

## JUDGMENT.

(Continued from page 6.)

He will breakfast in half an hour. He wishes to know if you would care to join him, or whether you would prefer to breakfast in bed?"

"No, no; I will join him of course," said Dick, springing out of bed.

It was less than the half-hour he descended the stairs and entered the breakfast-room.

He noticed by the clock in the hall that it was not yet eight, and the thought crossed his mind that his host, for a civilian was an early riser.

Mr Chase received him cordially.

"You slept well, I hope?" he said with a smile.

"First rate," replied Dick.

He noted that Kitty had not yet appeared.

"You were more fortunate than the rest of us. We had a rather disturbed night, Mr Richmond."

The millionaire spoke lightly, and yet with a certain significance in his tone.

Dick gave him a quick look.

"Indeed!"

"Yes. I'm afraid the news I have to tell you won't be very palatable. But here's breakfast. I will explain afterwards."

Beaumont Chase moved to the table, but Dick, suddenly alarmed, stepped forward.

"What do you mean? Has anything happened? Please tell me at once."

Mr Chase turned to him gravely.

"My dear lad, pull yourself together," he said quietly. "After all, it might have been worse. You must admit that your enterprise was a rather reckless one."

"What has happened?" he demanded hoarsely. "Kit—I mean, my brother—he is all right?"

"Oh, quite. Upset of course, but very plucky. And she left a message for you."

"Left a message!" repeated Dick, in blank dismay. "You mean she's gone?"

"She's—"

The millionaire nodded gravely.

"About an hour after you went to bed last night we were knocked up. It was her father."

A look of consternation came into Dick's eyes.

"The judge?" he exclaimed involuntarily.

Beaumont Chase gave a quick look, but did not betray his surprise.

"Yes," he said quietly. "And he insisted upon carrying his daughter off at once. There was a scene, but in the end she was submissive. She seemed satisfied when she had seen me and given me a message for you."

Dick was very pale, and it was some moments before he could speak.

"What was the message?" he said at length.

"She begged you to go as quickly as possible to the place you know of. She gave me the name, but it has slipped my memory."

"Winnerleigh?" suggested Dick.

"Yes, that's it. She said if you would go there at once she would contrive to communicate with you. Of course, I don't want to pry into your affairs, Mr Richmond, but if I can be of any help, pray command me."

He held out his hand, and Dick gripped it firmly.

"Thanks. How can I get to Winnerleigh? My car is hopelessly injured."

"No, it has been put right. My man is a good mechanic, and he has seen to it."

Dick was too delighted and grateful to be surprised.

"How can I thank you?" he said.

"I'll be off at once. Kitty will wire me as soon as she gets to London. If she promised, she'll do it. I must lose no time."

"But you'll have a bit of breakfast."

"No, no; thanks awfully, I won't stay."

A few more words passed between them, but all the time Dick showed an increasing impatience to be off, and at length Beaumont Chase let him go.

They went out to the car together, and the millionaire stood at the lodge gates and watched his guest drive away.

As the car disappeared in a cloud of dust, Beaumont Chase retraced his steps to the house.

Entering the big lounge hall, he encountered a maidservant.

"Call Mr Kenneth Richmond," he said, "and tell him I shall be pleased to breakfast with him at any hour that suits him."

French forests are suffering not only from the ravages of war, but from destruction by parasitic growths. The oak seems to suffer especially from the fungus oidium, which appeared in the Province of Champagne about 1907, and is doing such damage that the extermination of the oak in France is foreseen.

## INVERCARGILL Y.W.C.A.

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Miss Rose Mahoney.

## ANNUAL REPORT.

1919-1920.

We have come to the end of another year of service for our King.

As we give our reports we need not fear He will spurn the results we bring;

For He looks with compassion on all we do In love for His dear sake,

And if through the year to our God we're true, Our gifts He will surely take.

As we stand at the close of another year Let us pause and ask His grace,

That with hands that are strong to do and bear Each may serve Him in her place.

May our Dominion be saved for the Prince of Peace, And may we faithful be,

That love may reign and strife may cease In our Land of Liberty.

## ADMINISTRATION.

We have welcomed to our Board of Directors during the year, Mrs W. F. Bisset (president), Mrs G. Chewings, Mrs P. Cruickshank and Miss Wilson, though we regret the resignation in December of Miss Wilson who has left the district.

We again feel grateful for practical advice and help given by the members of our Advisory Board in financial problems that have assailed us through the year.

There have been alterations on the staff, Miss Hunt, our Girl's Department secretary, left us in April to return to her home in Melbourne, and Miss B. Jamieson was appointed on May 7th to carry on the work of that department for a term.

In the opening paragraph of our report last year we stressed the need for a kitchenette in connection with the Club Rooms. We are glad to be able to report that through the generosity of two of our business men, that need has been met. The girls of this town are beginning to appreciate it and there is now quite a substantial nucleus of what we believe will be a good cafeteria department.

