

existing conditions must be borne until the close of hostilities, there is plenty to indicate that the Government is fully alive to the fact that immediately at the end of the war a comprehensive programme must be undertaken to solve this important problem. Circumstances bearing on the present situation are indicated in a recent report of the United States Consul at London, which states that the Technical Committee set up by the National Housing and Town Planning Council has now submitted its interim report to the Local Government Board. The committee took as the basis of its inquiries the statement by the president of the Local Government Board that 300,000 houses for the working classes should be built by the State in England and Wales alone. This estimate does not cover the pressing needs of Scotland. It is said that in order to carry out this programme the organizing ability of at least one-half of the employers in the building trades and the labor of 400,000 men will be required. The committee points out that if 200,000 urban and 100,000 rural houses are erected, this will do no more than to make up for the shortage of new houses directly due to stoppage of building during the war, and will leave untouched the general housing problem, with overcrowded dwellings in town and country.

The report says it will be necessary at the close of the war to ask the tenants of the new houses to pay higher rents than those current before the war. For this reason the houses must be made attractive to be well worth the extra rent charged. The following points to be observed in all plans adopted by local authorities for cottage building are presented:

The houses should be broad rather than deep, to secure ample light.

Back extensions are better avoided; all the rooms should be brought under the main roof.

Three bedrooms should be provided in all the new houses.

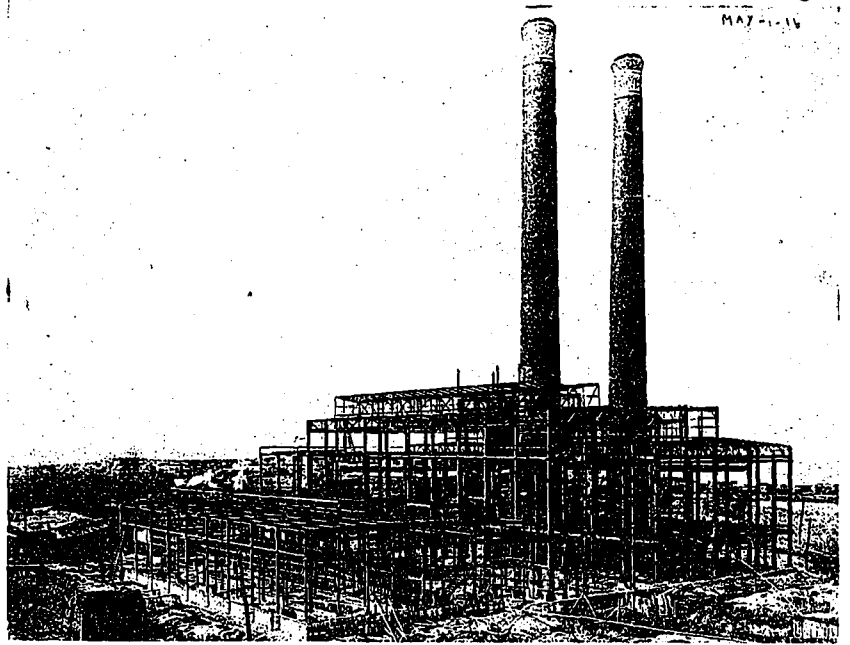
The houses should, as a rule, be provided with parlors.

Each house should have a bath, with hot water.

Ample window space should be given and windows carried as near to the ceiling as possible.

A layer of concrete or other approved impervious material should be laid under all floors to prevent damp rising, and a proper damp-proof course should be provided in all walls.

The level of the ground floor should be above the level of ground immediately surrounding.



DOMINION POWER AND TRANSMISSION COMPANY PLANT, SHOWING STEEL FRAME AT TIME OF ERECTION.

The assistance of women with close knowledge of household economy should be sought in regard to details of interior construction, such as the design of the stairs and the provision of cupboards, larders, and storage accommodation.

It is recommended that the Government should furnish money for these projects only when the general plan of the housing estate or area meets with the Local Government Board's approval. The areas should be laid out on modern town-planning lines, and the number of houses per acre in urban districts should not exceed twelve.

## Function of An Architectural Society

(Continued from page 88.)

be available in sufficient quantity, and of sufficient quality, for the benefit of every person in the community, and not merely as a luxury for a rich class. That is a very big claim to make for a professional association. I am asking that the professional association should not only have this work of elevating the profession, looking after the profession, regulating the profession, as much as it is allowed to do, but I have said it should claim a large participation in the government of the profession, but not the sole government of the profession; that it ought to make it its business to conduct a regular, authoritative, public, responsible criticism of everything that the Government does, that any public authority does, in the sphere of its profession. And, above all and supremely, it ought to regard it as its duty to claim, in season and out of season, that the services which the profession can render the community should be available in quantity sufficient to enable every person in the community to get the benefit of the service.