

## Making a Model City

Something about Australia's New Capital—A City as yet without a Name

City planning on a gigantic scale is being carried out by the Commonwealth of Australia. When, twelve years ago, the several provinces were brought under one confederacy, provision was made in the constitution for the building of a capital city in a federal district owned by the general government. The territory selected is in the Canberra district of New South Wales, and has an area of about 900 square miles. The site of the city is on the Molonglo river, some 300 miles north-east of Melbourne and about 170 miles from the east coast. It has an area of five square miles, and an average elevation of about 2,000 feet above sea-level. The site selected is in the midst of a wild, open country with no settlements and no railway communication, and the designers thus had a free hand in working out their plans.

During 1911, invitations were issued to leading landscape architects throughout the world, to submit competitive designs for the new city. The first prize, an outline illustration of which is given on this page, was awarded to a Chicago architect, Mr. W. B. Griffin.

### Natural Conditions Considered

In his design Mr Griffin has taken excellent advantage of the natural characteristics of the site. Sheltering forested hills and distant snow-capped peaks to the south and west form the back-ground, giving a fine setting for the government buildings as viewed from the city proper. Three local mountains, (Ainslee, Black and Mugga Mugga) are reserved as natural parks, and these are to be utilized for aspect and prospect. They are treated as terminals of the principal axes of the plan and of many important vistas. Several lesser hills are utilized as the terminals of radial thoroughfares and as sites for important structures. Thus the capital, the main parliament building, the city hall, and the market occupy such positions. The sheltered, flatter areas, are used for residential and industrial purposes. The river has been utilized to develop an important water feature of the plan, for decorative effect, recreation, and climatic amelioration.

### Features of the Plan

The first primary feature of the plan is that the government buildings are placed on the south side of the river. They are thus somewhat isolated from the commercial sections of the city and at the same time are attractively placed with reference to the ornamental waterway. The next feature is the selection of several points for specific centres, such as the municipal market, railway and residential areas. From these points the streets radiate. The cross streets are ar-



ACCEPTED DESIGN FOR NEW CAPITAL CITY OF AUSTRALIA

ranged after a polygonal design. As far as possible building sites with acute angles are avoided. The parliamentary buildings are placed at a slight angle from north-south, east-west lines to secure advantages of light and shade.

The problem of transportation has been carefully worked out, and car lines will be within easy access of every portion of the city. The width of residential streets is in general 100 feet, and the avenues and business streets are 200 feet wide.

### The Sewerage System

The sewerage system has not yet been worked out, but involves the separation of sewage from the storm-water, because of the wide variation in the freshest run-off. This run-off water will be conveyed to the Molonglo basins by an open-channel system. For the filtration of sewage, there are excellent alluvial and sandy tracts along the river, which may be used for irriga-

tion and fertilization. It is not improbable that several different areas will be made to serve different sections of the city.

### The Proposed Water Supply

The water-supply will be obtained from the Cotter river which is satisfactory both as to quality and purity. It is a mountain stream having a mean flow of over 50,000,000 gallons daily.

World-wide interest will be taken in this unique work of constructing a model, modern city. The conditions appear to be admirable from a sanitary and general public health standpoint, and doubtlessly every appliance that science has devised will be used to keep them so. Then too, the local government of the city will be carried on by a government commission. Thus another illustration of the federal district idea will be provided by a Commonwealth where socialistic policies seem to have been exceptionally thrifty.

## Bovine Tuberculosis in Relation to Public Health

### More Effective Inspection of Milk and Meats Needed

Pure food is a factor of the utmost importance in the maintenance of public health. Hence, no community can afford to neglect the proper inspection of the foods consumed by its citizens. Perhaps the most important foods from a public health standpoint are milk and meat. Experience has served to show that these town dwellers in a satisfactory condition where effective inspection is enforced. In view of the fact that it has been established beyond doubt that tuberculosis may be conveyed or transferred from animals to man, steps should be taken to prevent the sale and consumption of tuberculous milk and meat. Milk from