

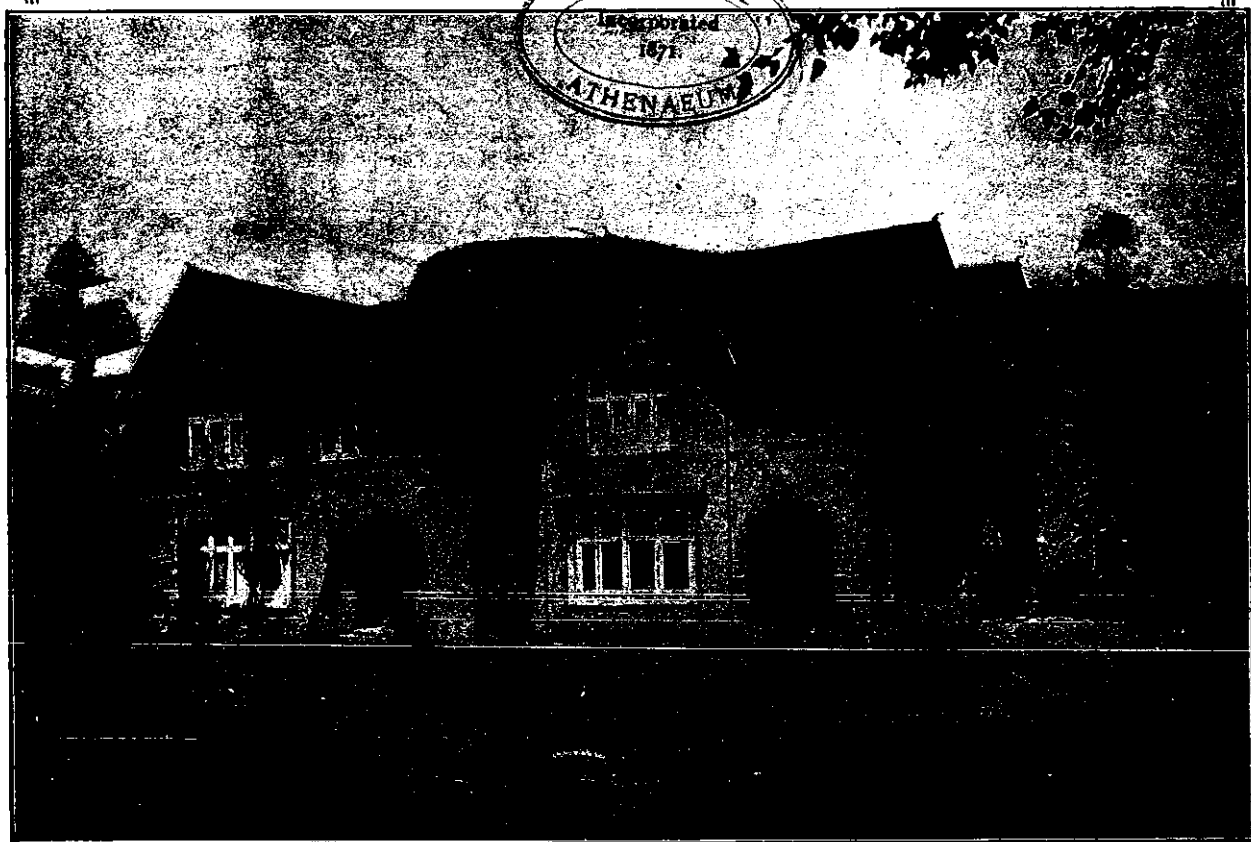
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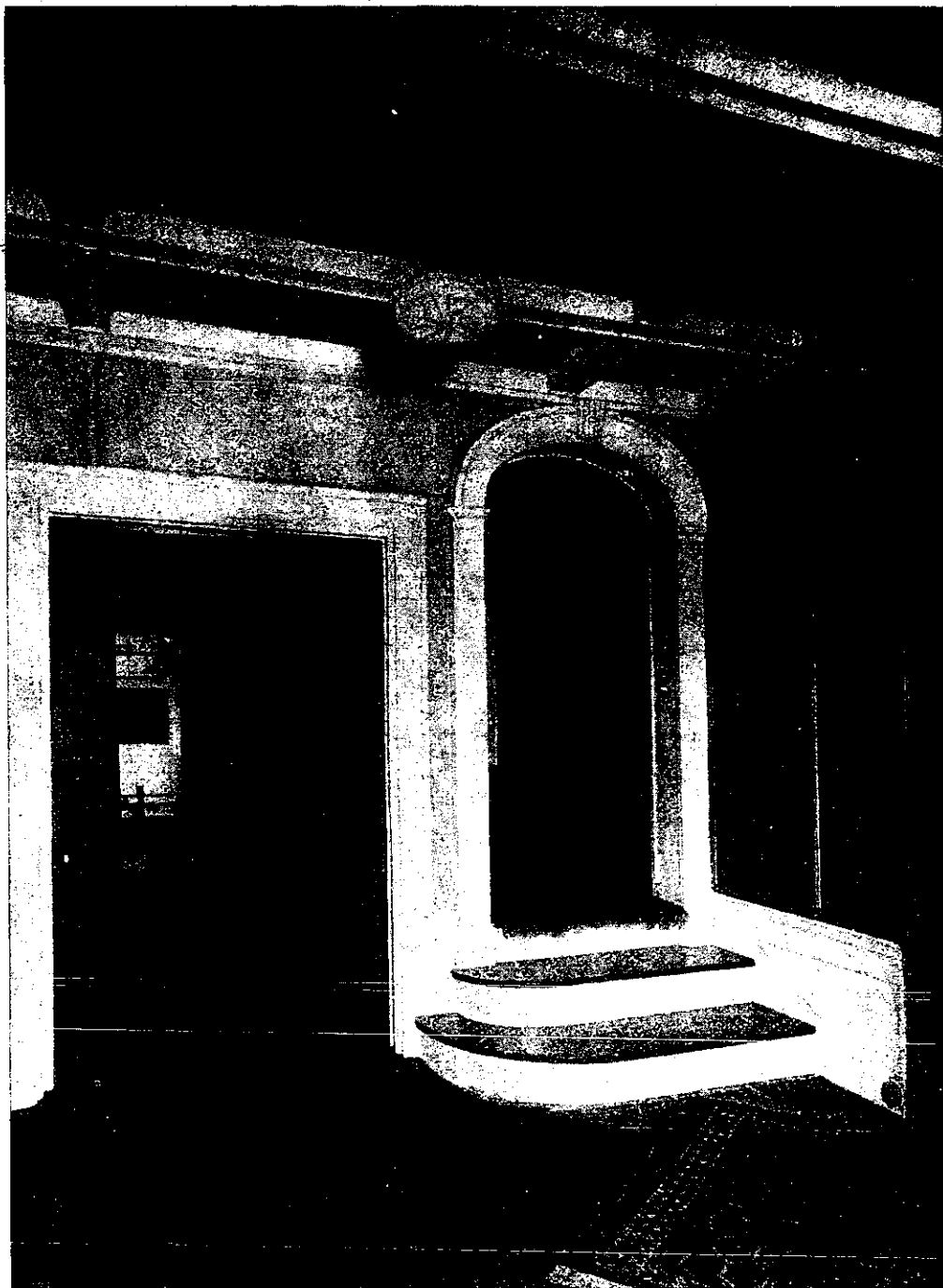
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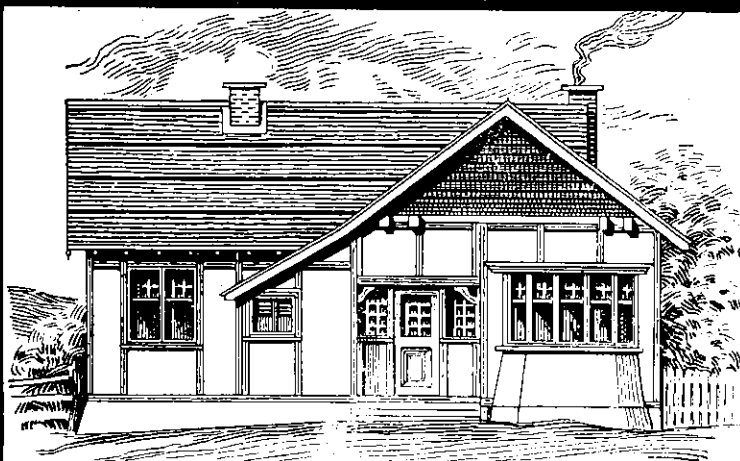


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All communications to be addressed to "The Proprietors, 'Progress,' Box 481, Wellington."

Advertising Rates will be sent on application.

To Our Advertisers—All copy for advertising matter must be in our hands by the 10th of the month preceding publication, otherwise no responsibility with regard to insertion will be undertaken.

The Editor will at all times be glad to receive Illustrated Articles on subjects of interest for consideration, provided the articles are short and to the point, and the facts authentic.

Should subscribers continue to receive copies of this journal after expiry of current year, it will be accepted as an intimation that they are desirous of subscribing for a further period of twelve months.

In case of change of address, or irregularity of this paper's delivery, subscribers should send immediate notice.

Publisher's Announcements.

Our 65th Competition.

We offer a prize of £1 1s. 0d. (together with an additional prize of £1 1s. 0d. kindly donated by the judge), and a second prize of 10s. 6d. for the design adjudged to be the best for a

City Office Block.

It is proposed to erect a block of shops and offices on a section 120 ft. deep by 30 ft. frontage (centre to centre of party walls) with a frontage to a main street and back street. The site is bound by two party walls, two storeys high, 14 ft. and 12 ft. respectively, with 18 inch and 14 inch brickwork. The adjoining buildings being old it must be assumed that the foundations will not carry the additional loadings; and further, as it is not possible to treat with the adjoining owners, the party-walls cannot be removed, but permission is given to cut into the party walls to the centre line at intervals.

The site is on reclaimed land 20 ft. deep to the rock and high water 5 ft. from the street line, the nature of the borings indicates that digging to foundation bases may be resorted to.

Requirements.—Shops facing each street with separate lav accommodation, 4 upper floors in series of offices with lav accommodation on each floor. Direct natural lighting and ventilation must be given to each office. The site being limited in width, the owner requires full use made between the party walls.

Drawings required.—Details of construction of foundations to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch scale. Details of shoring, etc., as requisite to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch scale. Plans of ground and first floor together with longitudinal and cross sections to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch scale.

Mr. B. C. Chilwell, A.R.I.B.A. of Auckland, has kindly set this subject and will adjudicate.

Designs must be sent in finished as above, under a non-de-plume addressed to "Progress," 8 Farish Street, Welling-

ton, and marked clearly "Sixty-fifth Competition" on outside with a covering letter giving competitor's name, and address of employer. Designs to be sent in by Sept. 21st.

SPECIAL COMPETITION!

SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL

£10 10s. Prize. Open.

