

THE DIGGER

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RUINS.

They sat at supper in a shadowy room,
"But you," she said you are an artist,
you
Deplore this tearing down of all our
dreams!
You know that war is shattering the
world,
But beauty falls in ashes at our feet."
He looked at her, full-blown and glori-
ous.
With flaming eyes and tossed, abund-
ant hair,
"How I abhor this hour!" he said,
"I never thought the world would come
to this.
Yet always through the years, the
flame of war,
Like a long crimson serpent, has crept
and crept,
And poisoned all the beauty that we
built.
The Parthenon was stricken by the
blast
Of cruel cannon in disastrous days;
Yet in the moonlight it is wonderful
In a strange way the mind can never
name.
And strong barbarian hordes tore down
that dream,
The Colosseum; and Romans wept
Yet it is lovelier on soft summer night
Than ever it must have been in the
young years.
And Rheims—it shall be beautiful
With a new meaning through the cen-
turies,
Hushed with its memories of this dark
hour."
Her face grew grave, "You dare to tell
me this!
You say a ruin is more wonderful
Than the pure dream the architect once
dreamed?"
"I cannot answer. But all I know;
Men rushed across the seas to catch one
glimpse
Of fallen fames and tottering columns,
Yes
They fare through desolate places that
their eyes
May rest at last on crumbling marble
... See!
Those men and women rise—and we
must rise
To pay our tribute to that noble man
Who has come back, a ruin from the
war."
She turned. There was a soldier at the
door;
And one sleeve of his uniform hung
limp,
And there were many scars upon his
cheeks.
"A ruin!" the artist whispered. "Yet
he seems
The only whole and perfect man I
know!"

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4½ dozen.

Price on application

A HUMOROUS STORY

"SLANDER."

Spencer Spry thought he was an actor, but he earned such a meagre living as one that at a very early stage of his career he decided that his striking talent was not appreciated.

This discovery came as a sad blow to the aspiring Spencer, for he considered that, given a proper opportunity, he could outshine all the stars from Owen Nares to Little Tich.

However, after a period of starvation as one of the crowd in a couple of grade revues, he decided that to attempt to exist in his present capacity must eventually mean a martyr's death in the cause of his noble art. And so, forced to the conclusion that the public failed to know a good thing when they saw it, he resolved that theirs must be the loss.

Consequently, he forsook the stage, and abandoned his art.

When Spencer had been out of a "shop" for something like three months, he met a friend from whom he had in the past been in the habit of borrowing sundry half-dollars. This particular pal now occupied the position of editor of the "Dilleigh Daily," and in a weak moment offered Spencer a job on the reporting staff of the paper.

The position was small, and the salary less, but Spencer was glad enough to avail himself of the offer, and he settled down to report fires, suicides, divorce cases and amateur theatrical performances with a cheerful spirit.

One morning, soon after he had settled down as a newspaper nuisance, Spry was trotting around in search of items of general interest, when the dainty form of a golden-haired damsel, whose dazzling appearance marked her as belonging to the stage, jazzed joyously up to him.

"My dear old bean," she purred, extending a dainty gloved hand, "this is a treat! I've been just dying to meet you! How long have you been perishing here, old thing?"

"Ever since the 'Mixed Pickles and Mustard' crowd broke up," answered Spencer sadly. "Since that let down, I left the boards, and now I'm a reporter!"

"So, I heard," answered the actress. "Poor old thing, your luck was only dead out!" she added consolingly. "Anyhow, I always recognised that you've been threatened with brains that's why I've been anxious to see you."

"Eh?"

Spencer looked up sharply, scenting business.

"Let's go somewhere where we can talk," suggested Queenie Dazzle. "I've got a bit of business I can put in your way, and we can't stand talking here."

They strolled on until they reached a cafe in the High Street. Seated at a table in a far corner, the pair settled themselves down for a chat.

"Now look here, Sencer," began the actress confidentially, "I'm in a deuce of a fix. I want money badly, and I must have it. Got me?"

Spencer nodded his understanding. He was in that position himself.

"Now I have been thinking that a second-rate reporter's job is not good enough for a man of your brains," added Queenie flatteringly. "If you had a little ready-money you would be able to get to London. There you would have no difficulty in securing a really good 'shop.'"

"You bet your life I wouldn't," answered Spencer Spry enthusiastically. "What's the scheme? I'm game."

"You have the right spirit, old thing," responded the girl, in gratified tones. "I'll tell you the plan in a nutshell. In your next issue of the 'Dilleigh Daily' you will find space to libel me maliciously; make things as hot for me as you possibly can. I shall read the paragraph, and immediately take proceedings. I shall claim heavy damages against the proprietor of the paper, and you and I shall share the spoil. What could be easier?"

Great ginger! gasped Spry, with delight. "What a brainy little woman you are! Why, it's a chance of a lifetime!"

A few moments later the matter was settled, and together they left the cafe. Outside they parted, Queenie Dazzle for the theatre, and Spencer to make his way back to the office.

"By jove!" he mused, as he hurried along. "It will be the best item of interest the 'Daily' has ever had."

The usually quiet editorial sanctum of the "Dilleigh Daily" resounded with a woman's shrill voice.

"Where's the editor? Where's the manager? Where's everybody?" demanded the woman bursting open the door and brandishing a dainty parasol. "Where's the double-eyed villain who is responsible for this infamy?" she shrieked flourishing a scrap of paper high in the air.

Crampton, the thoroughly alarmed editor, endeavoured to pacify her.

"My dear madam," he began, in a quaking voice, "pray tell me what is wrong?"

"Wrong—wrong! Listen to this, you slandering monster!"

And, still waving her parasol above her head, the woman read, in a high-pitched voice, from the cutting in her hand:—

"Moreover, if the theatres became national institutions, the appointment of actors and actresses would become the work of a special commission. A startling example of the necessity of this is demonstrated this week at the Empire Theatre, where a woman calling herself Miss Queenie Dazzle is playing the leading character in the charming revue, 'What-ho!' Not only does this woman murder the part with her tuneless screeching and abominable acting, but her personality leaves one stone cold. It is common knowledge that the mass of tow hair which Miss Dazzle wears was made by Markson's, of Wardour Street, whilst the dentist who was responsible for her magnificent teeth is still awaiting payment for his work. During the daytime, whilst swaggering through the town, she endeavours to conceal her age by smothering her face with sufficient cosmetics to paint a chicken-house, and it is strongly suspected that she has a special mask for stage purposes. Such a state of things is a scandal to this highly respectable borough."

Miss Dazzle paused for breath as she reached the end of this extract; but before the astonished editor had a chance to collect his scattered senses the woman had dropped her parasol and seized him violently by the arm.

"What have you to say," she burst forth. "My hair is false, it is?" she screamed, tugging at her locks. "My teeth are not my own? My face is painted, is it?" She rubbed her hand roughly over her face and thrust her extended palm under his eyes. "You scoundrel—you worm!" she shrieked, shaking her trembling victim violently. "You'll be sorry you slandered a lady! I'll take you to court, and if you don't end your days in goal I'll eat my wardrobe!"

With this, she flung Crampton from her scathed her parasol from the floor, and flounced out of the room.

Some minutes later Spencer Spry appeared at the doorway.

"You priceless idiot!" thundered Crampton, spluttering with rage. "A fine mess you've got us into. What madness prompted you to write that paragraph about the Dazzle woman? Don't stand there like a helpless fool!" he snapped. "What's to be done?"

Spry's dismay was well-feigned. For some moments he remained speechless, staring in open-mouthed fashion at Crampton.

"I—I hardly know, sir," he stammered stupidly. "I heard on good authority that all I said was true. I think we could prove—"

"Prove what?" bawled the editor, livid with rage. "Prove that a woman's hair is false—that she is in reality a kind of human scarecrow? You must be insane! Get out of my sight, and on Saturday you may draw your pay for the last time. Clear out!"

Spencer was about to expostulate, but words failed him. At last, glaring forlornly before him, he passed from the room.

Once outside, the disconsolate expression was replaced by a broad, satisfied grin.

The following morning the proprietors of the "Dilleigh Daily" received intimation from Messrs Seizer and Snatch, Miss Dazzle's solicitors, that their esteemed client intended taking action against them for malicious and slanderous libel, and that Messrs S. and S. would be glad to

hear what steps the defendants contemplated.

Thereupon the owners of the paper in which the alleged libel appeared placed the matter in the hands of their legal representatives, and hostilities commenced in earnest.

The case duly came into court, and it certainly afforded Mr Justice Carberry a splendid opportunity of proving himself a merry wit.

Amid innumerable sobs, Miss Queenie Dazzle told her story of the "Daily's" unprincipled attack upon her.

"Dear, dear!" observed the justice, as the witness chokingly concluded her evidence.

"Of course, if the allegations are not true—"

"If!" almost shrieked the girl, forgetting for a moment the part she was playing.

"If the allegations have no foundation," continued the judge, not heeding the interruption, "you were quite right in taking action. But I presume your main object in bringing the matter into court was not the heavy damages you claim as to disprove the newspaper's statements concerning your personal appearance."

"Er—er—yes! That is—"

"In fact," continued the judge, chuckling softly in the anticipation of a joke, "you wish to prove that it is that report, and not your hair, that is false. Ha, ha!"

The whole court laughed encouragingly, and Mr Justice Carberry smiled inwardly as he thought of the prominent position this little joke would occupy in his forthcoming reminiscences.

When the laughter had subsided, the defending counsel subjected the witness to a sharp cross-examination, and from this point matters ran on more or less smoothly.

Some time later, when all the evidence had been heard and the judge was summing up, Spencer Spry felt that every word was assuring his future success. The damages Miss Dazzle claimed were £500, and Spencer was convinced that if he and Queenie did not get all that, they could not be awarded a penny less than £300.

At length the jury retired, and the hearts of the conspirators beat high with hope.

Half an hour later the jurymen returned to their places, and after the usual formalities the foreman rose to his feet and announced that, after due deliberation, he and his fellow-members of the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff.

Spry glanced instinctively in the direction of Miss Dazzle, and noticed a gleam of satisfaction in her eyes. Everything was going on swimmingly. It was now only a question of damages.

"However," continued the foreman impressively, "in view of the fact that the defendants have expressed a readiness to apologise for the remarks of their reporter who has since been dismissed from their service, through whose indiscretion this action was brought, we do not feel justified in dealing harshly with the defendants in the monetary sense. We find for the plaintiff, with one farthing damages!"

With a horrified shriek, Queenie Dazzle started up from her seat to collapse, swooning, into the arms of her counsel, who had hastened to her assistance.

Restoratives were applied with success, and a few minutes later she was able to leave the court.

Oblivious to everything that was happening around him, Spencer Spry remained staring fixedly before him.

Rousing himself at last, he made his way out into the street a sadder, wiser, and, in every way, a poorer man.

THE END.

ANZAC DAY.

Come, brothers, let this be our day of days;

Strange words this day shall be our pride and boast;

Anzac, Lone Pine, the Apex, and Quinn's Post;

Now, when the yellowing poplar darts her rays

Down the long silence of our woodland ways,

Remember as you parched, cliff-guarded coast,

The thirst, the wire, the flies, the crowded host.

The uproarious bathing in those perilous bays.

Let us, while thanking God for this good land,

In whose great peace and beauty we do dwell,

Make in our tasks this day a holy praise;

And, turning eyes and mind to that far strand,

Say before Him: "There our beloved fell;

There our beloved fell in the Great Cause!"

MADE IN GERMANY.

BRITISH QUALITY BETTER.

German goods, though they are only arriving in this country in small consignments, are already beginning to make their presence felt on the British market. In Edinburgh shops the old trade mark "Made in Germany," has begun to work its way to the front, and it is being found that in the case of a good many articles not only are the German samples usually of quite acceptable quality, but the price is in almost every instance far below that of a similar article made at home.

According to the representative of a Leith shipping firm engaged in the importation of German goods, many cutlery firms in this country are simply crying aloud for large quantities of German cutlery, and firms in Elberfeld and elsewhere in Germany have entered into communication with British firms, offering goods at enticing prices.

There is no great supply of scissors, the small stock possessed by Germany being rapidly absorbed, but the goods which have reached the British market are sold at a fourth of the price of the Sheffield makes. It must be remembered, however, that the prices quoted here are the manufacturer's quotations. Four-inch nail scissors are obtainable at 15s 6d per dozen; six-inch at 16s 6d; while nail clippers are sold at the astonishing low price of 5s 6d per dozen.

The British articles are nowhere near these prices. Knives form a large proportion of the imported articles, and, on the whole, are of a really good quality. A capital knife may be purchased for 1s 6d, its equivalent in English make probably costing about 7s 6d; and for 2s or 3s 6d, an excellent razor may be obtained.

Enamel ware can be bought in greater quantities than any other article, but cannot be compared with the British class of goods. The German ware is only dipped once in the enamel, while the British firms put their products through the process seven times.

As an instance, a twelve-inch German basin is offered at 1s 6d, the cost of the home made being 4s 6d.

Before the war German musical instruments and toys flooded the market, and a German firm of toy-makers, who specialise in making dolls, are now offering to supply British warehouses with these at prices which completely undersell the British production.

Some time ago a large consignment of handbags arrived, valued at about £13,000. Frankly, quality for quality and value for value, to say nothing of style, they scarcely compare favourably with the home productions—except in price.

In every class of goods "German-made" sells at much cheaper rate than the British make. In quality, however, the British manufacturers are often much superior.

There can be no question of the fact that firms in this country have agents in Germany, who are energetically pushing the German goods, which in the present high-priced British market offer an unusual opportunity for profit-making.

COMFORT FOR THE SORROWING.

'Tis sorrow builds the shining ladder up,

Whose golden rounds are our calamities

Whereon our firm feet planting, nearer God.

The spirit climbs, and hath its eyes unsealed,

True is it that Death's face seems stern and cold,

When he is sent to summon those we love,

But all God's angels come to us disguised;

Sorrow and sickness, poverty and death,

One after another lift their frowning masks,

And we behold the scraph's face beneath,

All radiant with the glory and the calm

Of having looked upon the front of God.

With every anguish of our earthly part

The spirit's sight grows clearer; this was meant.

When Jesus touched the blind man's lids with clay.

Life is the jailer, Death the angel sent

To draw the unwilling bolt and set us free.

—Lowell.

There's gold in the rock where the miners flock,

There's gold in the sands of the sea;

There's gold in the very air we breathe,

Could science but set it free.

There's hidden gold in the pirate's haul,

And we'll find it some day, I'm sure;

There's ease worth gold for a cough or cold.

In Wood's Great Peppermint Cure

Beauty in Glasses.

TWO factors go to make our Spectacles and Eyeglasses the perfect article they are: First, the skill in making and fitting to exactly suit the sight and appearance of each client; and second, the beautifully light, dainty yet durable workmanship which makes them unobtrusive yet AN ACTUAL IMPROVEMENT TO APPEARANCE.

There is that superior look about people wearing our Spectacles which cannot be overlooked.

Charges, including sight testing strictly moderate.

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HOP SHANDIES AND SODA FOUNTAIN DRINKS.

They Gladden.

Save money by buying your sweets direct from the manufacturer.

WOOLLETT & CO.,

Confectioners and Soft Drink Specialists,
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DIGGERS

LOOK!

RICE'S,

ARE STILL MAKING THEIR
DELICIOUS

TOFFEES

And

CANDIES.

ALSO SPLENDID SELECTION
OF
FANCY BOXES CHOCOLATES
IN STOCK.

A GENUINE reduction in Jewellery can be obtained by making your purchases from—

A. E. ARTHUR,

Watchmaker and Jeweller,

TAY STREET, INVERCARGILL.

My business is run at a minimum expense, therefore I am enabled to give you the benefit. I specialise in DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT RINGS, which cannot be surpassed for either quality or price. I attend personally to the wants of all my customers and guarantee to give every satisfaction.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

By "Referee."

The rugby football season opened on Saturday, May 1, under the best conditions. Two senior games were set down for 3 p.m. on Rugby Park, and the weather and the playing areas were of the best, the turf having lost its brickiness and taken on a springiness, that helped forwards and backs to fall without grazes and to run without button trouble. The S.R.F.U. has but to help its ground in the state it was on Saturday and fast play must result.

First, all matches are to be begun on scheduled time; second, all senior games must be played the full time, 45 minute spells; third, players must be of only one week-day football club, Wednesday or Saturday.

There can be no question as to the wisdom by the executive in insisting on the first and second rules for club contests. The laxity shown by teams with regard to the first has been long a scandal in Southland, and that through little fault of the governing body, which has always instructed its officials to have players out in the field right on time. But it would be well if the S.R.F.U. made its rule actually operative. Read this: On Saturday a referee's whistle was heard in the dressing shed on Rugby Park at 3 p.m., prompt to advertised time; but the teams kicked off after 3.10 p.m. What is the executive going to do about it? Old players strolled—aye, strolled—in after the 3 p.m. whistle. Now, if the law-makers will think, "There's no law without a sanction," the remedy suggests itself. The "Digger" suggestion is: That referees be instructed to whistle teams to the field five minutes before the appointed time, and that the ball be kicked off at that appointed time. Any team or teams not on the field then to lose the match, and to be fined by the S.R.F.U., the fines to be used for referees' travelling expenses. When the committee insisted on full time for senior games, it did much towards helping training enthusiasts to stir up slackers. There has been too much of the "Oh! make it thirties." Representative games will be considerably improved from the spectator point of view, not to mention the honour of the province.

The third matter; players not to take part in the two competitions, Galbraith Shield and Sports Protection League's Banner game. There is much to be said on one side and something on the other. Those favouring last year's wide-method rule saw that many good players will not get the practice they did last year; they even say that some players will not put on a jersey under the new condition. Against the former contention the other side asserts that the two-game man was never remarkable for his attendance at practices, the result being the wretched football of 1919 in town. The latter assertion, that some men will not play, is best disposed of by letting them not play. Such a spirit may be commendable in a mere club's supporter, but it is hard to believe that a true rugbyite has it. The majority of the S.R.F.U. may rest assured that the bulk of football-public opinion is with them. Clubs can now have an esprit de corps, secretaries will not be running after Tom, Dick, or Harry, to play for them, but will get their players from financial club members, more young fellows will play football, too, and the province and the Dominion will benefit more than if a certain player or ten could swag out Saturday and Wednesday, ruining his place game on one or other of the days.

SPORTS PROTECTION BANNER. N
Banks and Law 24 v. Bluff 11.

Bluff went out in many coloured attired and hot favourites for the 1920 banner, but the B. and L. had too many guns. Dykes, Stead, St. George, Gilmour, proving fast, too clever for their heavier opponents. The game did not open up with any promise of good play, though the brightness of the winning backs was noteworthy all through. The first score came from under Bluff's goal posts, St. George cutting on to the crowded side to pass badly to Dykes who dribbled over and scored. This 3-nil was soon added to at the end of a scramble, Bluff not going down too well to foot-work, and 6-0 showed against Port. A period of give and take saw Bluff booting high and following, with B. and L. backs doing one another's work instead of backing up; so the full being raw at the game turned the wrong way to fall on the ball and Bluff ended up with 6-5, after throwing away a try by a very bad pass. The first spell ended without further scoring.

B. and L. attacked early but failed to penetrate Rep. Rudd rallying his big forwards like a man, but, although the sea-side vanguard got their backs into position and gave them ball, the high slow

transfers spoilt any chance they might have had of scoring, and tired their forwards and themselves for no result, Gilmour flashing through them when they were displaying only one line of defence in front of the full—9-5. Bluff came back in retributive attack and a very fine movement was ruined by the centre's rotten pass. Disgusted forwards refused defence and St. George scampered through the one-line defence. Dykes goaled, 14-5.

Mighty was the rage of Rudd and Co. Like a rainbow swarm they attacked a weak wing-three, and from a corner kick failed to make the try better, 18-8. The quicksilver backs of B. and L. were everywhere, and the misplaced Bluff rear-guard were everywhere but the right place, so Gilmour ran in and put the ball down between the posts and somebody added the two, 19-8. Bluff came up cheery if unsmiling, and the forwards got the wing rattled at the corner, 19-11. What a game! B. and L. had got most of their score by selfishness and lack of organised opposition, but they made one brilliant movement from Dykes, Stead, St. George to Prain, and the gallant youngster scored between the posts to permit half Dykes to bring Bank's and Law's score up to 24 and to leave Bluff at 11. And that finished the scoring.

UNION 13 v. PUBLIC SERVICE 6.

The first spell of this game was not interesting. Public Service were using three emergencies, and, as two of them were in the backs, their passing broke down dreadfully, the result being that the Dalgliesh brothers had to carry the backs on their shoulders, the younger one's feed not going past the first five who must have decided that the forward at second and the imported centre were there only hope to stop rushes.

P.S. began with some good transfer work, but lack of knowledge of position and wretched passing stopped scoring and let the Union forwards in among backs whose defence—except that of the Dalgliesh pair—was sadly out-at-elbows. The first-five lost a good try through cutting in to the thick and losing his forward-back. Union seemed to be short of a run and of backs, and appeared to be ready to take the count any old time, but they belied appearance as the results show. Scotty Baird was played about centre, and the strangeness of the position he made evident, though his taking and kicking were good for a first game. Crockroft, of South African fame, wasn't getting into it, and D. Stewart's anticipations were not being realised. The football was not of a high standard, in fact it was low grade. The post script backs kicked for the line like machines, or threw the ball away from the out-of-position next man, or got tossed about by the big Union forwards into whom they ran with monotonous heroism. Union played some good scrum tricks, the front row and the wing forward making things lively, and getting off with them. It looked as if neither side could score, but Fortune, pre-war Otago rep. placed a goal for P.S., and a play-empty first spell ended, Public Service, 3; Union, 0.

Union's weight in the forwards didn't seem to have had much effect on P.S., and a smart attack by the forwards let the Dalglieshes give wing Fortune a pass, and with some of his old fire, Geoff made a 3. P.S. 6, Union 0. Union began to get lively in the forwards, their backs may be disregarded—their forwards did so—from this on except for Baird's huge line punts. Their first bustling effort was checked by a clever save of Fortune who picked up splendidly from the forwards' toes, and found the line. But Union came at it again and again, and behind the related pair low tackling had not received an introduction though certain amenities of the social side were much favoured, for instance, the neck grip and the evading side-step were very popular. Stewart revelled in the license of the time, and finished what Crockroft began, forwards swarming over weak defence until at the end of a scramble it was found that a Union man was the top of the earth-ball sandwich, 6-3. Union backs were disgruntled; they passed fiercely and not badly, and Stapey scored. The ball went between the posts and P.S. were two down the score read, Union 8, P.S. 6. Crockroft had played himself into form, and his forwards were romping over the Service whose backs had something too sore to tackle with. McDonald, P.S., neglected wing, made desperate lone-hand endeavours to get a move on, but he had no feed and no luck. One of his dashes was fine. At the end of it his side was in the background, Union's forward weight had told its tale, and the rattled P.S. saw Fortune misjudge a bounce from one of Scotty Baird's high-fliers and the Union wing-three got it, and when the goal-kicker had had his shot Union were 13 and Public Service were 6. The two forty-fives and the Union forwards, and the other things allowed Union to win a game with their forwards on a dry ground. Think of it!

