture and electric light fittings. The cost of this work was in large part met by private subscription.

It is interesting, as a matter of record, to know that the P. Q. A. A., previous to 1930, had temporary offices in the Castle Building at 410 Stanley Street. In 1922-1928, the offices were at 570 Union Avenue, and previous to that time, and for a number of years, the Association occupied the top floor at 367 Beaver Hall Square. The first offices of the Association were situated at 186 St. James Street, and the first Annual Meeting of the P. Q. A. A. as incorporated, was held in the Parliament Buildings, Quebec, on September 10th, 1891.

As the Council have now to find other offices, a movement is on foot to purchase a property, and they have under consideration a survey of one or two buildings in the central part of the city. Before any definite action is taken regarding purchase or otherwise, it is hoped that a general meeting of the members will be called, when the project may be explained, and an opportunity given to all the members to thoroughly discuss the matter. Though the Association have a reserve fund, and are in a fairly strong financial position, it is very much to be questioned whether it is wise, in a war crisis, to take on the additional heavy expense that is now being contemplated.

As a natural consequence of the war, many meetings and conferences are being cancelled, and one wonders whether the 15th International Conference of Architects, scheduled to convene at Washington, during the last week of September is to meet with a similar fate.

An exhibition of international architecture, and an interesting programme — the result of many months of careful planning—has been arranged.

It will be regrettable if the conference has to be postponed, but everything has to give way to war conditions these days, and now that the distinguished contingent of British and French architects are unable to attend, any meeting that might be held could certainly not be considered fully international.

Whatever decision is made the P. Q. A. A. has appointed Henri Labelle to be their representative, and Harold L. Fetherstonhaugh, President, has been appointed by the R. A. I. C. to attend for the Institute, and Philip J. Turner is the appointed representative for McGill University. Percy E. Nobbs has been honoured by being asked to give an address on "Architects Remuneration", and Henri Labelle is to act as Chairman, when the subject: "Should Public Authority be clothed with power to reject plans as artistically unsatisfactory, rather than as at present for purely technical reasons only?" is for discussion.

The P. Q. A. A. at a recent meeting decided to accept the qualifications of graduates from five Schools of Architecture for membership in the Association, without any additional qualifications, except that of passing the Association's examination in Professional Practice, and serving the necessary 12 months office experience, after graduation. The schools recognised in this category are the following: Ecole des Beaux Arts and McGill University, Montreal; University of Toronto; University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. It is to be hoped that all the other Provincial Associations in Canada will adopt a similar policy. — *Philip J. Turner.*

A plan to place the full services of the construction industry at the disposal of the existing civil and military branches of the Dominion Government has been submitted to the Ottawa authorities by the National Construction Council of Canada. It is now receiving the consideration of the Cabinet.

The plan was outlined to Hon. J. L. Ralston, Minister of Finance, and Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Transport, by a deputation comprising E. P. Muntz, president of the N.C.C.; J. M. R. Fairbairn, vice-president of the Council; H. L. Fetherstonhaugh, president of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada; C. D. Harrington, president of the Canadian Construction Association; and E. Ingles, representing the Trades and Labour Congress. The deputation waited upon the ministers as a result of conversations held a few days previously. Mr. A. S. Mathers, Mr. B. R. Coon, Mr. Gordon West also represent the Institute on the N.C.C.

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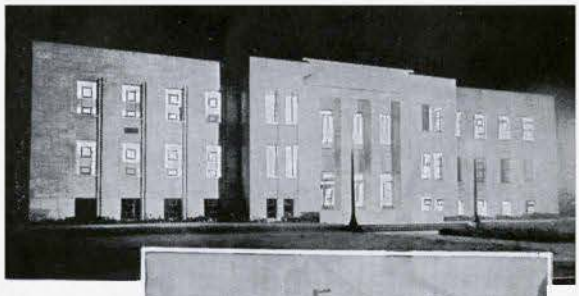

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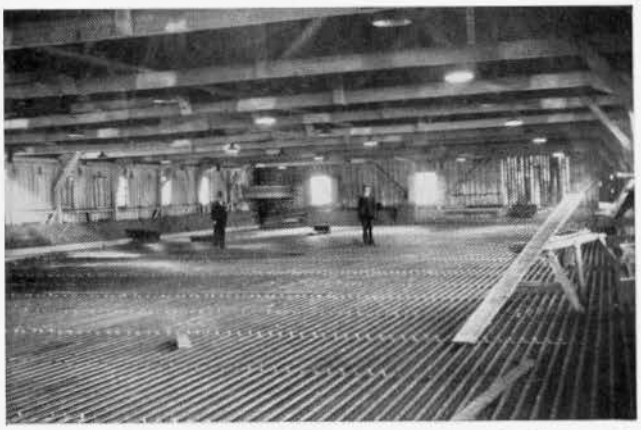

