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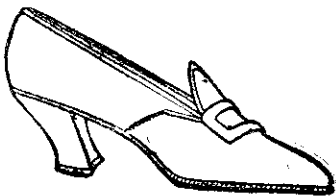
TRAMP! Tramp! Tramp! Hear their  
hoofbeats.

Hear the Town Council bleat,

What on earth is that they have upon  
their feet,

Why! Boots repaired at Hawthorne's  
shop!

Repairs that can't be beat.



**J. H. HAWTHORNE,**

BOOT REPAIRER,  
TAY STREET.



## SPORTING.

My old friend "Sir Modred" hammered away at the local club until just to keep him quiet they gave the local trainers a sand roll. The horses trained on our tracks are much indebted to "Sir Modred," and if their trainers or owners have not thanked him, the enjoyment he has seen many horses get out of the roll has repaid him for all his paragraphs. Now my friend is advocating a winter track, and the rain this week has reminded many of us that our winter is near. A winter track is sadly needed, and, as he says, the town would benefit if our conservative club could be persuaded.

Just a tip to my Digger friends. If any of them want a bed in Dunedin during Winter Show week should get in early. I had to write to about six pubs before I found one that would let me in, and I didn't let on I'd worn the uniform either.

It was a nice little race game they had on at the port last week. Gunrest and Glensponse were good favourites, and they each brought in a bit of cash at the bazaar.

When we went off to fight the Empire's cause wages were only about half what they are now, and yet they tell one that a jockey doesn't get any more now for riding in a race than he did ten years ago. Wasn't it high time they formed a Union. Fancy any unionist being satisfied now-a-days with the wages that were going even five years ago, and risking his life as well! I understand there are occasional presents when a jockey wins, in some cases there are also presents when he loses. Are they still on the same old scale too

If Hogan takes Silverspire up for the steeplechase act to be put on for Royal Highness' benefit at Riccarton next month a good deal of Southland money will follow his chances round the fences. If McChesney should manage to win, he will be able to put "under Royal patronage" on his paste-board.

"Mr J. G. Ermslie" has consented to send Burrengong up to Riccarton for the Prince's benefit. He's sure to want to see the Wyndham and Riverton Cup winner in action. And he might see him win too!

A northern visitor, so says "Sir Modred," has been telling how well the recent Gore meeting was managed. "The best in the South Island." That is good for the Gore Club, and perhaps the members will appreciate the up-to-dateness of Frank Young, the secretary. Frank learned his business from the inside of the tote-house, and though only new in the role of secretary he can teach all the others in Southland a good few points at the game.

Secretary Stewart, of the Wyndham Club is very keen to bring about a conference of the local clubs before next season to consider a whole host of matters. Cate fellow, George! I wonder what scheme he has now to extract a bit more of the good old public's money for his club.

It looks as if the Jockeys' Union will be making things merry at the next meeting of the Racing Conference. The Wellington Winter Meeting will be on at the same time.

George Hunter had a quiet sale on Saturday morning. The horses were shown in splendid condition, and they only want to be half as good as they looked to be good investments.

One ex-trainer who has been rabbiting lately is very aggrieved that the bottom has fallen out of the skin trade. He intends coming back to the fold again—that is, of course, if the heads will admit him.

The electric tote at the recent Trentham meeting appears to have worked satisfactorily. What about Bill James putting in one on the local course!

When talking to Hogan the other day he was complaining that the local tracks were hard. I saw him in town on Monday, and if the tracks were as wet as he was he would now have no cause to complain.

According to a contemporary President Hazlett intends sending his three fashionably bred fillies up to old Stewart Waddell to train in the North Island. What's wrong with Bill Gardiner. Or is it that the

local tracks aren't good enough for such aristocrats?

Erney Howorth is hobbling about on a couple of sticks again. It will be a little while yet before he can hopple up a pacer and drive him round the local tracks again. If all reports are true the light harness sport hasn't cost this ivory merchant much.