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INVERCARGILL.**LAND HO!****WHEN** the sailor on the look-out makes
the welcome cry from the crow's
nest, he has just caught sight of the top
of a mountain, but he has discerned the
land and it is welcome news, no matter if
it be a bleak and barren mountain.But let us get down to the plains. Here
we find the real land that will yield up its
hidden treasure to the man who seeks it.To the sailor, whether mountain or plain,
it is merely land, quality not concerning
him. But the practical landsman wants
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And especially now.For a Soda Drink,
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You can surpass,
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Of our assortment.**Germany's New Bid for Commer-
cial Supremacy.****FIFTY-FIFTY MIDDLEMEN.**

Germany is exploiting with equal skill
one other old advantage, an advantage not
sufficiently understood in America. This
is that her language and her commercial
customs and terminology have an unshak-
able grip on all Europe east of the French
Vosges. All of the former components
of Austria—anti-German though most of
them were—the Balkan States and Scand-
inavia are entirely within the German-
language sphere. Anti-German Poland and
Russia have no trade language but Ger-
man, which was first enforced and then
maintained by millions of hyphenated citi-
zens—German Balts, German industrial
leaders in the former Russian Poland,
Yiddish-speaking Jews; and Letts, Ests
and Lithuanians nurtured on Germanic
Kultur. The educated half-German classes
in these nations always monopolize com-
merce all the way from the Warthe to the
Neva; and indeed much farther. In
Siberia Ekaterinburg in April, 1917, when
Russia and Germany were still professedly
at war, I found the German language
and German trade standards being pub-
licly taught by a municipal lecturer in the
City Hall.

On this foundation has risen that speci-
fic European commercial type, the semi-
German agent and middleman, often non-
German by race and anti-German in poli-
tics, but always German in all that con-
cerns his pocket. On these half Germans
even American sellers come to depend.
Through Stockholm on their way to Fin-
land lately passed two such American
business men, neither of whom was the
least German in sentiment—on the contrary
they naively proclaimed to all the
world that they had come to Europe to
cut out the Hun. But when these pioneers
of unhyphenated American trade proceed-
ed eastward one was in tow of a German-
Danish interpreter the other of a German-
Polish Jew, both men from the very class
of international agents who were formerly
the mainstays of Germany's position in
the East-European commercial world.

Only Germans are trying to organise the
trade of the less accessible parts of Euro-
pe. On my writing table lies a German
book entitled “Guide to Commerce”—in
German, “Wirtschaftsführer;” in Rus-
sian, “Torgovi Putevoditel”—which
when opened reveals the languages of
Poland, Bohemia, Serbia, Hungary, Bul-
garia and Finland. It is the work of a
retired German of Lodz; and it brims
over with facts that would be useful to
anyone, but in particular with facts aimed
at inducing buyers to turn to Germany.
Such publications are turned out in
masses. At the height of Germany's mili-
tary prosperity in Poland the big Leipzig
publishing firms, also the Berlin Tageblatt
and the other Prussian newspapers which
they opened offices at Warsaw, published
Polish, Bulgarian and Turkish trade
guides, technical dictionaries and buyers' hand-
books. Later in admirably written
pamphlets the Ukrainians under Skoropad-
sky and the Great-Russians under Lenine
were taught by Germans how to till their
land and how to buy German implements.
And when Russia's own printing industry
fell to pieces Germany produced Russian
books of all kinds; first Russian
Bibles and prayer books, and later Rus-
sian fiction, poetry and science. And all
this was done with such an unerring eye
to the coming main chance that before I
left Russia the joke was passing round
that the Bibles dumped from Leipzig be-
gan with the Genesis of German mercantile
domination in Russia and proceeded to
chronicle the Exodus of all of Germany's
competitors.

GERMAN DESIGNS ON RUSSIA.

The German campaign for the com-
mercial conquest of Russia is now under
full way. On this vital question, which
has evoked many conflicting statements in
Ally countries, the German Govern-
ment and the German-Russian Economical
Association of Berlin lately told the lit-
eral truth when they declared that “It
is not yet practicable to resume com-
mercial relations only because relations were
never broken off. Just as in 1915 Ger-
many notwithstanding a nominal state of
fierce enmity was selling drugs to Rus-
sia via Swedish Haparanda, so to-day
despite a formal cessation of diplomatic
relations, very effective Russo-German
commercial intercourse exists. In Russia
Germany has agents everywhere; she has
the tradition of old associations and mutu-
al indispensability; she has societies for
studying Russia, such as the Institute
of Russian Research attached to
Berlin University; and special banks for
Russia, such as the German Eastern Trade
and Industry Bank. Finally she has
settled on her soil 150,000 Russians of
educated class, mostly refugees, whose
sole hope of permanently earning a living

lies in their collaboration with Germans
for Russo-German trade.

And soviet Russia's only able organisers
come from that very class of hyphenated
Germans or hyphenated Russians who
have always run Russia's trade. Lenine,
who began his political career in a sealed
German railroad car, is one; the German-
named Brostein who calls himself Trotsky
and the German-named Apfelbaum who
calls himself Zinovieff are others; and the
latest and greatest of all the soviet's in-
dustrial geniuses, the Commissary of Rail-
roads Leonid Krasin, a man of real talents
who in America would be a Carnegie, is
German-trained, German-thinking and
German by the fact that he long served
the big Siemens Schuckert firm. So if he
soviet government, as far as it has any
active trade policy at all, is to-day moving
in Germany's direction that is no passing
accident but a very prescient design.

Within the past few months soviet Rus-
sia has given repeated proofs of solidarity
with republican Germany. When in
Moscow in May a special council was con-
voked to decide Russia's attitude toward
the peace terms handed to Von Rantzau,
Lenine openly declared for “military and
commercial collaboration with Germany,
bourgeois as she is.” Trotsky agreed, but
objected that Germany must take the first
step. Thanks to the Germanophile vigor
of the indefatigable Krasin, the first
commercial steps had already been taken.
When Krasin was temporarily diverted
from the Commissariat of Communications
to the even more important Munitions
Bureau he advised the soviet government
to entrust the Nationalized Chemicals In-
dustry to German hands. Two Germans
in Moscow are to-day candidates for presi-
dency of the Chemicals Central. Krasin
next declared that the estimated 600,000-
000 rubles' expenditure necessary for put-
ting telegraphs and telephones in order
should be organised by a German named
Stahl.

The next grandiose scheme which Ger-
mans should organise was also electrical.
The soaring Bolsheviks, who shrink from
no enterprise, who have even planned to
divert the great river Oxus into the Casp-
ian Sea, submitted to a special commission
the question whether agriculture could
not be electrified. Russia has few domes-
tic animals left; and electricity would
be the new plough horse. Russia would
turn to Germany in such a matter was
predetermined; for before the war she
bought from Germany 85 per cent of her
dynamoes, 80 per cent of her transformers,
97½ per cent of her electric cables and 98
per cent of her electro-motor cars. Before
the special commission dispersed, 22,000-
000 rubles had been voted for preliminary
inquiries; and the nine-tenths-German
Krasin had forced through a vote that
“the representatives of the German elec-
trical industry be invited to help.

A month later Bolshevik newspapers re-
ported a plan for electrification of the
Donetz coal mines, whereby the annual
output of 40,000,000 tons would be in-
creased to 240,000,000 tons; and whereby
Russia's fuel problem, now seriously ag-
gravated by the loss of the Dombrovski
mines in Poland, would be satisfactorily
solved. And again the soviet newspapers
talked of German help.

WAR MATERIAL SALVAGED.

What the Germans in Russia, who far
outnumber even the Russians in Germany
are doing for German commercial conquest
plans I take from the report of M. Ana-
tole Ruchloff, formerly of the Russian
Bank for Foreign Trade. The 7000 Ger-
mans in the Red Army, says Ruchloff, are
supplemented by 50,000 civilians, mostly
ex-war prisoners who prefer the advan-
tures and prospects of Russian life to
stagnation at home. These Germans en-
gage in capitalistic trade; and the anti-
capitalistic soviet, which want commodi-
ties at all costs, favour them. The Ger-
mans formerly settled in Russian Poland
are filtering through soviet Russian and
starting businesses. The new German-Rus-
sian Trade Association at Moscow has 1700
German members. By buying up junk
iron and derelict war material and
turning it into useful goods Germans have
appeased the iron hunger of whole prov-
inces; and in Yaroslavl province Germans
so successfully organised the distribution
of merchandise that the peasants have re-
sumed selling food to the soviet. Natu-
rally the grateful soviet protect also the
former German estate managers who are
now on capitalistic lines tilling land ex-
propriated from the nobles.

And “in the monasteries where the
monks in hope of gaining a living have
turned farmers, one usually,” concludes
Ruchloff, “finds a German in charge.”
Nothing, that means, is too small or too
big for the Germans in Russia; it is Ger-
mans who teach monks how to plant cab-
bages; and it is Germans who are invok-
ed to electrify areas of country very
much bigger than Germany was at her
best.

German commercial prospects in the
former Baltic Provinces now the republics

of Livonia, Esthonia and Lithuania, are
quite as bright. During her military oc-
cupation here Germany ran commerce for
all it was worth. Still in circulation to-day
and a powerful lever for future German
trade are the “East-Marks” and “East-
Rubles,” which she enforced as currency.
In seven Livonian and Esthonian towns
she established well-equipped chambers of
commerce; at Dorpat she opened a tech-
nical school of 500 pupils; and by rough
but thorough enough measures she forced
—naturally in her own interests only—
agriculture and industry back into life.
But Germany has her fastest grip in the
fact that the local German nobles and
burghers far exceed the Letts and Ests
in Education and productive skill. In
Finland company, with a dummy Finn
from office the pro-German Svinhuivud
Government, Germany seemed to lose her
trade chance. But at the height of the
catastrophe the Essen Krupp's formed a
Finnish company, with a dummy Finn
Professor Ramsay on top, to exploit Fin-
land's minerals. Finland badly wants
goods of all kinds—how badly is shown
by the fact that in the first five months
of 1919 she had only 69,000,000 marks of
exports to set against 631,600,000 marks
of imports. Germany is going to supply
these goods. In Finland's smallest towns
one meets her agents, spying out the land
commercially, searching for developable
water power, examining free-harbour
plans so that she may open new offices;
yes, even running on the eastern frontier
of Finland an active smuggling trade
with Russia which is locally regarded—
probably with good reason—as the fore-
runner of very much bigger things to
come.

DENMARK OVERRUN.

Germany in Scandinavia is relatively in-
ert. She can afford to wait and watch, be-
cause that is a market which she never
lost. With Sweden her commercial fate is
cemented by her dependence upon the iron
ore of Norrland, and the compulsion to
pay Sweden in finished goods. Last winter
Germany sent agents with offers to buy up
for ten years ahead the whole ore output
of the Kiruna mines. When the high
prices of metal in Sweden led to a great
increase of prospecting and to the regis-
tration of many claims—in the last year
more than 1000—Germany's representa-
tives were on the spot with offers similar
to that successfully made in Finland.

Here, too, Germany has the advantage
of dealing with countries that are very
short of goods. Sweden imported in the
last four months goods worth 407,000,000
crowns, against exports of 240,000,000
crowns; and Denmark in the last five
months imported goods for 734,000,000
crowns, against exports of 204,000,000
crowns. Scandinavia's own extraordinary
high production costs are a pledge that
these imports will continue. In Sweden
and Denmark the German, though mostly
only on the watch, is everywhere. When
I asked the Danish merchant who first
called my attention to this why, if it were
so, one heard nothing of these Germans,
though the newspapers printed every day
the arrivals of American business men, he
answered: “There are so many German
agents in Copenhagen that no editor in
his senses would think it worth while to
report fresh arrivals.”

Republican Germany, I am convinced,
is far from being in the desperate plight
which some Americans imagine, which
some Germans, for obvious, well-considered
reasons, pretend. Of the universal
despair and immediate state and private
bankruptcy which were to follow the
peace signature there is no sign. On the
contrary Delenda Germania is already on
the highroad to Germania Regenerata.

The stock exchange, which in all coun-
tries faithfully foreshadows coming indus-
trial and commercial conditions, is in-
structive. Immediately after peace was
certain German state securities rose with
a jump. In sharp contrast with English
loan stock the German 5 per cent War
Loan rose nine points in nineteen days.
And with it up went sharply Germany's
chief bank, transport and industrial
stocks—the stocks of the Deutsche Bank,
of the Hamburg-American and Nord-
deutscher Lloyd, of Siemens and Halske,
of the Baden Aniline Works, even of the
German Armaments Corporation. And
of course at the same time up went the
stocks and shares of the big metallurgical
and mining corporations of the West-Ger-
man Grossindustrie.

This event is a final striking proof of
the doctrine that though the German peril
in the military domain may be exorcised
for ever the peril in industrial domains—
if one can rightly speak of an industrial
peril—is potentially as great to-day as it
was when Germany was Europe's greatest
steel and iron producer, when Germany's
general overseas trade was exceeded by
that of only one country in the world.

The End.

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a fact. There are eight great plants
covering 250 acres, employing 12,000 men,
working ceaselessly to produce Maxwell's,
and the result is there are over 300,000 of
these cars running on the road to-day. In
1914 there was one Maxwell in every 1000
cars. In 1915 there was one in every 500.
In 1916 one in every 48. In 1919 there
was one Maxwell in every 16 cars. Well,
Bill, I'll just slip round and get a Maxwell
now while they are £465, because I know
they will be over £500 shortly, and if
you say is true they are well worth it.

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SIR JOHN MILLBANK, a successful, but stern judge, quarrels with his only son,

JACK, who leaves his father's house to fight his own way in the world; and whilst serving with the Australian contingent, under the name of Dick Foster, he meets, and falls in love with

KITTY, the adopted daughter of Sir John. However, Sir John has arranged for her marriage with

LORD HAVERHAM. In a moment of despair, Kitty writes to Dick, asking him to meet her in the Blue Room at Rivercourt Mansions. At the appointed hour, Lord Haverham goes to the Blue Room to write some letters, and, unknown to the guests, Sir John meets him there. An altercation arises between the two men, resulting in the accidental death of Lord Haverham. Later, Dick arrives in the Blue Room, is caught and accused of murder, and found guilty. Whilst passing the sentence of death, Sir John recognises the prisoner as his own son Jack! A few days later, Sir John interviews the prisoner at his private residence under escort of the warders, and tells him he will have to serve at least three years' imprisonment. Just as they are leaving, Dick with the assistance of Kitty makes his escape, and that night they decide to drive into Winnerleigh; but the car breaks down, and they are forced to accept the hospitality of

BEAUMONT CHASE, a millionaire. The following morning, Dick's host informs him that Sir John had called during the night and taken his daughter away. Dick, believing this story, leaves that morning for Winnerleigh. Kitty goes down to breakfast, and is cross-examined by Mr Chase, but on his promise of assistance tells him the whole story. At a fabulous price Mr Chase engages the services of

MR PELHAM WEBB, a clever but unscrupulous detective, to find Dick Foster, and extracts a promise from Kitty not to attempt to see or write to her lover until a year has elapsed. Dick arrives at the residence of

CLARA CLARKE, a clever actress and a friend of Kitty's. With the aid of grease-paints she transforms Dick to a life-like representation of her father. Just at this moment Pelham Webb arrives and insists upon interviewing Dick alone. Dick realises that the detective has discovered his identity.

THE RETURN TO BEAUMONT HALL.

In the common affairs of life an excessive passion for dramatic effect sometimes leads to results as unpleasant as they are unexpected.

Pelham Webb had his little triumph. Both Dick Foster and the actress were completely taken aback. In a flash they realised that their game was up, and that all their carefully made plans were tumbled to ruin.

This little man with the sharp, rat-like face knew all. He had penetrated the disguise, and was now gloating over his triumph.

Yes, he had brought off his dramatic game in a neat and effective manner. What he forgot to take into account was the effect his words might have on a desperate man.

He was soon to be enlightened.

Dick Foster was not a play-actor by nature, and the task of playing the part of old Christopher Clarke during the last hour while Inspector Biggs and his men had been searching the house was a pretty severe strain to his nerves.

The knowledge that he was discovered came almost as a relief to him, and, at the same time filled him with a savage anger, and a fierce determination to do something.

At the detective's words, uttered with little snigger of triumph, Dick leaped from his chair.

His right hand shot out, and he seized Mr Pelham Webb by the throat.

The next moment the little man was lifted off his feet and flung full length on the table.

There the escaped convict held him, pinned down helplessly, while he wriggled desperately but unavailingly to get away.

He tried to speak, but the hand on his throat prevented him from uttering any but incoherent gurgles of protest.

Miss Clara Clarke was terribly alarmed, and, at the same time, rather pleasantly thrilled.

"Oh, Mr Foster," she gasped, "don't—don't kill him!"

"I won't if he keeps quiet," growled the young man significantly. "Just see if he has any men outside."

Pelham Webb ceased to struggle, and somehow managed to articulate a sentence.

"I am alone!" he panted.

Dick released slightly his deadly grip.

"Is that true?" he demanded threateningly.

"On my soul it is," spluttered the detective, still choking and gasping. "I'm alone. I always work single-handed."

"And you thought you could take me single-handed?" muttered Dick grimly.

"I don't want to take you at all," declared the other eagerly. "If you would only let me speak. I want to help you. I am your friend."

Dick raised his head and gazed doubtfully across the table at the actress.

He was bewildered, and turned naturally to the woman for guidance and advice.

"What's he mean? What shall I do?" he said hopelessly.

"Sit him up and give him a drink," said Miss Clarke, with the practical common-sense which was not the least of her good qualities.

Dick slid his victim off the table into chair, and then mixed him a stiff whisky and soda.

Pelham Webb gulped down the beverage greedily, and after a few moments seemed a little restored.

Dick turned away. His gust of passion had passed, and a certain weariness, a feeling of hopeless resignation took possession of him.

After all there was nothing more to be done. He had been run to earth. Further resistance was useless. He had better submit quietly. Kitty had not communicated with him. Doubtless she was unable to help him any further. Life was all a matter of luck, and the cards were against him. All he could do was to take his defeat without whimpering.

While these thoughts were passing in his mind he suddenly became aware that his friend the actress and Pelham Webb the detective were talking together in low tones.

"You may have heard that I am a wealthy woman."

There was an unmistakable significance in Miss Clarke's tones.

Dick, who had flung himself down in another part of the room, rose quickly and advanced to the others.

"Please don't bother any more, Miss Clarke," he said impulsively. "You have

done enough for me, and I thank you. Don't waste your money on this fellow. I don't suppose he could help me if he wanted to. He is acting under orders. Come, sir, I am ready to go with you. I am sorry if I hurt you, but you took me by surprise. I am your prisoner. Don't be alarmed, I shall not attack you again. Let us be off."

"I thank you for that assurance," said the little man with dignity. "You are certainly wise to come with me quietly, and I hope before the night is out to prove to you that I am your friend."

Dick looked at him curiously, but the detective made no further explanation, but, turning to the actress, continued to talk to her in low tones.

What he said seemed to please her, for her good-humoured face beamed and when a little later she said good-bye to Dick she was quite cheerful.

"Good-bye, my lad," she said, "and good luck. Keep your heart up. It is a great thing to be young. Keep smiling. There's a good time coming."

It was past midnight when Pelham Webb and his prisoner drove away from Winnerleigh.

At the detective's suggestion Dick still wore his disguise.

THE OLD MAN WITH THE HOE.

"So he slipped through your fingers?"

"For the moment."

"That's a nuisance. He will be captured by the regular police, and that will spoil my game."

"I think not. The man has friends who are hiding him, but I have a clue. Leave it to me."

The speakers were Beaumont Chase the millionaire and Pelham Webb the detective.

Pelham Webb loved intrigue for its own sake, and not for the first time in his life he had decided to play a double game.

He felt he could best retain his influence with the millionaire by not letting that gentleman know everything.

Beaumont Chase frowned as he paced restlessly up and down the room at Beaumont Hall.

"It is most important to my plans that this man Foster did not make an unexpected appearance at any time within the next twelve months," he said.

"You leave that to me," said Webb.

"You seem very confident."

"I am."

"Well, what are your plans?"

"You shall know them fully in good time. For the moment take it from me that I have arranged everything. I have taken every precaution. My agents are fully instructed. You go on with your own plans, sir, and leave the rest to me."

The millionaire smiled.

"You inspire confidence, Webb. All the same, I wish you wouldn't be so confoundedly mysterious. Who is this old man you brought into the place the other morning? My steward tells me he is a very indifferent gardener, and yet you say I must employ him."

"Yes, he occupies the second lodge in the lower grounds, and he won't be in anybody's way."

"But who is he?"

"One of my agents. A very clever fellow. You don't know what may be going on in your house, sir; but old Mr Clarke will soon know all about it."

"Oh, I see. Well, I leave it to you. But for Heaven's sake keep Dick Foster out of the way."

"I am making good progress with old Millbank. The old boy is a wreck, but I have won his confidence, and I have persuaded him to come down here for a holiday. He arrives to-day."

"You are anxious to cultivate this friendship with Sir John Millbank?"

"I am. I was never so keen on anything in my life," admitted the other with sudden frankness.

The detective looked at him shrewdly. "Will the judge be alone when he comes?" he asked quietly.

The millionaire shrugged his shoulders, and tried to appear indifferent.

"Probably, his daughter may join him later."

"I see. Well, sir, whatever your plans are you may proceed with them without anxiety. Dick Foster has disappeared. He may be dead, or he may be in hiding. In any case, you may rely on me that he will not inconveniently reappear."

"That is all I ask of you, Webb," returned the millionaire eagerly. "But do not be over-confident. Keep a careful watch. Never relax in your efforts. With

(Continued on Page Six.)

