

ARROWHEAD



1955

FLETCHER

Arrowhead

VOLUME 2 No. 2

PUBLISHED EVERY
TWO MONTHS BY

**FLETCHER
HOLDINGS
LIMITED**

GREAT SOUTH ROAD
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

CHRISTMAS CAROL

I sing of a maiden
That is makeless:
King of all kings
To her Son she ches.

He came all so still
Where his mother lay,
As dew in April
That falleth on the spray.

He came all so still
Where His mother was,
As dew in April
That falleth on the grass.

Mother and maiden
Was never none but she:
Well may such a lady
Godës mother be.

XV Century.

He came all so still,
To his mother's bower,
As dew in April
That falleth on the flower.

*This is one of the many carols
written before the Reformation.
Its exquisite simplicity and grace
have made it a classic. Makeless
= matchless; ches = chose.*



IN THIS ISSUE OF *Arrowhead* we pay tribute to some of the very long-service employees of our company. But to one and all, new in the service like Faye Meredith who joined us in May of this year, or like myself, middle-aged in its service since 1937 (but going grey nevertheless), or growing old in it as Jock Henderson with 45 years' service — to you and all who are dearest to you I wish the very happiest of Christmases and the best of health and prosperity in the New Year.

I am very proud of the job that the organisation has done during the year, which is not to say that we cannot do better in 1956. We at Fletchers' have always been prepared to admit a fault; to profit by our mistakes; rarely to be satisfied with our efforts; to eschew bureaucratic ways; and to offer scope for enterprising and enthusiastic employees in construction, engineering, manufacturing, merchandising or administration.

I am sure that New Zealand offers great scope for initiative, and that Fletchers (which is, after all, only the sum of all our individual abilities and ambitions) can contribute a great deal to our country's development. My father, Sir James, is, I firmly believe, a good example of what an individual with courage, foresight and initiative can do in this great little country of ours.

My grandfather (himself a builder) said you should never build a building which you had to run past. I wouldn't say that Fletchers have never done any jobs that we would not slow down to a gallop to pass, but I can say with conviction that they are very few and far between, and that on the other hand there are very very many jobs of which we are extremely proud.

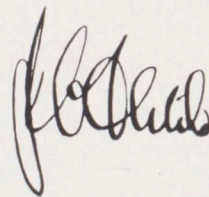
Our business has changed a great deal since my father launched it in Dunedin in 1909. Today we are a big business, but there is no virtue in big business unless it can yield results in terms of more efficient output, while at the same time retaining the human and personal touch which I believe has been a large part of our strength and of which we are very conscious at this time of the year.

In 1954 we embarked on a scheme of re-organisation. At that time Fletchers consisted of over twenty companies, formed or acquired under totally different conditions from those which exist today. The changes we made then were sweeping in their effect and, as was to be expected, under the test of operation some flaws have been revealed which we are in the process of correcting. We have still a long way to go and I believe that with the free exchange of ideas between us, the recognition that we all have a lot to learn as well as to forget, we can build an organisation of which we can all be proud.

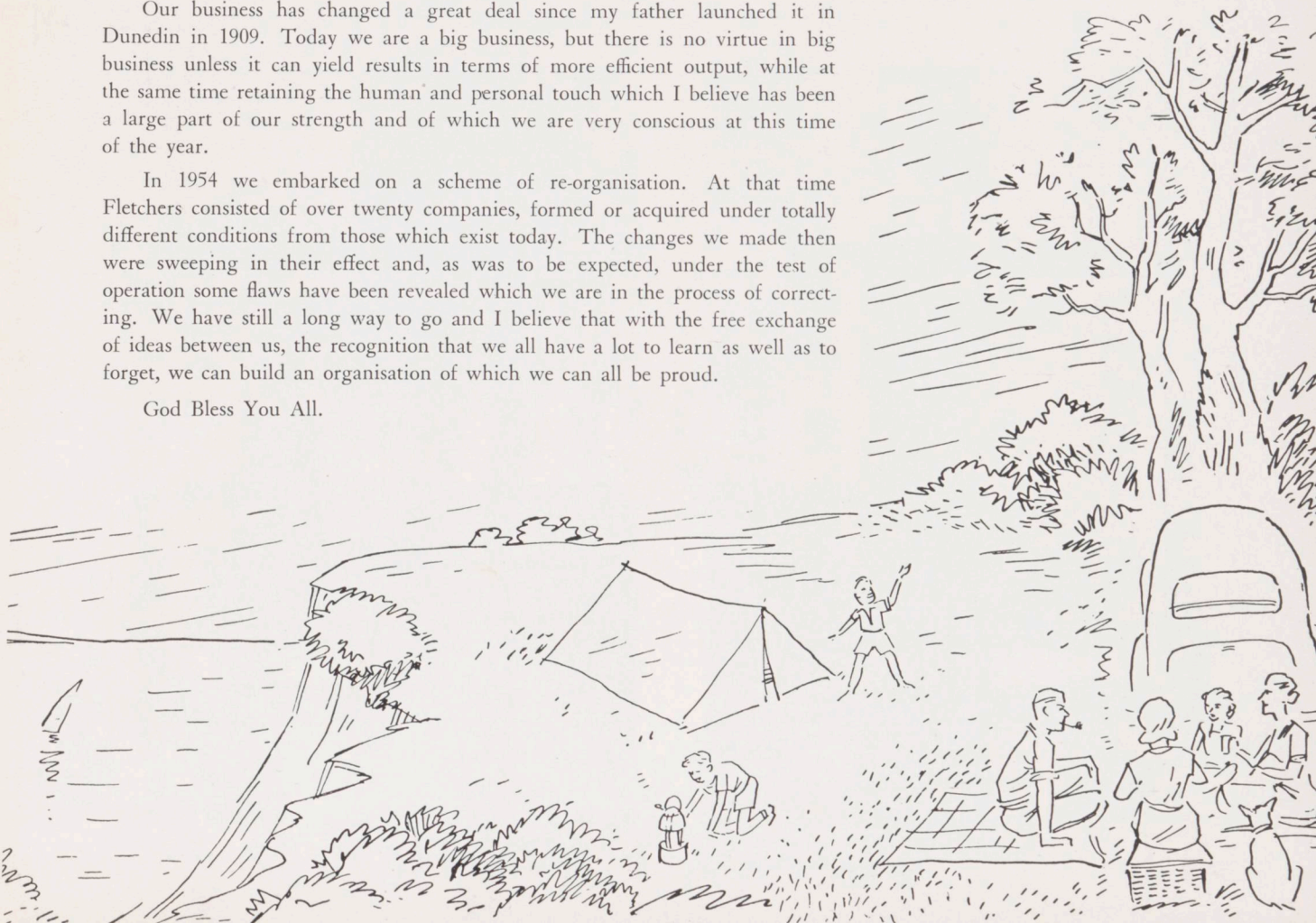
God Bless You All.

