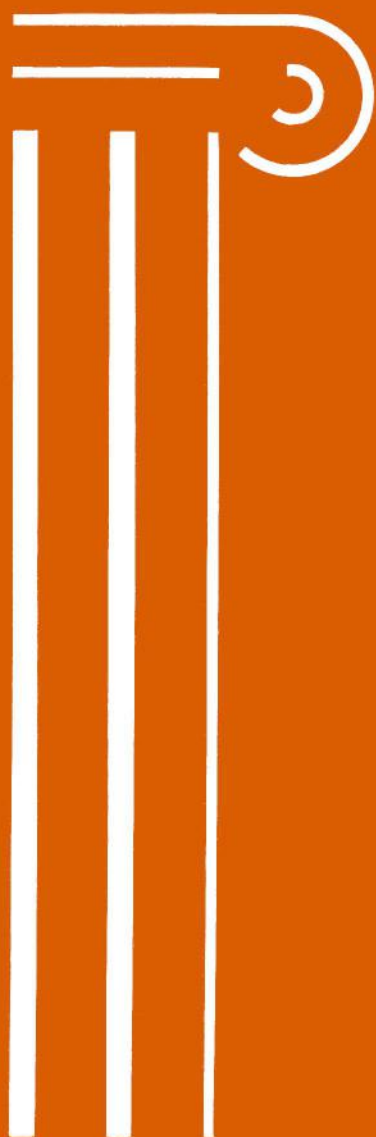


JOURNAL

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL
INSTITUTE OF CANADA



VOL. 18

TORONTO, MARCH, 1941

NO. 3

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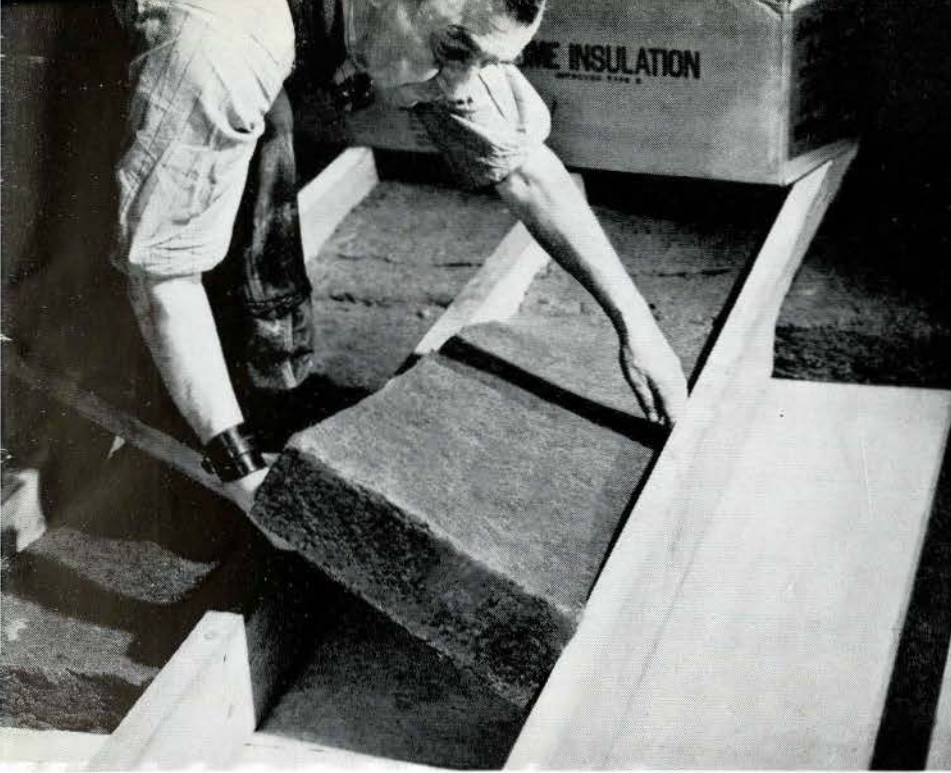
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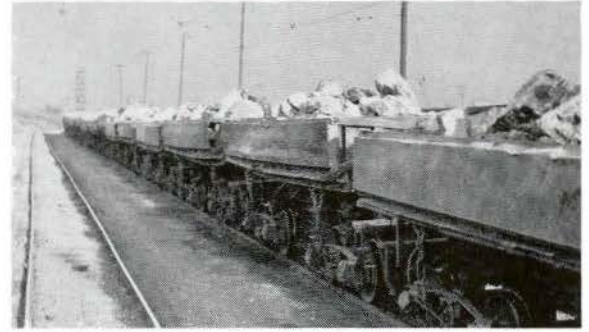
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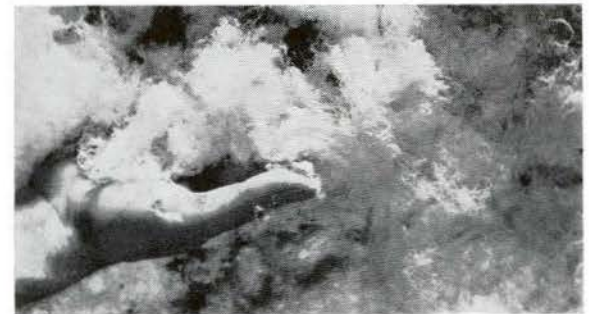
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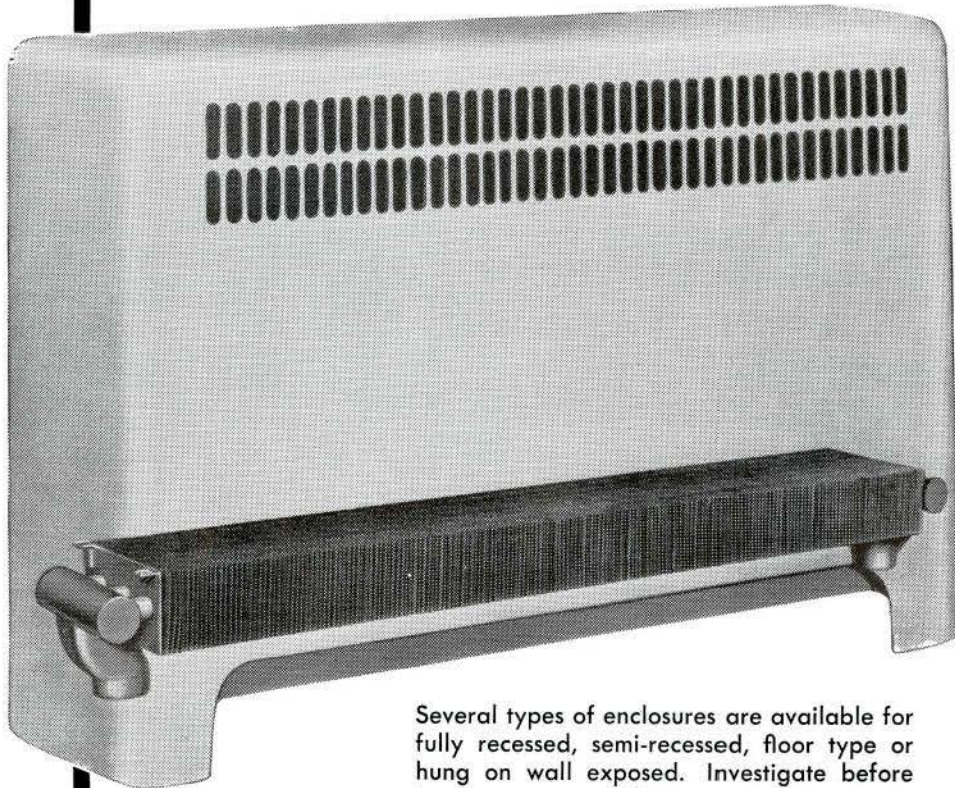
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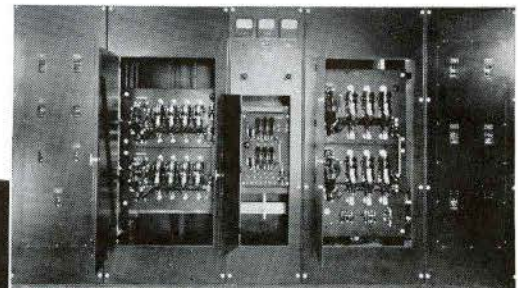
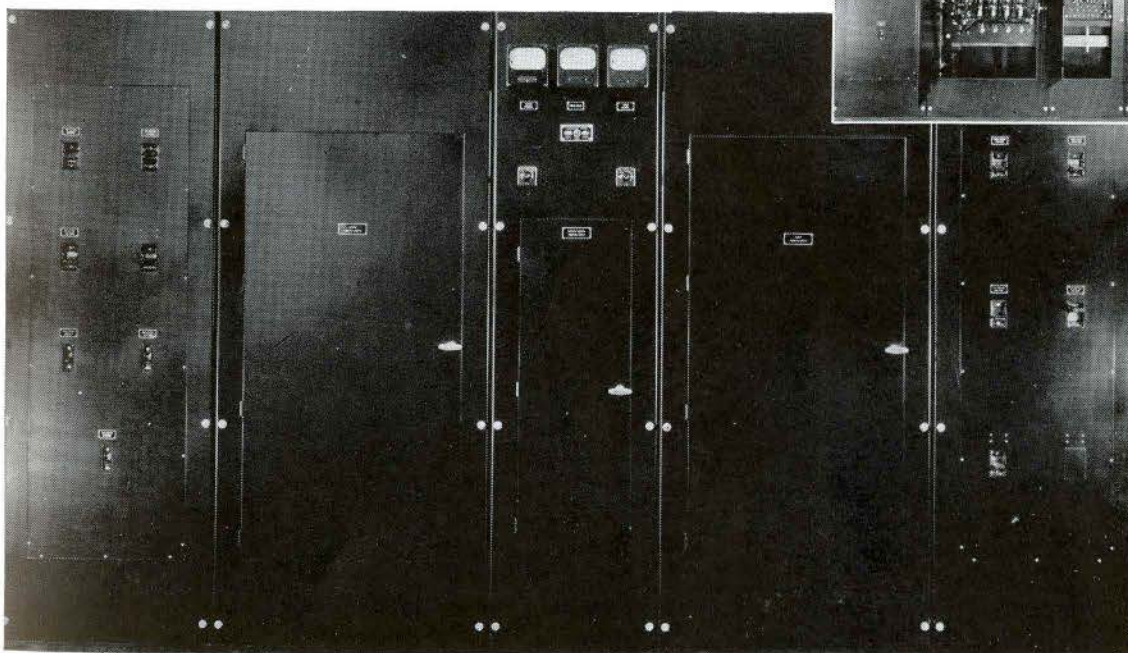
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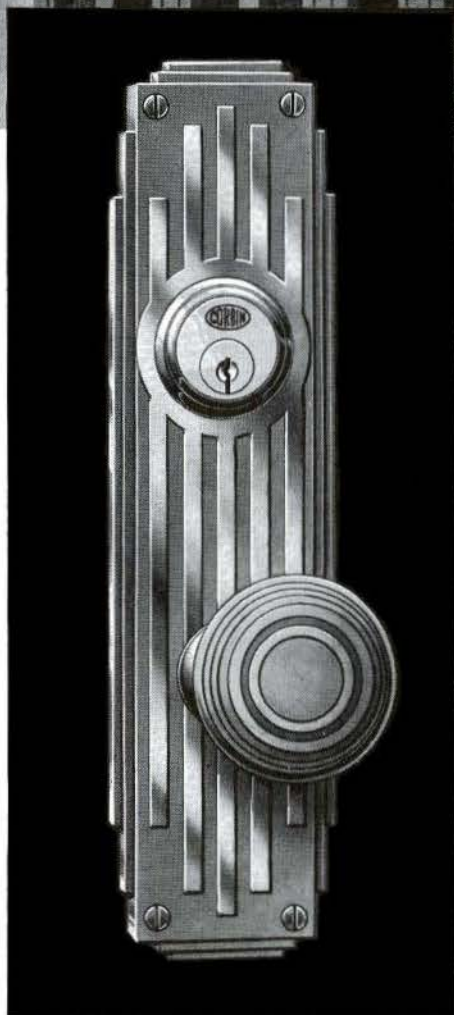
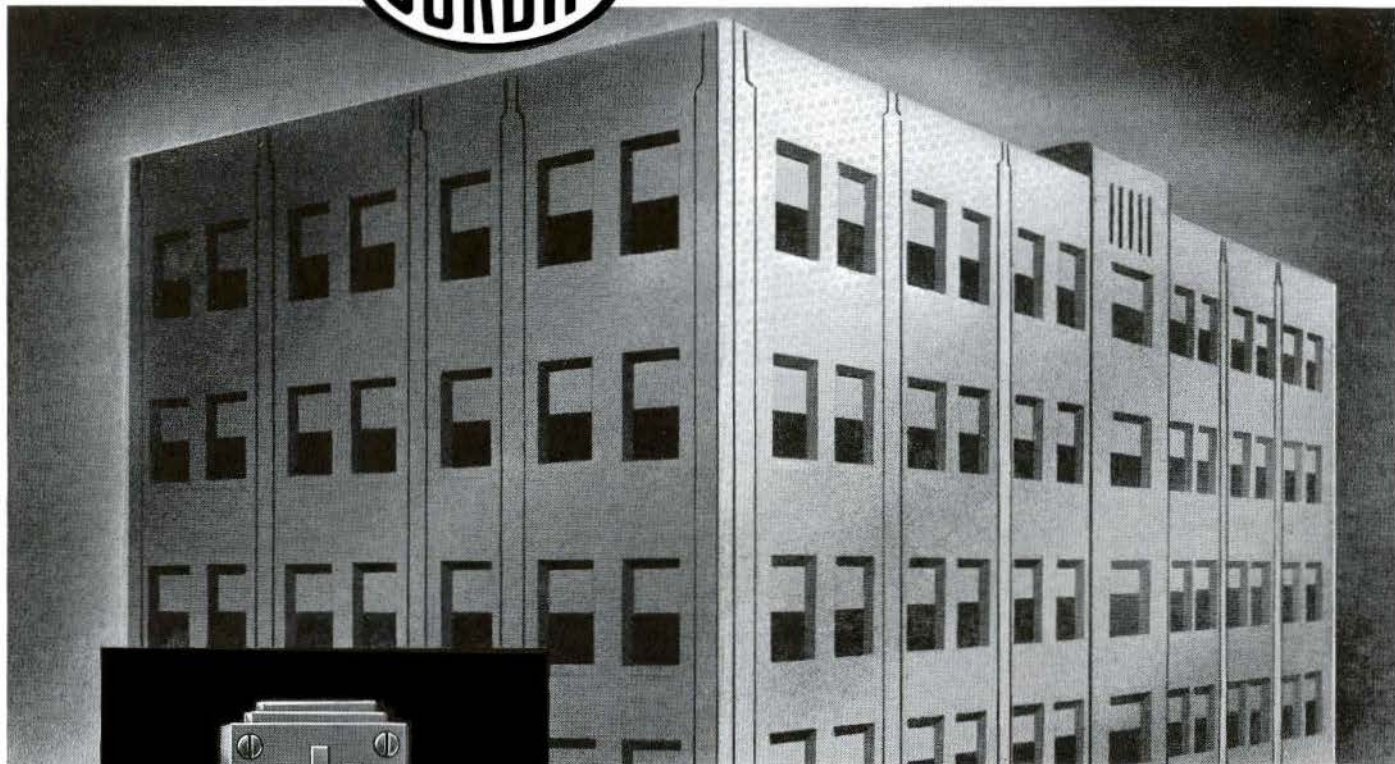
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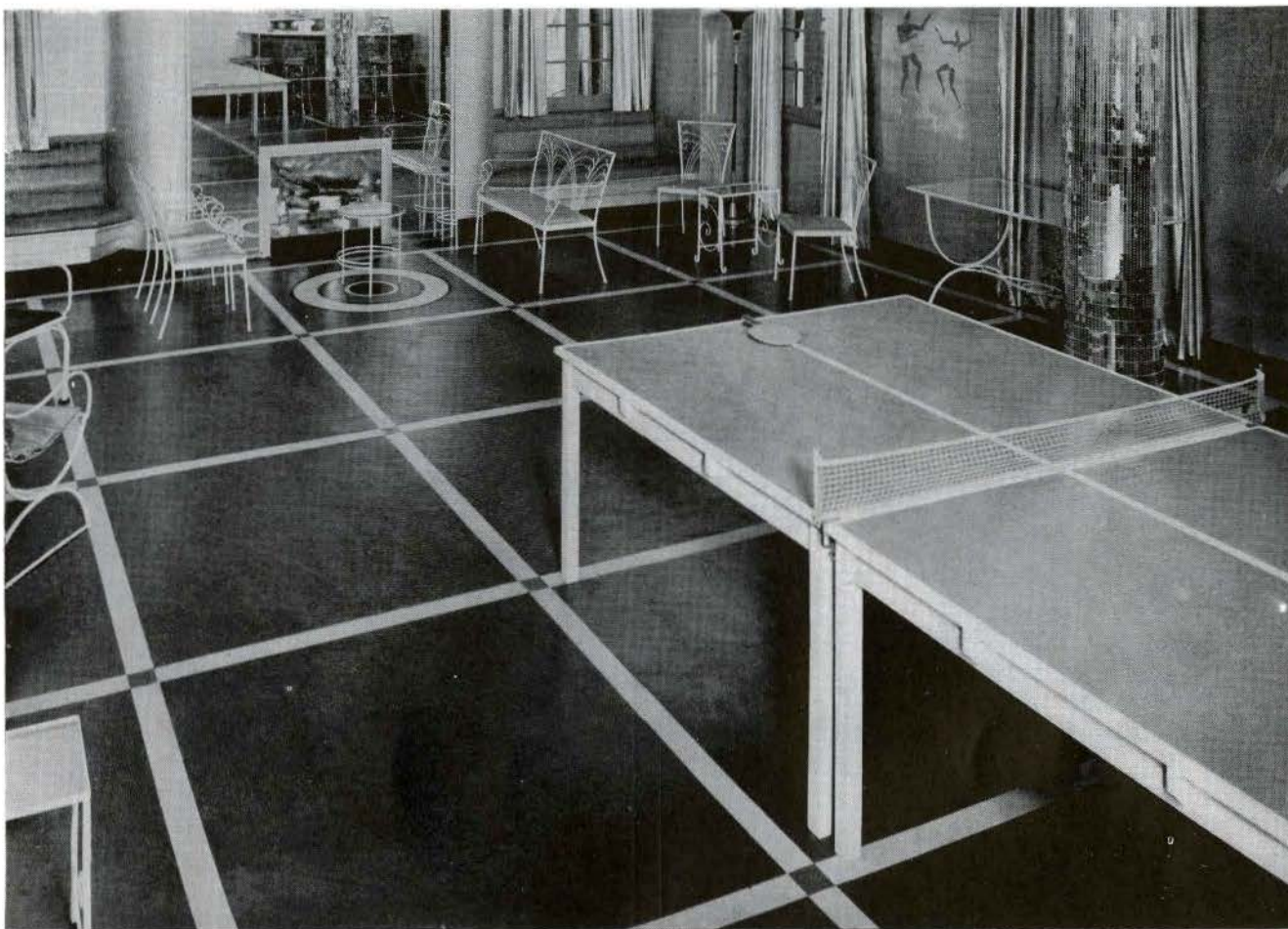
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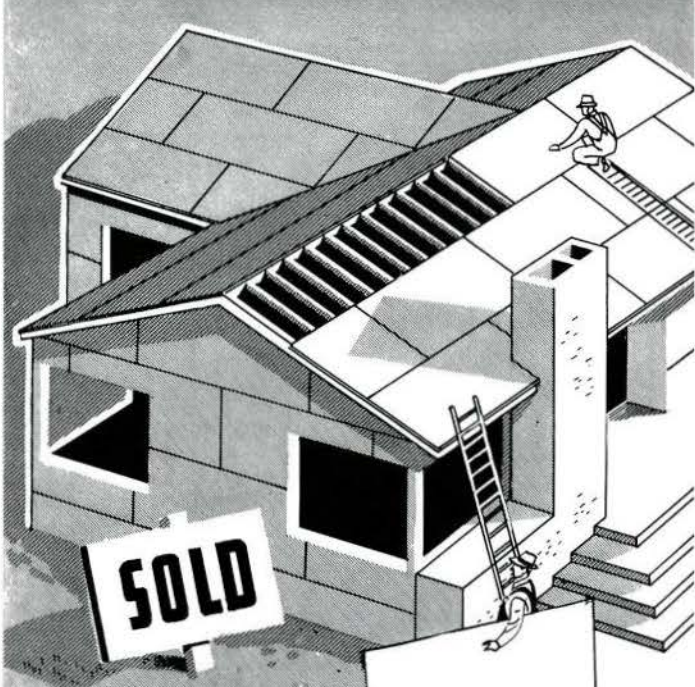
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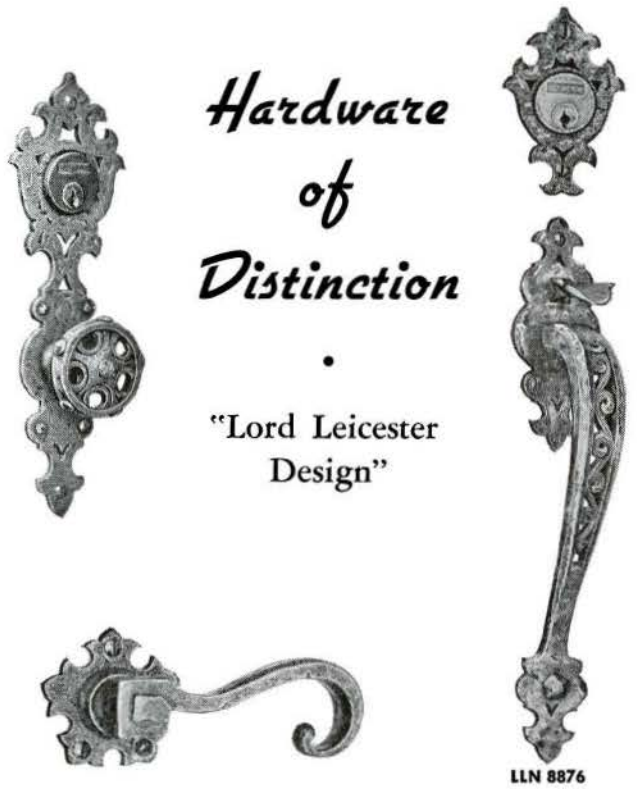
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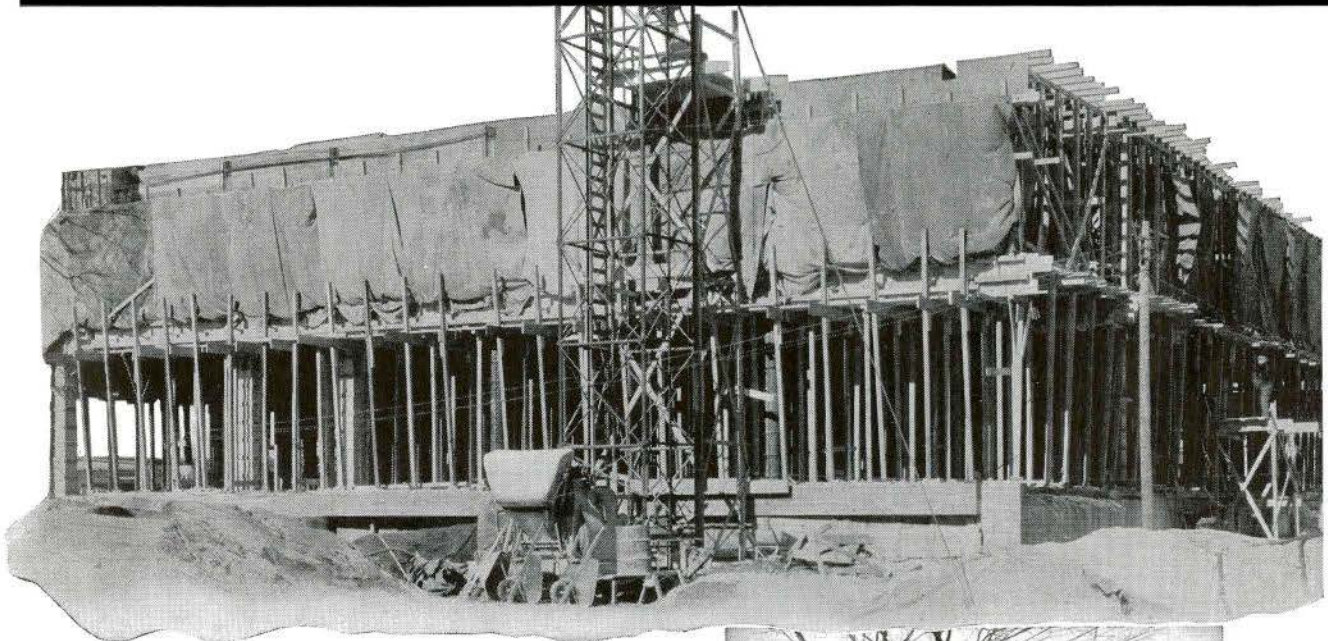
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JOURNAL