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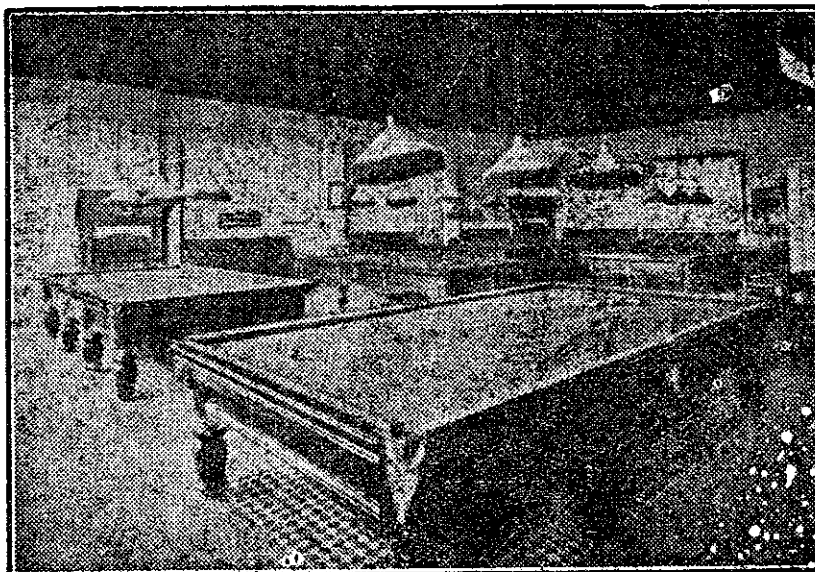
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EVERY ATTENTION AND CIVILITY



BILLIARD NOTES.

THE LONG IN-OFF THE WHITE AFTER THE BALLS ARE TOUCHING.

Many professionals, when playing this in-off, take the object white slightly fuller than half-ball, in order to cause it to strike the side cushion several inches higher up the table than it would as the result of an exact or slightly less than half-ball contact. By striking the side cushion high up, the object ball impinges on the top cushion at a point considerably further away from the red than in the ordinary way, and on its rebound is consequently thrown more into the centre of the table. By this means a drop cannon is generally left, and this enables the player to get position for top-of-the-table play.

Occasional practice of this set stroke, which so often has to be played, cannot fail to be of benefit. The man who now and then makes a twenty or thirty break, but seldom or never reaches forty, will miss this shot as often as he gets it, and the poor player will almost invariably get stranded over this in-off. There is nothing really difficult in the shot, which should be played with a free flowing stroke; but owing to the distance the cue ball has to travel before it reaches the pocket, pretty accurate hitting of the object ball is necessary. In fact, few half-ball strokes demand such correct hitting as the one under discussion.

Although with the cue ball placed about 3/4 in from the end of the D the angle is the natural angle for a half-ball stroke it has a somewhat different look from the angle of the most half-ball in-offs; but this is simply owing to the fact that in most in-offs into a top pocket the line of aim—that is, the line from the cue ball to the object ball—is either more or less parallel with the side cushion, or else slanting towards it, whereas when the object ball is on the centre spot, the line of aim is slanting very decidedly away from the cushion. Were it not that this

in-off is a set stroke—that is to say, the striker has not to judge the angle but simply to place his ball on a known spot—the stroke would be a far more difficult one, even for a good player. That this is so may be easily tested by placing the ball in different positions a few inches above and below the centre spot, and likewise to the right and left of it, and then playing an in-off from any part of the baulk-line.

As already stated, generally speaking, the best way of playing the in-off from the white on the centre spot—after the object balls have been spotted as a consequence of the cue ball being in contact with another ball—is by a nice free flowing stroke, of sufficient pace to bring the object ball round the table, in order to leave an in-off into the centre pocket on. Such a stroke is, however, not always advisable when the table is a very slow one, owing to the difficulty of driving the ball far enough round, except by means of a stroke of considerably more than moderate strength.

By means of a rather slow stroke, the object ball may be made to come to rest somewhere between A and B, and when the object ball lies on or near this line, good position for a cannon or an in-off into the top pocket—according to what part of the line A—B the ball is on—will always be left for the next stroke. Evidently should the white ball come a little further down the table than B, and no ball-to-ball cannon left, a cannon off the white off the top cushion would still be an easier stroke than any cannon when the white lies very near the side cushion.

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JUDGMENT.

(Continued from page five.)

Foster out of the way I am afraid of nothing, but if he turned up again, hunted outcast though he is, I should be afraid of him.

The detective laughed.

"You don't mean that. With your wealth and your power you would have little reason to fear such a contemptible rival."

A sombre look came into the face of Beaumont Chase.

"Ah, Webb, you are clever in your way," he said slowly. "And I dare say you know a good deal about men, but I rather think there is one subject on which your education has been neglected."

"What is that, sir?" inquired the detective respectfully.

"Women," replied the other quietly.

"When a woman loves a man his misfortunes make him stronger not weaker. Where women are concerned, Webb, I am no fool, and I tell you that Dick Foster, down and out as he appears to be, is a very formidable rival. Anyway, I am taking no chance. I rely on you to see that Dick Foster and Kitty Millbank never meet. If—"

He stopped abruptly and moved to the window.

Some sound outside attracted his attention, and he stepped out on to the terrace. The detective followed him.

They stood side by side on the terrace and looked out to the great gates at the end of the drive.

The sound of a motor car could now be heard approaching. In another moment the car itself turned in at the gates.

Seated in it was the hunched-up figure of Judge Millbank, carefully wrapped in a great fur-coat. By his side sat the graceful slim figure of a girl.

The eyes of the millionaire flashed and a sign of satisfaction escaped his lips.

As the car turned in at the gates an old man leaning on a garden hoe stepped out of the way.

He touched his cap as the car flashed by.

The girl saw him, and smiled graciously in return.

(To be continued.)

THE ROYAL TOUR.

The following is published for general information and returned men are asked to make themselves conversant with the position.

PARADES.

The R.S.A. invite as many as possible to appear in uniform. The parade will constitute soldiers in uniform and those in mufti. Each section being kept together.

RAIL WARRANTS.

As it is the expressed wish of H.R.H. to meet as many of the returned soldiers as possible, your headquarters has arranged, in conjunction with the Departments of Defence, Internal Affairs, and Railways, for the issue of a free rail warrant available for one day only, to each ex-soldier who is located where a parade is not being held to enable him to travel to the nearest concentration point.

Any returned soldier desirous of availing himself of this privilege must apply to the nearest Defence Office for an order, which he must present to the stationmaster (at his "home" station) in exchange for a ticket before boarding the train.

Note.—If the returned soldier's "home" station has no stationmaster, then the order will be exchanged for a ticket by the guard.

It will be readily seen how necessary it is for the Railway Department to know how many people will be travelling to the various concentration points, and, therefore, the above method of issue will enable the Defence Department to aid the Railway Department by giving the desired information.

In company with the returned soldiers which will be travelling, there will also be territorials, cadets, scouts, and school children, therefore headquarters would ask that every assistance be rendered by local associations to see that their members are well posted on the necessary details.

TRAIN ARRANGEMENTS.

These will, of course, be made known later on, but the Defence officials should be in a position to notify the time-table when the orders are being issued.

AVAILABILITY.

Local associations are asked to stress the following points as forcibly as possible:—The bearer of a ticket issued above must return to his "home" station on the day of issue or he will be obliged to pay his fare when he makes the return journey.

Unless a returned soldier makes application and receives an order from the

nearest Defence Office he cannot avail himself of the free rail warrant.

The following places are concentration points, and a guide to returned soldiers who are availing themselves of the privileges of the free railway warrant. The three places, Balclutha, Gore, and Invercargill, are the nearest points that a parade will be held.

To Balclutha.—From all stations Kaitangata and Catlin's River branch. From Crichton, Kuriwao, and intermediate stations.

To Gore.—From Clinton and intermediate stations. From Charlton and Mataura. From all stations, Tapanui, Waikaka, and Switzers branch. From Balfour and intermediate stations (Gore-Lumsden.)

To Invercargill.—From Brydone and intermediate stations. From all stations on the Edendale-Glenham, Waimahaka-Tokanui, Bluff, Tuatapere, Nightcaps, Hedgehope, and Kingston lines.

MEALS.

The civic authorities in Invercargill have made provision to supply returned soldiers with free meals. The object of this is to make sure that the men will be able to get a meal. The local caterers will be hard pressed on that day, and this procedure will overcome the difficulty. Returned men who are availing themselves of these facilities can obtain tickets from the secretary, R. S.A., Invercargill.—Ed.

FORESTRY.

The members of Court Star of the South held a very successful meeting, the Chief Ranger, Bro. A. W. Jones, occupying the chair.

Bro. C. Edwards reported on the continued progress of the Juvenile branch attached to the Court, and stated that the last meeting, held recently, was a most encouraging one, and that the boys were steadily adding to their numbers.

The District Secretary (Bro. J. Macfie) made a presentation on behalf of the United Otago District to the retiring District Officer, Bro. A. W. Jones, as a token of appreciation for services rendered on the executive, and congratulated the recipient on being the first ex-juvenile member and youngest brother to attain to the highest position open to members of the Otago District of Foresters, and also on the results obtained by his energies in matters making for the advancement of the Order. P.D.C.R. Bro. R. Folley, on behalf of the Court, also endorsed the remarks of the previous speaker. Bro. Jones, in reply, thanked Bro. Macfie for coming from Dunedin to honour him, and expressed gratification at the loyalty and support he had received from his colleagues and the members.

At the close of the meeting the soldiers and nurses from the Convalescent Home, together with their friends, were entertained at a social evening. Bro. C. W. Patton has had the organising of these various functions. A very enjoyable programme was gone through with cards, dancing, musical items, and story and song. Mr Hodgkins and Mr S. Craig, representing the Red Cross Society, were present. Mr S. Craig outlined the work of the Red Cross Society at the Convalescent Home amongst the soldiers, and also thanked the Foresters for the way they had entertained the inmates, and also for their gifts, which were much appreciated. Bro. Patton acknowledged, on behalf of the Foresters.

ENGLAND, OH! FOR ENGLAND.

A FEDERATION SONG.

(From "The Pageant of Life.")

Old England needs her children,
She needs them every one,
From India's morning-bugle
To the last sunset-gun;
North, east, and south she needs them,
And in the furthest west,
And where the channel waters
Storm round her rocky breast.

The day is surely coming
When all alike she'll need,
And far-off true descendants
Of the old island-breed.
The day is surely coming
When all may have to strike
For England, ho! for England—
So all must fare alike.

"For England, ho! for England"
The great deep-throated cry
Rings far across the waters;
A million mouths reply,
"For England, ho! for England,
Till England's work be done,
And England's work is timeless
And measured by the sun."

George Barlow, "Poetical Works,"
Vol. VI.

The Nature Column.

(By "Student.")

On May 7th. Mr J. Fowler lectures before the Southland Naturalist Society on the Monowai region. The lecture will be illustrated by lantern slides. Mr Fowler has made several exploration trips into the district and knows as much about it as anyone. The lecture is open to the public and free. Interested people are always welcome. If you are interested in nature study join the Society, the fee is 2s 6d. This notice is somewhat belated but next month we will give our readers more warning.

I mentioned last week Mr Guthrie Smith's plea for the protection of the weka. He says, "Such a bird perpetually on the lookout like St. Paul's Athenians, for something new and eternally patrolling his beat, would instantly detect the smallest signs of an intruder; and, although the nests of the black rat are beyond his reach, their young when first on the ground, must be largely taken. The grey rat's family, too, must share a similar fate. Nor does the weka confine himself to the young of either breed. In the protracted twilight of the southern summer, often have I watched our camp wekas hunting a grown rat through tussock and tangle fern; and I believe it is a fact, that in parts where the weka is plentiful, camps are kept more free of vermin by this bird than by cats or dogs." In another place he states, "It is too much species as the crows, the robins, the tits, the warblers, the thrushes, the saddlebacks, the bush creeper, the yellow head, the white head, the wrens, the tui, the bellbird, the pigeon, and the parakeets, that the presence of the weka is an unmixed boon. If they still continue to survive it is to his ceaseless vigilance, his policing of the woods, his eternal patrol of them by day and night, that they owe their lives."

"If then, in New Zealand any serious interest ever comes to be taken in our native birds, the most efficient method of preserving the smaller tree-breeding species lies in the propagation of the weka. Of all the birds that deserve our care he comes foremost, and assistance withheld from him is help denied to half the indigenous birds of New Zealand."

What a recommendation to our acclimatisation societies if they would only take it up. It is indeed a pity these societies, who are now little more than public gamekeepers, do not spare a little of their time towards restoring the native avifauna. Instead of risky experiments in introducing aliens like the Mallard duck, which owing to its habit of crossing readily with other species, threatens the purity of our native ducks; it would be far better to encourage the spread of native birds. I think it could be safely said that a dozen wekas in the Waihopai reserve would cause more joy and amusement to the citizens of Invercargill, especially the kiddies, than 100,000 trout placed in the Waihopai.

Mr R. Gibbs is of the opinion that the introduced birds brought with them diseases, which the New Zealand birds being less resistant readily fell a prey to. Though I have no evidence supporting this view, the theory seems sound. We know that in mankind at any rate the same thing happens when different races mingle.

Mr Gibb thinks that the decline of the indigenous birds is now coming to an end, and that they are holding their own. In the back country, he found the robin not quite so friendly as of yore, but still in fair numbers. The fern bird is around Invercargill in places, and the bellbird and tui seem to find civilisation not so bad after all. The bellbird and tui were in flocks on the gum trees at Tuturau, and they had acquired a taste for late apples. He also noticed bellbird nestlings in the avenue alongside Queen's Park.

It would be a pleasant surprise if our city fathers would resurrect from its pigeon hole, the long lost project for establishing an aviary at Thomson's Bush. It would cost so little in comparison with the pleasure it would give. Hundreds of pounds can be spent on playing areas, and rightly so, for the sake of a few hundred players. A fraction of the sum so spent would give us an aviary, providing amusement and instruction for the children, and pleasure to those of us who, though we twanged the shanghai blithely in our youth, now take more interest in watching the habits of our feathered friends. Invercargill is not richly endowed with natural attractions, but what we have got we should make the most of, and we are certainly not making the most of the Waihopai scenic reserve. It should be the show place of the town. The bush should be enriched with native plants not now represented. It should be considered a crime to destroy the character of our bit of bush by planting oaks and other trees of foreign extraction.

Passing Notes.

BY JACQUES.

Laugh where we must, be candid where we can.—Pope.

As I write this the rumour reaches me that the railwaymen's strike is settled. It is to be devoutly hoped that it is true, and that before these lines appear in print the wheels will be turning with their usual cheerfulness on every line from Auckland to Bluff. We all dread and detest the strike. It is a crude and dangerous weapon—dangerous not only to the strikers themselves and to their opponents, but even to that part of the community with whom the strikers have no quarrel. It is like a bomb thrown, which does not discriminate between its intended mark and innocent bystanders, but deals out with dreadful impartiality its shattering blows to all alike. It is the sense of danger to itself that makes the public usually hostile to the strike; and, unfortunately, this feeling of hostility is almost invariably carried past the mere fact of the strike to the strikers themselves. We do not stop to consider whether or not direct action in any given set of circumstances is justified or necessary; we are content to blame those who are, or seem, responsible for our own inconvenience and injury, just as we condemn the French Revolution and the horrors of Bolshevism in Russia without the least inquiry into their even more horrible causes. In this state of mind we swallow with avidity any stories that will serve to discredit the striker, and give some colour of justification for our prejudgment of him. Incidents of really minor significance are magnified into "atrocities"; excusably heated words are reported as "seditious utterances," and so on. And even where they do not occur there is always at hand some grovelling pander to fabricate them. Truly, lynch law has its good points.

The foregoing remarks are prompted by certain incidents in connection with the present (or recent) strike. Probably no other strike was ever more justified, or commanded a larger measure of public sympathy, while the action of the men throughout the whole trouble was remarkable for its restraint. Yet, no sooner had the railwaymen opened hostilities than the usual fighting tactics of the other side were exhibited. First, we had the most common newspaper heading, "A Lightning Strike," the obvious implication being that the men were using the bludgeon of surprise to drive the Government into submission, whereas the plain fact was that they had uttered warning after warning before finally taking action, and their reluctance to strike was shown by the eagerness with which they had tried, one after another, every other path that might possibly lead to amicable settlement. Even in their ultimate action they proved most temperate and forbearing, instead of calling out all the men from end to end of the Dominion, as they might have done, and were expected to do, the leaders contented themselves with what was, at most, only a partial strike. Then an attempt was made to excite the hostility of our loyalists by the suggestion that the strike was deliberately timed to coincide with the Prince's visit. I have been personally assured by a loco. railwayman, who is exceptionally well informed on matters pertaining to the strike, that the coincidence was purely accidental, and this is borne out by the fact that the leaders offered to permit the running of such trains as were necessary for the passage of the Prince and his retinue through the country. Then a defective fire bar was discovered, and at once the whisper went round that it was a case of sabotage—another "atrocities," in fact. Fortunately, this was promptly nipped in the bud, so no particular harm was done. But it is interesting as showing what dirty tactics are sometimes employed in industrial warfare—and not by the workers, either. There were not the only instances of attempts to discredit the railwaymen, but it is not necessary to cite more of them. For my own part, I consider that the strike was fully justified, and was conducted in a most

exemplary way, and sincerely hope that it will result in the railwaymen obtaining some measure of that common justice which has been so long denied them.

It was the second smoker on the morning train from Winton to Invercargill. An animated discussion was being waged on the chances of the southern railwaymen being called out. Arguments pro and con were being rapidly exchanged, when one man quietly remarked that he had inside and reliable information that the South Island men would down clips and shovels that self-same day at noon. This brought to his feet an excited but incredulous specimen of the country's vertebrae, who, in the tone of one who knows that he is clinching the matter, yelled: "But damn it all, man, they can't strike before six o'clock tonight. I've got a return ticket to Winton!"

I HAVE NO INFORMATION.

"In reply to the question of the Honourable Member, I have to state that I have not yet received any information on the matter."

(Mr Massey's usual method of evading awkward questions.)

Er—, Gentlemen, we'll now devote a little time to queries; Of which you've tabled, as I note, A rather lengthy series. The most of them deserve, I grant, My close consideration; But answer them at once, I can't—I've had no information. The cost of our Samoan trip I cannot state off-hand, sirs; Nor yet if trusts have got their gr. On this, our happy land, sirs. If Scapa Jellicoe will fill The Governor's situation, I'm not prepared to say until I get some information. If railwaymen have struck, and why, I really cannot say, sirs; Nor do I know what signify The letters P.P.A., sirs. And whether we have had a war, And banged the German nation, I'm not aware at present, for I've got no information. If Edward, Prince of Wales is here, I cannot say precisely; Nor know I if the profiteer Is doing very nicely. You ask if Postal men desire Increased remuneration— You'll have to wait till I enquire, And get some information. The bird that catches me has got To be an early riser; The man's a fool who knows a lot When ignorance is wiser. I find it safest, gentlemen, With each interrogation, To say I'll talk about it when I've further information.

Speaking of evasion reminds me of another story. The Vicar was writing his sermon for Sunday, and did not wish to be disturbed.

"If anyone calls, Bridget," he said to the Irish maid, "I can't see them." "Shall I tell them you are out, sorr?" "No, that wouldn't be the truth, you know, Bridget," her master replied. "If they should ask you if I am in, you must give them an evasive answer."

"What's that, sorr?" asked Bridget.

"Why, the sort of answer they can make anything or nothing of," explained her master.

"Yiss, sorr, I understand," said Bridget, and withdrew.

The sermon written, the Vicar emerged and asked if anyone had called.

"Yiss, sorr," said Bridget. "One gentleman called and axed if you were in."

"And what did you say, Bridget?"

"I hope you did not tell him an untruth!"

"No, sorr," replied Bridget. "I just gave him a 'vassive' answer. I asked him if his grandfather had rats in his garret."

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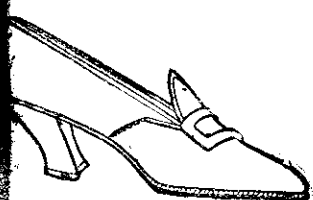
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SPORTING.

Forbury meeting concludes to-morrow.

D.J.C. nominations are highly satisfac-
tory. The good stakes have drawn en-
tries from afar.

Chief attraction at Riccarton will be the
meeting of Amythas and Arrowsmith The
Prince will be sure to back "the English
horse."

Coldwater was not taken to the Forbury
Meeting, but will be built up for next
season's racing.

Eleus is coming back to form, and is
sure to pick up another decent stake or
two before the season closes.

The woolbrokers are becoming a little
"scant" in view of Mr Bartholomew's re-
cent statements.

H. Gray with three wins at the Hawke's
Bay meeting, continues to add to his
growing list of winning rides.

Warlike with 6.13 has a splendid chance
in the Royal Handicap. Do not forget he
won the Mid-summer.

The Riverton Racing Club's action in
deciding to carry out an extensive build-
ing scheme will be heartily endorsed by
patrons of the seaside club.

Very little is heard of the local branch
of the Owners' and Breeders' Association.
Can they not secure a winter track for our
local course?

Humbag in running second to Silver
Link in the Hawke's Bay Stakes, put up
an attractive performance, and finished
like a stayer.

The recent successes of Torfreda have
shown that she has lost none of her
sprinting ability. If she can stay out the
mile she will be hard to beat in any of
the races, and she may start at Oamaru
and Dunedin.

The two imported fillies owned by the
Southland sportsman, Mr A. Chisholm,
are settling down in the new quarters in
Gap Lodge, F. D. Jones' establishment.
They have been much admired by those
who have seen them since their arrival at
Riccarton.

To mark his remarkable length of office
as clerk of the course, Mr T. A. Brown,
who acted in that capacity 57 years ago,
when the Duke of Edinburgh was in Auck-
land, and also at the Royal meeting for
the Price of Wales, was presented with a
purse of 220 sovs.

The following are the nominations for
the principal events at the W.J.C. Win-
ter Meeting:—

Birthday Handicap, of 750sovs. One
mile and a-half.—Almoner, Burrangong,
Bondage, Eleus, Foo Chow, Jock, Kilkee,
Kilmoon, Marc Anthony, Melee, Night-
raider, Onslaught, Royal Star, Rorke's
Drift, Sisyphus, Samiel, Thistlecrown, Tin
Soldier, Warlike.

Otago Steeplechase, of 1000sovs. About
three miles.—Arlington, Dardanelles, Fo-
man, First Line, Gang Awa, Gaekwar,
Jeannot, Kaupokonui, Kintailsbort, Luke,
Master Webster, Manawaponga, Merrie
Lad, Morecambe, Master Strowan, Noct-
urnal, Palladio, Rolling Tide, Silverspire,
San Sebastian, Tirau, Wirokino, Zarkoma.

Tradesmen's Handicap, of 400sovs. Six
furlongs.—All British, Eight Bells, Hot
Air, Kilkee, Killowen, Kilbrogan, Mort-
ham, Murihiku, Michaela, Pyjama, Pala-
mon, Rokelaine, Radial, Sleepy Head, Sil-
ver Peak, Satisfaction, Torfreda, Wrestler.