Christmas Message

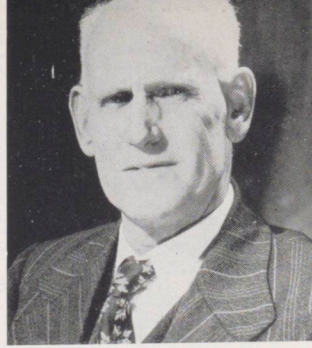
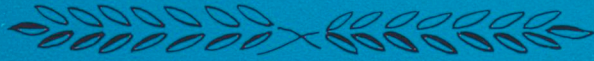
from



1955



GALLERY OF VETERANS



HENRY EVELEIGH
Fletcher Timber, Wellington
41 Years



HORRIE HODGE
Fletcher Steel, Wellington
39 Years

AT CHRISTMAS FUNCTIONS in Fletcher branches all over New Zealand, from Whangarei to Invercargill, there will be presentations to employees with long service.

Twenty-three have qualified for the gold badge to be given to those with more than 30 years' service. Their photographs appear in our gallery of veterans, and two of them deserving very special mention have their biographies published in "Personalia". Both tie for first place with exactly 45 years 6 months with Fletchers.

In order to calculate length of service, time served with companies originally independent but since incorporated in the Group is counted. Some of the companies go back further than the first Fletcher company which was founded in Dunedin in 1909, forty-six years ago. The oldest of these were Stevenson & Cook Engineering Company Limited and Joseph Sparrow Limited, both of Dunedin, and now branches of Fletcher Steel.

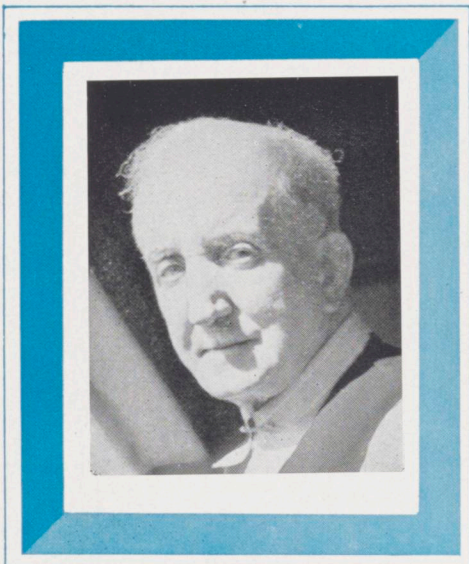
Sterling silver badges are being awarded to thirty-four employees who have twenty years' service or more, and some of these will soon qualify for a 30-year gold badge.

In the 15-20-year group there are seventy-seven who will receive red badges. Blue badges are being awarded to those with 15-20 years to their credit, and they number 103. 220 will receive a green badge for 5-10 years' service.

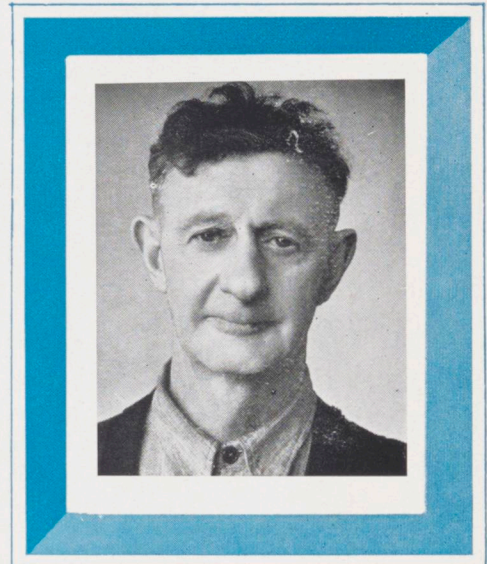
Fletchers honour their veterans and hope that they will wear their long-service pins with the pride they can all share in having helped to build one of New Zealand's largest industrial enterprises.

TOP BRASS

MISSING from our gallery are the familiar faces of some top executives of the Company. They have requested that their photographs should not appear too often. By rights the photos of both A. W. and J. J. Craig should appear, and that of E. L. Young, too: they have all been with Fletchers for more than 30 years. Another absent friend is the man with the longest service of all (since 1909) — the founder and Chairman of Directors — Sir James himself.

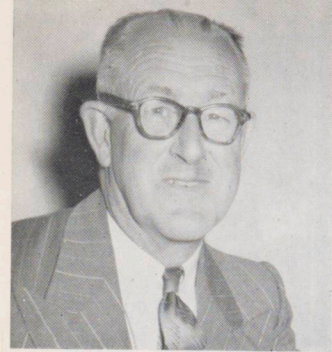


JOCK HENDERSON
Marble Company, Auckland

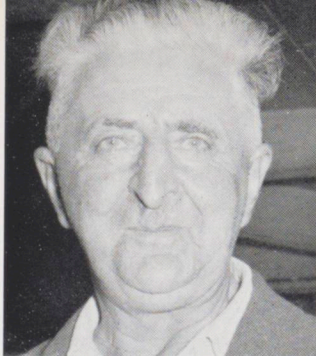


JOCK TUNNAGE
Fletcher Steel, Port Chalmers

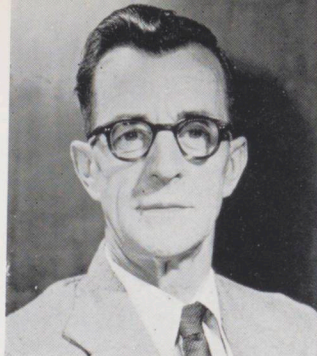
THESE TWO HAVE MORE IN COMMON than their first names. They share the distinction of having the longest service of all — forty-five years' continuous employment. Their biographies are published in brief in the Personalia section.



PHIL COOK
Fletcher Timber, Auckland
35 Years



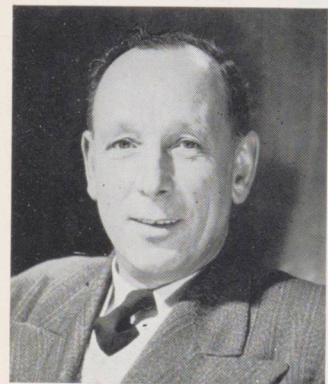
BOB GILLESPIE
Fletcher Steel, Auckland
35 Years



BILL LITTLE
Fletcher Construction, Wellington
35 Years



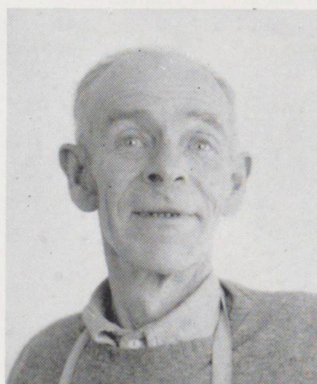
TED LODGE
Fletcher Construction, Wellington
35 Years



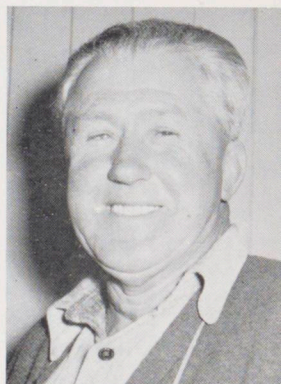
LEN PROSSER
Fletcher Timber, Wellington
35 Years



