

MARTON JUNCTION.

Mr. W. H. Gomez, contractor, has in hand a dwelling containing six rooms, with two bays and two verandahs, for Mr. J. Corbett.—Price, £360; a cottage at Turakina for Mr. Craig, of four rooms.—Price, £260; a bungalow for Mr. J. Pickering, five rooms, one verandah, casement windows.—Price £320.

Mr Gomez is employing black birch (Tawhai-ran-nui), known as red birch in Wellington district, for framing of houses, and also for fencing-posts and strainers, being strong and durable. This timber was employed as planking of old wharf at Pictou, and has resisted wear and tear for over forty years. This tooth-leaved birch is mentioned in Kirk's work.

MASTERTON.

The Bank of New Zealand is a pleasing addition and adornment to the city. It is well-proportioned and dignified in treatment on Doric lines. The bank chamber is 54ft. by 36ft.; strong room 16ft by 12ft. The entrance is in the centre, stationery room on one side, and manager's room on the other. The depth of building is 76ft., and spacious corridor opening from a door at the side and connecting with a suite of living rooms, etc.; architect, Mr. J. Charlesworth.—Contract, £4000; contractors, Taylor and Hodge.

The Waingawa Freezing Works were recently extended, three new chambers having been added.—Contract, £7000; contractors, Taylor and Hodge.

The Telephone Exchange is under construction and will be in two storeys in brick, and will cost about £1300.—Contractors, Taylor and Hodge. The same contractors recently built the new Police Station.

A seven-roomed bungalow is completed on Pownall street, with two verandahs, side entrance, two bays and angle bay.—Contract, £750; contractors, Judd and Russell; also a bungalow of five rooms, drawing-room 17ft. by 15ft., kitchen 14ft. by 12ft., bedroom 13ft. 6in. by 12in., etc., two verandahs; cost, £420; contractors, Judd and Russell.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Mr. Frank Messenger has prepared the plans for a new Fire Station in this city, the cost of which will be about £2500. The building will be in brick, with rough cast treatment. A valuable innovation is in evidence, in matter of a tower in reinforced concrete, which will be more than an architectural feature, serving the purpose of "look-out" and drying-place for hose in all weathers, engine-room, 48ft. x 32ft., and watch room, workshop, office, kitchen, and store, with a stairway to social hall, 38ft. x 42ft., with an arcaded flat roof opening from landing, to be utilised by staff, and leading to four bedrooms, and passage to tower, etc. Tower, 52ft., with piers, a courtyard provided, permitting grouping of sanitary arrangements, baths, etc., in one wing. The scheme has been fully thought out, and design is pleasing in effect.

Mr. Mannix has completed a building containing two stores and chambers, in two stories—one store fitted up for a jeweller, most modern in character. The upper part of the building is relieved with well-chosen details; sanded treatment to same. The building is in brick and timber. Price about £2300. Contractors, Boon Bros. Mr. Mannix has also completed R.C. Church at Ohura, in timber, to seat 100, with sanctuary and sacristy in Gothic architecture. Price £575. Contractors, Bairstow and Robins.

Sanderson and Griffiths, architects, New Plymouth, have just completed, for J. Veale, Esq., Auckland, business premises in reinforced concrete throughout, including the floors and ceilings. The ground floor is designed to suit a modern jeweller, with large well-lighted shop, office, showroom, work and strong rooms. The circular plate windows, with neat white metal bars, set on Motueka marble bases, together with mosaic entrances, give the building a very attractive finish. The interior partitions are relieved with leadlights. The upper floor is reached by a wide concrete staircase, prominent to the street frontage, and well lighted by lantern lights from the flat roof. There are two suites of offices upstairs, with every possible convenience. Messrs. Coleman and Son were the contractors, the price being approximately £2300. The same firm have also completed a residence of six rooms on the Frankley Road, with stables and outbuildings. Price £733. Contractor, Messrs. Coleman and Son; a bungalow cottage at Fitzroy, containing 5 rooms, conveniences, and large verandahs. Price £530. Contractor, Mr. F. Newell. A printing establishment for

Thos. Avery, Esq., adjoining present business premises. The walls and floors are of reinforced concrete, roof formed of bow string iron girders, decked with Orgeon T. and G. boarding, and felt, and covered with "Limmer" mineral mastic asphalte. The ventilation is especially good, the windows throughout being hung with the Austral sash balance, and glazed with Pilkington's prismatic glass. The heating is by Ideal hot-water radiators and boilers. Illuminated electrically throughout. Contractor, Mr. J. G. M. Russell. Tender, £1260.