Provincial Handicap, of 400sovs. One
mile and a-quarter.—All Ready, Almoner,
Admiral Talbot, Burrangong, Bondage,
Chaeronia, Eleus, Foo Chow, Jock, Kilkee,
Kilmoon, Linden, Marc Anthony, Marti-
fors, Melee, Nightraider, Onslaught,
Rorke's Drift, Royal Star, Sisyphus, Sedd-
el-Bahr, Thistlecrown, Thaddus, Tin Sol-
dier, Warlike.

Otago Hurdle Handicap, of 700sovs.
Two miles.—Arlington, Achilles, All
Talk, Bombproof, Barrister, Brookdale,
Calma, Crib, Gunrest, Glensponse, Gay-
light, Hylans, Jeannot, Jack Symons, Kil-

boyne, King Star, Magdala, Mannish,
Nautiboy, Paraoa, Samiel, Speed King,
Seadown, Tip Up, Take Down, Tuticorn,
Wild Pilgrim.

Wairongoa Handicap, of 300sovs. Six
furlongs.—All British, Eight Bells, Kil-
lowen, Kilkee, Kilbrogan, Michaela, Muri-
hiku, Mortham, Pyjama, Pax, Palamon,
Rokelaine, Radial, Sleepy Head, Silver
Peak, Satisfaction, Torfreda, Wrestler.

Wingatui Steeplechase, of 500 sovs.
About two miles and a-half.—Arlington,
Black Sea, Crib, Coalition, Diavolo, Dar-
danelles, First Line, Foeman, Golden
Rupe, Gaekwar, Gang awa, Kaupokonui,
Luke, Master Strowan, Morecambe, Mer-
rie Lad, Manawaponga, Master Webster,
Nocturnal, Palladio, Rolling Tide, Silver-
spire, San Sebastian, Stone Ginger, Tirau,
Wirokino, Zarkoma.

Greenfield Hurdle Handicap, of 450sovs.
One mile and a-half.—Arlington, Achil-
leus, All Talk, Awahou, Bairnsdale, Bomb-
proof, Barrister, Brookdale, Calma, Crib,
Dark Sam, Gunrest, Glensponse, Golden
Prince, Gaylight, Hylans, Jeannot, Jack
Symons, Jock, Kilboyne, King Star, Lady
Penza, Mannish, Nautiboy, Paraoa, Sea-
down, Spyglass, Speed King, Sir Medal-
list, St. Cletus, Samiel, Strayshot, Tutic-
orn, Take Down, Tip Up, Wild Pilgrim.

King George Handicap, of 500 sovs. One
mile.—Almoner, Burrangong, Bondage,
Blue Admiral, Clean Sweep, Chaeronia,
Don Pacifico, Eleus, Foo Chow, Hot Air,
Jock, Kilkee, Camouflage, Marching Ord-
er, Marc Antony, Martifors, Melee, Night-
raider, Onslaught, Primum, Radial,
Rorke's Drift, Silver Peak, Sisyphus,
Sedd-el-Bahr, Samiel, Royal Star, Tin
Soldier, Torfreda, Thaddus, Thistlecrown,
Warlike.

MARKET NOTES.

Messrs Bray Bros. Ltd., Auctioneers,
etc., Dee street, report as follows:—

PRODUCE.—We have handled quan-
tities of Potatoes during the week. Prices
range from £8 to £8 10s. Onions meet
with a steady enquiry, price 13s per cwt.
Fowl Wheat (small supplies) 35s to 36s
per sack. Chaff is in good demand at up
to £8 5s per ton. Oats (for fowl feed) 5s
6d per bushel. Meggitt's Linseed Meal
25s per bag. Oatdust 5s per sack. Sor-
rel 6s 6d per sack. Bran 10s 6d per bag.
Wheat Pollard, 12s 6d per 100lb bag.
Barley Pollard, 22s 6d per 200lb bag.
Oaten Straw.—We have now received sup-
plies and can supply all orders.

FRUIT.—We have heavy supplies of
Pears and Apples, and anything but the
choicest quality is glow of sale. Pears are
selling at 2d to 3d per lb, and Apples
(dessert), 7s 6d to 13s per case, according
to variety and quality. Cooking apples,
6d to 8d; Peaches, 4d. Plums 3½d to 4d.
Quinces 2d to 3d per lb. Tomatoes.—The
quality now coming forward is "poor,"
and the demand for "choice" quality only
which sell at up to 5d per lb. Inferior
quality sells at from 1½d per lb upwards.
Vegetables.—Cabbages, 3s 6d to 4s
per dozen. Cauliflowers, 4s to 5s per dozen.
Marrows, 9s to 10s; Pumpkins, 9s to 10s;
Carrots, 4s per bag. Parsnips, 5s per bag.
We have enquiries for Melons and recom-
mend consignments.

GENERAL.—Lepp Salt Lick containing
free sulphur 2s 3d per brick. Cow Covers
(lined), 21s 6d; (unlined), 19s each. Horse
Covers, £2 8s to £2 12s 6d each. Men's
Heavy Boots, 35s pair. Motor Cycle
Side Car, £12 10s. Honey (10lb tins) 10s.

FURNITURE.—Our Furniture Show-
room in Spey street, report brisk business
in carpet squares, tapestry, kapok, and
oak furniture make to order.

LAND DEPARTMENT.—We have just
received particulars of two modern houses
situated close to town which will be avail-
able for sale early next week. The price
is reasonable, and we shall be pleased to
give genuine enquiries full particulars.
We have a number of country farms for
Sale.

The human hand from the wrist to the
end of the middle finger is one-tenth of the
total height of a man of perfect propor-
tions.

Set More Fun out of Life

Let this booklet
tell you how

Say good-bye to hum-drum days. Spend no more
dull hours. Get out into Indianland. Revel in the
pleasures of its matchless scenery, its unlimited
sport. Travel. Enjoy better health.

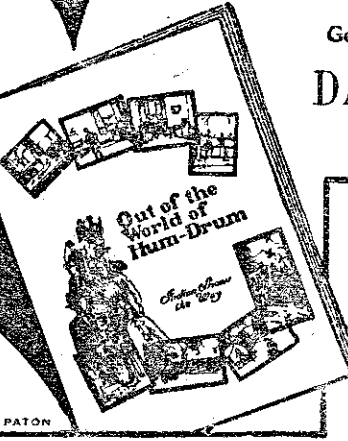
Here is a booklet which tells you something of the
fun of motorcycling—shows you something of the
great good time that would be yours if you owned an

Indian Motorcycle

Get a copy free. Send the coupon.

DAVIES & PRENTICE

Dee street. Southland Distributors.



Please send me your booklet *Out of the
World of Hum-Drum*. I incur no
obligation by this request.

Name _____

Address _____

Do you own a motor cycle? _____

(Please fill in "YES" or "NO.")

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.

289 ACRES; eight miles from Mataura school; four-roomed house,
stable, chaffhouse, etc. Good dip and sheep yards.
Thirty acres in Turnips. Balance Grass. Carrying capacity 400 sheep,
20 cattle.

Description of Land—Flat and undulating. Leasehold. Rent 5/- per
acre. Price of goodwill £5 per acre.

279 ACRES; seven miles from Winton, at £14 per acre (freehold). Five-
roomed house, stable, barn, etc.
Good flat and low ridges. Forty acres turnips, 20 stubble.
Within one mile from rail and school.

We think this would suit two returned soldiers.

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

CARSWELL & CO., LTD.,

LAND AGENTS, WOOD ST., INVERCARGILL.

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ESTD 1862 LIMITED

SOUTHLAND'S SHOPPING CENTRE.

DEE & ESK STREETS,

INVERCARGILL.

BRANCHES

GOBE and WYNDHAM.

Tea Rooms — Top Floor by Elevator.

Quality - Value - Variety - Service.

Finest in the World.

WATSON'S No. 10 WHISKY.

When You

have anything to sell - anything from a section to a sewing machine send it to OUR MART.

WE HAVE BUYERS FOR
100 Tons Prime Chaff, Ladies' and Gents' Bicycles, First-class Furniture.

Also—

DAIRY FARMS of 60 to 130 acres. Consult us any time.

McKAY BROS.
AUCTIONEERS AND LAND AGENTS.
EXCHANGE MART.
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Box—17. Phone—15.



OUR STUDY—THE EYE!

WE have made a life-study of the human eye—especially eyes that are affected by weakness and are remediable by Glasses.

How well we are able to advise and help you, you can readily imagine. Why put up with eye troubles when our first-class knowledge and equipment are at your service?

J.D. Gilmore

CONSULTING & MANUFACTURING OPTICIAN,
DEE ST. (Opp. P.O.), INVERCARGILL.

SPEND

THAT £50 TO THE BEST ADVANTAGE

BY spending a pound here and a pound there you cannot buy to the best advantage.

Make out a list and buy from the ONE reliable firm,

VERNON SMITH & CO.
ATHENAEUM BUILDINGS,
INVERCARGILL.

Our stocks include Household Ironmongery, Glassware, Cutlery, Tools for all trades—in fact everything in the household line.

DIGGERS!

BUY your land from a practical farmer, who can advise you right. The following is a sample of a farm proposition we can offer that two soldiers in partnership can be financed into with the assistance of the Board.

258 ACRES—Good agricultural and dairy land; large proportion limed, 24 acres oats, 40 acres turnips, 20 acres oats and grass sown for autumn feed. Almost new six-roomed house, with every modern convenience, including h. and c. water, porcelain bath and basin; washhouse with built-in copper and tubs; six-stalled stable, loose box, barn, implement shed, men's hut. Large cowbyre with milking plant installed.

This property is capable of carrying from 60 to 70 cows, and can be bought for the small price of £18 per acre, including crops. There is money in this. Get in early.

Houses, Businesses, etc., to suit all requirements.

CONSULT—

Gilbertson & Guise,
ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL.

PROFESSIONAL.

W. Macalister, B.A., LL.B.; S. Morell Macalister, LL.B.; Horace J. Macalister, LL.B.; Alan B. Macalister.

MACALISTER BROS.,
Barristers and Solicitors,
INVERCARGILL.

Money to Lend on approved security at current rates.

F. G. HALL-JONES, B.A., LL.B. (late Rattray, Armistead and Murray, and late James Harvey).

P.O. Box 48. Telephone 36.

RATTRAY & HALL-JONES,
BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS,
ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL, N.Z.
Solicitors under the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act for the Otago District.

MR CHARLES DUERDEN, Pianist, is open for engagement at private parties, dances, socials, etc. Address—25 Princess street, Georgetown, Invercargill.

SOUTHLAND SCHOOL OF HIGHER AND CLASSIC DANCING.
Rooms over Wesley Brothers, Dee street.
ALEX. SUTHERLAND, Principal.
Miss Melba Lipscombe, Assistant.
Box—41. Telephone—1410.

"The Digger."

FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1920.

DISCHARGED SOLDIERS' SETTLEMENT.

The attitude of the Government in relaxing the administration of the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act will meet with widespread disapproval, and will shake the confidence of the people who have been promised that legislation effecting repatriative measures would continue unhampered until repatriation was effectively carried out. In replying to a deputation from the R.S.A. the Prime Minister stated that, "no legislation affecting returned soldiers would be suspended or declared inoperative or repealed until such time as those who were entitled to the privileges could avail themselves thereof." The plain facts are that the Prime Minister has failed to keep his word and shirked his responsibility to the men who are desirous of taking up land. The operation of the D.S.S. Act is generally understood as some decided benefit from the Government to the returned soldier. We should also ask ourselves whether or not this is a sound business proposition for the State, providing the men are placed on the land under conditions which will enable them to make good. This country is essentially one in which the primary industries stand pre-eminent, and if production is to be increased, then every man who will go upon the land should have that opportunity, and by increasing production, increase the wealth of the country. Possibly at no time in the history of the Dominion has there been such a demand for land, as the following extract from the "News" will show:—

ARDMORE SETTLEMENTS.

	Acres.	Applicants.
Section 1s	264	78
Section 2s	142	45
Section 3s	165	51
Section 4s	342	45
Section 5s	245	66

PUKENUI SETTLEMENT.

Section 1s	235	34
Section 3s	76	11
Section 4s	340	37
Section 5s	438	46
Section 6s	605	48

GLENN SETTLEMENT.

Section 1s	288	20
Section 2s	284	18
Section 3s	243	14
Section 4s	312	17

MOUTERE SETTLEMENT.

Run 590	7100	184
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This is no time to adopt the "go slow policy" in regards to land settlement, and money should be rendered available which will help settlement to proceed with haste. The R.S.A., locally, has protested against the Minister's action, and the Auckland Association has made a vigorous protest which should be echoed through every association within the Dominion, and finally how is it that no announcement has been made of the present position in order that those in the country may know what the position is and save themselves the time and trouble of making applications and receiving them back from the Land Board?

COUNTRY NOTES.

OTAUTAU.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

There was a fair attendance at the schoolroom on Monday evening to elect the new committee. The following were elected:—Messrs G. H. Stevens, A. N. Holmes, E. Harrington, J. McGill, J. Walker, G. Sinclair, and T. A. Mooney, Mr G. H. Stevens was re-appointed chairman, and Mr T. A. Mooney was elected secretary. The chairman and secretary were appointed signing officers.

By invitation of the N.Z. Teachers' Institute the following resolution was passed:—That this meeting of Otago house-holders urges upon the Government the great necessity for reform in the national system of education in regard to: (1) The extension of the school age and reduction of the size of classes. (2) The securing of more trained teachers, and to this end, the paying of much better salaries, and (3) In order to give full effect to these measures a reform of the system of administration by establishing a National Education Board and local Education Committees.

It was decided that cocoa be supplied to country children during the winter.

Messrs Holmes and McGill were appointed a visiting committee.

The headmaster's report was read, as follows: The roll number at present stands at 217—123 boys and 94 girls. The average for the month was 198 out of an average roll of 216, several very wet days spoiling what would otherwise have been a very good attendance. In connection with school garden, load of manure and a load of brushwood have come to hand. Owing to the dry weather and early frosts the potatoes did not yield well, but should bring about £1, which I would like to spend on the garden next season. As winter is with us again arrangements should be made to supply a cup of cocoa to the country children, if such a course be thought advisable.—Adopted.

The salary of the janitress was increased to 12s 6d per week.

OTAUTAU PROGRESSIVE LEAGUE.

The annual general meeting, held in the Board Room on Monday evening (says the "Otago Farmer"), was attended by Messrs W. J. Wesley (chair), G. Sinclair, W. Porteous, C. N. Lawless, A. N. Holmes, J. McGill, Jno. Fisher, G. Bates, and T. A. Mooney.

The balance-sheet, showing a credit balance of £278 10s 11d was adopted.

The chairman, in giving his report for the past year, said that in looking back over the first year's activities it was gratifying to know that many of the matters taken in hand have become accomplished facts. The League has proved a power in the district, taking in hand and accomplishing matters of importance to the district and town, having to a large extent broken down the barrier of strong opposition and proved to the pessimistic that a body such as the League is a decided benefactor to the community. The first matter taken in hand was that of the Aparima River protection, resulting in a deputation to the Hon. Guthrie and the ultimate sitting in Otago of the commission.

Following on this arrangements were made to meet the Member, Mr J. C. Thomson, in Otago, and to consult with him in conjunction with the Otago Town Board matters of importance to our town, this conference ultimately resulting in the almost completion of arrangements for the transfer of the Education Endowment to the Otago Town Board for a memorial site, the League having agreed to pay the purchase money. The following other matters came under his notice: Running the winter show, hiring of boring plant for coal, cattle pens, housing problem, pillar box in North Otago, erection of seats in recreation ground, concrete footpaths, finger posts, crane at railway station, stock yards at railway station, running of fete, tree planting, erection of pavilion at recreation ground, and the League has now under consideration an electric lighting system for the town. Some had said that they had made mistakes. If so, was it not better to try and do something even if mistakes did occur. The man who never made mistakes was the man who did nothing. He thanked the members for their past support, and asked that they continue same to the incoming chairman.

The election of office-bearers resulted as follows:—President, Mr W. J. Wesley; vice-president, Mr A. N. Holmes; auditor, Mr W. Porteous; executive; Messrs G. Sinclair, J. McGill, G. Bates, C. N. Lawless, A. N. Holmes, W. J. Wesley, L. Brown, J. Fisher, P. Brown, W. Donnan, G. Georgeson, F. Collier; Industry Committee, chairman and Messrs Holmes,

McGill and Sinclair; Beautifying Committee, W. Porteous, W. Donnan, C. N. Lawless, and L. J. Brown; River Protection, Messrs G. A. Burnett and P. Brown; Sports, Messrs R. Collett, L. J. Brown, McGill and Bates.

Letters were received from Messrs Spry, Ltd., and the Otago Timber Company reported on the visit to Winton to inspect the plant belonging to the Winton Borough Council.—It was decided that more information be obtained and that a deputation wait on the Town Board on Monday evening.

TUATAPERE.

The Waiau Rovers journeyed to Riverton last Saturday, when a match was played with the Riverton team. The game was a most willing one, and was keenly followed by a large crowd of interested spectators. Mr R. Fluerty, of the Tuatapere team, and a member of the local R.S.A., had the misfortune to break his leg. The game ended in a draw, 12 points being registered on either side.

The Pipe Band held a very successful social at Orepuki last Friday night, when a good number of local residents made the journey with the band. The function was in aid of new uniforms, about £200 being now in hand.

Mr James King, who has held a seat on the Land Board for some years, will again be a candidate for the position.

It is a long time since such general interest was taken in a meeting locally as the annual meeting of householders. The schoolroom was well-filled, in spite of the stormy night. A feeling was abroad among a large section of the community that the headteacher of the school, and a returned soldier was not getting a fair deal on account of his religion—a sorry state of affairs in this enlightened age. Owing to some uncertainty as to the actual state of the finances, the meeting decided not to adopt the balance-sheet. The following were elected to form the committee:—Mr C. Duncan (chairman), M. Dowling (secretary), T. J. Harris, T. Ward, and Mrs Curov. All are new members. An appreciative vote of thanks to the headteacher and his staff was carried by acclamation.

EDENDALE R. S. A.

The commemoration of Anzac Day at this centre opened at 10 o'clock a.m., at which hour a large squad of returned soldiers, under Lieut. P. Robertson (president) local R.S.A. branch) assembled in front of the Soldiers' Monument. A magnificent wreath, 4ft in diameter, the loving work of women's hands was reverently laid on the monument, also a smaller one on behalf of the returned men. Short addresses in keeping with the solemn occasion were delivered by Revs. A. C. Swainson (Anglican) and W. B. Cuming (Methodist).

At 7 p.m. the Public Hall was packed for the united service, extra seating accommodation having to be provided. Mr W. H. Fortune (Presbyterian lay preacher) presided, and he was supported by Rev. W. B. Cuming (Methodist) and Mr H. E. Niven (Anglican lay reader). Rev. J. Pringle (Presbyterian) was absent, owing to a pressing engagement at Gore.

The interior of the hall was tastefully embellished for the occasion. A large Union Jack was stretched prominently on a trestle on the stage representing a grave, and the lovely wreaths which had lain at the base of the Soldiers' Monument through the day were deposited on the entwined crosses of Saints George, Andrew, and Patrick. Prior to opening the service, the returned soldiers under Lieut. P. Robertson, and the members of the Wyndham Pipe Band assembled in full strength at the monument, and marched therefrom to the hall, playing suitable music in slow time.

The following was the order of the religious service.—National Anthem; prayer, led by Mr Fortune; praise, Psalm 124 (2nd version), "Now Israel may say, and that truly;" Scripture reading (Psalm xc), Mr Niven; hymn, "For all the Saints who from their labours rest;" prayer, Mr Fortune; anthem, "The ransom of the Lord shall rejoice;" Choir; collection; Scripture reading (Revelations, xxi), Mr Niven; hymn, "Through the night of doubt and sorrow;" address, Rev. Mr Cuming; hymn, "O God our help in ages past;" Benediction; organ solo, "Dead March" ("Saul"), Mr W. Chaplin; trumpet call, "The Last Post," Sergt. R. Robertson.

A strong, well-balanced choir, directed by the organist (Mr W. Chaplin), led the singing. The large congregation included representatives from Brydone, Menzies Ferry, Mataura Island, Seaward Downs, and Morton Mains. The offertory amounted to £6 14s 1d.

LATE SPORTING.

(By Telegraph—Special to Digger.)

DUNEDIN, May 7.

The winter meeting of the Forbury Trotting Club opened on Thursday under most favourable climatic conditions, but the track was heavy from recent rains. Princess Cole and Exmoor were the only Southlanders to win during the day.

Diggers, did you remember Delville Wood yesterday at Forbury Park. Those of you who did get a nice little double figure dividend to start off on. He made no race of the first Amateur Handicap, and when he strikes a good track and better company be on him again. He and his owner hail from Central Otago way.

Digger Dwyer has always maintained that Princess Cole would yet win a good race and he has persevered well with the black daughter of King Cole to not only win a good stake for her owner, but also get a good dividend. She races very gamely and at the finish always had the measure of Nellie Scott in the Beach Handicap (two miles, in saddle).

Delville Wood paid a penalty of sixty yards in the Innovation Handicap, and did not look to be busy. Merry Bingen, after waiting on the leaders for nearly a mile and a half, challenged W.D. and won nicely. He was the first favourite to score.

General Link, an officer I can't place on the any of the battle fronts, was always favourite for the Prince's Cup. He was favourite in all the wool brokers' charts and favourite directly the machine opened. We won fairly easily at the finish and landed his backers only a little better than an even money dividend. Vice-Admiral, another whose name should appeal to diggers, was a fair second and returned his backers a much better dividend. Partner and Legacy played up at the start and Little Albert Cling, who was third favourite, ran a good race to get fourth close up to Stockade who was third.

Thixendale won the Domain Handicap very comfortably from Quick Match, giving Andy Pringle his only winning ride during the day.

Exmoor scored nicely in the St. Clair Handicap from Parkfield.

Guyenmer was easily the best in the Railway Handicap, and, after being interfered with by Chaos falling, he won comfortably at the finish from Topsy Dillon.

Digger Billy Muir and Royal Step provided a hot favourite in the Flying Handicap, but after a few furlongs had been covered it was quickly seen he had no chance with Trooper Dillon, who led all the way and won by four lengths, paying a nice double figure dividend in which quite a number of diggers participated.

SOUTHLANDS' PART IN THE WAR.

