



Tama Vercoe being congratulated by the principal of Rotorua Boys' High School, Geoff Crammond, with his mother Lin Vercoe looking on.

Te Ropu Kahurangi

Te Ropu Kahurangi (The Kahurangi Cooperative) has been formed by a group of secondary school teachers to extend and ultimately to take over the well known KAHURANGI READERS SERIES. These are booklets designed to help secondary school age students to learn to read or to extend their reading competence so that the students can cope with texts used in the everyday classroom. Some of the Kahurangi Readers also are in Maori. Some of them incorporate Maori as a normal part of a basically English language text.

Te Ropu Kahurangi has launched five readers with very strong cultural themes. 'Ruru', 'The Unveiling' and 'Marae' are English language readers which all incorporate important Maori words such as kuia, ruru, marae, tipuna. They are therefore useful in the Maori class as well as in the English class. Or as little booklets parents can read with their children. 'Little Brother Maui' retells the fishing of New Zealand in lively language. 'Hair Cutting' tells of a Cook Islands/Nuiean custom.

Each booklet is illustrated with enjoyable line sketches. The booklets are small, and cost about \$1 each ('Hair Cutting' 50c) plus postage.

The Kahurangi Readers have been praised by teachers and student readers. Where other kinds of books have failed to interest adolescents to want to improve their reading, these often succeed with their lively language closer to the language the student is used to hearing, and with their stories close to students lives, and with their humorous or emotionally appealing drawings.

Te Ropu Kahurangi has been set up not to make money, but to provide reading material relevant to the lives of adolescent Maori and Polynesian youngsters today, a market not sufficiently profitable for the established publishing companies.

There are now about 23 Kahurangi Readers aimed at secondary school students. They cost between 50c and \$1 each. They are obtainable from TE ROPU KAHURANGI, 43 Landscape Rd., Papatoetoe.

Catholic Maori organisation

A national organisation of Catholic Maori people was inaugurated at Hamilton on Saturday, November 19 at the Hui Te Rangiora Marae.

Known as Te Runanga, the New Zealand-wide linking of Maori Catholics will give the numerous and varied groups a united voice in Catholic matters.

Representatives from the six Catholic dioceses prepared an interim constitution which states:

"This Runanga is the means for the Catholic Church of New Zealand to heed the voice of Maoridom and engage in a dialogue with Maori people. Te Runanga is the body responsible to the New Zealand Bishops Conference for the evangelisation of te tikanga Maori and the defence of the Maori and our cultural development."

The aim of the organisation is to promote the faith of Maori people through Maori culture and customs and to permit them to join with the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference in all matters about the pastoral care of Maori people.

Te Koopu Awards

The third annual Te Kopu Maori fashion awards presentation ceremony is to be held in Te Awamutu next year.

The function will be held at the Waipa Racing Clubrooms at Te Awamutu racecourse on Sunday February 26.

The awards are offered by the New Zealand Te Kopu Awards Association for fashion clothing with a Maori design and motif. They were instigated to promote the creative art of Maori design and traditional motif with a view to establishing a Maori fashion industry.

According to award programme director Phillip Munro, some of the designers who entered the first awards contest in 1981 have since been working with professional designers to develop their skills, economics and marketing.

And chairman Steve Heremaia said the committee was looking into the possibility of opening a boutique to provide an outlet for Maori designers' fashion-wear, as well as arts, crafts, jewellery and accessories.

The awards next year will, for the first time, include a young designers' award. The other sections of the contest include casual wear, high fashion day wear, evening wear, and Te Kopu award for the best Maori design in any section.