

Cross of Sacrifice Being Constructed By R.S.A. Members

The soldiers' section of the Waitara cemetery, already one of the finest in the country, is soon to have a cross of sacrifice which is being erected by the Waitara Returned Services Association. Last week-end members erected the concrete base of the cross and this week-end it is planned to start the bottom course of the cross.

In coloured New Zealand stone, the cross will be unusual in design in that it will take the form of a flat obelisk with the cross cut out of the centre. It will be placed in such a position that the sun will shine through it most of the day, giving the obelisk the appearance of having a silver cross in the centre.

Preparations are being made for a cable to supply power for hidden lighting inside the cross so that it can be lit at night.

On a base 5ft. long and 2ft. 9in. wide the cross of sacrifice will stand 10ft. high, tapering in width from 4ft. by 1ft. 9in. at the bottom to 2ft. by 10½in. at the top.

VOLUNTARY LABOUR

Material from the cross was obtained from Auckland and is now in Waitara awaiting erection in the next few weeks. The coloured slabs of stone have been chosen to give a smooth marble-like effect.

All labour on the cross, which is to be the association's own memorial to their fallen comrades, is being given voluntarily.

It is a point of pride with the Waitara branch that they have never gone to the public for funds. They raised the money for the recently opened club rooms themselves and have now raised the £500 for the construction of the memorial.

A flag pole has been donated and it is planned to erect this as soon as the cross of sacrifice is finished.

Working bees of R.S.A. members have completed planting 38 shrubs at the soldiers' section. With a pathway leading from the main gates the first line of graves in the section is laid in the form of a horse shoe.