The "Digger" would like to receive information from officers and other ranks regarding the above. Extracts from diaries and other items are urgently required for the writer of these articles. It is requested that all matter especially regarding early history be sent to the Editor as soon as possible.

A "RUMOUR."

ATTITUDE OF RETURNED SOLDIERS

"A rumour has reached me," said Mr J. McKenzie at a meeting of returned soldiers held in Wellington, last night, "that the Prime Minister has appealed to the Returned Soldiers' Association for 'loyal labour,' so that he might be able to run the railways. I desire—

Voices: Rot! There are no "scabs" here.

Mr McKenzie: I desire to know if the Government or the Prime Minister has approached the Association, and, if so, what attitude the executive has taken up or will take up.

Members: We could not deal with it. It is not in the constitution.

Mr McKenzie: I want to know.

The newly-elected chairman, Mr W. Perry, asked Mr A. Curdson, a member of the retiring executive, if a communication such as that referred to had been received, and he was answered in the negative.

This did not satisfy Mr McKenzie, who wanted to know what the executive would say if the request were made.

Mr Perry: I do not see how it could concern us. It is a matter for the individual.

Voices: No "scabs" here—
Mr Perry: But if the invitation is extended I will do my best to rule that the association cannot deal with it.

SOUTH OTAGO NOTES

BALCLUTHA, TUESDAY, MAY 4.

CLUTHA R.S.A., ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Clutha Returned Soldiers' Association was held on Monday evening, 26th inst. Mr E. Drummond occupied the chair.

— Annual Report. —

The annual report, which dealt with matters in general was adopted.

The balance-sheet showed a credit balance at March 31st of £87 4s 8.

— Election of Office-Bearers. —

Mr E. Drummond was re-elected President unopposed; Messrs Werren and Russell were elected vice-presidents, and the following were elected as committee-men:—Messrs Parr, Walter, Weir, Shepard, Stokes, Jardine, Jordon, Mitchell, and Little.

— General. —

The matter of supplying a firing party for military funerals was discussed, and it was resolved that two members of the executive be appointed to be responsible for all arrangements in this connection.

Appreciation was expressed of the services rendered by Mr J. F. Walsh to the Association in his capacity as secretary.

Miss R. Grant and Mr R. Hutton were unanimously elected honorary life members of the Association for their services to soldiers and their dependants.

It was decided that a re-union dinner, open to all men of the N.Z.E.F. and of H.M. Overseas Forces, be held on the occasion of the Prince of Wales' visit to Balclutha. Messrs Weir, Little, Russell, and the president and secretary were deputed to make all the necessary arrangements.

MEETING AT WAIWERA.

A well attended meeting of returned soldiers was held in the Public Hall, Waiwera South, on Friday evening. Major F. Waite presided, and in a few well chosen remarks anent the usefulness of the Returned Soldiers' Association, introduced Colonel Colquhoun, the district organiser. Col. Colquhoun outlined the work of the Association in the past, and put forth in a convincing manner the advisability of all returned soldiers joining the Association, and taking an interest in its welfare. Only by doing so could they hope to secure that which they were still fighting for—justice and fair treatment.

Messrs E. C. Drummond (president) and A. C. Laing (secretary of the Clutha Returned Soldiers' Association) also spoke in similar strain. The speakers were listened to with much interest throughout, and at the close were accorded a hearty vote of thanks for their addresses.

A committee consisting of Messrs F. Waite, W. Boyd, B. Sheddan, G. Grant, A. Broad, D. Jones, F. Aitken, and D. Sutherland was formed to minister to the requirements of the district.

After the meeting the hall was cleared, and the remainder of the evening devoted to a social and dance.

KAITANGATA R.S.A.

The Kaitangata Returned Soldiers' Association held a smoke concert in the Masonic Hall on Saturday evening, the occasion being a re-union of all returned men. Mr J. Ratcliffe (president), occupied the chair, and opened the proceedings by proposing the toast of "The King." The next toast, that of "Fallen Comrades," was also proposed by the chairman, and drunk in silence. The toast of "The Army and Navy," was proposed by Mr G. Cairns, and responded to by Mr E. Richardson, and the toast of "The Ladies," proposed by Mr Semple in a very humorous and witty speech, was responded to by Mr Dimick in the same strain. Songs were rendered by Messrs W. Gribben, Ratcliffe, Richardson, and Semple, and Mr J. Cairns gave a recitation, and Mr Geo. Hislop entertained the gathering with some short stories, which were highly amusing. The toast of "The R.S.A." was proposed by Mr Oliver and responded to by Mr J. Ratcliffe. It was decided to hold these gatherings every month. A very enjoyable evening was brought to a close at 11.15 p.m.

FOOTBALL.

Crescent H. travelled to Milton on Saturday afternoon to meet Milton H. in a friendly game. Milton, who have a fine set of hefty forwards, were too heavy for their small opponents, and won a good game by nine points (three tries) to a pot-pot goal (four points). Crescent were unfortunate in losing their scrum-half early in the game through a nasty jar to his shoulder, which necessitated his leaving the field.

The Kaitangata Association football

club journeyed to Dunedin on Saturday, where they met and defeated Christian Bros., by eight goals to two, thus making a very good start for the banner. With a little more practice they should go very near winning the competition.

The ladies' soccer match, married v. single, was played at Kaitangata on Saturday afternoon, and resulted in the married ladies winning by three goals to one, one win each, so they have decided to play another game on Monday evening to decide who are the better team.

Crescent defeated Union on the Balclutha ground by 22 points to nil. The game which was of an uninteresting nature, was all in favour of the Crescent players, Clinton at times making a recovery, and showing signs of good play.

Next Saturday's fixtures are:—Clutha v. Toko, at Milton; Owaka v. Clinton, at Balclutha; Crescent a bye.

GENERAL.

A fair number of shootists were abroad early on May 1, but no big bags are reported.

The Loyal Dalton Lodge are making great preparations for the unveiling of their Roll of Honour and Memorial Tablet on Saturday next. The tickets have sold very well and it is expected that there will be from 150 to 200 Oddfellows present from all parts of Otago.

Mr Malcolm Cook (Awamangu) was the successful applicant for the Moutere run at the ballot for soldiers' settlements in Dunedin on Friday.

The secretary (Mr A. C. Laing), of the Clutha R.S.A., has received advice of the following lands which will be offered for ballot among discharged soldiers during the month of May:—Wairuna settlement, Clutha County, agricultural and grazing (17 sections), Tilverstone settlement, Waitaki County, dairying and mixed farming (seven sections); one pastoral run (20,900 acres) at Ida Valley, and three small grazing runs at Kye-burn. Plans for all these and also lands in other parts of N.Z., which will be balloted for this month, may be inspected at the office of the Association.

At the meeting of Clutha County Council on Friday, on the reading of Balclutha Borough Council's proposal to send delegates to Wellington to protest to the Prime Minister against the 50 per cent. increase in the Hospital and Charitable Aid levies for 1920-21, which threaten to equal the amount of the general rate in the poorer ridings, Cr Cumming, the local representative on the Otago Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, remarked that the borough should have interviewed the Hon. Mr C. J. Parr (who was Minister in Charge of Hospitals and Charitable Aid) while he was in Balclutha recently in his capacity of Minister of Education. It was waste of money to send delegates to Wellington on such an errand.—A councillor: Probably the Borough Council did not know that the hon. gentleman was in charge of hospitals. Cr Cumming: But if they kept track of things through the newspapers they would have known.—It was decided that the council send a delegate provided the other local bodies in the district did likewise.

FIRE BRIGADE SOCIAL.

On Saturday evening in the Dalton Hall the members of the Balclutha Volunteer Fire Brigade entertained members of the Kaitangata and Milton brigades at a very successful and enjoyable social. There were 15 members of the Milton Brigade present, and four representatives from Kaitangata. These, together with local firemen and visitors, brought the number up to about 60. An apology was received from Tapanui. Superintendent Attewell presided, and several toasts were honoured. Interspersed were musical items, recitations, etc. Mr J. Ramsay presided at the piano. The following was the toast list:—"The King," "Returned Soldiers," proposed by Senior-foreman M'Cutcheon, and replied to by Firemen W. McIntyre, J. Henderson, J. Cuff, and Pringle; "Fire Boards," proposed by Deputy Allan, and replied to by Messrs J. P. Lyall (Balclutha) and W. Kirby (Milton). The speakers all congratulated Kaitangata on having decided to come under a Fire Board, and predicted a new era for the Kaitangata Brigade. "Visiting Firemen," proposed by Fireman W. McIntyre, and replied to by Junior-foremen J. R. Wilson and Hayward (Milton), Superintendent W. D. Paterson, and Deputy-Sup. H. Cuthbertson (Kaitangata); "Footballers," proposed by Mr C. J. Wood, the following replying:—Messrs J. Cuff, Wilson, Gregory, Powley,

Anderson, M'Festers, Dickson, and Muir; "The Visitors," proposed by Fireman Craig, Mr C. J. Wood and the visitors replying; "Balclutha Fire Brigade," proposed by Junior-foreman Wilson (Milton), Sup. Attewell and Deputy Allan replying; "The Press," proposed by the chairman, and replied to by Mr R. Culbert. The following contributed items:—Messrs Muir, J. Ramsay, C. J. Wood, J. Cuff, and W. Kirby. An enjoyable evening closed about 10.30 with "Auld Lang Syne" and "God save the King."

Clark McConachy, the billiard player, gave an exhibition in the Central Billiard Saloon on Monday night. There were about 60 present. The champion played a game of 700 up with Mr R. J. McIntyre, conceding 450, and won. The latter only securing 544. McConachy's breaks included several over 40, and others of 70, 91, 116, and 168. In snooker games the champion was beaten by W. O. Ludlow and Harold Henderson.

R. S. A. AT WYNDHAM.

At present the Wyndham branch of the R.S.A. is making an effort to raise sufficient funds to enable them to open a social club room in that town. The first step in connection with the above is a ball which is to be held in the Town Hall, on the 14th inst. All necessary arrangements are well in hand and the executive hope to have a very successful gathering. Arrangements have been made for a full orchestra, thus assuring a musical treat for all. It is expected the general public and especially all returned men will support such a worthy object.

COLAC BAY.

The Presbyterian church have just held a harvest festival, which has proved a great success and realised a substantial sum. The people from around the district contributed a number of saleable articles which were sold by "Dutch auction."

Mr John Dawson, an employee of the N.Z. Pine Company had a rather painful accident. It appears that he was attending to some defect in the locomotive when his hand was drawn into the machinery.

Local ratepayers have formed a committee for the purpose of securing better drainage for the township. The engineer of the Wallace County and the Member for the Riding will visit the township shortly in connection with matter.

SOCIAL NOTES.

Mrs Morton gave a most delightful "tea" for Mrs Sam. Craig, in the Federal Tea Rooms last week. Among the guests I noticed: Mesdames Gabites, Bastian, Walter Jones, MacEwan, Tucker, R. J. Gilmour, Abbey Jones, Pilcher, John Macdonald, Todd, Brooks, Jennings, Wilson Hodges.

Mrs Horace Macalister gave a most enjoyable dance at her home in Duke street, on Friday evening. Some the guests were: Mesdames Moffett, Caws, John Macdonald, Misses Morrah, Prain, Hazlett, Snow, Field, Vyner, Irving, Messrs J. B. Thomson, Gilmour, Irving, Williams, Prain, Caws, Moffett, Macdonald, and Hewitt.

A most charming supper-party and dance was given by Mr and Mrs Wilson Hodges on Friday evening, at their home in Thames street.

Miss Gladys Searrell left for the north on Tuesday.

A splendid showing of Children's coats and dresses. These exceptional values we are confident will appeal to you. Children's Heavy Tweed Coats, sizes 16 to 24 inches, 26s 6d to 39s 6d. Sizes 27 to 42 inches, 35s to 70s. Children's and Maids' black rubber coats, 39s 6d to 60s. Children's gaberdine coats, sizes 27 to 42 inches, 45s to 75s. Black and white check tweed coats, all sizes, 45s to 69s 6d. Dressing velveteen coats, all the newest shades, sizes 16 to 22 inches, 27s 6d to 32s 6d. Children's wool jersey coats, with hats to match, 23s 6d to 35s 6d. Infants' hand made wool coats, 7s 11d to 32s 6d. Infants' radianta and cashmere coats, with large cape collars, 19s 6d to 29s 6d. Also a huge showing of children's, maids' and misses' dresses in a host of serviceable materials. Inspection invited. The stores where supreme value can be acquired under the easiest and most pleasant conditions. H. and J. Smith, Ltd., Progressive Stores, Invercargill and Gore.

You Get The BEST Quality

FOR THE LOWEST PRICE

At "The Exhibition."



YOUR WINTER COAT may be selected with every confidence from our large showing. The styles are true to the season, the qualities of the cloths assure maximum wear, while the prices are as low as possible as it is possible to make them.

TWEED COATS, in all the newest materials and styles, at 84/-, 87/6, 90/-, 95/-, 99/6, to 10 guineas.

VELOUR COATS, with smart pleated backs and large convertible collars. Prices £6 6s to £7 10s.

COVERT COATS, featuring the latest semi-fitting style, together with smart belted effects. The best of wearing coats. Prices 99/6, 105/-, to £7 15s.

FUR COLLARS for the above, attached ready to wear in Black, Brown, and Grey. Prices 17/6, 21/-, 27/6, to 59/6.

FURS RENOVATED at the lowest possible charges.

NO BETTER VALUE OFFERING THAN THESE.

7/11 is the price of a special line of **WINCEYETTE BLOUSES**, in striped effects. The best value offering. **COSTUMES** in every style and quality. Prices 84/-, 90/-, to 17 guineas.

Thomson & Beattie, Ltd.

THE QUALITY HOUSE.

Phone 130. P.O. Box 46. Tay Street, Invercargill.

? "HOW do you find bargains of this sort?" is a question we are often asked. It is because the public know we are a live firm and leave their selling business in our hands. A sound six-roomed house, five minutes from Post Office at £525 takes some finding, but we now have one at this ridiculous price. If you want a good home cheap hurry along to Traill and Co., Esk street, about this.

EASY TO ACQUIRE—We are not all able to buy large farms, but to the man who wishes to work in town and yet have a small holding we offer five acres of the best land with good dwelling and outbuildings for the low price of £575, close to town, on Bluff line, which enables you to pursue your ordinary calling, yet have all the advantages of a country home. Traill and Co., Ltd., Esk street.

HALT! Diggers, you have had enough of marching at the front but you need not now march round looking for a home for we have the best bargain in town to offer you. This is a four-roomed semi-bungalow, every modern convenience, motor shed, concrete paths. A perfect home. Price only £675. Just march along to our office and we will run you out to see this. Traill and Co., Ltd., Esk street.

10th MAY,

NOTE THIS DATE.
NOTE THIS DATE.
NOTE THIS DATE.

KEEP YOUR EYE

—On—

THE ATHENAEUM CORNER.

THERE'LL BE SOMETHING DOING ON THAT DATE.

GOOD COMMISSION.

NEWS-RUNNERS wanted to establish weekly house to house connection for the

"DIGGER."

Apply—

DIGGER OFFICE,
Early Next Week.

RABBITSKINS.

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Postal Address: Box 54 Dunedin.

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TRAPPERS, WEEKENDERS AND OTHERS.

We have been notifying our Country Clients since 26th March that our Home and American Agents anticipated a serious decline in Rabbitskins. We passed this on to you for what it was worth. At yesterday's local sale prices declined 75 per cent. We therefore would like to write us for revised price list. At the same time we would again advise you to accept ruling prices, as our Agents anticipate a further decline in the next London sales in June.

We PAY HIGHEST MARKET PRICES.

CHARGE NO COMMISSION.
SEND PROMPT RETURNS.

A TRIAL CONSIGNMENT WILL CONVINCE YOU.

BUNGALOW SPECIAL.

WE have just received this Brick and Rough Cast Bungalow for sale. Five large and sunny rooms, beautifully finished in rimu and art papers. Built-in wardrobes and presses, porcelain bath, tiled grates and range, electric light. This house is only three years old and is remarkably cheap at £1250. Terms can be arranged. The section is beautifully laid out in lawn and garden.

COLIN McDONALD, R. B. CAWS & CO.
Dee Street. Sole Agents.

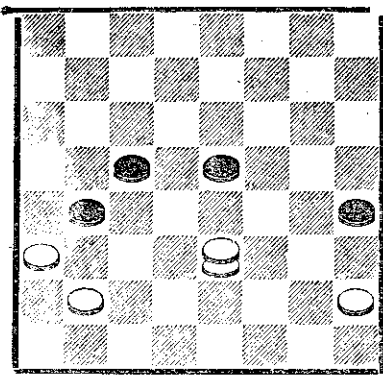
DRAUGHTS.

(Conducted by F. Hutchins.)

PROBLEM 8.

A STUDY FOR THE AMATEUR.

Black 13, 16, 18, 19.



White 5, 8, 12. King 14.
White to move and win.

The above is the end of a game played between Mr Adcock and his son. Master Adcock manipulated the pieces with consummate skill and forced his dad to retire.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM 7.

Black 3, 5, 12. King on 25.
White 13, 17, 30. King on 1.

25, 21, 17, 14, 21, 17, 14, 10, 17, 14, 10, 6, 12, 16, 20, 11, 3, 7, 11, 2, 14, 9, and black wins.

SAFE LIMIT OF BRAIN CAPACITY.

In a leading New York paper we find the following: "Mental activity, instead of being an exhaustive process tending to shorten life, is in the highest degree conducive to longevity. Second, a consensus of opinion among the leading scientists of Great Britain shows the best way to keep the brain in good condition is to use it to the safe limit of its capacity."

The following is another trap for the amateur to avoid in the Paisley opening. It is generally credited to Leggett and Powell, but there is reason to believe it was known to the players over 100 years ago.

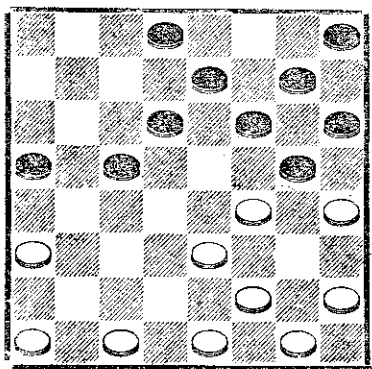
11.15 10.14 11.16 7.10 5.14 6.15
24.19 25.22 28.24 26.22 19.15 22.17
8.11 16.20 4.8 9.15 10.26 White
22.18 30.25 22.17 18.9 17.10 wins.

(a) 3.7 here and black gets an even game by 19.15, 10.26, 17.3, 26.30, 18.14, 9.19, 22.15, 6.10, 15.6, 1.10 drawn.

(b) 16.19, 25.22, 19.28, 15.10, 6.15, 31.26. W. wins.

Draughts is both entertaining and instructive, giving both mental exercise and mental recreation, which is as important a factor as physical exercise and recreation in the development of the whole man.

BLACK, 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16,



WHITE—19, 20, 21, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32.

The above is an end game played in the recent championship tourney between Beck (black), and Hilliker (white). Hilliker played 23.18 and won after sacrificing a man.

The Invercargill Draughts Club meets in the Athenaeum smoke room every Wednesday and Saturday evenings. Visitors are always welcome.

Entries for the winter tournament close on Wednesday, May 12. The handicappers intend to give every encouragement to the younger and weaker players by liberal handicaps. This should induce a record entry.

It would take 120 years, without sleep or meals, to read through all the books on Napoleon now in the British Museum.

R. S. A.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY SOUTHLAND'S M. S. P.

The following is published for general information:—

Dear sir,—In accordance with the suggestion by the Southland Members of Parliament to the deputation of returned soldiers who waited on them recently, we now forward you, a list of reforms which our Association, as well as the New Zealand Returned Soldiers' Association, is endeavouring to get carried into immediate effect.

We shall be glad if you will inform the deputation which intends to wait upon you on the 12th inst., whether you approve of these reforms and to what extent you are prepared to support them.—Yours etc.,

SECRETARY.

REPATRIATION AND LAND.

1.—To raise the business allowance from £500 to £550.

2.—To transfer the whole matter of dwellings and building sections for returned soldiers from the Land Boards to the Repatriation Boards.

3.—To have a single Minister for repatriation.

4.—To place the administration of all soldiers financial assistance matters in the hands of the Repatriation Department.

5.—To make soldiers' financial assistance allowances in respect of rent, interest, insurance premiums, etc., payable as of right and irrespective of hardships.

6.—To make soldiers' financial assistance allowances retrospective to August 1914.

7.—To open up large estates for soldier settlement, beginning with largest estate of say a value of £100,000 and over and proceeding in order of magnitude until the demand is satisfied by compulsory acquisition at a price to be determined by a special board, composed of one representative of the Government, two of the N.Z.R.S.A., and three of the farming community.

8.—To increase the loan to settlers for building a home (now £250), as follows, single man £250, man and wife £400, for each child £50 extra.

9.—To prohibit the sale of rural land of the value of over £7500, unless an option to purchase be first given to the Land's Purchase Boards.

10.—To issue instructions to Land Boards to discontinue the present practice of advancing less than the Board's valuer's valuation of farms being purchased by returned soldiers.

11.—To remit all stamp duties on sales of land to returned soldiers (this to be retrospective).

12.—To exempt returned soldiers from land tax to the full extent of their mortgages.

13.—To reduce valuation fees for soldiers' dwellings and building sections to 10s 6d.

14.—To abolish the loading of 10 per cent. on properties purchased by the Government for soldiers' settlement, thus handing these properties to the soldiers at actual cost, plus expenses actually incurred.

15.—To allow the rebate of 1 per cent. for punctual payment of instalments, thus giving the soldier the same advantages as the mortgagee to the Government State Advances Office.

16.—To instruct Land Boards to supply each soldier applicant with a written copy of the valuation made by the Government valuer.

17.—That when necessary to assist soldiers with limited capital, the first year's rent on improved lands, and the first three years' rent on unimproved lands be capitalised.

18.—That a representative of the Returned Soldiers' Association be appointed to each Land Board.

19.—That the Government make immediate arrangements to have ample money available for the purchase of land and dwellings by returned soldiers.

PAY, MEDICAL AND PENSIONS.

20.—To support the proposed plus scheme of pension as follows:—That the schedule of pensions for specific injuries of the War Pensions Act, 1917, No. 16, be increased by the addition of plus percentages up to 150 per cent (that is £3 per week), supplementary pension and attendant's allowance to be over and above such rates.

21.—The Pension Act at present in force provides for pension for total disability suffered by the incapacitated man is of two kinds: A.—Physical, viz., suffering and general inconvenience. B.—Economic, viz., the disability which is due to loss of earning power or inability

to follow a chosen career.