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

Serial No. 187

TORONTO, MARCH, 1941

Vol. 18, No. 3

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THE recent R.A.I.C. Annual Convention was well attended, representatives being present from each of the Provincial Associations. However, many members were prevented by time and distance from enjoying the advantages of these annual gatherings and for them in particular these few paragraphs are written.

Your Journal is making good progress. In the short space of four years it has been transformed from a liability into an asset and, given normal conditions, its future is bright. To attain the full measure of success it needs your earnest support; it needs articles, plans, photographs and now, even more than ever, these must come from you. British and European sources are seriously curtailed. Naturally your Editorial Board strives to select the best, the most interesting, the most ingenious in current work and the small house may be a marvel of ingenuity that makes it as important as the monumental structure. The skilful solution of the difficult architectural problem is always of interest.

It has been the custom over the years to print a few surplus copies of the Journal each month and these extra copies are now being sent to fourth and fifth year students in the Schools of Architecture in McGill, Manitoba and Toronto Universities and the Ecole des Beaux Arts. During the Annual Meeting representatives of these Schools expressed such satisfaction with the arrangement that requests were made on behalf of certain other universities, technical schools and libraries; to each of these latter institutions it is intended to forward one copy.

Our advertisers are responsible firms in their respective fields and their products can be specified with confidence and with advantage to your clients. As architects we direct a tremendous and concentrated buying power and that fact is clearly understood by the firms whose advertisements appear regularly in our columns; it might well be pointed out to other firms not yet fully conscious of the situation. You could help that process by impressing upon the many salesmen calling on you that their story might much better be told in Journal advertisements.

The opinion was expressed at the Annual Meeting that in future a two day Meeting would be desirable and advantageous. Such an extension of time should make possible an Editorial Board Meeting at which Editorial Representatives of the various provinces could be present and where Journal policies could be formulated in the light of a coast to coast viewpoint.

In an effort to acquire this wider viewpoint it has been decided to issue some Special Numbers during this current year. The P.Q.A.A., the Prairie Provinces and the O.A.A. will initiate the programme, each being responsible for a number and their genius is expected to reach such heights that British Columbia and the Maritimes will be inspired along similar lines. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that specially sponsored numbers should become regular annual features.

In the short space of time since the Annual Meeting several articles and several helpful letters have been received in response to the appeals made. If that interest could be maintained throughout the year the work of the Board would be lessened considerably and the value of the Journal increased considerably.

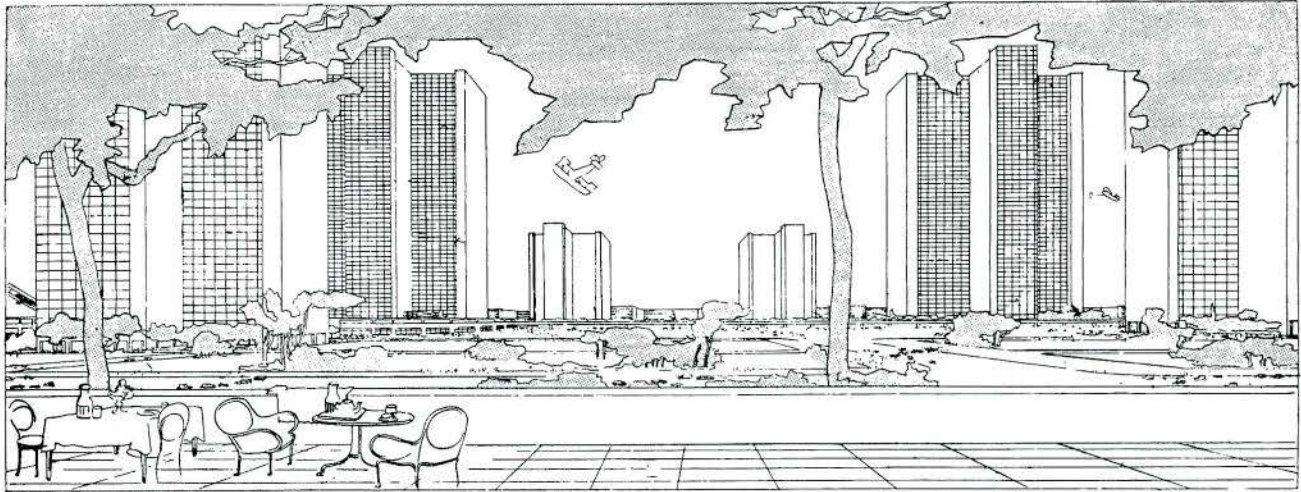
To those architects who have taken no active interest in the Journal in the past the Board bespeaks an interest now; to those who have contributed generously of their time and talents we acknowledge thanks on behalf of the Board and of Canadian architects generally.

FORSEY PAGE
Chairman, Editorial Board.

THE STRATEGY OF TOWN-PLANNING

By HUMPHREY CARVER, A.R.I.B.A.

An address at the thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada.



1. LE CORBUSIER'S romantic and scientific imagination dominated architectural philosophy during the nineteen-thirties. His design for a city of 3 million population showed what the Skyscraper Age might have been, had the resources of modern science been properly harnessed.

IN the midst of history's most violent cataclysm it seems appropriate that architects should discuss *not* their own personal problems of private practice (which now seem utterly insignificant), but that we should consider the whole scene in which Canadians are going to work out their particular form of Democracy; for we should be chiefly responsible for the staging of that scene and what we do or fail to do must have a profound effect upon that Drama, which will be played out in the cities of Canada.

My contribution to this afternoon's discussion is to suggest an historical background, a few general principles which we might agree upon as fundamental to all Planning. I am frankly going to avoid local controversies and make generalisations into which others can fit the detailed application, as the discussion develops.

As an after-luncheon liqueur, to stimulate the imagination I start with this visionary and airy perspective. Le Corbusier represents all the fine, brittle and over-confident ambitions which we had for our civilisation after the last War. We immodestly reached up to scrape the skies. The skies are now retaliating by coming down to scrape us. [1].

Nevertheless Corbusier's was perhaps a more intellectual vision than this Theme of the 1939 World's Fair, in which Americans are still obsessed with the thought that the pivot on which our future lives and hopes are going to turn is the glorified down-town skyscraper, the symbol of plutocracy. [2].

As an introduction to your discussion, I want first of all to suggest that the confusion and lack of character which has afflicted the development of our towns, has arisen from a failure to clarify and agree upon an ultimate OBJECT or purpose. In designing a military campaign it is not possible to construct a strategy in which all the detailed tactics are inter-related and consistent, until the final aim or OBJECT has been comprehended and defined. It is the same in designing Cities.

You sometimes hear people say that the object of Town-Planning is to solve Traffic problems or to maintain Real

Estate values or to establish Zoning. It is important to realise that these are merely tactical incidents which have their appropriate place in the accomplishment of a far more profound purpose.

Now if it can be said that our highest purpose here is to develop the social capacity of men to live together in peace and mutual responsibility, then we have an ulterior motive for congregating in cities. Their design is the framework of social organisation and is the physical form of political structure. Cities are the moulds in which Society is set.

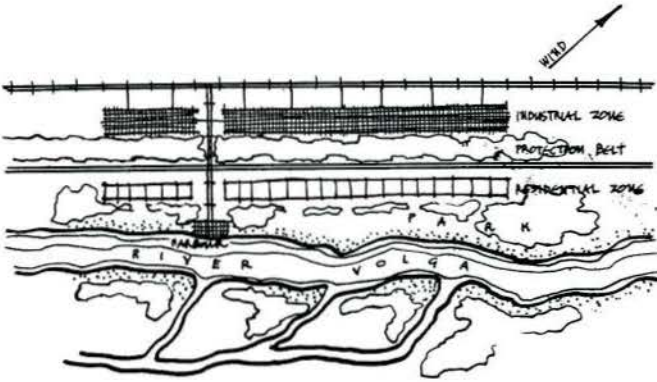
When Russia wished to mould a new kind of Society, it was necessary to invent a new kind of Town. In the Soviet ribbon-town the raw material is fed on to the factory conveyor-line from one side while the labour is fed from the other side, each worker living opposite his job on the assembly line (in this case for making magnetos). This model plan expresses the subservience of the worker to the machine. It is a totalitarian conception. [3].

We prefer to recognise a man politically, not in his capacity as a worker, but as a private citizen. Our residential areas are therefore divorced from our working areas. And it is in our residential areas that the implications of Democracy have to be worked out.

The fact is that throughout history the plans of Cities have reflected the contemporary political structure; men's lives have been dominated by an Acropolis, by the military machine of ancient Rome by a Palace or a Cathedral.

To-day we are looking for a plan which will give freedom of expression to the individual and which builds up by a process of federalisation of sub-units. First there is the individual and his household, then the neighbourhood, then the town and Region—and so on to the Province, the whole state, the Union of the English-speaking peoples and so on. We have to try and express in plant form this conception of federalised Democracy.

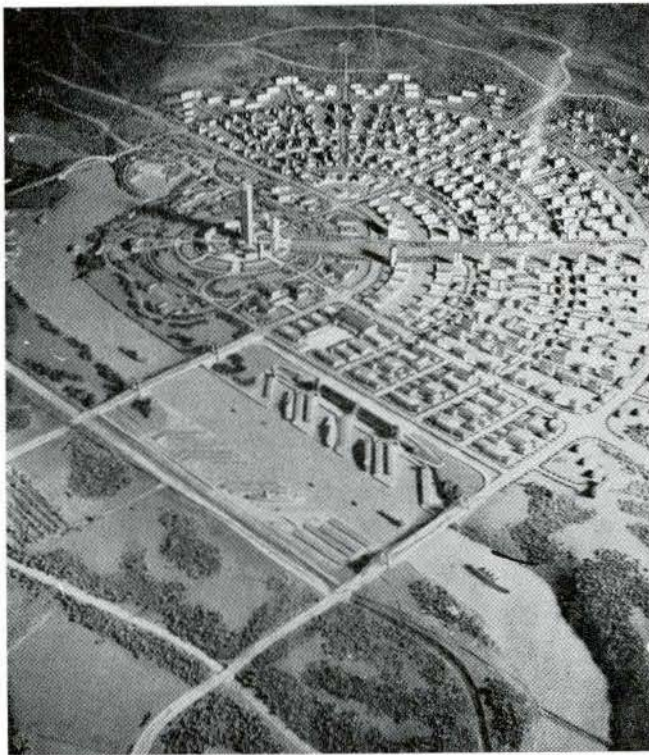
Now ever since the last invasion of England 875 years ago the political unit there has been the Parish. People are noti-



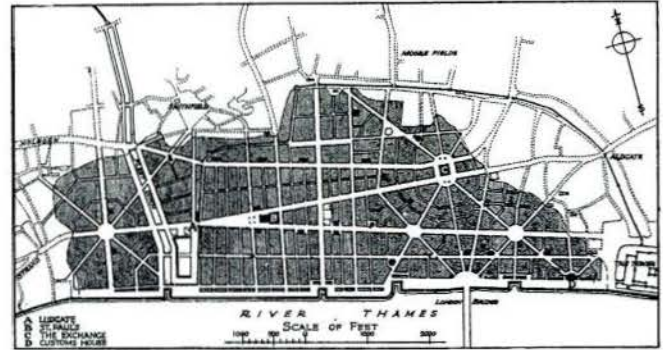
2. *MAGNITOGORSK*, an industrial town in the U.S.S.R., was planned with parallel belts for Industry, Parks, Transport and Residence. The Ribbon Town is theoretically ideal for Industry, but practically the worst for the social life of the community.

fied of local business on the weather-beaten notice-board in the Church Porch, over the comings and goings of the people is the old tower and the sound of its Bell, which for generations has called them to the Village Pump in the morning and sent them home from the Village "Pub" at night. Even Wren's famous plan for rebuilding London after the last *Blitz* is founded on the distribution of Parish churches and their communities. In village and city this parish unit has given coherence to the local plan and has been the physical expression of local loyalty (now proving such an important factor in Britain's defence). [4 and 5].

