

RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON MINIMUM STANDARDS OF ACCOMMODATION.

MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF SUB-COMMITTEE 8 (NOISE) HELD IN ROOM 263, NATIONAL BUILDING RESEARCH INSTITUTE, VISAGIE STREET PRETORIA, ON WEDNESDAY, 4th FEBRUARY, 1948.

Present:

Dr. A.J.A. Roux - Chairman.  
 Dr. J. Lochner - National Physical Laboratory.  
 Dr. J. Frack - Department of Health.  
 Mr. A.M. Mehl - S.A. Bureau of Standards.  
 Mr. Du Toit - S.A. Bureau of Standards.

Apology:

Mr. P.H. Connell. - National Building Research Institute.

In Attendance:

Miss S. de Beer - National Building Research Institute.

1. The Chairman welcomed Dr. Frack and Mr. Mehl to the Sub-Committee.

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

3. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:

3/a The following Terms of Reference, as laid down at the last meeting of the Main Committee, were agreed upon by the sub-committee:-

3/a/1 "To serve as a joint sub-committee of the Research Committee on Minimum Standards of Accommodation and the South African Bureau of Standards";

3/a/2 "To examine the standards of sound-insulation in existing forms of dwellings";

3/a/3 "To make suggestions as to such changes in the design and construction of dwellings as the sub-committee may consider necessary or desirable, to reduce, if necessary, the noise level in dwellings to more comfortable standards".

3/a/4 "To prepare a report on the sub-committee's findings for submission to the Main Committee".

4. PROGRESS REPORT:

4/a. The Chairman told the Sub-Committee that the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research Bulletin on "The Reduction of Noise in Buildings" was not available in any library in the Union, but that copies had been ordered from overseas.

4/b. Dr. Lochner, in his report on existing information, referred to another Department of Scientific and Industrial Research publication, Post War Building Study No. 14, on Sound Insulation and Acoustics. This report, he felt, contained almost everything that the Committee could need. Apart from this, he referred to various articles, dealing with different aspects of acoustics,

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such as the sound-absorbent qualities of gravel, grass, trees, the effect of paint films on acoustics, etc. He felt, however, that these various articles need simply be briefly summarised in the Interim Report.

- 4/c. Dr. Frack handed a short report to Dr. Lochner, on the physiological aspects of noise, drawn up by Dr. Meaker.

Dr. Frack said that little work had been done on this question. He felt that the siting of sub-economic schemes should be considered carefully from the noise aspects, and the residential area should be surrounded by gardens, trees, etc., which would act as a buffer between residential industrial areas.

- 4/d. In the absence of Professor Meiring and Mr. Connell, their reports had to be left over.

5. PROGRAMME OF WORK:

- 5/a. The Chairman suggested that Dr. Lochner and himself be responsible now for drawing up a draft of the sub-committee's proposed Interim Report, before the next meeting, early in March. The draft would then be discussed and commented on by the sub-committee, and at the following meeting, at the end of March, could be finally approved before being sent to the Main Committee. The Chairman felt too, that the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research report on Sound Insulation and Acoustics, to which Dr. Lochner had referred, would probably include almost everything that the sub-committee might wish to report, and that their Interim Report should recommend it to the attention of the Main Committee.

- 5/b. It was agreed that all individual reports from the sub-committee members should be sent in before the end of February.

- 5/c. Dr. Frack agreed to draw up a short report on practical examples of noise in the actual structure of houses - viz. squaky floors, creaking roofs, rattling windows, etc.

6. GENERAL:

The next meeting was fixed for Wednesday, March 10th, at 9 a.m. and the meeting ended at 9.40 a.m.

Confirmed,

CHAIRMAN.

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