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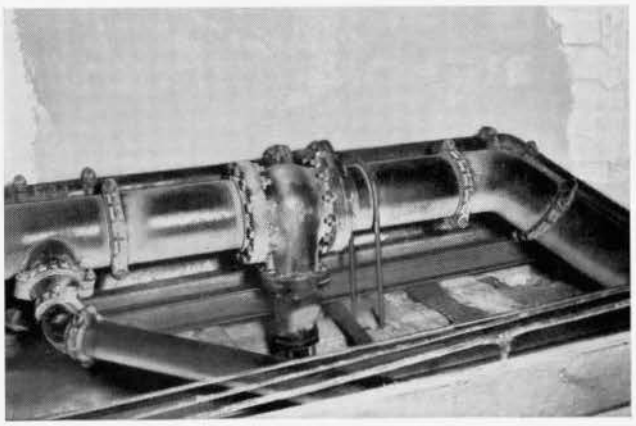

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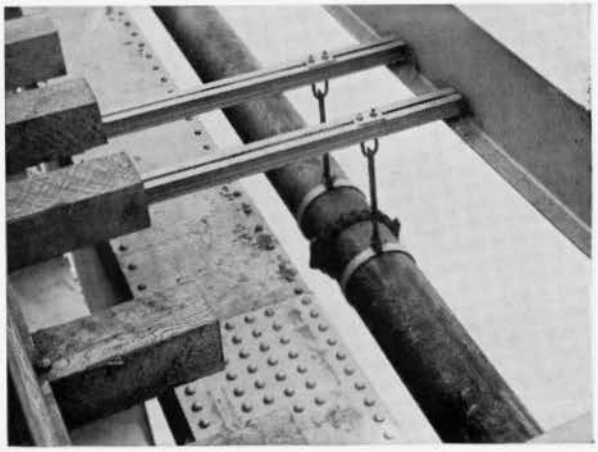

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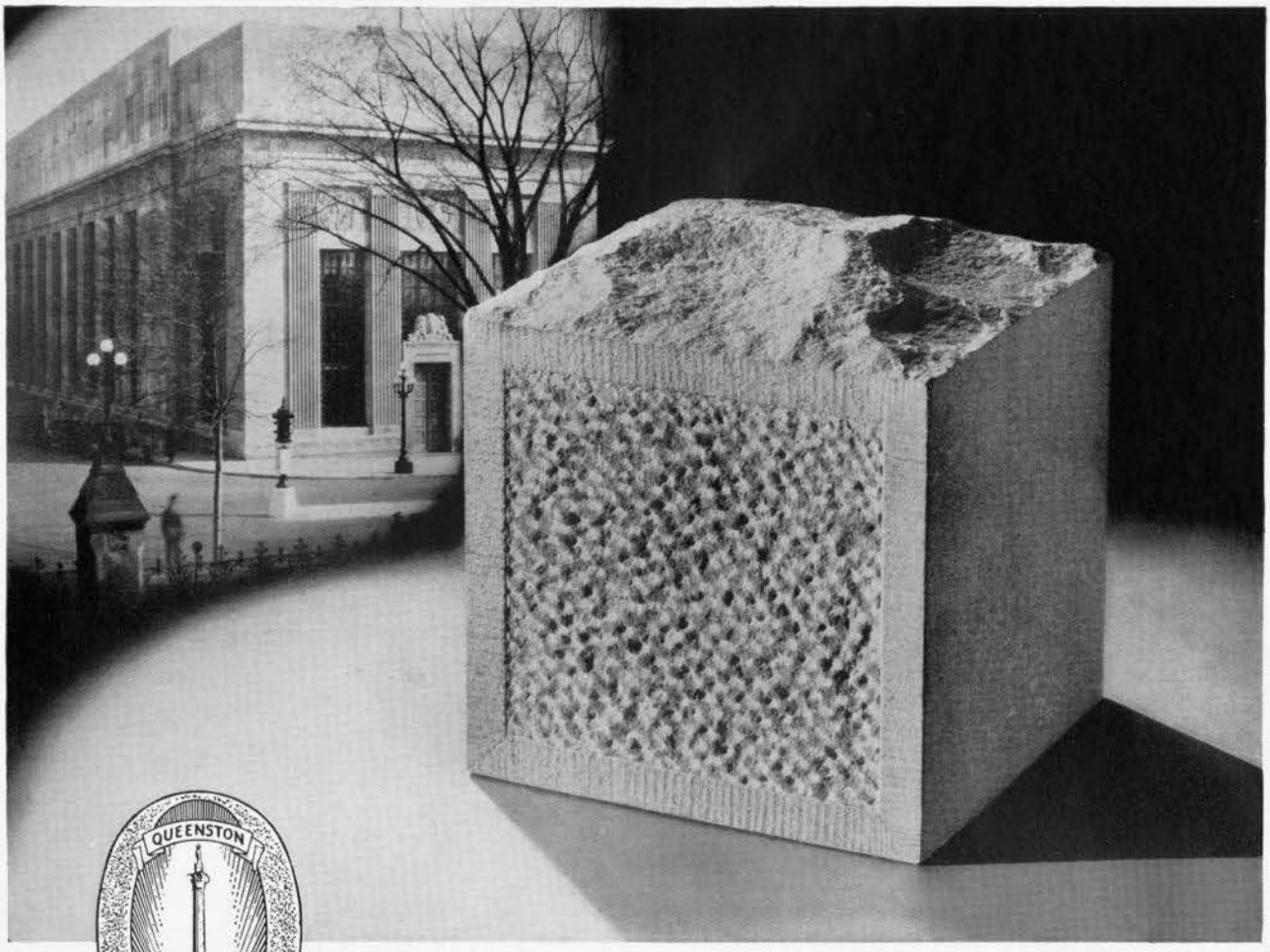