Here we have been rebels. We most of us came to Canada to throw off what seemed an obsolete social structure and we have not yet crystallised out that which is to replace it. True there were early attempts to devise a characteristically Canadian community plan such as that of Captain Gother Mann



3. "DEMOCRACITY", the interior of the great Perisphere at the 1939 New York Fair. Here all the functions of modern living, domestic, industrial and aeronautical, are brought into one architectonic pattern. No part is too useful to be beautiful.

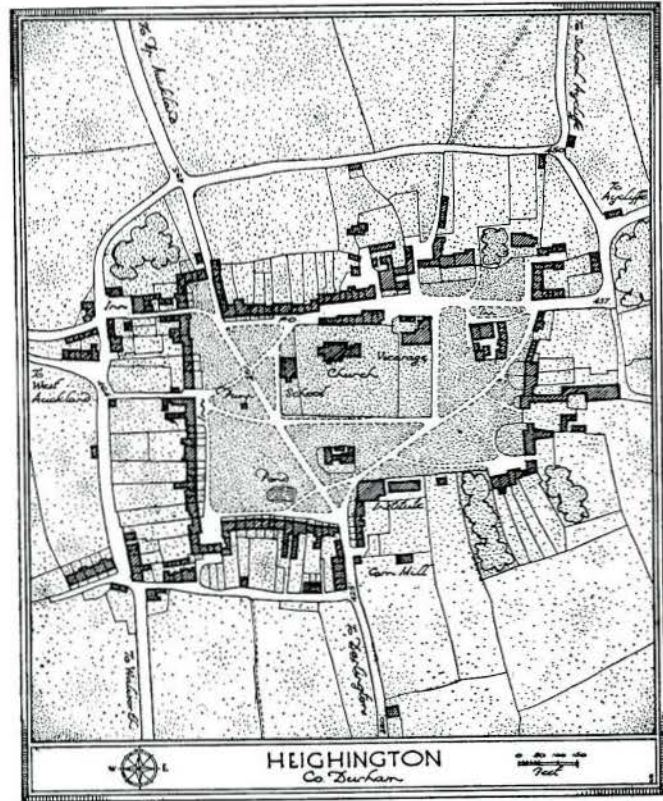


4. SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN'S proposal for rebuilding the City of London after the Great Fire, linked St. Paul's and the Royal Exchange with the dominant axis. Upon the minor axes he placed the Parish Churches.

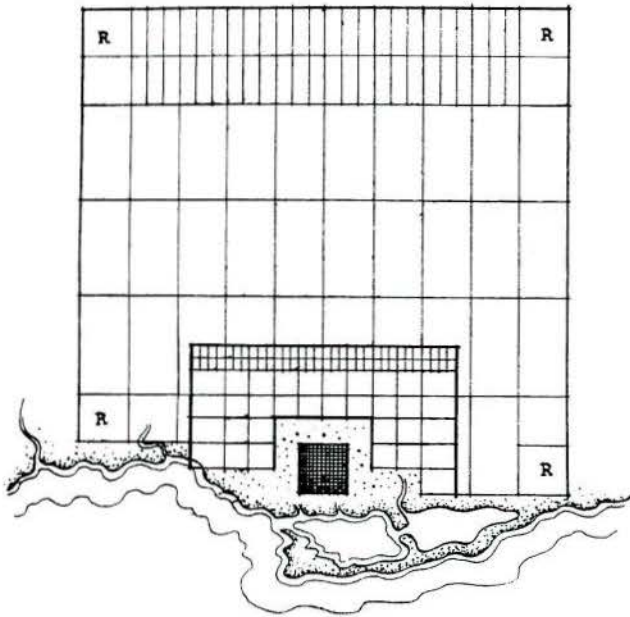
for the site of Toronto in 1788.[6]. But we soon lost the sense of community organisation and as centre of local interest we forsook the Church. In place of the great Drama offered by the ritual of Christianity we now prefer the more wishy-washy "drammer" at the neighbourhood movie. The warm, dim overtones of the local pub have been replaced by the cold slab of the soda fountain at the corner drug store.

People are still, however, mildly interested in the amenities of the district and their first political experience is often when they complain to the local alderman of by-law infringements or inadequate street lighting. The strongest bond, however, in any community is undoubtedly the School and all the attendant problems of how to get the children there and back without mishap.

Here in fact is the nursery of politics. And here also is the beginning of town planning: the attempt to express in



5. HEIGHINGTON, an ancient English village, faces inwards upon the Green where its communal institutions are placed: the Church, the village Pump and the Inn. Irrelevant traffic is circulated around the outside of this comfortable domestic plan.

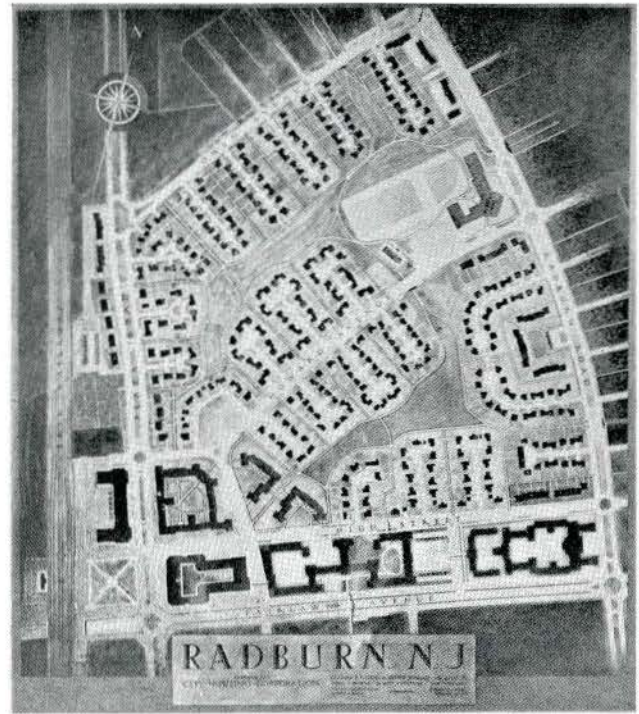


6. CAPTAIN GOTHER MANN'S project for a city on the site of Toronto was made in 1788, just before Governor Simcoe moved his seat of government there. The central commercial area was to be enclosed with a Common or Park; around this, uncontaminated by business buildings, were the suburban properties and beyond these the agricultural land. The whole community is 10 miles square, its main streets one mile apart. The squares marked R were reserved for future sub-centres.

plan form this still loosely defined but embryonic social unit. This at least provides us with something tangible to aim at, a problem which can be limited, dissected and developed into a design consistent with the ulterior OBJECT of our democratic strategy. Henry Wright's brilliantly simple solution to this design-problem will always be a classic. [7].

I don't need to remind you that it was Ebenezer Howard in his book "Garden Cities of Tomorrow" (published in 1902) who first used the School as the planning unit. He was really also the first to announce the possibilities of town planning as a technique not for imposing monumental axes on an unorganised background, but for moulding the whole background itself into an organism. And this included not only the area developed for industry, commerce and residence, but also the open spaces for recreation and agriculture. The direct descendants of Howard's "Garden Cities" (but minus the industries) are the three Greenbelt towns built by the Roosevelt administration under the influence of Sir Raymond Unwin who inherited the mantle of Ebenezer.

Now an integral part of Howard's philosophy was that the great cities had become so large and unwieldy and their population increase so unpredictable that their uncharted expansion should be immediately halted. All subsequent expansion should take the form of satellites of limited size which could therefore be designed with services and proportions for a stable population. But unfortunately popular attention was concentrated on the few Utopian satellite demonstrations and the city was practically given up as a bad job. People forgot that unless a stopper could be put upon the growth of the city so that it *had* to boil over in the form of satellite bubbles, the theory didn't really work. So in spite of Sir Raymond's great crusading, the 19th century cities continued to throw out sprawling suburbs into the 20th century while simultaneously they began to wear out and go rotten at the centre. [8].



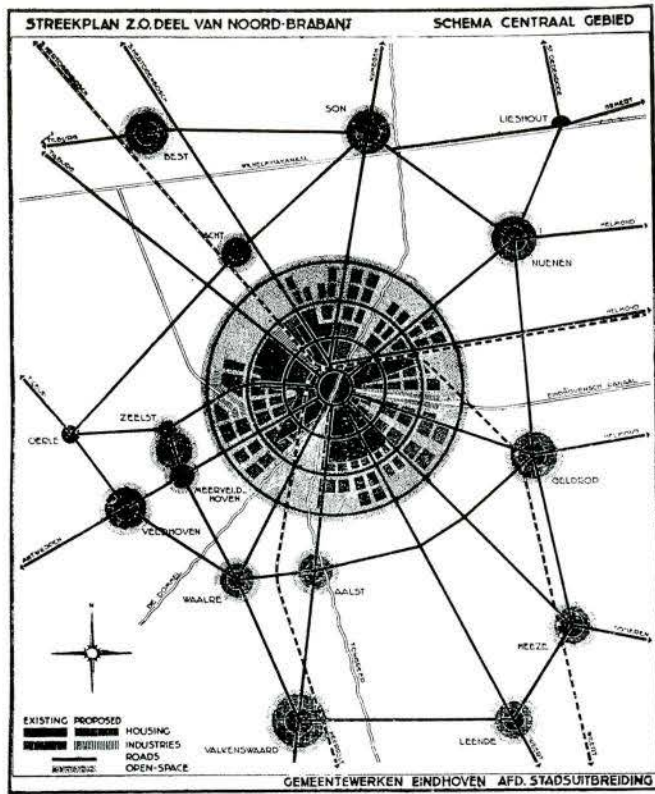
7. RADBURN, New Jersey, designed by Clarence Stein and Henry Wright, with cul-de-sac streets leading to the Park belt, provides a complete pedestrian circulation without using traffic streets. The main street is underpassed near the School.

This was more or less the situation during the aftermath of the last War, when a new planning concept arrived on the scene. While the satellitists were off plucking ideological buttercups in the meadows, the lawyers, surveyors and engineers (less susceptible to idealistic programmes) were still floundering in the bog of city confusion; grasping for something solid, they hit on the idea of Zoning.

Rather like the American tourist who thinks that Art Appreciation consists of giving a date and a label to every masterpiece, the Zoners felt that if they could at least classify land uses and make a map of them (preferably in gay colours) the problem was crystallised and so almost solved. Anyway most cities had a multitude of local bye-law restrictions and it was not difficult to consolidate these and out of a crazy-quilt pattern make something that seemed simpler and more consistent.

This was an honourable and painstaking ambition. But it did not necessarily bring them any nearer to what I have called the ultimate OBJECT. In fact, in England, where zoning has been performed most conscientiously under the "Town and Country Planning Act", it has tended to remove rather than retain patterns of social and political organisation. Not content there with simply separating residential land from that scheduled for other purposes, they proceeded to divide residential land into areas to be developed at 3 or 4 dwellings to the acre, at 12 or at 40 dwellings to the acre. The effect of this has been to accentuate the class stratification, to divide the city into unorganic belts of this or that type of society, without political unity or shape.

I may seem to be rather a heretic if I appear to discredit zoning. My purpose is rather to emphasise the fact that zoning is a purely negative action, giving the police authority to say "On this land you shall *not* do this or *not* do that." Simply as a procedure for restricting obnoxious land uses and removing nuisances from residential areas, zoning is an essential technique. But (if I may again employ military



8. EINDHOVEN, Holland, has adopted a Regional Plan by which its future population is to be housed in outlying satellites, each community being limited in size and framed with a Park Ring. This is a diagrammatic plan.

terminology) no Strategy is complete and no OBJECT can be attained without OFFENSIVE action sometime, somewhere. You can't create a great city with purely DEFENSIVE action.

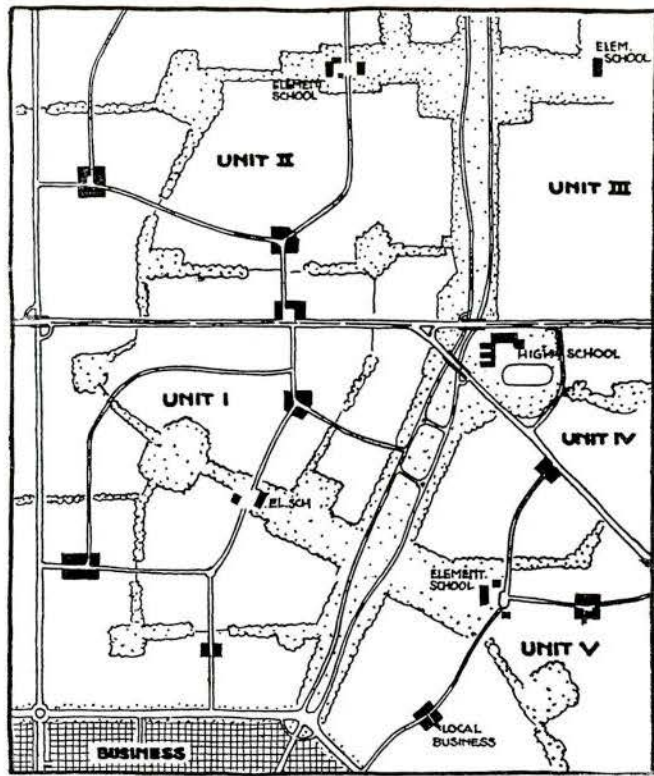
Put in another way: the Athenians could have zoned the Acropolis as a site for religious and civic buildings—but that would not have given them the Parthenon.

We can zone the requisite proportions of a city, present and future, for various purposes, subdivide on a nice grid pattern and still have the worst planned city in the world. It seems to me that zoning is a kind of Planners' Maginot Line. Is not the lesson of this war and of the two decades before it that all results have come from attack? Progress in planning technique and in city development has not come from zoning; but in England from the positive acts of slum-clearance and re-housing; and in America from the initiative of a Robert Moses in New York and from the creation of the T.V.A. and the Greenbelt towns. If post-war Canada is to be any better than it was before, we must have a programme of attack on the urban front.

If, as creative designers, we reject zoning for what it is worth, what technique have we got to offer? If our grand strategy is correct, should we not return to our basic social unit and regard our cities as cellular compositions built up from local neighbourhood communities? In town-planning our first laboratory process should be to isolate the separate cells and analyse their composition.

Some will be easily isolated, having strong individuality, some local bond of interest—a school, a park or a shopping centre; some may inherit the tradition of a small community that has become engulfed in the growth of the big city. Others are isolated by definite boundaries, such as main arteries or changes of land use.

Having identified these local communities it then becomes possible to analyse their composition. Some will be found to

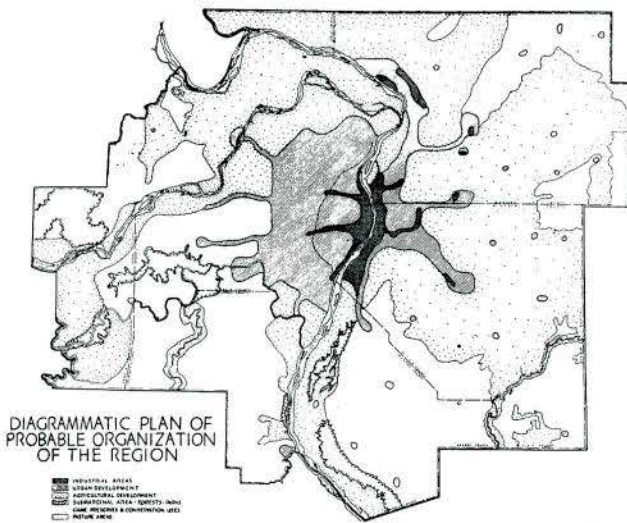


9. EXTENSIONS TO A CITY should take the form of planned units, insulated from traffic, with interconnecting Park systems. The siting of the School and local business section will direct the organisation of the street pattern. The building and servicing of one such unit at a time is more economical than the present sporadic building which has bankrupted suburban municipalities.

lack proper play space, recreation facilities or shopping area; there may be intrusions of obnoxious land uses; routes to the School may be threatened by industrial traffic crossing the neighbourhood area. If the neighbourhood is in a deteriorating part of city, reconstruction plans can be made to effect the necessary changes. If the neighbourhood is still in process of development, the necessary open spaces and sites for required types of building must be reserved. [9].

In searching for a legal framework for our cellular conception of the city we need to recognise each neighbourhood on an official map and declare it as a "Planning Area". This act must precede any attempt to zone residential areas or plan further street improvements because until these planning units are established there cannot possibly be any judgment on where any zone should be placed or how the system of communication should be arranged so as to intrude as little as possible on the identity of each neighbourhood.

