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# N.Z. BUILDING PROGRESS

CHAS. E. WHEELER, Editor.

A Journal for Progressive men interested in the development of New Zealand's Architecture, Building, Engineering and Industries.

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

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# ·N·Z·BVILDING· PROGRESS

THE SOLDIERS' LOAN.

The Government is asking investors to lend £6,000,000 at  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. for the purpose of continuing its repatriation of the men who saved this country and all its wealth by their efforts in the great war. The loan is to be issued at par, and the term is twelve years. Recognition of the increased price of money is shown by the heightened rate of interest, which for a Government loan is a record. Local bodies are said to be experiencing some trouble in getting money at this price, but it may be that large investors, knowing that the Government required some millions, have been waiting for this issue. The State certainly should come first in this matter, for not only is the loan giving New Zealanders an opportunity of completing the redemption of their repatriation obligations to our brave men, but it is going to be expended on the very form of reproductive asset, the settlement of men on the land. During the last few years there has been a remarkable boom in land settlement, involving subdivision-all making for greater progress and permanent prosperity. Prices of some of our staple products will probably not continue to boom, but the outlook in this respect has at any rate the advantage, from the point of view of war loan investors, that their money will be put into land capable of being bought at more reasonable prices than have prevailed during the last two years. In commending this loan issue to our readers, we must stress the fact that it furnishes the opportunity of those who stayed at home to make some practical recognition of their appreciation of those who could, and did, fight for the preservation of free institutions. It is a gilt-edged investment, carrying with it a sense of doing the right thing by men who well deserve their land settlement opportunities.

# DEPRECIATION FUND.

We are glad to note that in connection with the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Loan the Government has adopted the very sound principle of establishing a depreciation fund up to £50,000 per annum for the purpose of stabilising the value of

the security and also as a further means of reducing the debt. The loan is one in which trust funds can be invested, and this depreciation fund will give much greater confidence to those in charge of trust funds, as we feel confident that the operation of the depreciation fund provision will serve to effectively maintain the price of the loan. There are occasions when investors are obliged to liquidate securities. The operation is not done for speculative purposes, but is needed to furnish ready money required in an estate. When emergencies of this nature arise, it has often been the case that the placing of securities on the market with instructions to sell within a limited period have depressed the security. But under the depreciation fund provision of this loan, if the Minister of Finance is satisfied that the securities are being sold for a bona fide reason, the State will buy them back at a price which will not be dictated by the necessity of the occasion. Thus the market price will not be depressed by forced sales under the usual conditions of such transactions. The system is so sensible that we would like to see it adopted by local bodies and others who have the administration of loans in which trust funds may be invested.

# MEMORIAL HIGHWAY REVIVED.

Until about a month ago it seemed as if the proposal for an Anzac Memorial Highway, first made a long time ago by Mr. Hurst Seager, had been completely discarded, but it has been rediscovered by an enterprising motorist, who managed to secure a fair amount of publicity for his "new" idea. We hope it will again be buried deep, for the adoption of such a form of memorial would advertise to the world that New Zealanders are capable of thinking of nothing but material gain—so much so that they are prepared to exploit the nation's respect and admiration for the Anzacs in order to get good arterial road communication for their country. A memorial of a great phase in a nation's history ought to be of such a character as to suggest, upon viewing it, the finest thoughts and something adequate regarding the character of the great deeds thus celebrated. Would this be the case if this elongated memorial was really adopted? It would be an ideal race track for motorists desirous of piling up colonial long-distance records, and a perfect paradise for the speed hog—until the surface began to wear out. Then we would have disagreeable disputes and wrangles about the responsibility for maintenance. Centred around such an object, it would be as painful and undignified as a quarrel over a gravestone. The Government is determined to have a non-utilitarian memorial in the capital city. There has been objection to this purely on the parochial ground that it is to be in Wellington, but the parochialists, having let off steam, failed to change the official mind, "for which relief much thanks." It is one thing to build a road, and quite another thing to keep it in good repair, therefore we hope to see a fine arterial road running through New Zealand some day in the distant future, after the backblocks have been properly provided with road access. It should be built by the State, and maintained as a national highway. Then it would be a memorial, not to our desire to meanly exploit the dead for the material benefit of the living, but a sign that we are capable of carrying out great works in a businesslike way.

# RATIONAL ROAD CONTROL.

"Legislation is in course of preparation, and will be brought before the House," said the Minister of Public Works in his annual statement, "making provision for the Government taking over the control and maintenance of main roads. With the aid of this legislation it is hoped to improve and maintain the main roads of the Dominion in accordance with the standard demanded by modern transport requirements. Should my proposals be carried out, I hope to be able to employ the most up-to-date methods in connection with roadmaking and maintenance. The work will be carried out on a large scale in accordance with a definite programme and under the control of a well-organised staff." The country has heard a lot about this ideal for years but no politician seems to have had the enterprise or the imagination to work out a reasonable scheme of doing it. Immediately he starts on this scheme he will be deluged with demands to regard every road in the country a main arterial highway. And he will have to think hard and be very firm if he is going to avoid ruinous expenditure. However, the Minister of Public Works is on the right lines, and if he succeeds in inaugurating a system of rational control over the construction and maintenance of the arterial routes of communication he will be doing a good work which will live long after One aspect of this problem which is not touched on by the average politician is that some districts in New Zealand, such as the East Coast of the North Island, have no chance of securing a railway for a generation. They must depend entirely on road communication, and if it is afforded, the benefit to the Dominion generally by increased

production will be substantial. But under our system of road control, the Government only subsidises the patchwork efforts of local bodies on a £ for £ basis. Why should the East Coast have to pay a subsidy towards its only means of communication when, if it was better situated, it would get a good railway at the expense of the Government? Roads of this class, connecting North with South via the east side of the North Island could be fairly built at the complete cost of the State, in the same way as a railway. But this can only be done if there is a national roading policy, such as we seem to be within reasonable distance of securing. policy will be immensely more reasonable and dignified than an attempt to get a few miles of good road by an appeal to the emotions aroused by the gallantry of the New Zealanders who gave their lives to the Empire during the great war.

# PUBLIC UTILITY SOCIETIES.

Power to carry out housing schemes is given to public utility societies under the provisions of the Housing Act which has just been hurried through Parliament during the fag-end of a long session. It is surprising, in view of the great part played in housing schemes of the better type by English public utility societies, that New Zealand legislators did not give this statutory power some years ago. It has been regularly advocated by town-planning supporters, and but for the housing shortage would have had to wait like many other useful things in their programme, until a Town-Planning Bill had been introduced. The most important features of the town-planning movement are so obviously valuable that, bit by bit, they are getting into the Statute Book. We called attention last month to a piece of town-planning introduced into the Municipal Corporations Act; this month we have an additional The new clause in the Housing Act enables any company or incorporated society whose objects include the establishment of village settlements or garden suburbs, or generally to make provision for homes for workers, to secure advances out of the Housing Account for these purposes. The dividend or other return to the shareholders must be subject to limitation imposed by Order-in-Council, and this will doubtless be fixed, as in the case of English societes, at the lowest current rate of interest on good securities. The maximum amount of the State's advance to the Society, or to any member thereof, shall not exceed 75 per cent. of the value of the land to which the application relates. Before leaving this subject we think it worth while explaining that the Housing Act provides specifically that the provision for limitation of rents does not apply to houses built after the passing of the Act. So there is still some chance for our lamented friend, the speculative builder (who has had legislators' tears of regret shed over his grave) to rise again—if he can manage to struggle up through a high pile of increased costs.

# A Guild of Builders for London.

By MALCOLM SPARKES, Secretary of the Guild of Builders (London) Limited.

The issue of the preliminary prospectus of The Guild of Builders (London) Ltd. by the London District Council of the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives may prove to be one of Trade Unionism, with great influence upon the the boldest and most dramatic acts in the history future housing programme of the country. In their covering letter to professional associations, employers' associations and the Press, the Operatives' Federation states that—

The enclosed prospectus is offered as a real contribution towards the establishment of the great system of National Guilds that, before many years are over, is destined to revolutionise completely the motives and control of industry.

The national development of the same scheme is to be presented to the Building Trades Parliament, next August, for serious investigation and discussion by the representative assembly of the industry.

Much will depend upon the response of the skilled administrators and technicians to the call of the Guild. Some of these are already holding salaried positions—others are, at present, in the ranks of the employers.

We hope to enrol them, for a greater task, in a self-governing comradeship of organised public service that will give them freer scope and open up wider possibilities of initiative and enterprise than the old discredited system can ever hope to do.

In many points the prospectus is indefinite and incomplete. It is designedly so. We have done no more than sketch the broad foundations upon which the superstructure of new industry will be built up by the men who offer themselves for Guild service.

We have planned a constitution which is simple-flexible—admitting of great variety of experimental development—yet designed to secure, for the service of the public, the immense advantages of industrial combination.

The housing needs of the community are of pressing urgency. The Guild calls for volunteers from every grade in the building industry, and we are confident that it will not call in vain.