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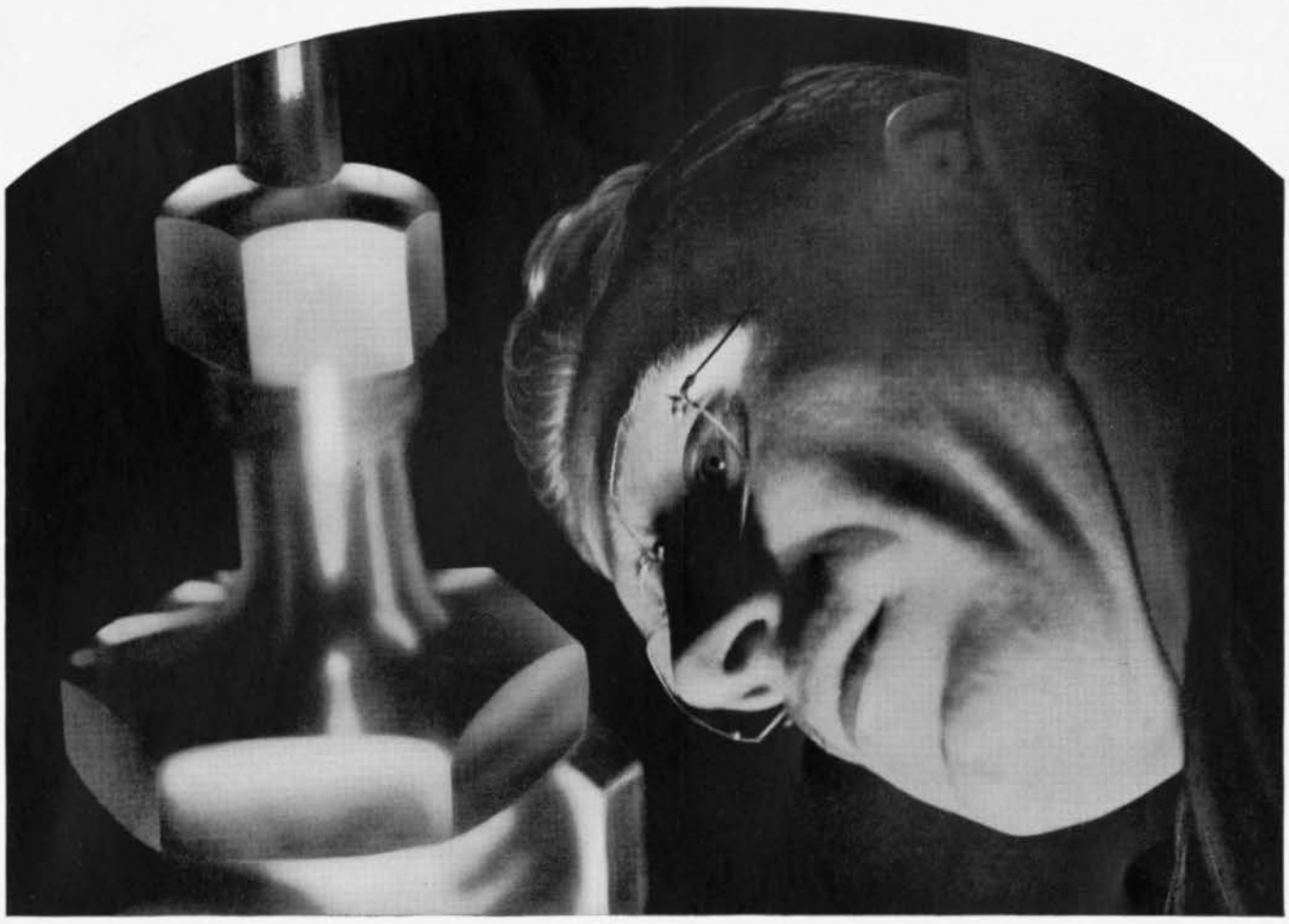

