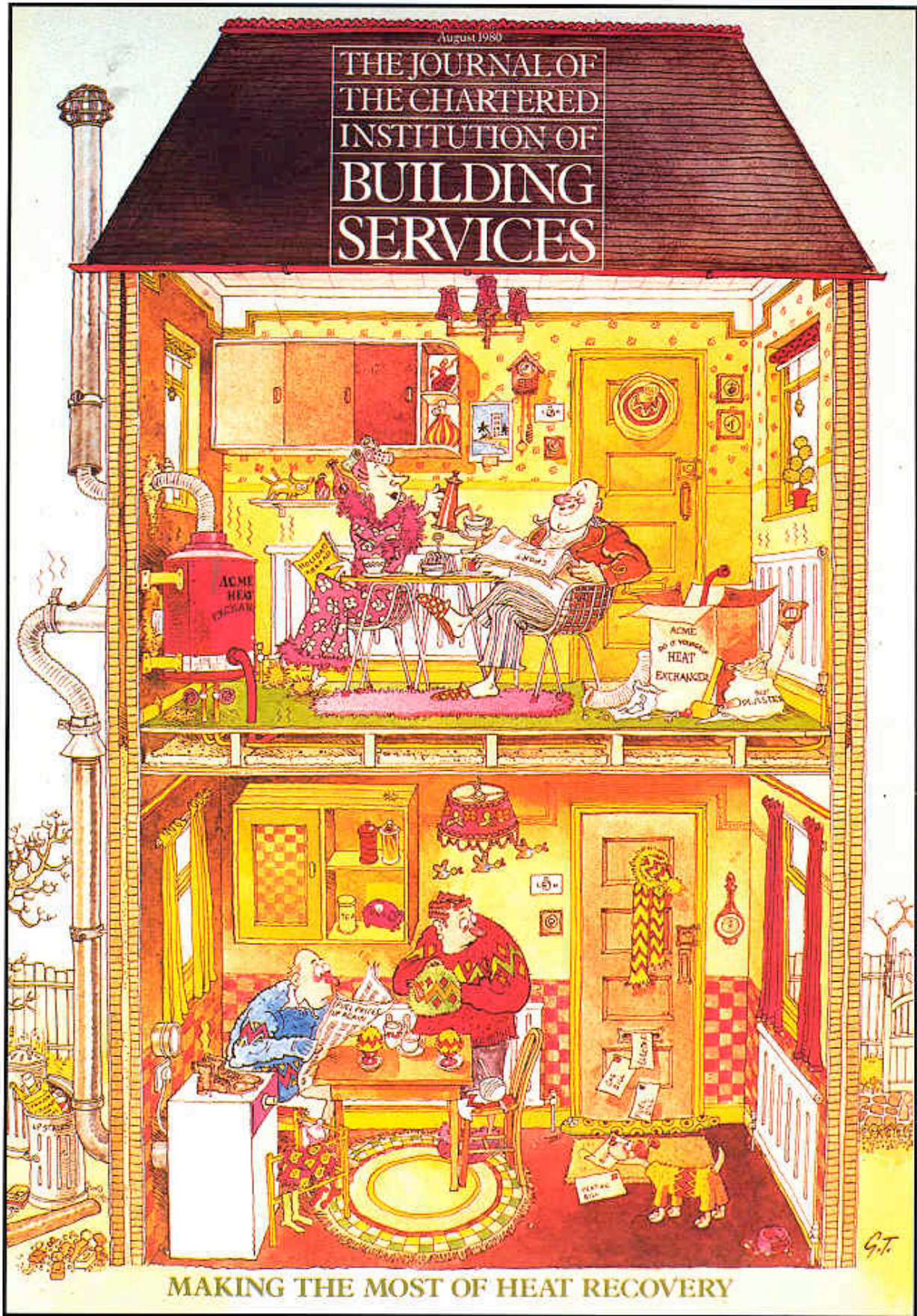




The Quest for

COMFORT

1997 The opening pages of the CIBSE Centenary book

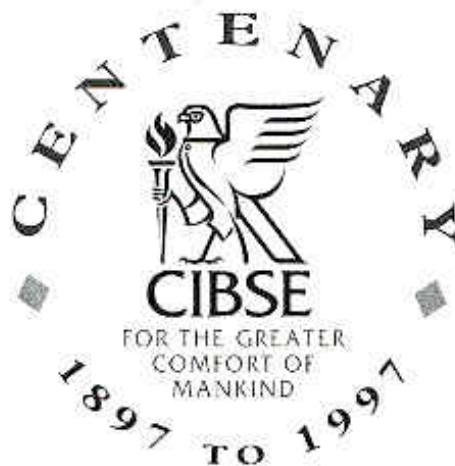


Cartoon: *Making the Most of Heat Recovery*. JIHVE cover, August 1980.