As a precedent for this approach I would like to quote the English procedure of declaring "Clearance Areas" in deteriorating parts of the city. Before reconstruction this enables a site to be rounded out to a community scale and prevents premature rebuilding that would be irrelevant to the final Scheme. (The opportunity for reconstructing the worst slum area in Toronto on a community plan has already been spoiled by private building.) Our local Planning Areas, of course, should include not only slums requiring reconstruction, but the whole built-up city and the areas that are about to come into suburban development. In other words we must incorporate into the city plan the fundamental idea of Ebenezer Howard's satellite town, the planned social unit. Though we cannot insulate each unit entirely with green open space, we can insulate them by our street plan and our local zoning. Whether our cells are in the form of outlying



10. ST. LOUIS REGIONAL PLAN has adopted as its basis the probable natural organisation of the area. A good plan should not attempt to strangle natural tendencies and substitute arbitrary designs; but rather should guide spontaneous growth into economical and socially desirable forms.

satellites or incorporated in the growth of the city does not affect the principle.

I might add to this that in order to popularise this conception of the city and arouse local loyalty, it is valuable to attach names to each neighbourhood. As a final realisation of the plan (and of our ultimate OBJECT) the municipal government should be based on these constituent communities.

It so happens that subsidized low-rent housing has provided the only projects of sufficient size to be planned on the community scale. This has unfortunately drawn a red herring across our strategical trail.

Slum-relief Housing has faced the alternative of being built on high-cost central land which has dictated an apartment-type of development, or on suburban land which has permitted single or terrace houses. This has given rise to a controversy about the most desirable type of dwelling. The fact is that within the normal cycle of life we most of us require several different types of dwelling. When a young man graduates from his family home to independence he needs a one-room lodging. When he marries he probably moves into a two-room apartment or duplex. The arrival of a child makes an extra room and a protected out-door space essential. Further happy events will create new housing needs until the cycle of life is completed by the old couple finding themselves back again in an apartment with all the convenience of the services provided.

Now in an ideal community plan anyone should be able to find accommodation appropriate to his phase in the cycle of life without moving from the neighbourhood for which he has developed a sense of loyalty and where he has established friendships and membership in its institutions. Much of the costly deterioration of our cities arises from the impermanence of residents. New domestic requirements compel a migration to an entirely different sector of the town, which becomes no more than an encampment, without local pride and allegiance. I believe that this lack of group loyalty, arising from bad town-planning, has had serious repercussions on our national character.

But in our Grand Strategy of Democracy there is a still more essential requisite in the constitution of a community which we may be able to provide by good planning and zoning: I believe that it is absolutely wrong to conceive Low-

Rent Housing as a kind of asylum for what our grandmothers used to call "the lower orders." The idea of segregating different strata of society in separate communities is both undemocratic and dangerous. I would remind you that the first shot fired in the present War was aimed at the Karl Marxhof in Vienna in 1937.

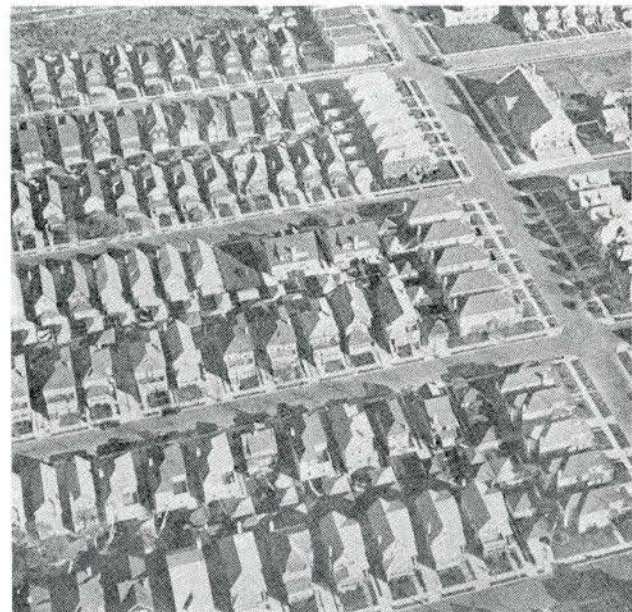
This proposition applies equally at either end of the scale. In greater Toronto we have a community known as Forest Hill which has attempted to segregate an upper (or at least, more wealthy) society. This seems to me not only an objectionable undemocratic anachronism, but also to be bad policy if one can judge from the depressing fate of its predecessor in snobbery, Rosedale. Members from other Canadian cities will recognise the counterparts elsewhere.

If you are looking for stable real-estate values, you must compose truly complete community bodies, not heads without hands and hands without bodies.

It may be thought that in emphasising the break-down of the city into its component units I am losing sight of the larger Regional aspects of Planning. Of course the lay-out of this cellular organisation is the function of a Regional Plan. This must embrace the group of municipalities which form the urban area together with the unincorporated areas beyond which come under the direct influence of the city and form the sites of future suburban cells and outlying satellites.

The assembling of a Regional Planning area requires an authority higher than the local authorities concerned. It is for the Province to take the initiative; and I would suggest that instead of modestly providing permissive or enabling legislation the Province should define Regional Planning areas on a statutory plan and require the local authorities to file a Regional Survey and Plan before a given date. In return for this demand the Province must of course share in the cost of composing the Plan and should provide the finest technical advice.

- In simple terms the Regional Plan should lay down —
- (1) The system of major arteries, highways and parkways.
 - (2) The major open spaces and Greenbelt areas.
 - (3) The areas of employment (in several categories).
 - (4) The basic cellular system.



11. BAD HOUSING. The National Housing Act is perpetuating in Canada the worst features of the American suburb and potential slum, with an entire disregard for all that has been learned of community planning. All streets are both traffic-ways and playgrounds. There is no expression of group interests and no hope for neighbourhood loyalty.

I have suggested that within the framework of Planning there is an appropriate function for the local community, the Municipality and the Province. Now although Planning belongs to the Provincial field of legislation, being concerned with property and civil rights, yet by special circumstances the Dominion Government possesses the key which switches on the ignition and can set planning in motion.

That key is in the office of the Director of Housing in Ottawa.

The new residential growth of our cities is now largely undertaken with National Housing Act Loans which have now amounted to over \$60,000,000. The reconstruction of older homes under the Home Improvement Plan cost \$50,000,000. (I might add the sum of \$30,000,000 which the Government offered for low-rent housing and which is now lost in the limbo of a pre-war decade. The Director of Housing saved the government \$30,000,000 by never seriously trying to apply Part II of the National Housing Act.) Since this Government Department has assumed responsibility for the major factor in our city development, we are bound to ask whether its strategy is well and truly aimed at our ultimate OBJECT. What has the Director of Housing done to see that all subdivisions and projects opened up by the Housing Act are parts of planned neighbourhoods? What has the Department done to inform building promoters that this is a desirable public policy in the interests of real financial and social stability? And are we prepared to admit that the mythical sanctity of individual home ownership has been largely promoted in order to evade the obligations to plan and build on a community scale? It is impossible to obtain good group housing and neighbourhood planning while we are tied to the apron strings of an obsolete social philosophy.

But the past is gone and this is no time for recriminations. England has shown us that it is a time for giving up priv-



12. GOOD HOUSING, such as that at Parklawn, Milwaukee, faces inwards upon the Green and its communal institutions. Irrelevant traffic is circulated around the outside of its domestic privacy. It was built by the Federal government and is operated by the local Housing Authority. Such projects are bulwarks against the alarming decline in the urban birth-rate.

ileges. Could Canada give up its special privilege for building shack-towns under government supervision? As we enter upon discussions of what is called Defense Housing let us think of it as Attack Housing; it is the only part of our national war-programme which will provide a permanent post-war asset.

When our brothers come back from the war, it would be nice to be able to say to them: "Well, we got the Housing business settled anyway. We tried out the community plan on Defense Housing and we experimented in pre-fabrication technique on Defense Housing. Now we are ready to 'go to it' and we need your help!"

The illustrations are taken from the following sources:

1. "Le Corbusier et Pierre Jeanneret. Oeuvre Complete de 1910-1929."
2. Adapted from plan at International Housing Congress, Berlin, 1931.
3. *World's Fair Guide*.
4. "Towns and Town Planning, Ancient and Modern." Hughes and Lamborn.
5. "Town and Countryside." Thomas Sharp.
6. Adapted from original plan in John Ross Robertson collection.
7. "Outline of City Planning." Thomas Adams.
8. *Town Planning Review*, Vol. XVI, No. 3.
9. "Design of Residential Areas." Thomas Adams.
10. *National Resources Committee. Regional Planning. St. Louis Region*.
11. *Public Works Administration, Washington*.
12. *Public Works Administration, Washington*.

THE THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

THE inaugural session of the Thirty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada was held at Hart House, Toronto, on February 22nd, 1941, at 9 o'clock a.m.

Mr. Burwell R. Coon, President, in the chair.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

On behalf of your Council I extend a cordial welcome to all our Members at this our 34th Annual Meeting of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada.

Due to the war our activities have been somewhat unusual and the Executive of the Council has been carrying on in the absence of two Members who are on active service in His Majesty's Armed Forces since the Fall: Colonel Mackenzie Waters, Chairman of the Editorial Board, and Major James H. Craig, both Members from the Ontario Association of Architects who were very active the first part of the year, and whose invaluable assistance has been greatly missed.

We have to report with regret the death of three of our Members — Flying Officer George E. Auld, Captain G. K. Crowe and John A. Pearson, D.Arch., F.R.A.I.C., F.R.I.B.A., R.C.A. The passing of these Members is a great sorrow to many of us and a very serious loss to the Architectural profession.

We are also sorry to report the death of our resident representative on the Council of the R.I.B.A., Mr. E. Stanley Hall, Past President of the R.I.B.A. His work has been carried on by Mr. L. Sylvester Sullivan, Honorary Treasurer of the R.I.B.A., who kindly consented to act, and has been exceedingly helpful in fulfilling his duties.

This year another of our Provincial Associations celebrated the Fiftieth Anniversary of its origin and it was my personal pleasure to attend their celebration and on behalf of the sister Provinces to present to the Province of Quebec Association of Architects our congratulations on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee.

On behalf of the Council I wish to thank President A. J. Hazelgrove, F.R.A.I.C., of the Ontario Association of Architects, his Council and Members, for their co-operation with us and for their delightful hospitality to the R.A.I.C. delegates at their luncheon and dinner yesterday, and as you know we are all to be their guests at lunch in the great hall of this building today.

I wish also to express our gratitude to Chairman Jocelyn Davidson of the Toronto Chapter, his Executive and Members, for their activity as our hosts at this annual meeting.

We are also greatly indebted to the Art Gallery of Toronto, the University Club and Hart House for their generosity in permitting us the use of their premises, facilities and personnel, all of which contribute to the pleasure and profit of our Annual Meeting.

This year, in the interests of economy in both time and money, it was decided, with the co-operation of the Ontario Association of Architects, to hold our annual meeting at the same week-end, which reduces to some extent the time permissible for the business meetings. In order, therefore, to leave as much time as possible for discussion and the introduction of new business, it was decided to do away with the reading of individual reports by the various Chairmen of Committees, and to include in the report of the Council,

as briefly as possible, a statement of the activities of each Committee. Copies of the full report of each Committee may be had on application to the Secretary, and if any question arises out of the reading of this report, the Chairman of the Committee will, I am sure, be pleased to make fuller explanation.

EVACUATION OF ARCHITECTS' CHILDREN

In order to find definitely what the individual Members of our Institute could offer in the way of assistance to the evacuated children of British Architects, a questionnaire was forwarded to all Members of the Institute and as a result we have been able to formulate a policy in this very important service, which policy has been communicated to the R.I.B.A. In the meantime, the evacuation of children from Great Britain has been discontinued for the time being.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

(a) *Civil Service Appointments:*

The services of our Institute have been offered to the Civil Service Commission in Ottawa to provide them with Architects and Architectural draughtsmen to fill positions in the various branches of the service.

(b) *National Registration:*

Preceding the National Registration by the Federal Government last August the services of our Organization throughout Canada were placed at the disposal of the Hon. J. G. Gardiner, Minister of National War Services.

(c) *Conservation of Resources:*

Through the Provincial Associations and by means of notices in our *Journal*; the Members have been requested to co-operate with the Government in the conservation of aluminum, timber and steel.

(d) *Architects' Military Unit:*

Your Council approached the Minister of National Defence, volunteering to organize a military unit officered by Architects, Engineers and Contractors of military experience, the personnel of the N.C.O.'s and men to be made up of tradesmen in all departments of the building industry. It appears, however, to be the opinion of our military and Government authorities that the coming year will produce a demand for technical personnel in Canada, that war industry and service will place a very heavy demand on technically trained men, and that the country should reserve its potential supplies of such for the demands which they feel will undoubtedly be forthcoming.

(e) *Architects on War Buildings:*

Representations have been made to the Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Munitions and Supply; Col. D. Stairs, Director General of Defence Building Projects, and Mr. F. W. Nicolls, Housing Administrator, offering the services of Architects throughout the Dominion in connection with all building projects necessitated by the war. Particular effort was made at the close of the year 1940 in connection with the housing of munition workers, but as yet neither our advice nor our services have been sought.

FELLOWSHIPS

In accordance with the instructions from the last annual meeting, the By-Laws with regard to Fellowships have been

revised so that the initiation fee was raised from \$50.00 to \$75.00, and the annual dues reduced from \$20.00 to \$10.00 for a period of ten years, and \$5.00 per year thereafter, and at the age of sixty-five a Fellow becomes a Life Fellow and pays no further dues. Provision is also made for a Fellow to become a Life Fellow by paying a sum to be determined by the Council.

In accordance with a request from many of the Fellows, an organization has been formed for this Membership classification of the Institute, with the title "The College of Fellows", and the College had its first convocation February 21st, 1941, at which the organization was approved, and the following officers elected:

Chancellor - - H. L. Fetherstonhaugh, B.Arch., (F),
F.R.I.B.A., P.P.R.A.I.C.
Dean - - - W. L. Somerville (F), F.R.I.B.A., R.C.A.,
P.P.R.A.I.C.
Registrar - - A. J. Hazelgrove (F).
Senate - - - Leslie R. Fairn (F), Nova Scotia.
H. Claire Mott (F), New Brunswick.
Louis A. Amos (F), F.R.I.B.A., M.E.I.C.,
Quebec.
Forsey Page (F), Ontario.
Milton S. Osborne (F), Manitoba.
Francis B. Reilly (F), Saskatchewan.
Cecil S. Burgess (F), Alberta.
P. Leonard James (F), British Columbia.

The following Members of the Institute have this year been honoured by being elected to the College of Fellows:

W. J. Abra, Ottawa
V. J. Blackwell, London
C. W. U. Chivers, Winnipeg
Burwell R. Coon, B.A.Sc., Toronto
Frank R. Findlay, Montreal
B. A. Jones, Kitchener
R. I. Macbeth, St. Catharines
H. W. Meech, Lethbridge
Lucien Parent, Montreal
J. J. Perrault, B.Arch, Montreal
W. B. Riddell, Hamilton
G. René Richer, St. Hyacinthe
S. Doug. Ritchie, Montreal
W. R. Souter, Hamilton
A. Campbell Wood, B.Arch., Montreal

At the convocation of the College, held at the Arts and Letters Club, February 21st, 1941, all of the above candidates present were installed with suitable ceremony and ritual, and were invested with the distinguishing collars which will hereafter be worn at any convocation of the Fellows, and at formal functions of the Institute.

At the Annual Dinner this evening, His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, will present the Fellowship Certificates to the newly elected Fellows.

At the Annual Meeting of the Council on February 21st, 1941, His Excellency The Right Honourable The Earl of Athlone, Governor-General of Canada, was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, and it is hoped a suitable occasion will arise for the presentation of his Fellowship Certificate at an early date.

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Under the guidance of Mr. G. McL. Pitts (F), arrangements have been made that all the Component Associations of the Institute recognize the diplomas or degrees granted in Architecture by the Ecole des Beaux-Arts of Montreal, McGill University, Toronto University, and the University of Manitoba, for admission to Membership in their respective Associations, provided that such candidates for Mem-

bership pass the Provincial Association's examination in professional practice, or its equivalent, and serve an apprenticeship as may be required by their Charter.

All Provinces have agreed with the exception of British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia, and no doubt these three Provinces will shortly agree.

RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION—R.I.B.A. AND R.A.I.C.

Under the same guidance also the Component Associations of the Institute have been asked to agree to the R.A.I.C. promoting and, if possible, effecting an agreement with the R.I.B.A. to the effect that there shall be reciprocal recognition for admission to each body, of members in good standing in either Institute. All Provinces have agreed with the exception of Nova Scotia, which states in effect that as the R.I.B.A. is not similarly constituted to the N.S.A.A. in as much as the R.I.B.A. has no power to license men to practise, but that a Member of the R.I.B.A. residing in Nova Scotia should find no difficulty in becoming a Member of that Association.

STUDENT ASSOCIATES

As suggested at the last Annual Meeting, the Council has endeavoured to arrange that all Component Associations of the Institute provide in their Charter or By-Laws, for a "Student Associate" class of Members which can be utilized to encourage and bring into the professional circle of these Associations young men, who have the proper qualifications, desirous of entering the profession. All Provinces have agreed to this.

CODE FOR COMPETITIONS

The new code for the conduct of architectural competitions has been completed and has been approved by all of the Component Associations and has been distributed to the Members.

CANADIAN FLAG

Your Council is also taking an interest in the new Canadian flag and some evidence of this will be shown in a forthcoming issue of the "Journal".

NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION COUNCIL

Owing to the fact that the National Construction Council has held no meeting since its last Annual Meeting, and as it apparently has no immediate programme for the future, your Council has resigned as active Members on behalf of the R.A.I.C.