We offer a prize of £10 10s. for the design adjudged to be the best for a Soldiers' Memorial for erection in a small town of about 1,500 population in accordance with the following conditions:—

1. Cost not to exceed £250.
2. Memorial to be isolated and viewed from all points.
3. Sculptured statues are obviously excluded by limitation of cost.
4. Lettering to be particularly studied as an intrinsic part of the design.
5. Materials to be enduring and concrete may only be used in the core.

Drawings required:—

- (a) Plans, sections and elevations to properly illustrate the design, drawn to $\frac{1}{8}$ inch scale, in ink, not shaded and not coloured.
- (b) $\frac{1}{8}$ inch scale details, with sections of all parts, and showing inscription, fully rendered.
- (c) Full size details of the following letters, showing mode of execution; S. W. M. R. A. C. Y. The materials and their treatment must be stated. The inscription to be "To the memory of those who fell in the Great War."

Bronze panels (to be inserted afterwards), may be introduced, but the design must be complete without them.

The designs will be judged by Messrs. W. S. La Trobe, Joseph Ellis and William M. Page.

Note.—Competitors are advised to read and study our article on Soldiers' Memorials in this issue.

Designs must be sent in under a non-de-plume addressed to "Progress," 8 Farish Street, Wellington, and clearly marked "Soldiers' Memorial Competition" on outside, with a covering letter giving name and address of competitor. The competition is open to anyone who can design, and drawings must reach Progress Offices by the end of November. This question of Soldiers' Memorials being a national one, it is hoped that a good response will be made. The proprietors of this journal reserve the right to publish any or all the designs as they think fit.

Conditions of "Progress" Competitions

The Editor reserves the right of publishing any or all the designs submitted, and while every care will be taken of drawings, no responsibility is accepted should any loss or damage be sustained. Those desiring their designs returned must send postage to cover cost of same. No award will be made unless at least three designs are sent in for any one competition. Unless otherwise stated drawings are to be in black and white only.

Notice to Subscribers

"N.Z. Building Progress" is posted each month through the G.P.O. at Wellington. If any subscriber should not get his copy, another will be sent him if we are notified in good time. The paper is supplied from year to year only, and if subscribers continue to receive the paper after expiry of the current year, we shall accept it as an intimation of their desire to continue for another twelve months. We undertake to supply the paper for such further term. Notice of discontinuance must be sent to the Manager, 8, Farish Street, Wellington in writing, as no Agent has authority to receive notice of discontinuance on our behalf. The subscription is 8/6 per annum. A discount of 1/- will be allowed off this amount if subscription is paid in advance.

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WELLINGTON, AUCKLAND, CHRISTCHURCH, AND DUNEDIN. NEW ZEALAND, SEPTEMBER, 1918.

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Editorial Comment

Town Planning Advance

The prospects of a forward move in town planning in New Zealand at an early date are very hopeful indeed. The town planners who were responsible for getting Mr. Hurst Seager, F.R.I.B.A., to attend the Brisbane conference of Australian Town Planning Associations have already secured good results for their enterprise and Mr. Hurst Seager's personal sacrifices, for it has at last been demonstrated to the New Zealand Government that town planning is a science of which the Dominion is much in need, that it is a practical money-saving movement, and that the towns and villages of the country should not continue to "just grow" like Topsy, leaving posterity to remedy expensive mistakes due to lack of forethought and knowledge. At the public lecture in Wellington which followed his return from the Australian conference, Mr. Hurst Seager made it clear that good legislation is the imperative preliminary to an advance, and the Hon. G. W. Russell, Minister of Internal Affairs, who was present, heartily agreed that it is necessary to thus lay the foundations firm and true. He is hoping to get Mr. Hurst Seager to visit Wellington during the session to address members of Parliament, and he also hopes next year to call a conference of Mayors of cities, and men interested in town planning, to "start New Zealand in the proper direction as regards town planning." From the Brisbane conference, as in other years, has come a mass of valuable material showing the practice of the art of proper planning. We will give publicity to a good deal of this material in future issues, for the Australian experience is almost directly applicable to our own problems. New South Wales has followed South Australia's example in setting up a State Department of Town Planning, and we hope to see the same thing done in New Zealand within a year. Another important step in advance has developed recently in Wellington, where representa-

tives of the architects, civil engineers, and the Town Planning Association unanimously agreed upon points on which the Town Planning Bill can be improved. One vitally important recommendation this conference makes is that there should be at the head of the movement a trained town planner, of world-wide knowledge. The departmental experts proposed by the Minister of Internal Affairs are all valuable, but experts take too exclusive a view as a rule, the sanitary engineer, for instance, being too much inclined to think that when good draining is provided for, the principal work has been done. Drainage is essential, but there are other essentials too, and the man of broad experience will know the varied requirements and use all the experts to perfect a good general scheme. We believe that the movement we have so long advocated is at last fairly under weigh, that it now has sufficient impetus to prevent a stoppage if difficulties are encountered.

Our Honoured Dead

In the lobby of Parliament Building, Wellington, may be seen a large slab of concrete which represents some official attempt to provide a standard type of head-stone to mark the grave of every New Zealander who has given up his life for the Allied cause during this war. It is a high and solemn duty, this marking the resting place of gallant men who faithfully and heroically did their duty even unto death, and we would have been glad, were it possible, to record that the official design suggests something appropriate to its purpose. But unfortunately it only raises a suggestion of a cheap and nasty job. In outline resembling a shortened fence paling of a type familiar to those who see timber-mill catalogues, this wretched creation of some ill-trained experimenter bears on its face, in relief, a concrete cross, within the angles of which appear the initials of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. Lower down, mounted on an inclined bevel of concrete, is a small tablet of marble, which is doubtless provided to bear the name of the soldier. The slab apparently is intended to lie on the ground, which would heighten the suggestion that its best use would be as a paving-stone. Very soon after its appearance, the little marble slab fell off its concrete bed, and this official experiment in head-stone design looked extremely untidy and shoddy.

Designs in New Zealand Marble

There is, however, some hope of better things. The Government requested the proprietors of New Zealand marble quarries to submit designs and prices. Obviously, where thousands of head-stones have, unfortunately, to be provided, nothing elaborate could be furnished, but we have seen some sample head-stones of New Zealand marble, about 3 feet 6 inches high by 2 feet in width, which meet the requirements of good taste in design and proportion, and bear no evidence of shoddiness. A polished cross

and the N.Z.E.F. initials appear in a panel of rubble, or as it is technically termed "sparrow-billed" surface. A small bronze tablet is provided below the panel for the soldier's name and other particulars. This type of headstone is immeasurably in advance of the concrete slab, for it looks well, will stand the climate for many years without serious deterioration in appearance, and has the sentimental advantage of being a New Zealand stone of which we are proud. We are also glad to be able to add that the cost of this very appropriate headstone will not be appreciably greater than the concrete slab. We suggest that the latter should at once be set up in some remote corner as a memorial to mis-applied effort. If the originator feels hurt over such a course being adopted, he should gain consolation from the knowledge that the monument would be unrecognisable as such in less than a generation!

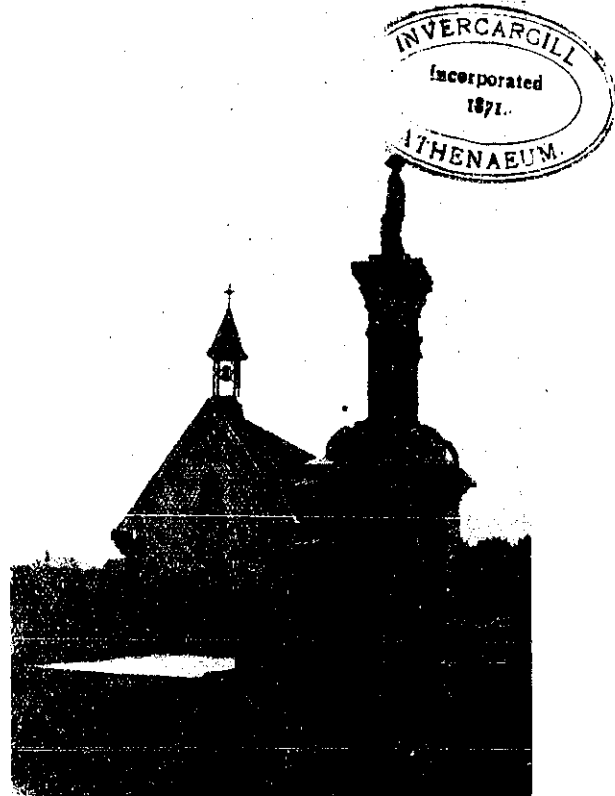
Misapplied Material

Unfortunately the Government is not the only sinner in mis-applying concrete for memorial purposes. We have consistently advocated the widened use of this splendid and adaptable material, but never in our weirdest night-mares did we dream that it would offend us in this guise of soldiers' memorials. But in Southland district, the laudible desire to perpetuate the memory of fallen heroes has taken this most undesirable shape. A local undertaker was entrusted with the task of providing a suitable memorial, and he displayed the limitations which might be expected of the local undertaker. The contributors to the fund were given good value in the large mass of ornate concrete provided, but the general effect of the design was to make anyone with artistic perception feel sorry for the community which thus permitted its fine sentiments to be inadequately represented. There will be a general desire for soldiers' memorials throughout New Zealand, and we hope that these projects will not be hurriedly undertaken. It is a sad and solemn duty, and the memorial should suggest, in every line, its high purpose of reminding posterity that in these days we were proud of our heroes, and we mourned their loss. We appeal to the architectural profession to assert itself in this important matter of public good taste. The general public is always willing to be led by those who are qualified, and it is generally appreciative of sound advice. In the hope that something more appropriate than concrete in ornate mass can be put forward for local soldiers' memorials, "Progress" offers a prize for the best design, according to conditions appearing in another part of this issue. As there is a great public purpose to be served in this connection, we believe that the intrinsic value of the prize will be the least of the inducements to enter this competition. It is our intention to thoroughly follow up the subject, and endeavour to create a proper appreciation of good design and appropriate material for these memorials. If we can commence by demonstrating that there is no lack of artistic talent in New Zealand, our task will be comparatively easy.

SOLDIERS AND WAR MEMORIALS

We wish to draw the attention of our readers to the announcement of a competition for a Soldiers' Memorial, which is published in this number, and in doing so we think that a few words on the subject of memorials generally will be of interest at this time, and will afford the competitors some guidance.

In a constructive problem the first step towards good design is the adjustment of the proportions, and in this connection it is important to note that there is a radical difference between proportion and dimensions. We *feel* proportion. We *measure* dimensions! Good proportion, therefore, is de-



Two Views of Concrete Monuments erected in Southland

We have received from Southland some photographs of a memorial which has been erected at Edendale, and from the "Southland Times" we learn that a similar memorial has been erected at Woodlands.