Front cover: Illuminated Painting: *Solid Comforts* (Flemish), c1515. A blazing fire, the gleam of candlelight and the thought of dinner – part of Man's quest for comfort. *Medieval Pageant*, B Holme, 1987, p74.

The Quest for

COMFORT



A selective pictorial history of the early days of
building services to mark the Centenary of the
Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers
1897-1997

The Quest for COMFORT

Brian Roberts
Chairman, CIBSE Heritage Group



2. Woodcut: Making Fans for Mine Ventilation. Notice the fan blades tipped with goose feathers. (*De Re Metallica*, Georgius Agricola, 1556). DRM: Book VI, p207



Heating AND Ventilation

NEW YORK

(Copyright, 1899.)

NOVEMBER, 1899.

(All rights reserved.)

CHICAGO.

British Institution, Heating and and Ventilating Engineers.



JOHN KITCHEN,
Member of the Council.

Mr. John Kitchen, member of the Council, was for upwards of seventeen years, in the well-known firm of Hartley & Wilson Ltd., of Halifax, and is now in business under the style of Kitchen & Co. Ltd., Derby, England. This firm manufactures the well-known "Severn" boiler for heating.

The quarterly meeting of the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers was held Tuesday, October 17, at the Holborn Restaurant, London.

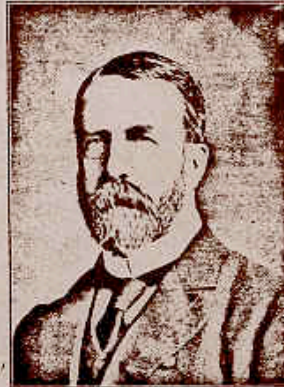
The first event of the convention was a meeting of the Council which took place at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. At 4 o'clock the members met in general session.

Conditions for an enthusiastic meeting were propitious in that a



CHARLES MASON,
Member of the Council.

Mr. Mason, member of the Council, belongs to the firm of Foster & Pearson, Ltd., Heating Engineers, Beeston, Notts. He has had a wide experience, having been an architect, engineer and surveyor before entering into the practical side of heating and ventilating. He is a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, and a vice-president of the London Society of Engineers.



W. R. MAGUIRE,
Member of the Council.

Mr. W. R. Maguire, member of the Council, is the head of the well-known firm of Maguire & Gatchell, Ltd., of Dublin, Ireland. Mr. Maguire has established a great reputation as a heating and domestic engineer, and is the author of a valuable book on domestic sanitation.

goodly number of the members of the Institution were in attendance. Nor did the auspicious inception of the affair prove a delusion, for the convention is pronounced a very successful one and it may be expected to result in a strengthening and broadening of the influence of the Institution.

President Walter Jones occupied the chair supported by the two vice-presidents, David M. Nesbit and J. Nelson Russell.

The first paper read was by Mr. W. R. Maguire, J.P., of Dublin, Ireland, who made some judicious remarks on ventilating, described the steam injection low pressure hot water heating



THOMAS POTTERTON,
Member of the Council.

Mr. Potterton, member of the Council, is in business at Balham, London, in partnership with Mr. P. Dye, as the P. Dye Heating Co. Mr. Potterton has been in the heating business for over thirty years, and is recognized as an authority. He is the patentee of the Zig-Zag range boiler for warming portions of houses from kitchen fires, and supplying hot water for domestic use. Mr. Potterton has written a very useful book on this subject.



E. W. MAYNER,
Member of the Council.

Mr. Mayner is a member of the firm of Townsend, Tamplin & Makowski, Ltd., of London and Redhill. Mr. Mayner was one of the first working members of the Institution. He joined it at a time when a good deal of hard work was required to place it on a firm basis. The labor thus expended has, however, been amply repaid by the splendid position in which the Institution now finds itself.

The responsibilities of the Institution are of two kinds. There is the duty to ensure the development of the industry in readiness for anticipated future needs; and there is the duty of any professional body to speak on matters of public concern.

Of Shoes and Ships and Sealing Wax, N 5 Billington (HIVE Presidential Address), 1970.

