

# START ON NEW HARBOUR BOARD OFFICE



WORK has started on the new Taranaki Harbour Board office at the New Plymouth Port. This photograph, taken from near the port weighbridge, shows preparations being made for the laying of foundations. The site is dwarfed by the waterfront Industry Commission building and the cement silos in the background. The Newton King Wharf cranes are shown in the left background.

## Was leading N.Z. public benefactor

**GISBORNE, This Day (P.A.)**—One of New Zealand's leading public benefactors, Mr. Heathcote Beetham Williams, a prominent farmer and business man died today in Gisborne after a long illness. He was in his 93rd year.

For 26 years until his retirement in 1957, Mr. Williams was chairman of the Gisborne Slaughterhouse, Frozen Meat and Mercantile Company Ltd.

Remarkably successful in all phases of farming, he made large investments in commercial undertakings, and one of his most successful was Keridge Theatres Ltd., in which he was an original shareholder.

Despite his heavy losses during the depression years, his profits from farming and commercial investments would have made him one of New Zealand's richest men but he spent much of the money in the creation of family and charitable trusts.

From his personal resources, Mr. Williams had spent large sums in aiding individual welfare campaigns and he also helped scores of men to establish themselves on the land or in business.

On one of his smaller properties he founded one of the largest Aberdeen-Angus studs in the Southern Hemisphere.

### PAINTING REALISES £65

A 1938 Bernard Aris painting, the property of the late Mrs. Evelyn M. White, brought £65 at a public auction in New Plymouth yesterday. The painting of Mt. Egmont and Inglewood was taken from Lincoln Road. Another article to fetch a high price was a mahogany table and chairs set which sold for £135. Other items of furniture realised high prices, a walnut stand-backed chair selling for £21. A large collection of crystal sold cheaply.

and be pumped into a specially prepared pond.

Mr. Sellens said it is tentatively proposed to ignite the petrol with a fuse remotely controlled. He expected it would take between half an hour and one hour for the petrol to burn.

Various authorities will carry out tests during the burning of the petrol such as the effect of

## Building to cope with port growth

THE Taranaki Harbour Board's new £43,000 two-storey building, now under construction at the New Plymouth Port, will provide suitable premises for coping with the growth and development of the port, the chairman, Mr. H. E. Blyde, said today.

It will replace the present overcrowded building constructed in 1926. Work on the new building is still at the foundation stage. The contractors, Jones and Sandford Ltd., will have to go down seven to eight feet through fill to the old beach for a solid base.

The ground floor of the building will be finished in brick veneer and the first floor and roof will be of aluminium. It will have a steel frame and a timber sub-frame.

The brick and aluminium exterior will cut down future maintenance. The ground floor will house the

electricity sub-station, the board room, a small boiler room, the main foyer, the staff lunchroom, a small strong room and the telephone exchange equipment.

### LABORATORY

All the offices, set out in departmental sections, will be on the first floor. At one end, with a view looking out over the port and harbour, will be the harbourmaster's office with an adjoining radio room.

The engineer's department, including an office for the engineer, a drawing room and a small laboratory, will be at the other end.

In between will be the chairman's and the secretary's offices and a general office with separate rooms for the accountant, the typist and the accounting machine.

The centrally-heated building is expected to be ready for use in something over 12 months.

The board then will be able to bring all its departments under one roof instead of having them scattered about in several buildings as at present, Mr. Blyde said.

The board was given Parliamentary authority to go ahead with the work seven or eight years ago but completed more important work first, he said.

### TRANSIT SHEDS

"If we go ahead with the transit sheds—and that seems likely—the board will take over the collection of wharfage dues which is at present undertaken by the Railways Department on a commission basis. It may be that more staff would be needed then," Mr. Blyde added.

The transit sheds would be gone ahead with on a site on reclaimed land near Mikotohahi as soon as satisfactory arrangements over the control of cargo and working arrangements had been made with the shipping companies. He expected finality on the negotiations in the near future.

## FACTORY DISPUTE SETTLED

### HASTINGS; This Day (P.A.)

—A dispute at New Zealand Foods Ltd.'s Hastings factory over a smoking ban imposed on workers was settled yesterday after a meeting between the management and workers.

When the ban on smoking outside the factory buildings was imposed after a Health Department complaint of a cigarette butt being found in a packet of peas, process workers had said that they would continue to smoke outside the buildings.

The secretary of the Hawke's Bay branch of the New Zealand Food Canning and Process Workers' Union, Mr. V. Kala, said on Monday that the workers would "walk out" if anyone was dismissed because of the dispute.

The shop steward of the New Zealand Factory Engineers' Union, Mr. J. Spott, said today the matter had been settled, and that the terms at the factory, to whom the ban had also applied, had agreed to

## £120 fines for hotel licensee

**TIMARU, This Day (P.A.)**—The sale of liquor after hours and the sale of liquor to minors cost the licensee of the Studholme Hotel, James Herbert Oliver, £120 in fines and £10 10/- in court costs in the Magistrate's Court, Waimate, yesterday.

The first of three series of charges was brought after a police inquiry into the supply of liquor to a group of youths and girls involved in a serious motor accident on February 11. Five were admitted to hospital after the accident.

Mr. N. M. Izard, S.M., said he was prepared to treat as "a nominal breach" the selling of liquor after hours to adults. But the sale of liquor to minors, particularly to children under 17, was quite a different matter.

The magistrate told Oliver: "Your conduct on this occasion has been such as to bring the whole of the licensed trade into disrepute, and your actions will reflect on the trade generally."

Oliver was convicted on seven charges relating to offences on February 11 and 19 and March 17. He was fined £10 on each of four charges of selling liquor to minors, and £15, £25 and £40 on charges of selling liquor after hours.

## Storeman faces arson charge

**WELLINGTON, This Day (P.A.)**—The trial of Lafe Lakatos, storeman, on a charge of arson by willfully setting fire to a house in Mortimer Terrace on October 8, began today in the Supreme Court.

Mr. Justice McGregor is on the Bench. Mr. W. R. Birks is appearing for the Crown and Mr. L. G. Rose, with him Mr. I. A. Borrin, for Lakatos.

Outlining the Crown's case, Mr. Birks said that anyone who committed an act which he knew would probably set fire to a house was deemed by law to have set fire to