

Cadman and Sir John McKenzie, and the allotment of some small reserves for the owners round the Wairarapa Lakes, are kept back through sheer indifference or culpable neglect, and while Nero fiddles Rome burns. How long will the North Islanders submit to such an unhappy state of things? Were it to take a special session of Parliament, and cost £100,000 to enable the necessary legislation to be passed to deal with this burning question, the time and money would be a mere bagatelle. This is a matter far above all party politics, and surely it is not beyond the capacity of our legislators to devise some measure, which, while doing justice towards and saving a noble race from extinction, will also save the honour of the colony, and at the same time open up these idle millions of acres, the locking up of which so greatly retards its progress."

In conversation at Gisborne last week, Mr. Ngata, who is a candidate for the Eastern Maori seat, said he was opposed to the latest development in Maori land legislation, the Maori Land Settlement Bill. He stated that the Maori councils had not demanded that any measure should be passed to tie up their lands. He had found among the settlements a unanimous desire to throw them open. If the old Act were to remain in force, the natives on the East Coast thought an amendment should be passed permitting extended leases of native lands. The natives would speedily lease. Mr. Carroll, he said, had jumped from the optional to compulsory system.

A meeting of the supporters of Mr. E. W. Alison, M.H.R., in connection with the forthcoming contest for the Waitemata seat, was held in the Zion Hall, Birkenhead, last Thursday night. The meeting was a thoroughly representative one, and the proceedings were of a most enthusiastic character. Amongst those present was Mr. C. E. Button, who occupied the chair. Mr. Button referred to the services of Mr. Alison in the House, and to his efficient representation of the electorate since his election three years ago. A very strong committee was formed, with Mr. Thompson as chairman, and Mr. B. T. Hawkins as secretary.

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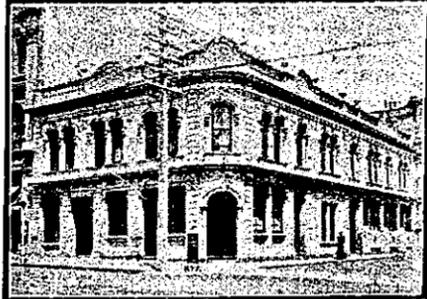
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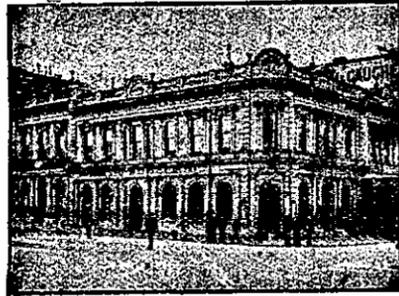
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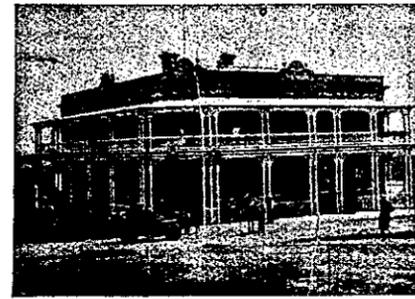
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