

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Eady, who have been on a ten-months' trip to England and the United States, returned to Auckland last week.

The Hon. E. Mitchelson and Mrs. Mitchelson left Auckland by the Niagara on a trip to Australia.

Mr. Walter Labone, of Wellington, has been appointed house steward of the Wellington Hospital, vice Mr. H. Fox, resigned. There were 67 applications.

A message from Melbourne states that the Australian-owned steel barque Warthara has been sold to British buyers for £18,000, or at the rate of £18 a ton.

As showing the keen demand for dwellings in Wellington, it was mentioned in the Supreme Court recently by a land agent in a compensation claim, that he sold a property at Hataitai for £1800, and the purchaser resold the property within a week at an advance of £300.

Advice has been received that Captain J. D. Holmes, D.S.O., of the Tunnelling Company, who is arriving by the Arawa on November 19, has been mentioned in dispatches.

In about two years—unless unexpected difficulties arise—Melbourne, it is stated, will have one of the largest and most elaborate picture theatres in the world. It will have a seating accommodation of 3000, and room for an orchestra of 40, and will be equipped with all the newest features from America. It is stated that the total cost of the building and land will be something like £500,000. Mr. "Sol" Green and a number of others intend to erect the theatre on a block 160ft. by 132ft. at the Tourist Bureau corner of Collins and Swanston streets, which they bought in 1915. The building will include a cafe, possibly a cabaret, and some seven stories of offices. There will be eight or ten stories altogether, the total height of the building being about 132ft. It is understood that an equally elaborate picture theatre is to be built by another syndicate on the west side of Swanston Street.

One of the principal undertakings in connection with the opening up of the Far North is the bridging of the Great Northern Waeroa River at Dargaville. Mr. R. E. Hornblow, Mayor of Dargaville, who has made several visits to Wellington in connection with this and other matters, informed a "Post" reporter that the plans, etc., have now been approved by the Public Works Department, and within a week or so tenders will be called for the work, which, it is estimated, will cost about £30,000. The bridge will be three-quarters of a mile in length, and will be built across the river opposite the township, thereby opening up some tens of thousands of acres of the richest country north of Auckland. Provision has been made in the plans for a navigable opening to allow the passage of vessels of considerable size.

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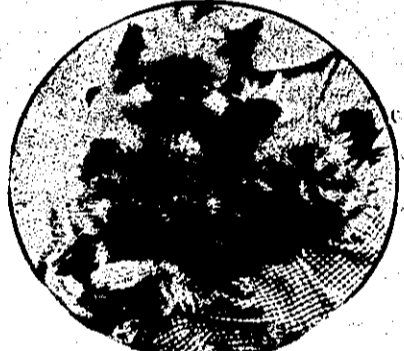
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