



# NEW LOOK FOR THE FLAT

Formal application has been made by Newton King Ltd to the New Plymouth City Council for a departure from zoning of land in Devon St East to make way for the first stage of the company's \$1.5 million development of office blocks, ground floor shops and a supermarket.

The development is planned for 2¼ acres between Devon St East (the Flat) and Courtenay St. It will feature an 11-storey office block, rooftop parking on the supermarket, covered pedestrian walkways and a shopping mall.

The company's managing director, Mr S. P. Girdwood, said yesterday the application was being made to make way for stage one—the supermarket, car parking facilities and other associated development.

supermarket will be built is at present zoned residential and four houses are on it.

## FIRST MOVES

However, said Mr Girdwood, Newton King had acquired the houses and land, and the first of the buildings would be shifted soon.

The others would follow later—although it was still not known which would be demolished and which could be shifted to new sections.

Mr Girdwood said it was hoped to start building the 24,000sq ft supermarket early next year. It would take 18 months to complete.

## "BRIDGE"

The supermarket will have a rooftop car park served by a gently sloping "bridge" from the Courtenay St entrance. With other parking spaces on the development site, this will provide for about 250 vehicles. However, not all spaces will be available immediately.

Mr Girdwood said the application to the city council also included a request for conditional use of land for street level parking.

Because of ground contours, the street level park off Courtenay St might eventually become a two-level structure.

Shoppers would be able to drive vehicles through from the Devon St entrance to Courtenay St. This had been made possible by connecting

parking areas in front of the supermarket with others at the Courtenay St side.

## UNCLUTTERED

The short connecting roadway would not be cluttered with pedestrians, said Mr Girdwood. They would have their own covered "bridge" over the roadway, leaving it free for vehicles only.

Those using the rooftop for parking would be able to get

back to ground level by two staircases at each end of the supermarket.

The ground floor of the high-rise block would feature a covered mall. The mall would extend into the heart of the ground floor section and be connected with partly glassed roofing to the supermarket.

Mr Girdwood estimated the whole development would take up to six years to complete.

An aerial view (above) of the block between Devon St and Courtenay St, New Plymouth, which Newton King Ltd plans to develop. At the top of the picture is Devon St East and at the bottom Courtenay St. The light-coloured building at top right is the premises of Guardsman Ltd. The planned 24,000 sq ft supermarket will have a frontage on to Courtenay St at lower centre of the picture, while the 11-storey office block will stand near Devon St at upper left. Shops and parking areas are also planned.