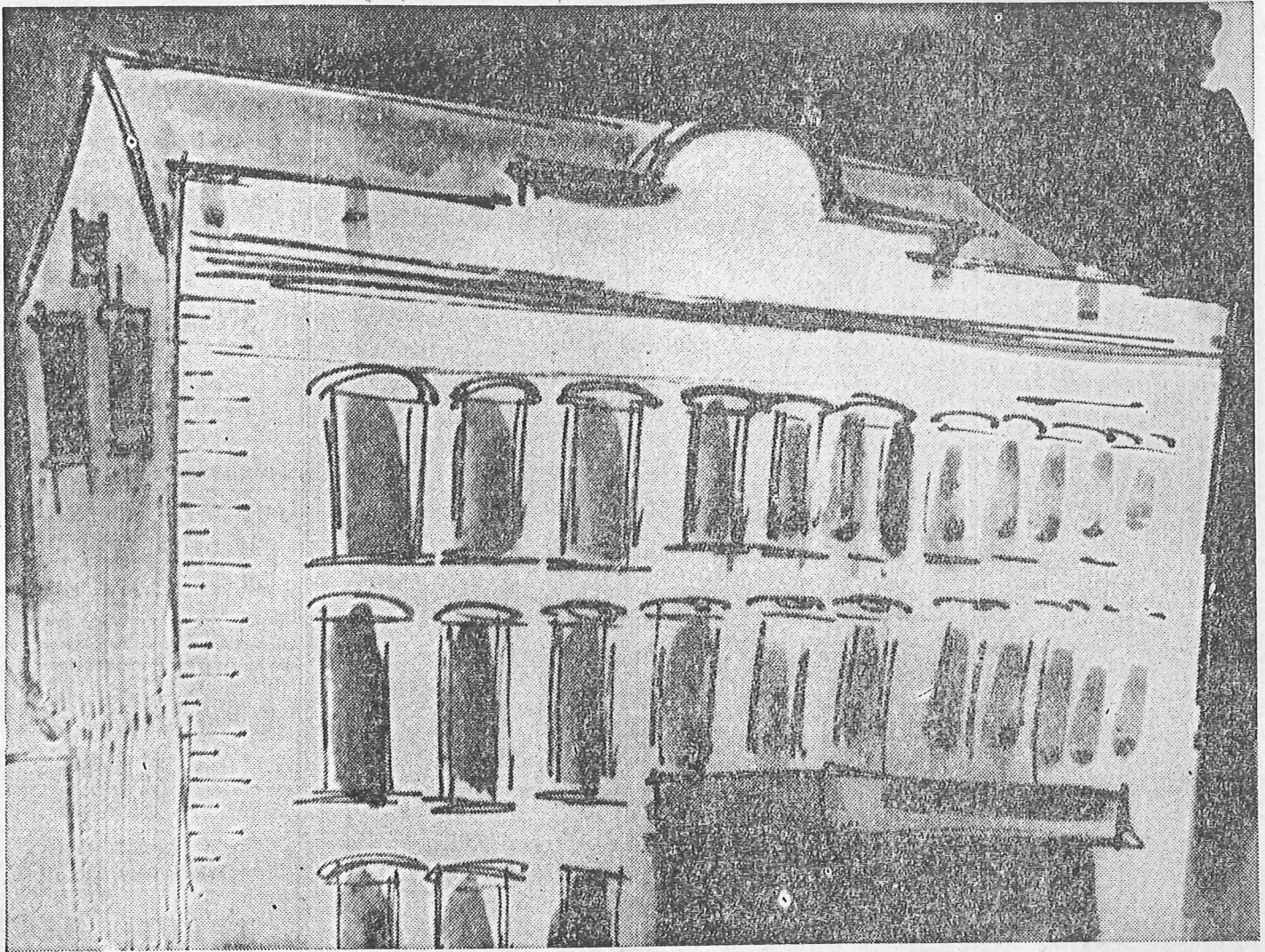


# THE LAST OF THE COLONIALS – No. 19

## Sketches by Michael Smither, New Plymouth

*T. H. Sati - April 29, 1961.*



**PROGRESS** has caught up with and passed this old-timer. Recognise it? Of course you do. It's the old Farmers' Co-op. building in Powderham Street.

There's no one home in the rambling three-storey timber and corrugated iron mansion nowadays. The Farmers have shifted to a great new store in Devon Street.

About the only remarkable thing about the build-

ing is the length of time it has stood where it now stands. It certainly has no claim as an architectural masterpiece or even as an outstanding example of the design of its time.

It was obviously built to functional rather than

decorative and one shudders to think how many gallons of paint have been splashed on it just to keep it respectable.

Despite its age, it still figures in a current controversy. The site, bounded by Powderham, Carrington and Vivian Streets, was

originally chosen for off-street parking under the inner area town plan. But the city council changed its mind in favour of a Molesworth Street site. That decision sparked a row that is by no means over yet.