ERIC WORTH
Fletcher Construction, Wellington
34 Years



NELSON KAY
Fletcher Construction, Auckland
33 Years



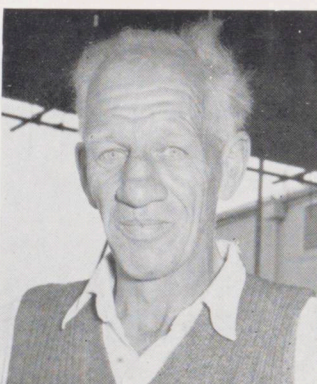
BILL ESPIN
Fletcher Construction, Auckland
32 Years



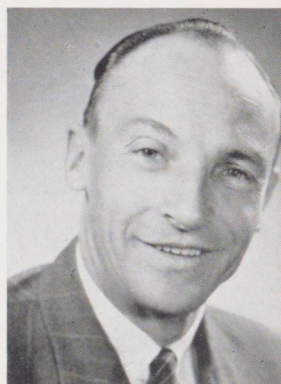
"BLUEY" JAMIESON
Fletcher Construction, Kawerau
32 Years



PERCY LEVESQUE
Fletcher Construction, Auckland
32 Years



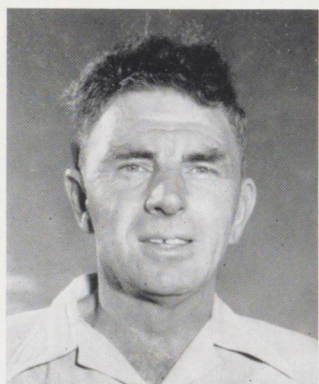
HARRY BLAIR
Fletcher Construction, Auckland
31 Years



ESCOTT HUGHES
Fletcher Steel, Dunedin
31 Years



BILL LAFRENTZ
Fletcher Construction, Wellington
31 Years



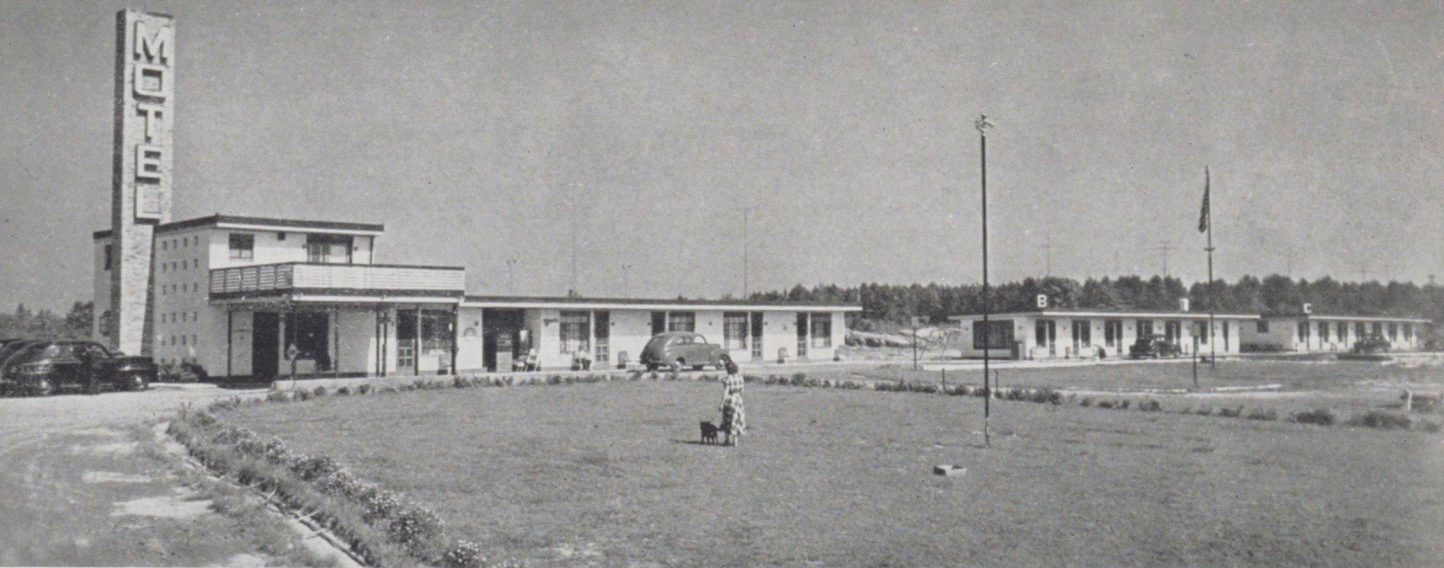
BOB COULSON
Fletcher Timber, Auckland
30 Years



MALCOLM MCGREGOR
Fletcher Timber, Auckland
30 Years



GEORGE MENENDEZ
Fletcher Timber, Palmerston North
30 Years



A typical U.S. Motel—(photo by courtesy Information Section of American Embassy).

"PACIFIC HOTELS" . . .

WITH THE annual holidays near enough to dominate our thoughts, the question is no longer where we are going to spend them, but how we are going to pass the time when we get there.

Those who didn't make up their minds three months ago on the place of their summer vacation are now resigned to make home their base for daily excursions, or they are adventurous enough to take pot luck with car, kids and canvas on a nomadic trip round the motor camps. At this time of the year, every bach, hotel and boarding house is booked for the season, and only a rare cancellation at the last minute can open the door to the latecomers.

For a country as travelworthy as New Zealand, there is a sad lack of facilities for holidaymakers, particularly good hotel accommodation. This need has been aggravated in recent years by the improvement of people's means to afford a holiday away from home, and the extension of trans-Pacific air services has brought New Zealand near enough time-wise for North American and Australian tourists to spend a holiday here.

Representatives of shipping and travel companies and airlines have all given

a twist to the lens which focuses the spotlight on this accommodation defect in what is otherwise described abroad as the world's best packaged tour. The Government has become aware of how much potential income the country is failing to derive from tourism, and has created a new portfolio of Tourist and Health Resorts. The Minister, the Honourable E. H. Halstead has been taking a special interest in the need for more and better tourist hotels, and the question has become a popular topic in the press.

This year, a group of the Dominion's leading travel services put their heads together to find a way out. The problem is to provide top-flight, bay-view accommodation at second-flight rear prices in a time of rising costs and shrinking credit. The answer looks something like the popular American motel of one or two storey wooden construction, which stays out of town, not only to avoid expensive main-street sites, but also to suit the convenience of motorists and allow space for recreation such as tennis and swimming.

Data gathered overseas by this group was passed on to the Industrial Consulting Division of The Fletcher Construction Company Limited which

was commissioned to investigate the economics of the scheme, translate it into the New Zealand idiom and to show what it looked like on paper.

The result was the recently-announced proposal for three highway hotels which would be the first links in a chain of stopping places connecting the main resorts.

The term "motel" has been avoided because, erroneously, it would suggest a variation of the motor camp. The proposed houses, to be called "Pacific Hotels" are a far cry from motor-camp accommodation, and would offer comforts and facilities superior in most respects to anything at present in the country. Spacious rooms, built in units of six, will look out on to private lawns and shrubbery: each will have its own bath and toilet and is designed to be a sitting room by day and a bedroom at night. Central heating can be provided in the thermal areas by natural steam which will be piped throughout. Covered ways will connect the accommodation wings with a luxurious lounge and dining room to be centrally sited for view and sun.