These memorials are of such a nature as to call forth some very scathing criticism on the part of local correspondents (see elsewhere in this issue), and certainly, judging from the photographs and what we can learn, we consider that it is more than justified. We publish two photographs so that our readers can judge for themselves.

The memorial, including the figure of the soldier, is made of concrete, and, as will be seen from the photographs, is lacking in good proportion.

pendent upon the comparative relations of various dimensions. The memorial is weak in the matter of proportion, and the map or outline is very unsatisfactory.

Different materials have different peculiarities, and the mark of good art is to adapt the subject to the material. Concrete is not a suitable material in which to carve a figure. In the pedestal, the strong contrast produced between the cement and the marble is not pleasing to the eye. The base, the pedestal and the figure should have been united in such a way as to form a definite whole. The cornice or cap is much too heavy, and thereby disconnects the figure and the pedestal. The strength of the shade and shadow caused by the heavy cornice is

another serious blemish. It is quite evident that the object has been to get as much show as could be obtained for the money. There is an entire absence of restraint shown in the design, and the result is a violation of good taste.

The effect of a monument of this type will be that the capacity of the people of the district to appreciate a design embodying refinement and restraint is seriously impaired, and it is much to be regretted that the memorial is not in keeping with the traditions of the men who have gone to the other side of the world to fight our battles.

When a layman sees a monument covered with mouldings and ornament he imagines that a great deal of time and labour has been spent on the work. This produces a false impression of value, and it is to be feared that many people consider only the details and lose sight of the much more important attributes, viz., shape and proportion, which in this case are very commonplace and bad.

This matter of memorials is one of the very greatest importance, and calling for the utmost care and consideration.

The Boer War gave rise to a great and unfortunate crop of memorials of all kinds in the Old Country, and steps have been taken in the hope that the memorials resulting from the present war will be of a higher standard and better and worthier in every way.

The Civic Arts Association held a competition in 1915 for different classes of memorials with very gratifying and interesting results, which will have the effect of focussing attention on this matter and tend to lift the design of such things on to a higher plane.

It is with the idea of doing something similar in this country, but necessarily on a much smaller scale, that we have decided to invite competitive designs for a Soldiers' Memorial, and we trust that Town and Borough Councils, School Committees and other bodies contemplating the erection of such memorials may be afforded some guidance from the results.

The erection of a memorial should only be undertaken after very careful consideration and employing the best possible advice. It is a duty which we owe to ourselves and to those who come after us to see that our dead are worthily commemorated, for assuredly, if the country is to be dotted over with concrete monstrosities those who come after us will have reason to revile us. There must be no hurry, nothing should be left undone that will tend to make each individual memorial the best possible; a sincere desire to commemorate, and not mere sentiment, should call the memorial into being, and vanity must have no part in its design. This war has been fought, and will be won, by simple and sincere men, and their memorials must be fashioned in beauty, dignity and truth. Unless the memorial is worthy in every way it will be neglected in the years to come—and could anyone expect it to be otherwise?

The writer visited the Drill Hall in Buckle Street, Wellington, the other day, and examined the mural

tablet there erected in memory of men who fell in the Boer War. It is forgotten, nay, worse, it is neglected! Thick with grime and dust it stands, an example of what we may expect if the memorials of this war are not the outcome of sincerity and thought.

It cannot be expected that the future generations will care for and keep bright that which does not arrest the eye nor make an appeal to the heart. No matter how small the sum to be spent may be, let the best advice be sought so that mere bulk may give place to quality.

Memorials may be of two kinds, namely, those which are strictly commemorative, and those erected with a desire to commemorate combined with a desire to fulfil some local everyday need. The former is the higher form, while the latter will always raise a doubt in the mind of the beholder. When opening the Civic Arts Association exhibition of designs for memorials, Dr. A. C. Binson, Master of Magdalene, characterised this practice of combining utility with memorials as an ugly habit.

We suggest that the various Town Planning and Beautifying Associations might well interest themselves in this matter of soldiers and war memorials. It would then be possible to bring the subject to the notice of a large number of communities, and a central advisory board might be set up and councils and committees invited to seek its advice.

Every memorial would then receive due attention and study. Councils and committees would be conferred with before deciding on the form the memorial should take,—whether it should be an isolated memorial in a public building or place, a wall tablet or window, or other form. The Board would further give assistance in the obtaining of designs, and advice as to setting, scale, materials and their treatment, inscription, lettering, etc.

Otherwise we shall have further examples like the one at Edendale, designs dictated by provincial standards of taste, local fashion and spurious originality.

By adopting some such system as we have outlined we will have the satisfaction of knowing that we have thought not only of ourselves and to-day, but of to-morrow, and those who come after us, and that we have done everything in our power that the deeds of those brave men who went forth to fight and never came back shall be worthily commemorated.

A Second Prize Offered for Soldiers' Memorials

We have received from a generous donor a cheque for £3 3s., to be given as a second prize in our Special Competition for soldiers' memorial announced on page 299 of this issue. Unfortunately some of the pages of this issue were printed before we received this donation, and it was too late in consequence to announce it with the other prize of £10 10s.

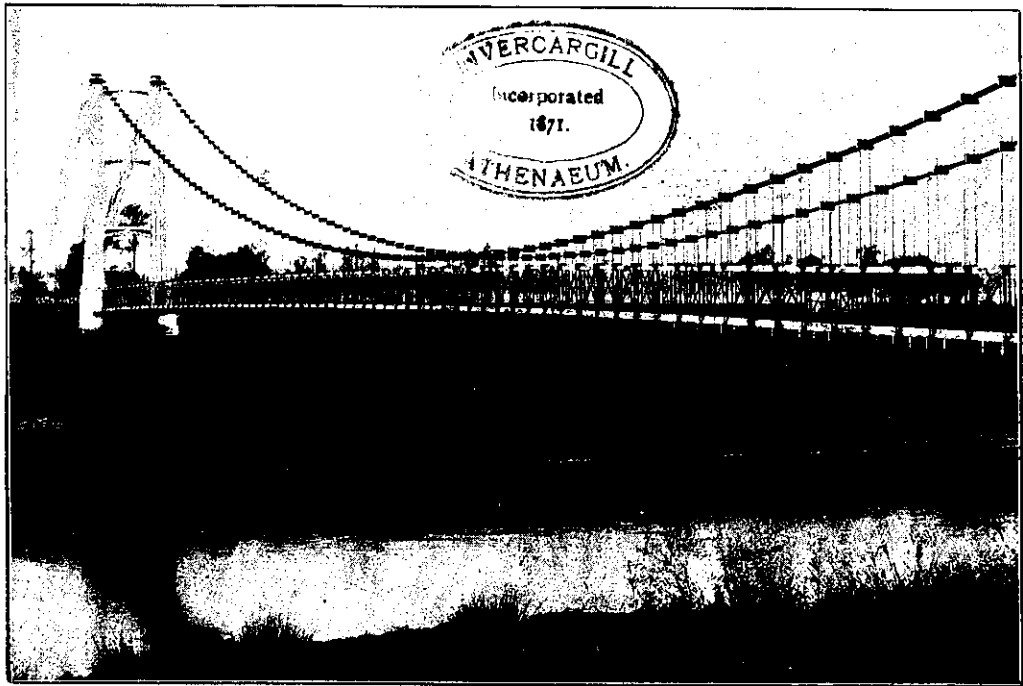
New Suspension Bridge over the Manawatu

(Contributed)

The suspension bridge over the Manawatu River, erected for the Tane Hemp Company by Mr. Joseph Dawson, of Pahiatua, is said to be the biggest bridge of the kind that has yet been built in New Zealand. The site is on the Foxton line, about 9 miles from Palmerston North. The dimensions and character of the structure are as follows:—The anchors and towers are of concrete; height of towers from foundations to top of saddles 68 feet, from deck to top of saddles 52 feet. There are 180 cubic yards of concrete in the towers on each side. Three cement arches are spaced between each tower, requiring six tons of iron reinforcement. The weight of concrete in the towers is about 280 tons. Twenty cubic yards are used in each anchor, or 80 cubic yards for the

inches, each being 3 feet and 6 inch x 1½ inches diameter. A 5-8 rod passes through the pipes attached to bottom and top chords with stay bolts of truss, the number of rods being 412. There are pipe rods to the number of 202, with 404 cast iron sockets top and bottom of pipes, or 614 rods in the truss. The total number of bolts used in the bridge is 2,030 (anchor bolts not included). The timber used in the construction of the bridge was about 30,000 feet, joist 9 inch x 4 inch and 9 inch x 3 inches, decking 8 inch x 2½ inch. All the timber is of black birch.

The strength and stability of the bridge have been well tested, many loads of flax having passed over it. Each load, drawn by two horses on light rails, consists of two trucks, each truck having about four tons of flax. One thing that impresses experts who have examined the structure is the way in which the



New Suspension Bridge erected over the Manawatu River, built by Mr. Joseph Dawson

four. The cables are of the best plough steel, and are 16 in number. They have a breaking strain of 60 tons each, or a total of 960 tons, and are fastened to the anchors with steel channel iron and 2-inch diameter iron rods. The rods pass through a pike fixed in the concrete, and are screwed up at the back with strong nuts. There are a number of rods 32 x 30 feet long of 2-inch iron, to which the cables are attached, the length of the bridge over all being 473 feet. The cables, which go over saddles, rest on wheels to save friction to the ropes. The total length of each cable is 750 feet, and 12,000 feet of steel rope are used in the 16 cables.

The suspending rods (404) are double, and of ½ inch iron, which are fixed to the cables with strong clips, the longest rods being 48 feet, and the shortest 8 feet. The truss is 4 feet 6 inches from joist to top of chord, the timber being of 7-inch x 5-inch, and 5-inch x 5-inch. Vertical poles are spaced at 4 feet 6

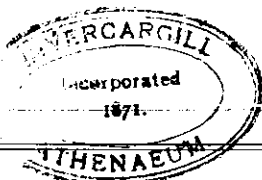
suspending rods and chords are bolted, and the extraordinary freedom from vibration.

Mr. Dawson says: "The cost of the bridge, including all engineering expenses, was £2,653 9s. 9d., the bridge being 473 feet over all and taking a train load of 8 tons or more, and any ordinary traffic. This bridge was built in war time and cost under £6 the foot run of the bridge; and I was the contractor for a suspension bridge approved by the Government engineer, 320 feet span, the cost being £8,000, or £25 the foot run of the bridge. I got the timber on the site for about 16/- per hundred feet. The timber for the Rangiotu bridge (described in this article) cost about 25/-, and the iron £30 a ton, instead of £10 for the Government bridge. I built another suspension bridge for the Government which cost about £2,500 for a 220 feet span; this bridge had wood towers, the anchors being concrete, and cost £11 per foot run, and built in the cheap times."

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TOWN PLANNING.

