

The living-room has a window 45 ft. long by 8 ft. high, half of which slides completely away, making the room virtually a part of the garden if required. As the owner has children, it was thought desirable to use special sound-proofing methods and careful planning to ensure that different parts of the house could be kept free of noise from other parts. The house is heated by electricity, and water heating and fires are also electric. There is therefore no solid fuel on the premises.

The house was designed for convenience in working, and to be run with the minimum of domestic help. There is no furniture which is not built in, other than chairs, tables, and beds. The house is built of brick and concrete, and the exterior is dark brown in colour.

After early struggles against ignorance and prejudice, Amyas Connell and Basil Ward are now recognized as being among the leaders of their profession. Writing in the London *Evening News* in February, 1938, John Gloag, an English authority, said of the partners: "They have the same sense of humour, the same profound knowledge of all sorts and conditions of people, for they have knocked about the world and bring to their profession a higher variety of experience than most architects acquire. Their work is fresh, unusual, and gets talked about. They have courage and can persuade their clients to accept originality." The writer concluded by giving it as his opinion that Amyas Connell and Basil Ward would play a large part in the creation of the future London.

Both are still in their early forties, and the rebuilding of London should allow the fullest scope for the exercise of their talent for clean-cut and courageous planning.



The corner bookshelves in the living-room.

Amyas Connell is a son of Nigel Douglas Connell, Eltham, Taranaki, and before leaving New Zealand worked for some time in the office of Stanley Fearn, Wellington. Basil Ward, second son of the late Louis Ernest Ward, of Wellington and Napier, was educated at Napier Boys' High School, and began his architectural career in Napier under articles to J. A. Louis Hay, later going to Wellington to join the firm of Crichton, Mackay, and Haughton. From there he departed with Amyas Connell for England in 1924.

Since the outbreak of war Basil Ward has been in the Navy and now holds the rank of Lieutenant-Commander in the Inter-Services Topographical Department. He was last heard of somewhere near Rangoon.

Soil Erosion in New Zealand.—On page 16 of this issue we print an article on soil erosion by Kenneth B. Cumberland. His book, "Soil Erosion in New Zealand," received much attention when it was published earlier this year. For further reading on this subject, two booklets, "Tackling High Country Problem Land at Molesworth" and "Water Put to Work," and a book, "Rape of the Earth" (by Jacks and Whyte), are suggested, and may be obtained through any A.E.W.S. or E.R.S. library. A film, *The River*, showing erosion in the Mississippi basin and in the Tennessee Valley, is also recommended; it will be shown in all districts in New Zealand. The C.A.B., "Defending our Soil," is now out of print, but should be read if copies are available.