

Building of new Opunake church starts

Opunake's first co-operative church should be in operation within a year.

Work began at the Methodist-Presbyterian church site on the corner of Havelock St and King St, Opunake, this week and co-operative parish treasurer Mr A. G. Hughson said the total construction cost was expected to be about \$100,000.

Of this figure \$27,000 would be obtained locally while the rest would come from Opunake Methodist and Presbyterian church rebuilding funds.

Mr Hughson said the proposed church had been a long-term project as the idea was mooted nearly three years ago.

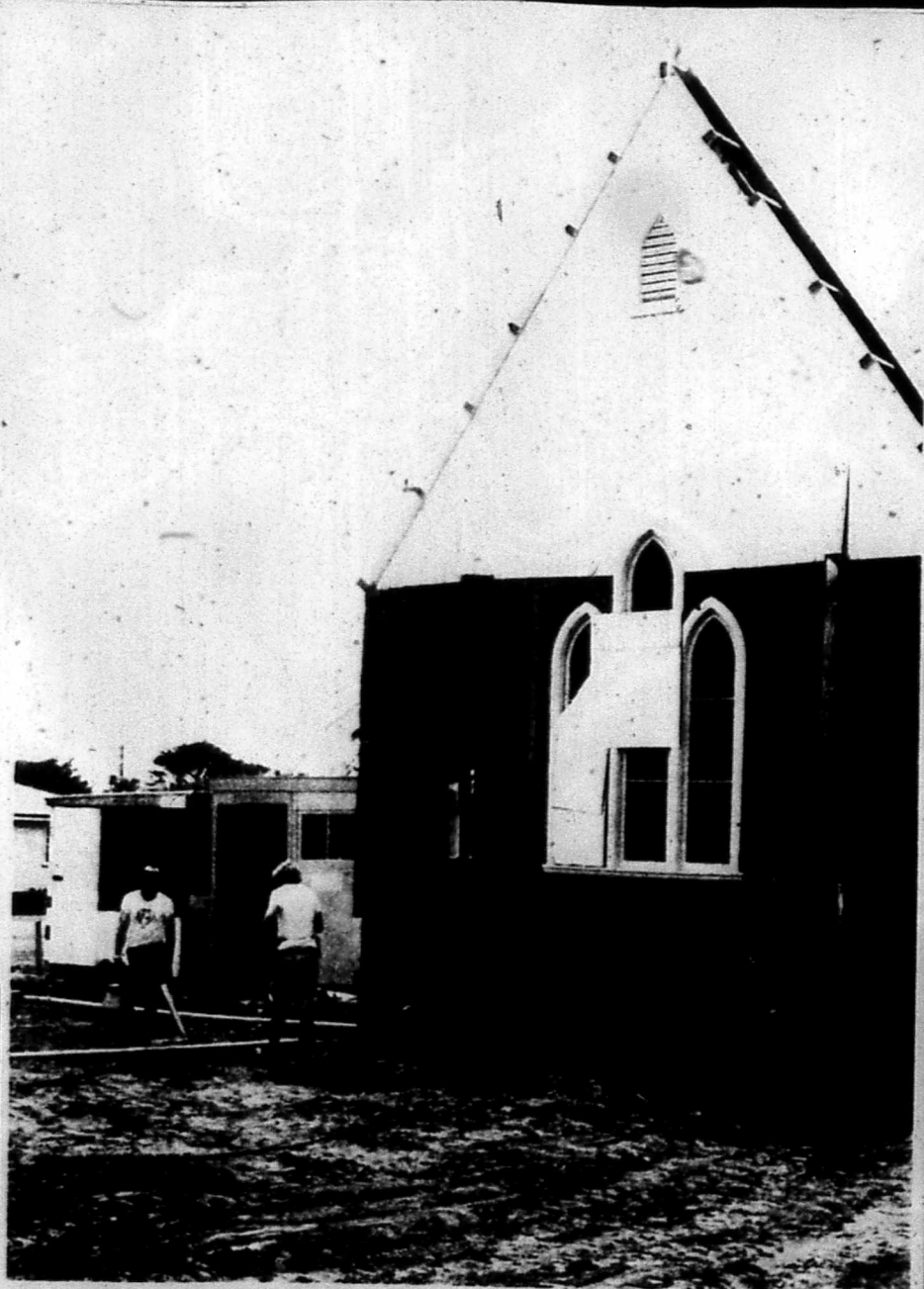
Existing buildings on the site will be retained and the new 238 sq. m. complex will include Bible classrooms, an extension to

the present youth hall and a worship centre seating 120. The enlarged youth hall will be able to seat up to 80 so a congregation of up to 200 can be accommodated.

Mr Hughson said the Methodist and Presbyterian parishes decided to have a common church as their congregations were not large enough to support two ministers.

They are now without a minister. Church services are run by lay preachers with an interim minister available to perform ceremonies such as marriages and funerals.

Until the building is completed combined church services will be held in the Methodist Church.



Mr Michael Hansen (left) and Mr Gordon Tosland, both of Opunake, working at the site for the new Methodist-Presbyterian Co-operative Church in the town. The Opunake Presbyterian Church was demolished last weekend to make the site available.

Pool to aid St John at Normanby

Pool enthusiasts in and around Hawera will be able to test their playing skills every Fri-

nishing and carpet firm's showroom.

Club projects chairman Mr F. Eustace said the club hoped to raise nearly \$800

Revue fruit of year's work

More than a year of preparations will come to fruition when Hawera Savage Club holds its 1980 "Our Fair Men"