The Brisbane Conference

Mr. S. Hurst Seager, F.R.I.B.A., gave a talk to the Town Planning Association, Wellington, and also a public lecture on Town Planning, early this month on his return from the Conference of Town Planners held recently in Brisbane, at which he represented this country.

The Conference attracted 542 delegates, and was the means of bringing forward some excellent papers on Town Planning, housing, etc. There was a most valuable exhibition of great educational value, no less than 40,000 superficial feet of wall space being covered with illustrations on all branches of the subject. "The exhibition—like all other exhibitions," says Mr. Seager, "was not ready for the opening day, but a visit shows the very great value of it as an educational medium. It will, I think, make a far stronger appeal than the papers read. Some of the illustrations were prepared with great care and skill, and the whole made a most attractive show. If the whole time at the disposal of the delegates were spent in examining carefully this wealth of material, they would, I think, get a much better knowledge of what town planning means than they could get in any other way. It is for this reason that the greatest value accrues from having the conference in the different States. I most sincerely hope that in future years New Zealand will help to contribute to the success of the exhibition more fully than to this one, in order that she may earn the right to ask that she be included in the cycle of conferences. In South Australia great advances in practical town planning have followed the holding of the conference at Adelaide.

Brisbane—judging from the talks I have had with committees, and business men—will, I think, take the lessons to heart with equal readiness. There is a very great need for improvement. Like Sydney and Auckland, Brisbane has not sold, but actually thrown away, its birthright. It had glorious opportunities. A beautiful broad winding river surrounding gently undulating slopes forming such a site for a city as town planners would rejoice in. Owing to the many curves in the river there must be a frontage of about 17 or 18 miles round the city, yet of all this there is only about 2½ to 3 miles of river road. The streets do not follow the contour of the modulations, but run over hill and valley in blocks of perfectly straight lines at right angles to each other. The central portion of the city has its blocks of rectangular streets named George, Albert, and Edward for those which run parallel in one direction, and Alice, Margaret, Mary, Charlotte, Elizabeth, Queen, and Ann for those which run parallel in the other. This appeared to me a

convenient arrangement, but to an "innocent abroad" who overheard us discussing town planning it appeared to leave nothing further to be desired. "Brisbane is a beautifully planned city. All its lady streets run one way, and its gentlemen streets the other." What more was there to be said?

A beginning is being made in replanning parts of the city, and some very fine buildings have been erected. The Government buildings ranged round a large open space, are very fine. The Anglican Cathedral reaches the high-water mark of ecclesiastical art. It is from designs by Pearson, the eminent Gothic architect, who designed Truro Cathedral. The nave, towers, and spires have yet to be built, but the eastern portion now completed gives promise of a magnificent whole. It will undoubtedly be the finest Anglican Cathedral in Australasia, and a worthy rival to the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Sydney. Brisbane, therefore, has very fine works to form the nucleus of city beautification. But the most urgent necessity is the better housing of industrial workers, and it is to the solution of this most important problem that Brisbane will be led in the conference.

The reception of the delegates to the Town Planning Conference by the Mayor was an extremely interesting function. Brisbane is even worse off than ourselves for a hall in which civic functions can be held with proper civic dignity. It was held in a dilapidated old structure approached along a right-of-way giving access to a billiard saloon and other places—a very poor setting indeed for the Mayor, in all his rich panoply of office, including a cocked hat. The Mayor (Alderman John McMaster) is a most interesting personality. In architectural language we should speak of him as being about 2½ diameters high—his short body carries a large head covered with a mass of grey hair and a Kruger-like beard. He is Brisbane's "grand old man," and it added much to the interest of the proceedings that he was receiving us on his 89th birthday.

Delegates were made to feel at once at home by being asked to sit round small tables loaded with light refreshments. The State delegates, including New Zealand's representative, were invited to the platform. There was no formality; fun, banter and humour were the notes struck by the Mayor, and they became the dominant notes of all the subsequent speeches.

At last year's conference, a reference to a "slumless Adelaide" threw down the gauntlet, which was quickly taken up by the other inter-State delegates, who each in turn stoutly maintained that

the city he represented was without doubt the most beautiful in Australia. This year the Mayor's reference to his age and vigour being attributable to the excellence of the Queensland climate, very naturally drew forth the retort that if he could live and retain his vigour till that age in a climate usually considered not fit for white people, he could live to 189 years in such a salubrious climate as Adelaide.

Opening of Exhibition

The exhibition was declared open in the afternoon of the same day. The opening ceremony was performed at the exhibition building, about three miles out from the central part of Brisbane.

The opening speech was made by the Hon. T. J. Ryan, Queensland's Premier, who, in asking his Excellency the Governor of Queensland to declare the exhibition open, expressed his very warm sympathy with the town planning movement. His Excellency, Sir Hamilton John Goold-Adams, made an excellent speech, showing that he had for a long time, in different countries where he had held office, taken a very keen interest in town planning movements, and he showed that he had followed very closely the work of modern town planners.

The Hon. J. D. Fitzgerald, Minister for Local Government and Public Health, New South Wales, and president of the conference, in thanking his Excellency for declaring the exhibition opened, made an excellent speech, dwelling upon the comparisons to be drawn between the different Australian cities, and showing that although in many parts there had been some pre-planning (as in Adelaide and Melbourne), a certain amount of civic dignity being obtained, there was very much to be done in both places, and they suffered as did Sydney, from the splitting up of the city into various numbers of municipalities. Instances he gave of Sydney were highly instructive. He said:—She has a million people in sight; yet to-day her civic government, instead of being concentrated in an effective central body, is dissipated among 53 necessarily helpless councils; her civic forces, instead of being under one command are divided among 53 commands; instead of possessing a civic machinery suited to the needs of one of the great cities of the world, she is divided up into 53 village governments—a position unique among cities. Her plan, though much benefited by the treatment of a progressive City Council, having jurisdiction over the 53 fragments into which she is chopped up, is out of date. Her streets, though many of them have been widened, are too narrow to-day. Her commerce is congested, and millions are wasted thereby. Her suburban roads are a by-word. She has no main arterial roads of exit and access worthy of her prestige or population. Her principal commercial artery, 15 miles long, is cut up among 13 civic bodies. That is a measure of her civic disadvantage. She is spreading outwards by leaps and bounds; yet there is no authority to guide and regulate this growth, to co-ordinate the varied uses of a city, to prepare for the future, to correct the mistakes of the past, on the virgin zones coming

into the vortex of the city; in short, there is no planning in advance over the whole area. In many respects Sydney is a beautiful city; in others she is a warning to us. Good civic government shall be hers in time and good civic government is a device of the town planner. He put this forward as a very strong argument indeed for local government having charge of the whole of the city as a prelude to the efficient carrying out of any town planning schemes. This lesson is one which we should all take seriously to heart, for they are the words of a gentleman who has travelled very widely, has for a long time taken a great interest in town planning movements, and he is the governing mind of Daceyville, a model suburb which is being formed in Sydney. The conference was fortunate indeed to have Mr. Fitzgerald as its president, and rejoiced very greatly when they heard, during the meeting, that Mr. Fitzgerald had been appointed first Minister for Town Planning in Australia. There are Ministers in other States who, as did Mr. Fitzgerald, hold other portfolios, and to them was given supervision over local government and town planning measures; but the great importance of the subject is now recognised by the New South Wales Government following the lead of Adelaide, and in appointing Mr. Fitzgerald a Minister, we can look forward with hope in the immediate future, that there will be appointed a town planning expert and an advisory commission of gentlemen of expert knowledge to advise the Minister in reference to the town planning legislation necessary to carry out town planning schemes.

Governor-General's Speech

On the Wednesday morning, the business of the conference began, and the conference was extremely fortunate in having present the Governor-General, the Right Hon. Sir R. C. Munro-Ferguson, to make the opening speech. The Governor-General was at one time a Provost in Scotland, and has therefore had a great deal of experience in civic management. His speech was a telling one, full of deep truths and wisdom, conveyed in a light and humorous way. All the delegates were delighted, and felt it was worth coming a very long distance indeed to hear such a magnificent address. A few quotations will show the trend of the speech and the manner in which the ideas were conveyed:—

"They did well to use the period of stagnation in preparing for the great outburst of architectural activity which they hoped might follow on the resumption of normal conditions, by formulating schemes and reorganising administration so as to meet public and private needs with the greatest success, least expense, and a minimum of misdirected effort. To do that they must secure thorough devolution, free play for local initiative, eliminate overlapping, encourage co-operation between adjacent local authorities, and in some cases their consolidation.

"In this land of magnificent distances, it was less easy for Mayors, experts, and architects to keep in touch. That conference meeting annually in chief centres was one way, so that at any rate the funda-

mental principles of town planning and the most up-to-date ideas as to the best type of housing, communications, power, sanitation, embellishment, the best type of local authority, would gradually reach those responsible for good government, and beauty, convenience and healthiness of our towns."

Australia, he contended, needed to build, more than she had done, buildings suitable for her climate. "The sun which coyly peeped at discreet intervals upon his native home, glared unabashed on those of Australia." And he suggested that in a hot climate like Australia, they should look to the shores of the Mediterranean, to Spain, Italy, Algiers, and France as providing a most suitable type; also to study the architecture in the Southern United States and the Spanish States of America.

When referring to soldiers' settlements, he said "that closer settlement was always of absorbing interest, since upon this solution, in all countries, depended ultimately the stability, independence, and thrift of a nation. They had in that matter to apply the maxim that what was counted common prudence in private affairs, could scarce be great folly when applied to those of a great nation, and endeavour in laying out the settlements to ensure ultimate commercial success by balancing outlay with possible profits. At the close of the war, land settlement might well be on a scale proportionate to the number of millions of men who would be disbanded, and nothing could be more conducive to the security of the United Kingdom than successful closer settlement, nor was it less desirable in Australia."

Speaking of the selection of soldiers for agricultural pursuits, he said: "All he did know as a landsman was that it was not always kindness or a success to make a farmer of an untrained townsman. A heavy load of debt was the farmer's worst curse. Agricultural organisation and co-operation was in these days absolutely essential to the success of small holdings, and should proceed *pari passu* with the development of such schemes, and the town planning was every bit as necessary for the village community as for a capital city. The essence of town planning was imagination, the power to picture the village township, city, and the ability to foresee future needs, possible changes, such vital matters as communications, industry, and elbow-room for the community." He humorously referred to what an American had said of his own country: "That their hinder sight was better than their foresight by a darned sight." "The Town Planning Association stood for foresight, and at the stage of development they had reached in Australia, its propaganda was opportune."

Other Speeches

Mr. P. Mahon Glynn, Federal Minister for Home and Territories, also made a very fine speech, in the course of which he said the politician was not a town planner but a designer, and, as far as contour was concerned, his best way out of difficulties was by strategical rounding of corners.

