

can have meals served on summer nights. In every large building of the sort there is a ball-room, where the tenants so disposed can meet convivially every night and indulge in dancing and social pleasure.

Sydney is now ripe for the introduction of such flats. If Australians do not seize time by the forelock and erect them, then overseas capitalists will and make money out of them. Therefore, we have taken the liberty of warning such as propose to invest their hard-earned money in flats of the class of opposition they will be up against in the near future.

New Zealand Town Planning Conference.

Preliminary Notes and News.

The conference on town planning and housing, organised by Mr S. Hurst Seager, F.R.I.B.A., for the Government, opened in Wellington Town Hall on Tuesday, May 20th, and continued until the end of the week. The honorary organiser has been active since the middle of January, and the success of the conference was almost wholly due to his well-aimed enthusiasm, for the response to the invita-



New Roman Catholic Church, built at Takaka of blue marble from the Takaka Marble Quarries.

Photo by H. W. Baird

New Flooring Material.

A new kind of wood floor material has recently been put on the market in America. First of all there is a base block to ensure a uniform level, so that no single block is able to shift above or below its fellows. Each block is eight inches in length and three and one-half inches in width.

The only preparation of the sustaining floor is that of levelling. A grille or lattice, regularly spaced, lies between the supporting boards and the permanent concrete floor. The wood blocks are nailed down, the points clinching against the concrete.

Wise men make mistakes—fools continue to make them.

tions to submit competitive drawings has not been as good as might have been expected. This, however, did not interfere with the extent and value of the exhibition, for the New South Wales Government sent six cases of interesting exhibits, and the contributions of Mr C. C. Reade, the South Australian Town Planning officer, arrived in nine cases. The exhibition took up alcoves around the whole floor of the hall, and extended through the wide corridors. As the great object of the conference was to spread the knowledge of the principles and value of town planning, the Government decided that the exhibition would be free to the public. The official guide to the exhibition indicated the route to be taken to derive the most effective educative advantage from what was to be seen.