We have been able during the year to assist with several outside events. In the Peace Celebrations Procession some of the members represented Women War Workers of Britain, and several of the senior members gave assistance to the Y.M.C.A. at their canteen for returned soldiers.

On Violet Day the Y.W.C.A. was responsible for a street stall in aid of the Children's House. On another occasion we were able to assist the Stocking League with their exhibition of garments for the poor in England, by lending our rooms and crockery. Our own Daffodil Day organised by the members of the Board of Directors netted £57 to the general expenses, while a Cake and Pudding Fair in December brought in £26.

## RELIGIOUS WORK.

The Sunday afternoon Bible Class preceded by a song service has been held all through the year. On Sunday afternoon, April 20th, the members joined in the Peace Celebrations Service at the Theatre, and in May one Sunday was given up in order that the girls might attend a

## FURNITURE.

To those in search of Quality and Value, Inspect our Stock and get our Quotations. We carry the Largest Stocks in Invercargill, all of Our Own Manufacture. . .

## W. STRANG &amp; CO.,

THE LOCAL FURNITURE FIRM,

ESK & KELVIN STREETS, INVERCARGILL.

## POULTRY NOTES.

So long as we encourage the idea that poultry-farming is a non-paying pursuit, so long will our industry be at a disadvantage, because it is not commanding the respect and confidence that it should. Does the poultry farmer find it difficult to secure a loan or an overdraft? If so, it is due not to the unsoundness of our business when properly run, but to the habit of its detractors who have failed to make good.

To make poultry pay at least 1000 birds are needed. If a man is going to make a success of poultry he should be able to look after this number properly, and also raise his pullets, which ought to be 500 to keep his flock half pullets and half yearlings. Don't play with 500 or 600 and expect to do very much. Remember numbers tell. In first setting out you will not of course have this number, but as you gain experience it is what you should aim for. Always try to lay out a farm on a system that will economise labour. Keep the feed house in centre, and arrange your plant around it. Place the buildings and gates in a straight line, as they are far more convenient and look better than if placed anyhow, or anywhere; make gates to open and close easy and effective to save loss of time.

Always remember a hen can only produce an egg after her own bodily wants have been supplied, and we must feed full and plenty if we are to obtain eggs. The old argument that feed is too dear or hens won't lay is blown out. The laying hen cannot be over-fed; she is too busy to put on fat. Mix feed in large shallow trays with spade; the old way of mixing in buckets is out of date and is too slow.

Anyone thinking of poultry farming must not think they will have an easy job. It is a common idea the business is suitable for invalids or disabled people. On the contrary, it is hard work and long hours in and out of season, and we have to keep going to make a success of it.

One of the reasons why poultry has not paid is because, firstly, people go in for it with no knowledge of the business, and, secondly, through want of organisation for years the egg and poultry market was always in the favour of the buyer, as the seller had to take exactly what he was offered, with no say in the price he should receive for his product, which was absolutely inadequate for the time and feed he expended. All this has changed now, largely through efforts of the egg circle movement. We should all join and make poultry farming what it should be. We have no bad debts, and quick returns. We can do much better by union and organised force.

## SINGLE-PEN TEST AT MASTERTON.

A single-pen test is to be conducted at Masterton this year. It is to be run on thoroughly up-to-date lines; indeed, one of the regulations decided upon is the most valuable idea yet adopted by any laying competition society. This is that all birds entered must have been bred by the competitor, who must also have been the owner of the parent birds at time of hatching, and who must at the date of entry be the bona-fide owner of at least fifty female birds of the same breed. The promoters are to be heartily congratulated on these stipulations. Attention has been directed to the scandal of a man buying a pen for the purpose, or only having a few birds of the breed in a backyard, and who, having the luck rather than the good judgment to win a test, calmly proceeds to do a good trade in selling sittings of eggs of false origin. This is the sort of test that can be confidently recommended. It will commence

on April 11 and finish on March 1921.

## LIGHT AND ITS EFFECT ON PRODUCTION.

According to experiments made by Professor James E. Rice, of the Department of Poultry Husbandry, Cornell University, it has been proved that light in houses during the winter months has a direct effect upon the production of eggs.

Tests were carried out at Cornell for a period of 48 weeks, during which time the houses were kept light until 9 o'clock every night, and the total showed that 100 hens in pullets in the lighted house produced 133 dozen more eggs than the hens in the unlighted sheds that went to bed when the sun went down.

The reason for the increased production of eggs in the lighted houses was given by Professor Rice as being that the hens had more time in which to feed. There was no long wait between supper and breakfast. The fowl being a native of tropical countries, the hens at the beginning of winter, said Professor Rice, had a tendency to exhaust their vitality.