The Hon. J. Huxham, Home Secretary of Queensland, thanked his Excellency for his address, and

considered we had listened to two of the most able addresses he had had the pleasure of hearing, and acknowledged he was under a deep debt of gratitude to his Excellency, and also to Mr. Glynn for taking the stand they had done, and giving them something that should be an inspiration. He sincerely hoped that the advice which the Governor-General and Mr. Glynn had given them, would be carried out, not in the far future, but that it would be taken immediately in hand as the result of the Conference, and he hoped that many of the suggestions made by the Governor-General would be put into effect before his Excellency took his departure from Australia.

The Hon. J. Storey, New South Wales, also spoke, and the humour of his speech was indicated by the fact that he considered that the Governor-General's address ought to be printed and made the text for aldermen, mayors, politicians, statesmen, and patriots. He agreed with Mr. Glynn that in future the slacker would be a despised man.

Garden City for Queensland

Dr. T. A. Price, Mayor of Toowoomba, an ardent enthusiast and worker for town planning principles, read the first paper, entitled, "Proposed Industrial Garden City at Darra, Queensland." Associated with him in the preparation of the scheme, was, among others, Mr. W. M. Nelson, who, it will be remembered, was at one time engineer for the Tramway Board in Christchurch. The scheme shown was extremely fine, embodying all the principles of town planning, and I had the pleasure of being able to support, very fully, all that Dr. Price had suggested, and Dr. Price and his fellow-workers can be heartily complimented upon the vast amount of honorary work which the preparation of the scheme entailed. The Conference recognised very fully indeed the value of Dr. Price's contribution, and unanimously passed the following resolution:—"That this Conference urges upon the Government of Queensland the desirability of resuming the necessary land at Darra, and to create a Commission in order to carry out the town planning scheme at Darra, as outlined by Alderman Dr. Price, of Toowoomba." We all felt that if this scheme only materialised, it would be a grand object lesson for the rest of Australia and New Zealand.

Soldier Settlements

Four papers were contributed upon soldiers' settlements, but this very important question did not, perhaps, have sufficient time allotted to it.

Senator Millen, of New South Wales, described what had been done in the examination of returned soldiers, and the grading of them according to their physical disabilities. He contended that those whose industrial efficiency was always likely to be sub-normal should be placed apart; that national workshops should be provided for them, in which they would be engaged in such light employment as, with their disabilities, they could undertake; but this segregation of the soldiers, and especially the segregation of maimed soldiers, did not, as I will show, meet with the approval of the Conference.

The Hon. J. M. Hunter, of Queensland, described what had been done for the soldiers by his Government. It was a description of the land that had been taken up, and the number of soldiers that had been placed upon the land. There was no attempt to form village settlements, but separate cottages had been erected, and the men were given financial assistance for tools and equipment, and for housing. The system is that practically proposed by our own Government. It is one with which I am not, nor was the Conference, in sympathy. The details of the scheme, which do not provide for the housing of the soldier in a garden city, need not, I think, be considered in detail.

The paper on Soldier Settlements, by the Hon. Frank Clarke, Victoria, also showed that the Victorian Government had as their prime scheme, the lending of money to soldiers up to £500, and he said that as the cheapest houses of to-day cost at least £300, very little of the £500 is left for other improvements and for the purchase of stock. In order to mitigate this situation, the Board has struck upon a plan of loading on to the cost of land some of the cost of the house, so that a man may build a £300 house upon his block, and yet have deducted from his £500 only the sum of £100, the rest being added to the land value for which he has 36 years to pay, but it can be seen that whatever detailed arrangements are made the fact remains that the soldier is burdened with a debt on which he must pay the interest and sinking fund.

Mr. Clarke acknowledged that in California as many as 50 per cent. of the original holders of blocks had been failures, and he, therefore, claimed that as the Victorian failures had only so far been 20 per cent., the settlement may be regarded as successful. His Ministry also proposed to found model villages, but although he sought the advice of town planning experts he did not feel justified in taking up the scheme, because the land had already been surveyed, and "it would be extremely expensive to throw aside the present work and commence all over again." This, of course, was felt by the Conference to be a very mistaken policy, that for the sake of a few hundred pounds in surveyors' fees, the success of the scheme should be jeopardised for all time.

Another paper was read by the Hon. H. N. Barwell, Attorney-General, Minister of Industry, and Minister Controlling Town Planning, South Australia, showing that they were working in South Australia on true town planning lines for the settlement of returned soldiers. They were not providing separate settlements, but were forming garden cities, in which the returned soldiers could be absorbed. This paper was of especial interest to me, as it bore out my contentions, and supported the scheme which I prepared, and which was published some time ago.

Mr. Charles C. Reade, the Government Town Planner of Adelaide, showed an illustration of Mr. Barwell's paper, the very fine garden city which he had designed, and which is to be carried out at Mitcham, a few miles from Adelaide. It was a splendid plan, and South Australia is very fortunate indeed in possessing a man of Mr. Reade's attain-

ments as its professional Town Planner, in charge of the Government Town Planning Department.

To test the feeling of the Conference in respect to these papers expressing such different views, I moved:—"That this Conference is of opinion that the best interests of returned soldiers will be served by founding and completing self-contained garden villages for all classes of the community, including returned soldiers, situated on good land on a railway line, where there is a good water supply, drainage, and electric power. That such villages shall be formed with all the attractions found in large cities in order that workers in all branches of industry may be induced to settle therein, and thus enjoy the amenities of city life while engaged in pastoral, agricultural, or other pursuits."

I am glad to be able to record that this resolution was carried unanimously. I can, therefore, return to New Zealand supported in my views by the members of this very representative Conference, and it is sincerely to be hoped that our Government will be influenced by the opinions of the experts gathered here, and will at once carry out a garden city scheme.

Eminent Doctor's Views

The principles of this resolution were very warmly supported by an eminent surgeon, Dr. Gordon Craig, of Sydney. Dr. Craig was in charge of Sydney's hospital ship, and had been led to give very careful consideration to the returned soldier problem, and in his speech on the question, he said that if they segregated all soldiers in one settlement, they would start talking over their grievances, and the whole thing would be magnified to a degree that would break the whole spirit of the settlement. These garden cities and rural settlements were commercial successes, quite apart from the repatriation question. He moved this motion: "That this Conference is strongly of the opinion that the segregation of returned soldiers is not as desirable as their incorporation among the ordinary members of the community in rural or industrial settlements."

Dr. Craig was very warmly supported by Dr. Price, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Re the "Grand Theatre," Queen Street, Auckland

The Council of the N.Z. Institute of Architects has had before it the evidence in the case of Johns and Son versus Webster and Tonks, which was before the Supreme Court at Auckland in August, 1916, and subsequently before an Arbitrator in 1917, and desires to inform the general public of the following facts:—

- (1) That the statement of defence filed in the Supreme Court alleged, in effect, that,—
 - (a) Architect Mr. B. C. Chilwell, of Auckland, had acted unprofessionally and (b) that the building of the Grand Theatre, Queen Street, Auckland, designed by him was structurally unsafe.

- (2) The very wide publicity given to these allegations in the Press, at that time, have undoubtedly reflected adversely on Mr. Chilwell's reputation as an Architect, and their subsequent ample refutation has not had the same measure of publicity.
- (3) The Council having carefully examined the whole of the evidence tendered in the Supreme Court and before the Arbitrator now desires it to be widely known that as a result of its investigation it finds,—
- (a) That Mr. Chilwell has not acted unprofessionally and that his conduct has been beyond reproach.
- (b) That the building known as the "Grand Theatre," Queen Street, Auckland, has been shown by the evidence to be structurally safe.
- (4) All the expert witnesses have testified as to the safety of the building, and the defendants' counsel, in making a similar admission on behalf of his clients, said the statement had been made under a misapprehension.

For the Council of the N.Z. Institute of Architects,

CHAS. A. LAWRENCE,

President.

Wellington, 14th August, 1918.

Timber Prices and Export

We have it on good authority that a reduction in the prices of New Zealand timber will shortly be brought about. The millers have co-operated with the Board of Trade and the Minister of Forestry, Sir Francis Bell, for the important purpose of controlling the output and the export of timber. The matter was first raised by the dairy producers, who feared that the supply of box timber would be worked out at an early date. They looked askance at the large export of white pine to Australia, but we find white pine—quite contrary to New Zealand experience—is one of the few timbers which will resist the borer in Australian climate, and that even the poorer qualities are greatly in demand for that market. So white pine which the butter box users will not take can be exported at good prices to Australia. The effect of the good prices for timber exported has been to raise local prices to a parity. This has been the difficulty in the butter and cheese industry. The local community has had quite unfairly to pay famine prices because there was a famine demand for butter and cheese at the other end of the world. To keep the local price down, and at the same time enable producers to take full advantage of the high export price, an equalisation fund was provided two seasons ago out of a tax on the exported butter. The millers have adopted the principle of equalisation, and they will co-operate in providing export supplies, while at the same time producing enough timber for the local market at prices which will be

fixed by the Board of Trade, after inquiry into the heightened cost of milling and transport owing to the war. It is not anticipated that we can get back to pre-war prices, but to be relieved of the burden of paying something equal to the export price on the whole consumption of timber in New Zealand will be an important protection to the building industry, for which our readers will feel thankful.

An opinion was once held in Paris that General Foch's methods were similar to those of the Kaiser, and that he believed a battle could not be won without sacrificing men. This irritated him when it was reported to him by one of his aides, and he snapped: "Sacrificing men! Sacrificing Germans, they must mean. I don't throw away my own soldiers!"



General Foch—the master of them all—Generalissimo of the Allied Armies, described by General Joffre as "The greatest strategist in Europe, and the humblest." Events during the last couple of months seem to show that Joffre was right.

Personal

At a sitting of the Wellington Military Service Board recently, William S. Short, Under-Secretary Public Works Department, said he appeared by direction of the Minister of Public Works to appeal in respect to William Frederick Furkert, senior inspecting engineer. There was, he said, one other inspecting engineer, but he was on sick leave. Mr. Furkert was about 42 years of age, was married, and had two children. The Department had important public works in hand, with which Mr. Furkert was personally associated, and had been associated since their inception. There was no other officer capable of taking up the direct inspection of those works, other than the Engineer-in-Chief, who could not do that work in addition to his other duties. The Board reserved its decision sine die.

Where would the Kaiser's sons go if the Allies invented a 74-mile-range gun?

