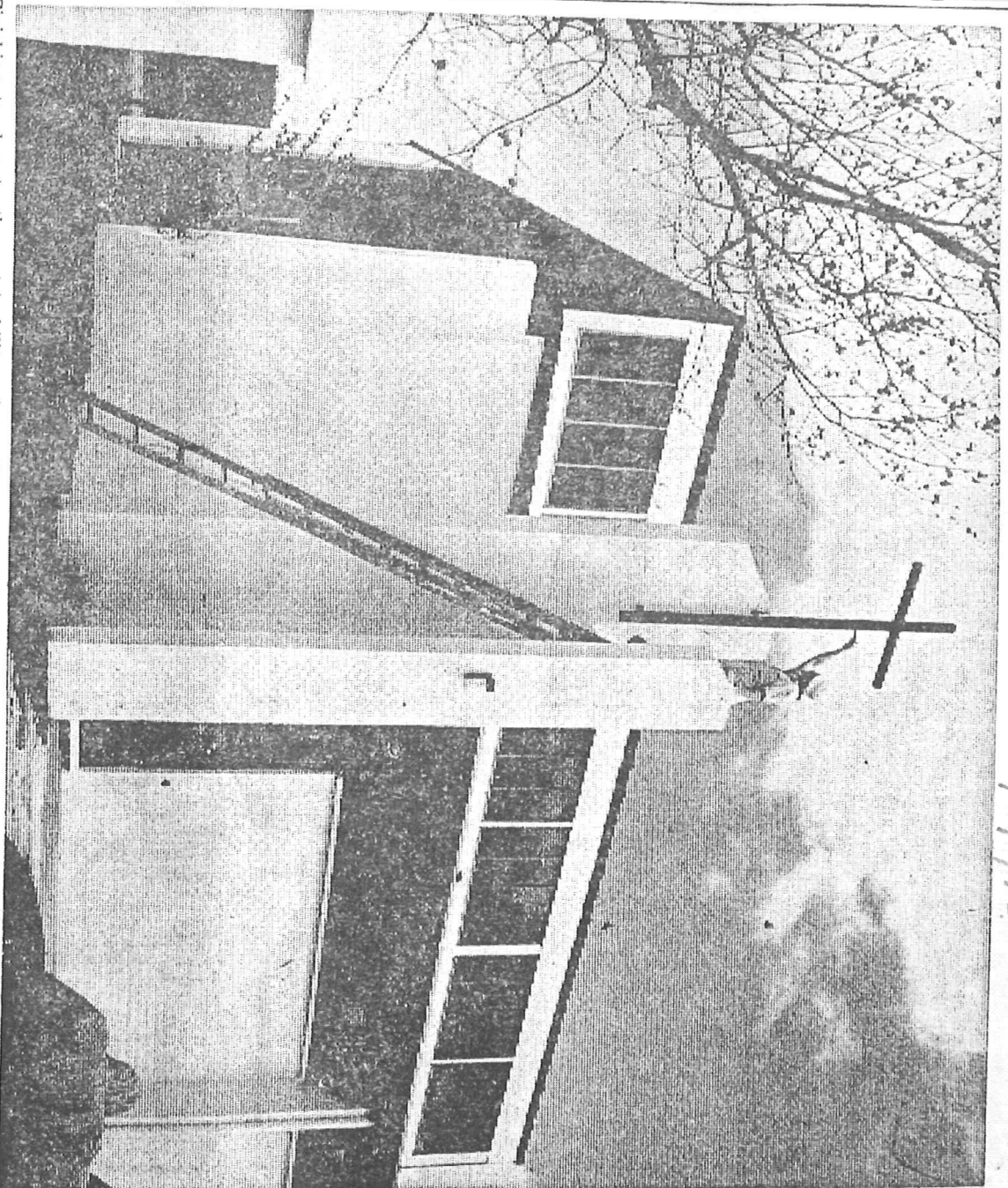


DN 10/11/1973



Lithograph by ...

Finishing touches to the outside of the new Brooklands Church in New Plymouth (above) being applied yesterday, two days before its dedication.

On Sunday, at 2 p.m., the Archbishop of New Zealand, Most Rev. A. H. Johnston, and the director of the Presbyterian Assembly, the Rev. W. B. Watt will conduct the dedication.

The church is a joint venture of the St. Michael's Anglican and St. Margaret's Presbyterian parishes. The keys of the church will be received by both men, and placed on the altar.