ARCHITECTURAL TRAINING

Mr. A. S. Mathers, (F), Chairman of the Architectural Training Committee, reports as follows:—

For some years now the main activity of the Committee on Architectural Training has been the organization of the Student Competitions and the arranging for the exhibition of the drawings submitted.

This year, after consultation with the four architectural schools, the student competition has been discontinued, but in its place an exhibition, representative of the work of the schools, has been arranged and has been hung in the Print Room at the Art Gallery.

The discontinuance of the competitions requires some explanation. When first promoted they were intended to stimulate the students' interest and facility in design. In spite of the fact that the competitive system works well within any single school, it did not work out as expected when students from more than one school were pitted against each other on the same problem.

It was found that the students of certain schools were at a distinct disadvantage as compared to others when it came

to presenting their work and in their familiarity with certain types of planning.

This was due not to any inferiority or superiority, but almost entirely to a complete and almost fundamental difference in the method of teaching and the general approach to design prevailing in the different schools, and also to the fact that the competitions were held between persons who were still under instruction and whose course of study had not been completed.

Competitions in architectural design between persons whose instruction and practice in it varied so greatly in extent, was obviously ridiculous, and resulted in the development of a situation where each award of the judges carried with it the inference that such and such a school was producing better results than another and vice versa.

Such inferences were without foundation and certainly were not justified by the record of graduates of the various schools.

The purpose of academic instruction in an architectural school is to prepare the student thoroughly for his subsequent career as a practising architect. It is on the quality of the finished product, not the embryo, that a school must be judged. The manner of teaching or the relative emphasis placed on any one subject at any given time prior to completion of the course, is of no importance, provided the ultimate object is attained.

It was never the intention of the Institute to prejudge the work of the schools, and certainly not to set one school off against another. Neither did it intend to influence in any way, nor to interfere with the teaching methods established and followed by any particular staff. There is no doubt that more than one of the schools felt that such was the actual effect of the competitions.

The method of teaching in the four schools differs greatly; some of them are closely allied to University Departments of Fine Art, the others with Engineering, with the result that curricula and time tables have to adjust themselves accordingly. Again there exists great differences in the approach to design on the part of the staffs. But in all, the same object is in view; namely, the training of competent Architects. Your Committee feels that no action on the part of the Institute should in any way interfere with the attainment of that object, by imposing upon the regular courses of instruction any superfluous additions to the curricula of the schools.

In abandoning the competitions your Committee feels that it has relieved itself of a great deal of work of a particular kind. It feels, however, that there exists in the profession a need for some intelligent direction toward improving the technical equipment of the average practitioner, and suggests that some step be taken in that direction by future Committees.

ART, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

Mr. W. J. Abra, (F), Chairman of the Art, Science and Research Committee, reports as follows:—

"This Committee during the year has confined its work largely to obtaining information of particular interest to our profession from the work carried on by the National Research Council, the Forest Laboratories of Ottawa, the Department of Mines and Resources, the Insurance Department and the Canadian Engineering Standards Association. Lists of the publications of these Departments have been and will continue to be published in the Journal, and all Members of the Institute may avail themselves of this literature if they so desire.

"Mr. Eric Temple of the Committee has been appointed to act in connection with the National Art Gallery, and Mr. H. A. McCurry, the Director of the Gallery, assures us that

he will gladly work with us to promote the publicising of anything that may be of interest to Architects bearing on National Art.

"The efforts of the Committee to provide easy access to information of value to the profession, have met with whole-hearted response from all government officials, and we owe them our thanks for anything we have been able to accomplish."

CANADIAN CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION AND THE R.A.I.C.

Mr. W. J. Abra, (F), Chairman also of the Joint Committee of the Canadian Construction Association and the R.A.I.C., reports as follows:—

"The principal question to be settled by this Committee at the present time is the revision of the Uniform Contract Form adopted by this Committee, and in use by both bodies, also the promotion of the use of a standard form of architects' certificate. Progress has been made and these matters should be completed shortly."

DUTY ON PLANS

Mr. Alcide Chausse, (F), Chairman of the Committee on Duty on Plans, reports as follows:

"The best method of sending competition drawings across the U.S. border to be entered in competitions and for no other purpose, is for the competitor to make arrangements, before sending the plans, with some responsible person on the other side, to call for the designs at the Customs House in whatever city the competition is to be held.

"Investigation into the matter of duty on plans entered by the Kresge Company Limited for addition to their store at 51 Vaughan Road, Toronto, showed that these plans were 'properly entered at Customs'; a similar investigation regarding plans for the Holy Angels' Roman Catholic Parish in St. Thomas is now under way and the Committee awaiting report from the Customs Division of the Department of National Revenue."

EDITORIAL BOARD

Mr. Forsey Page, (F), Acting Chairman of the Editorial Board of the Journal, reports as follows:—

"War conditions have so far not interrupted the steady progress shown by the Journal since its re-organization in 1937. The encouraging improvement in its financial status is outlined in the Auditor's report.

"Several ideas suggested during the year have been adopted by the Board; namely, the presentation of Journals to students in the fourth and fifth years of the Schools of Architecture, the publication of a special students' number, consisting of designs chosen as the best work of each year in the Schools of Architecture and text pertaining to architectural training, the publication of special numbers with material compiled and edited entirely by one of the Provincial Associations, the printing of the 1940 membership list in a more convenient and attractive book-form, the listing of all members called up for active service as the Board is notified by the Provincial Association Secretaries.

"Two members of the Editorial Board resigned during the year for service in the Army; Colonel Mackenzie Waters, whose ability and interest in the welfare of the Journal had made him a most valuable Chairman, and Lieut. Richard Fisher, who will be greatly missed also. Mr. Forsey Page is Acting Chairman, on appointment of the Executive Committee."

EXHIBITIONS AND AWARDS

Mr. R. S. Morris, Chairman of Committee on Exhibitions and Awards, reports as follows:—

"Owing to conditions within the profession brought about by the war, the Committee on Exhibitions and Awards has not been active during the past year except for the recording of past experiences and members' views regarding future exhibitions."

HOUSING

Mr. Wm. H. Holcombe, Chairman of the Committee on Housing, reports as follows:—

"The reports received to date in a Dominion-wide survey to find how far architects have benefited from work financed under the National Housing Act, show that about 176 architects have built 1,100 units at a cost of \$7,000,000.00.

"This is probably 45% of the total housing work done by architects, on which assumption architects did 20% of the housing built under the Act during the years 1936 to 1940 inclusive."

The following expressions of opinion accompanied some of the reports:

The Act is appreciated in as much as it has made people "home-building conscious" even when loans have not been sought.

The Architectural profession should "go after" the small house work at a nominal fee where stock plans can be used with little or no change.

All building designed by architects should be carried on to completion to prevent spoiling by builders who do not appreciate the spirit of the design.

In some localities the lax building laws and absence of local inspection would suggest the advantage of standard building by-laws. There is a great need for greater advertisement of the advantage of architectural service and more reliance on the architect and local authorities for inspection rather than specially appointed inspectors to whom local conditions are unfamiliar. The standard specification form, bound as it is, is inconvenient where a number of forms are required, necessitating the filling in by hand. A form usable in a typewriter is suggested.

The Toronto Chapter forwarded the following resolution: "that this Chapter is of the opinion that while reviewing the work done by practising architects under the provisions of the National Housing Act, serious consideration should be given by the Government to the future of Industrial Town Development as regards the housing of labour, not only from present conditions necessitated by the War contracts, but from the influx of new industries after the War and from the present tendency towards the decentralization of industry."

The large additions to industrial plants and the building up of new industries in districts away from centres of urban population with the attendant demand for residence for workers convenient to their places of employment, creates a problem which requires careful consideration and good judgment and at the same time decisive action.

To build a large amount of cheap housing without consideration of suitability and future use and development would be to invite those slum conditions which it is the avowed purpose of democracy to eliminate.

It is doubtful if prefabricated housing is even a part solution of the problem. Can it be built cheap enough to give salvage value? Will it not employ factory space and labor which could be better used for War purposes? Can it be reused, without creating those conditions which it is desirable to prevent? Standardized housing of permanent type would have a higher salvage value and if well designed and placed on property with the idea of future development would have a permanent value where prefabricated types would fail.

So many contradictory reports have appeared as regards Government action that it must be considered that any offer of services by the profession would be considered by the

Departments interested and the Director of Housing, Mr. Nicolls, was quoted in a recent news report as welcoming suggestions.

With the increased cost and shortage of certain classes of material due to the great demands in building for war purposes, the consideration of other materials for house building becomes desirable, if costs are to be kept low.

It might be suggested that Research Committees for the consideration of local problems of location and construction created by the emergency of war and future reconstruction be sponsored by the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada in the various Associations and Chapters of Architects to consider and report on local problems and conditions of which housing would be one section to be considered. This should give the Institute facts to back up any propositions or offer of service to any Department of the Government and establish local centres to aid in the prosecution of any problem.

It is possible in the stress, anxiety and desire to do all that may bring the War to a speedy and successful conclusion, to lose sight of those things for which we are fighting; to bring a greater freedom, more happiness and higher spiritual blessings to mankind."

SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES

Mr. Forsey Page, (F), Chairman of the Committee on Scholarships and Prizes, reports as follows:—

"In connection with the annual presentation of medals to outstanding graduates of the Schools of Architecture, more emphasis is to be placed on the qualifications required to win these awards and the Heads of the Schools were advised that no award need be made should they feel unable to recommend any student with the requirements set forth. Medals were presented, suitably engraved, to the following:

Ecole des Beaux-Arts of Montreal—Paul Cauchon.

McGill University, Montreal—Henry Thomas Langston.

University of Manitoba, Winnipeg—Louis Gauthier.

"The Committee was unanimous in the present policy of accepting the recommendations of the Heads of the Schools of Architecture for the above awards and also decided against inaugurating a Travelling Scholarship Fund during the War.

"As recommended in the report of the 1939 Committee, certain funds drawn from the Scholarship Fund some years ago to assist the Journal, were restored. Also it has been incorporated in the revisions to the Fellowship By-Laws that the annual Fellowship dues be credited to the Scholarship Fund.

"The Scholarship Fund having been reimbursed and including the 1940 Fellowship dues now paid to the Fund amounts to about \$2,600.00, of which \$1,300.00 is invested in Government Bonds and it is recommended that the balance also be so invested."

COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

Mr. H. L. Fetherstonhaugh, (F), representative on the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects, reports as follows:

"In receiving reports from the R.I.B.A. Council this year, there are certain gaps undoubtedly due to mail being lost in transit.

"From the reports received, a clear idea is obtained of the splendid effort the R.I.B.A. is making to carry on their usual business and to co-operate in every way possible with the Government in the great emergency caused by the War. While a certain degree of success seems to have been obtained, the situation in England and in Canada seems somewhat similar. There are resources available to the Government but, in the opinion of the Architects, they are not by any means being used to their full strength.

"The efforts of the R.I.B.A. in the War and their desire to render further help, call for our deepest admiration and in this time of great emergency we send them our warmest fraternal greetings and express our confidence in the ultimate victory to which we are all pledged."

CANADIAN ENGINEERING STANDARDS ASSOCIATION

Colonel C. J. Burritt, representative of the R.A.I.C. on the Canadian Engineering Standards Association, reports as follows:

"The Main Committee of the Canadian Engineering Standards Association, in its general function, (1) provides personnel for the several Working Committees who meet as such, each on its own subject, giving generously of their time, knowledge and experience to improve the conditions in the various fields in which they are employed; and (2) it exercises final approval and authority upon the work of these Committees prior to the publication of their efforts as Canadian Engineering Standards Association standards.

"These Committees deal with a multiplicity of subjects, some of which are embraced in the construction field.

"A number of standard approved specifications are added each year to the list of those already available, copies of which list may be had upon application to The Secretary, Canadian Engineering Standards Association, National Research Building, Ottawa, Canada."

PLANS BY OWNER'S STAFF

Following last year's discussion on plans by owner's staff, your Council appointed the same Committee as was appointed by the O.A.A. to make a report on this matter. This Committee, composed of Mr. R. Schofield Morris, Mr. John Layng, and Mr. George Piersol, have made a very careful study and an excellent report, which I believe should be published so that it will be a help to every architect, and the profession as a whole. Copies of this report have been sent to the various component associations for their study and edification. The following is a summary of the report of the Committee:

"Generally, our findings indicate that during the last forty years PLANS BY OWNER'S STAFF has been a constant problem. The present shows an increase in the tendency of industry to design its own building.

"The main body of the work under actual consideration, from point of view of the number and costs of jobs, is undertaken by large Canadian subsidiaries of American companies and by large combines of Canadian companies. In this last group Canadian Industries Limited, representing various industries in all parts of Canada, is the greatest single unit.

"In this same connection this Committee believes that an improvement in professional relations could be effected by the Association's insistence that individual architect employees be given public credit for work carried out under their direction.

"In a limited degree we are able, from a close view of the problem, to suggest the following methods of solution:

(1) IMPROVEMENTS OF THE ARCHITECT'S QUALIFICATIONS BY:

- (a) Careful selection of candidates for admission.
- (b) Active support of bodies providing architectural education.
- (c) Continual education of the architect after registration.
- (d) Maintenance of the standard of fees.
- (e) Discouragement of partial services.
- (f) Realization of his limitations by each member, particularly in the more specialized fields.

(2) IMPROVEMENT IN PUBLIC RELATIONS BY:

- (a) Direct advertising. An illustrated pamphlet showing recent industrial building designed by architects might be distributed to all officials of important companies in Ontario. A professional advertisement could well appear in the Canadian Manufacturers' Association Journal, 'Industrial Canada', and other publications.
- (b) Personal interviews by Association representatives with company officials, whether or not they expect to build immediately. Such an interview could stress:
 - 1. Professional integrity.
 - 2. Training, experience and ability of the architect.
 - 3. Value of competitive tenders.
 - 4. Value of well prepared drawings and specifications.
 - 5. Value of preliminary consultations."

In submitting this report of some of the activities of your Council I wish to thank the Members of the Executive and Council, the Chairmen and Members of the Committees, the Editor of the *Journal* and his associates, the Presidents, Officers and Councils of our Provincial Associations, the Chairmen and workers in the various Chapters, and the staff of the office of the R.A.I.C., in the person of our indefatigable assistant secretary, for all the assistance, support and co-operation which I have received during the past year.

BURWELL R. COON, F.R.A.I.C., *President.*

A LETTER FROM THE STEEL CONTROLLER, OTTAWA

Ottawa, 1st February, 1941.

The Secretary, Royal Canadian Architectural Institute, Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Sir:—

Under the stimulus of wartime consumption by industry in Canada our steel mills are faced with the necessity for greatly expanding their production of rolled steel products while simultaneously meeting urgent demands for early deliveries. To meet this situation the mills, with the approval of this office, have embarked upon a programme of standardization of all rolled products for the duration of the war. As you may be aware this programme has already resulted in the reduction, by approximately 75%, of the number of structural shapes rolled in Canada. The effect of this reduction has been two-fold:

- 1. Substantial economies in rolling time have been gained through minimizing roll changes.
- 2. A freer interchange of stocks for various wartime projects is possible, particularly where the mills cannot make early delivery, or the quantity required is small.

Continuing the progress made we are turning our attention to reinforcing steel, and propose to adopt as standard those sizes currently established as such by the Canadian Engineering Standards Association, viz:

1/4" round	3/4" round	1/2" square
3/8" round	7/8" round	1" square
1/2" round	1" round	1 1/8" square
5/8" round		1 1/4" square

All other sizes to be eliminated. All deformed and twisted bars to be eliminated.

This list should be given careful study by your members, keeping the thought primarily in mind that the steel mills in Canada must produce more steel than ever before for vital war purposes without undue and uneconomic expansion of melting and rolling capacities. I should then like to receive the opinion of your organization within the next ten days so that there may be no delay in the adoption of these standards throughout Canada if they are generally approved.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. D. SCULLY,
Steel Controller.

A LETTER TO THE WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE OF THE O.A.A

Dear Mr. President:

I have heard from my wife of your Association's very kind and generous help to her, and I am writing to try and express our very deep appreciation of your kindness. When things looked so dangerous here in France I am afraid my one idea was to get my wife and our baby out of reach of the Nazis so I did not have time to go into all the financial side with the berths available at such short notice. I of course had to sign the declaration about the £10. but I must admit I assumed, as the Government were so keen that women and children should leave the "fortress", that "finance" would be adjusted later or that some arrangement for maintenance and pocket money would be fixed up—provided of course we weren't actually fighting about in the streets.

From selfish reasons I am still glad that I sent my beloved family away from this bombing as I can only imagine what people's feelings must be when they may hear any day that the Hun has made a military objective of their home.

Nowhere seems to be exempt from random bombing even in the heart of the country and of course round London is particularly liable to damage when a raider "unloads" to scuttle for safety. These reasons do not however help—without the generous assistance which you on the other side of the water have so freely given and for which, I, and many others will always be indebted.

I don't know how architecture is faring on your side, over here it is restricted to war work and trying to alleviate the unpleasantness of bombs.

My own work is actually only related to architecture in that I started studying the Spanish War of '35 and the air raids, and have been on it ever since. Latterly being able to put some of their experiences to practical use in stiffening buildings while in course of construction, and of course designing air raid shelters.

My work with the R.N.V.R. carries on from civil life, (I should be glad if you don't mention this side as I don't want my wife to worry about the possibilities, which are any how problematical. No more dangerous than fire fighters' work!) as I now deal with the bomb when it arrives and in some cases try and forecast its effect before the Hun drops it! The latter being an awkward job as he doesn't always stick to his smaller sizes and the larger ones can create a considerable mess.