The outstanding feature of this document is its call for volunteers from every grade in the building industry: a group of big trade unions has actually set up the framework of the new industrial order—has boldly abolished all class distinctions—and has called for offers of service from administrators, architects, surveyors, engineers, accountants, as well as from the ranks of its own operative members.

If a real industrial revolution can be brought about in this businesslike fashion it will be an achievement of almost incalculable significance and importance, not only for one industry but for many others, and not only for our own country but for the world.

The prospectus itself is a very novel document full of interesting features, for it is phrased in the new language of self-governing industrial democracy. Its appeal is entirely to the creative impulses of human nature—it calls not for money but for volunteers.

Instead of the time-honoured formula which begins, "Having paid to the company's bankers . . . I request you to allot me . . ." etc., etc., we have the following adventurous declaration:

"I have read the prospectus and hereby volunteer for Guild service." Then follow the name and address, and the trade union or professional association, and particulars of special qualifications.

The structure of the legal entity is simple and easily understood. The trade union ticket is the certificate of Guild membership. Every member of every branch of the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives, and other approved groups of building trade workers in the district, is a Guildsman, and has a vote in the election of the Guild Committee. Each trade or group elects one member. Each member so elected takes up a one shilling share in a society registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, and deposits a signed open transfer with his electors, or their agent, thus giving them power to remove him at any time.

This "approved group" system is one of the most suggestive and valuable features of the scheme. Already an important group of technicians (the architects and surveyors group) have applied for and secured approval from the Guild committee and have appointed Mr. A. J. Penty as their representative.

The local Guild committees now being formed in several districts are also eligible as "approved groups," and the Walthamstow committee has now appointed its representative.

The Guild committee when registered\* becomes an incorporated society under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, with limited liability; it has power to enter into contracts, to raise loans or issue loan stock and to "carry on the industry of builders, decorators, and general contractors -to undertake all branches of supply, whether as merchant, manufacturer or transporter—and to carry on any other work which it may think necessary or desirable." But it is not a self-governing workshop. It is an entirely new departure in industrial control; for its managers are responsible through the Guild committee, not only to their own staffs, but to the whole of the organised building trade workers of the district. This gives them greater security and status without weakening the principle of democratic control.

<sup>\*</sup>The Guilds of Builders, both for London and High Wycombe, have been registered through the Garden Cities and Town Planning Association. The form of rules has been prepared after careful consideration, and with the object of providing a standard constitution that may be adopted by other Building Guilds throughout the country. Copies of the rules may be obtained price is postage 2d.

dry, turns up in hard clods, is also suitable. Material

The prospectus declares that "the labour of Guildsmen will no longer be regarded as a commodity—to be purchased or not as required. As soon as it can be arranged, the Guildsman will be 'on the strength' for life. He will draw Guild pay in sickness or accident, in bad weather or in good, at work or in reserve."

The Guild will undertake work for every type of building owner, whether public or private. It will build for agreed prices or for prime cost plus a fee. But in every contract the price or the fee will include the percentage necessary to provide for continuous Guild pay, for overhead charges—for purchase of plant and, if necessary, for the hire of capital at fixed rates without powers of control.

"Organised public service" is the watchword of

"Organised public service" is the watchword of the Guild. It means that under no circumstances will its surplus earnings be distributed as dividends. All surplus goes to the improvement of the service—in the form of increased equipment, reserves, technical training and research, elimination of hired capital, and when possible, the reduction of prices.

The ownership of all plant and material is to be transferred to the properly constituted authority to be set up in connection with the coming National Guild of Builders—a great industrial combine for the public service.

The Guild gives a new form of guarantee for the performance of its contracts—a guarantee based on capacity to produce and backed up by a roll of

volunteers pledged to do the work.

The London Guild Committee is already in negotiation with half-a-dozen of the local authorities in the London area—including the County Council itself. All its trade union members have been elected and some of the approved groups are also represented. Volunteers from every grade, whether technical or operative, are enrolling daily. It is expected that the signature of its first contract may come at any moment, and this momentous experiment will then be really launched.

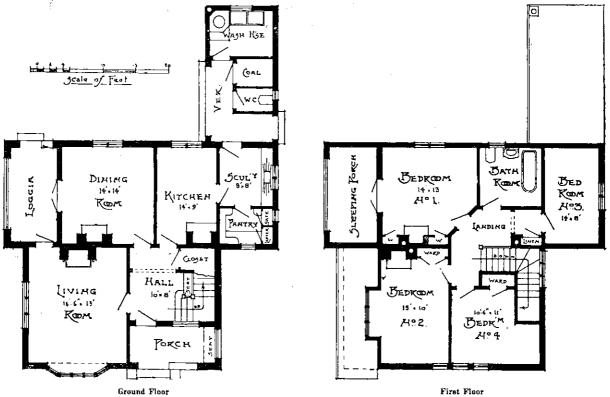
# Houses of Earth.

The following letter appeared in The New Zealand Herald last month:—

Sir,—Allow me to make known the method of building pise houses. Now that the price of building materials has reached such an alarming level, I think pise houses should, in country districts or even in the town, prove quite satisfactory. What is pise construction? It is the direct utilisation of suitable local material for house construction in such a form that manufacture as ordinarily understood is simplified, and unnecessary transport eliminated. There remain examples to-day of efficient cottage and farm buildings erected on this system. To prevent decay to this system of building, all that is necessary is proper foundations and roofs, which to-day can easily be provided.  $\Lambda$ suitable material would be almost any earth containing a fair amount of loam. Soil which cakes after a heavy rain, or which, ploughed or dug when

of a candy or clayey nature should be avoided. All roots and vegetation should be removed. The earth is best used as it is dug, and, if it is too dry, should be brought to the correct moist condition by watering it about two days before it is to be used. It should be just moist enough to be crumbly and yet adhesive enough to retain the impression of the fingers when pressed in the hands. If too moist, it will stick to the rammer and work up squashy; if, however, it is too dry it will work up loose. The earth should be spread in 4in. or 5in. layers between movable timber casings, and each layer should be well rammed with heavy wood or iron rammers. The top of any layer which has become dry should be slightly moistened before the next layer is commenced. A suitable thickness for the walls is 18 inches. The wood casings might be in 10ft, by 2ft. 6in. sections, formed of 11in. wood. Iron clips or small bolts could be provided for attaching one section to another, also distance pieces, and bolts running through the wall to prevent the casings spreading. The casings are raised as the work proceeds. It is very necessary that the walls should be protected from rain whilst they are being built. The following points also require attention:—(I) Some form of damp course must be provided. (2) The wall should be finished with two or three coats of whitewash or, even better, tar. The walls could be rough cast—the rough cast being well pushed into the hard pise walls with a flat board. (3) External angles might be protected by suitable wood fillets. (4) Door and window frames should be built in as the work proceeds. They could be secured to the walls by means of strong iron holdfasts about 15 or 18 inches long, having one end nailed to the frame and the other turned up and built in. Four holdfasts to each frame should suffice. (5) The roofs should have eaves projecting about 2ft. 6in., so as to help to protect the walls from rain. They should have wide wall plates secured to the wall with bolts or ties, wood rafters and collar ties. The inside walls can be plastered and papered if desired. Pessimists say that pise walls will soon be disintegrated. First they say the winter storms will beat against it and when it has become saturated with wet, a sharp frost will come and there will be something like an explosion at the surface, which will cause great pieces of the earth to break off. To guard against this use three coats of some patent damp-proof mixture which will waterproof the walls. The rooms of pise houses are warm in winter and cool in summer. No frost can penetrate through 18 inches of rammed earth. It is a mistake to allow stones to be mixed with the earth, as it tends to make the walls rather pitted in places. They do not weaken the wall materially, but it requires a rather extravagant use of tar. Any new method or old method revived has to face natural doubts as to amount of maintenance which will be involved by its adoption and people will be chary of adopting the pise form of construction until they are satisfied that it will stand as well as the old cob-which is another name for pise—of the Devonshire villages.





Designed by John T. Mair, A.R.I.B.A., Wellington.

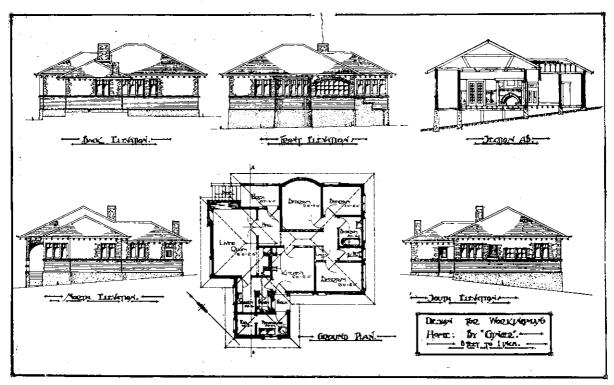
(Reproduced from "Commonsense Homes for New Zealanders.")

