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Editorial Comment

Australian Town-Planning Conference. New Zealand is to be represented at the second Australian Town Planning congress opening at Brisbane on July 31st, by Mr. S. Hurst Seager, of Christchurch, whose visit to Australia is the outcome of the strong de-

sire of New Zealand town planners that the Dominion should not lag in this important movement. All the States of Australia recognise the value of town planning, and the various governments actively assist in ensuring the success of these valuable conferences. This year's gathering is being organised by the Queensland Government, in conjunction with the other State governments, and the New Zealand Government is playing a modest part in subsidising the expenses of our delegate, and forwarding a small exhibit from the Labour Department illustrative of the workers' dwellings provided with State asistance. Before Mr. Seager left Wellington, he was given a heartening send-off by a crowded gathering at the offices of the Greater Wellington Town Wellington and Ratepayers' Association, the Institute of Architects, and the Engineers' and Surveyors' Institute. The guest read a paper on the Hon. G. W. Russell's Town Planning Bill which will be dealt with at the Brisbane conference. Mr. Seager while expressing the indebtedness of town planners to the Minister for putting into print what might be called the skeleton of a measure, did not hesitate to criticise it, and asked for the opinions of those present. There was a good discussion, but as it was impossible to cover the subject in an afternoon, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Ferguson, chairman of the National Efficiency Board, that the organisations represented at the meeting should elect a committee of two members from each, to make suggestions regarding the Bill, for consideration upon Mr. Seager's return, when he will report on the Australian conference. Thus a good expression of opinion on the Bill, from authoritative quarters, will be forthcoming, and it will be greatly to the benefit of the measure.