Let us now take some typical cases to illustrate the necessity for assessing a man with two children was before the war in an assured position earning £11 per week. At the war he lost his right arm, was badly smashed up and is slowly dying as a result. The utmost that the State can provide is a pension of £6 per week for family. This amount is the equivalent of about £4 at the pre-war cost of living. In this case in addition to dying as a result of his injuries the soldier's income has been reduced by 60 per cent., and the State says it cannot do more.

Cases of this kind might be cited indefinitely. The crudity of the present system of pensions arises from the following facts:—

A.—Any given injury is assumed by the law as it stands to have resulted in identical "disability." As has been shown, the real disability depends very largely on the occupation of the individual.

B.—Each individual pensioner is assumed to have some particular (but unspecified) earning capacity at some average (but unspecified) occupation, and his pension is adjusted accordingly.

To some extent vocational training provides alternative employment for incapacitated men but this is effective in most cases to only a very limited extent in restoring pre-war earning power, and in cases of real total disability does not apply to all. It is obvious that the departments of pensions and repatriation are both dealing inadequately and inequitably with the economic disability in nearly every case. The true responsibility of the State is thus ostensibly dealt with by two departments, but is fully discharged by neither.

The first essential of an efficient scheme of pension administration is that the functions of the two departments, which will deal with physical and economical disability respectively should be clearly defined.

The Pensions' Department should confine itself to the physical disability purely and a schedule of pensions for particular injuries would be largely applicable. Its work would then become much more simple, and the assessment would be relatively automatic. The Repatriation Department should have exclusive and exhaustive control of the economic factor in every case. Vocational, functional, and general educational training should be included under its administration.

In some cases a disabled soldier would be drawing a pension in respect to physical disability only, in others possible economic disability only, but in many cases in respect to both.

22.—To grant pensions to returned soldiers' wives, proportionate to those granted to soldiers.

23.—To forbid any medical officer or board, examining an applicant for a soldier's pension or renewal of same, to ask any question as to what salary the applicant is receiving.

24.—To establish a Pensions' Appeal Board.

25.—To make the increase of officers' pay retrospective to August, 1914.

26.—To make pensions to widowed mothers retrospective to date of son's death, and not as now from application.

27.—To make venereal disease compulsorily notifiable.

28.—To grant every soldier suffering from tuberculosis, treatment in a sanatorium until his health is satisfactory.

29.—To exempt soldiers' pensions from income tax.

30.—To make all allowances payable to soldiers or their dependants without the necessity of application being made.

31.—To place the Defence Department in the same position as all other Government Departments as regards the payment of the War Expenses Department of superannuation premium of members on Active Service.

32.—To make Defence Department bonuses applicable to members on Active Service abroad as well as to those remaining in N.Z.

33.—To have Anzac Day declared a statutory holiday.

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 & CO.,

THE LOCAL FURNITURE FIRM,

ESK & KELVIN STREETS, INVERCARGILL.

WEDDING BELLS.

"Parkside," the picturesque residence of Mr and Mrs Donald McLaren, at Eastern Bush, was the scene of an unusually pleasant gathering on Wednesday, April 28, when their youngest daughter, Margaret, was united in matrimony to Mr John G. McIntosh, son of Mr R. McIntosh, of Orawia.

The relatives of both contracting parties are well-known and highly respected throughout the Waiau district. The bride had lived with her parents at "Parkside" from early childhood until her marriage. The bridegroom, who is also a native of the Western District, enlisted with the 23rd Reinforcements, and spent nearly 2½ years in the army. After suffering from a severe attack of pneumonia, he returned home.

The popularity of the young couple was evidenced by the distance travelled by some of the guests in order to be present. In spite of the rather dull day, Winton, Invercargill, Riverton, Otautau, Tuatapere, and Mangapiri sent representatives to add to the crowd of local people.

The bride, who was given away by her father, looked daintily pretty in a lovely gown of white merv silk trimmed with embroidery and tassels. Besides the veil and orange blossoms she wore a beautiful brooch and bangle, set with large amethysts. The latter were with a substantial cheque, the gift of the bride's father.

The bridesmaid was Miss Muriel Moir, of Riverton, who looked charming in a dress of white Jap. silk, made pinafore style, and worn with a white lace blouse, and stylish hat of white silk. Both carried bouquets of white chrysanthemums and ferns.

The bridegroom was attended by Mr D. S. McLaren, brother of the bride, as best man.

The bride and her attendants were motored from the house to the carpeted steps of the large woolshed, where the ceremony was performed in an impressive manner by the Rev. A. McDonald, of Otautau. After the showers of rice and confetti had subsided, the happy couple received the congratulations and good wishes of their friends. About 200 guests gathered around the tables, where an elaborate wedding-breakfast was set out and much enjoyed by all. The woolshed was tastefully decorated with garlands of ivy and white chrysanthemums.

Mr McDonald in a humorous speech, spoke of the helpful influence of woman on man's life. Said the speaker: "She acts as a spur to push him on to higher spheres of usefulness, when he is inclined to take things too easy." Continuing his address, he spoke of the high regard in which the parents of both parties are held, adding that they, with the other pioneers of the Waiau, had helped to make the Western District what it is to-day, and that if the young couple followed in the footsteps of their parents, they would be useful citizens of the district, the country, and the Empire. He had rarely married a couple with such a promising future before them. He concluded his address by proposing the health of "The Young Couple," which was responded to by Mr J. McIntosh.

The following toasts were also honoured: "The Bridesmaid," "The Bride's Parents," "The Bridegroom's Parents," and "The Waiau Pioneers."

Mr McDonald then read a shaft of telegrams from absent friends conveying hearty wishes for success and happiness to Mr and Mrs J. G. McIntosh.

A splendid array of costly and useful presents was exhibited in the drawing-room. Among them several large cheques were seen.

The bridegroom's present to the bride was a handsome suit-case, and to the bridesmaid a pretty wristlet watch. The bride's present to the groom was a gold-mounted fountain pen.

After a pleasant afternoon, which was

enlivened by music provided by members of the Western District Pipe Band, whose gay uniforms gave added colour to an already gay scene, the guests were entertained at a sumptuous tea, before they adjourned to the local hall, where a most enjoyable dance was held. About 50 couples took part in the Grand March, which was led off by the bride and groom. Capital march music was provided by the Pipe Band, while for the majority of the dances splendid music was rendered by Mr Henderson (violin), and Mrs Green (piano). Mr J. Scott made a very capable M.C. Songs were sung at intervals during the evening, and added to the enjoyment. The pleasant gathering was brought to a close by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

The happy couple left by motor car for Queenstown, where the honeymoon is to be spent. Later they will return to make their home at Orawia. The bride's travelling dress was a smart brown gaberdine tailor-made costume, with becoming brown tagel hat to match.

PASSING NOTES.

EXTRACT FROM PAGE 6

(By "Jacques.")

Like John Gilpin's wife, the South Invercargill Council is frugal even in its pleasures. At its last meeting the matter of welcoming the Prince was under consideration, when one reckless, devil-may-care spendthrift proposed that the Borough should do it in style, to the extent of Twenty-five Pounds. There was a howl of horror at such criminal extravagance (a Councillor explaining almost tearfully that one ward was a proper subject for Charitable Aid, while the others hadn't enough to pay tram fares to work) and the proposed amount was promptly and enthusiastically reduced to Fifteen Pounds, including a banner. "I don't know what a 'banner' would cost in these profiteering days, but it is safe to assume that after it is paid for, and the cost of brooding a suitable inscription, such as: 'Welcome (fifteen quids' worth of it) to our noble Prince,' is met, there won't be much left for fireworks. As one of the Councillors observed: 'he did not know much about these things, but somehow fifteen pounds has a funny look.' So by the way, has the South Invercargill Council at times. It was this same body that, on a former occasion, when invited to join a national prayer of thanksgiving, or something of that sort, said, in effect, that it had not thought much about it, and did not care a d— which way it went, but they were prepared to back up the main borough in whatever action it took. There's casualness for you! Reminds me of a Methodist Conference held some years ago in Sydney, at which, after sundry other motions had been disposed of, one gentleman moved: 'That a prayer be offered to the Almighty.' Fortunately the motion was carried but if it had been negatived —!

ANECDOTE OF WASHINGTON.

Captain Stephen Trowbridge, once the oldest male inhabitant of Milford, N.H., told the following incident of Washington's visit to that village in 1790. While the latter was walking about the town, attended by a number of his officers, a coloured soldier, who lost a limb in his service, made his way up to the general and saluted him. Washington turned to this coloured soldier, shook hands with him, and gave him a present of a silver dollar. One of the attendants objected to the civilities thus shown by the President of the United States to such a humble person; but Washington rebuked him sharply, asking if he should permit this coloured man to excel him in politeness.

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Are Manufactured in Southland, and
are made by a Company all British
owned.

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Is a guarantee of quality and nation-
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It can always be depended upon.

"Say, Dig."

NOW you're digger in for keeps, how
about a few trees round about the
homestead to keep off the chilly winter
blast.

I HAVE ALL YOU REQUIRE IN
THAT LINE.

PINUS and MACROCARPA FOR
SHELTER.

APPLES, PEARS, and PLUMS FOR
THE PIE.

GOOSEBERRIES and CURRANTS
FOR JAM.

OLEARIA and ESCALLONIA FOR
ORNAMENTAL HEDGES.

ORNAMENTAL and SPECIMEN TREES
AND SHRUBS FOR THE LAWN.

ROSES IN GREAT SELECTION THAT
GROW AND BLOOM WELL.

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well grown.

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Secretary.

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have to offer.

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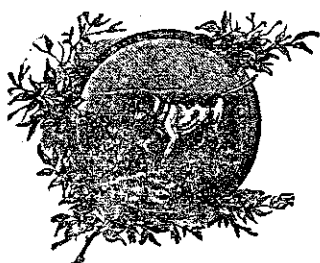
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INVERCARGILL.

(Opposite Post Office, above Economic).



Kennel Notes.

Entries for the Invercargill Kennel
Club Show require to be made on or
before Saturday, May 8, as that is the
date of closing entries.

Mr Jas. Lilico informs us that he has
had a rare breeding season with his work-
ing collies and although in possession of
a large number of pups he is unable at
present to fulfill a fresh order owing to
all his pups having been sold in advance.

The demand for Lilico working collies
is always great, but at present the de-
mand for exceeds the supply.

Mr Eric Hay of Waikiwi, informs us
that at the present time he has a very
strong kennel of cocker spaniels.

Two pups by Papanui Surprise—
Red Ribbon show much promise. One
being black and white, the other blue-
roan and tan.

Papanui Surprise is perhaps the best
coloured cocker in the North Island at
the present time, having done a lot of
winning in the best of company.

We hope that all dog fanciers will
rise to the occasion and give the new
Kennel Club a good start. Enter your
dog even though he may not be a
crack-a-jack remembering that you are
helping along the fancy.

A dog owner asks advice re ear
trouble, so in answer we give the follow-
ing advice:—

EAR CANKER.

Ear canker is a disease which is par-
ticularly common amongst sporting dogs,
and perhaps no variety is more suscepti-
ble to it than the spaniel. There are
two kinds of ear canker—internal and
external.

The earliest symptoms of the approach
of canker is frequent shaking of the head,
or holding the head on one side, or violent
scratching of one or both ears. Red-
ness of the integument, or covering in-
side the ear, is observed, and particu-
larly that portion of it which covers the
annular cartilage. This is usually ac-
companied by some enlargement of the
folds of the skin. As soon as any of
these symptoms are observed, the ear
should be gently but well-washed out
two or three times a day, with luke-
warm water, and after that, a weak
solution of "formalin" should be applied
and a few doses of cooling medicine ad-
ministered.

If the disease is neglected, the pain
will rapidly increase. The ear will be-
come greatly inflamed and of an intenser
red; the folds of the integument will be-
come enlarged, and there will be a de-
posit of red or black matter in the
hollow of the ear.

When such symptoms appear the case
is becoming serious, and should receive
immediate attention. The red or black
deposit should be gently but carefully
washed away with lukewarm water and
soap, and after this one of the well-
known cures should be frequently ap-
plied, such as formalin, extract of lead,
the latter in the proportion of a scruple
to an ounce of water, until the inflamma-
tion is abated. I have found formalin,
a most reliable and speedy specific. It
is necessary with this, as with all other
cures, to first cleanse the ear of all
offensive deposit, then take half a pint
of lukewarm water and add to it one tea-
spoonful of formalin. Pour a little of
the solution into the ear, about a tea-
spoonful will usually be sufficient, then
close the ear and mould it gently until
the liquid has insinuated itself as deeply
as possible into the passage of the ear,
after which carefully dry the ear and
dust with boracic powder. This is a
very simple but effective remedy if per-
sisted with, and in ordinary cases of
ear canker a very handy remedy.

If the disease is neglected entirely in
the first stages, ulceration will surely re-
sult. It will be found lodged deep in the
passage, and can only be detected by
moulding the ear.

Occasionally the inflammation becomes
so great as to cause the integument to
swell to such an extent that the ear is
perfectly closed up. This form of the
disease is annoying, and extremely pain-
ful to the animal, and it is much the bet-
ter plan to secure the services of a veteri-
nary surgeon, as after all, no mild oint-
ment or lotion will dispose such an ulcer
to heal.

I have seen several cases of this par-

ticular kind of canker in New Zealand,
and in one or two instances much diffi-
culty has been experienced in effecting
a cure even by veterinary aid.

External canker is a mangy inflamma-
tion of the edges of the ears, often ac-
companied by much heat and scurfiness
of the skin.

Several dressings of sulphur ointment,
with an eighth-part of mercurial oint-
ment, will usually effect a cure. In all
cases when dogs show signs of ear can-
ker, they should be given a course of
cooling medicine.

HERE AND THERE.

Good nature is often mistaken for vir-
tue, and good health sometimes passes
for genius. Anger blows out the lamp
of the mind.

Candour is the courage of the soul.
Life is a shadowy, strange and wind-
ing road on which we travel for a little
way—a few short steps—just from the
cradle with its lullaby of love to the low
and quiet wayside inn, where all at
last must sleep, and where the only salu-
tation is—Good night.

No one should throw away his reason—
the fruit of all experience. It is the in-
tellectual capital of the soul, the only
light, the only guide, and without it
the brain becomes the palace of an idiot
king attended by a retinue of thieves
and hypocrites.

The superior man is strength for the
weak, eyes for the blind, brains for the
simple; he is the one who helps to carry
the burden that nature has put upon the
inferior.

Liberty is making the tour of the
world.

The idea of non-resistance never oc-
curred to a man who had the power to
protect himself. This doctrine was the
child of weakness, born when resistance
was impossible.

Everything is right that tends
to the happiness of mankind, and every-
thing is wrong that increases the sum of
human misery.

Every virtuous deed is a star in the
moral firmament.

Happiness is not a reward—it is a
consequence.

Suffering is not a punishment—it is
a result.

There is this rainbow on the darkest
human cloud—the worst have hope of
reform.

I have tried to take from the coffin
its horror, from the cradle its curse, and
put out the fires of revenge kindled by
the savages of the past.

Everything in nature tells a different
story to all eyes that see and to all ears
that hear.

Mrs Caller: "I suppose you find your
daughter very much improved by her
two years' stay at College?"

Mrs Proud Mother: "Oh, yes, Mary
is a carnivorous reader now, and she
frequently impoverishes music. But she
ain't a bit stuck up, she's unanimous to
everybody, and she never keeps a caller
waitin' for her to dress; she just runs
in nom de plume, and you know that
makes one feel so comfortable."—N.Z.
Bulletin."

A human scalp, with a segment of skull
attached, and some splinters tangled in
the hair, was recently picked up in Val-
lejo, and exhibited for identification at
the office of a local newspaper. For several
days nobody came forward to claim it,
but at last it attracted the attention of a
passing lady, who on being told the cir-
cumstances of its discovery, explained to
the editor that she thought it was the mel-
ancholy remainder of her husband. "Has
he been in Vallejo recently?" asked the
compassionate editor. "No, he lived in
Benicia." "And why do you think it is
his, madame?" "Well, when I left him
last Wednesday, he had a pinch of snuff
in his fingers, and he was a sneezer from
Bitter Creek, poor man! I think I had
better go home now and repair the proof."
And successfully expelling a tear the af-
flicted relict turned away without making
any arrangements for the funeral or even
leaving the name of the deceased. He
was respected by all who knew him.

THE MESSAGE.

The dull, grey day was wearing to its
close,
And still the rain streamed down.
And on the wet and leafless elm tree
branch
A thrush, all dappled brown,
Sang all his song, nor asked for sun,
or flower;
But felt his duty clear
To tell the world in spite of cold and
rain,
That spring would soon be here again.

Winter Bros.,

GENERAL CARRIERS,
SPEY STREET,

WISH to announce that they have a
first-class motor Lorry for Hire.

All kinds of Carrying undertaken, and
Furniture removed.

The Lorry has comfortable seating ac-
commodation for twenty passengers and
will take parties out day or night at rea-
sonable prices.

GIVE THE DIGGER CARRIERS A
SHARE OF YOUR PATRONAGE.

OFFICE—SPEY STREET.

'Phone—779.

WOOL!

WOOL!

WOOL!

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and 1/8 each.

ENVELOPES, 4d, 6d, 9d, and 1/- per
packet.

BOXES OF STATIONERY, 2/- and
2/3.

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TAY STREET, INVERCARGILL.

MISS BREY,

THE PARAMOUNT,
THE PARAMOUNT,

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Our Motto: "Purity."

MILK MILK MILK
and and and
CREAM! CREAM! CREAM!Invercargill Milk
Supply,

53 YARROW STREET.

THE RETICENCE OF THE DEAD.

(By Ella Wheeler Wilcox.)

Although I have been sweetly comforted
By messages that came to me from
Space
Ament the life of that transcendent
place,
Yet, when the utmost has been done
and said,
There is a strange reserve about the
dead—
A reticence whose cause I can but trace
To our own lack of comprehending grace
Our failure to attain the paths they
treasured.
Freed from both Time and Space, those
beings live
When speech needs but the vehicle of
thought
To tell all kindred souls what they
should know.
But when we call, they come to us and
give
Some portions of those truths which we
have sought,
Then, sudden, wrapped in reticence,
they go.

II.

Our atmosphere, our language—all is
dense
To those unfettered souls in ether clad
Our clumsy ways of speech to them sad.
So long has grown their vision, so
intense,
So wide their knowledge of Death's re-
compense,
They wonder why small proofs should
make us glad,
Forgetting that vast sorrow we have
had
In loss of them—and in their reticence.
O my dear dead! You have been kind—
so kind,
Bringing to my poor broken heart the
proof
Of Life Eternal. Now show me the way
To that high realm where thought is
unconfined,
And soul from soul no longer stands
aloof.
There is so much—so much for us to
say!

MUSIC AND MACARONI.

"And you have really met the famous
Italian composer?" said a young woman to
a musician to whom she had been intro-
duced at a dinner-party, and with whom
she had been discussing music.

"Yes," said the musician. "I met him
once."

"How very romantic! And will you
please tell me what he had to say?"

"Well, he didn't have much to say. He
was eating macaroni at the time, and you
know that doesn't help conversation!"

Of Interest to Women.

DOMESTIC TRAINING.

Women who take up domestic work
need training, and they get it of a kind.
They get it in the first place, in their
own homes, where naturally they learn
more or less to do things as their mothers
did them, and to do what their mothers
did, no more and sometimes less. Is the
home a good home, with conveniences
and refinements, the girl will understand,
use, and require these; if on the other
hand it is a slovenly or squalid or ill-
managed house, half-furnished and more
than half dirty, the women who come
from it to make homes of their own or
to help in the house-keeping of others
can hardly be expected to be models. En-
vironment is a very large factor in train-
ing, and while superior intelligence
and aptitude may surmount the obstacles
and supply the deficiencies of an unfavour-
able early environment, it is doubtful,
very doubtful whether the same can be
said of the average person.

Can any woman then expect raw girls
from poor homes to know by instinct how
to set an elaborate meal or do fine laundry
work or cooking, or even appreciate the
degree of cleanliness required in a decent
household? Those interested in social wel-
fare have got past the stage of expecting
competent house-management from per-
sons with no training or worse than no
training in the arts and crafts required
for such competence.

Then in New Zealand, as in some other
countries, an attempt is made to supply
the training in the schools. It is a good
idea, but to my mind, badly carried out.
The training is begun too early in some
departments; it is at once over-ambitious
and inadequate; and we have not enough
of the right kind of places in which to
carry it on.

I am sure that children should be taught
very early to sew, knit and crochet, use-
ful arts that require in the muscles of
hand and arm a dexterity to be acquired
only by early practice. The early teach-
ing of these things is on the same basis
as the teaching of music, swimming, and
gymnastics. Long practice is required to
form the reflex action, unconscious because
habitual.

Cookery I maintain need not be learned
before the age of sixteen, nor laundry
work. Dressmaking and the use of the
sewing-machine too could be taken at a
much later stage than hand-sewing; and
the aesthetics of house management should
be a final stage, reached at the age of
about eighteen. In a properly elaborated
system, however, with proper facilities
order and cleanliness, with the care for
beauty, should be inculcated from the
earliest, by training in habit, by the ex-
ample of surroundings, resulting in a
taste for these things, an eye for them
and a distaste for all disorder, dirt and
ugliness.

In all girls' schools there should be
some means and facility for teaching all
these things, sewing and the making of
all kinds of simple garments, plain-cook-
ing laundry work, the best methods of
cleaning with a study of labour-saving
household management and the aesthetics
of house-building, furnishing and decora-
tion. I would add also elementary hy-
giene and first aid. The training should
be given in stages at suitable periods in
the girl's education, and being of a prac-
tical nature, would serve as a relief from
abstract studies. It would bring to light
much capability that is now lost or ob-
scure and it would revolutionise the world
of domestic labour. Soon, instead of the
present outcry for domestic workers, we
should have competent girls, willing to
take up the work—under decent conditions
of wage and status—instead of the hoary
jest about "young wife's pudding," we
should rejoice in model homes.

I would not make any branch of phys-
ical or chemical science a part of this
domestic training; let these things be
learned in their place, which is the labora-
tory and not the kitchen, and let the
students be taught to apply their science
where it is needed.

All girls of course do not wish to go
in for domestic work, and to make domes-
tic compulsory for all, is to put a heavy
handicap on those who are working for
other ends—literary or artistic for in-
stance—in comparison with boys, unless
some practical study is made compulsory
for the latter also. I would make all boys
go through an equivalent course in hy-
giene and first aid (equally necessary for
them) in military drill and in agriculture
or horticulture. If the women are to keep
model houses, let the men be taught to
keep model gardens, no home is complete
without both.