# Our 66th Competition.

We received nine designs in response to our 66th Competition for a Workman's Cottage, viz.:— "Simplex," by Ernest H. Hutton (Mr. Basil Hooper, A.R.I.B.A., of Dunedin); "Akonga," by Alex. F. M. Paterson (Mr. A. E. Lewis, of Timaru); "Kope," by Stuart Hedley (L. S. Piper, of Auckland); "Roma," by Roland C. Hall (Government Architect's Offices, Wellington); "Ginger," by L. E. Brookes (L. S. Piper, of Auckland); "Le Premier" and "Economy," by George Drummond (Mr. D. G. Mowatt, of Dunedin); "Bricky," by Edgar L. Miller (Mr. Helm, of Wanganui); "Hurried," by K. Hassall (Mr. W. Fielding, of Wellington).

ticular praise is given for the grouping of the bedrooms with the bathroom and w.c. "Ginger's" fault is that he has overdone his design. The bay window should have been omitted, and the many angles and corners of the outline of the house mean expense—more than the ordinary workman (old style!) could afford. The elliptical arch of the north elevation thrusts on to a pier of 9-inch brickwork.

"Simplex."—This design is good on plan, the only objections being that the living room is rather too far from the kitchen, and that two of the bedrooms do not get the morning sun. The gablet on the N.E. elevation has no excuse for its existence. The roof as shown by the N.E. and S.W. elevations is incorrect, the main gable evidently being in-



Winning Design "Ginger,' by L. E. Brookes (with Mr. L. S. Piper, of Auckland), in Our 66th Students' Competition.

The judge, Mr. Leslie D. Coombs, A.R.I.B.A., of Duncdin, reports as follows: -

"The nine designs received are not quite up to the standard of the work of the students of a few years ago, but nevertheless are very promising, and I anticipate that with the experience of but two or three of your competitions the present day students will produce work quite equal to, if not better than, their predecessors.

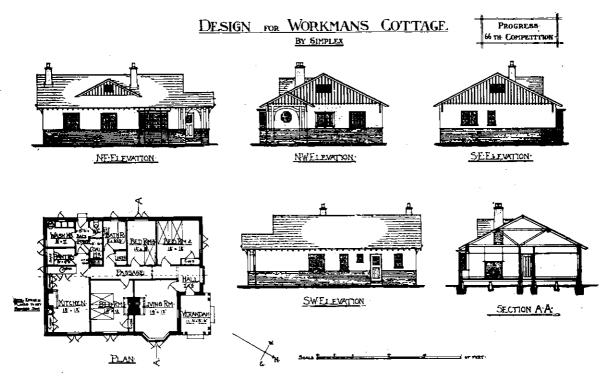
"I place the design of 'Ginger,' first, and mention those of 'Simplex' and 'Bricky' as being good. 'Kope' and 'Roma' are disqualified for colouring their designs."

"Ginger."—This is the most clever of the plans. The aspect of the rooms is very good, and their placing in relation to one another is excellent. Par-

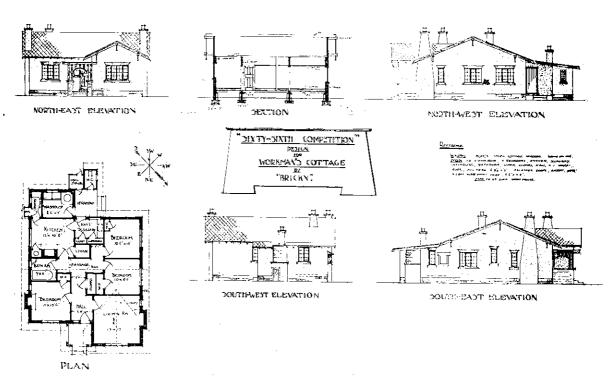
tended to extend over the whole of bedroom No. 2 and the hall.

"Bricky."—" Bricky" has a very fair plan, but the rooms are not situated so well as "Ginger's" and "Kope's." The elevations are smarter and more fashionable than most of the others submitted. The draughting is scratchy.

"Kope."—A splendid plan, which, being contained within a plain rectangle, indicates economy. The plain hipped roof is ideal for the purpose. Unfortunately "Kope" breaks the conditions of *Progress* competitions by colouring his drawings, and is therefore disqualified, for otherwise he would have been placed first. His colouring, by the way, is not good. I pride myself that I am able to see the blue in some shadows, but I have never yet seen a violet to ap-



Design "Simplex," by E. H. Hutton, with Mr. Basil Hooper, A.R.I.B.A., of Dunedin (Mention).



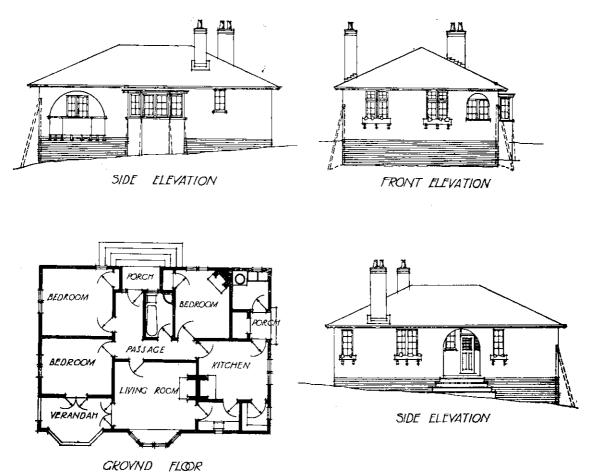
Design "Bricky," by E. L. Miller, with Mr. Helm, of Wanganui, (Mention).

proach "Kope's." Likewise I have heard of "green" concrete, but this is the first time I have seen it shown on a plan—and such a vivid green. Why such unnatural and inharmonious colouring? The buttresses at the angles of the cottage would have been better omitted from the elevations as they were from the plan.

"Roma."—In plan "Roma" has got nearer to a workman's cottage than any of the other designers. He, however, also disqualifies himself by colouring his drawings. It would be impossible to reproduce

sign. He is a good mechanical draughtsman, and has gone to much trouble with his drawings. The plan of "Economy" has not the extreme inconvenience of "Le Premier," but bedrooms No. 2 and 3 are rather far from the bathroom.

"Le Premier."—As an example of an inconvenient house, this plan would be hard to beat. For instance, if it were necessary to go from bedroom No. 2 to the bathroom one would have to pass through the kitchen, the living room, and sixteen feet of passage to get there. Another interesting



Tracing of "Kope's" Design. Stuart Hedley, with Mr. L. D. Piper, of Auckland. (See note at end of Assessor's Report).

such elevations in monotone with effect—a fact that is of great importance to the publishers of *Progress*, who did not make the following condition, "Unless otherwise stated, drawings are to be in black and white only," without a good reason.

"Akonga."—This design is inartistic, and the draughtsmanship is hard, although otherwise good. The living room, which faces S.E., would get no sun. The rooms are not placed badly in relation to one another.

"Economy."—Judging by the draughtsmanship and other likenesses the author of "Economy" and "Le Premier" is one and the same person. I would advise him in the future to concentrate on one detour would be a midnight journey from bedroom No. 3 to the w.c., which would entail a distance of nineeten feet of passage, across the living room, through the kitchen and through the scullery, and a final distance of about ten feet in the cold open air from the back door to the w.c. The only alternate route would be via the passage, living room, verandah, and seventy feet around the house. "Le Premier" marks his w.c. "lavt.," which is, according to the dictionary, "a place to wash in."

"Hurried."—"Hurried" has not submitted a much more elaborate house. The planning is not good, it being necessary to go through the hall from the kitchen to the 10 feet x 10 feet scullery, and the

DOMINION OF



NEW ZEALAND.

# Prospectus.

# Discharged Soldiers Settlement Loan.

Issue of £6,000,000  $5\frac{1}{2}$ -per-cent.

PRICE OF ISSUE: PAR. TERM OF LOAN: 12 YEARS.

# SUBSCRIPTIONS COMPULSORY.

THE attention of the public is specially drawn to the provisions of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Loans Act, 1920, under which persons can be compelled to contribute to the Loan an amount equal to the yearly average of the land-tax and income-tax paid or payable by them for the three years ended on the thirty-first day of March, nineteen hundred and twenty.

All moneys invested under the compulsory clauses of the Act will bear interest at the rate of three per cent. per annum only.

N.B.—It must be noted that the amount fixed by Act is the minimum subscription only. Every person is expected to invest to the full extent of his ability. Subscribers to previous Loans are not relieved from obligation to subscribe to this Loan.

# The Subscription-list will be closed on Thursday, 25th November, 1920.

The Loan is authorised to be raised under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Loans Act, 1920, and pursuant to the New Zealand Loans Act, 1908, and both capital and interest will be charged upon the consolidated revenue of the Dominion.

The Loan will be utilized for the purposes of settlement on the land of discharged soldiers in terms of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1915, and will take the form either of Inscribed Stock or Bearer-bonds, at the option of the subscriber, or Post Office Investment Certificates or other securities.

