

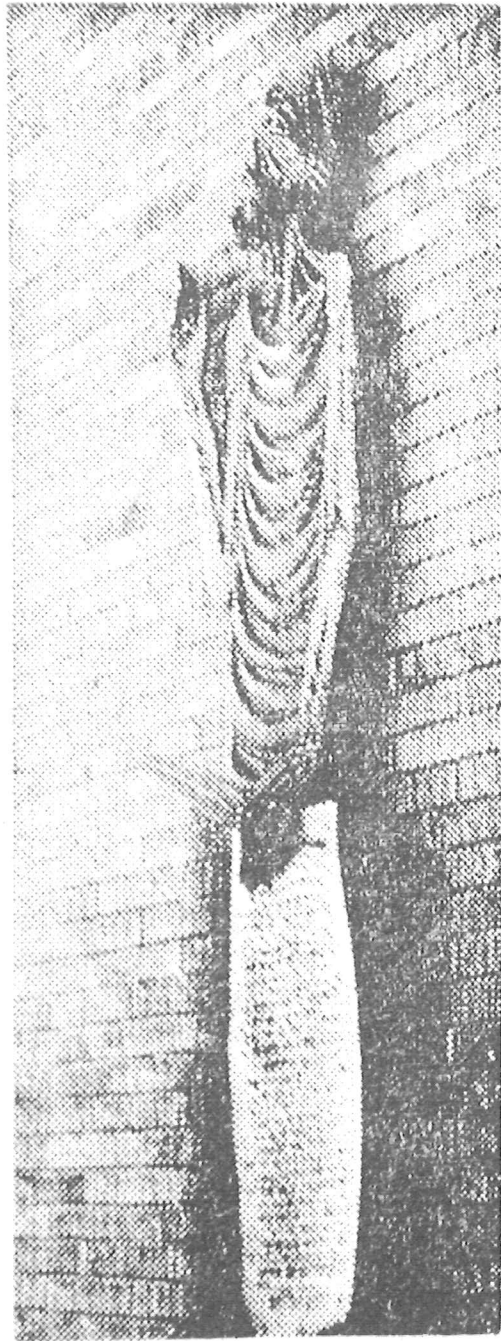
SPOTSWOOD'S ST PAUL IS CRITICISED

"It looks like Satan to me" said one parishioner's daughter, referring to the steel sculpture of St. Paul erected on the front of the new St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church, at Spotswood, New Plymouth, which the Most Rev. Owen Sneddon, auxiliary Bishop of Wellington consecrated yesterday.

The high tensile steel statue, sculptured by the New Plymouth artist Michael Smithers, drew a variety of comments from the congregation. Only one of the laity appeared enthusiastic about it.

The average comment was more in the line of:—"There's something funny about

The statue of St Paul on the new Spotswood Roman Catholic Church at New Plymouth, which was consecrated yesterday.



the eyes.

"It looks fearsome."

"What is it meant to represent?"

The statue's one supporter was a sprightly old man who appeared very taken with fire he saw in the representation.

"He was a teacher wasn't he? Emaciated — Burning with zeal."

Mr. Smithers was asked by St. Joseph's parish administrator, Mr. H. F. Doogan, for something representative of a saint in metal.

When asked his opinion of the final product Mr. Doogan said he thought it was very effective and a strong representation of St. Paul.

The austerity of the statue appears to be only a reflection of the general architecture.

However a skilful use of light and dark wood panels conveys a mellow atmosphere to the interior of the church.

About 300 attended the ceremony.

PLANE CRASHES

New York.

A twin-engined private plane crashed in flames into houses near the runway of Sky Harbour airport, Phoenix, Arizona on Friday, killing the pilot and a boy in one of the houses and injuring five other children.