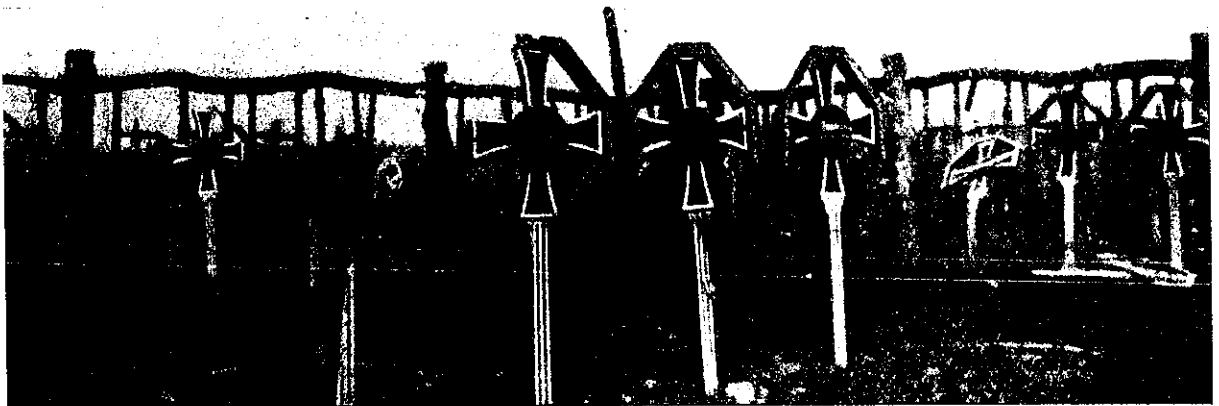
Here and There

The premises of the Christchurch Tile and Pipe-Making Company at Temuka were burnt down last month. The cause of the fire is a mystery. The kiln burner had been round the premises at 10.30 p.m., when everything appeared safe. The damage done is estimated at £10,000, while the insurance in the Royal Exchange office totals £7,500. It being the chief industry in Temuka, about forty persons are out of work. Notwithstanding the late hour, a great crowd assembled to witness the fire. It is bad business to lose the output of our local building industries at a time like this.

A striking illustration of the saving in maintenance arising from the adoption of concrete paving was mentioned recently by Mr. H. D. Heather, chairman of the Auckland Harbour Board. Since the construction of the Queen's Wharf in ferro-concrete, it has cost the Board practically nothing to maintain. Last year's expenditure upon the wharf, said Mr. Heather, was less than 30s.



The Culprits—the Kaiser and his six sons—the safest family in Germany



These die that they may rule. Is it worth it?

Our 64th Competition

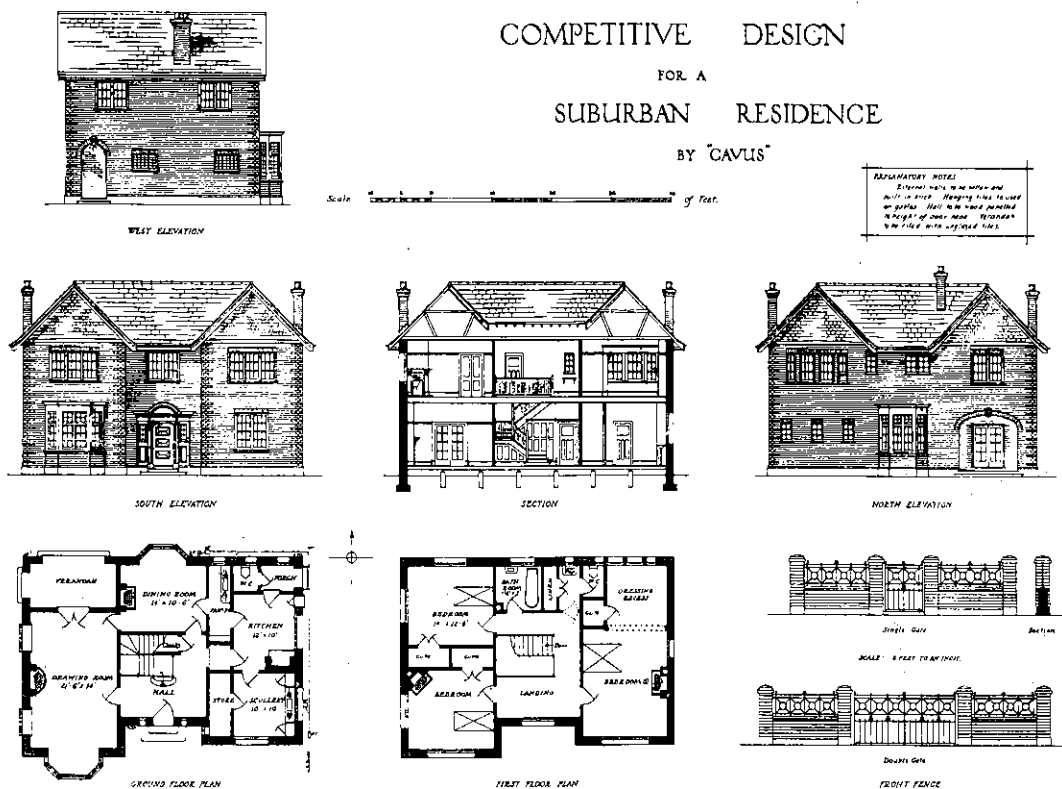
Suburban Residence

This competition, which was for a six-roomed house, drew three designs only, viz.:—"Why Not," by G. F. Wilson, with Mr. W. M. Page, of Wellington; "Cavus," by J. I. King, with Mr. J. M. Dawson, also of Wellington; and "Wattle," by H. Bull, of Christchurch.

Mr. F. de J. Clere, F.R.I.B.A., of Wellington, who kindly set this subject, reports as follows:—

it would have been better to have made the staircase well wider at the expense of the somewhat wide landing, but from a purely utilitarian standpoint perhaps it is better as it is. Taking it all round the design is a very sensible and good one, and would produce a house which, though not striking on account of any special treatment, would outlast the changes of fashions and always hold its own as being in perfectly good taste and therefore to be commended.

"WHY NOT."—Although there was no limit as to cost mentioned in this competition, an extra-

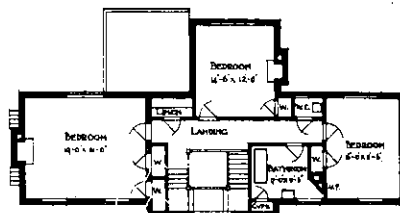


Winning Design, "Cavus," in our 64th Competition for Suburban Residence, by J. I. King (with Mr. J. M. Dawson, Architect, of Wellington)

"CAVUS" sends a well balanced design, but one which I think would have been improved had he carried his first floor ceiling about eighteen inches into his roof; with his gable treatment this could easily have been done. With two outside walls to his scullery and store, he ought to have been able to so arrange his windows as to give better light than he has done to the latter. The safe too ought to be on the south side. The ground floor w.c. would be more useful (especially to the men-folk) if placed in the outbuilding, and the space now occupied by it could be utilised some other way. On the first floor the bath room and the w.c. should be in closer proximity than they are shown. The rearrangement of this part would probably lead to better spacing of the windows. At present they are too close to the feet of the gables. As an effective architectural feature

vagant plan must be considered a bad one unless there are specially good counterbalancing advantages in it. For this reason "Why Not" is not to be commended. Had the house been on a sloping hill side there might have been a legitimate reason in spreading it out, but the section is specially mentioned as being level. The amount of outside walling is excessive in considering the floor area, and it should also be remembered by young designers that the more outside walls a room has the hotter it is in summer and the colder it is in winter. In a general way the arrangement of rooms, etc., is good, and the hall and staircase would prove effective features. In the outside I feel that too much is sacrificed to mere quaintness. I like the large staircase window which suggests a cheerful hall and landing, but the hipped treatment of the roof robs the bedrooms of

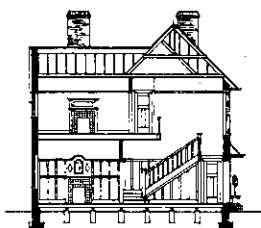
DESIGN FOR



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



FRONT ELEVATION



SECTION

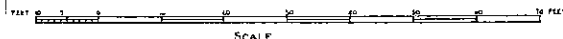


BACK ELEVATION



SIDE ELEVATION

INTERIOR WALLS TO BE PLASTERED
INTERIOR WOODWORK TO BE OILED
DRAWING ROOM, DINING ROOM
AND HALL TO BE PANIELLED.



SCALE $\frac{1}{4}$ " = ONE FOOT



DESIGN FOR GATE AND FENCE

Floor plan of a three-bedroom house. The plan shows three bedrooms: one at the top left (12'0" x 11'6"), one at the top right (12'0" x 11'6"), and one at the bottom center (12'0" x 11'6"). A central landing connects the bedrooms to a bathroom (5'0" x 6'0") and a kitchen (10'0" x 11'0"). The kitchen includes a sink, stove, and refrigerator. A linen closet is located near the kitchen. A staircase leads to a lower level. Various closets and wardrobes are distributed throughout the plan.

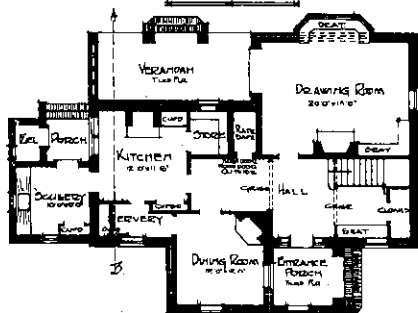
First Floor Plan



SECTION A B



== SOUTH ELEVATION ==



== GROUND FLOOR PLAN ==



— GATED AND WALL — SCALE 1/2"
— DOUBLE GATE AT LEFT, SINGLE GATE —
— OPPOSITE FRONT DOOR —



— NORTH ELEVATION —

SIXTY FOURTH COMPETITION
 — **A SIX ROOMED HOUSE** —
 — **BY WATTLE** —
 — **SCALE 1/2" TO A FOOT** —

MATERIALS.
WALLS, BRXN. BASE AND ALL BRXWOR
LINED ON ELEVATIONS TO BE PURPLE
OTHER PORTIONS RED
ROOF PURPLE SLATES SCHEDULED PAINT
COLOR OF SLATES INTERIOR WALL DRUMING RP
PANELS HEIGHT DECOR. CEILING PLASTERED
DOORS AND DOOR PLASTERED COPIED TO WALL
DOORS AND DOOR PLASTERED COPIED TO WALL
EXTERIOR WOODWORK PAINTED WHITE.

Design, "Wattle," by H. Bull, of Christchurch

two fairly high walls which they would have had with a gabled treatment. On the whole the design has much to commend it, its chief faults being a want of compactness in the plan, and as before mentioned, too much outside walling for its superficial area.

"WATTLE."—This plan is not as good as either of the other two. The drawing room and hall are quite desirable, for though there is only one window in the latter it is a large one. Its position, however, is not good if it is to light the inner hall. This inner hall scarcely seems to be wanted, but "Wattle" appears to have put it there because he did not know what to do with the space. The same remark applies to the plate safe. The dining room would prove absolutely useless for six months in the year, a fault which ought easily to be avoided in a suburban section. The kitchen light is practically a borrowed one, and is placed so that the range would not get the full benefit of the loan. There seems to be no larder, a more essential thing than a plate safe. The wall between verandah and kitchen is wasteful, being too thick. On the first floor the point that strikes me is the narrowness of two of the bedrooms. Though having a large floor area the difficulty of placing the furniture would be considerable. In the front room, for instance, the head of the bed would be between two of the windows, and its foot would be about two feet only from the hearth. The treatment of the outside I like, and would suit a level suburban site very well. I place "Cavus" first, and "Why Not" second in order of merit.