£2,500,000 of the Loan will be reserved for individual persons who desire to invest in Inscribed Stock which will be available for payment in New Zealand of death duties. Applications for this class of security must be specially marked. These securities will not be transferable, but may be exchanged at the Treasury for other available securities if so desired. Should applications be received in excess of £2,500,000, an allotment will be made by the Controller and Auditor-General, and any sums which cannot be accepted for Death Duty Stock may be invested in ordinary Stock or Bonds, at the option of the subscriber.

The issue is an investment authorised by the Trustee Act, 1908, and Trustees may invest therein.

Applications will not be accepted for less than £100, but investors may subscribe sums of £1 and upwards, for a period of five or ten years, at any Postal Money-order Office. (See page 600.)

The Bonds will be issued in denominations of £100, £500 and £1,000, or such higher denominations as may be arranged, and will be payable to bearer.

Stock will not be issued for any amount under £100, and any sum applied for in excess of £100 must be a multiple of £10.

The Loan will be repaid at par at the Treasury, Wellington, or at any branch of the Bank of New Zealand in the Dominion on 15th January, 1933.

The Minister of Finance may in special circumstances and by mutual arrangement accept investments for a shorter period than twelve years, bearing interest at a lower rate than five and a half per cent. per annum, and issue securities therefor.

Interest on Bonds and Stock will be paid half yearly, on 15th January, and 15th July, and is **not** free of income-tax.

The first interest will be paid on 15th July, 1921.

Interest on fully-paid allotments and on the first instalment of instalment allotments will accrue from date of lodgment for credit of the Public Account at the nearest branch of any Bank or of any Postal Money-order Office.

Interest on second, third, fourth, and fifth lodgments of instalment allotments will date from the respective dates of payment shown under heading "Lodgments."

Interest on Inscribed Stock will be paid by Dividend Warrant, which will be transmitted by post, or the amount will be credited to a banking account; at the option of the subscribers.

Interest on Bonds will be paid on production of Coupon, except the first payment which will be by Treasury cheque.

Both Warrants and Coupons will be payable, free of exchange, at the Treasury, Wellington, or at any Postal Money-order Office or branch of the Bank of New Zealand in the Dominion, or in London or Australia as may be arranged.

**CONVERSION.**—Holders of Bonds issued under this Loan will have the option of converting such Bonds into five and a half per cent. Inscribed Stock on any half-yearly due date of interest.

**LODGMENTS.**—Forms of application may be obtained and lodgments made at any Postal Money-order Office, or at any branch of any Bank, or at the Treasury, at Wellington.

Lodgments will be made as follows:---

Fully-paid Allotments—

On application

.... 100 per cent.

Instalment Allotments—

- 20 per cent. on application (first instalment);
- 20 per cent. (second instalment), Monday, 10th January, 1921;
- 20 per cent. (third instalment), Thursday, 17th February, 1921;
- 20 per cent. (fourth instalment), Monday, 21st March, 1921.
- 20 per cent. (fifth instalment), Thursday, 28th April, 1921.

Instalments may be prepaid.

In case of default in the payment of any instalment at its due date, instalments previously paid will be liable to forfeiture:

Provisional receipts will be issued for all payments, and in the case of investments in Bonds these receipts will be exchangeable for Bonds to Bearer as soon as the latter can be prepared.

In the case of Stock Investments, Inscription-certificates will be posted to investors when the amounts are fully paid up.

The Stock will be Inscribed in accordance with the New Zealand Inscribed Stock Act, 1917 (read in conjunction with the New Zealand Loans Act, 1908), and the inscription-books of the Loan will be kept at the Dominion Treasury, at Wellington, where all transfers of Stock will be made. Transfer-forms may be obtained at the Treasury.

The Banks have agreed to allow advances at a reasonable rate of interest to clients who desire to invest in the Loan but who have not the ready money to enable them to do so within the time prescribed.

Registered Sharebrokers will be allowed a commission of 5s. per £100 on allotments made in respect of applications for this issue bearing their stamp, and forwarded to the Treasury through any Bank or Postal Money-order Office under cover of memorandum signed by the sharebroker. No commission will be allowed in respect of applications on forms which have not been printed by the Government Printer, or on applications not forwarded as aforesaid, or on applications for Post-office Investment Certificates, or on applications made after the closing of the Loan.

# POST OFFICE INVESTMENT CERTIFICATES.

To enable persons of moderate means to subscribe to the Loan, applications will be received at any Postal Money-order Office for Post Office Investment Certificates.

Investment Certificates are repayable, with interest compounded, at the end of five or ten years.

Full particulars regarding the Post Office Investment Certificates are obtainable at any Postal Money-order Office.

# DEPRECIATION FUND.

Provision has been made for the establishment of a special fund not exceeding £50,000 per annum for the purpose of stabilizing the value of securities issued under the authority of the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1920, and providing, in addition to the Sinking Funds established under the Public Debt Extinction Act, a further means of reducing the debt.

APPLICATIONS will close on 25th NOVEMBER, 1920, but the Minister of Finance reserves the right to close at a prior date or to extend the period.

W. F. MASSEY,
Minister of Finance.

Treasury, Wellington, N.Z., 1st November, 1920. first floor landing is much too large and complicated in shape. With absorbent New Zealand bricks it is not good construction to make the footings of the wall of brickwork."

# LESLIE D. COOMBS.

NOTE.—In view of the assessor's remarks regarding "Kope's" design we have had it traced so that it might be reproduced. As will be noticed, we have omitted the angle buttresses to which the assessor takes exception, and we have also dispensed with the batter on the lower portion of living room bay.

The printing on the drawing submitted in this competition generally strikes us for the most part as being very bad, and with a view to correcting this we hope shortly to announce a competition in which the lettering will form an important feature.— Editor.

# The Timber Broker.

Some Sidelights in His Methods of Business.

# By H. HUGO.

What is a timber broker? We know that a timber merchant is a man who buys timber and sells it again, and that he is usually interested in or owns a sawmill,—in short his business is recognised as legitimate, and we all know of him. But what about the timber broker? Does he buy timber and sell it again? Do we all know him as a regular business trader in timber? Let me relate how I, as a comparatively young business man came to know about the timber broking business.

I was sitting in my office one day, when a telegraph messenger arrived. "Is this telegram for you, sir?" said he. I took the telegram and read the address:—

# W. Brown, Timber Broker, Customs Street,

### Auckland.

"I suppose it is," I replied. "It has my initials and though I don't know what is meant by a timber broker, I expect somebody has been careless and intended it for timber merchant. However, I'll open it and see." So I opened it and read:—— "Please supply 510,000 feet of rimu." It was signed by H. Jacobs, timber broker, Palmerston North. "Yes," I said, "this must be for me." But who was H. Jacobs, and why does he telegraph to me in Auckland for timber when there are so many nearer mills? We don't know each other in business, but he must be in a big way to order such a quantity of timber.

I therefore, went out to seek information as to who H. Jacobs might be, supposing him to be another timber merchant who had got some big order he could not execute, and was unable to obtain his timber at a nearer centre.

On my return, to my surprise, another telegram—this time from Wanganui—had been delivered to me for 240,000ft of matai, but bearing a different signature. This time it was C. Scott. Strange, thought I, that two orders of such a size should be delivered to me in one day, and from different towns too. I did not know of C. Scott in business either, and had failed to find out anything about H. Jacobs as a timber merchant or sawmaller in Palmerston North. So I went out again, wondering whether I was dreaming, to seek information regarding C. Scott of Wanganui.

On my way I met an old friend of my father in my own line of business, who was very fond of racing-horse racing in particular. He was a good friend of mine too, and as we had carried out frequent deals together, I knew I could trust him. I told him of the two telegrams I had received. He looked at them carefully, and with surprise said: "and you don't know either of the senders of the telegrams? I told him I did not. "Do you expect any more of them?" said he. "What do you mean?" I rejoined. "How long have you been a timber broker," said he, laughing. "You know perfectly well, I have been in the timber business as a merchant for over three years," I answered. "But that is not timber broking," said he, with a chuckle. I was getting quite annoyed at him. He seemed to be enjoying some joke, quietly, at my expense; so I said, "Sam, you have been my good friend for over 10 years, will you please explain what you are driving at?" He said with a smile, "You will receive a lot more orders before the day is out, but I can't explain now, I'm off to the races. Call and see me tonight, and bring with you the other orders you will receive before 3.0 p.m. You won't get any after that hour." With that he turned on his heel, and made for a passing tram bound for the course. More orders I am to receive! What on earth does the man mean? Is he playing some joke on me?

After lunch I returned to my office, and sure enough there were 14 further orders for varying quantities and kinds of timber. One order was for as much as 650,000 feet of kauri. Think of it, 650,000 feet of kauri. Why, there isn't that much Kauri in N.Z. at the present time. Surely the Telegraph Department had gone mad. But no, these telegrams were paid for, and had come from different towns. There is something very curious about this. People don't pay for the upkeep of the Telegraph Department for amusement.