Extensive grounds are a feature of the hotels designed for Rotorua and Huka Falls, the latter having a natural

hot pool and tepid swimming bath apart from tennis courts and putting green. The traveller can drive right up to his room and park the car outside, a great convenience for overnight stoppers and an ideal arrangement for holidaymakers who want to make day trips with gear for picnics or fishing.

Each of the three hotels will accommodate sixty guests and if present plans go smoothly, it is expected that they will be completed in time for the 1956 Christmas trade.

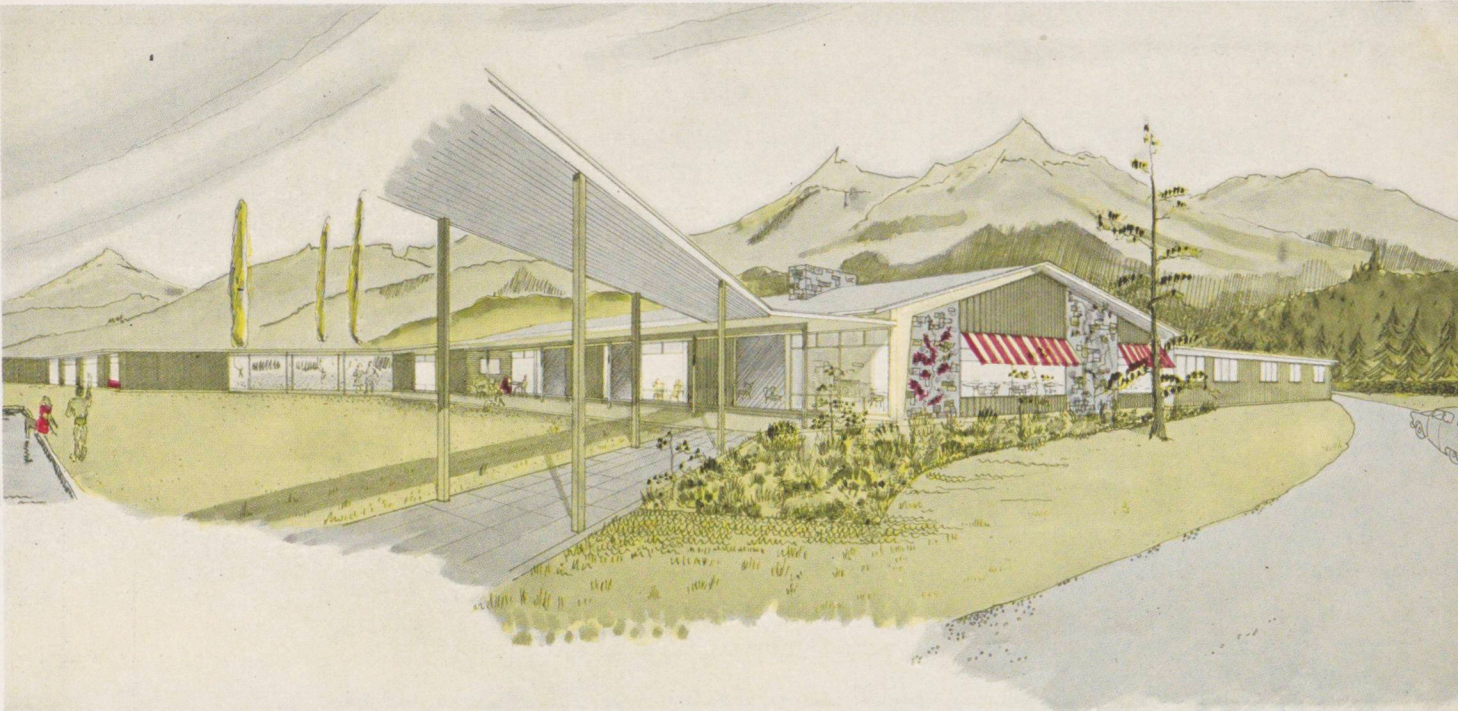
If the scheme is approved by those authorities who have the final say in these matters, it is intended to form a public company which will include among its shareholders the three travel services which are promoting the scheme, together with firms experienced in the hotel business.

It could be the beginning of a new deal for tourists and for one of our neglected national assets. It certainly holds out a better chance next year for the dilatory ones who couldn't make up their minds last winter where to go this summer or who had the door shut in their faces because there just wasn't enough accommodation to go round.



"Oh dear, this is going to be harder than I thought."

(from *The New Yorker*)



Architect's perspective of proposed Pacific Hotel for Huka Falls

"Tradition . . . cannot be inherited, and if you want it you must obtain it by great labour. It involves, in the first place, the historical sense. . ."

T. S. ELIOT, 1917

MANY OF US looking at these drawings of Lee-Johnson will incline to feelings of sentimentality as people often do when confronted by images of their past. Yet the drawings are not sentimental. It is their virtue to represent finely and objectively both the form and the spirit of these earlier New Zealand buildings. They are without undue bias or emphasis, clear and unequivocal images of the past from which we have grown. They have a value beyond the pleasure we may take in them as fine drawings for they record the beginnings of a New Zealand tradition.

A man, an industry and a nation need a lively sense of their own roots, and of the direction in which they hope to proceed. They need a recognisable tradition within which to accomplish their constructive tasks. These drawings are our backward glance whence we have come. They pose uncomfortable questions; by our answers history will place and judge us. Where are we going, we in New Zealand and in the building industry, and why? Is the process of inevitable change really development or merely change? Do we grow within a living and established tradition or are we wandering in the wasteland of "progress"?

These three drawings give us an answer from our past. Is it not probable that a more profound appreciation of the qualities of the house in Onehunga may have saved for our greater pleasure and dignity some of its own natural urbanity, its unaffected elegance and propriety? Was it necessary to lose so much to provide the State house with modern conveniences? Have we not traded-in our tradition for a mess of plumbing?

The quiet confidence of this house should shock us into realisation that our suburban is "sub urban", less than town, yet not country; a bitter confirmation of our present often mentioned but unacknowledged monotonous mediocrity.

And does not the Panmure house represent our countryside and the open rolling country more sympathetically than could any verandah-less brick bungalow escaped from the sub-urbs to some unfortunate farm?

And if the mock stone facade of the Beachcroft Avenue "office" (Bank? Insurance Company?) looks dejected and pathetic in decay, can we be sure we are not merely building bigger, more expensive and more vulgar facades to our city centres?

At this time of the year when men are accustomed to look back on the past, the young men to wonder whence they have come, and the reflective old to wonder where they are being taken, this reconsideration comes easily, and the sense of belonging, the sense of tradition is strongest.

—W.D.W.