Messrs. White and Sons, drapers, have had the interior of their large shop remodelled, providing large central staircase leading to showrooms and dressmaking departments. Contractor, Mr. H. H. Grayling. Price, £480. A bungalow residence, with 6 rooms and conveniences, at Vogelstown. Price £800. Contractor, G. J. Lawrence and Co. In course of erection:—Residence of 7 rooms in Eliot Street for Mrs. Roberts; contractor, Mr. W. S. Cliff. A bungalow at Westown, containing 5 living rooms, outhouses, and large concrete portico, finished in rough-cast; contractor, Mr. H. H. Grayling. A residence of 6 rooms at Dartmoor; contractors, Messrs. Hardwick and Danks.

PAHIATUA.

A bungalow containing eight rooms, two verandahs, two bays, dining room 19ft. by 14ft., drawing room 14ft. by 12ft., built for Mr. Blackmore.—Price, £650; contractors, Ross and Olsen.

Three dwellings have also been completed each containing six rooms, etc.—Contractors, Ross and Olsen, and a cottage of six rooms completed at £500; contractors, Ross and Olsen.

A new corner-block is being completed, containing four sets of offices, thirteen rooms, in timber and asbestos treatment, two strong rooms (adjacent but detached), a motor garage, for Mr. T. L. Anderson (Marton).—Contract for above, £3000; contractors, Brown and Sheriff (Marton).

The Pahiatua and Akiteo Motor Company's new garage completed by same contractors. A coach and carriage factory completed for W. Palmer.—Brown and Sheriff contractors.

PETONE.

Petone is to have a settlement of workers' homes on what is called the Wilford Settlement. Already most of the sections have been taken up by those desirous of obtaining homes under the Workers' Dwellings Act. The settlement is capable of carrying in the vicinity of a thousand homes.

Mr. Jas. Bennie, of Wellington, has drawn plans for a new picture theatre at the back of the Working Men's Club, to seat 1000 people. The successful tenderers are Messrs. Edwards and Son, whose tender was £2983.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

Mr. O. Jorgensen, architect, has under construction the Club Hotel, alterations and additions, a new wing containing bedrooms, etc.; price £1100. Contractor, J. Hopwood. A residence for Mrs. Moore, on Milson Line, 6 rooms, £900; additions at Dannevirke for Mr. W. H. Hartgill, cost £1000; additions to factory at Bunmythorpe for Messrs. Nathan and Co., price £1000; contractors, Thomas Griggs and Son; residence in College Street for Mr. C. S. Pees; a residence at Piripiri for Mr. J. Peters, price £964; contractors, Jorgensen and Wesche; additions and alterations to residence for Mr. C. F. Baker at Papataw. The following works have been recently completed:—Garage in Cuba Street for H. J. Woodfield, cost £740; contractors, Jorgensen and Wesche.

The new building in Rangitikei Street for Messrs. Manson and Barr, Ltd., now completed, is, we believe, the largest block of business premises in Palmerston North. It has a frontage of 76ft., depth 290ft., consisting of store, machinery hall, extensive warehouses, etc., in the rear, and suites of offices on the street line, second floor. Labour-saving devices are employed in handling the heavy machinery, etc., stocked by the firm. Machinery and fitting shops provided, and detached from mail building is the engine-room, containing a Blackstone oil engine, supplied by Andrew and Beaven, of Christchurch, which forms part of the installation of dynamo, etc., for generating electricity for the whole of the lower part of the building, this being the work of Messrs. Turnbull and Jones. The hardware and machinery showrooms have been most successfully treated with Wunderlich steel ceilings. A separate cement and lime store for Wilson's Star cement and hydraulic lime, built and elevated above the ground. Battery room for storage of