After dinner that evening at about 7.30 p.m. I called on my friend, who greeted me with his annoying smile, which apparently, hadn't left him since I saw him earlier in the day. "Well, did you get the other telegrams? Have you made your fortune out of your telegraphed orders?" I managed to stifle my anxiety to hear what he had to tell me long enough to ask him how he had fared at the races. He answered, "only so-so. Come in and show me your orders." I gave him the bundle of telegrams, which he began carefully to scrutinize. "Let me see," said he, sorting out the wires into

separate heaps, "You have here orders for 910,000 feet of mata; 750,000 kauri; 840,000 feet of white pine. Now, supposing the senders are alright, can you execute the orders? They are evidently urgent or they wouldn't be telegraphed for," said he, whimsically.

The cool way he treated the matter made me wonder whether he really thought they were genuine. If they were, what fortune was mine! I began to think what Williams would say about that little mortgage of mine that he threatened to foreclose on, when I showed him orders for such quantities of timber. My friend, however, cut my reflections short with a curt, "Well, can you?" I said, "No, I could not. There is not that much timber in Auckland." "Quite so," said my friend. "Then what do you propose to do?"

I was getting angry. I had come round at his special invitation to hear his explanation of the numerous telegrams, and all the satisfaction I could get was a most unhappy feeling that my friend was having a game with me. So I told him plainly, that if he had nothing better to do, and so little consideration for my feelings, I should seek a solu-With that, he burst into loud tion elsewhere. laughter. "Listen to me," said he with great vehemence, when he saw my angry flush, "What laughter. are you doing with telegrams that don't belong to you?" I said they were mine, and had my name clearly on them. His reply was, "Yes, they have the name 'Brown,' and your initials, but are you a timber broker?" I replied that I assumed the word 'broker' was written in error, and that it was intended for merchant." "Nothing of the kind" said he. "They belong to Billy Samuels, the bookie." "Billy Samuels," said I, "the bookmaker! But he is not a timber merchant?" "No, but he is a timber broker on race days, and those telegrams were for him.' "But what!" "Never mind what you are going to say," broke in my friend. "I know Billy well. I had some bets with him to-day." During the luncheon spell he was much puzzled that he hadn't heard from his pals in Palmerston North, Wanganui and Wellington. He mentioned the names of Jacobs of Palmerston North, and Scott of Wanganui, and said it was most extraordinary that no bets had come from them. "I believe," said my friend, quizzing me curiously, "that you had several orders from these gentlemen, didn't you?" "Yes," I said, "one wanted 510,000 feet of rimu and the other 240,000 feet of matai. "Well now," said he, "both those gentlemen are timber brokers and usually do a thriving business with Billy Samuels on race days. Their names are not published on signboards above their places of business, but they do a very substantial trade nevertheless, in a back room in a tobacconist's shop."

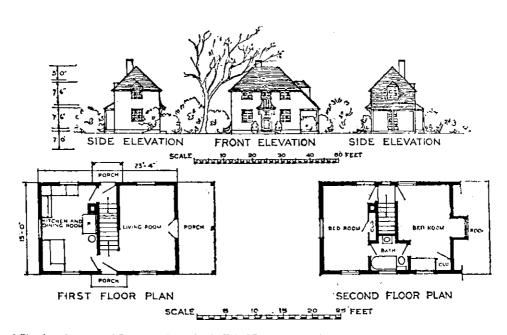
"But I do not yet see the connection," said I. "Well," said he, "suppose the sending of telegrams containing bets or racing tips were illegal. Do you suppose the clever bookies haven't sufficient brains to hoodwink a few telegraph clerks? Let me tell you a little code these gentlemen use on race days. Suppose there were six events at the races to-day. To

demonstrate my point we will suppose that you and I are bookmakers, you living in Palmerston North and I in Auckland. You want to send me £5 in bets to put in the horse standing first on the race card for the third race; £2 on the fourth horse in the first race, and £100 on the fourth horse in the fifth race. Now, how would you manage this if telegraphing bets were illegal? I'll tell you. We take the race card, and call the first race, for the sake of argument, "rimu." The second race we agree to call "matai." The third race "kauri," etc., etc. "But still I don't see——" "Wait a minute," said my friend, "you will see it all in a moment." Now we further agree that we send our wires as nearly like genuine telegrams as possible to avoid suspicion. If I want to send you £5, I make the first figure of the telegram a "5." If I want you to put it on the first horse I make my next figure a "I,' it the second horse it would be a "2," and so on. And as we have already arranged that the different races shall be named after some tree in common use for timber, we can now translate the telegram from Mr. H. Jacobs. His wire read, I believe, "send 510,000 feet of rimu." The first figure represents the amount of money, viz.: £5. second figure the horse, viz.: the "first" horse in this case (the remaining o's being mere ciphers to make the telegram look genuine), and the name of the timber "rimu" represents the race. So you see H. Jacobs wanted Billy Samuels to put £5 on the first horse ("Speedwell," according to my card) that ran in the first race to-day, and you have stopped Billy Samuels from doing so. I can imagine that H. Jacobs will have some explaining to do the men he took the money from, and it may cost him a considerable amount to keep his credit good, as, of course, he must pay out on the winning tickets to save his reputation. Incidentally you have learnt something about a business you had previously no knowledge of.

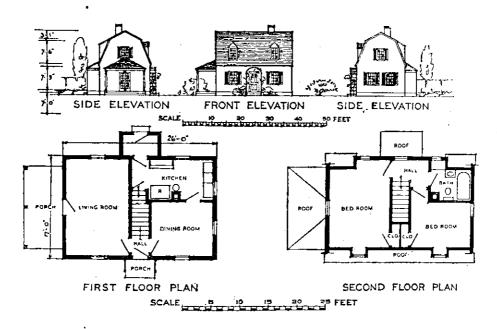
# New Hollow Concrete Brick Introduced in England.

A new building unit that has recently been introduced in England, says "Commerce Reports," is nearly five times as large as an ordinary brick, but in comparison is much less heavy and is easily handled. The lighter weight results from the hollowing out of the brick to provide air layers. By the shaping of the ends the existence of joints running all the way through a wall is avoided. The brick is, as a rule, made of I part cement and 4 parts sand by simple hand machinery. Three men can make enough bricks in a day to build 400 to 500 sq. ft. of wall. A further economy is effected by the manner of laying the walls, inasmuch as the ends and bottoms of the bricks need only to be dipped in a thin lime mortar mixed with a small amount of cement. If laid in the usual way the air channels in the brick would become filled. It may be added that slag, clinkers, sand, and trick dust, mixed with cement, form suitable materials for these bricks.

# Economical Designs Drawn for the United States Government.



A Plan for a four-roomed Bungalow, drawn for the United States Housing Corporation, and reproduced from the Report on Housing published by the Corporation.



A Plan for a five-roomed American Bungalow.

# Sawmilling Section.

[This Section is published by arrangement with the Dominion Federated Sawmillers' Association (Incorp.) in the interests of the Sawmilling Industry of N.Z.]

Editor: W. T. IRVINE.

The increase of the butter subsidy in order to allow the public to purchase at 2s. 3d. per lb. retail, although the export value of this commodity has now risen to 2s. 10d. per lb., is doubtless a sop to the worker in the face of the threats made by the transport unions to hold its shipment up. That the compensation to be paid suppliers out of the Consolidated Fund will probably reach £600,000 will not come as a surprise-but the principle involved in its payment is surely economically unsound, and if made applicable to the dairy industry why should it stop there? We have repeatedly contrasted this position with that of the sawmiller, who is restricted in price locally and limited as to the quantity of timber he may export, even if the overseas market gives him a better return than the local price. It is difficult to understand the anomaly of the position into which we have drifted unless on the grounds of the various war regulations and enactments that were deemed to be necessary during the war period. It may be said that many articles of commerce are regulated still as to selling price—such as coal, flour, benzine, cement, etc., whilst the Industries and Commerce Act gives the Board of Trade extensive powers to inquire into any article it may deem to be sold at an unreasonable profit. The public cry that export of building timber was the cause of the local shortage has been effectually silenced by the publication of the Board of Trade returns for the past year, which show that only some 5 per cent. of the production of building timber was exported to sawmillers, who have loyally endeavoured to meet the demand for domestic requirements in the face of great difficulties. Sawmillers do not look for a subsidy to compensate them for the difference between export and local prices, but they consider it only reasonable and just that in fixing local prices regard should be paid to the ruling prices for export. They are in a hopeless minority in the House of Representatives as compared with the farmer, but it is surely unfair to compel them to contribute by heavy taxation towards the payment of this £600,000 and at the same time hedge them round with limitations and restrictions regarding the sale of their own product—timber—and so compel them to become philanthropists for the benefit of the community. What is sauce for the goose is not sauce for the gander in the case of the sawmiller.