We are a long way from realising this
scheme. Our Technical Colleges have
good classes, but these are not sufficient.
What is really needed is the domestic
science hostel, where a complete practical
training is possible. I should like to see
the present kind of Technical College and

secondary school give way to domestic
hostels separate from, but in organic con-
nection with model trade schools and with
horticulture and agricultural institutes,
all working in co-operation with the gram-
mar schools which aim at the training of
the mind, the memory, the judgment, the
aesthetic perceptions, the sympathies,
which endeavour, in a word to expand or
unfold to the utmost the power to think
justly and to feel rightly.

Let us aim at a training that will put
ideals into our children's minds and cap-
abilities into their hands and we shall be
working systematically towards our goal
of a good home the foundation of a true
commonwealth.

Children's Column.

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT.

Of course you've heard of Goldilocks,
and of the dreadful fright she had. She
lost herself in a deep wood, and just
when she was nearly mad with fear and
terror at each sound, a darling little house
she found.

"Oh, I'll run in!" said Goldilocks. "I'm
sure nice people must live there, who'll
let me rest after my fright. I'm nearly
drooping with despair." Rat-tat!—she tap-
ped upon the door. Rat-tat-tat-tat.—
she tapped once more.

"This is most strange," thought Goldi-
locks. "There can't be anyone inside." She
pulled the latch, and at her touch
the cottage-door flew wide open, and
there she saw a table spread.

"Hurrah! I'm hungry!" Goldie said.
I'm not quite sure that Goldilocks was
really very good, for oh, she tasted all
the porridge, and she finished one plate
up you know! Then tried the cottage
chairs, did she, and broke the smallest,
'twas so wee!

And then, little Miss Goldilocks, she
hurried to the bedroom fast, and lay on
the three beds in turn, until she went to
sleep at last, upon the smallest of the
three; and how she slept and slept did
she!

She dreamed so deep, did Goldilocks,
that when the Three Bears came home,
she never moved nor woke; she never even
knew they'd come, until she woke with a
loud cry, and saw the Three Bears stand-
ing by!

"Oh, dearie me!" shrieked Goldilocks.
"These Bears will eat me, I'm quite
sure!" she didn't listen when they spoke,
but screamed and screamed and screamed
once more. And through the window-
pane she leapt, and through the woods she
ran and wept!

"Well, really, if Miss Goldilocks had
listened!" said the Father Bear. "She
doesn't know," the mother said. "It can't
be that she doesn't care!" "Will she come
back?" the Small Bear cried. And then
Three Bears stood still and sighed.

But what became of Goldilocks? She
wandered, wandered all the night. But
when at last the morning came, she had
recovered from her fright. "I really was
not quite polite," said Goldie; "and
that was not right!"

"It was not right!" said Goldilocks,
to eat their food and run away! I should
have thanked the Three Bears first. I
was most silly yesterday! I'll go straight
back, and I won't mind, for somehow I
think they looked so kind!"

Alas, alas, for Goldilocks! The way was
very hard to seek. The tree-roots bruised
and scratched her legs, the bushes brush-
ed against her cheek. "But I must find
the way," she said; "I'm sure they'll be
expecting me!"

"We'll help you, darling Goldilocks,"
the Bees and Butterflies all cried. "We'll
guide your steps, dear Goldilocks, and
take you through the forest wide. We'll
take you safe there, never fear. We're
glad you're going, Goldie dear!"

So on and on went Goldilocks, until at
last her frock all torn, her hair all tangled
and her hands both scratched, and feeling
so forlorn, she came upon the Three
Bears' House, and felt as frightened as a
mouse.

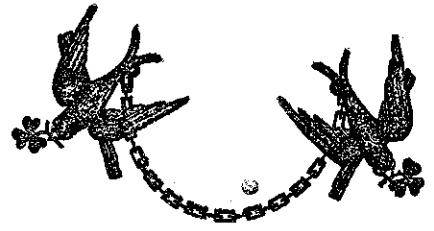
"But I'll go in!" said Goldilocks, "and
tell them that I'm sorry for—!" She
couldn't say another word, for all the
Three Bears from the door came smiling
out and called "She's here! She's come
again, has Goldie dear!"

"I'm much ashamed," said Goldilocks,
"for I was really very rude. I ran away,
and never stayed to thank you for your
lovely food. And I'm afraid I broke your
chair!" she said and kissed the little bear.

Oh, what a shock for Goldilocks! She
gave a cry of wild surprise. The Bears
were changed at her soft kiss, and there
she saw before her eyes a handsome
Prince, a King, a Queen, a Castle where
the house had been!

"Come with me, Princess Goldilocks!"
the Prince exclaimed, and took her hand.
He led her through the Castle-gate. "You
are Princess of Fairyland. We were be-
witched my love," said he. "But your
sweet kiss has set us free!"

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Wedding and
Dress Rings.JEWELLERY,
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cash. Established nearly a quarter of a century; still going strong. Send
your orders by post or 'phone, and you will receive them promptly for cash
on delivery. Pay cash and save booking charges.

DEE STREET, INVERCARGILL.

CHILDREN'S LAND.

Say, have you heard of the Children's
land,
Over the misty sea,
Reached by the moon-fairies' silver road
Hidden from you and me?

Teeth cannot ache in the Children's
land,
Bedtime is quite unknown,
No one has heard of the lesson hour,
Schoolbooks are never known.

Over the sea in the Children's Land
Pathways are velvet moss,
Knees never bruise there and hands
don't soil
No one is ever cross.

There all the butterflies kiss your cheeks
Fingers can reach the sky,
If you shall fall in the sparkling stream
Still you may keep quite dry.

Say, do you know why this land can
boast
Thousands of children's joys?
Grown-ups are never admitted there,
Only the girls and boys.

—Florence E. Lea.

AN INTERLUDE.

(Palestine, 1918.)

She was more than passing dirty, and
the infant that she nursed
Showed no sign that he had ever been
totally immersed;
But I've always held a baby was a
pleasant sight to see,
So I smiled upon the youngster, and
the youngster smiled at me.
Smiled and flung his little hands out,
peradventure pointing at
The buttons on my tunic or the badge
upon my hat,
Even possibly desiring, as one who
shares a joke,
To call mamma's attention to that funny
looking bloke.
She looked and caught me smiling, and
she burst into a flow
Of vociferous narration in a tongue I
did not know.
No phrase that I could recognise, no
word that I could "place,"
But I think I caught her meaning from
the look upon her face.
Yes, I'm sure she told the story that
was old in Noah's days,
Of her clever little baby and its clever
little ways,
And gave an alien stranger all the
plain, unvarnished truth
Of his first attempt to toddle, how he
cut his earliest tooth.
I knew just when she mentioned—
I could tell it from her tone—
How already he showed symptoms of
"a strong will of his own,"
And how plainly he was destined a pro-
digy to be
At the art of begging backsheesh (the
local industry.)
She held him out toward me with a
gesture full of pride;
She was more than passing dirty—she
was not undignified.
Oh, I grant you it is seldom that the
perfect son occurs,
But from Palestine to Paris every moth-
er knows it's hers.

The Home.

AFTERNOON TEA RECIPES.

Crescent Rolls.—Delicious little crescent
rolls are made by mixing three-quarters of
a pound of flour with a teaspoonful of
baking-powder, a pinch of salt, and a
breakfast-cupful of sour milk. When the
mixture is well blended, work in a small
piece of butter. Divide the dough into
three portions, knead it, roll out half an
inch thick and as round as possible.
Divide into four portions, and, taking
the point of the triangle, roll out and
press the ends together to form the cre-
cent, brush over with milk, and bake in
a brisk oven for fifteen minutes.

Cheese Scones.—Take one egg, one cup
milk, half cup warm water, one heaped
cup flour, quarter cup crumbled cheese,
saltspoon salt, one and a-half teaspoons
baking powder. Mix all together. The bat-
ter should be thin enough to drop from the
spoon, but not too thin. Bake in patty
pans, and split and butter while hot.
These scones are simply delicious if served
hot for lunch or afternoon tea.

Scotch Wafers.—One cupful of fine
oatmeal, one cupful of rolled oats, two
cupfuls of flour, quarter cupful of sugar,
a teaspoonful of salt, one-eighth teaspoon-
ful of soda, quarter cupful of butter or
lard, and half a cupful of hot water. Meth-
od: mix the first named six ingredi-
ents. Melt the shortening and add
to first mixture. Toss the whole on
to a floured board and roll out as thinly
as possible. Shape with a cutter, or with
a sharp knife, and cut the paste into
strips. Bake on a buttered sheet in a
slow oven.

Cheese Biscuits.—Four ounces of flour,
2oz margarine, 2oz grated cheese, pepper,
salt, cayenne, water. Rub the margarine
into the flour. Add the grated cheese and
seasonings. Mix to a stiff paste with cold
water. Knead lightly, roll out thinly,
prick well, and cut into rounds. Place
on a greased tin, and bake in a quick
oven for seven to ten minutes.

Oatcakes.—During the winter oatcakes
are specially popular. Mix together half a
pound of medium oatmeal, quarter of a
pound of flour, and a teaspoonful each of
salt and baking-powder. Rub in three
ounces of margarine, and add enough cold
water to make a stiff dough. Knead
lightly on a floured board, roll out a quar-
ter of an inch thick, and cut into rounds.
Bake on a greased tin about twenty
minutes in quite a moderate oven.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Every time a room is turned out all the
furniture should be rubbed over with a
damp wash-leather. This prevents finger-
marks, and the furniture needs very little
cleaning with polish. Brass articles may
be treated in the same way, only these
should be afterwards polished with a
warm duster. For paint and enamelled
surfaces all that is required is a damp
wash-leather.

To prevent match marks on a painted
surface, dip a piece of flannel in liquid
vaseline, and with it go over the surface
rubbing it hard. A second rubbing with
a dry piece of flannel completes the job.
A thoughtless person may strike a match
there all day and neither get a light nor
make a mark.

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Size B—27 gals. per hour, £14 10s.
Size C—50 gals. per hour, £25 10s.

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Pasture Notes.

In a recent number of the "New Zealand Journal," Mr R. Waters, of the Biological section, has an article on the wheat disease which was prevalent in various parts of Canterbury a few months ago. The fungus which produces the "take all" disease is named *Ophiobolus graminis*, and at various stages in the growth of the wheat it penetrates, discolours, and disorganises the tissues of the roots and of the culms at ground-level. At these parts, late in the season, it produces a blackish web of mould-like growth, easily seen by the naked eye. (This "mould" remains on the stubble after the harvest, giving rise to the spores that may infect succeeding wheat crops.) The fungus appears to hinder the flow of the sap to the parts above, to arrest the growth, and to finally result in the death of the roots, culms, leaves, and ears, the last three bleaching a dull ashy white in the sun. Later the heads, and even the rest of such plants, may become bespattered as if with soot—the effect of another fungus common on dead wheat. In all cases the grains are diminutive, often entirely useless. Affected plants occur commonly in roughly circular or oval patches. The patches are up to several yards in diameter, and consist, at about the end of January, of a thin crop of stunted, dull-white or sooty-looking plants easily pulled out of the ground. The surrounding healthy crop is taller and of a bright-yellow colour in the straw. Again, affected and healthy plants may be intermixed and of similar height, the colour of the former readily distinguishing them.

No reliable information is available as to how the disease was introduced into New Zealand, but it has certainly been here for a number of years. However profitable or unprofitable it may be, it is well-known that in the absence of this fungus healthy wheat has frequently been produced on the same land for many years in succession. With weather conditions unfavourable to the fungus comparatively healthy wheat might even be raised on land previously carrying an infected crop. The presence, however, of but a small proportion of infected plants means that the fungus will remain in the field on the stubble after harvest. Here it will eventually produce its spores, any subsequent cultivation or tramping by stock serving as a means of distributing the disease—at least, within the same paddock. Hence, with moisture and temperature suitable to the fungus, a succeeding wheat crop would be much more affected than the previous one—in fact, might be a failure. All badly diseased plots recently examined in Canterbury had been preceded by one or more wheat crops among which in most cases growers could recollect having observed the same but less pronounced symptoms of the disease.

No instance could be found of the rapid spread of take-all from crop to crop through the air like "rust"—though to a comparatively very small extent this manner of spreading is not inconceivable; in fact, seed sown on uninfected land was seen to produce an unaffected crop even in places where such land adjoined an area carrying a badly infected crop. On the other hand, the planting of wheat on previously infected land resulted in the most serious damage that was met with, and, in my opinion, the perpetuation of the parasite is mainly due to this practice in dealing with infected areas. It is difficult to say exactly how the fungus is transferred to previously uninfected land. Stock or the wind possibly carry infected fragments from one paddock to another; but, whatever the means may be, there is no doubt that certain plants other than wheat are capable of "nursing" the fungus should it be carried to areas that have never been devoted to this particular crop.

Various methods of combating take-all have been suggested: (1) If by cutting the stubble longer, and, if necessary by rolling it, a fire could be run over the ground a considerable proportion of the fungus and its spores would be destroyed. Infected land so treated would be much safer, but not entirely safe, for a succeeding wheat crop. Where there is no alternative than to grow another wheat crop on infected land this course might be adopted, together with late sowing, so as to avoid worse conditions, which favour the fungus. Deeper tillage would also assist in avoiding excessive soil-moisture. Wheat following a badly diseased crop is, however, a very doubtful proposition. (2) For the treatment of a few isolated patches in a paddock good results are reported from the recommendations of

N. A. Cobb, of New South Wales, briefly as follows: Before harvest, when the disease is showing, mark the patches with stakes. After the harvest and before the following ploughing apply lime to these patches, at the rate of at least one ton per acre. As the disease is associated with excessive water in the soil the levelling-off of depressions in the ground and anything that can be done to improve the soil-drainage, such as deeper tillage, will be beneficial.

In considering a general line of treatment for larger areas the following points may be stated. Seeing that the fungus is retained on the land after harvest, and that its complete destruction by fire or by the application of a chemical compound may be impracticable, such methods as these should in general be employed, not as in themselves sufficient, but rather as subsidiary to other methods of control. Burning, where possible, in preparation for further treatment would therefore be a sound practice. As, moreover, the fungus cannot be immediately destroyed in the soil, then the subsequent unimpeded growth of wheat, barley, rye, barley-grass, brome-grass, or giant twitwh would, with suitable moisture and warmth probably serve to maintain, if not increase, the infection of the land. Susceptible plants must therefore be rigorously suppressed by cultivation or smothering, and any tendency to water-logging in the soil be anticipated by drainage or tillage.

In the choice of a rotation any crop not known to be attacked may be selected, but especial preference given, where practicable, to oats and rape, on account of their attributed immunity. On land difficult to rid of twitch or other susceptible plants, prior to the establishment of temporary pasture, oats, rape, or other crop not subsequently cultivated, the use of a smothering-crop, such as autumn-sown oats and tares, is suggested. Wheat would wisely be avoided in the rotation for at least two years. There is a possibility of transferring the disease by means of stock, but several most valuable examples of healthy and badly diseased paddocks actually adjoining clearly show that healthy wheat can be produced on uninfected land even when it is adjacent to a badly infected paddock. There is no positive evidence that the disease has been conveyed in the hairs of seed-wheat, nevertheless it would certainly be advisable to secure all seed from an undoubtedly healthy crop. Straw stacks from badly infected areas are better destroyed by fire, more especially if there is no definite use for them.

DIGGER YARNS

ABOUT GENERAL BIRDWOOD.

(From "The Sydney Mail.")

Generals Birdwood and Rawlinson were walking along the Strand. A Digger, passing, said, "Good day, Birdie!" The General returned the salutation with a "Good day, Digger!" General Rawlinson turned to Birdie in surprise and said: "Do you allow your men to greet you like that? Why do you not pull them up and make them salute you in a proper manner?" Birdie replied: "Do you think I want to start a brawl in the Strand?"

Generals Birdwood, Monash and Monro were once poring over a map in a dug-out on Gallipoli, when the blanket covering the entrance was rudely whisked aside and a "cookhouse man," dirty, untidy, and trembling with rage, burst in. "Which of you blanketty blankers pinched my blanketty blanketty dixie?" he raved. A stony silence while the cook took in the situation and recoiled with horror. Generals Monash and Monro glared at him.

"I didn't," said Birdie meekly.

On approaching an Australian camp in France General Birdwood noticed the sentry did not pay him the respect due to him. "Do you know who I am?" he said. Sentry: "No." Birdwood: "I am General Birdwood." Sentry: "Oh! I thought you was a banky Pioneer with them crossed picks on yer shoulder. Suppose I'll have to look you a bit of a salute."

"Hello!" said Jack. "There goes the half-hour warning for parade." Just then the orderly sergeant entered, and, blowing his whistle, commenced: "Pay attention to orders! All men will parade 9.30; full muster parade, belt and side-arms, great coats knicker fashion, all bayonets and brass buckles well polished. No sick parade till 11.30."

"I know the stunt," said Jack, "so I'll give you all the dinkum oil. Birdie's coming to inspect us. 'Twill be promenade pour la trenches at the tout suite."

"I'll be back in a jiff, Jack. I'm off to

the officers' baths. Must have a shower; there will be none of the heads round there now."

So off I ran. One Digger had evidently beaten me round, and I could hear him vigorously scrubbing and scraping as I entered the bathroom.

"D— cold this morning," I remarked.

"How's the water?"

"Tres bon; warm as toast," was the reply.

"I'll have to stick a pin in myself," I continued. "Old Birdie's coming round to inspect us this morning. Just as well there's none of the knuts around. Wouldn't old Birdie roar if he nabbed a man in the officers' baths! Look, Dig," I went on, "Some of these flamin' heads get right on my onion. Wonder if Birdie had his bath this morning? Guess he wouldn't like this; the flamin' thing's running cold. Think I'll hop it and do a break for the hut."

Hurriedly I wiped, and, pulling on my breeks and overcoat, I made for the door.

"Hold hard, Dig!" replied the other.

Good heavens! I saw comets and meteors, to say nothing of stars, as, stepping from the bathroom. I beheld no other than the General himself.

"Hurry up, Dig," he said with a smile,

"or you will be late for parade."

I did hurry—make no error.

Birdwood, like Cortez and Napoleon knew how to get the most out of men by a personal appeal. The Diggers, even when responding enthusiastically, were acute enough to see the pill through the sugar coating, and summed up the position in the following parody on a well-known hymn:—

Birdie loves us, this we know,
For he often tells us so;
He can kid to you and me—
He could kid us up a tree.
Yes, Birdie loves us,
Yes, Birdie loves us,
Yes, Birdie loves us—
And we love Birdie, too!

The real bushman knows only two types of men—the one he calls by his Christian name, and the other he addresses as "mister." General Birdwood met such a man in a billeting area, and, after some conversation, inquired after the man's relatives. The Digger replied: "Dad's been pretty crook, Mr Birdwood, but mother's keeping up wonderfully. An' how's all your lot, Mr Birdwood?"

General Birdwood was one day passed by an Australian Digger, who did not salute him. Stopping, the General remarked: "I know you Diggers do not like saluting, and, of course, it does not matter to me; I'm only a General. But it is worth while your getting into the habit for the sake of these young second lieutenants. They don't like to be ignored.

After a big strafe Hun prisoners, pending removal to a compound, were frequently used in the line for fatigue work, including stretcher-bearing. On one of these occasions General Birdwood happened to be near the regimental aid post which adjoined battalion headquarters. Noticing two Boche prisoners bringing in a wounded Digger the General hastened over to pass a few kindly words to the man on the stretcher. But the Digger, with a grim smile on his face, looked up and exclaimed: "There's nothing doing, sir; I've been through 'em both."

Told me by General Birdwood himself. He was moving around the batteries up forward, greeting all and sundry. Near one battery, which was somewhat busy at the moment, he noticed a Digger loafing around, apparently doing less than nothing.

"Good morning. How are you?"

"Good morning sir, sir. Very well, sir."

"What— Oh, I see!" (noticing the bird's colour patches), "you don't belong to this battery?"

"No, sir, I'm visiting here."

"Oh, just up to see a cobbler, I suppose?"

Pause. "Well, ye-e-es; only; another meditative pause—of course, I wouldn't have used the term myself."

THE CHEMIST'S SURPRISE.

A man wearing a long countenance walked into a chemist's shop the other day for advice.

"I seem," he said, "to have something queer inside me."

"What are your symptoms?" said the chemist.

"About every quarter of an hour something seems to rise up inside and then settle back again."

The chemist scratched his head and meditated awhile.

"Look here," he said at last, "you haven't gone and swallowed a lift, have you, by any chance?"

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THE TOILER'S SERENADE.

(By M. Farrah.)

("Man goeth forth unto his work
until the evening.")—Ps. 104).

Day has been long since the morning
hour

Waked you from slumber deep;

Night comes at last, with a dream for
dower,

Sleep, weary mortal, sleep!

Heart, you are wounded with aching
scars,

Hands, you have toiled your best;

Night draws her curtain, brodered with
stars

Rest, striving mortal, rest!

Over Life's highway your feet of late

Followed the fairy gleam;

Healing and hope in the darkness wait,

Dream, foolish mortal, dream!

Safe from earth's sorrow, and pain, and
pride,

Sleep till the dawn shall break.

Then—with a smile for what'er betide,

Wake, happy mortal, wake!

MOTURING NOTES.

CLEANING SPARK PLUGS.

Spark plugs require cleaning occasionally. The proper way is to take the plug apart and get all the black, carbonized oil and dirt away from the junction of metal and porcelain. The porcelain must not be roughened with sandpaper or a file, as this makes it more likely than before to accumulate carbon. The points should be brightened with emery cloth, and the rest of the plug be treated with petrol and a brush.

ATTRIBUTES OF PETROL.

Most motorists will be surprised to hear that a very light petrol, of, say, .690 gravity, is not necessarily the best. A low specific gravity means ready evaporation, and this involves great difficulties in storage, transport, and safety. Also the higher the specific gravity, the higher is the calorific value; that is, the heat evolved on burning unit weight of the substance. Petrol consists of a number of compounds of carbon and hydrogen, and the higher the gravity, the greater becomes the proportion of hydrogen, but the heat of combustion of hydrogen is over four times that of carbon—a fact which may help to explain this phenomenon.

CAR-TRACK DRIVING.

One of the biggest abuses solid tyres are subjected to is the practice of car-track riding, according to an official of a prominent rubber company. Aside from the element of danger attending skids from contact with the frogs and switches of street car tracks the premature depreciation of a tyre is certain, because of the abnormal strain on a small section of the tyre. When on the tracks most of the load is concentrated on a limited portion of the tread, so that it is overloaded and quickly worn away; besides a sharp pointed frog may actually cut out a piece of the tyre just as a knife would, this action being aggravated when the rails and rubber are wet.

