



**Mana Forbes (left) with Roadshow partner John Fisher.**

## Super exposure

**Kawhia-born Mana Forbes has become New Zealand's Mr Office of the Future. The Burroughs marketing executive has now visited every centre of any size with his message. Mana Forbes' "roadshow" in fact has just played in front of more than 1200 office management specialists representing over 700 different companies. The specially organised roadshow which took in all New Zealand cities was a special demonstration by Burroughs to take its futuristic message to every corner of the nation.**

A primary school teacher until 1976 Mana Forbes went into computing because he wanted to escape what he describes as the "protected area", meaning Government service. "I wanted to get out there into the hurly burly of the commercial world," he notes.

Yet in his new role he found the discipline learned during his primary school days to have been "essential".

In his industry marketing assignment, Mana Forbes specialises in a systems approach to office management. He sells what he describes as a "total solution". He also concentrates on the extremely complex aspect of computing that deals with software — the tapes and discs that give the computers its instructions.

The Office of the Future road-

show presentations involved an outline of Burroughs in New Zealand — the company has been established here for 50 years. The company in New Zealand moved to the forefront of international technology earlier this year with its locally-developed LINC automatic programming system.

It is Mana Forbes' job to keep up to date with the fast-moving computer technology scene — and to try and forecast what is going to happen, so that his clients can be prepared.

In the roadshow presentations, Mana Forbes gave his audience a glimpse into the paperless office of the future. It is an office that will be powered by a closely-linked system of computers, word processors, and facsimile devices, he asserts.

## Coastline now on the map

The coastal resources of New Zealand have now literally been put on the map, with the publication next month of a resources atlas by the Commission for the Environment.

The atlas has taken over two years to produce and is a comprehensive collection of all available information on coastal resources and their use in New Zealand. The atlas uses a series of clear symbols indicating the type of coastline and its sensitivity to oil pollution; coastal townships and road access; reserves on land and in the sea; major ports and tonnages and location and value of activities such as mining, surfing, sailing, big game fishing, diving, angling.

The commercial potential of the coastline has also been detailed with listings for mineral sites both worked and potential, commercial fishing and marine farming activity, including fish and shellfish species, as well as the method of fishing. Bird colonies with reserve or protection status and marine mammal colonies are also included.

Concern about oil pollution affecting the New Zealand coastline was the primary reason for the atlas. The New Zealand Committee on Pollution wanted a detailed assessment of oil pollution hazards to provide criteria for decision making in case of an oil spill.

However the minister for the environment in the foreword to the atlas, says the atlas has a much broader and immediate role in collating information for those who use the coast for pleasure, work or study.

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**Dept. Maori Affairs  
Private Bag  
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