**\*** \* \*

At the annual general meeting of the New Zealand Employers' Federation several remits of considerable importance came up for discussion, amongst which was the question of preference to unionists. As originally intended, the unions, comprising the workers in any industry, were formed for the pro-

tection of those engaged in the industry, to ensure them a living wage, and proper working conditions, but of late they have drifted into political organisations, and, as is well known, agitators have encouraged the breaking of agreements made with cmployers, and in many cases "direct action" is advo-Many employers are therefore now of opinion if such tactics are not to be permitted to grow in strength, legislation should be introduced to declare "preference to unionists" illegal, and in this connection it was believed the repeal of the Labour Disputes Investigation Act should be brought about, and the upholding of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act firmly maintained. A further remit of importance was "That the Government be urged to introduce a national superannuation scheme and to consider the practicability of including insurance against sickness and accident in such scheme," which was unanimously approved by the meeting.

The shortage of trucks has been again very acute along the Main Trunk line, and this condition will probably be accentuated with the approach of the wool season, causing friction and loss to the saw-miller. The matter has been brought so often under the notice of the Minister for Railways and the General Manager that we fear little can be done to relieve the position until the new trucks under construction and being imported are brought into commission.

We regret to learn of the accident at Messrs. Ellis and Burnand's mill, Manunui, which was however fortunately without loss of life. It appears a large fly wheel flew in pieces and wrecked the engine plant, which will be difficult to replace. This is all the more embarrassing in the height of the season, when a full output of pine for butter boxes is required, and although such losses are, of course, a debit against current revenue, they suggest an additional unknown item that might properly be considered part of the cost of production, just as the risk of fire occurring in standing timber may also be accounted a legitimate charge.

\* \* \*

We learn the Government has chartered three ceastal vessels to bring timber from the West Coast and North Auckland to Miramar for the housing scheme. The shortage of shipping has been the principal drawback in connection with supplies reaching the Wellington market, but this move should help the position materially.

Quotations for Oregon seem to have dropped considerably for shipments c.i.f.e. New Zealand and Australia, but whether the move is simply a temporary one or not remains to be seen. Available information goes to show that the demand throughout the States and Canada is not satisfied, and that within the next three years a large number of mills will have cut out and closed down.

# Taupo Totara Railway.

State Purchase Wanted.

The Putaruru District Development Board asked Mr. Hockley, M.P. recently, to arrange a date for a deputation from the Putaruru and Taupo districts to present a petition to the Prime Miniser asking the Government to acquire the Taupo Totara Timber Company's railway to Mokai, and extend it to Taupo.

Representatives of local bodies besides the owners of blocks of land in the territory concerned have intimated their desire to join the deputation.

# Forestry and Farming.

Important Development

Forestry and farming are so near akin that the two should always be associated and the proposal to establish a school of forestry in connection with one of the university colleges should go hand in hand with the establishment of an agricultural college. To combine the two as a college of agriculture and forestry would have many advantages, and it is sincerely to be hoped that the organisers of the campaign now opening in Auckland for the establishment of an agricultural college will widen the scope of their enterprise to include a school of Professor A. P. W. Thomas recently stated that the New Zealand University Senate had agriculture and forestry, but these subjects are too great and important to be served by a few lecturers attached to a university college; they are worthy of having schools crected entirely for their service. We pointed out in a previous issue that we were certain that if an organised appeal were made to the people of the Auckland province for funds to establish an agricultural college, sufficient money would soon be forthcoming. Sir John Logan Campbell left a considerable sum of money to accumulate for the purposes of agricultural education. Government would assuredly subsidise this and any other moneys subscribed by the general public, and it is certain that there are in the Northern province many patriotic individuals and great business institutions that would devote land and money for such a splendid cause. We have already suggested that an agricultural college should have its school of dairying and that the representatives of the greatest industry in the province should endow chairs and

scholarships and research laboratories, not only in the interests of education, but for their own pecuniary benefit. The same should apply to other branches of agriculture, and to other agricultural industries, and should equally apply to forestry. It must be impressed upon the people and the Government of this country that we have reached a critical stage in the history of our timber resources. We have wasted and destroyed the greater part of our native forests; we have come within measurable distance of the end of our timber supplies, but, fortunately for us, it is by no means too late to make up in some degree for our reckless extravagance in the past, but this can only be done by careful organisation and by the expenditure of vast sums of

It has taken us fifty years to wantonly ravage

our inherited forests; it will take us another fifty years to provide an adequate supply of useful trees. New Zealand was exceedingly lucky in finding, just when he was needed, a man like Sir David Hutchins to rouse us to the need of action by his remarkable reports and to point out the road to reform and reconstruction. This country was fortunate, too, in securing the services of Captain Ellis to take up the actual work of forestry and afforestation. Both men are enthusiasts in their profession; both men have what so many enthusiasts need—practical and scientific knowledge. Apparently there are two great fields of enterprise in developing our natural timber resources—the saving, improvement and extension of our existing forests, and the planting of exotic and native trees. Undoubtedly, the former is the most important. In most of our forest country, even where the native trees have been cut out, there are crops to supplement our grasses. It seems highly probable that in the past we have cut down and destroyed too much of our hill-top forests, and had we possessed thirty or forty years ago the knowledge that we possess now, we should have conserved much of these forests, which would be at the present time most valuable national assets. There can be no doubt that certain classes of land will yield much greater returns under trees than under any other class of farming, and this fact will have to be carefully considered when opening up such districts as the Urewera to settlement. It must also be considered when developing the great area of pumice soils in the centre of the North Island. There is no doubt that the greater portion of the arable pumice country can be made to yield more to the State under moderately intensive farming than under timber trees, but it is probable that nearly all the broken pumice country and a fair amount of naturally coarse or shingly soil could be more profitably utilised for tree growing. If, however, the programme of work suggested by the present Forestry Department is carried out by the Government, our farmers will have no occasion to fear the encroachment of plantations on the essential arable country and the general public can rest on the assurance that the new industry of tree-farming will be an immense success. "-"Auckland Weekly."

# Dairy Farmers and Sawmillers.

The increase in the price of butter for the new season's output provoked a long discussion at a meeting of the Thorndon branch of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, held recently, and eventually the following motion was carried unanimously:—

"That, in view of increases in the prices of butter and other necessaries of life, this branch of the A.S.R.S. press for an immediate increase in wages of 2s. per day. We wish to point out that such an increase will not necessitate any further rise in railway rates and fares, as the recent increases and improved conditions involved a sum of £750,000 per annum, whereas it was officially stated that the rise in rates and fares lately given effect to would, it was estimated, produce an additional £1,200,000 per annum of rilway revenue."

During the discussion, one speaker urged that the dairy producers were inconsistent in their attitude regarding the fixing of prices of butter and cheese for local consumption. He stated that about two years ago dairy farmers brought pressure to bear on the Government, and succeeded in materially restricting the export of white pine timber, only a limited quantity of which was now allowed to leave the Dominion. Not only that, but at the request of the butter and cheese producers, a maximum price had been fixed on white pine timber sold in the Dominion, so that sawmillers had to accept a much lower price locally than they received for the limited quantity of white pine they were allowed to export. And these butter and cheese producers, he added, raise a howl of indignation when it is proposed that conditions should be imposed on them similar to those which they were the means of imposing on the sawmillers of the Dominion. He maintained that "What was sauce for the goose should be sauce for the gander."

# Taupo Timber.

# Forest Lands and Settlement.

The Commission which sat in Wellington recently to hear evidence in connection with a proposal that the tramway of the Taupo Totara Timber Company should be acquired by the Crown, examined three witnesses, and then adjourned further proceedings until a later date, when the chairman of directors of the company, Mr. F. G. Dalziell, will continue his evidence. The members of the Commission are Messrs. H. J. H. Blow (chairman), F. W. Furkert, H. Buxton, and G. H. M. McClure. Sir John Findlay appeared for the company.

Captain L. M. Ellis, Director of State Forestry, in the course of examination, said that he had not visited the lands of the company, and knew nothing about the forests there. There were about 25,000

acres of State forests in the district with which the Commission was concerned, and this area would be increased later. The timber from it would come over the company's railway. Some of this timber was available now, and by 1923 the quantity would be very considerable.

Mr. F. G. Dalziell outlined the history of the company and its operations. In 1917, he stated, the position of the company had been gone into, and it had been decided that it would not be possible to continue offering transport facilities to the settlers unless more rolling stock was secured. This could not be added to their undertakings without assistance from the Government. The settlers had met and had passed a resolution requesting the Government to appoint a Commission such as the one now set up, with a view to making recommendations to the Government in regard to a developmental policy for the whole of the Taupo basin. The position was, said Mr. Dalziell, so far as the company was concerned, that they were not so keen now to pursue their policy of extending the railway to Taupo; they were not now looking to the development of the land for greater revenue, the timber off their land was giving them good returns. If, however, the Government desired it, they would complete the railway.

Mr. R. W. Holmes, late Engineer-in-Chief of the Public Works Department, also gave evidence. Some time ago, he said, he had prepared a rough estimate of the cost of improving the tramway, or railway, to the standard of the Government lines. He had set the figure down as £40,000, but the cost to-day would be double that amount. He explained the improvements that would be necessary before the State could take over the line. The cuttings would require to be widened, and the banks upon which the line was laid would also have to be widened. Mr. Holmes also gave a considerable amount of evidence of a technical nature.

