

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

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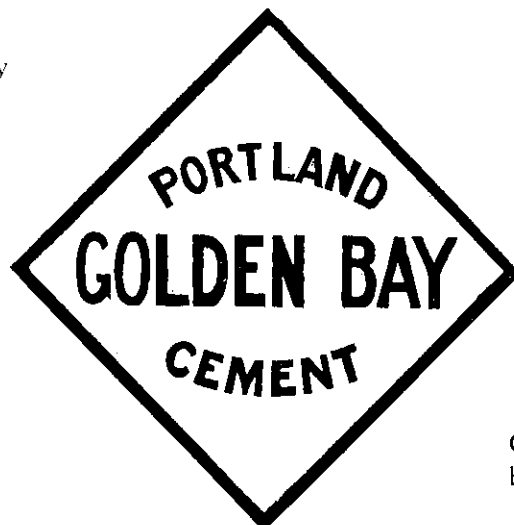
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