

When we turn to the delegates' list, there is something more satisfactory than the response to the call for designs and plans. The great majority of local bodies in New Zealand were represented, as well as a number of other organisations interested in civic improvement. Between 300 and 400 delegates attended the conference.

Restrictions upon travelling owing to influenza precautions, prevented the Hon. J. D. Fitzgerald, Town Planning Minister of New South Wales, from attending. He was to have read a paper on the Daceyville garden suburb, but he had to forward it to be placed before the conference by the honorary organiser. A number of good illustrations of this workingmen's suburb were shown by the lantern.

The Queensland Minister for Local Government, Mr Huxham, and the Queensland Under Secretary for Local Government, were also prevented from attending owing to the quarantine regulations.

Mr Burleigh Griffin, the designer of the Australian Commonwealth capital, Canberra, has sent number of valuable designs and lantern slides.

As so much interest is now being taken in war memorials, a special department of the exhibition was set aside for this subject, and a good collection of designs secured, showing suggestions for individual monuments, tablets, and arches. One of the most important phases illustrated was the proper environment of memorials.

Housing was discussed in three papers, and a large amount of the illustrative matter shown also dealt with this pressing subject. New Zealand architects have been given an opportunity to contribute information and designs dealing with the domestic art of New Zealand, and this has been fairly well taken up by the profession.

Lantern displays formed an important part of the conference proceedings. Mr Hurst Seager has a collection of 3500 slides to draw upon, and the New Zealand Picture Supplies Company placed the whole of its extensive film resources at his disposal to select films which, by reason of the picturesque settings, or the photographs of well-known city features, were of value in illustrating the methods of town planning.

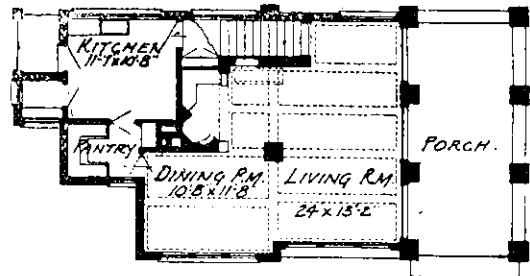
As a useful permanent record, the Government will publish an illustrated report of the proceedings, including the full text of the papers and a good summary of the discussions. The conference should have valuable educative results, and give great impetus to the town planning movement in New Zealand.

A New Heat-Insulating Material.

A new heat-insulating material, composed of a mixture of a special clay and cork, has been discovered by a Norwegian engineer. The clay and cork mixture is burnt, and the result is the formation of a very light substance that it is said to be eminently suitable for all heat-insulating purposes.

A Suggestion for Plan Hunters.

The accompanying plan and perspective view, from drawings by Glenn M. Rees, architect, Rochester, New York, are offered for their suggestive value only to those who are plan hunting. While somewhat complicated in treatment for the most eco-



nomical work with concrete in the present state of the art of concreting, they are nevertheless presented by the architect with concrete in mind. They offer an opportunity to escape from the severity of the usual concrete box-like designs and still allow the use of a structurally sound material.

Building Concrete Houses and Bungalows in Quantities.

Some interesting experiments are being conducted by the Cray, Curtis Company of Cleveland, U.S.A., in the erection of a number of concrete houses for the use of the employees of the Hydraulic Pressed Steel Company.

It was first planned to build 20 two-storey 6-roomed houses in a row. Subsequently the idea was altered and it was decided to make every other house of the bungalow type, all of these built to a single plan, but with variations in the treatment as shown in the sketches published herewith.

The 6-room and bath two-storey houses are being built first and will be followed by the 20 bungalows. The estimated cost of the houses was £960, size, 27ft by 22ft in plan, and 27ft high.

The construction is being financed as a welfare measure by the Hydraulic Company. A street with forty lots was selected, with the expectation of put-