The drawings on this page are by one of New Zealand's most artists, Eric Lee-Johnson, who lives up North near Auckland some time now. Mr. Lee-Johnson has been recording with his brush some of New Zealand's older homesteads, houses, buildings, and all other particular studies are within a distance of Penrose. One of the earliest studies on the drawings has been purchased and will be hung in the foyer of our offices. W. D. Wilson, A.N.Z. Auckland architect, views he expresses a

Office at Beachcroft Avenue, Onehunga



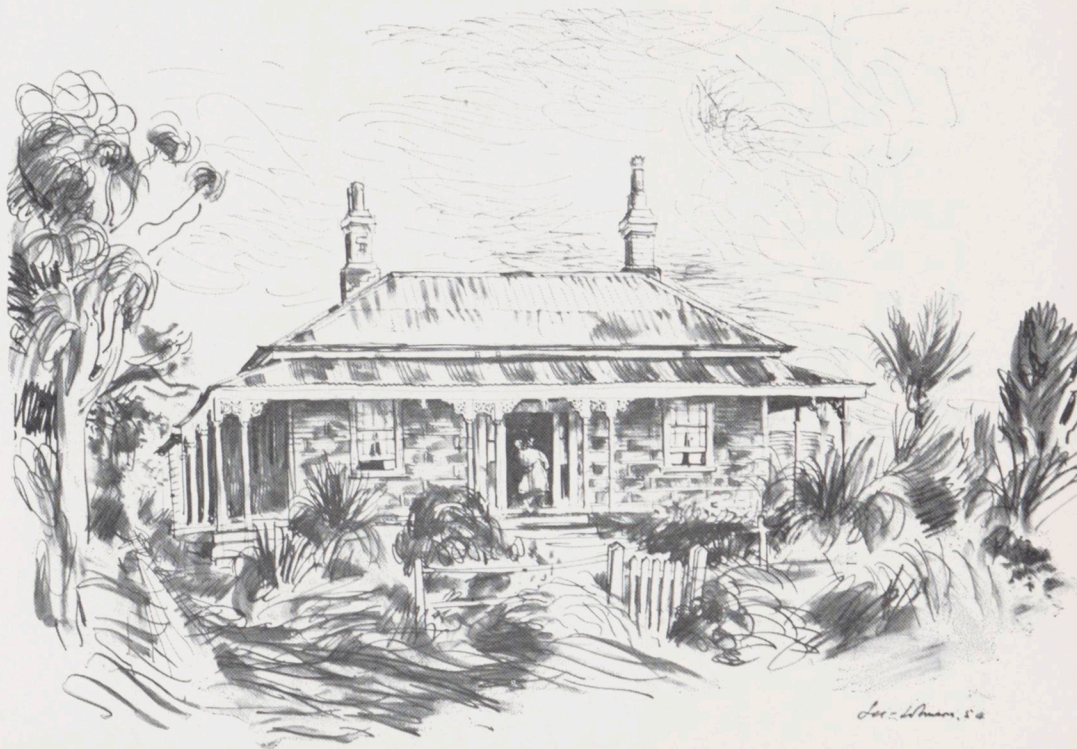
House at Onehunga

Lee Johnson '86

Tradition — not Sentiment!

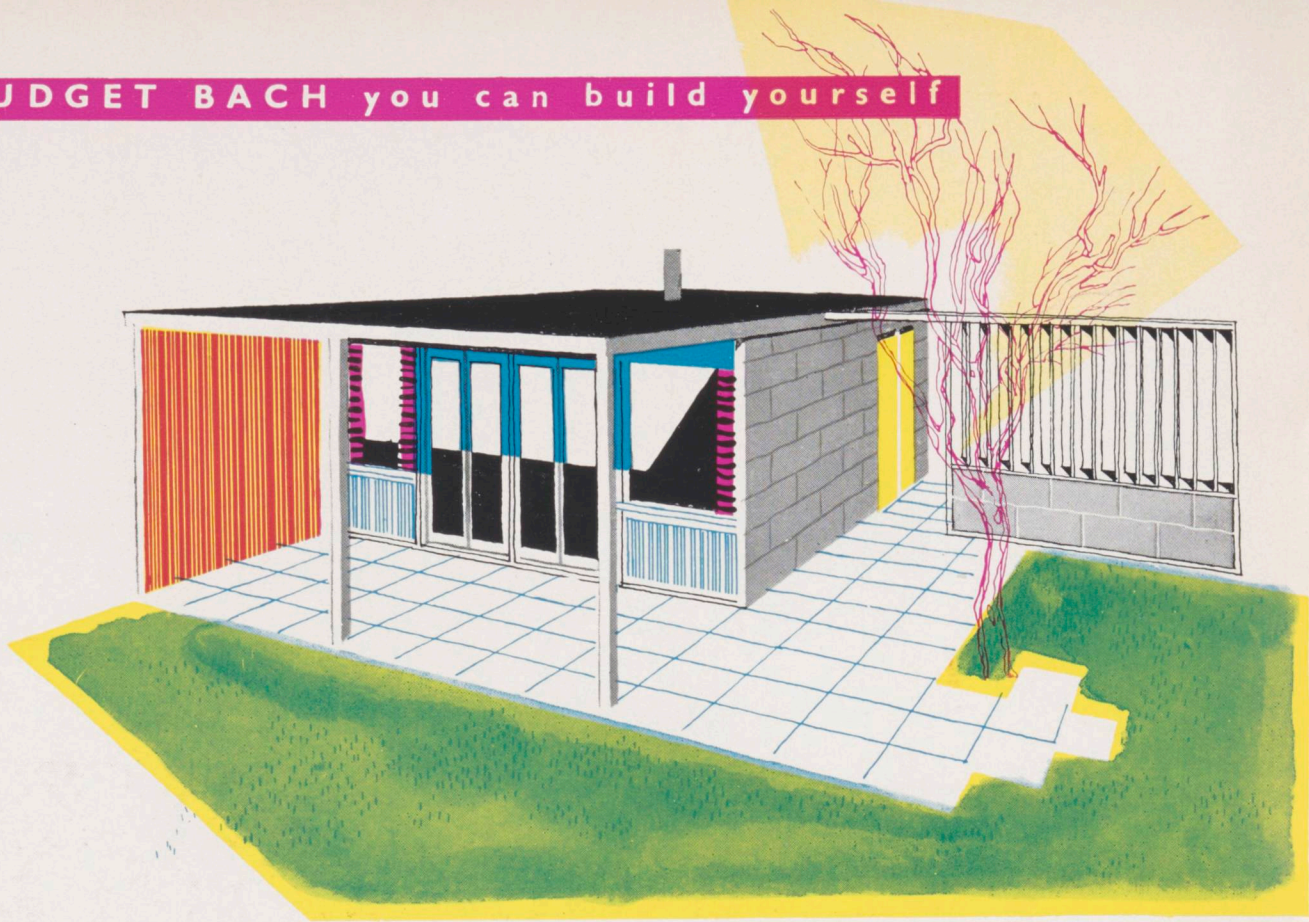
These pages
 Zealand's fore-
 Lee-Johnson, who
 at Hokianga. For
 Lee-Johnson has
 with his pen and
 New Zealand's
 houses and
 of these par-
 within walking
 strangely enough
 settled parts of
 free drawings
 from him
 in the new
 The comment
 has been written by
 N.Z.I.A., an
 and the
 are his own.

