

The necessity for a hospital in Te Kuiti has been the subject of discussion among the local bodies interested for years past. Definite action is now being taken, and it has been agreed to suggest to the Waikato Hospital Board a 10-roomed concrete structure for maternity patients, and an accident ward at a cost not exceeding £5900.

During the month Messrs Chilwell and Trevithick called for tenders for alterations and additions to a house at King's Parade, Devonport, in wood. Mr. John Farrell called for tenders for the erection of a manual and technical school building (in brick), at Hamilton; also for tenders for additions (in wood), to the Eureka school building, both for the Auckland Education Board. Mr. G. T. Murray called for tenders for the new post office (wood), at Walton. Messrs Edward Mahoney and Sons called for tenders for additions to St. Benedict's school, Newton. Messrs Wilson and Moodie invited tenders for extensive alterations to the Victoria Arcade.

CHRISTCHURCH.

A revival of building operations in Christchurch is indicated by the number of permits issued by the city surveyor recently. During May 39 building permits were issued, representing a value of £32,530, as against 16 permits representing £17,150 for May, 1918. In the previous month 41 permits, representing a value of £11,300, were issued, as against 32 permits, representing £35,650, for April, 1918.

His Lordship Bishop Brodie opened the new buildings of the parish school recently. Two large and airy class-rooms and cloak-rooms have recently been built, and the paths surrounding the buildings have been asphalted, involving an expenditure of £1070, the builders being Messrs Fullwood and Hay and the architects Messrs England Bros.

During the month Messrs Guthrie invited tenders for residence (concrete), at Mayfield, Ashburton County. Mr. McKinnis, District Engineer, called for tenders for the erection of a post office (brick), at Papamoi, and also for tenders for addition to the Rangiora post office. Messrs England Bros. called for tenders for the erection of residence in Heathfield avenue, Fendalton. Mr. John Barlow invited tenders for the erection of a billiard room in brick for Canterbury Bowling Club. Mr. L. G. Harrison invited tenders for a residence in Brown's road, St. Albans. Mr. J. S. Guthrie called for tenders for new offices (brick) for the National Mortgage and Agency Co., of New Zealand, Ltd.

WANGANUI.

The New Zealand Farmers' Co-operative Distributing Co., Ltd., called for tenders for the erection of a three-storied brick warehouse in Ridgway street.

WHANGAREI.

The necessity for a new fire station was emphasised at the annual meeting of the Whangarei Fire Board recently. The superintendent, Mr. Chissell, urged the erection of a fireproof building owing to the danger to the plant. It was decided that the time had come when a new and up-to-date station should be erected. The secretary was instructed to communicate with Gisborne, Hamilton, Rotorua, and New Plymouth with a view to obtaining plans.

WELLINGTON.

The proposals of the Wellington City Council for the erection of 500 houses are outlined by the Mayor, Mr. J. P. Luke, as follows: It is intended to borrow as a start £50,000 to build 80 homes. That will mean 1-15d annually on the unimproved value of property in Wellington, and Mr. Luke said he was sure that owners of such property would not begrudge such extra taxation to provide interest and sinking fund. He would suggest that the general Government should guarantee the loan at 5 per cent., with a 1 per cent. sinking fund. If the money cost more than 5 per cent. the Government should out of the Consolidated Fund, make up the difference, as its share to a great betterment scheme in the Empire City.

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