

The building may take any form desired but must contain or have as part of the general scheme:— (a) An open swimming pool not less than 20 feet x 40 feet. (b) Dressing rooms for 50 bathers. (c) Two lounges where bathers may rest and cool. (d) Attendant's room and small office.

A spacious loggia is also required across at least some portion of the front.

Drawings required (to be $\frac{1}{8}$ inch scale) as follows:—Ground plan showing layout. Two sections. Sufficient elevations to explain the scheme. Also $\frac{1}{2}$ inch detail of some portion of the building. The whole of the work to be in stone.

"B" SUBJECT—"Some Architectural Feature to mark the Source of Above."

It is suggested that this should take the form of a simple pavilion containing a drinking fountain.

Drawings required (to be $\frac{1}{8}$ inch scale) as follows:—Ground plan showing approach. One section. One elevation. Also a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch detail of some portion of the design.

The visitor in charge reported as follows:—

"A" SUBJECT

"The subject of an open air bath and its approaches was given with the idea of affording the students an opportunity of dealing with composition and expression of character in a somewhat broader manner than usual.

Only an outline of the requirements was given, as it was desired that the students should approach the subject with open minds and by assembling each his own elements, give that distinctive character to his design, for which the subject gives so great an opportunity.

The most serious fault in the designs submitted was a general disregard of the fact that the bath was to be an open air one; and that any elaboration of roofs to the covered portions must result in loss to its principal characteristic.

The draughtsmanship was in many cases excellent and the rendering effective.

"B" SUBJECT

In order that the students should be working in unison, a portion of "A" subject was set as a "B" subject. The work in this case was satisfactory as although the opportunities afforded by the site were not made the most of, yet the work sent in was in each case a useful exercise in Architectural design.

F. N. Bamford A.R.I.B.A., Visitor in charge."

Gisborne Bricklayers Hustled!

We understand that there is likely to be a strike of brickies up Gisborne way owing to the rate they are being hustled to build chimneys knocked down by the recent earthquakes. According to a press Association:—"At Pauriki, Mr. George Busby's station, a bricklayer had just finished rebuilding three chimneys shaken down in the last earthquake, and

was having a smoke preparatory to leaving the job, when the chimneys were again thrown down."

Our "brickies" don't mind doing a job or two now and again these hard times, but they think it is a bit too much that they should not be allowed a "smoke-oh" between jobs!

The Masterton Borough Council Competition

The Masterton Borough Council have compiled a set of "Conditions" for a competition for new Municipal Buildings. The conditions stipulate for buildings of brick or ferro-concrete, which must contain a Town Hall to seat 1,000 people, on ground floor, together with stage for concerts or public meetings, supper room and kitchen, ladies and gentlemen's cloak rooms; a Council Chamber; a public office for 6 clerks, five other offices; a gas showroom; a public library and a reference library; 6 other rooms (for Mayor, Engineer, and other officers); caretaker's accommodation, and lavatories, etc., all for the sum of £7,500.

A first prize of £50 is offered, a second prize of £30, and a third prize of £20. The Council does not bind itself to accept any of the designs sent in, but should it do so the architect must supply a complete set of working drawings, specifications, etc., for which effort he will receive 2½% commission (including the prize money). The conditions suggest that the Council is desirous of getting the drawings from the prizewinner and supervising the erection themselves thereby saving some commission, for it is stated in the conditions that "should the successful competitor be appointed to supervise the erection of the buildings the first prize money shall not be paid to him, but it will be included in the commission paid to him in terms to be agreed upon. No professional Assessor is to be called in to assist the Borough Council in deciding on the merits of the designs submitted, as it is clearly stated that "the members of the Masterton Borough Council will be the adjudicators of the plans."

Competitors have also to send in a tender with their designs which must be within 10 % of the estimate of the building. Surely this is an extraordinary request to make! Is a competitor to prepare working drawings for tender purposes and get tenders for the same on the off chance of being awarded a £50 prize adjudicated upon by laymen? When will Local Bodies learn that their interests can be best served by getting the assistance of a professional architect of standing to draw up their conditions in a businesslike and satisfactory manner? Competitions drawn up by laymen however well-meant cannot possibly cover the ground adequately. Architects of standing will not compete in a competition the conditions of which are so loosely drawn up, and if this be the case how are the Council going to get the best possible return for the public money they are spending?