

## PREFACE

THIS volume covers the latter portion of the syllabus in Building Construction, Stage Two, which appears on p. 136, and to which reference has been made in the preface to Vol. II.

Care has been taken to exclude from these volumes details of construction which are generally accepted as being out of date. It is not, however, always easy to distinguish between obsolete and obsolescent types. Much depends upon local practice. For example, the wood roof truss is considered by many to be obsolete, and yet king post roof trusses were adopted in some districts in a number of buildings erected just before the war. As, however, the vast post-war building programme which has to be undertaken will include the reinstatement of war-damaged property, and as many students will be engaged upon this work, it has been thought desirable to refer to one or two types of structures which, although employed extensively in the past, are now gradually falling into disuse. Hence, for example, the queen post roof truss detailed in Fig. 18 is included largely for reference purposes.

It is also realised that for some time after the war there will be a shortage of certain building materials. This applies particularly to timber, as most of it is imported, and it will be imperative that timber shall be used economically. Special attention should be given, therefore, to the description of plywood and similar products which is given on pp. 97-103, and in the production of which the rarer and more valuable timbers especially are made to go as far as possible by conversion into thin veneers.

Many alternative joinery details have been provided for comparison and selection. These include both traditional and contemporary construction, examples of the latter being the flush door and the solid-balustraded stair detailed in Figs. 25 and 35 respectively.

The homework programme on p. 135 continues and completes the one begun on p. 129, Vol. II.

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