House at Panmure



Lee Johnson '86

A BUDGET BACH you can build yourself



"Cabana"—a perspective drawing.

How a MAN spends his surplus cash (if he has any) is largely a matter of custom. When a Pakistani has money beyond his primary needs he acquires a second wife, and you can make a safe guess that an American in the same position would buy a second car. But a New Zealander, inhibited by monogamous laws and lukewarm about competing in the neighbourhood stakes, is most likely to put his hypothetical surplus into outdoor enjoyment. He will get a boat or a motor mower or some fishing tackle or, if funds run to it, a second place of residence where he can escape on weekends and holidays.

Even so it is a fairly costly extra, unless his family, when staying at the beach or lakeside, are prepared to rough it (as they usually are) and to lend a hand to build their holiday retreat which, south of the 41st parallel, they will call a "crib" or, in the more civilising temperature of the north, a "bach".

Most baches are built by rule of thumb and a hatful of confidence, but the results are mainly strictly utilitarian and a bit offensive to the eye. There are also some attractive custom-built cottages at the more fashionable resorts, but *Arrowhead* is interested here in the problem of the handyman whose skill is limited and whose bank account is in

his back pocket. In association with the Sales Division of Fletcher Industries, we have had an architect design a modest bach that is easy to build and easier still to look at. Plans, working drawings and quantity schedules in duplicate will be made available at a nominal cost to readers. One copy is for inclusion with your application to the local body for a building permit. The small fee includes the cost of building instructions, now in course of preparation, explaining each stage of construction.

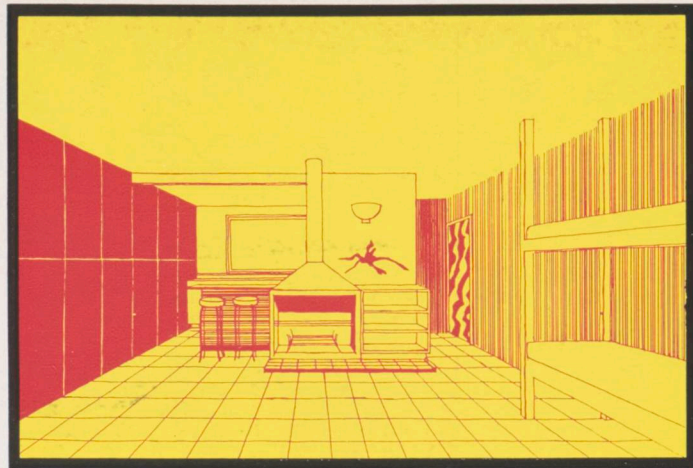
The cost of the materials in the bach is estimated at £550. This figure includes all hardware and glass, and also made-up joinery which alone accounts for nearly one third of this figure. If you want frivolous extras such as an electric cooker or a flush toilet they must be assessed separately with the chandeliers and venetian blinds. Included in the cost is an open fireplace for cooking barbecue meals. This is an all-purpose bach which more likely than not will be put up away from electric power supply, but where a ten minute excursion with an axe will get you all the fuel you need. Provision is made for a chemical toilet under the same roof, but reached from outside the building so that it is well sealed off from living and cooking space. This is not permitted in all counties and it is necessary

to check with the local authority when applying for a permit. Plumbing for the shower unit and hand basin can be "pre-fabbed", but the fitting and finishing of wastes would have to be done on the site by a registered plumber. Electrical wiring, too, must be done by a registered tradesman, and these labour costs are not included in the estimated price.

The perspective shows the bach built on a concrete slab, but working drawings give alternative details of a conventional T. & G. (tongue and groove) floor and sub-floor construction. No ceilings are required if T. & G. sarking dressed both sides is used with dressed rafters and purlins. Wall linings could be of interior Weldtex or Paneltex varnished or painted in attractive colours either patterned or used as straight panels.

The bach is sheathed in Durock sidings, and the porch is lined with exterior Weldtex. The flat roof consists of 3 layers of 2-ply Duroid roll roofing. All these materials are easy to apply and competitive in price.

"Cabana" is designed for out-door living. The windows are placed at front and rear only, giving plenty of light and free passage of air during the hot summer months. This arrangement also saves more complex joinery. The Durock asbestos sidings contribute to coolness in the summer with their excellent insulating qualities: they keep the cold out, too, during winter holidays, and, possibly as important as any other quality, they stand up to sun, sand and sulphur and don't require painting.



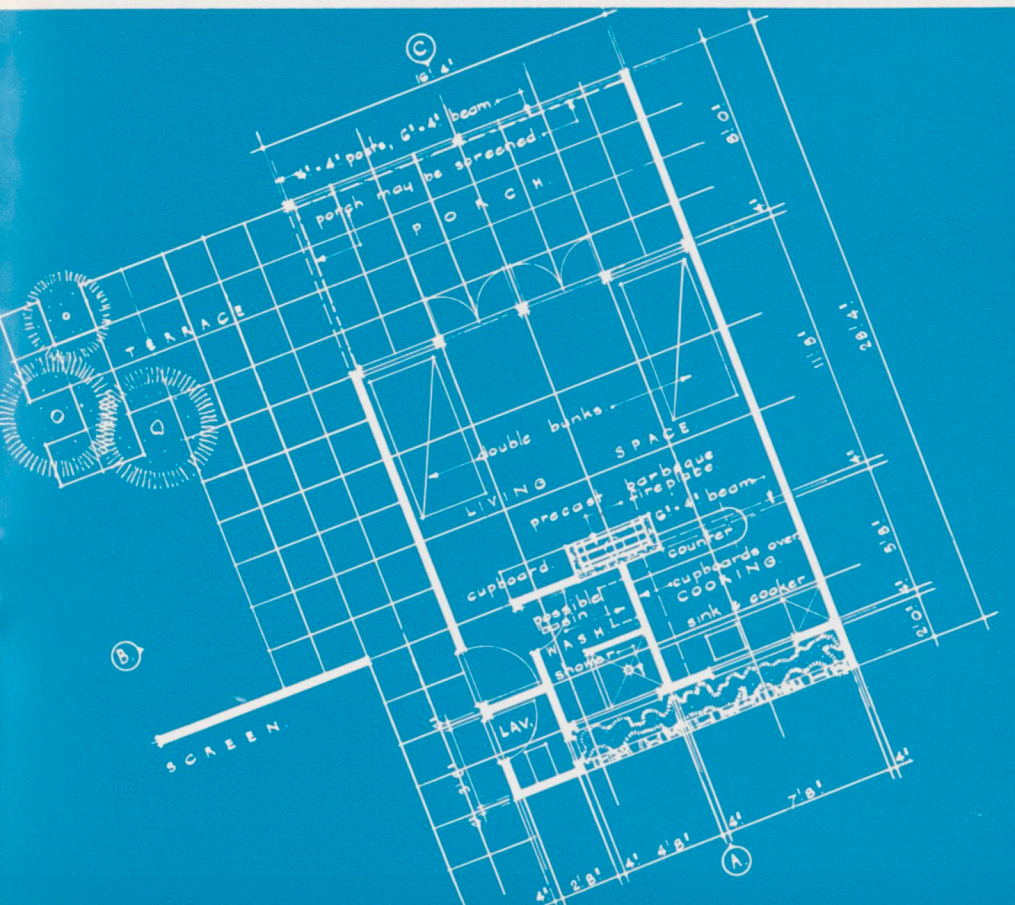
Interior showing barbecue fireplace.

