



it appear to be a memorial. If, on the other hand, it is desired to erect a memorial, let it be a memorial and nothing else. The truth is that these things are valued by their bulk.

Concrete is not a suitable material for a memorial. A memorial cannot be worthy unless it be of good material and unless skilful labour has been expended upon it. Hence a small memorial may be in every way worthy. Pugin said, "Let every man build to God according to his means, but not practice showy deceptions," and this expresses in a phrase what I have endeavoured to explain.

Regarding the designs I should like to say a few words. "P.N.P.'s" design is frankly a water tank. It would entail rather elaborate shutterings, and would be improved by lengthening the lower part by several feet. I should say that "P.N.P." got his idea from a design which appeared in "The Building News" in 1912. In "Tablet's" design the deep entablature is displeasing. The idea makes a charming treatment for a well or fountain (see the one at Basin Reserve, Wellington), but to superimpose a water tank is not good. "Konk's" design is suitable in character for the material, and is, I should say, a second attempt; the design marked "Aqua" being the first. It would be improved by dispensing with the shelters—they are only poky little places—and closing up the doorway in front and having only a small door in back wall, using the space under the tank for tools, etc. The design by "Tower" would also be improved by omitting the seats and recesses and using the whole space under tank for a tool-house. In the design by "Aqua" the seats, shelters and fountain should be omitted and the openings closed. The same remark applies to "Anzia" and "Pen." The closing up of the openings adds very materially to the dignity of the design. "Pen's" design is simple and straightforward, but to any one familiar with traditional Gothic work it is unsatisfactory and would be very uninteresting in execution. "Anzia" should arrange his inscription tablets in the centre, not on the piers. "Simplex" is rather elaborate. Concrete is bad enough, but when it is coloured it is impossible, and the pictures would give the thing rather a paltry appearance."

(Signed) W. M. PAGE.

Institute of Architects

At the annual meeting of the Wellington District Branch of the New Zealand Institute of Architects, held on the 11th inst., the following officers were elected for the ensuing twelve months:—Branch chairman, Mr. John S. Swan; vice-chairman, Mr. W. Gray Young; branch committee, Messrs. Kean, Dawson, Haughton (re-elected), Jones, James, Lawrence and Luff; Dist. treasurer, Mr. W. Fielding; Dist. secretary, Mr. P. H. Swan, Woodward Street, Wellington; Hon. auditor, Mr. W. Beauchamp-Platts.

President's Address.

At the annual meeting of the Wellington District Branch of the New Zealand Institute of Architects the retiring chairman, Mr. Charles A. Lawrence, said:—"I once more address you from the chair under the cloud of this great war, and I am glad to say that, though we still have a long way to go, and probably many hard experiences to pass through, there are clear indications that the Allies are now on the road to victory, and to I trust a just and lasting peace. It may be well to recall that, at about this time last year we received the news of the great losses at Passchendaele Ridge and the repulse before Cambrai, and had at Salonica and in Palestine what were thought to be armies of occupation only. We can, however, rejoice at this time at the great progress that has been made by our troops under the command of General Allenby in Palestine, the withdrawal of the Bulgarians from hostilities, and the remarkable advance that has been made on the Western front. The latter being all the more remarkable after our reverses in March and April of this year.

It is clear, I think, that from these successes a great lesson can be learned and that lesson is the value of unity and mutual dependence. When the Allies were under divided control little progress was made, but by united action and placing all their resources under a single command a welcome change has taken place. This is a lesson I think we, as a body, might seriously take to heart and endeavour to so guide our affairs that what is done should be done for the good of the profession as a whole, and individual members should remember that there are others in the world besides themselves who should be allowed to live.

Owing to the war, building operations have been considerably curtailed, and consequently our profession, in common with architects the world over, have been hard hit. Probably, in this country, we have suffered least, or as little as any in this respect up to the present, but I am afraid that, with the scarcity of some materials, the enhanced cost of others and the shortage of labour there is likely to be less done in the immediate future than in the past. The fact that the Government has seen fit to place a limit of £3000 on works which may be put in hand, without a special permit, is a serious handicap, and will, I have no doubt, put a stop to all large works which are not of public benefit or which may be necessary for storing our produce. As far as I can see there is little likelihood of this restriction being removed until peace is declared, but of this I am convinced that this restriction, as well as others which may have been necessary during war, must be removed at the earliest possible moment. It therefore behoves us to take steps to see that the Government are fully siezed of this. We know from past experience, when powers such as this are taken, there is a tendency for them to become permanent.

Having placed such restrictions upon building and in conjunction with the increased cost of building, I am of opinion that the Government is unwise in allowing the unrestricted export of timber to