

Review Note

As Old as Auckland. By Lawrence D. Nathan. Benton Ross Publishers, Auckland, 1984, 140pp. illus. Price: N.Z. \$24.95.

REGIONAL and business historians alike will welcome the publication of the history of Auckland's oldest surviving merchant firm, which from modest beginnings in the Bay of Islands in 1840 has developed into a diversified cluster of companies with nation-wide interests today. Lawrence Nathan lays no claim to being an academic historian. But he brings to his task distinct advantages. He writes with vigour, and his position as executive chairman of L. D. Nathan and Co. for over thirty years combined with a strong sense of a family and its commitment to the Jewish faith gives this book unusual interest and value.

RUSSELL STONE

University of Auckland