Sleeping arrangements are flexible and parts of the living room can be curtained-off if need be. The covered terrace adds ample space for extra camp beds and can be shielded from the rain by the addition of canvas blinds. The screen shown on the right-hand side of the drawing is an added feature which enhances the appearance and lends privacy and shelter from the wind. Imagination can be used to give

an individual character with small expenditure on fences and planting.

Here is the answer to the small family's holiday problem at a relatively low cost. Readers interested in building "Cabana" are spared the trouble of having plans drawn and working out quantities.

Write for details to The Editor, *Arrowhead*, c/o Fletcher Holdings Ltd., Private Bag, Auckland.



Plan of the bach.

I'd like to tell you about the

Smoke Concert

in Rotorua last month.

from Kinleith



and Rangitaiki



It started off on the right note .



There were a few

we settled down to serious business



singing,



and music too



all the boys were really merry



and we'd have

1—Bill Morrison (Purchasing).

2—Kinleith Mill Group.

3—Rangitaiki Mill Group (Bill Reid, Manager, on left).

4—Hugh Fraser (Logging Contractor), and Group of Executives.

5—Parke Horne (Purchasing).

6—Clarence E. McCleary, Esq.

7—Des Sutcliffe.

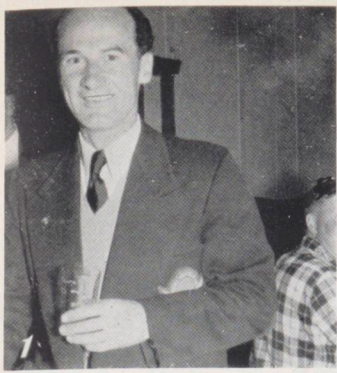
8—Lou Hahn, Bill Bourke.

9—Tom Roberts and Bunny Wetene (Rotoma Bush and Ngongotaha Mill).

10—Ngongotaha Mill Boys.

11—Hori Anaru, Colin Bidois, Noel Wilson, Bill Nikora (Rotorua Office, Kinleith Office, Ngongotaha Mill and Kinleith Mill).

12—Hori Anaru, Bill Morrison, Henry Anaru. (All from Rotorua Office).



Timber types came from all the Mills in the district



and even the city slickers from Auckland were there.

speeches



and formalities,



then

—There was eating,



and drinking,



—to say nothing of the clowns.



By midnight

stayed longer . . . if there'd been more !



13—Hori Anaru, Bill Bourke, Bill Morrison, Lou Hahn, Henry Anaru.
14—Darkie Agnew, Roy Baigent and Des Beckett (Roading Foreman, Mill Engineer and Plant Supervisor).
15—Dick Bidois (Atiamuri Bush).

Personalia



AUCKLAND

CONGRATULATIONS: To Dave Lewis (Purchasing) on the birth of a daughter; to Jack Stanley (Vulcan) on the birth of a daughter; to Joan Fox and Barry Clark who have announced their engagement; to Graham Leach who has been selected for the Water Polo Training Squad from which the New Zealand team for the Olympic Games will be selected; to Eric Tonner (Draughting Office) who has attained his A.M.I.Struc.E.

WELCOME: to Barbara Halcrow (Head Office); Allen Wilson who has been transferred from Wellington to become General Purchasing Agent at Head Office; to Bill Simmonds (Fletcher Timber); to Una Tomlinson (Head Office); to Arthur Shaw who has just returned from a six months tour abroad.

FAREWELL: To Ken Grenney; to Hugh Brown (Sales & Services); to Ian Wooller (Handyman's Yard) whose place has been taken by Geoff. Gilchrist.

CRICKET: The staff club have had their first practice and hope to play informal games outside of the competition during the season.

TENNIS: A tournament was held on the 12th November and the mixed doubles were won by Joan Fox and Peter Dunn.

Pascoe Cup, February, 1956: Would anyone interested in representing the Firm in this floodlit tournament please contact Doug Lawton, phone 596-099, extension 731. Practices commence soon to select a team of four.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: It is proposed to form a debating society and interested people are invited to get in touch with Alan Parker (Purchasing Division).

The staff social committee has combined with the social committees of Plyco and Fletcher Timber to organise a Christmas picnic to be held at Tui Glen on 18th December. There will be a Christmas tree for the children and free transportation will be provided.

The Vulcan Social Club will be holding its Christmas party in the Trades Hall on the 17th December. Santa Claus and a magician will be in attendance.

A Christmas social in the Glassworks Hall for Plyco and Fletcher Timber was held on the 10th December.

WELLINGTON Wisdom

CONGRATULATIONS: To Laurie Warwick on the birth of a daughter; to Johnny Robinson, a daughter; and to Tom Soloman a son.

FAREWELL: To Allen Wilson who has transferred to Auckland. His place (Purchasing Agent) has been taken by Matt Martin; to Keith Lear (Quantities) who has recently left.

CRICKET: Fletcher Holdings Cricket Club have suffered their first loss in a series of 21 competition games. This season they have had four wins and one draw and now hold first place in the championship with two points in the lead.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: A successful picnic was held at Maidstone Park, Upper Hutt, on the 3rd December.

CHRISTCHURCH News

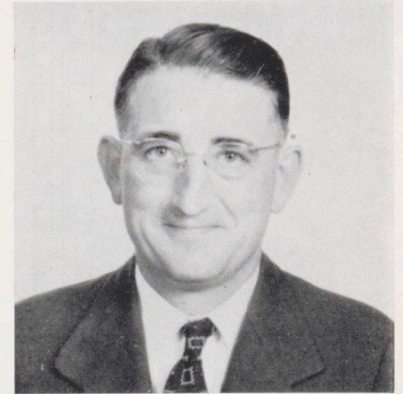
CONGRATULATIONS: To R. C. Rogers (F. C.C.) on the birth of a daughter; to E. H. Schaab (F.C.C.) a son; to L. R. Henry (F.C.C.) a daughter; to L. Berry (I. & A.) a daughter; to Noel Clark (Fletcher Industries) on his recent marriage; to Jim Collenzo, apprentice carpenter, who has received the distinction of being one of the 13 Canterbury Boy Scouts chosen to attend the Pan Pacific Jamboree in Melbourne.

CRICKET: The team held its first match of the season against a local team known as "Joe's Eleven" and won by a short margin.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: A successful dance, social evening and smoke concert were held at the end of the month.

LONDON Calling

CONGRATULATIONS: To Ted Furness of the London office on the occasion of his marriage to Dinah Gallagher. Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Craig, Alex Marks and Miss Parrott were among the guests.



We are very sorry to have to announce that K. E. F. (Ken) Grenney has resigned from the Company to take up a position as General Manager of Hill & Plummer Limited (Merchants) in Auckland.

Ken joined us shortly after his arrival from the United Kingdom in 1947 and started with the Dominion Sales Corporation (D.S.C.) in Christchurch.