Inside the church features exposed wooden beams and polished totara ceiling and feature wall edged with two stained-glass windows of abstract design. The main idea of the design is to allow flexibility and mobility of seating arrangements. Part of the church can be closed off into a lounge with kitchen facilities. There is also a creche provided.

Prices Out

New Valua

Newly-valued land in some parts of the Taranaki County has already sold at prices 30 to 40 per cent above valuation, according to the Valuation Department.

The department has just completed a full five-year re-valuation for the county, which next April will change its rating system from unimproved to land value.

The district rural valuer, Mr. R. A. Court, told a council meeting yesterday the new valuations were based on values at June 30, but sales had already been made above valuation and the department could not keep up with them. Land value is defined as the unimproved value, with the addition of values assessed by the department for felling, clearing, stumping, levelling, draining and grassing.

He said the new system of rating on land value was likely to produce higher rating increases on inland hill-country farms than on coastal farms. The effect on residential sections would be negligible.

No Government Land Purchase

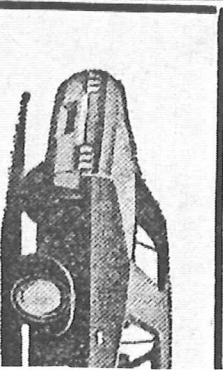
Wellington. Own Correspondent. The four mining companies developing the Maui field would make the decisions on land purchases in the Oaonui area, the Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr. Freer, said yesterday.

He was replying to questions in parliament from Mr. Young (Nat—Egmont) who referred to concern expressed by farmers in the area about the lack of decision on land purchases. The land is needed for the building of a gas treatment station.

Mr. Bolger (Nat—King Country) asked whether the Public Works Act would be used to take land if negotiations were unsuccessful. Mr. Freer said there were no indications that the negotiations would be unsuccessful.

He said this was because inland farmers had spent more on developing their land. The county clerk, Mr. J. S. Putt, said the valuation figures illustrated a trend under the land value system for rating the liability to be transferred from urban to rural areas.

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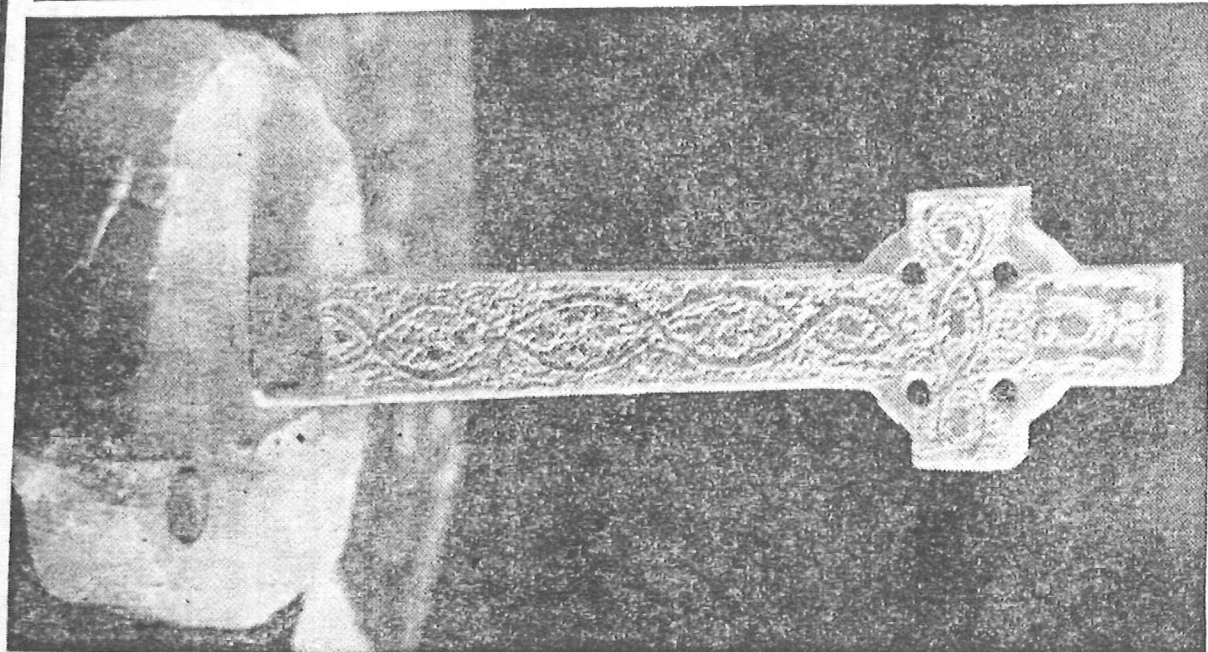
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