F. de J. CLERE, F.R.I.B.A.

Correspondence re Soldiers' Memorials

The following correspondence appeared in the "Southland Times" recently, and we commend it to our readers for perusal:—

To the Editor.

Sir,—Some months ago now your paper contained one morning an account of a statue which it was proposed to erect at Edendale as a memorial to the fallen soldiers of that district. Your reporter explained that this statue was the work of a local monumental artist, and that a novel feature of the production was that it was made of "concrete." I am sufficiently interested to go and see this statue. I am not an artist, nor an architect, and I have no wish to depreciate the achievement of the sculptor who no doubt succeeded wonderfully well in his strange task, but I do think that some protest should be raised against the overwhelming indifference, or is it ignorance, of a community which allows such a caricature of all that is meant by sculpture to be put in a place of honour and prominence in the name of patriotism.

I believe a similar monstrosity is to be erected at Woodlands, and certainly the pedestal is already underway. I sincerely hope they will stop short of the "concrete hero" of the Edendale monument.

It is not to be expected, perhaps, that the people in the country districts of New Zealand should have any idea of art or of artists, but surely the farmers of Woodlands who are so generously defraying the expenses of the erection might well have sought advice from someone who at least would have saved them perpetrating a horror which in any country with pretensions to the slightest knowledge of what sculpture is would have made them the laughing stock of the whole community.

I am not a New Zealander, but I blush for it when I think that it is probably the only part of the British Empire

where the project of erecting "concrete" statues to its fallen soldiers should pass without a word of censure, let alone the derision, it deserves.

Did it not betray a depth of ignorance on the part of the community which says little for its education and less for its sense of the beautiful; the whole business is too ridiculous for serious notice.

However, it is not only the people of Woodlands who apparently know no better, but every member of the community who knows what art means will be to blame if they allow these preposterous figures to mar the countryside and hold up the New Zealand bumpkin as of all bumpkins the most brainless.—I am, etc.,

ASHAMED OF SOUTHLAND.

* * * *

Sir,—It is to be hoped that the timely and emphatic protest contained in the letter published in your columns this morning will have some chastening effect upon the community. To any one who knows anything of art and sculpture, and who has seen the "concrete soldier" of Edendale, it cannot but appear appalling and well-nigh incredible that another such monstrosity should be contemplated as a soldiers' memorial in Southland. Concrete bridges, concrete ships, concrete pill-boxes even, but why! oh! why a concrete soldiers' memorial? Is the value of such a memorial to consist in its bulk, in the number of tons of concrete it contains, rather than in its beauty, its appropriateness, its worthiness of its object? £200 worth of concrete! Surely it would have been wiser to offer some part of the sum so generously subscribed by the Woodlands farmers for a prize for the best design for a memorial to be executed in something more appropriate than concrete, a design produced by some one of knowledge, training and experience who has seen something of truly artistic work elsewhere. Beauty and art are not mere frills and furbelows; to regard them as such is the mark of ignorance and unenlightenment. They possess an influence of the greatest value and importance that tends to higher ideals and a keener appreciation of the finer things of life. With regret it is to be admitted that there is little in Invercargill to train the eye or the artistic appreciation. What beautiful buildings, what pictures, what statues have we in our city? I venture to say that there is not more than one building—and that is not First Church—with any claims to architectural beauty, and the only figure to give satisfaction to the eye was the bronze figure of Athene above the Athenaeum. Yet this last was coated with white paint when the Council had that building painted last year! Think of it! Athene in a coat of white paint! A soldiers' memorial done in concrete! One can imagine some antiquarian a few centuries hence studying these huge blocks of concrete, weathered by time, in a mystified attempt to discover in honour of what heathen deity they had been erected by the early barbarian inhabitants of the district.

A thing of beauty is a joy for ever. Let us strive a little after the beautiful; let our memorials be worthy of the deeds of valour and sacrifice they commemorate, and such as will awaken feelings of pride not only in our own hearts but in the hearts of future generations.—I am, etc.,

ANTI-CONCRETE.

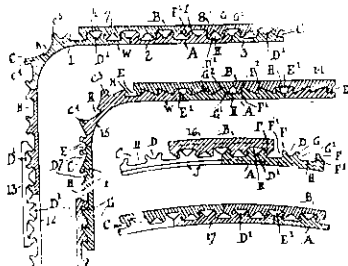
To Designers!

We are offering a Prize of
£10 10s. for the best design
for a Soldiers' Memorial—
Second Prize £3 3s.

See Conditions on Page 299
of this issue.

Patents of Interest to Builders

Structural Component.—A patent, No. 38,914, has been taken out by Walter Burley Griffin (Canberra's architect), and D. C. Jenkins, of Melbourne. The construction according to the invention is ordinarily hollow or has cavities, and is formed of two opposed (namely, outer and inner) courses of segments, which are vertebrated and continuously articulated, and have lapped edge joints. One face of each seg-



ment is provided with certain parallel recesses, which are alongside of and are partly enclosed by parallel ribs. There is an outer and an inner course of these segments, with their ribbed and recessed faces interlocking, and with edges of outer segments located opposite solid portions of inner segments, so that the integrated construction displays imbrication. The segments will be further bound together or be insulated in some cases by metal reinforcements, or grouting, or by putting between the segments any impregnated paper or fabric in use for insulating.

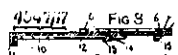
Inserts in Concrete (for nails, etc.).—A patent, No. 40,211, has been taken out by H. Hudson, of Malvern. The inserts have a shell of metal usually folded, having oppositely located cheeks, and in some cases a core, or building-element, such as a plug or flashing, enters or is within the shell. When the core within the shell is of wood access into it of moisture



is guarded against. The insert ends in some cases are closed to protect the core from access of wet mortar or concrete. The core or any exposed part of it may be coated with waterproof material. Shells have protective necks in some cases to key basic material and (or) hold cores in place.

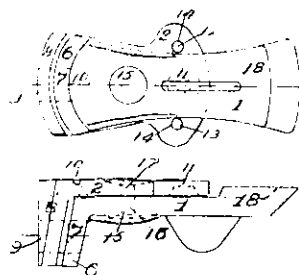
Papers and Wall-Papers Preservation.—A patent, No. 40,107, has been taken out by H. G. Lazarus and E. D. C. Badham, of Auckland, which consists in the addition to the paper-pulp during the course of manufacture of the paper of a small percentage of quassia essence or extract.

Roofing Tile.—A patent, No. 4547, has been taken out by G. N. Douglas, of N.S. Wales, which consists of a square or diamond-shaped slab of cement, or clay, in which parallel



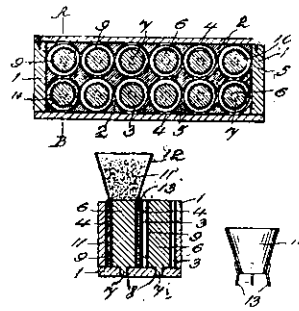
ridges 6 and 7 form a channel 8 on the upper face, while a ridge 10 on its under face has a projecting foot 11 at the apex. One or more projecting lugs 12, 15 are provided for attachment of wire fasteners.

Door and Gate Button Fastener.—A patent, No. 39,130, has been taken out by J. H. Jones and W. G. Killworth, of Launceston, Tasmania. The fastener is formed with the flange as 6 and the hole as 7, and has a projecting end as 18 which acts as an engagement surface for door or gate when



closed. The button is pivoted as at 16 and 17 to its screw-plate 2, formed with the flange as 8 and the hole as 9, and has two holes as 12 and 13. This construction enables pad-lock to be locked, and by covering the screws tends to prevent fastener being removed from gate.

Concrete-Pipe Manufacture.—A patent, No. 39,235, has been taken out by A. H. Wheeler, of Rotomah. The invention comprises a box 1 open at its upper end, and formed in its interior with partitions 2 so as to provide a plurality of cylindrical compartments 3 vertically disposed and each of the desired height and diameter of the pipes to be made. Each of the said compartments is provided with a loosely fitting liner 4 of sheet zinc or other thin metal, which is formed with an open or unseamed joint 5 so as to permit of its being sprung diametrically. Arranged axially within each



of the said compartments is a core consisting of a cylindrical body 6 of wood or other suitable material of the desired length of the pipe and of a diameter equal to the bore of such pipe, such core being provided at its lower end with a shank or shouldered portion 7, adapted to be received within a corresponding hole 8 formed in the bottom of the box 1 concentric with the compartment 3 in each case. The said core 6 is provided also with a sheet-metal liner 9, having an open joint 10 similar to the liner 4 so as to permit of its being sprung upon the core 6 and to allow of its being easily withdrawn from the pipe when moulded.

Engineering Tenders

Tenders are called for the construction of a wharf at Kutarere for the Opatiki County Council.

The Public Works Department, Wellington, called for tenders early this month for erection of the Tarawera Bridge at Matata.

Tenders are invited by Messrs. L. D. Nathan for two motor slips for Fiji.

The Waiapu County Council are calling for tenders for erection of a traffic bridge over the Waitaia stream 11 miles from Tupaia.

Building Notes.

AUCKLAND.

Auckland, as well as Wellington, is apparently requiring more accommodation for Technical Education. Mr. George stated recently that the attitude of the Government in providing free and efficient technical education for all who qualify themselves for it, and then refusing to vote the necessary funds for up-to-date buildings was incomprehensible.

The site on Observatory Hill has been chosen for the Museum, which it is hoped to build as soon as permission is obtained from the Government.

Another new school is proposed at Freeman's Bay.

A special appeal for funds for a permanent Soldiers' Club for Auckland is to be made in December.

To provide additional storage accommodation for the coming season, the New Zealand Shipping Company, the Waikato Farmers' Auctioneering Company, and the North Auckland Farmers' Co-operative Company, have purchased, in conjunction, a block of land at the foot of St. George's Bay Road, for the erection of new warehouses. The laying of the foundations is now going forward. The buildings will be of brick and concrete, and will consist of three storeys and a basement. The ground area occupied will be 52,000 square feet.



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The Auckland City Council is to be congratulated on its go-ahead policy. The Mayor, Mr. Gunson, has a proposal for raising a loan of £165,000 for street works, principally concrete paving of main thoroughfares. "Our proposals," said Mr. Gunson, "have not been brought down hastily, but are the matured result of the deliberations of the Council over a period of three years. I am satisfied that due regard has been paid to all our obligations, and the time seems opportune for giving effect to the important suggestions I have put forward."

The Mount Roskill Water Supply Board called for tenders last month for a concrete pumping station.

