

business premises, Queen Street, in brick and reinforced concrete, for the Masterton Trust Lands Trust.

Plans and specifications and conditions of contract are to be seen at the office of Herbert A. Jones, Architect, Trust Buildings, Queen Street, Masterton.

Mr. Herbert A. Jones, of Masterton, invites tenders for the erection of business premises, Queen Street, in brick and reinforced concrete for the Masterton Trust Lands Trust; latest date, July 5. Plans and specifications at Trust Buildings, Queen Street, Masterton.

Tenders are invited for erection of 10-roomed house in Nelson Street, Invercargill. Plans and specifications at Mr. R. J. Cumming's office, Esk Street, until Saturday, July 8, at 5 p.m.

Tenders are invited until 4 p.m. on Thursday, July 6, for erection at Invercargill of a cottage at Gladstone (Invercargill). Plans and specifications at the office of Edmund R. Wilson, architect, Esk Street.

Tenders were let to-day for the erection of a hall and shops in brick or concrete at Riverton for Mr. Thos. More. Plans and specifications were shown at Messrs. McDonald and Meek's, Invercargill, and Messrs. More and Sons, Riverton.

Tenders were let (July 1) for the subdivision of first floor in Messrs. J. Rattray and Son's premises, Spey Street, for Messrs. Ansell and Co., tailors.

Building Trade in Wellington.

The following building permits have been received and approved by the City Engineer, Wellington:—

From 17/4/11 to 31/4/11—30 applications for permission to erect.

City District	£1889
Melrose District	4095
Northland District	432
Ouslow District	325
	£9741

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From 1/5/11 to 13/5/11—32 applications for permission to erect.

City District	£5,552
Melrose District	£2,382

£7,934

From 14/5/11 to 28/5/11—22 applications for permission to erect.

City District	£10,429
Melrose District	3,868
Northland District	510

£14,807

From 11/6/11 to 26/6/11—23 applications for permission to erect.

City District	6,842
Melrose District	22,904
Northland District	515

Total £30,261

The last of these shows a somewhat sudden increase, indicating a very fair prospect, considering that this is the dead time of the year. It gives some reason for the conclusion that in prosperous cities like Wellington, there is no "dead season of the year." Be that as it may, the rise is a good thing in itself, and gives some reason for believing in the soundness of the country.

Town Planning.

It is understood that the Parliamentary draftsmen have received orders to draft a Town Planning Bill for the Government. This is right at any rate, because a measure of such far-reaching character as a Town Planning Bill ought to be in the hands of the Government. This may be said without any disrespect at all for Mr. Myers, M.P. for Auckland, who has such a measure in hand, and has been pushing it with much vigour all over the electorate. Mr. Myers has, it is true, seen some of the newest things in town planning during his last extensive European and Continental tour. It is, on the other hand, likewise true that the Government are in a far better position than any private member to obtain a comprehensive view of the past and present of town planning, Governments having powers to which private members cannot hope to aspire. Governments, in fact, work for one another by utilising the services of numerous officers expert in their several departments. It is believed that unfortunately the Bill will have no chance, owing to the shortness of the session and the largeness of the work to be done during it. If that be so, the drafting will be nothing more than an electioneering dodge. At best, however, town planning is a somewhat belated pastime in these parts.

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