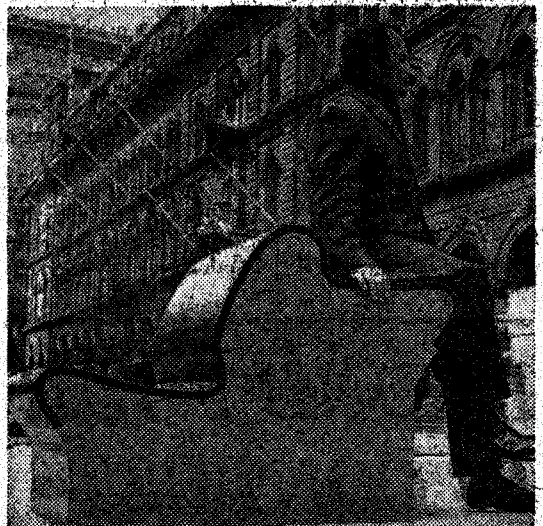


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**Seats for the plaza**



**Above is a mock-up of one of the new seats which are being made for the Martin Place plaza.**

The sculptured seats are being manufactured in pre-cast concrete with fibreglass covers.

There will be 126 individual units, with a seat on each side. They will be arranged in a series of crescents under trees already planted.

The designers selected concrete because it is virtually maintenance-free and discourages vandalism.

The fibreglass covers will allow rainwater to drain away quickly without "ponding" on the horizontal surfaces. The covers will

also add to comfort. They may be coloured maroon or purple.

The design allows the seats to be moved quickly and simply by a small trolley.

The concrete seats are being made by Fabbrostone Pty Ltd at a factory at Caringbah.

In addition to the seats, Martin Place plaza will contain a range of fresh designs in lighting standards, drinking fountains, litter bins and kiosks.

Clarke Gazzard Architects Pty Ltd is design consultant to the project. Nielsen Design Associates Pty Ltd developed ideas for the street furniture.

Gordon Andrews has designed the newspaper kiosks but the design for the flower kiosks is not yet complete.

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**Martin Place**

SIR, — I wonder if Mr George Clarke, project director of the City of Sydney Strategic Plan ("Herald," July 21), knows that he was able to walk through Martin Place and visualise a pedestrian plaza there because a group of dedicated citizens some time between 1930 and 1940 banded together and aroused public opinion to such an extent that the Rural Bank—foundations commenced and straddling the upper end of Martin Place — was forced to withdraw to its present site — leaving the Place extending from George Street to Sydney Hospital.

The group was called the Parks and Playgrounds Association, I believe. Does it still function? Who were the original founders?

The city owes them thanks.  
L. A. HOWARD.  
Bondi Junction.

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