Not long afterwards he was promoted to Manager of D.S.C. in Dunedin; then South Island Manager in Christchurch. He continued his northward and upward journey with the Wellington Managership in 1951 and the Auckland post in 1953. In March of 1954 he took on the responsibility for setting up our Purchasing Division and carried the title of Chief Purchasing Officer.

Ken and his cheerful wife Kate will be missed in Fletcher affairs, but we wish him every success in his new job, and we in Auckland are pleased to know that he will not be leaving the 'Queen' city.

SYDNEY Section

Supervisor 'Bluey' Whittleston and family are due in New Zealand on the 14th December for their first visit since 1951 and look forward to meeting old acquaintances. Recorded in the visitors' book at Sydney are the recent arrivals and departures of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Fletcher; Keith Smith (Fletcher Steel, Dunedin); Bill Bourke (Fletcher Timber); Fred Brown (Fletcher Sales & Services); Jerry W. Komes (Vice-President, The Bechtel Corporation, U.S.A.); Mr. and Mrs. Frank Scott and Bill Middleton (both of Bechtel Corporation, U.S.A.); Harrell Rusk (Foreign Projects Manager, Raymond Concrete Pile Co. U.S.A.).

JOCK HENDERSON

JOCK HENDERSON left Rutherglen in his native Scotland in 1910 and finally arrived in Dunedin, via San Francisco and Brisbane in that year. Shortly after arrival he began working with the late Mr. William Fletcher on the construction of the Dunedin Public Baths. Later, but still before the outbreak of World War I, he worked in Auckland on the City Markets project before the reclamation stage.

Came the War, and Jock went overseas with the 1st N.Z.E.F. in 1916. He was wounded at Passchendale and returned to New Zealand in 1918.

For the six years following his discharge from the Army, he was employed on the construction side and in 1926 he was transferred to the Marble Company which had been formed in 1923 to handle the stonework for the Auckland University College; at that time he was working on the Dilworth Building contract.

Jock has contributed to a great number of major contracts, including the facing of the Government Buildings in Jean Batten Place, the Civic Theatre, the Power Board Buildings and the Savage Memorial in Auckland; the Stout Street Government Building, the Railway Station and the Carillon in Wellington; the South British Insurance Building in Christchurch, and the Dunedin Post Office, together with many others throughout the years. Grand memorials to a life of hard work! Buildings in every main centre of New Zealand are lasting tributes to men like Jock.

Although a Kiwi in his own right after all these years, Jock has retained both his Scots accent and nature. When asked for a few words on the subject of Fletchers he refused to be drawn beyond stating, "The fact that I've stayed sae lang proves I'm nae d'satisfied!"

Unlike many of the younger generation, Jock has definite plans for the future. Needless to say these are closely associated with the Marble Company, whose staff are all confident that he will be on the job with them for many years yet.



Glen Kane, son of Ted Kane (Purchasing Division, Auckland), is employed by Steelco, Canada's largest steel enterprise in Hamilton, Ontario. In a recent letter to Ted he had some interesting comments to make about the article in the September issue of *Arrowhead* on the proposed reclamation scheme for Hobson Bay:—

"What an opportunity presents itself to start a whole fresh city centre with room to move and in keeping with Auckland's status as a big city. New Zealand has got to get out of the habit of saying 'we are a small country and therefore such things are impossible.' Imagine rounding North Head and being confronted with a view of tall white buildings in modern architectural styles.

"Queen Street is hopeless; it is just not feasible to do anything significant with the mess that has been handed down from past years and Auckland should be thankful to have the opportunity for a second chance."

Eric Baverstock who left Plant Hire to become Production Engineer with Steam Generators Pty. Ltd., of Perth, Australia,

writes to say that reading *Arrowhead* enables him to live again among old friends and enjoy their successes. Eric has asked us to publish his address in this column in case any of his friends would care to write to him; it is—48 Second Avenue, Mount Lawley, Perth, W. Australia.

Rene Starling, who also left to go to Australia to occupy a position with a Public Relations Agency in Melbourne, keeps in touch with fairly regular correspondence. He asks to be remembered to friends in Fletchers to whom he does not have time to write.

AUCKLAND OFFICE STAFF SOCIAL CLUB

Special Christmas Dance

Friday, 16th December
at 8 p. m. at

Tamaki Yacht Club Hall
Waterfront Drive
(St. Heliers Bay Bus)

GOOD MUSIC - NOVELTY ITEMS
BUFFET SUPPER
Admission 15/- double

JOCK TUNNAGE

JOCK TUNNAGE first entered the service of Stevenson & Cook Engineering Company Limited in Port Chalmers in August, 1910. He served his apprenticeship as a moulder in the shop where he still works, now as foreman moulder. Once, moulding was the most important section of the work at Stevenson & Cooks and he has been in charge of as many as 22 men. Now, owing to the shift of emphasis to steel fabrication, and ship repairs, he has only one moulder and one apprentice.

His biggest casting was an 8-ton propellor base for the *Tehoa* when she was on her maiden voyage to New Zealand in 1925. Jock made the driving wheels for the Timaru dredge, and a 5-ton main cylinder for the *Waipahi* was, he says, the most intricate job he has taken on. The largest ship the firm ever had in the docks for repair was the *James Larsen* from Norway and they had to extend the docks to accommodate her.

Jock has photographs of ships in for repair dating back to 1918 and his collection of anecdotes about things that happened in the factory during his time are an entertainment to tax the forbearance of the amusement tax collectors. His most amusing story concerns the *Times* reporter who came from Dunedin to "cover" the casting of a special moulding. In his more serious moments the reporter was a lay reader in the "kirk" and Jock had the door locked to protect the ecclesiastical ears from the expletives which he says, go with a good moulding.

Still a very active man, Jock has had a go at many things including football, rowing, shooting and boxing too—although he says that now he lets discretion take the better part of valour. His present hobby is gardening, with perhaps a spell at the local "now and agin." He has had some experience in legal affairs, having served over 30 times on the jury, including six murder trials, but his only legal offence was riding a bike on the footpath.

Jock is now deputy superintendent of the Port Chalmers Volunteer Fire Brigade. He has two sons and a daughter and six grandchildren.

FRIENDS IN NEED

Mr. Maitland Munro who has been on the office staff of the Plywood factory in Christchurch since 1950, received more than a reasonable share of misfortune when his home was burned down to the ground recently.

The fire, which started in the middle of the night, spread so quickly that Mr. Munro and his wife had barely time to save their children. All their property, clothes and furniture were lost.

Offers of help immediately poured in from fellow workers in the Plywood Factory; this spread to the Durock factory and finally nearly every section of the Fletcher organisation in Christchurch, including the management and the social club, was doing something to enable Mr. and Mrs. Munro to get established in a home again.

Working bees have been organised for each week-end and the project for a new home was last month at the concrete-pouring stage.

It is good to know that Fletcher employees, like any other big family, rally round so willingly when one of their members strikes trouble.

SAFETY DEVICE

Rubber safety stoppers are available for Fletcher pins. After pushing the pin through the lapel of your coat, fix the rubber stopper on the end of the pin. This will prevent "working-out" and possible loss.

