

Auckland's Commercial Expansion

THE TALLEST WAREHOUSE IN THE CITY.

Messrs L. D. Nathan's huge new warehouse in Customs-street is now receiving its first cargo of stores. The building stands on the site of the old store which was burnt down about two years ago, but it is a much more extensive and convenient building. It covers about one-fifth of an acre of land, and consequently has nearly an acre and three-quarters of floor space, and presents a total frontage to Customs and Commerce streets of 183 feet. Its height is 70 feet, and counting the cellar, it has seven storeys. In colour the building has departed from the orthodox stucco grey, and presents a pleasing bright red frontage. Its walls are of great thickness, exceeding that required by the city regulations even for a building of such immense height. Its beams and pillars (which may be counted by the hundred) are of Australian ironbark wood, a material which costs as much as iron, but is preferable in case of fire. It is one of the eccentricities of iron girders that they writhle under the influence of intense heat and water, and so pull down the walls, which they are expected to support.

Considered from all points of view, therefore, the ironbark beams are now regarded as preferable to iron girders. There are many interesting plans adopted to resist fire. All the doorways are protected by duplicate iron doors which slide in miniature tramways in cement thresholds, and thus effectually prevent the passage of fire. Many of the windows are similarly protected by iron shutters. Then again Messrs Nathan have shown great shrewdness in preparing against the floods, which are a cause of anxiety to many cellar holders in Lower Queen-street. The drains are all placed high up, so that there may be no fear of flooding unless the flood be sufficiently severe to pour in from the street above.

The building is supplied with three powerful lifts. One set of floors is devoted exclusively to the bonded stores, and these are separated from the free rooms by the iron doors already described, which are secured by padlocks of the Customs department. In the cellar of this section will lie the imported wines and spirits in which Messrs L. D. Nathan and Co. do a large trade. In the top floors, which are specially well-lighted, the famous teas will be blended and packed by a party of about fifteen operatives; and one of the newest forms of blenders, a kind of huge churn, is now waiting to be placed in position. Another interesting machine is the fan-cutter used in reducing the leaves to the required size. Close by, on the same floor, the kauri gum is displayed. The selling of gum on commission is a very important branch of the firm's business, and at the time of our visit a party of the gum exporters were examining the same with a view to making purchases.

Between the ground floor and the ceiling the many storerooms are being rapidly packed with merchandise of numerous kinds, and the proceedings give a striking impression of the enormity of the firm's business. On the ground floor there are to be handsome offices for general and private use, and accommodation for the American Tobacco Company, in which Mr. Nathan is chairman of directors.

The cost of erecting this handsome building was about £13,500, and the work has been carried out by the Auckland builder, Mr. J. J. Holland. The architect, Mr. J. Currie, has for 25 years past been the firm's architect. He is familiar with large undertakings, having been the architect engaged in the building of the new factory of the D.S.C. behind the Northern Club, the new warehouses of Messrs. Hayman and Co. and Messrs. Kronfeldt, and the large block erected by Messrs. Nathan and Co. some years ago at the bottom of Victoria street, and now occupied by the D.S.C. and the Central Hotel. Messrs. Nathan's present building, somewhat Italian in appearance, is the largest of many large warehouses which have lately been erected in Customs street, which is now Auckland's great commercial centre, and indicates great faith in the future of this city.

Messrs. Nathan intend to still carry on their counting house, shipping, and sales departments in Shortland street, where they have been during the last 64 years.

YOUNG LIVES SAVED.

HOW DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS BUILD UP SICKLY CHILDREN.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are the finest medicine in the world for sickly children. They are sweet, pretty, easy to take, and do not contain the smallest grain of any drug that could harm the youngest child or the most delicate woman. When given to children Dr. Williams' Pink Pills fill their little veins with plenty of good, pure, strong, rich, red blood. In that way they strike at the root of all weakness and ill-health. Every blood-building dose breeds bone and muscle. The pure red blood makes the appetite keen and the cheeks rosy. It fills every child with romping energy and robust health. That is why Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are the one sure cure for all the troubles of childhood, such as paleness, peevishness, stomach complaint, diarrhoea, weak lungs, wasting muscles, rickets, St. Vitus' dance, nervousness, and all other ailments caused by weak or impure blood.

