



AFTER THE DEDICATION of the new Church of Our Lady, Help of Christians, at Fitzroy yesterday, Solemn Pontifical Benediction was celebrated by the Most Rev. P. T. B. McKeefry, Archbishop of Wellington, who is shown in vestments kneeling in the centre of this group at the altar of the modern church. From left are the parish priest, the Rev. Father D. G. Bourke, the deacon, the Rev. Father J. J. Austin, of New Plymouth, the archbishop, and the sub-deacon, the Rev. Father J. Ryan, of Waitara, with two acolytes.

Three children injured in collision

Three young children were injured on Saturday when the car in which they were travelling was involved in a collision with a bus at Pungarehu. However, after treatment by Dr. A. W. Hoze, Okato, the children were allowed to go home.

The accident occurred at 11.15 a.m. opposite the Roman Catholic Church at Pungarehu. The bus, driven by Mr. Edward George Hardie, New Plymouth, was travelling north along the Opunake-New Plymouth highway. The car, a late English model driven by Mrs. Eileen Lawn, Hoani Road, Okato, was turning after pulling out from the kerb. The bus, which is owned by Coleman's Motors Ltd., New Plymouth, was carrying a boys' football team. None of the boys were injured. The three children in Mrs. Lawn's car were not so fortunate. Eleven-year-old Claire Lawn received cuts and abrasions to the head, while Mark Lawn, aged seven, was cut on the head, and Rose Lawn, aged eight months, received cuts and abrasions to the face. The car was struck on the left rear mudguard and bumper and was turned completely round.

It is believed that the force of the collision forced a rear door open and Rose Lawn was flung out on to the road. The front bumper of the bus was slightly damaged.

WOMAN INJURED IN COLLISION

A woman received head injuries in a collision between two cars on the intersection of Eliot and Courtenay Streets, New Plymouth, at 2.18 p.m. on Saturday.

She is Mrs. Ngaira Grace Paull, Main Road, Okato.

A car driven by her husband, Mr. Lester Gordon Paull, was travelling north along Eliot Street when it came into collision with a car driven by Mrs. Doreen Elsie Gertrude Harris, of 14 David Street, New Plymouth.

Mrs. Paull was attended at the scene of the accident by Dr. G. H. Forrest. A two-month-old baby in Mrs. Paull's car and two passengers in Mrs. Harris's car, Miss Irene Christine Harris and Mrs. Eleanor Jane Lander, were not injured.

Sherriff, £1; Vida Turner, £1; Colin David Wemyss, £1.

Carrying pillion passenger, contrary to conditions of licence, Peter Reginald Goodchap, £2.

No footrests on motor-cycle, Lawrence Kemp, £1/10/.

Passing on intersection: Barry Athol Matthews, £2.

Parking over time limit: Joseph Power Harty, £1.

Driving without due care and attention: Alex Pool, labourer, New Plymouth, £4.

28 houses for Marfell Block

The 28 housing units which the State Housing Department is building this year in the new section of the Marfell Block being opened at New Plymouth, is expected to ease the housing problem in New Plymouth.

A start has been made on the first contracts let in Cook Street, a new street which leads off Omata Road and will eventually pass right through the Marfell Block to connect with Devon Street West, near the Seaview Road junction.

Contracts have been let for three four-unit houses, and two double units and work is well under way on some of the units.

The department is now calling tenders for contracts for a four-unit house and one of two units, and a separate contract for three double units, all to be constructed in Cook Street or in Resolution Place, a cul-de-sac running off Cook Street.

These homes will have three bedrooms on the top story, with kitchen, laundry, living and dining rooms downstairs.

Kerbing, channelling, and metalting of Cook Street for about half its length has been undertaken in the first stage of the development of what is termed "Block A." Water and sewage services have been provided.

It is expected that the 28 units will be ready for occupation this year, some of them within a few months.

A feature of the Housing Department's planning for Cook Street, in which the New Plymouth City Council sought off-street parking, is the provision of a sealed communal parking area to hold nine to 12 cars. This is being provided through a right-of-way leading behind a block of units on the south-western side of the street.

Auto team's success in bowling tournament

Honours for the final of the fourth indoor bowling trades tournament, conducted by the Vogeltown Indoor Bowling Club at New Plymouth on Saturday, went to an Okato team skipped by Mr. W. Bridgeman.

Finalists for the D. Butcher Cup were: W. Bridgeman, W. Ashley Mrs. Bridgeman and Mrs. Ashley (Okato) and the runners-up were C. H. Sampson, R. Goodwin, Mrs. Sampson and Mrs. Honeyfield (Tairāhema).

For the non-qualifiers an evening tournament was held which was won by a Vogeltown four comprising D. Manning, A. M. Wilson, Mrs. P. Lane and Mrs. E. Thompson. A Waitara team skipped by S. E. Burnard was runner-up.

"Shield will be lost", says 1888 rep.

Of the many Taranaki Rugby supporters who heard the broadcast on Saturday of the Taranaki-Auckland Rugby match, few listened more earnestly than 89-year-old Mr. A. R. Davis, of 251 Courtenay Street, New Plymouth, a life member of the Taranaki Rugby Union and the only surviving club delegate who attended the union's foundation meeting at Hawera in 1886.

