

Day Up Auckland Way

1YA Leaves Karangahape Road Neighbourhood for the New Studios In Shortland Street

with acoustical well-board. On the floor below is a big room which will be used for studio space as occasion demands. On this floor, too, are the living quarters of the resident officer—as nice a flat as one would find anywhere in Auckland.

On the lowest floor of all are the "entrails of the monster" (or the "guts of the whole show" as one of the workmen unpoetically remarked). Here is the equipment for driving fresh air through the building and extracting the foul air, for the lack of windows on the studio floor has compelled the installation of a complete ventilating and heating outfit. Air from outside is drawn into a white-tiled chamber, from which place it passes into the washing chamber where it is freed from all impurities. From the washing chamber it passes on to the heating room where it is brought to a comfortable temperature before it is sent on its long journey through the building. There are very few of these heating apparatuses in the Southern Hemisphere, the reporter was told. There is also equipment for withdrawing the stale air, the atmosphere in the studios being completely changed every 10 minutes.

The floors of the building are covered with a noiseless rubber material which is both bright and easy to keep clean. There is scarcely a stick of foreign material in the whole place. Wherever possible New Zealand materials have been used and practically the whole of the timber used is Dominion-grown. In cases where the material has not been available the Empire has been given first consideration and England, Canada and Australia have all benefited from this new studio. The completion of this building marks the end of a long and exacting job, and Auckland should be proud in the possession of one of the most up-to-date broadcasting studios in the world.

But there have been many difficulties to overcome, the numerous wires that had to be laid adding to the contractors' worries. Before the roof was put on, and during the winter rains, the water ran from the

top floor to the bottom through the ventilation ducts that had necessarily to be left in the floors and ceilings for the ventilation and heating systems. And then, when the roof was finally put over the building, the men working on the studio floor found themselves in Stygian darkness owing to the absence of windows. For the past two months they have been working by artificial light. Here are some interesting facts and figures about the new building:

Work on the new building was started on February 1 of this year.

Lifts are taboo. They cause vibration and interior noises.

The highest point of the building above Shortland Street is 33½ ft.

The total height of the building on the north side is 73 ft.

The total area occupied by the new building is 9628 sq. ft.

There has been an average of 48 men ployed since the work started.

The architects were Messrs. Norman Wade, F.N.Z.I.A., and A. M. Bartley, A.R.I.B.A.

The builders were Messrs. C. W. Ravenhall and Company, of Auckland.

The clerk of works was Mr. P. R. Dunkley.

The building is within four minutes' walk of the busiest part of Queen Street.

One of the masts now on top of George Court's building in Karangahape Road will be erected above the new building.

• *Readers will, no doubt, be interested to know that*

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the Bronze Window Sashes, Round Reinforcing Steel, and "Titan Best" First Grade Copper-Bearing Galvanized Corrugated Roofing Iron for the new Henderson Transmitting Station. They also supplied Messrs. James Gibbons Ltd.'s Door Fittings, Masterkeyed Locks, Check Floor Springs and Fanlight Gearing to the new 1YA Studio Building, Auckland.

Door Handles and Bolts are made of Gibbons' "ANODIUM" Metal (the new metal which is unsurpassed for durability and appearance) fashioned in modern designs which give beauty of line and reveal the artistry of the true craftsman.

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