The Commission will visit the locality, and make a comprehensive survey of the whole district before submitting their recommendations.

# Continuous Forest Production.

In the Forest Club Annual of the University of Washington, Associate-Professor of Forestry Burt P. Kirkland writes:—

"There is a grossly mistaken idea that forestry is a matter to be considered after the forests are cut. To do so is to lock the stable door after the horse is stolen. Practical forestry always starts while you have the forest, as the cost is then insignificant and such as there is is discharged by the continued sale of the mature timber.

"Another mistaken idea is that a supply of timber sufficient to last for several years makes worry unnecessary about prices. As a matter of fact, prices rise as soon as the holders of the supply are able to control the price situation. We have arrived at that stage in the lumber industry. We are paying from 10 dollars to 20 dollars more per M. to-day for lumber here because the exhaustion of eastern forests has thrown an unprecedented demand upon our lumber industry. In the past our fruit and other industries have, on account of our abundant forest supplies, been able to secure package material at such favourable prices as compared with the east as to go far toward paying the freight differential. This advantage will disappear long before our forests if we continue our present heedless policy, if, indeed, it has not disappeared already. I know of no graver handicap to the industries of the State than a restriction of forest supplies. As such restriction can easily be avoided by intelligent action now, seemingly it should be possible to enlist the support of the influential persons in all industries toward a constructive programme.

"In my judgment there is nothing more important that your organisations can do or the immediate and permanent good of every industry in this State than two things:—

- (1) See that the forests on non-agricultural lands in your section are put on a continuous yield basis as soon as possible. This means immediate action in order that while the remaining old timber is being cut, the large areas of immature timber already existing may be protected and brought to maturity to furnish a cut succeeding the present cutting. Following all cutting, except on agricultural land, new stands must be established and protected as a final step to insure continuous supplies of this essential raw material needed by every industry in the State, and in keen demand for domestic and foreign trade outside the State.
- (2) With your permanent supply of raw material assured, you can proceed confidently to the securing of industries which make higher grade utilisation of forest material than we yet have, industries with plants too expensive to be established except where the raw material supply is permanent, but which when established employ more labour and capital to work up a given amount of forest raw material and turn out a more valuable product, bringing far larger returns to your communities. I refer to such industries as pulp and paper, ethyl alcohol, wood distillation, artificial silk, etc., as well as industries using wood in its original form in woodenware, furniture, brushes, toys, etc. Most of your communities also need permanent plants manuacturing fruit and other packages needed, as shipping containers, for products of your industries. You, of course, also need to retain the local sawmill to furnish materials for building and other structural purposes. Outside this need the sawmill which destroys so much raw material for so little value in product can scarcely be considered an asset, unless used as an adjunct to other industries.

"I am not advocating continuous forest production as a sentimental proposition, or as a preservative of our scenery, although as a result of it all

our rural land will be utilised either in farm or forest instead of a large part in unsightly waste, as now. This will maintain the entire region at its maximum possibilities of rural beauty, and no part of the country can equal us in this respect. My appeal, however, is purely and simply on a hardheaded business basis. Look over the industries in your community and see which does not use wood in large quantities, and you will see the importance of maintaining a full supply of this raw material.

"We have for some time had in mind presenting this matter to commercial and other organisations throughout the State. Should any of you so desire, we shall be glad to send a representative of our department to meet any of your organisations in your home communities to discuss this matter in more detail.

Continuous forest production, of course, is, or should be, the aim of all forestry practice, but it is surprising how little this fact is appreciated, not only by the public, but unfortunately also by many of the officers engaged in forestry work. It is not long since in Australia—and it still holds, in fact, in the minds of many—that it was considered the main duty of the Forester, as regards sylvicultural practice, to go into the forest after the licensees and timber exploiters had done their work as it best suited them. The forest officer then proceeded to "clean up," to establish reproduction and to close the area indefinitely while the next crop is growing, the forest in the meantime being neither a source of revenue nor a support of industry, but a burden on the exchequer which can ill be afforded. This is not forestry, which, if it is to be effective and to result in the chief aim, namely, continuous forest production, must commence before the forest has the axe put into it and must continue thereafter.

The chief difficulties with the users of the forest in Australia have arisen through lack of appreciation of this fundamental principle of forest management, for its application means, of course, that the forester must control the work in the forest. In countries more advanced in forestry practice, the control of the forester is accepted without question, but in Australia the lesson has unfortunately still to be learned.

# Sodium Fluoride as Preservative.

Zinc chloride and creosote are often used for preserving wood, but it has been found that sodium fluoride will do as well. The Forest Products Laboratory in U.S.A. thought that laboratory tests d'd not sufficiently prove this, and so in 1914 sappine ties were treated by the three preservatives and placed side by side. After five years they were examined. Those treated with creosote were in the best condition and those treated with zinc chloride and sodium fluoride showed but little decay.

"Prosperity in peace, and safety in war require a generous and unfailing supply of forest products."

# Our 68th Competition.

We offer a prize of £1 is, for the best

MEASURED DRAWING

of an Architectural feature to the outside of a building, such as an Entrance Doorway, a Porchway an Oriel Bay, etc.

Drawings required: (1) Photograph shewing feature and sufficient of building to which feature belongs. (2) Pencil freehand sketch of feature also the sketches of plans and sections made on the site shewing measurements thereon. (3) Office drawn details in pencil from freehand sketches of plan, section, and elevation. (4) Some full sized details of mouldings, etc.

Marks will be given for excellence of subject chosen, draughtsmanship and general quality of work submitted. Drawings may be shaded in pencil or finished in wash.

Mr. H Mandeno, of Dunedin, has kindly set this subject

Designs must be sent in finished as above under a nom-de-plume, addressed to the Editor "N.Z. Building Progress," 22, Wingfield Street, Wellington, and clearly marked "Sixty-eighth" Competition on outside, with a covering letter giving competitor's name, and address of employer. Designs must be sent in by November 27th.

# Our 69th Competition

We offer a prize of £1 1s. for the best design for a GOLF CLUB HOUSE

for a nine-hole course in a country district. Membership 100—75 men and 25 women. Club house about 75 feet from main road, which runs at right angles to front of building. First tee, 200 feet from road on an axial line running through centre of building from road. This axial line is due north and south—first tee pointing to north.

Accommodation.—Entrance hall, small office for secretary, two lounge rooms (one for men and one for women), common dining room, kitchen, scullery, necessary larder accommodation, etc., and lavatories for staff. Changing rooms, with lockers for men and women, with lavatories. Large loggia. Heating by open fires. To be planned on one or two floors, as desired.

Materials.—Any materials other than wood.

Cost.—Reasonable economy to be aimed at.

Drawings.- One-eighth inch scale in ink. Plan or plans: four elevations and one section. Block plan to small scale showing area from road to first tee by about 200 feet wide, laid out in some simple orderly manner.

Design.—English domestic. Competitors who display character and good taste in design will gain ascendency.

Mr. S. Fearn, of Wellington, has kindly set this subject. Designs must be sent in finished as above under a nom-de-plume, addressed to the Editor "N.Z. Building Progress," 22, Wingfield Street, Wellington, and clearly marked "Sixty-ninth" Competition on outside, with a covering letter giving competitor's name, and address of employer. Designs must be sent in by December 27th.

# Our 70th Competition.

We offer a prize of  $\mathfrak{L}\tau$  is, for the design adjudged the best for a

### CHURCH

in accordance with the following conditions:-

A small religious body gathered in one of the cities of New Zealand desired to erect a church. The adherents of the sect are men and women of culture who have given up the Christian faith in its orthodox expression, but who have retained a belief in the Supreme Being, the object of their worship, and, in varying measure and with differing interpretations, in some of the Christian doctrines. They also have been much influenced by the religious faith of the East. Their service requires no ritual, and therefore the plan need not make any provision for this, but the committee particularly emphasises that the members desire something more than a meeting hall, unfortunately so common with many Noncomformist sects. The committee realises the great service which Architecture can perform in arousing the religious emotions, and feels that a church building which fails in this respect has failed completely in its purpose. Further, it is felt by the members that their faith is a natural evolution of orthodox Christianity, and that therefore the building should properly take the form of some adaptation of one of the forms traditionally associated with the Christian religion. At the same time they would like it to express in some way the Eastern influence upon their cult.

The building is required to seat in comfort 120 worshippers and a small choir. It is small, but is to be complete in all essentials, such as porch, accommodation for coats, disrobing rooms for the minister and choir.

The site is a corner one, with ample room for the building, which will be seen from all sides. There is no stone in the district, but excellent bricks of good texture are available; also good metal for concrete can be obtained. There is sufficient money available for a limited amount of stone to be used if so desired by the architect, but first consideration will be given in deciding the competition to those designs which make the most use of available material. Money is available to enrich some portion of the interior. The district is subject to earthquake shock.

Drawings required: (1) Plan. (2) Section. (3) Perspective, or, in place of (3) if competitor prefers, elevation of main front and part elevation of another. Drawings must be in Indian ink, shaded, but not coloured.