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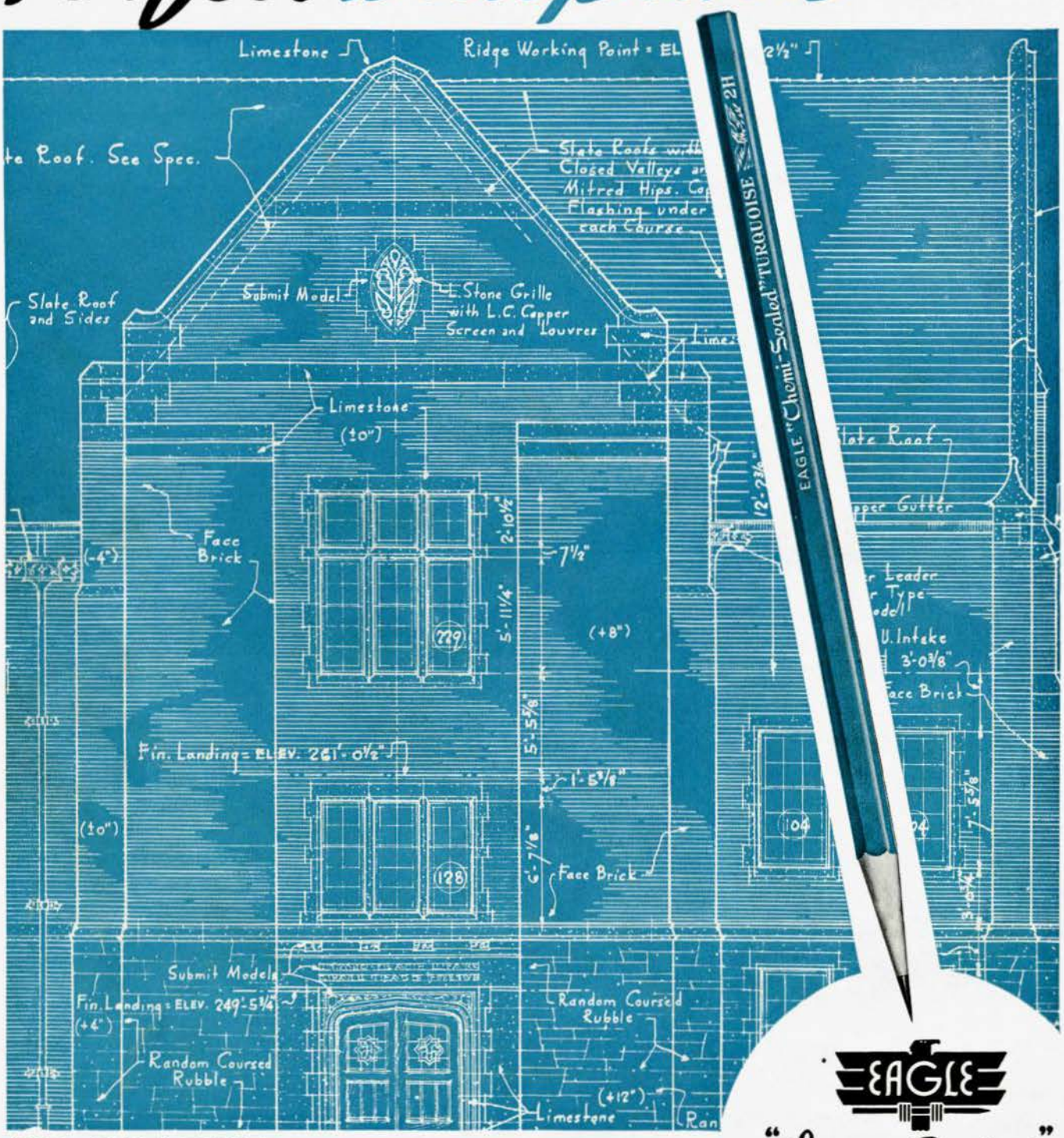

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