If my letter is rather disjointed may I plead that there's a fair amount of "noise" outside and I am sitting with one ear listening for the "whistle" so that I can duck below the glass level in case it's a near one. (Glass is particularly nasty as far as I can see as it's liable to fly about—up to 1/4 mile from a really big bomb.) If any architects over here do survive there should be enough work for a few years cleaning up and rebuilding—if we have any money—but actually in London it's amazing how bombing has left some streets almost untouched. I think Hitler has discovered that London isn't Rotterdam and can't be blasted out of existence. At least the "blasting" will take longer than he can last and the people of our cities only seem to get more determined to go on the

more they are bombed. From the bombing I have examined, both officially and unofficially, I think the Hun is either the worst shot in the world or doesn't care whether he's 5 miles from any legitimate objective—and that goes for the times long before he started talking about reprisals.

You've probably heard about food shortages, well don't believe them. Certain items such as lemons, onions and so on which were entirely imported we certainly haven't got, but neither had our ancestors in such abundance. The fat ration is a bit tight for civilians but it is enough really provided one's cooking is altered to use less. Green vegetables (at least in London) don't appear often on the menu, but if we made more use of nettles and similar oddities against which prejudices (and lack of knowledge) are hindrances we'd probably be better off. On the whole at present we are enjoying comparative plenty but I must confess I don't like the increase in shipping losses—but there again don't believe the Nazi's figures. We aren't blockaded!

I cursed the Munich settlement at the time but it did at least get the people solidly behind the Government, and that has increased with the bombing. We've a long job before we finish this business, as the Hun has been preparing to my knowledge since 1933, but with help from overseas it looks as though we shall manage to confine this murderous devastation to our side of the Atlantic. The cost in life, property and material will be terrific before the end comes but we at least know what surrender involves—and anything is better than that fate. So until we can again spend our lives without expecting to be bombed or machine gunned or mined or invaded or gassed, by your generosity I am hoping that our families may remain in the sanctuary of your country, and for the present I can only say how grateful we are and how very much it means to us lucky ones that our wives and children are safe in your hospitable land.

Yours sincerely,

D. B.-W.

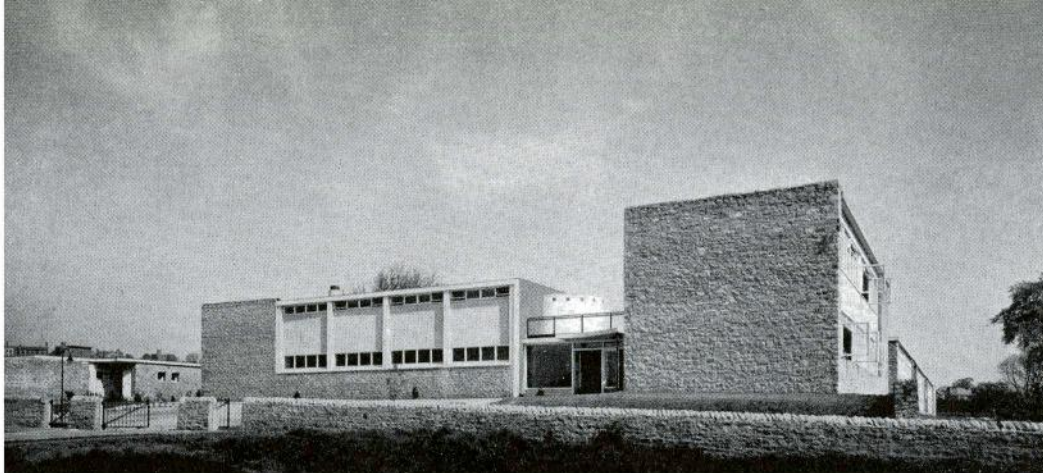
OLD SILVER OF QUEBEC

By RAMSAY TRAQUIR

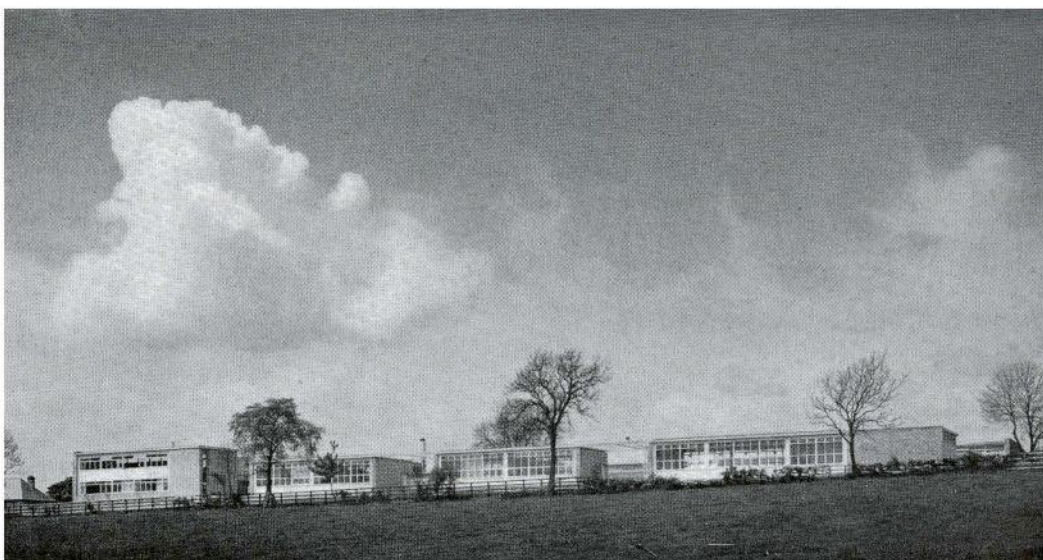
Published by Macmillan Co. of Canada Ltd.

Price \$4.00

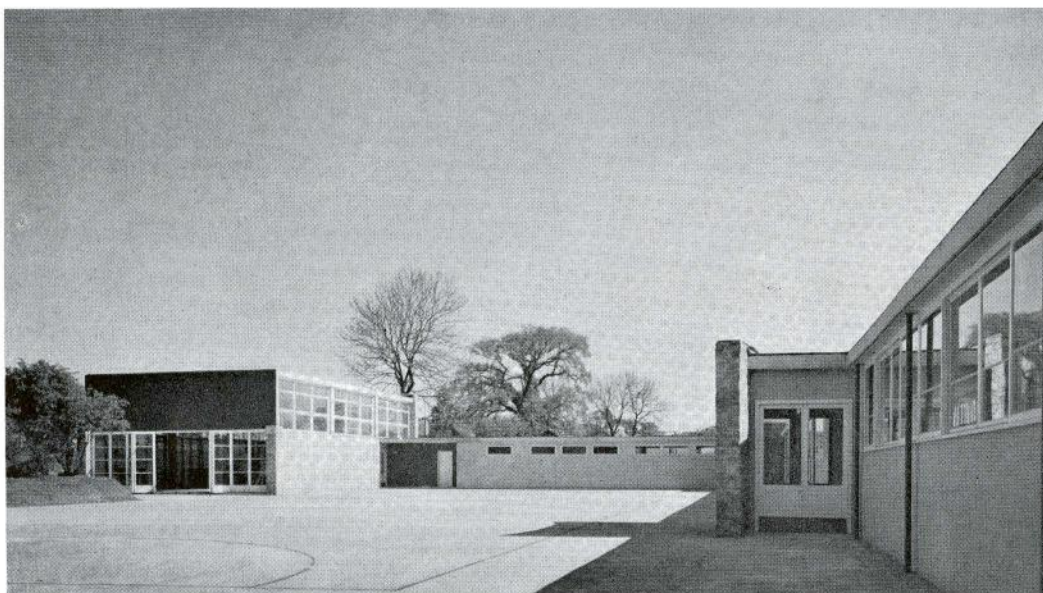
ONE likes to think of architects writing books on fly fishing and old silver—it shows that there are many-sided people amongst us to leaven the lump of those whose waking thoughts are always of architecture. The "Old Silver of Quebec" is a book for the collector of silver rather than for the person interested in silver working as a craft or in silver objects for their beauty. The book has a comprehensive list of marks and notes on silver workers, but is disappointing in the number of photographs illustrated (16) and in the absence of critical notes on the work described or illustrated. Professor Traquir might, with his great knowledge of the subject and his fine discriminating taste, have given some guidance to his fellow collectors, many of whom we fear are more concerned with rarity than beauty.



