

He Maramara Korero

TRIUMPHANT ORATORS

The 1980 Korimako and Pei Te Hurinui Jones Speech Contests were held at Wairoa, with winners (from left): Derek Lardelli of Gisborne Boys High School (Pei Te Hurinui Jones); Darrin Apanui, Te Aute College (Korimako junior section); and Karen Hoko Te Moana, Opotiki College (Korimako senior section).

Said organiser Mr Rangi Paku, "Maori elders in Wairoa were delighted to know that the standard of Maori oratory is still so high and that the spark is showing no signs of dying.

"It was obvious that there were many tribes represented . . . there were a dozen groups each eagerly supporting their own contestant.

"But out of the apparent diversity came the overwhelming impression of



solidarity and unity among the people. New pledges were taken and old ones reaffirmed; new friends were made and old friends re-united."

Of the speeches themselves he continued that they "were of a very high calibre, reflecting a thoughtfulness and concern for living in a dual-culture

society, dealing with maintaining identity — a major problem facing Maori people."

The contests are sponsored by the Maori Education Foundation and the Post-Primary Teachers Association. The 1981 contests will be held at St Stephen's School.

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