Today was Mr. Davis' birthday, and he had a word to say for a Herald reporter on Taranaki's chances of holding the Ranfurly Shield. He is qualified to give an opinion—he played for Taranaki for five years from 1888, when, to use his own words, "Taranaki could not be beaten."

Although he is still recovering from an attack of pleurisy, Mr. Davis hopes to see all the shield matches. "But," he added sadly, "I'm afraid we'll lose it. I haven't the faith in Taranaki I used to have."

"The solution, in the view of Mr. Davis?" "Put Bill Cameron back in the team—he's got real football brains."

Mr. Davis played for the Hawera and Mangamui (Stratford) clubs. "I was regarded as line-out specialist then." In 1892 the Taranaki team, of which he was a member, toured both islands and was unbeaten.

He served for five or six years, on the Rugby Union's management committee, and was an active referee for five years after giving up playing. For nearly 20 years he was on the referee appointment board and is now a life member of the Referees' Association.

Born at Bathurst, New South Wales, he came to New Zealand with his parents to Waverley when he was only four years old. He was educated at Waverley and took up surveying after leaving school. He came to Taranaki 70 years ago on a survey party which surveyed the East Road, Stratford.

BEGAN FARMING
Later he bought the White Cliffs estate at Pukaruru, and began farming. He married the daughter of John Gilbert, one of the armed constabulary stationed at Pukaruru. Mr. Davis' wife died five years ago.

After World War Two the Government bought his land and he retired to New Plymouth. Yesterday his five children—three sons and two daughters—came to see him. At present he lives with one of his daughters, Miss A. Davis.

Tonight his friends will hold a card evening at his home. Mr. Davis is an enthusiastic crib player. He is a member of the New Plymouth Bowling Club and also enjoys gardening and home carpentry.

New church opened by Archbishop

In two impressive ceremonies yesterday witnessed by large congregations, the Most Rev. P. T. B. McKeefry, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Wellington and Metropolitan, dedicated and officially opened the new octagonal £25,000 Church of Our Lady, Help of Christians, at Fitzroy.

Before celebrating the 10 o'clock Mass in the morning, the archbishop carried out the traditional blessing of the church, assisted by the parish priest, the Rev. Father D. G. Bourke, and his assistants. Additional seating to accommodate about 100 more than the church's seating capacity of 375 was needed for the Mass.

The archbishop commended the congregation on the energy and enthusiasm they had displayed in building the modern octagonal church, the first parish church of the kind in New Zealand to be dedicated to Our Lady, Help of Christians.

For the afternoon ceremonies more than 500 packed into the church, many having to stand while another 200 were unable to enter. The services commenced with the Pontifical Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, with the archbishop as celebrant. He was assisted by the Rev. Father J. J. Austin, New Plymouth, as deacon, the Rev. Father J. Ryan, of Waitara, as sub-deacon, and Father Bourke as master of ceremonies.

SPECIAL PLACES
Occupying special places in the front were the Mayor of New Plymouth, Mr. A. G. Honnor, and Mrs. Honnor, Mr. E. P. Aderman, M.P. for New Plymouth, and Mrs. Aderman, and Mr. J. H. Davey, chairman of the church committee, and Mrs. Davey.

The new £1400 Dutch-made pipe organ was played by Miss S. Vogt, and the church choir sang during the ceremony which concluded with the intonation of the "Te Deum," traditional hymn of joy, by Archbishop McKeefry.

The afternoon ceremony was attended by more than 30 priests from all parts of Taranaki and the archdiocese and many Sisters of the Mission, Sisters of St. Joseph of Nazareth, and Sisters of Mercy.

In addition to the archbishop and Father Bourke on the platform outside St. John Bosco School after the church ceremony were the Rt. Rev. Monsignor F. P. Cullen V.P. of Hawera, Mr. and Mrs. Honnor, Mr. and Mrs. Aderman, the Rev. Father G. J. Donoghue, of Palmerston North, and the architect for the building, Mr. F. C. M. Robbers, of Wellington. Father Bourke presided.

Father Donoghue, making an appeal for contributions towards the cost of the building, recalled his own days as a New Plymouth priest when Fitzroy was included in St. Joseph's parish.

There was tremendous building activity throughout the Wellington Archdiocese at the present time, said Father Donoghue. Catholic people were accepting terrific debts. They realised that they had to do so because they had to advance as the country grew up.

The result of Father Donoghue's appeal realised nearly £900 in donations.

WORK PRAISED
Father Bourke praised the work of those who had preceded him, both as priests and as parishioners, and thanked those who had worked on the construction of the church.

Thanking the archbishop for his encouragement and for dedicating the church at great inconvenience, Father Bourke said the generosity of the people of Fitzroy, both members of the church and otherwise, had been most gratifying.

Archbishop McKeefry, in a short speech, congratulated Father Bourke and the parishioners on the success of their efforts and expressed the hope that work which the church would be able to do in their midst would be done in honour of God and would be of lasting benefit to the whole community at Fitzroy.

After the function, the women's committee entertained the visitors at afternoon tea in the Fitzroy Hall.

"OLD BE YOUR CAR", SAID THE SIGN



When these two cars collided in Devon Line, New Plymouth, near the intersection of Smart Street—almost opposite a wrecked car bearing a road safety slogan (arrowed).



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