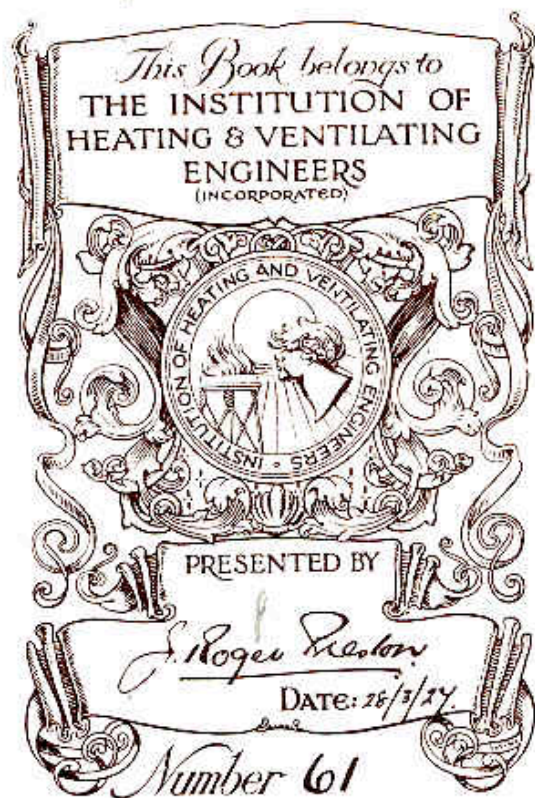


CIBSE was formed by the grant of a Royal Charter (1976). This enabled the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers (founded 1897) to amalgamate with the Illuminating Engineering Society (founded 1909) to create an Institution which embraces the whole of building engineering services.

The objectives of CIBSE, set out in its Charter, are the promotion of the art, science and practice of building services engineering for the benefit of all and the advancement of education and research in building services engineering.



8. The First IHVE Summer Meeting, Stourbridge, 1899. President Walter Jones. CIBSE Archives.



9. IHVE Library Bookplate No. 61. *The Mechanical Production of Cold*. Sir J A Ewing, CUP 2nd Edit. 1921. Presented and signed 28/3/27 by J Roger Preston (President 1929).

Early Beginnings

Edmund William Mayner is regarded as "Father of the Institution of Heating & Ventilating Engineers". He was probably the first member and the first practising heating engineer to join. In 1896, J Kemsley, Secretary of the Institute of Sanitary Engineers, proposed that a society be formed to foster the heating and ventilating trades. Mayner was at that time a Member of Council of the Institute and appears to have been largely responsible for setting up the IHVE. He never occupied the Presidential Chair, preferring to hold the post of Chairman of an Executive Committee. It is almost certain that he recruited Walter Jones, D M Nesbit, W R Macguire, Louis F Pearson (later Sir), and George Crispin, all of whom came to the Chair after John Grundy, the first President.

The original prospectus of the Institution dated



10. Souvenir of IHVE First Past-Presidents' Meeting, 1923. (From top, clockwise) Geo Crispin 1905, H H Grundy 1915, Walter Yates 1909, Frank Biggin 1921, A H Barker 1922, W W Nobbs 1920, Charles Honiball 1912, John Watson 1923, W Nelson Haden 1906/7, Edgar Herring 1918/19, A B Simpson 1908, Sam Naylor 1916/17.

December 1897 was sent out by the Secretary, Luwee Harris, from offices at 29 Ludgate Hill. It lamented the state of the science of heating and ventilating in this country, comparing it unfavourably with the recognition afforded it by the Americans and Canadians noting that on this side of the water "to the public the science of Heating is almost unknown, and Ventilation exists largely in the imagination." This was the first serious attempt to organise the profession.

John Grundy came from City Road, London. He was a boiler manufacturer of some eminence (like many early members). The objectives set at this time were "to promote the intellectual welfare of its members by periodical meetings, to read, consider, and discuss papers or problems on Heating, Ventilating or other kindred subjects, and so take such measures to extend, develop or safeguard the interests of these important trades, as may be considered desirable or expedient."



12. Leon Gaster, First Hon. Secretary of the IES, 1909.
Founder and editor of *The Illuminating Engineer*. *Illum
Engr*, X XI, 1917.



11. Magazine Masthead: *The Illuminating Engineer*, founded
1908. Notice the types of lighting in the scroll design.

Let There Be Light

The Illuminating Engineering Society was founded in 1909 by a small enthusiastic group consisting of lighting engineers, architects, electrical and gas engineers. The credit for the formation of the Society must go to Leon Gaster, a consulting engineer, who arranged an informal meeting at which he said, "In advocating the formation of such a Society we have no desire to do more than provide a common platform where all those interested in illumination may be able to express their views in a free and informal manner, and membership of such a Society cannot, at the present time, be regarded as any claim to professional distinction. We naturally hope that in time to come when the subject of illumination has been thrashed out in detail to a far greater extent than at present, 'expert illuminating engineers' will have a professional existence...."



13. Alexander Pelham Trotter 1857/1957. President IES 1917,
in uniform as Private 2474, C Company, Vth Battalion of
the National Guard City of London Volunteer Regiment.
In association with Sir Wm Preece, he was a pioneer in
illumination-photometry. *Illum Engr*, X XI, 1917.



The Chartered Institution of
Building Services Engineers

Three Pines,
3, Ivywell Road.,
Sneyd Park,
Bristol. G.
July 12th 1943,

Institution
History of The Association.

