## N.Z. BUILDING

## PROGRESS

(With which is incorporated "The Scientific New Zealander")

Official Journal of the Dominion Federated Sawmillers' Association (Incorp.)

A Journal for Progressive men interested in the development of New Zealand's

Architecture, Building, Engineering and Industries

CHAS. E. WHEELER - Editor

PRICE 9d. per Copy; 8s. 6d. per annum post free.

(Note: Is. Discount allowed if paid in advance.)

Weldington, Auckland, Christohurch, and Dunedin, New Zealand, December, 1919.

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## Editorial Comment

The Season's Greetings, With thankfulness as well as pleasure we extend the season's greetings to our readers. This is the first occasion since 1913 on which such a message of cheerfulness could be given without a feeling

that it was out of place. Last year the war had ended. but the position was still uncertain, and New Zealand had its own special trouble of the influenza epidemic, which caused unprecedented mortality in our community. Looking back over the last six eventful years, we realise that in human experience the world is much older than is represented by that passage of time. It seemed in 1913 as if the doctrine of peace and goodwill to men had been well inculcated by nearly two thousand years of Christianity, but the world awoke to the fact that its most important inventions in mechanics and chemistry, instead of fortifying the reign of peace, had made it no more stable, and increased the horrors of war when they came. Civilisation still depended on the basis of physical force. We are still struggling in the aftermath of the terrible turmoil, but the readjustment of human relations has been so enormous that although there are pessimists who declare that the world is no better, we are confident that lessons of self-sacrifice have not been lost, and that the community, from the King down to the humblest subject, is knit closer together by a realisation of common interest. The great economic problem is being attacked with a fuller realisation of the need for improved distribution of the good things of this world; and although the symptoms are sometimes irritating, the means for coping with the problem are more ready to our hand now that thought itself has undergone a To turn for a moment from the wider great leavening. outlook to our own affairs, we cannot let this opportunity pass without a word of keen appreciation for those faithful readers and advertisers who have assisted the promoters of this journal to keep it alive and vigorous through difficult times. "Progress," like other productions of paper and ink, has had to meet the unprecedented conditions of the times by curtailing its size and activity. but we are gradually releasing ourselves from the handi-