

worth the serious and energetic work of the ablest in the profession.

In Canada a somewhat similar plan has been discussed relating to the small house problem, but as far as present knowledge goes, no definite action has been taken.

Paris to Construct Homes for Workers

The municipality of Paris, a contemporary informs us, has taken in hand the housing problem there and proposes to spend 1,700,000,000 francs (nominally about \$340,000,000) to solve it. It contemplates building 1476 new two-room workingmen's apartments at once, with 950 more to be erected later. They will be built in the heart of Paris and near the fortifications. It was stated that probably many half-finished houses being built for wealthy persons will be requisitioned by the municipality and turned over to workmen's families.

The shortage of housing facilities in Paris has raised a cry from many quarters, and to meet the situation many miniature "skyscrapers" have been built in Montmartre, much to the disgust of the artists who live there. They have formed a Parliament to discuss the question and have organized parties which take their names after the art school to which they belong. Thus there are the "Cubistes," the "Montmartrois," the "Sauvagistes," the "Dadaistes" and the "Gassieristes."

Some of the extremists are so enraged over the encroachment of the "skyscraper" builders into their district that they are urging all artists in the Montmartre to move to Marseilles.

Dark Walls Waste Light

The color selected for walls and ceilings has a decided effect upon the lighting of rooms and upon our light bills. Even where the darker shades are used for artistic or other reasons, information as to the exact value of each color to reflect light is useful.

The illumination required in a room depends largely upon the amount of light absorbed by the walls and other surfaces. Dark surfaces absorb light, while light surfaces reflect a good proportion of the light back into a room. If the source of light is not changed, the effective illumination will vary with the reflection factors of the surfaces in the room. If, on the other hand, it is desired to maintain a fixed intensity of illumination, then the amount of light reflected by the walls on which the different colors are used will be in the following percentages of the light used: Enameloid, white, 80; flat tone, white, 79; flat tone, ivory white, 76; flat tone, cream, 71; enameloid, ivory, 64; flat tone, buff, 59; enameloid, pink, 51; flat tone, tan, 37; enam-

loid, tan, 27; enameloid, sky blue, 31; enameloid, cardinal red, 27; flat tone, forest green, 21; enameloid, wine, 12; enameloid, grass green, 10.—L. G. DENIS, CONSERVATION.

Building Steel Roofs by Electricity

One of the most important developments of electric welding in Great Britain lies in its application to building construction. The steel roof of a large factory recently erected in London was entirely welded, not a single rivet being employed. Each truss was completed on the ground, the various sections being merely laid in position and welded with mild steel by the arc process. When a truss was completed it was hoisted into position and welded on to the steel supports. The whole process of erection can be carried out much more quickly than when riveting is employed, and there is also a great saving in material.

New Brick Making Plant in Northern Ontario

According to a recent news item a brick-making plant, representing a new industry in Northern Ontario, is to be established at Matheson by the Matheson Products Company. One hundred and ninety acres of land, with a clay deposit that is said to be 40 feet deep, will be utilized by the company which will manufacture brick, tile and terra cotta products. The plant will have a capacity of 20,000 bricks per day to start with, and the output is expected to increase to five times this amount in a short time. R. S. Potter is president of the company, and R. L. Oilman, manager.

Moves to New Quarters

Mr. C. H. Acton Bond, architect, has removed his offices to Suite 20, No. 4 Wellington St. East, Toronto. Phone Main 1973.

The Swedish Government, according to the LABOR GAZETTE, is dealing with the house shortage, both directly by a state building programme providing for the erection of dwellings within the next five years to contain in all 40,000 rooms, and indirectly by building grants to local authorities, and through these to private persons, companies or societies. Builders will be required to raise capital to cover up to 50 per cent. of construction cost, apart from ground values. The state would grant a loan, secured by a mortgage, and valid for at least twenty years, for the remainder of the cost of building. These loans will be exempt from interest charges up to ten years, or in lieu of such exemption a further capital grant may be made up to 2 per cent. of the total cost. Similar building grants are also made to associations of civil servants.