Crystal-Gazer 1



WHAT future has the South Island—the Mainland—of New Zealand? What changes will it see in the next 15 years? In The Canterbury Crystal, six talks to be heard from 3YA, starting on Thursday, January 21, at 7.15 pm. L. C. Walker (above) will describe the sort of future he thinks it might have if present day Mainlanders had the vision and initiative of the early pioneers. For the last few months Mr. Walker has held in Christchurch an exhibition illustrating the points he will discuss in his broadcasts.

During the next 15 years, Mr. Walker points out, the world population will increase by about 300 million. The South Island has only 11 persons to the square mile, yet it is one of the easiest places in "our quarter of the earth"—the British Commonwealth—to develop. As a major step in this development, he suggests that 100 new cities of 10,000 people each, and each with its own major, intensely-developed farm, should be established.

Mr. Walker speaks as a man of experience in the development of new areas, as he opened up Diamond Harbour for the Lyttelton Borough Council over 40 years ago and built a village at Hornby over 25 years ago.

Now in his middle sixties, Mr. Walker is known to a great number of people, in Christchurch particularly, for his advocacy over the years of greater vision in developing New Zealand's resources. As a young man Mr. Walker was a commercial traveller, and while still in his early twenties was a businessman in Fiji and later a dairy farmer. He stood several times for Parliament and once contested the Christchurch Mayoralty, as an Independent. Shortly before the war he spent a year or two in Britain, where he was an unofficial adviser to the Ministry of Food.

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New Zealand Patents Numbers 104806 and 110439 applied for