

Personal

We regret to hear that a serious motor accident happened to Mr. F. E. Smith, architect of Hamilton, while motoring to Coromandel. It seems that something went wrong, and the party, with the exception of the boy, alighted. While Mr. Smith was fixing the machine it commenced to run backwards. Mr. Smith made a gallant attempt to save the boy, and succeeded, but was knocked down by the car, receiving painful flesh wounds and a severe crushing of the lower part of his limbs, but no bones were broken. The car somersaulted and dashed on to the rocks and was smashed. Mr. Smith was taken to the hospital. He was on tour on behalf of the Belgian Relief Fund, organising working committees.

Correction

In our issue of October page 61 we stated that the price for erecting a residence in Dunedin illustrated on that page was £550. Mr. Basil Hooper, A.R.I.B.A., has asked us to correct the price to £850.

Building Notes

AUCKLAND

Despite the fact that a considerable amount of projected work was suspended at the outbreak of war, it is satisfactory to be able to report that the buildings at present in hand and those to be immediately proceeded with in Auckland, total in all a sum of over £250,000. The architects of the city are already speaking freely of the improved outlook, and several who had received instructions to hold up plans in progress, have within the last month been requested to get their work in hand as soon as possible. Of the works already proceeding the largest is the new building for the New Zealand Insurance Coy., Ltd., in Queen Street. The new building is to be a steel-frame structure, eight storeys high, and it will probably cost something in the neighbourhood of £60,000. Plans for the work have been prepared by Messrs. Hoggard, Prouse, and W. H. Gummer. The foundations for the back of the building near Mills' Lane have been completed at a cost of £8,000. Here, extensive excavation work has been carried out, but a considerable time will elapse before the new premises will be completed.

Next in magnitude comes the new Grammar school for boys, which is being erected at Mt. Eden. This work was begun in December of 1913, and it is anticipated that it will be completed about December 1915. Another month should finish out the brickwork and a start has already been made to put on the roof. The plans of the building are by Messrs. Arnold and Abbott and the contract price was in excess of £31,450. A number of bricklayers and carpenters are employed on the job, and plasterers are now busily engaged on the interior of the building, while they will start work on the outside of the structure this month.

In the city the waterfront presents a very busy appearance. At the corner of Quay and Queen Streets good progress is being made with the erection of Edean's six-storey ferro-concrete building. The steelwork of this building is now in position, and a fair amount of brickwork and concrete work has been done. When completed the building will consist of nine shops and ninety offices. The contract price is £24,000, and the building will take about six months to complete. The architects are Messrs. Chilwell and Trevithick.

Opposite the General Post Office in Queen Street the same firm of architects have a large six-storey ferro-concrete structure in progress. This is being built for Messrs. R. and W. Hellaby at a cost of £16,000. The building runs through from Queen Street to Little Queen Street. It will be completed in about five or six months.

A fine three-storey brick and ferro-concrete building, planned by Mr. W. A. Cumming, is now in course of construction in Customs Street West. The contract price for the building is £5,000, and the structure will probably be completed in three or four months.

In other parts of Queen Street there are buildings in progress. Messrs. E. Mahoney and Son have in hand extensive alterations to the Albert Brewery, as well as the addition of three storeys to the one-storey building occupied by Messrs. Hart Bros. The contract price for this work being £5,575.

Extensive alterations and additions are being made to the premises of the Union Bank of Australia at the corner of Queen and Victoria Streets. The whole of the interior is being entirely remodelled from plans prepared by Messrs. E. Bartley and Son. The work will occupy another four or five months, and will cost about £7,000.

Another large new Queen Street building is that known as the Ellison Chambers, situated opposite Wyndham Street. This is a six-storey structure, comprising shops and offices. It was designed by Mr. D. B. Patterson, and will be completed in the course of a few weeks. The building has been erected at a cost of about £20,000.

Other buildings within the city are progressing at various points the following being the most important. A three-storey brick warehouse and garage, designed by Mr. John

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