Read what Dr. Williams' Pink Pills did for little Ethel Jones of Enfield, Oamaru. "Ethel was only six months old when we had her vaccinated, and she was very ill after it," says her grateful mother. "At first the doctor said it was on account of her teething, but soon he found that she had congestion of the lungs. She was so thin and weak that she could hardly move. She suffered so much from griping stomach pains that we had to be always putting poultices on her. Night after night we sat up with her. The second doctor said she had consumption of the bowels. 'She may live a fortnight,' he said to me, 'but she can't possibly live more than four months.' Horrid lumps came up on her little legs. The doctors wanted to operate, but my husband and I said 'No' when we heard that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills had cured children who were wasting like this. We made her take some, and they helped her to hold her own for a while. Then she gradually grew stronger. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills actually made new blood for her, and that soon stopped the Consumption of the bowels. She suffered no more from the stomach pains or peevishness. She slept soundly and ate heartily. At last Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cured her completely. Ethel is quite a big girl now, and is a perfect picture of chubby health and brightness though her mother has to say it herself," added Mrs. Jones.

But Ethel Jones, of Enfield, is not the only child who has been snatched from an early death by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. "They are the grandest medicine in the world for children," says Mr. Henry Donnelly, the Feilding tobacconist. "My little son Henry fell into a decline. He grew very thin and pale, his appetite was wretched, and he was always fretful and peevish. In fact, he was like an old man worn out with worry. Some friends made us give him Dr. Williams' Pink Pills -- and three boxes made him a bright, strong, healthy boy. This was over two years ago, but he has been in perfect health and strength ever since."

And, of course, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are just as good for men and women. They are not common pills. They don't act on the bowels. They simply make new pure rich red blood -- only that and nothing more. It is because they do this one thing well that they have such success in curing all ailments arising from bad blood. That, of course, is the one great cause of anaemia, paleness, pimples, eczema and other skin diseases, bad complexion, biliousness, indigestion, headaches, backaches, lumbago, rheumatism, sciatica, neuralgia, nervousness, palpitation of the heart, asthma, decline and the special sufferings of growing girls and women when the regularity of their blood-supply becomes disturbed. These diseases can only be cured by setting the blood right with the great blood-building nerve tonic, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. But you must get the genuine New Zealand kind (always in wooden boxes), manufactured in Wellington from the special N.Z. formula. When did you ever hear of any of your neighbours being cured by foreign substitutes in glass bottles? Accept no substitute at all. If you can't get the genuine kind in wooden boxes from your local stockkeeper or chemist, send 3/ for one box or 10/0 for six boxes to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Wellington. Medical advice given free.

IMPORTANT TO

AMATEUR AND PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS.

Competition on New Lines.

EVERY PHOTOGRAPH USED PAID FOR

Experience having proved that many of the most able Amateur and Professional Photographers decline to enter for Prize Competitions, in which the right is reserved to publish any picture entered without further recompense than the chance of a prize, the GRAPHIC, after consulting with some leading Professional and Amateur Photographers, has decided to inaugurate

A COMPETITION ON NEW LINES, APPROVED BY CAMERA AND PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUBS.

The feeling in the Clubs seems to be that it is not satisfactory to send in good Prints for Competition on the off chance of a prize, and where non prize winning prints are retained and reproduced gratis. The conditions now offered by THE GRAPHIC should satisfy all.

Five £1 Prizes

Will Be Awarded.

BUT THIS IS NOT ALL

EVERY PRINT USED WILL BE PAID FOR AT STANDARD RATES

NO DISTINCTION IS MADE REGARDING SUBJECTS.

LANDSCAPE, COMIC, OR FIGURE PICTURES ARE ELIGIBLE, OR ANY OTHER SUBJECT SUITABLE FOR PUBLICATION.

RULES FOR COMPETITION.

1. Every picture used, in addition to the five which win the prizes of One Pound each, will be paid for at standard rates.
2. No print accepted by THE GRAPHIC must be supplied for reproduction in any other Journal or Publication.
3. No print submitted must have been previously published in any newspaper or magazine.
4. Name and address must be lightly written in black lead pencil on each Photo sent in.

All Photos for Competition must be posted in N.Z. not later than March 31, 1904.

IMPORTANT.

To Amateurs and Others Who Object to Competitions.

Many Artists in Photography object, for private or professional reasons, to enter into any competition. These are invited at all times to submit work at their own valuation. Prompt attention, generous treatment, and quick return of unaccepted prints.