Dear Miss Moran,

Herewith are my recollections of early history.

In the year 1898 my firm was approached by a Mr. Harris as to whether a member of our firm would join an Association of Engineers of which Mr. Grundy, Senior was President.

We turned it down as on enquiry we found the main mover was a Company Promotor.

Later on in 1899 when a circular was received inviting to inaugural meeting of Heating Engineers at Kings Hall, Holborn Restaurant and circular was signed by the late Edward Taylor, [of revered Memory] I arranged to attend and did so on return journey from Luton where we had a contract on and where I had attended a Masonic Function.

On entering the Hall I saw about fifty people standing about in small groups and was struck with the deadly silence, Louis Pearson [Sir Louis now] came forward and said he was glad to see some one he knew.

Always inclined to be matey I walked round to the groups told them my name and asked theirs and got them to fraternize and in ten minutes or so there was a buzz of conversation like a Corn Exchange.

Edward Taylor Secretary Pro-tem read the notice calling the meeting and asked for name of Chairman for the day.

I mentioned that Walter Jones [also of blessed Memory] another friend of mine was the oldest man in the Trade and he was for it, he was a splendid Chairman and was elected President for 1899.

Had it not been for him Sir Louis Pearson, John Palmer, Edward Taylor and a few others I could mention who paid out the original Promotor there would not be the flourishing Institution thereis to-day.

A Banquet had been arranged and after the loyal toast had been honoured Walter Jones said, ' Well Gentlemen we have had a very harmonious business meeting and I trust some-one will favour us with a Song ' there was a long silence and an Engineer sitting next to me said:- ' You look as if you could sing a good song ' I said well I am not exactly bursting to sing but I have a roll of songs downstairs.

Then I was for it and as no-one else could be prevailed on to hold forth I had to render the three chorus songs:-

The Longshoreman,
Three for Jack,
The Powder Monkey.

They all joined in manfully and with the aid of dear old John Palmer's few racy tales a splendid evening was spent and The Powder Monkey Chorus of soon we'll be in London Town proved a fact.

My Certificate is dated the 28th of February 1899.

The first Summer Meeting at Stourbridge was a great success and I was able to present a Photograph of Members taken that day to The Institution and I trust the London Blitz has not destroyed it.

14. Early Days of the IHVE, As recounted in a letter dated 12 July 1943 by George Crispin (President 1905) to Miss Jesse Moran, IHVE Acting Secretary, 1941/5. CIBSE Archives.

I can recall many Summer Meetings apart from mine as President in 1905 and three of them stand out in my memory:-

First:- The Dublin Meeting with our revered friend MacQuire as President.

The Second & Third the Council asked me to arrange.

The Second owing to illness of President Simpson I arranged at Windsor with the steamer Queen of England taking us up river with dinner at the Crown at Cookham, I had asked that messrs Pearson & Jones should act with me, they did we met there previously & had a good dinner, they told me to get on with it and I did.

The Third Summer Meeting I arranged with White Hart Headquarters was lunch at Staines, tea at Hampton Court and evening finish at the Franco-British Exhibition.

The above Summer Meeting was arranged the second year of Mr. W.N. Hadens Presidency as it was felt not to be fair he should have second expense as President.

During my year as President I arranged council meeting the first evening and supper and a masonic Reception committee of four Brethren and their wives was a great help to me.

I consider the annual gatherings of Past Presidents has proved a great service to The Institution.

I was glad when they approved of my proposal for a reception committee at Summer Meetings and instanced that two Engineers who I had chummed up to at Summer Meetings told me they felt quite out of it knowing no-one there and that they had decided not to attend meetings again, but after being introduced by me to other members everything was merry and bright.

Having reached my 76th year and travelled the world I have proved:

'Tis the human touch in this world that counts

The touch of your hand and mine

That means far more to the fainting heart

Than shelter or bread or wine

For shelter is gone when the night is o'er

and bread last only a day

But the grasp of the hand and the sound of the voice

Sing on in the soul, always.

I could with thankfulness recount of many friendships formed, many alas broken by death and of men like my dear friend and brother Sam Naylor who so many times have seconded my efforts on the Presidents Outing Day in telling him and the Lady President how much we loved and appreciated them.

Good mens lives are a blessing to us and their death an inspiration to us.

We are Ships that pass in the night but for goodness sake let us signal to others as did the Night Watchman of old - Alls Well.

In conclusion I will say to all members as I did in my Presidential address in 1905:-

Do what you can being what you are

Shine like a glow-worm if you cannot be a Star

Work like a pulley if you cannot be a Crane

Be a wheel greaser if you cannot drive the train.

With all and to all good Wishes to each Member of the Institution hoping that the War will soon end so that enjoyable Summer Re-union Meetings may gladden many Hearts.,

Yours faithfully.

George Crispin
Past President 1905 & 6.