



FRUIT AND VEGETABLES on display in the XYZ shop today.

XYZ changes hands

The central New Plymouth fruit and vegetable business, the XYZ Company Ltd, has changed hands.

Mr Jimmy Chuan Joe, who has run the business for the past 30 years, has sold it to a former Wellington grocer, Mr P. J. Marr and his wife.

Mrs Marr said today the existing staff of 10 and retail

techniques would continue and a partner from the former owners, Mr Joe's son, Mr Tony Joe, would remain with them for a while to assist in running things.

Mrs Marr said their seven-day a week grocery business had included the selling of some fruit and vegetables.

For Mr Joe Senior, sale of the business ends a career in fruit and vegetables which started shortly after he ar-

rived in New Zealand from Canton in 1919 at the age of 12.

He lived for a while in Palmerston North before coming to New Plymouth in the early 1930's and participating in the establishment of a former city fruit and vegetable business, Joe Brothers.

He bought the XYZ from a Mr Jim Bamforth in 1947 and had operated it ever since, leasing the building.

Mr Joe said things had changed a lot from the early years when a lot of preparation had to be done on vegetables before they could be placed on display in the shop.

Now machinery and changing techniques meant much of this work was done before the goods arrived in the shop.

Mr Joe (68), said he now intended to retire to enjoy his interest in gardening.