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SQUARE PROPOSED IN MARTIN PLACE

Cenotaph to be focal point

The formation of a Civic Square in Martin Place by closing it to traffic between George and Pitt Streets and paving it for pedestrian use only, was proposed to the City Commissioners yesterday.

A deputation from the Civic Reform Association presented the proposal to the Chief Commissioner, Mr V. H. Treatt.

The deputation included the association's chairman, Mr H. Dixon; the Dean of the Faculty of Town and Country Planning at Sydney University, Professor D. Winston; and planners and architects.

TRAFFIC FLOW

The square, with the Cenotaph in Martin Place as the focal point, is estimated to cost \$170,000.

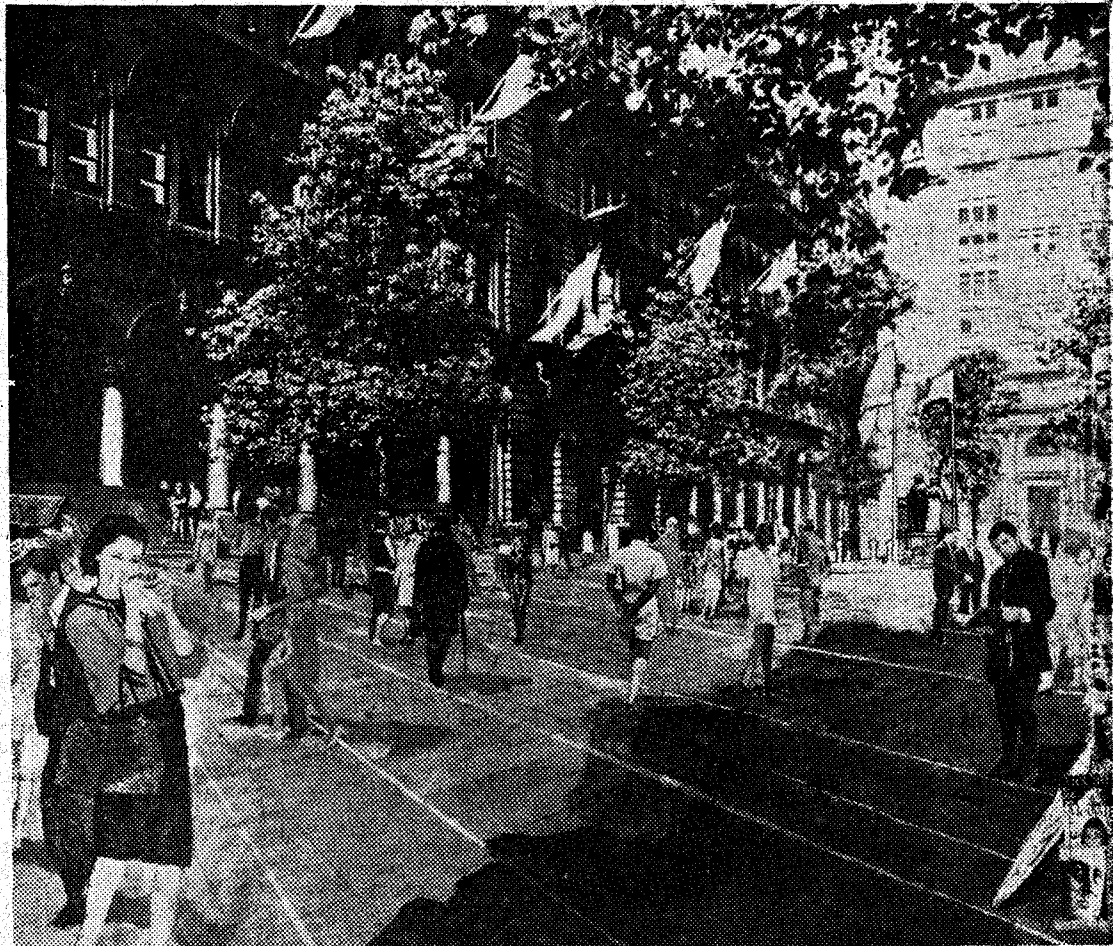
The street would be raised to footpath level and the whole area paved, preferably with South Australian marble.

Gaily coloured kiosks would give a continental look, street furniture would be provided and the number of trees double from 12 to 24.

Mr Dixon said surveys had shown that traffic volume in this section of Martin Place was surprisingly small.

The closing of the area in fact would ease the traffic flow in Pitt and George Streets.

Mr Dixon said all the buildings and business houses on the square could



An impression of the plaza suggested for Martin Place between George and Pitt Streets.

be serviced from other streets.

"We have approached these firms and they have reacted favourably to the scheme," he said.

The proposal was prepared by Professor Winston and Clarke, Gazzard and Partners, a Sydney firm of architects and planners, for the association.

If the City Commissioners approve the scheme it could be completed within eight months, Mr G. Clarke said.

Mr Treatt told the deputation the commissioners would give the pro-

ject the earliest possible attention.

He said his first impression was one of "gratitude for this well conceived and produced plan. It is obvious, that something like this has been needed for a long time."

The chief engineer for the Department of Government Transport, Mr T. G. Kilby, said the two bus services which ran down Martin Place could be rerouted.

The Custodian of the Cenotaph, Mr J. D. Westwood, said the square would be an acquisition to the city.