SOUTH-WEST ELEVATION

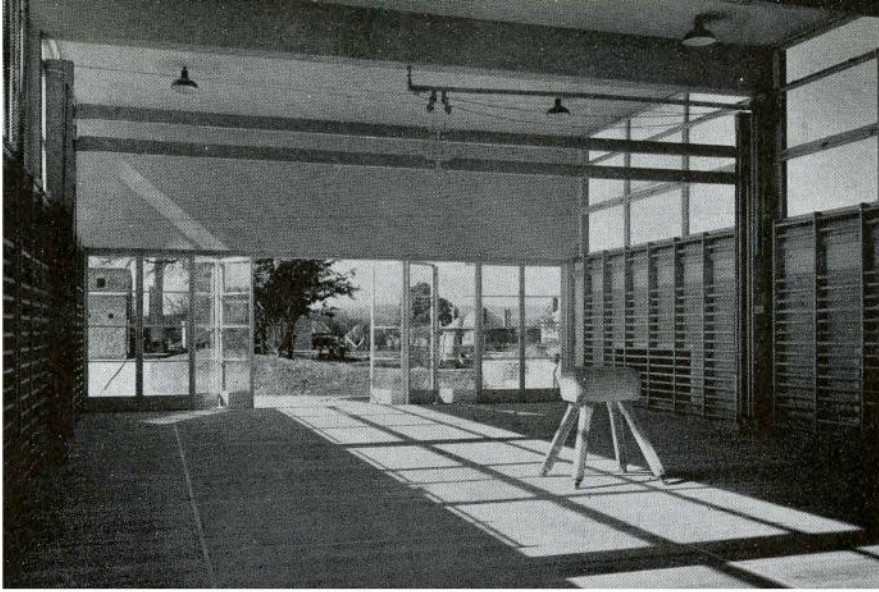


SOUTH-EAST ELEVATION



PLAYGROUND AND GYMNASIUM

**SCHOOL AT RICHMOND, YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND
DENIS CLARKE HALL, ARCHITECT**

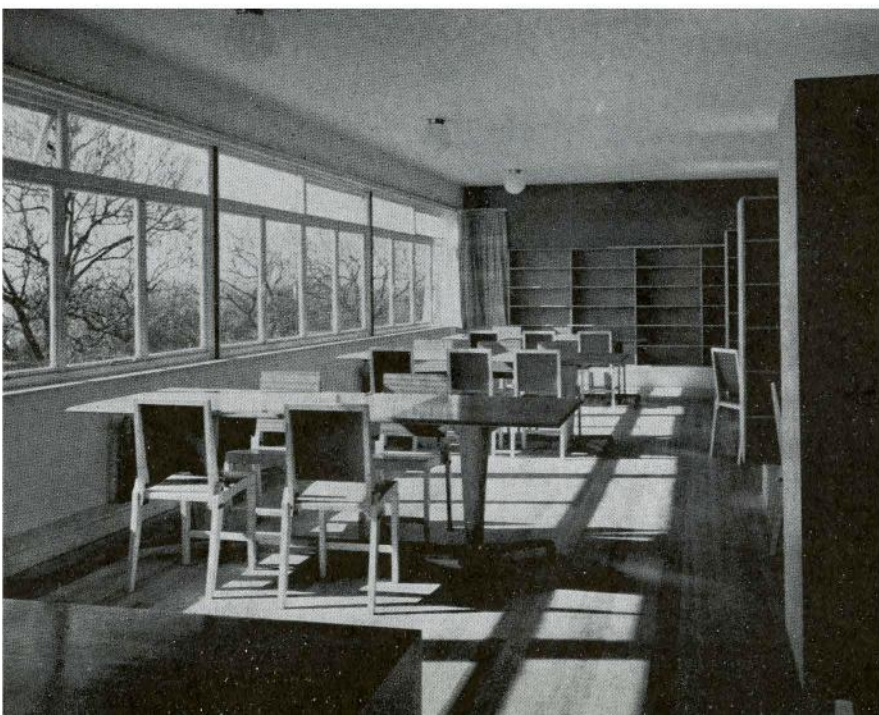


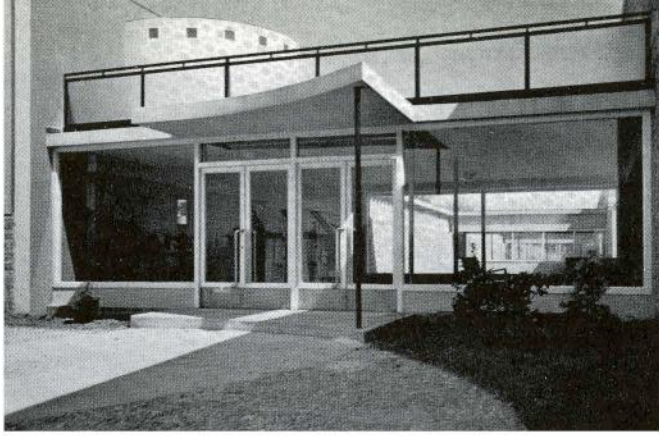
INTERIOR OF GYMNASIUM



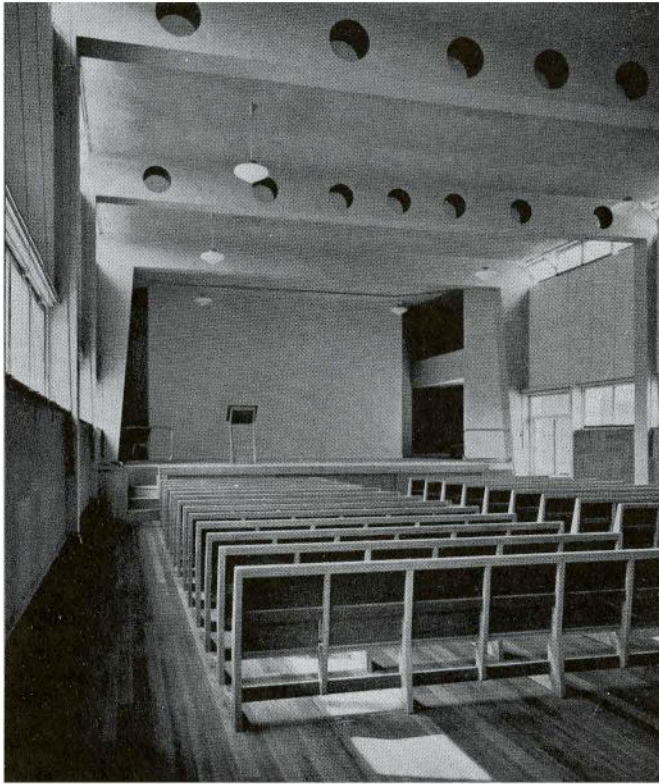
INTERIOR OF ENTRANCE HALL

INTERIOR OF LIBRARY

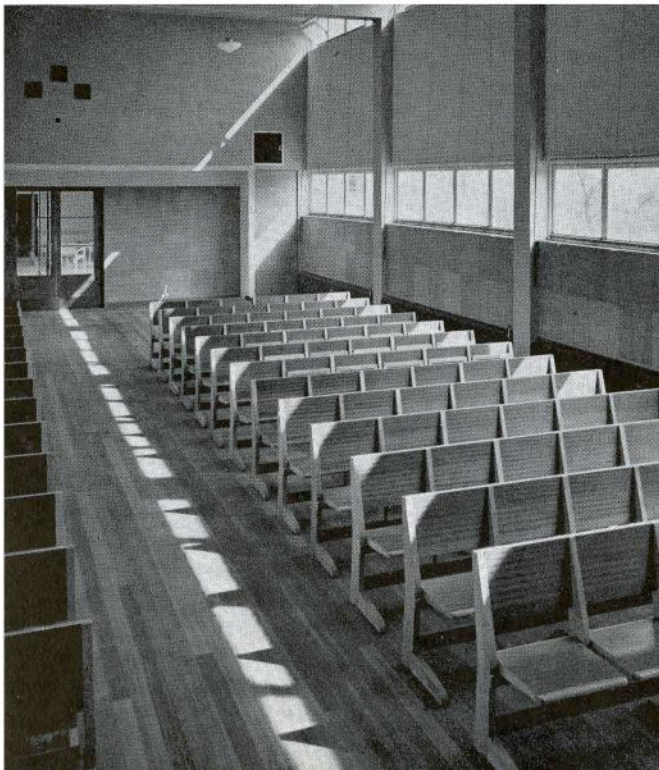


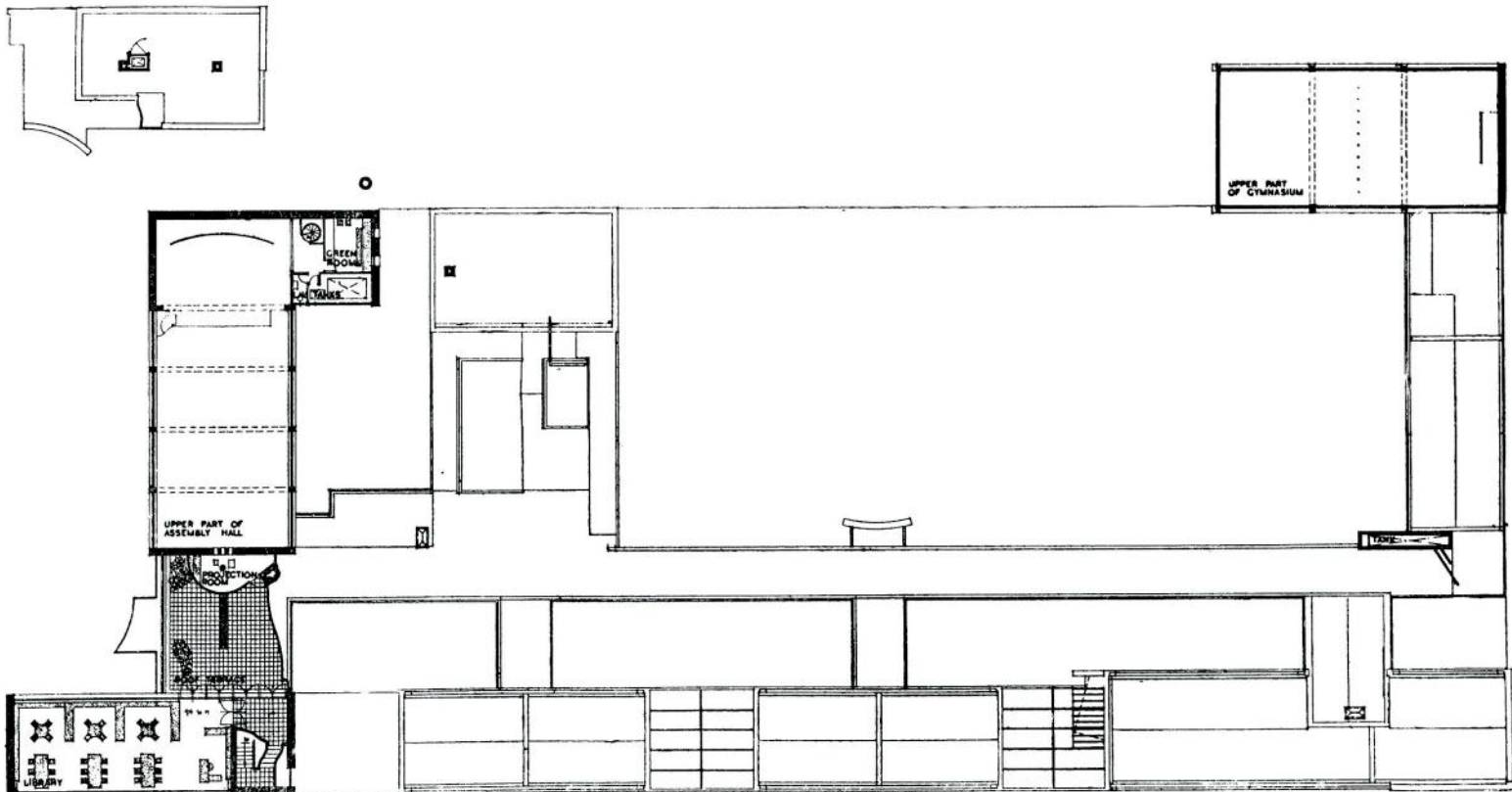


MAIN ENTRANCE



INTERIOR VIEWS OF ASSEMBLY HALL

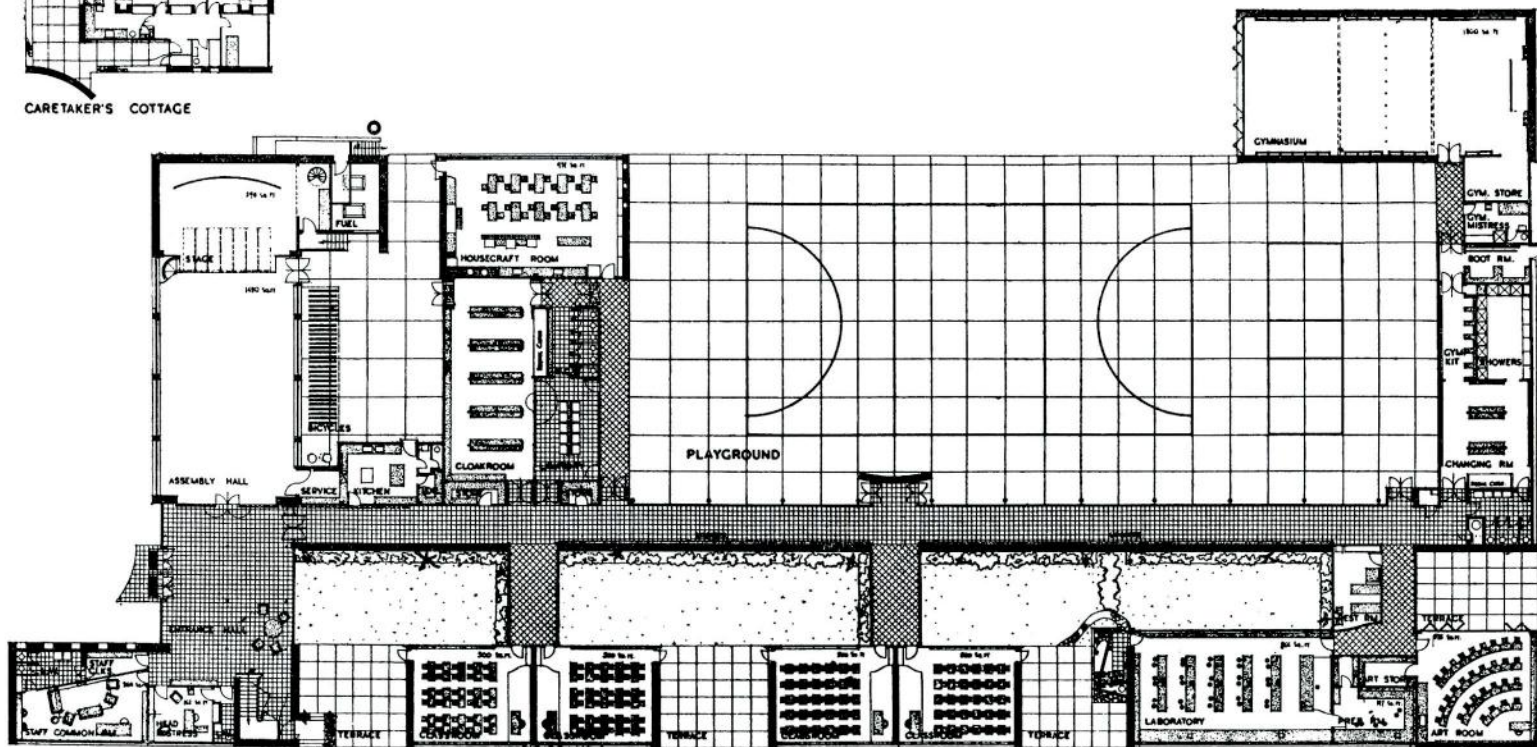




SECOND FLOOR PLAN



CARETAKER'S COTTAGE

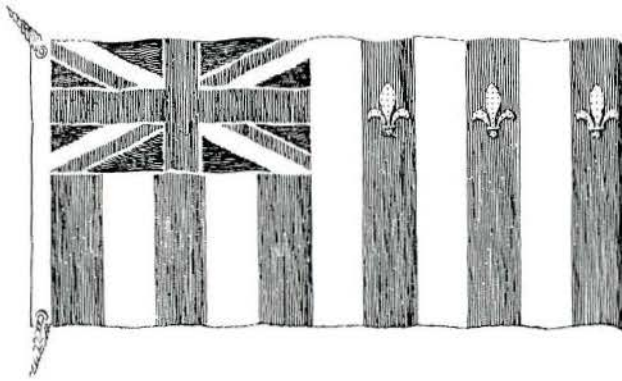


SCALE OF FEET
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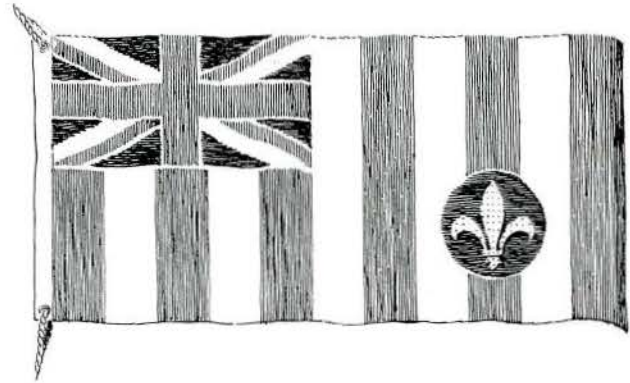
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

A FLAG FOR CANADA

By A. GRESLEY ELTON



The eleven stripes alternately red and white across the width of the flag represent the eleven political divisions of the country, i.e., the nine provinces and two territories. The Union flag indicates Canada's membership in the Commonwealth of British Nations, and it also symbolizes, along with the three gold fleurs-de-lis, the ancestry of the Canadian peoples.



The stripes are here again used in the same manner and colours. Again the Union Flag is superimposed. The chief difference to the other example shown is that the fleur-de-lis is larger and consequently more readable. It would be of gold (yellow) placed on a blue rondel. The symbolic meanings of the various parts is the same.

THE adoption of a National Flag is in the hands of the people of Canada, but the design of such an emblem should be in the hands of those whose business it is to design. Architects are among the foremost of the country's designers. It is up to them to see that the flag that is finally chosen will tell a story without making the staff of the College of Heraldry writhe in their skins. For a flag is an escutcheon, and the detailing of Arms is a precise science. Certain rules must be followed.

Such being the case, the following are the requisites for any escutcheon or flag.

- (1) It must be recognizable at a distance.
- (2) The various devices used should be symbolic, if possible, of the wearer of the escutcheon or the flyer of the flag.
- (3) A more modern reason is that the flag should be easily manufactured, and the design carried out without discrepancies, from the simplest description.

In the designs illustrated above, which are merely suggestions to promote discussion, no Maple Leaf is used. To the example of heraldry has anything like it, and the drawing of it is apt to resemble anything from a starfish to a fig leaf. Nor has it any significance historically, geographically or politically, and to anyone outside of Canada it is unintelligible.

Instead, red and white stripes are used to designate the eleven political divisions of this country. Superimposed in my mind, the Maple Leaf is unheraldic, as no good the accepted symbol of the British Empire, and fleurs-de-lis indicating the French-founded provinces.

NOTE—The Journal is asked to state that the Institute does not recommend that a National Canadian flag be adopted at this time, but if a new flag is contemplated by the Government, the R.A.I.C. would urge that it be consulted in regard to the design.

—E. R. A.

PROVINCIAL PAGE

ALBERTA

At the February meeting of the Alberta Association of Architects the secretary was asked to compile a roll of all draughtsmen or students in the province who have the profession of architecture as their ultimate aim, in order that practical steps may be taken to develop such interest between students and the association as may be to mutual advantage. There is now no university department of architecture in the province and the work of the technical schools is not specially designed to give the training necessary for architects. It therefore seems incumbent on the association to devise means of their own in the interests of architectural education.

The members of the council in Calgary and Lethbridge have been notified in regard to the action of the Province of Quebec Association of Architects in offering to assist in the problem of emergency housing. It was suggested at the meeting of the Alberta Council that it would be practicable in each of the three districts, Edmonton, Calgary and Lethbridge to get together a commission of consultant architects who could appoint one member to take up the practical work under their direction.

A letter was read to the council on the financing and hospitalization of the indigent. This was referred to the president for reply. It was felt that the enquiry raises questions beyond the scope of the council. As it affects this province it is understood that hospitals in general have great difficulty in dealing with indigent patients. Many of these when discharged from one hospital manage to get admission to another and so continue to live at hospital expense indefinitely. It is alleged that in many cases these patients have children or other near relatives, able to look after them and with a natural duty to do so, but who simply shirk their family duties.

The council received an application for licence to practise in the province without specification as to what building was proposed or with what provincial architect they were to associate themselves. The idea of such a licence "at large" was strongly condemned and the licence was not approved.

Application for membership in the association was made by Miss Jean L. Wallbridge, a graduate B.Sc. in Architecture of the University of Alberta. Her application was strongly endorsed by the firm for whom she has been working and registration was granted.

The question of housing in the province, especially as it affects low income families is being agitated in various quarters and from various points of view. Mr. A. J. Brown, manager of the W. H. Clark Lumber Co., as a member of the Chamber of Commerce, has been pointing out that "for every three newly married couples who have settled in Edmonton since 1930 only one new house has been built, and one third of the new homes have cost less than \$1,000." It may be freely admitted that the costs of houses are systematically grossly underestimated, but, even so, the facts ascertained are an illuminating side light on the situation. The Edmonton Council of Social Agencies has recently appointed a Committee on Housing who are proposing that the City be asked in their annual census to include such questions as will definitely clarify the situation by ascertaining the extent and nature of congestion. Hitherto much has been said with little real knowledge to go upon. It is proposed to lay particular stress upon the manner in which the children of low income families are housed. It is further suggested that the City shall keep charts which shall show at a glance how far housing is adequate or otherwise and what progress is being made from year to year in coping with the situation.

—Cecil S. Burgess.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Our British Columbia Institute has again been honoured by the election of Past President William Fredk. Gardiner to the office of First Vice-President of the R.A.I.C. This is the second time that Mr. Gardiner has held this office and we sincerely congratulate him.

At the Annual Meeting of the Washington State Chapter of the American Institute of Architects held last month in Seattle, Mr. Gardiner represented the A.I.B.C. He addressed the gathering on the much discussed topic of the day, "The reconstruction of England after the war." Mr. Gardiner reports that he had a very enjoyable time in the company of our American neighbours.

The Vancouver Chapter of the Institute held one of its rare meetings recently, when President John S. Porter conducted the members over the new Y.M.C.A. building, which has now been opened for its regular programme.

Mr. Porter is associated with the firm of McCarter and Nairne, the Architects for the building, who deserve great credit for the accommodation they have provided and the efficiency they have attained with the restricted means at their disposal. Every square foot of space has been used to advantage.

Mr. Harry Barratt, the Secretary, reports that he still has a bank balance to the credit of the Chapter, which reflects credit to his ability as a treasurer.

At the meeting of the Council of the Institute held recently, Mr. S. M. Eveleigh was reappointed Honorary Secretary. In spite of his disability, Mr. Eveleigh continues to exhibit his great interest in everything that pertains to the welfare of the Institute.

Mr. Percy C. Underwood was appointed to the office of Honorary Treasurer of the Institute, and Representatives to the Council of the R.A.I.C. are Messrs. George Nairne, H. Blackadder and William Fredk. Gardiner.

—David Colville.

MANITOBA

Our Annual Meeting and Dinner was held recently. The new officers were elected as follows: President, Col. J. N. Semmens; Vice-President, Mr. Gilbert Parfitt; and Council: A. E. Cubbage, C. W. U. Chivers, R. E. Moore, M. S. Osborne, W. P. Over, F. N. Ruttan, and N. C. H. Russell. The President gave a very interesting report in connection with the activities of the past year, which showed a very active season. Professor Osborne gave his report in connection with the Architectural Department at the University, and stated that the Manitoba Association of Architects' scholarship had been won by Mr. Douglas Johnston. The scholarship was renewed for the coming year.

The R.A.I.C. convention was discussed and it was unanimously decided to send down two of our three delegates, so as to keep in personal contact with the parent body. It was felt that the R.A.I.C. was doing splendid work for the profession in Canada, and the Manitoba Association of Architects are behind them one hundred per cent. It was decided to revise our By-laws and bring them as much as possible in keeping with other Associations.

At the dinner, graduates from the Architectural course at the University were our guests, together with other students. We also had with us representatives from the Surveyors Institute, and the Engineers Institute.

—E. Fitz Munn.

ONTARIO

This month finds us in literary clover, since the briefest possible account of the annual meetings of the R.A.I.C. and

the O.A.A. will fill a great deal more space than we usually occupy.

These gatherings took place at Toronto on Feb. 21st and 22nd; beginning with the morning session of the O.A.A. in the Print Room at the Art Gallery. In his address the President, A. J. Hazelgrove, reviewed the activities of Council during the past year, and went on to speak of the present state of the profession and the probabilities for the future. He pointed out that, while architects are finding for themselves opportunities of service in the country's war effort, either in the militant services or in civilian units connected with them, the general effectiveness of the profession's contribution might have been greater if the authorities had seen fit to accept the proffered co-operation of its organizations. The "official" attitude toward architecture and architects had been equally unsatisfactory in regard to housing; its self-sufficiency having produced areas of "multi-coloured rash", which were exhibited with pride as a solution of the problem. Of the future, Mr. Hazelgrove thought that it might well hold the most challenging opportunity of all time; as the war has broken the crust of social indifference, and so cleared an unexpected path to social reconstruction. In the meantime, he felt that architects should do everything in their power to maintain the professional character of their work, by putting into it the best that is in them, for its own sake, and in the conviction that the reaction from poor work is by no means confined to those responsible for it.

The remainder of the morning session was occupied with the reports of Chapters and Committees. The report on public relations occasioned a lively discussion, which led to a recommendation that the item in the Budget to cover this work be substantially increased. Luncheon at the University Club—a welcome and genial interlude—was followed by the afternoon session. A good deal of interest was shown in the problem of housing in connection with war industries; and advantage was taken of the presence of the Director of Housing to obtain first-hand information on the steps already taken by the Federal Government and to appoint a committee to explore with him ways and means of bringing the profession's skill and experience to bear on the developments contemplated.

In the evening, the O.A.A. was host to delegates from other provinces and to many friends, at its annual dinner—an informal affair which was held at the Arts and Letters Club. After dinner the new President, Bruce H. Wright, took up the burden of office—and the impressive gavel that goes with it—and the gathering settled down to hear Dr. E. G. Faludi, on the development of rational architecture in Europe. With the aid of lantern-slides, he traced its evolution from primitive types, and conducted a lightning tour of some of the most interesting and extensive of contemporary work. To conclude a very enjoyable evening, the Toronto Chapter provided the lighter touch in the form of a skit, entitled "Ain't it the Truth?"—of which, perhaps, "the least said—the soonest mended."

The business of the annual meeting of the R.A.I.C.—held in the Music Room of Hart House—was greatly expedited by the issue of a printed Report, containing the President's address and summaries of the year's activities. As a result, practically all routine matters were dealt with at the morning session, and luncheon—in the Great Hall—was confined to the business of bodily refreshment; so that the afternoon session was comparatively brief. It was followed by a paper on Town Planning, presented by Humphrey S. M. Carver, and illustrated with lantern-slides. Mr. Carver led his audience gently through the elementaries, to the control of development by the particular way of life for which provision has to be made. Discussion was somewhat curtailed by the general rush home to change for the formal dinner which concludes the annual get-together of Canadian architects. This year we were honoured by the presence of the Lieutenant-

Governor of Ontario, Hon. Albert Matthews, with many other distinguished guests supporting the President at the head table, and an excellent turnout of members; making up a company which threatened to overflow from the dining room of the University Club into the corridors. After His Honour had presented their certificates to the newly-elected Fellows, the gathering was treated to a delightful talk on Samuel Pepys, by Rev. Dr. F. H. Cosgrave, Provost of Trinity College, Toronto. His story of the part which Pepys played in the regeneration of the Royal Navy, sparkingly told and enlivened with extracts from the famous Diary, provided a perfect close to a strenuous week-end.

