



### Annual conference

The risks of toxic gas from smouldering furniture will be the subject of a visual display at the annual Dominion conference of the Women's Division of Federated Farmers which opens in Palmerston North on Monday.

A coach will take Taranaki delegates to the conference on Monday morning.

Among the remits to be debated are subjects such as an allowance for the supervision of children taking correspondence courses.

Remits also call for the provision of mothercraft courses, mandatory third party insurance on all vehicles, emergency equipment on boats, subsidies for rural doctors and compulsory vaccination of cattle for leptospirosis.

### Hawera board

Several new people have been elected to the Hawera High School board of Governors, which will serve for 3 years from August 1.

# Snow sparse on Mt Egmont

**Bad luck skiers — snow on Mt Egmont is sparse and quite high.**

Stratford Mountain House proprietor Mr Ben Candy said snow was about 2000m up and that there had last been a reasonable fall a month ago.

"We just need to have a good southerly change with a bit of foul weather, and it will be all on," he said.

Dawson Falls Tourist Lodge proprietress Mrs Jeni Quince said Fan-

tham's Peak only had a few small patches of snow yesterday and that snow was very high up near the mountain summit.

The last significant fall had been three weeks ago.

North Egmont Visitor Centre manager Mr John Morton said snow was about 2000m up on his side of the mountain. The area had not had any significant fresh snow this month.

Meanwhile there is still no skiable snow on Mt Ruapehu, with the last fall

on Wednesday. Today the weather was fine and clear.

The snowline was down to the Chateau but very patchy. A Tongariro National Park spokesman said the Whakapapa skifield Rock Garden and Waterfall ski-lifts were operating as needed to provide trampers access.

On the other side of the mountain Turoa has a good snow base but no facilities will be operating this weekend.

# South Island also suffering

**CHRISTCHURCH.** Today (NZPA). — The South Island is also suffering from a lack of snow and the ski industry is in for a

Mount Hutt's brochure, circulated widely overseas, offers a guarantee of snow from June 1, or a refund of the \$240 cancellation fee

situation," said Mr Yeoman.

Its overseas bureau, A.R. Guthrey Travel, is actively discouraging its

The New Plymouth branch of the New Zealand Red Cross Society has demolished its old building on Queen St to make way for a new one.

It has also taken over the florist shop and ANZ agency in the building on the corner of Devon St and Queen St, which it owns.

This part of the building will be renovated, new toilets put in and the kitchen upgraded.

A single storey building and carpark will be constructed on the vacant site. The building will be used by the society for storage and to house its emergency welfare caravan.

Chairman of the branch's building committee Mr Jack Elliott, New Plymouth, says the work is all part of branch expansion.

"We're trying to get a bit more organised and up-to-date."

The branch holds first-aid classes and activities such as clothing and sewing circles.

The work, which will cost about \$79,000, will start in the next week or two and be completed in a few months. The contractor is Hawkins Construction Taranaki Ltd.