Mr. C. Reginald Ford, F.N.Z.I.A., M.S.A., of Wanganui, has kindly set this subject and will adjudicate.

Designs must be sent in finished as above under a nom-de-plume, addressed to the Editor "N.Z. Building Progress," 22, Wingfield Street, Wellington, and clearly marked "Seventieth" Competition on outside, with a covering letter giving competitor's name, and address of employer. Designs must be sent in by January 27th.

# Valuable Timber Rights.

Proposal that Crown Should Purchase.

A petition requesting that a Parliamentary Committee should inquire into the feasibility of the purchase by the Crown of 1600 million feet of timber, the rights for which are held by the Tongariro Timber Company, Ltd., was recently presented to the House by Mr. F. F. Hockly (Rotorua).

The petitioners were W. T. Williams, of Hawkes Bay, and three others, who stated that they were shareholders in the company named above. The company was formed in 1907 to acquire from Mr. Tudor Atkinson, of Wellington, a native timber lease or agreement secured by him in 1906. A capital of £25,000 had been fully subscribed. The lease was estimated to comprise what was probably the most valuable block of timber now remaining in the Dominion. The company had paid none of the royalties due to the Native owners for a period of six years, and was in default to the extent of £27,000. It was also in default in respect to the

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construction of forty miles of railway from Kakahi on the Main Trunk to Lake Taupo. This line was to have been completed by March 1st, 1914. The period had been extended to March 1st, 1916, since when there had been continuous default. In order to escape a prohibitive royalty to be imposed in about 40 years' time the company must cut out about 40,000,000 feet of timber per annum, which was regarded by the petitioners as a wasteful quantity, from the point of view both of the lessees and of the nation.

The control of the company's affairs by the governing and sole director, Mr. Atkinson, was unsatisfactory, petitioners further alleged. Mr. Atkinson had found it impossible to raise the money to construct the railway, and had declined to negotiate with the Forestry Department, which was anxious to acquire the timber concessions on reasonable terms. For all the above reasons, petitioners asked for an investigation.

The petition was referred to the Lands Committee.

# N.Z.I. Architects Annual Meeting at Auckland

The annual meeting of the Auckland branch of the New Zealand Institute of Architects was held early this month. The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. B. C. Chilwell; vice-president, Mr. H. C. Grierson; council (nominations, Messrs. V. A. Vautier, H. C. Savage, W. H. Gummer; committee (branch), Messrs. C. Trevethick, W. H. Gummer, H. Wallnutt, H. C. Savage; vigilance committee, Messrs. D. B. Patterson, A. J. Palmer, C. Trevethick; auclitors. Messrs. W. A. Cumming and C. Trevethick; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. K. W. Aimer.

# Building Notes.

### AUCKLAND.

A number of plans for the new University College at Auckland have been received by the Education Department, Wellington, from the College Council. Dr. Anderson, Director of Education, went to Auckland last month. His recommendations are now at the disposal of the Department. Some of the plans are on an elaborate scale, says the local paper.

Two instances of communities being prepared to help themselves in respect to education facilities were reported at a recent meeting of the Auckland Education Board. The people of Matamata, it was stated, had guaranteed to find £1,000 toward the cost of purchasing 15 acres of land as a site for a technical high school. The total sum being £3,720. On these terms the purchase was approved. The other case was that of the Whangarei High School Board which has purchased a site of the other.

Board, which has purchased a site of 40 acres.
Twelve houses are being crected at Ellerslie under the Government housing scheme, and arrangements have been made for the building of a further 100 houses in Auckland. Negotiations are now in progress for the purchase of suitable land, and as soon as this has been settled the buildings will be put in hand.

An important sale of city property has just been completed, involving a change of ownership of the Brunswick Buildings, Queen Street. The purchase price was £97,000, the purchasers being J. Wiseman and Sons, Ltd. The

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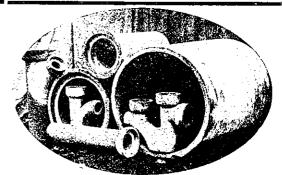
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building, which is at present occupied by Messsts. Hardie Brothers, ironmongers, was completed in 1914, and has a frontage to Queen Street of 42ft. 10in. The property runs back to High Street. The shop on the ground floor has one of the largest unsupported spans in the Dominion, there being no pillars from wall to wall. The building comprises six floors and a basement, and contains 40 to 50 offices. Messrs. Wiseman and Sons, who at present occupy a shop almost opposite the Brunswick Buildings, expect to be transferred to their new premises in a few weeks' time. The sale was negotiated by Mr. Neville Newcomb and Samuel Vaile and Sons, Ltd.

### CHRISTCHURCH.

Reference to the War Memorial to be erected to the boys of Christ's College who participated in the late war was made at the annual meeting of the Old Boys' Association by Mr. G. A. U. Tapper. He stated that the amount originally aimed at was £10,000, but at a later date the executive found that, owing to the increased cost of building, the amount would be insufficient to erect a memorial worthy of the school and of all those who had fallen in the war. After a consultation with the architect, it was found that £15,000 would be necessary. The amount promised to date was £15,672, of which £14,577 had been collected. Government restrictions, coupled with the scarcity of building material, had delayed matters, but the architect considered that a start might be made during the next six months. Through the countries of the headmaster of Harrow School, the committee had been supplied with the design of the chairs used in the speechroom at the school. At Harrow each past or present boy was allowed to present one chair bearing his name and date, and it was proposed to place similar chairs in the Memorial Hall of the College.

Mr. P. T. Graham, the Chief Housing Architect in the Department of Labour, writing to the Waimairi County Council regarding the "lav-out" plan for a housing scheme at Papanui, stated that he could not understand the Council's criticisms, as published in "The Press." It

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seemed that the wrong scale had been taken, and the plan on the whole had not been understood. It must be admitted, added the writer, that the following points were correct: (1) That sufficient outlets for future development had been allowed; (2) that through traffic in a housing scheme was inexpedient; (3) that a carrying way 16 feet wide would take two lines of modern traffic moving quickly, and that 24 feet wide would allow three vehicles to pass one another; (4) that the carriage ways, as shown in the plans, were of more than ample width to take the traffic was was likely to be thrown on to them; (5) that a road for a housing scheme having a narrow carriage-way, with broad grass margins, and planted with trees, looked better, was more economical, and caused less dust than the type of road with 42 feet macadamised and the balance gravelled and tarred; (6) that modern engineers and town planners and tarred, (0) that mouth engineers and town planners all agreed that it was better to throw a extra strip of land into the fore-courts of the houses than to waste it unnecessarily on the roads; (7) that the distance between the houses was sufficient to admit sunlight and air. (The English standard was 70 feet apart, and the minimum distance in the Papanul lay-out was 106 feet. The by-law width was 66 feet); (8) that there was more open space provided than the usual suburban sub-division, and that the frontages (average 60 feet) were of sufficient width; (9) that four houses per acre was a liberal allowance, and would not create a slum; (10) that the only objection that Council, Councillor W. J. Walter said that the Government was making a mistake in not laying out a three-quarter of a chain road. The Government should have conferred with the Council with regard to the lay-out, and should also have applied through the Council for building permits. The chairman (Councillor W. P. Spencer) said he understood from a reliable source that the road would be made a chain wide. On Councillor Walter's motion it was resolved to write to the Government, stating that the Council considered it should have been approached for the building permits, and also should have been consulted with regard to the "lay-out" and the roading in connection with the housing scheme at Papanui.

The following tenders for the erection of workers homes on the City Council's land in Huxley Street, Sydenham, have been received by Messrs. Greenstreet and Anderson:

	Type 1.	Туре 3.	Type 8.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1. Walter Hayes	$1141\frac{2}{3}$	1325	1204	9687
2. N. McGillivray	1107	1293	1198	9501
3. G. L. Bull	, 1100	1232	1213	9403
4. A. Rennie	1605	1104	1080	9659
5. A. T. Mutton	1067	1079	1072	8575
6. C. E. Wright	1094	1047	1051	8485
7. A. F. W. Jones	990	1050	1124	8204

Tenders 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7 were subject to an increase to correspond with an increase in the cost of labour or material. No stipulation was attached to tender 5, whilst tender 6 was mot subject to an increase. The Housing Committee recommended that the tender of Mr. A. F. W. Jones be accepted, it being the lowest. Councillor J. W. Beanland, who moved the acceptance of the tender, said that the prices were a little higher than expected, but they were the best that could be obtained. Practically everything necessary for a well-appointed house was provided for. The motion for the acceptance of the tender was seconded by Councillor A. Williams. After a considerable amount of discussion and a motion being put and lost to the effect that the question of accepting a tender be postponed for six months, Mr. C. E. Wright's tender was accepted on the voices.

The Government has granted £2,000 for the erection of a temporary Training College owing to the big increase of students expected next year.

### WAITAKI.

The result of a deputation of the Waitaki Board of Governors to the Minister of Education at Wellington was that a grant of £7,000 would be placed before Cabinet for favourable consideration.

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