One item remains, which must not be overlooked—the Convocation of the College of Fellows. Of what took place there we can, unfortunately, say nothing—excepting, perhaps, that those Fellows who were unable to be present may imagine the scene for themselves, while lesser mortals remember, with gratitude, the occasional flash of those "distinguishing collars" mentioned in the Institute Report.

—Gladstone Evans.

QUEBEC

If arrangements now under way carry through without a hitch, beginning some time in April a circulating socio-architectural town planning and municipal improvement exhibition will be on view in various centres for a period of a year. The credit for initiating this belongs to the A. R. G. (Architectural Research Group) and the Provincial Association is taking a leading part as Angel and Guide.

As this project is still in the preliminary stages it is too early to give any details but the small scale model of the exhibition and the folio illustrating its features give a foretaste of its final form. It is real World's Fair stuff, very clever, very modern, and should appeal to adult and child alike and every degree of intellect. It will present graphically the major social ills afflicting overgrown cities and suggest, but not delimit, means of correction. The benefits that will accrue from a popular exhibition of this nature are incalculable. Incidentally, it will reflect credit on the whole architectural profession and show our interest in public service.

We cannot commend too highly the enthusiasm and serious purpose of the A. R. G. and we wish them and the exhibition every success.

Eleven Quebecers (in the provincial sense) took the trip to Toronto for the purpose of attending the R.A.I.C. functions and fraternizing with their fellows of other provinces. I had lunch yesterday with some of the boys and they were most enthusiastic about discussions at the meetings as well as the cordial overflowing Toronto hospitality.

Our beloved President, J. Roxburgh Smith, gave me a few notes:

"Thanks to O.A.A. for their hospitality and also to various members of the R.A.I.C. who assisted in making the occasion a memorable one. They ARE good in Toronto the Good.

"Friday evening, after the investiture of Fellows at the Pen and Pencil Club, Mr. and Mrs. Burwell Coon were hosts to out of town members at their residence in North Toronto. Mrs. Coon presided charmingly at the coffee urn and the host himself, in his usual urbane manner, ministered to other needs which visitors sometimes develop on these occasions, in a very delightful interlude amidst the turmoil of an Annual Meeting.

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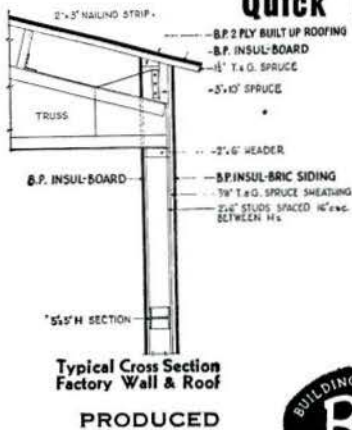
—Harold Lawson.

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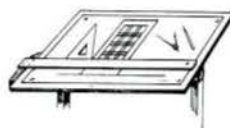
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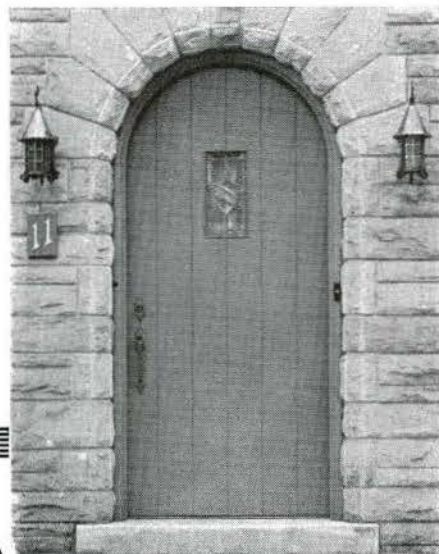
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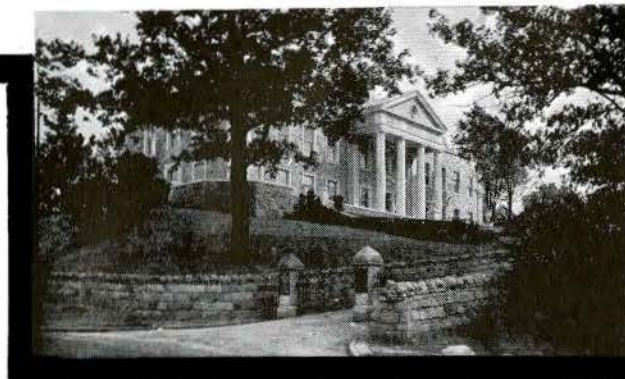
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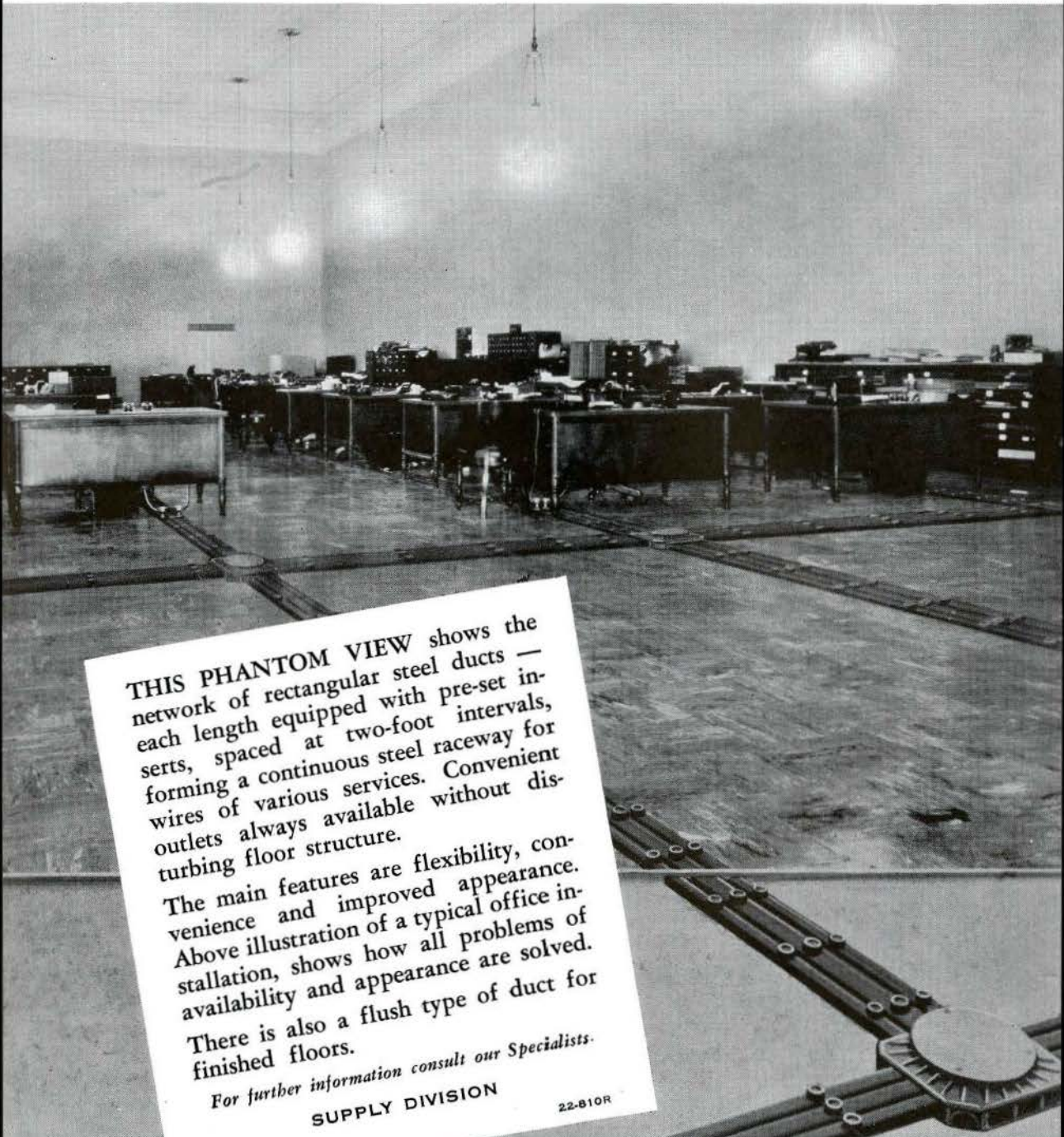
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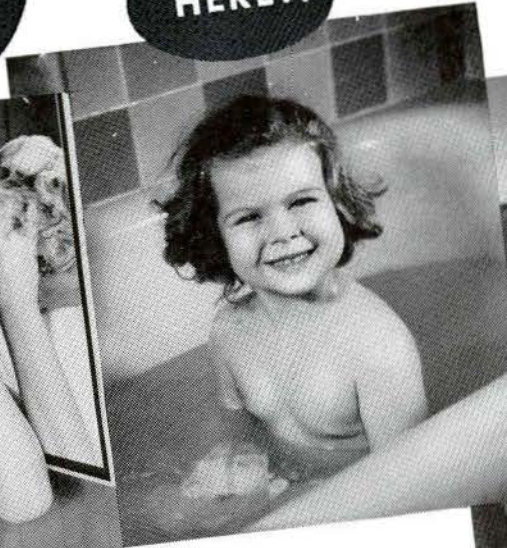
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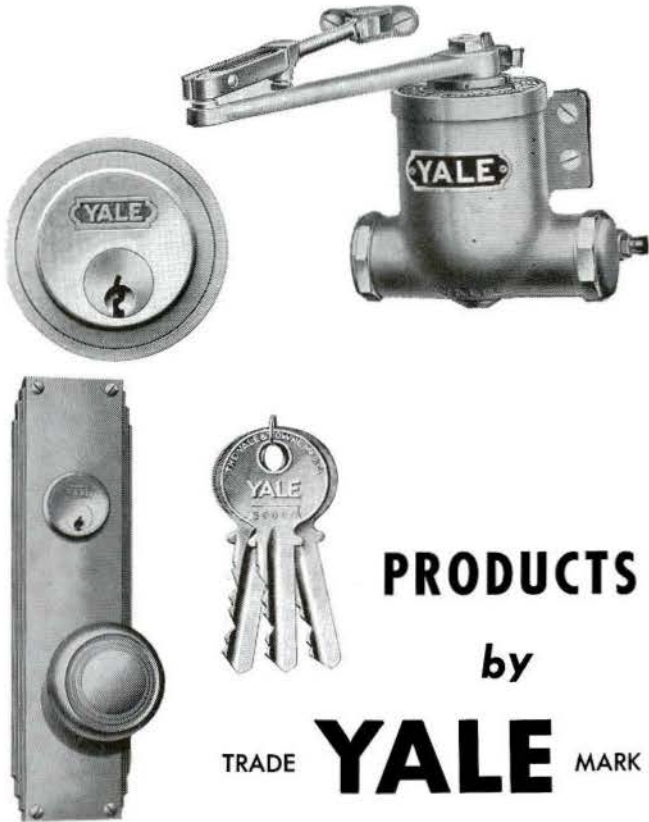
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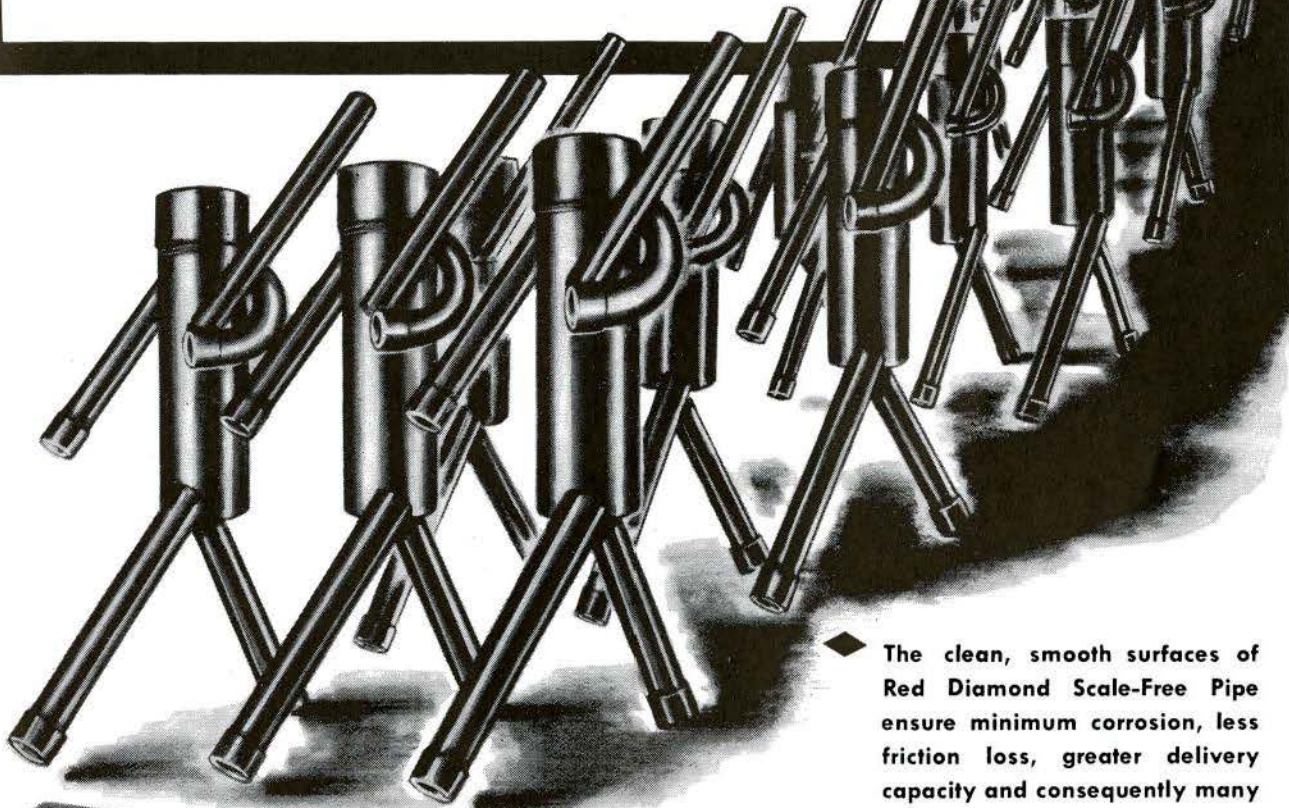
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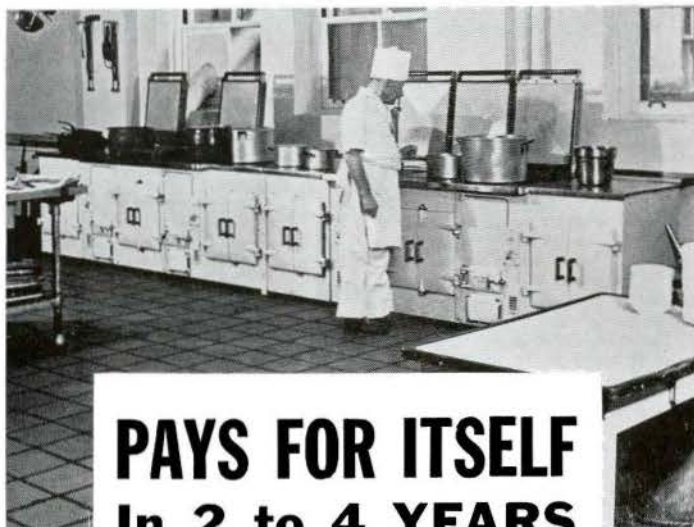
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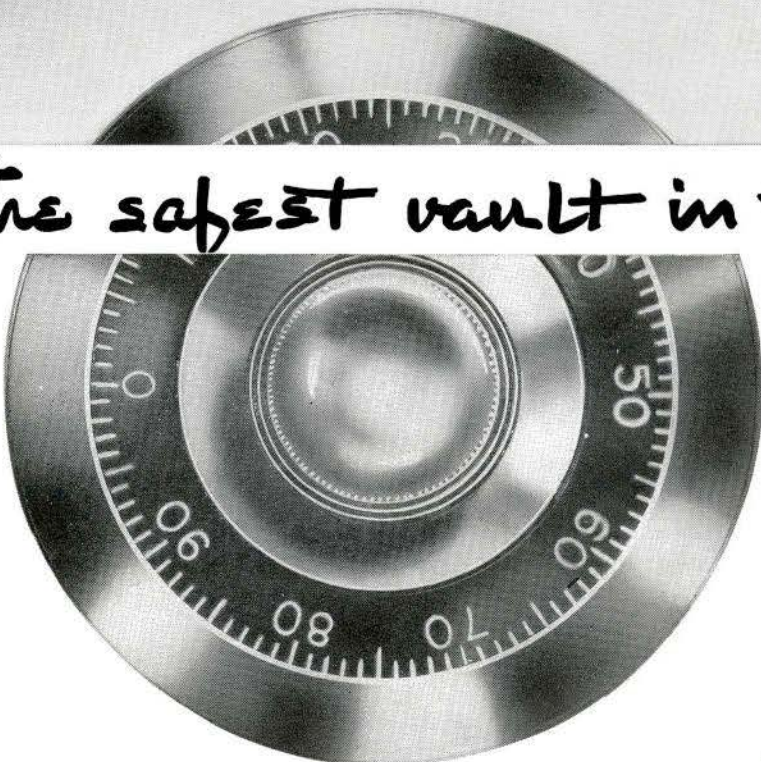
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