

"mushroom-construction" ceiling to be introduced into a New Zealand drapery store.

An important addition to the buildings of Upper Symonds Street is the erection of Mennie's new four-storey brick and concrete block next the Lyric Theatre, which will be finished in about six months' time. This will contain a large social hall and office accommodation. J. T. Julian is the contractor.

Among other buildings recently completed may be mentioned a three-storey ferro-concrete block erected by the Construction Company at a cost of £2,000, on the old St. Kevin property in Karangahape Road. This is the first building to be erected on this well-known site, and is now occupied by a number of retail firms.

A six-storey ferro-concrete frame construction building now in course of erection for Messrs. Smith and Smith, in Albert Street, is another important addition to the business section of the city. The work is being carried out by Mr. F. Bail, and when finished the building will contain 60,000ft. of floor space. The front portion of the ground and first floor will be allotted to shops, offices and showrooms, while the rear portion of these floors, and also the basement, will constitute the firm's warehouse. The four upper floors are to be subdivided into offices for letting purposes.

Shipping companies are showing a certain amount of building activity. The Huddart-Parker Company is erecting new premises facing Quay Street, with a rear entrance to the railway station. Designs have been completed for a building of six storeys, of which two are nearing completion. The balance of the design will be carried out later. The Northern Steamship Company has had a third storey added to its building in Quay Street.

CHRISTCHURCH.

The attorneys of Lieut.-Colonel H. C. Bulkeley, of London, have sold the property known as Loasby's Corner, with a frontage of 46ft. on Colombo Street, and a frontage of 63ft. on Cashel Street. The purchaser was Mr. W. F. McArthur, of Messrs. Loasby and Co., and the price paid was £30,000. The price of the Colombo Street frontage works out at £652 a foot.

A further part of Colonel H. C. Bulkeley's property on Colombo Street was sold by private treaty recently. Mr. D. M. Foreman, of Auckland, principal of Suckling's Limited, photographic importers, has purchased a building with a frontage of 16ft. for £8,600, equivalent to £540 per foot.

The ceremony of laying the foundation stone to St. Joseph's Church at Papanui was performed last month. The church when complete will seat 390 and will cost £4,000.

The eight municipal houses in Huxley Street are now nearing completion, and the procedure to be adopted for their disposition is now being formulated by the Finance Committee of the City Council. The houses are of three types, and the average cost is £1,180 for each house. Preference will be given to applicants with families, and a ballot will be taken, if necessary, to select the successful party. A notice of motion put in by Mrs. McComb will come before the Council at the next meeting, authorising an immediate application to the Government for a further advance of £10,000 for new houses and the erection of such houses on the Guild system.

Messrs. Kempthorne Prosser, through their architects, Messrs. Arnold and Abbott, of Auckland, invited tenders last month for extensive brick buildings to be erected at Hornby for the manufacture of chemicals.

Plans have been prepared for a new wing to the Boys' High School.

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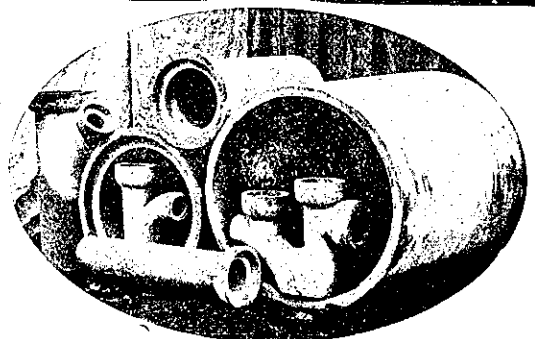
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