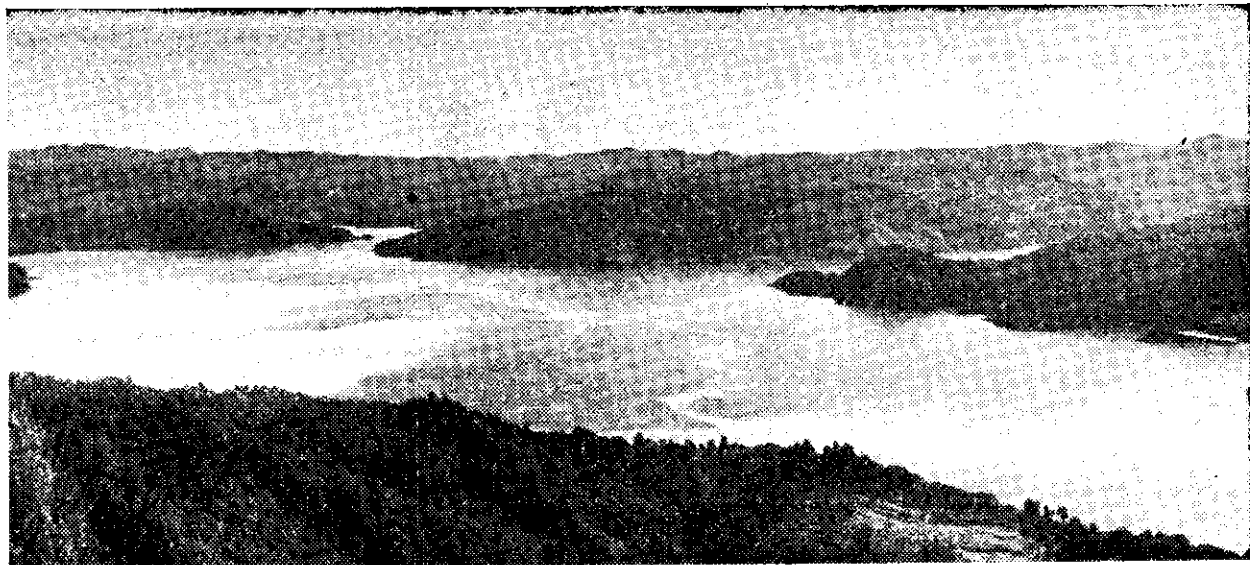


Many people can remember being slung ashore at Gisborne from a coastal steamer. Coastal ships were for years the main links with the rest of the country, and even today you may see one lightering off one of the townships, where from time to time they still become grounded. This part of New Zealand, now given the name of Eastland by geographers, so linking it with the east coast as far down as Wellington, is cattle and sheep bearing country. It has torrential downpours, the heaviest rainstorms of any New Zealand region, and is subject to earthquakes and soil erosion. To the traveller its isolation from the thick of things has given it a different air, and its coastline, powerful and stark, is one of the most impressive things about it.

On the way to Gisborne you will pass Morere, a settlement in the bush, whose hot curative springs are similar to those found at Kreuznach, the famous European spa. From the summit of Wharerata Hill there is a splendid view, then the road runs down to Gisborne, a city with one of the finest sites of any in New Zealand. The surf breaks on Waikanāe beach and opposite are the pitted chalk cliffs sighted by Nicholas Young, ship's boy on Cook's Endeavour, in 1769. Cook made his first landing in New Zealand here, and after skirmishes with the natives and missing out on supplies, he misnamed the area "Poverty Bay." Two rivers combine to form the enclosed pool of the port, shaped in an interesting way like many English harbours. Around the city streets nikau palms grow and in the gardens, oranges, lemons and grapefruit.

There are two choices for the route north to Tauranga—around the coast or through the Waioeka Gorge. The gorge is impressive and the country before it has a pleasant pastoral character, but when it comes to a decision the coast road has more to offer. This is the home of the Ngāti-Porou tribe, and in this area Sir Apirana Ngata led his Maori revival in the 1920's. Many fine meeting houses can be seen and Maori life has great liveliness. Around the coast colourful figures in wide-brimmed hats ride on horseback, and hitching posts are still provided in the townships. Many of the Maoris are farmers, for the Ngāti-Porou were the first



★"NEAR the end of the Urewera country, high, remote and still, lies Waikaremoana"

Maoris to be encouraged to take up farming on a large scale. Near Ruatoria sits Mt. Hikurangi, the first place in New Zealand (they say) to receive the rays of the rising sun. All along this coast good camping sites can be found.

At Opotiki, where the most brutal murder of the Hauhau period occurred—when in the Church of St. Stephen the Martyr the minister, the Rev. Carl Volkner, was murdered and mutilated in a horrifying way—the roads meet, and we take the coast road to Tauranga. Out at sea White Island smokes, but the volcanic region and the mountainous country are well behind. The land smooths itself out in green fields and orchards, and has that pastoral character that grows neater and more English looking as one approaches Auckland. In this frost-free climate sun seekers of all ages have made Tauranga their base. Besides tourists, the town has acquired a new role as the export port for the products of the Kawerau paper mill. Tauranga is a good resting place, and we stay here until the next stage of the journey begins, towards Coromandel, Auckland and the far north.



Forestry is forever

Forestry is cropping in the widest sense of the word . . . farming of permanent crops . . . the long range husbandry of different types of trees for different purposes . . . the planning of vast forests and the equally important planning of their utilisation. Forestry is soil research and plant research, cultivation and protection from fire and other forest enemies . . . forestry is the conservation of national timber resources . . . the protection of watersheds, the preservation of tourist and recreational areas. Forestry is surveying, roadmaking, trucking, milling and exporting . . . a planned primary industry, economically sound, that will ensure in New Zealand "forestry is forever".

*Inserted in the interests of forest protection by the New Zealand Forest Service
... Soil Conservation Council.*

Maugham Play from NZBS Studios



W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM

THE popularity of radio versions of stories and plays by W. Somerset Maugham has been attributed to his undoubted pre-eminence among contemporary authors as a story-teller, with a natural gift for speakable dramatic dialogue, whether he is writing in actual play form or not. The construction and shape of his stories offer immediate temptation to the adapter, while his dialogue and characterisation offer unrivalled opportunities to actors.

One of his stage plays, *Penelope*, has been adapted for the NZBS by Roy Leywood, and will be heard next week (November 18) in *ZB Sunday Showcase*. *Penelope* is the wife of a charming young doctor who has strayed from the marriage fold into the jaws of a she-wolf in the guise of a lovely grass widow. *Penelope* finds out, and is going to divorce her husband, but her father points out her failings as a wife, and together they bring the stray sheep back into the fold. The principal players are Daphne Peters, Alan Jervis, Bill Austin and Davina Whitehouse.