The Education Board called for tenders for the erection in brick of a new school at Point Chevalier for infants.

Mr. D. B. Patterson called for tenders this month for alterations and additions to a factory at Newmarket. The same architect has in hand a block of offices in Shortland Street.

Mr. J. Clark called for tenders early this month for a residence in wood at Remuera.

Tenders have been called by Mr. T. C. Mullions, for additions to a house at Narrow Neck.

BELFAST.

Messrs. Walter Panton and Son, called for tenders this month for additional storage accommodation at Belfast for Messrs. Borthwick and Sons, Ltd.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Some time ago it was announced that the Canterbury Education Board intended to establish a workshop for the manufacture of school furniture and apparatus. The necessary machinery has been now obtained, and it is hoped to have a suitable building erected shortly for the purposes of the workshop on a section owned by the Board on Moorhouse Avenue.

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WOOLSTON RAILWAY STATION

The Old Boys' Association of Christ's College has decided to erect a memorial to the old boys who have fallen in the war. The memorial is to take the form of the erection of a common dining hall, which will also be available for prize-givings, assemblies, and entertainments; at present there is no building large enough for such purposes. The estimated cost of the building is £10,000. It is not intended to erect the building while the war continues, but it is proposed to collect the money as early as possible so that there may be no delay in commencing the building when a favourable opportunity occurs. Already a number of sums aggregating over £4,000 have been promised.

The plans for the additional buildings to be erected at the Christchurch Hospital in connection with the establishment at that institution of the Orthopaedic Unit, for the treatment of returned soldiers, have been forwarded to Wellington for the approval of the authorities.

Building permits to the number of 18, representing a value of £19,450, were issued by the City Surveyor last month. There were three for the Central Ward, representing £3,400; 11 for St. Albans, representing £5,750; two for Linwood, representing £300; and two for Sydenham, representing £10,000.

Tenders were called by Messrs. Collins and Harman for alterations to Bell's Private Hotel, Moorehouse Avenue.

Messrs. England Bros. called for tenders last month for premises in Madras Street for Nurse Maude Nursing Association.

DUNEDIN.

The new Anglican Cathedral is likely to be completed in time for opening on December 1st.

At an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Milburn Lime and Cement Co., proposals to amalgamate with the Ewing Phosphate Co., and to increase the capital of the new company to £150,000, were carried. These proposals will come before a subsequent meeting for confirmation. The capital of the Milburn Co. was £75,000.

The foundation stone of a new dormitory building for the John McGlashan College was laid recently. The new wing will have a slate roof, to which access will be provided for social, recreative and other purposes. It will be L shaped, and each front will be 90 feet in length, the object being to get cross ventilation and the maximum of sun-light for the dormitories and class rooms. The dormitories will be upstairs. On the ground floor will be a common room, library, class rooms, studies, music rooms, and other rooms, and in the basement the sports room would be placed, together with a carpenter's work-shop, or box room, and so on. The building will be lit with electricity. (Contractors, Messrs. Fletcher Bros.)

A commencement has been made at Waikari with the building of the consumptive hospital. Emergency shelters to provide accommodation for 16 patients will be put in hand shortly.

The Burt Hall at the Technical School is nearing completion. The main hall is 100 feet long, 47 feet wide, and 30 feet high, and it is provided with a stage and two ante-rooms. It will be used for general assembly purposes and for the physical culture and training of pupils attending the day-school, as well as for drill and for other classes in the evening. The ground floor forms a shelter, fitted up with gas jets and sinks, which are intended to afford pupils bringing their lunch with them the necessary opportunity of making tea, cocoa and coffee. Adjacent to this shelter are two small dressing rooms—one for boys and one for girls, with the necessary adjuncts. The eastern end of the basement floor is furnished with a compact bath, measuring 25 feet 6 inches by 16 feet, with a depth of from 4 feet to 6 feet. The ground floor of the hall is connected by a raised gangway of a temporary nature to the main building in order to facilitate the change of classes from one department to the other. It is anticipated that the hall will be opened early next month. The intention of the Board of Managers is to request the Hon. J. A. Hanan, Minister of Education, to undertake the function.

There is a proposal on foot by the Works Department of the City Council to offer awards of £10, £5, and £2 10s. respectively for the three best designs providing for the accommodation of vehicles at and beautifying Anzac Square.

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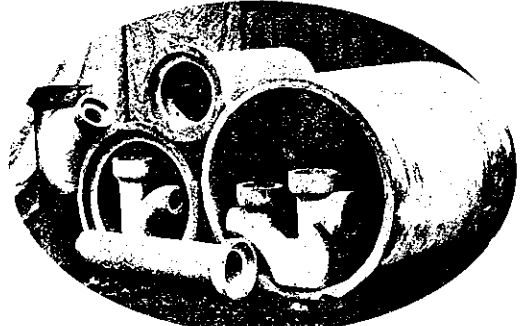
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On the 28th of last month the new Infant Department was officially opened by the Minister of Education (the Hon. J. A. Hanan). The new structure, which is almost completed, is substantially built of brick, and consists of two infant class rooms, each measuring 28 feet by 26 feet, a teacher's sitting room 14 feet square, and two rooms with open fronts for the tuition of the children in fine weather. Special attention has been given to the lighting and ventilation, which are on the most up-to-date methods. The new building is designed to accommodate 140 pupils. At present the old style of desks is in use, but these will be replaced with the latest system—a single desk for each child. Mr. Brown said it was largely due to Mr. Hanan that a vote was obtained for the erection of the new infant department. In the original specifications provision had been made for greater accommodation, but this had been modified by the Department to such an extent that the new building was inadequate for present requirements, and additional accommodation would be necessary in another couple of years.

Tenders were called last month for the erection of Bank premises in brick at Tapanui. Messrs. Mason and Wales are the architects.

HAMILTON.

Tenders are invited by J. W. Warren and J. C. Blechynden, architects, for the erection of Infectious Diseases Wards at Hamilton, for the District Hospital and Charitable Aid Board.

KAIKOURA.

Tenders were called last month for the erection of a new technical school at Kaikoura for the Canterbury Education Board.

MASTERTON.

Mr. A. P. Whatman's contributions towards the erection of the Soldiers' Club in Masterton will amount to over £1,000. In addition to this, Mr. Whatman has guaranteed a sum of £300 per annum for ten years, if necessary, towards the upkeep of the Club.

NELSON.

The executive of the Nelson Returned Soldiers' Association has received a most generous offer from Mr. J. H. Cock—namely, to assist to the extent of £2,000 in providing a Returned Soldiers' Club. An option has already been asked for by the Association over several acres of land adjacent to the city, and it is proposed to erect a hostel and club rooms in concrete thereon. At present ideas are naturally in an incipient stage, but generally they are as follows: The building would contain some twelve bedrooms, necessary domestic offices, restaurant, comfortable billiard, writing, reading rooms, etc., and would be in charge of a caretaker, who would be responsible for the care and management of the premises. For residential purposes the club could be utilised by returned soldiers passing through the city, but more especially as a more or less permanent home for the returned men who are permanently partially disabled. The

PHONE 1643

F. de J. Clere

F.R.I.B.A., M.C.I., LOND.

Steuartyn E. Williams

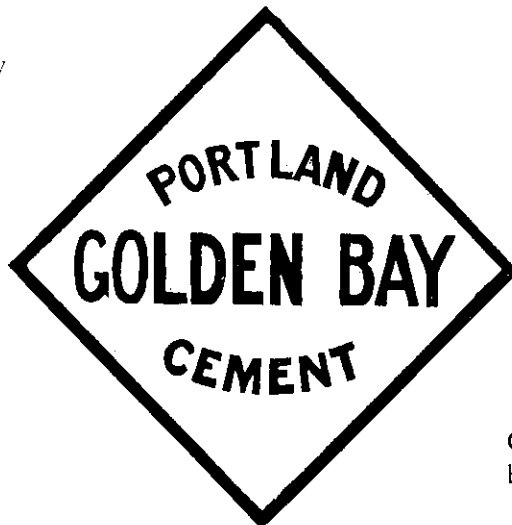
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club would be a memorial to those who had fallen, and a place of rest for those who return.

Mr. A. S. Mitchell invited tenders last week for cool storage premises at Mapua, Nelson, for the Nelson Co-op. Fruit Growers' Co., Ltd.

PALMERSTON NORTH.

Messrs. Crichton and McKay, of Wellington, are calling for tenders for the erection of new wards, kitchen, X-ray, and laundry blocks, etc., for the Palmerston North Hospital and Charitable Aid Board.

ROTORUA.

Surgeon-General R. S. F. Henderson, Director-General of Medical Services, stated recently that sketch plans have been approved for vocational and functional workshops at Rotorua for the following trades:—Tailoring, carpentry, bootmaking, hairdressing, saddlery, and splints manufacture, fitting, plumbing, and electrical work, blacksmithing, basket making, glazing, plaster casting, photography, and handicrafts, including weaving, wood-carving, metal-inlaying, and fancy leather work. The workshops will be situated on the road leading to the King George V. Hospital, the main building being parallel with the road. A road frontage of about 255 feet will be occupied by the buildings, which will be sufficiently large to accommodate a very large number of pupils. It may be some two or three months before the workshops are ready for use, and in the meantime arrangements for the appointment of instructors will be made. Draft plans have been approved by Colonel T. Mill and Colonel D. S. Wylie, who have made a special study of this branch of soldier treatment in England.

TAURANGA.

A movement for the erection of a high school has been inaugurated at Tauranga by local and public bodies in the district. The need for better facilities for higher education in the Bay of Plenty district was emphasised at a conference held last week and it was resolved to make strong representations to the Minister for Education for the establishment of a high school at an early date.

TIMARU.

Messrs. Panton and Son, architects, of Timaru, called for tenders for the erection of additional insulated storage at Timaru for the N.Z. Refrigerating Co.

WAIKATO.

The Waikato Hospital Board set up a committee last month to go into the matter of turning the present Old People's Home into a nurses' home, and of building a new old people's home. It was decided to inspect several sites in the country for the latter purpose. Incidentally it was mentioned that when the proposed additions are made to the hospital accommodation will be required for 40 extra nurses. The Board also decided to call tenders for a new infectious diseases ward.

WELLINGTON.

The Wellington Hospital and Charitable Aid Board has authorised the chairman and treasurer to raise a loan of £6,000 for the erection of a new ward for the X ray department. The Board also adopted the motion authorising steps being taken to acquire a suitable area of land for the establishment of a milk farm, and a Farm Inquiry Committee was set up.

Mr. W. Chatfield invited tenders early this month for fire wall and 14 steel-clad doors for E. W. Mills and Co.

WHANGAREI.

Tenders were called last month for the erection of a new Police Station at Hohoua, Mangonui County.

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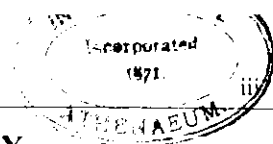
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