Dave Morton has bought Killowen. The last good one he raced also had a name beginning with K. A good sport like Dave deserves to have a good one, and in Killowen he has every promise of a top notcher.

So Bill Stone intends sending his team, Elcus, Primum and Silver Peak, and, I nearly forgot, Alex Melvor on grand tour. They will play at Ashburton, Timaru, to Royalty at Riccarton, Oamaru and Wingatui before returning home. Each nedly will require to catch a stake to pay expenses. Good luck to you, Bill.

### NIGHTCAPS.

Mr John Grant has been appointed dog registrar for the town district of Nightcaps.

"The Digger" acknowledges a wire from Mr B. Spray, newsagent, Nightcaps, increasing his supply of papers by an extra two dozen. Any reference to the "Digger" should be communicated to Mr Spray, who has proved a real live agent. We are also anxious to be kept in touch with Nightcaps doings, even if it is only sins and shortcomings.—Editor.

The meeting called by the Town Board for Thursday night to explain why it was necessary to have a poll of ratepayers, resulted in the non-appearance of any ratepayers, those concerned evidently having every faith in the Board and being quite content that the matter of raising a loan for the enlargement of the Coronation Hall be left to them. On Saturday forty ratepayers visited the poll, and 34 voted in favour of the loan and 6 against.

Nightcaps is not behind in its display of patriotism. Arrangements are in hand for the visit of the Prince of Wales. The chairman of the Town Board and Mr D. Sinclair, senr., visited Invercargill, as per arrangement, and, after interviewing the Mayor, Mr Stead, decided to have a banner for the occasion of the Prince of Wales' visit with the words "Nightcaps Welcomes You" inscribed thereon and exhibited along with the others.

In the Presbyterian church on Sunday evening, the Rev. G. Crockett conducted a memorial service for the late Mr H. Knox, who had for over 30 years been connected with the life of the church of Nightcaps, during part of which he filled the position of deacon, and as advancing years prevented him from taking such an active part, he was made a life member of the deaconate. There was a good congregation present to pay its last respects to one who was respected and revered for his uprightness and integrity. The Rev. Crockett delivered an appropriate address taken from the text, "Jesus wept." The choir rendered an anthem, "Come Ye Disconsolate." At the close of the service the Dead March was played by Miss Perry, all standing. The Rev. A. McDonald, Otantau, had purposed being present to conduct this service. He had been associated with the late Mr Knox during the early days of the district, and was well fitted to pay a last tribute to the departed one, but circumstances prevented him from being present, which he much regretted.

### NORTH INVERCARGILL.

The school committee have for some time been arranging a bazaar in order to raise funds for the purpose of improving the school grounds. In the winter time the grounds are wet, and in need of effective repairs. Persons willing to contribute articles for the stalls are asked to ring up 'phone 1433. An advertisement regarding this matter appears in our casual column.

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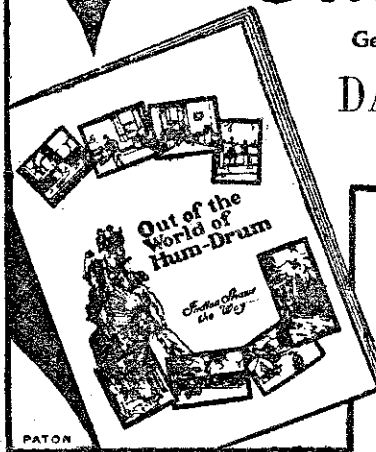
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## TO THE DIGGER IN SEARCH OF LAND.

We beg to say that we have a large selection of FARMS of all sizes for sale, and our representatives will place themselves at your disposal to give you the best deal possible.

During the next few issues we will give particulars of some of the farms we have for sale.

We have also recently established a "Town Lands" Department.

We shall be pleased to answer to your inquiries, whether made in person or by letter.

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