

RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON MINIMUM STANDARDS OF ACCOMMODATION.Sub-Committee No. 5 (Ventilation)

Minutes of the Second Meeting of the above sub-committee held in the Board Room, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, on Thursday 20th November, at 9.30 a.m.

Present:

Dr. A.J.A. Roux (Chairman) - National Building Research Institute.
 Mr. P.H. Connell (Organising Secretary) - National Building Research Institute.
 Dr. R.E. Meaker - Department of Health.
 Mr. G.M. Hussey - Institute of S.A. Architects.
 Mr. J.W. Swart - S.A. Bureau of Standards.

In Attendance:

Miss S. de Beer - National Building Research Institute.

The Chairman declared the meeting open and welcomed Mr. Hussey who had been nominated by the Institute of S.A. Architects to serve as their representative on this Sub-Committee, and Mr. Swart who had taken Mr. Buchanan's place.

1. Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and signed.

2. Matters arising out of Minutes.

It was agreed that there was no real necessity to refer proposed amendments to the Draft Terms of Reference back to the Main Committee, as had been suggested in the Minutes of the first meeting since the Main Committee had still to ratify the Terms of Reference as a whole. With regard to the additional clause to be inserted in the Terms of Reference of the four technical sub-committees to indicate that these were joint committees serving both the Research Committee on Minimum Standards of Accommodation and the South African Bureau of Standards, it was agreed that the wording of this particular clause would be left to the Main Committee to decide at their next meeting. Mr. Swart handed to the Organising Secretary a draft of the revised wording which would be acceptable to the S.A. Bureau of Standards.

Further it was agreed that a single final report would be submitted to both Committees, who would study it in terms of their own particular interests.

The Organising Secretary informed the meeting that as resolved at the First Meeting, the Department of Health had been approached and invited to send representatives to Sub-Committees 9 and 4, but that while appreciating the invitation, they had not

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considered it necessary to appoint further representatives.

3. Terms of Reference.

As covered in (2) above.

4. Progress Report.

- (a) Dr. Meaker handed in a report on his study of the Public Health Act, the Slums Act, the Native (Urban areas) Act, and the Factories Act. He regretted that as yet he had not been able to do anything about overseas regulations, but referred to a useful book, British Model Building Bye-laws, by Mitchell, available in the State Library.
- (b) Mr. Connell told the Sub-Committee that local bye-laws were being abstracted by a section of the National Building Research Institute staff to collect information for the various sub-committees, and referred to the section on Ventilation which he had before him, explaining the scheme of the work in hand. It was agreed that the National Building Research Institute continue with this abstracting of relevant information from the bye-laws, and that Mr. Hussey and Mr. Connell collaborate in this Section of the work and also in the study of overseas regulations.
- (c) Mr. Swart gave the sub-committee a list of the various bye-laws and regulations dealing with Ventilation in the library of the Bureau of Standards. It was agreed that Mr. Swart should make a study of the overseas Codes of Practice dealing with ventilation.
- (d) Dr. Roux told the Sub-Committee that little research of a real scientific nature had been carried out on the problem of ventilation of dwelling houses although a certain amount of work had been carried out overseas, particularly in the U.S.A., on artificial ventilation in dwelling houses. He gave the sub-committee an account of the work which had been done on Ventilation, and stated that he would hand in a written report on this subject, which could be circulated to members with the minutes of the next meeting.

Dr. Meaker and Mr. Hussey both raised the point that the work of this Sub-Committee could not logically be separated from that of the Heating and Cooling Sub-Committee. The Chairman said that he was in whole-hearted agreement and suggested that if by the next meeting the Sub-Committee could be in possession of brief reports on what work the Sub-Committee should undertake, it could then be arranged to combine the two sub-committees for following meetings. As far as dwelling houses were concerned, there was very little control possible over temperature, and factors which were more or less uncontrolled could be considered separately.

Mr. Connell raised the question of special house design in South Africa with regard to ventilation. Design varied in accordance with prevailing conditions in different regions.

It was agreed that Mr. Hussey should study and report on design and planning aspects in South Africa from the Ventila-

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tion point of view.

Mr. Swart suggested that when Mr. Connell compiled his abstracts from legislation dealing with ventilation, he should bear in mind the various regional differences, and this was agreed upon.

5. General.

It was agreed that Mr. Cawood of the Public Works Department should be asked to become a member of the Committee in view of his wide experience in the field of Air Conditioning.

Mr. Hussey referred to valuable publications originating in the Chemical Warfare section of the Union Defence Force and offered to find out exactly where to locate these, so that the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research Library could borrow them for the use of the Sub-Committee.

The date of the next meeting was fixed at Thursday, 22nd January at 9.30 a.m. in the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

The Chairman on behalf of the Sub-Committee, thanked Dr. Meaker for the valuable assistance he had rendered to the Committee, and expressed his very deep regret that Dr. Meaker, owing to his transfer to Vereeniging, would no longer be able to serve as a member. The Sub-Committee were exceedingly grateful to him for all his work.

The meeting closed at 11 a.m.

Confirmed,

C H A I R M A N.

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