## COLOUR OF YOLK.

Experiments were conducted to show the effect of maize on the colour of the yolk of eggs (says "Hotspur" in the "Leader"). A flock of single comb White Leghorns was divided into three lots of 40 each, and these were housed and cared for alike, except that one pen received whole grain in the form of maize, and another in the form of wheat. All pens were allowed free access to narrow yards, which furnished a very limited amount of green stuff. All the eggs laid by these pens were saved, and, after boiling, were cut in half and placed in parallel rows for comparison. In every instance the eggs from the maize fed lot showed a deep yellow colour. Every egg from the maize and wheat fed lot had a yolk of good yellow colour, while, with but three exceptions, the eggs from those fed with wheat had yolks a very pale yellow colour. The three exceptions can probably be accounted for by some of the hens getting green food from the yards. Another test was made subsequently with maize, and the yolks were a deep yellow. As a result of the test it was concluded that yellow maize when fed to hens in the proportion of nine parts maize to twelve parts wheat gives a very deep yellow colour to the yolk. Yellow maize, when fed to hens in the proportion of four and a half parts maize to sixteen and a half parts of other foods, gives a noticeable yellow tint. Wheat, when fed in the same proportions, does not give a yellow colour to eggs, and so maize is no better than wheat, so as flourishing a tint to the yolk concerned.

## ASSISTED PASSAGES-FINANCES OF N.Z. SOLDIERS.

FURTHER TO CIRCULAR No. 156 20/3/20.

The following letter has just been received by Headquarters in reply to representations upon the above matter:—"For your information I have to inform you that the period for receiving applications for assisted passages for fiancés and wives of New Zealand soldiers has been extended to the 30th June, 1920."

Yours Faithfully,  
(Signed) H. E. AVERY,  
Lieut-Colonel, N. Z. Staff "Q" Dept  
for G. O., i/c Administration.

It is far better to love and lose that way we retain an ideal which never be debased.

Woman's Meeting in the Y.M.C.A. when Mr. G. W. W. B. Hughes told of women's war work as he had seen it. On two other Sundays the class attended the Booth Mission, some of the girls helping in the choir. We would like to thank our president, Mrs W. F. Bisset, Mr S. Hoare, Y.M.C.A. secretary, and Mr G. B. Galloway for services rendered at our Sunday gatherings.

## FOREIGN WORK.

There has again been an advance in this department. The Birthday League has been revived with Miss Rose Mahoney as secretary. We take the opportunity of inviting all who care to help to send in a thank offering on their birthdays towards the support of our work in foreign lands. The Girl's Department secured its quota by a Japanese Fair managed entirely by the girls themselves.

Altogether the sum of £18 10s has been raised in the interests of the Foreign Department. We are glad to report this deepening interest in view of the fact that the coming years are bringing increased responsibilities in connection with our work in foreign fields.

## EDUCATIONAL.

Millinery.—The average attendance at the millinery class has been seven. Much thanks is due to the efficient instruction given by Miss Dykes.

Physical Culture.—Fourteen girls enrolled with Mr Page as instructor for physical culture. In consideration for the visitors to the supper rooms which have opened on the floor beneath us we find it necessary to move our physical culture club to one of the halls at the hostel. This movement interfered with the attendance as several of the girls found it too far to go. We are grateful indeed to Mr Page for his sustained interest and careful instruction in spite of these adverse conditions.

Home Nursing.—This has been one of the most successful classes held during the winter. We were fortunate in securing the services of Matron Ewart of the Southland Hospital to give a series of lectures and demonstrations to the girls. Twenty-eight members enrolled and a fairly full attendance was maintained throughout.

Koron Club.—A senior girl's club meets every Thursday night. Half of the evening is spent in glee singing and for the remainder a miscellaneous programme has been drawn up, including artificial respiration, literary subjects and addresses.

## MEMBERSHIP.

During the year fifty-five new members have been welcomed, with the inevitable number of names dropping off for reasons varied, our membership remains almost the same as it was last year.

## OUT OF DOORS.

A Tramp Club has been formed and the members have enjoyed hikes to Thomson's Bush, Ocean Beach, and Victoria Park. At this latter place, the home of Mr R. A. Anderson, the girls were entertained at afternoon tea by Mrs Anderson and given permission to pick sweetpeas to their hearts content. After a delightful ramble through the very beautiful gardens, Mr Anderson kindly motored us back to the tram terminus. Another much enjoyed outing was a moonlight picnic at Thomson's Bush. These vesper times amid our fun and with such beautiful surroundings do much towards keeping us all strong in mind and body for the day's work.

Camps.—At Easter, although the weather was exceedingly wet, one of the best camps we have had was held at the Rocks, Riverton. There was plenty of fun and sunshine inside to make up for the lack of it outside, and as each evening we gathered round the big open fire, the spirit of the Easter-time was very manifest and precious. A school girl's camp was held at Riverton at Labour Day week-end. This time the weather was more favourable and the campers were able to enjoy the glories of the out-of-doors.

(The remainder of the report will appear in our next issue.)