FREAK HILL-CLIMBING.

An amazing variation of methods of negotiating abnormal surfaces and gradients is to be observed in the motor-cycle hill-climbing tests so popular at Home. In one of the tests (says the "Motor Cycle"), the hill concerned was one of some severity, with a very loose and moist surface. The majority of the side-car outfits failed through wheel slip, resulting from rushing tactics. One or two old hands climbed steadily, avoiding the loose crown of the road and selecting firmer ground at the side. The engine must be kept turning over at a moderate rate, well within its power. Undue acceleration and knocking are alike to be avoided. Solo failures mostly resulted from too great a speed. The old hands climbed steadily and slowly, wrists braced, feet on footboards, and eyes selecting the firm places.

FUEL ECONOMISING DEVICE.

The chief disadvantage of the majority of extra air inlets is that they leak when closed, sometimes causing erratic running at low speeds, and difficulty in starting. An English inventor now claims to have eliminated air leaks and to have introduced a new method of control (says the "Autocar"). Such fittings are usually controlled by lever on the steering column, and drivers often fail to get the best results. This new extra air inlet is operated by a pedal, placed adjacent to the accelerator, which is opened by pressing the foot sideways. On removing the foot the extra air device automatically closes, and it is impossible to leave it open. The inner portion is clipped to the inlet pipe, and round it a sleeve rotates, carrying the balls and springs, which are displaced from their seatings as the sleeve is moved. These balls, when seated, prevent any leakage of air which may penetrate between the fixed and rotating portions of the device. Very little effort is required to operate the valve, since it has not to work against the suction of the engine.

Reference is made in Weddell's review of the frozen meat trade in 1919 to the New Zealand legislation to control the operations of foreign firms in the Dominion. Whether or not the American traders will accept the position which the New Zealand Government seeks to establish, says the Review, remains to be seen; but this legislation marks an important step forward in the attempts being made in various parts of the world to impose some effective check on the ever-growing menace of what is known as the "Beef Trust."



HORTICULTURE.

The weather changes of last week or two have just been such as to make us feel that we are in that period that makes the amateur gardener realize that there is just a little gap as it were between autumn and winter, during which we must hurry up and prepare for winter conditions.

The days are short, many mornings, evenings, and half holidays are unfit for the particular little job we intend doing, and these are just the little misses that often result in things being left over till spring, that ought to be done in autumn. Transplanting of small seedlings of annuals, etc., and newly rooted layers or cuttings must be done in time to make at least some new roots before the frosts overtake us otherwise so many will be turned out by the frost and die, that it will be wiser to leave them till spring.

Many of the self-sown annuals that can now be seen in our borders will not stand the winter, and are thus not worth transplanting, but there are numbers of nice little plants of hardy kinds of annuals as well as biennials and perennials that are worth picking out and transplanting, and which will make strong plants for early flowering. The large yellow coreopsis drummondii (or grandiflora), in particular should be saved for early flowering, also geums, anchusa, wallflowers, and don't forget the double arabis alpina, which can still be divided and is sure to delight with its masses of pure white flowers in spikes like small stocks. Cerastium with its small whitish leaves now, and throughout the winter, and later its snow white flowers is always charming. Cut out and clean out the crowns of gypsophila paniculata and fork round the plants as slugs are particularly fond of it, and if shelter is left for them, will take all the strong early shoots as soon as they appear above the ground, and although the plants will come on again, they are much retarded and a dense weaker growth takes place. Watch helioborus also as they are now coming on, the dwarf white niger is greatly improved if provided with a glass topped covering of some sort, particularly if the flowers are wanted for cutting as is usually the case. The oriental varieties, particularly the white hybrids make magnificent plant if grown in deep soil with plenty of shelter, say, near a fence facing east and will bloom all through winter and spring, single specimens will grow three feet across and two feet high, with immense foliage and scores of bloom stems each giving a dozen or more blooms in succession. Don't delay your ordering, particularly roses and shrubs, and be ready for them when they arrive. What you have to do will of course depend greatly whether you are planting new beds or simply replenishing. Some varieties make very good border plants and can be used with nice effect where they are suitable spots, but the greatest satisfaction can only be got from separate beds and proper cultivation and pruning, cutting the plants well back each year. Dwarf growing and small rooting plants can well be grown in the rose beds and by covering the surface and keeping it cool, are beneficial to the roses, particularly in hot and dry seasons. Pansies and violas are particularly suited both by their top and root growth and their colours which all harmonise with the various art colours of the roses, even the yellow of pansies and violas which however need not to be used if there is a desire to avoid everything approaching a primary colour. There are also various annuals such as phlox drummondii, etc., which can be used with good effect by selecting the colours used, or if the bed has a hedge or wall at its back some long spurred aquilegias can be grown with excellent effect towards the back, as with such beds the best effect is got by growing the bushes of the back row or rows to a greater height than those in front which is purely a matter of pruning. When your plants arrive they will not be pruned. Don't prune them but put them in just as they are, except perhaps to shorten some of the longest stems for convenience, as they will do better if the pruning is delayed until new roots have been formed.

Doronicum is an extremely useful thing which should be planted now so that its large yellow marguerite like flowers with their long stems should come in just as the daffodils are over, and if cut back as soon as their first blooms are over they will later on give quite a good second blooming. Unfortunately in most gardens quite a number of useless things and poor

varieties of desirable things are retained from year to year, where the space might just as well be occupied by good varieties. Take a look round and get rid of rubbish, for instance don't let any old useless rose occupy a space where you might have something good and delightful. How frequently the old useless montbretia potii is seen in large clumps where some of the lovely new varieties might just as well be grown. How much better to have some of the cactus dahlias, lovely in colour and beautiful in form, than dense ugly coloured things so often seen, and the same rule can be applied to so many things, and wondrous changes made at very little expense, such as pansies, polyanthus, auriculas, wallflowers, sweetwilliams, antirrhums, all of which have been so improved as to gain quite a new popularity.

GARDEN NOTES.

SHELTER HEDGES.

In town, unless the section is very large, there is not room for a shelter of tall forest trees, and hedges of various kinds have to be provided, and if the situation is very exposed it may be necessary to have several dividing hedges in addition to one round the margin and in addition to providing shelter, a hedge, if well kept, looks well, and it can be worked in as part of the landscape effect.

The site for a hedge should be well and deeply trenched, about two to three feet wide, and from two to three feet and a-half deep, a very liberal dressing of stable manure being worked in to encourage rapid growth during the first few years. Good drainage is also essential, more hedges perish through too much water than too little, and the healthy appearance of the hedges in and around Dunedin, after three months of dry weather, is ample proof of this fact. Drainage can be provided by laying a drain pipe along the bottom of the trench with the necessary fall and outlet, or, if the hedge is up on a bank, openings can be made at intervals. The best hedge of all is the holly, and though it is often considered to be a slow grower, when the soil is well prepared and liberally manured it soon comes on, though it cannot compete with some of the olearias. Well-grown plants should be put in two feet apart, and although the sides can be clipped in from time to time the tops should not be stepped until they have reached their maximum growth. A newly planted holly hedge often looks very bad for the first year or so, if the plants have not been transplanted regularly while in the nursery, but if the leaves fall off they will recover all right in time. Olearia Forsteri is a very popular hedge, and there is little wonder, for it is so very accommodating. It thrives equally well in pure sand and well-drained clay, it will stand up to the salt-laden south-west winds, it grows rapidly, is easy to cut, and always looks well. It can be planted from 18 inches to two feet apart for an ordinary hedge, but if very high growth is desired three feet will be close enough. Olearia Traversii is a faster grower than O. Forsteri, and when shelter is required quickly it should be planted, but it never looks as well as O. Forsteri. Macrocarpa makes a good hedge when allowed to grow for an ordinary height, but it is not suitable for an ordinary low town hedge, and is hard to clip. Other hedge plants are Escalonia macranthe, which is very suitable for the seaside, Berberis, Darwinii, Privet, Laurel, Box Thorn, Elaeagnus, and Cupressus Lawsoniana. Occasionally it is desirable to have a deciduous hedge which will provide shade and shelter during the summer and allow the sun to get in during the winter, and, as the ordinary thorn is not desirable the most suitable is Hornbeam or beech. Where high shelter is required there is no better tree than the Pinus radiata (Insignis). It grows very rapidly, stands up to the strongest winds, and whether planted in single rows, double rows, half chain or chain wide strips, it is very effective. Cupressus macrocarpa also provides excellent shelter, and will stand a certain amount of pruning to keep it in shape, but it does not transplant well, and it is better to get balled plants if they are to be had. Pinus muricata makes a fine shelter belt, and as it is harder than either the Pinus insignis or macrocarpa it can be planted in districts where these would be damaged by frosts. Cupressus Lawsoniana and Menzies spruce also make good shelter belts, but neither grow as rapidly as the pines.

When planting shelter belts the most suitable distance apart is from 4ft to 6ft. Holes should be dug about a foot square and 18 inches deep, and when planting place the tree against one side of the hole and tramp the soil firmly; it can hardly be too firm.

RETURNED SOLDIERS.

MEETING OF ASSOCIATION.

MR W. PERRY ELECTED CHAIRMAN IN A CLOSE POLL.

The annual general meeting of the Wellington Returned Soldiers' Association, which was held in the concert chamber of the Town Hall last night, was distinguished by two things—the size of the attendance, and the lively and good-humoured interest manifested by the members in the business considered, and even though those present were about equally divided in their support of the two candidates who were seeking election to the position of chairman, not a discordant note was struck. Mr A. B. Sievwright, proposed by Mr A. Kyle and seconded by Mr J. O'Sullivan, and Mr W. Perry, proposed by Captain W. Hardham, V.C., and seconded by Mr R. Collins, were the candidates, and in a remarkably close contest, victory went to Mr Perry by 280 votes against the 266 polled by his opponent.

In calling on Mr Perry to take the chair, Mr A. Curayne, vice-chairman, expressed the hope that the members had found the right man for the position. They looked to him, he said, and hopefully, to see that the association was made a real live body in the future.

Mr Perry congratulated Mr Sievwright on the closeness of the poll. He was very glad to see such a large attendance, as it indicated that the members were taking a keen interest in the affairs of the association. The position he had undertaken was no light one, but he would try to carry out the trust given him, and he felt that in his efforts he would have the hearty support of all members.

Congratulations were extended to the new chairman by Mr Sievwright. He said the close vote showed that the members wanted a progressive policy, because his platform and that of Mr Perry's were practically identical. Even though he was defeated, the association would not lose his services, because he intended to render every assistance in his power. They should adopt a national policy with national ideals; and so get on the road of progress. That was the policy for which all returned soldiers should stand.

Mr Sievwright and Mr J. D. Harper were then nominated for the position of vice-chairman, and the ensuing poll resulted in favour of Mr Sievwright by 312 votes to 205.

Other officers elected were:—Hon. treasurer, Mr T. Jones; hon. solicitor, Mr T. Neave; auditors, Messrs Watkins Hull, Hunt, and Wheeler.

"TEN MINUTES' HALT."

It was early in September, Sunday evenin' I remember;
We'd been trampin' all the day long an'
our skins was sweatin' salt.
We was weary with the marchin' an'
our tongues was dry an' parchin'
When we fell out by the roadside for
the old ten minutes' halt.

She was young and she was slender,
an' her smile was kind an' tender,
When I saw 'er in the sunshine there
a-lookin' down at me.

I was lyin' there an' dozin, and I gazed
at 'er as she posin'
She was jist the kind of dream-stuff
that a fella Tommy'd see.

So she stood a minute waitin', lips apart
an' hesitin'
Then she spoke up softly, "Would the
Angels S. that wish to drink?"
I was weary, I was thirsty; huskily I
murmured "Merci"
As I took the jug she held, an' set my
lips agen its brink.

It was "Packs on" then an' "Fall in,"
but I eard 'er voice a-callin'.
As we limped along the dusty road
"Bonne chance, Monsieur! Bonne
chance!"
Now I ain't a chap wot's flighty (I've a
wife and kids in Blighty),
But I guess I shan't forget that gal,
that damsel of France.

The executive of the R.S.F.U. begins the 1920 season with the good wishes and with the respect of a great number of lovers of the good old game of rugby. This body, which controls the football of a very wide area, has opened its deliberations and has already set its mark on the football of Southland, the prints will be for the gathering. In three matters it has shown itself composed of a majority of officers, who are ahead of club considerations and petty interests, motives too often clogging the wheel of football progress in other centres as badly as in Southland.

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£600 DEPOSIT for a handy little Dairy Farm in the Winton district, consisting of 140 acres freehold; 40 acres bush, 10 acres ploughed, balance stumps and grass. Comfortable three-roomed cottage, three-stall stable, trap shed, etc. Rail and factory three miles by good road. Price for quick sale, £14 per acre.

LOOK AT THIS! 76 Acres, Otatara. About seven acres bush, balance grass. New four-roomed house, 10-stalled cowbyre stable, etc. Factory and school 1½ miles. Price £33 10s per acre.

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CEREMONY AT WOODLANDS.

SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL UNVEILED.

The unveiling ceremony of the Wood-
lands district soldiers' memorial was per-
formed on Wednesday afternoon in the
presence of a representative gathering.

Mr R. M. Hewitt presided at the func-
tion and expressed pleasure at seeing such
a large gathering present, and said that
he hoped the full meaning of the cere-
mony would impress itself upon the minds
of the school children, who were lined
up round the monument. He then called
upon Mr G. J. Anderson, M.P. for Ma-
taura, to perform the unveiling ceremony.

Mr Anderson first apologised for the
absence of the late Minister of Defence,
Sir James Allen, whose departure from
New Zealand made it impossible for him
to be present to unveil the memorial, as
was hoped he would have been able to
do. In asking him to perform the cere-
mony in Sir James's stead, he felt that one
of the greatest possible honours had been
conferred upon him. In the tremendous
sacrifice of men and money that the war
had caused, New Zealand had borne her
full share. A total of over 99,000 men
had been sent overseas, and when the arm-
istice was signed there were 12,000 in
camp, representing in all 10 per cent. of
our population. Amongst the men sent
out, the Woodlands district had contrib-
uted its quota, and they had worthily up-
held the noblest traditions of our race.

Some of them had returned, and were pre-
sent that day. But there were others
who would not return, and they honoured
their memories, and extended sympathy
to their relatives. He believed that every
district should have its memorial if
possible, for in that way the sacrifice of
their men would be lastingly recorded.
Such monuments would impress upon
the children of this generation the mean-
ing of their sacrifice, and teach them
the real meaning of patriotism, which was
the first duty that they owed to their
country. He hoped that the final out-
come of the war, the result of which was
still evident in the chaotic condition of
Europe and other countries would tend
towards the uplifting of humanity, and
the general improvement of conditions all
over the world. If such were the case,
then the sacrifices of the terrible struggle
would not have been in vain. Individual
effort and sacrifice were the only things
that would bring about a better state of
affairs. No sacrifice that they might
make in civil life could equal the sacrifice
made on the fields of France and Fland-
ers, and it remained for them and for the
children who were to be the future citi-
zens of New Zealand, to make those ho-
roic sacrifices worth while.

Mr Anderson then formally unveiled the
memorial, after which a short Scripture
reading and prayer were read by the
Rev. Wedderspoon. A firing party of 12
returned men of the district, under the
command of Captain Bell, then fired a
volley, and the "Last Post" was sound-
ed by Bandsman Rex Willis.

His Worship the Mayor (Mr John
Stead), who was present by invitation,
was the next speaker, and he expressed
the hope that every country district would
erect its own memorial. He touched briefly
on the war, of the suffering and misery
it had caused, and of the magnificent re-
sponse that the men of the Dominion
had made to the call, and, in concluding,
congratulated Woodlands on its fine me-
morial, which was a credit to the build-
ers, and also to the district.

Chaplain-Captain Gilbert and Mr Hall-
Jones, who were present as representatives
of the Returned Soldiers' Association, also
spoke briefly. Capt. Gilbert said that he
hoped that while the children might for-
get what was said on that occasion, they
would never forget what their men had
done. The best monument that they would
have would be the cherished memory in
the hearts and homes of those who had
sent them. But when this generation
had passed it would be good to have a
monument that would awaken memories
of the sacrifices of those whom they held
in honour. He hoped that while we hon-
oured the dead, we would not forget those
who had come back maimed and disabled,
and needed our assistance. "May we
all be worthy of their sacrifices," he con-
cluded. "Nothing better than that could
be wished for."

Mr Hall-Jones addressed his few remarks
to the children, impressing upon them
that those whose memories they held in
reverence had died in order that the heri-
tage of freedom which they enjoyed might
be handed down to the generations of the
future.

Mr Maurice Thompson, representing the
War Funds Association, and Mr A. Mar-
tin, Mayor of Gore, also spoke briefly,
after which the simple, yet impressive
ceremony, was concluded by the singing
of the National Anthem.

The Chairman, in a few words, thanked
the speakers for their attendance and as-
sistance, and also, on behalf of the Com-
mittee, conveyed to the builders their sin-
cere appreciation of their work, which
would be a standing tribute to their hon-
esty and ability.

The monument is a handsome edifice, in
concrete and plaster. The base is
square, with four pillars, and on each
side there is a buttress on which a me-
dallion (war trophy), will be mounted.

The cap is surmounted by a figure of
a soldier, skilfully sculptured out of a
concrete block. There are four large
marble slabs inset, on which are engraved
40 names, including ten killed. The
total height of the column is 33 feet, the
plot of ground being concreted and plas-
tered, and surrounded by a solid concrete
fence of fitting design. The memorial is
conspicuously placed on a corner on the
main road in the township, and could not
be better displayed. It was erected en-
tirely by Messrs J. Fraser and Co., of
Invercargill, being designed and the figure
sculptured by Mr A. D. Anderson, a
member of the firm.

School Roll of Honour.

The Roll of Honour at the Woodlands
School was also unveiled early in the after-

noon by Mr J. C. Thomson, Chairman of
the Southland Education Board, in the
presence of the school children and num-
bers of parents and friends. Mr J. D.
Trotter presided, and other speakers were
the Mayor of Invercargill (Mr Jno.
Stead), Mr G. J. Anderson, M.P., Mr
Martin (Mayor of Gore), and Mr Lear-
mouth, the schoolmaster. The Roll of
Honour contains the names of 53 men, of
whom, thirteen made the supreme sacri-
fice.

ROD & GUN.

The annual meeting of the Southland
Acclimatisation Society was held on Tues-
day last.

Judging by the balance-sheet the year
has been a very good one financially. The
sale of game and fishing licenses being
record for the Society.

It is to be regretted the liberation of
fry was so small, only 170,000 being dis-
posed of in the various rivers as under:—
Makarewa, 50,000; Oreti, 30,000; Apari-
ma, 30,000; Otatau, 20,000; Orawia,
20,000; Otapiri, 20,000.

In former years these figures were
doubled, and in some cases trebled.

Anglers and sportsmen in general should
assist the Society whenever possible par-
ticularly in regard to poaching. Any in-
formation imparted to either the president
or ranger will be treated as strictly confi-
dential.

The election of office-bearers resulted
as follows:—President, Mr A. H. Stock;
vice-presidents, Messrs G. I. Moffett and
E. Rabbidge; council, Messrs Eustace
Russell, C. W. Wilson, R. Sloan, E. R.
Crofts, E. Keast, J. M. Watson, G. F.
Strang, D. L. Poppelwell, J. Perry, F.
Young, R. Fisher, W. J. P. Hodgkins,
J. Gilkison, and Dr. Ritchie Crawford;
auditor, Mr James Hunter.

It is reported that a local stalker se-
cured a 17 pointer in the Hump district
about a fortnight ago.

Two stalkers from North Island were
successful in the Lilburn, each securing
two heads.

One of the Stewart Island parties has
returned not having had very much luck.
The other party remained on the Island
in quest of a large head which had been
seen, reported to be a 20 pointer.

The shooting season opens locally on
Saturday next, 1st May, and lasts till
31st July. The following game may be
shot in Southland:—Black swan, grey
duck, spoonbill and hares, the latter on
payment of a license fee of £1.

It is a great pity paradise ducks are
not open for at least one month as they
are reported to be very plentiful in the
Lakes district. They are even to be seen
on the local prison farm.

Apparently the Minister concerned does
not take very much notice of recommen-
dations from acclimatisation societies who
are in a much better position to judge
as to whether the game are plentiful or
not.

ENGLISH HISTORY.

The Roman threw us a road, a road,
And signalled and strolled away;
The Saxon gave us a raid, a raid,
A raid that came to stay.
The Dane went West, but the Dane con-
fessed

That he went a bit too far:
And we all became, by another name,
The Imperial race we are.

The Imperial race, the inscrut-
able race,
The invincible race we are.

Tho' Sussex hills are bare, are bare,
And Sussex weald is wide,
From Chichester to Chester
Men saw the Norman ride;

He threw his sword in the air and sang
To a sort of a light guitar;
It was all the same, for we all became
The identical nobles we are.

The identical nobles, individual nobles,
Unmistakable nobles we are.

O Warwick woods are green, are green,
But Warwick trees can fall;
And Birmingham grew so big, so big,
And Stratford stayed so small;

And the hooster howled to the morning
lark
That sang to the morning star;

And we all became in Freedom's name
The fortunate chaps we are.

The fortunate chaps, felicitous
chaps,
The fairy-like chaps we are.

The people they left the land, the land,
But they went on working hard,
And the village green that had gone
mis-laid

Turned up in the squire's backyard;
But twenty men of us all got work
On a bit of his motor-car;

And we all became, with the world's
acclaim,
The marvellous mugs we are.

The marvellous mugs, miraculous
mugs
The mystical mugs we are.

NIGHTCAPS.

On Wednesday a football match was
played between Winton and the local
club. The result was a win for the vis-
itors. There were a great number of
people watching the game. Mr Bert Lee
met with a slight accident to his knee,
which prevented him from going to work
for a few days.

There was no special parade of return-
ed men on Anzac Day, but the local
clergymen preached appropriate sermons.
The Rev. G. Crockett was unable to at-
tend the Presbyterian service through ill-
health. Mr T. H. McLean of Birchwood,
occupied the pulpit, taking for his sub-
ject, "Freedom." The keynote of the
service being that our men had fought for
temporal freedom, which was worthy of
our recognition, but how much more wor-
thy was spiritual freedom. The door to
which was opened when the great sacri-
fice was offered up at Calvary.

The Nightcaps Coal Company have cir-
cularised customers that the price of coal
has advanced 2s 6d per ton on trucks and
3s at the tip head. The miners have been
granted 50 per cent bonus, and the shift
men 60 per cent. The miners state there
is no reason for the rise in price to the
public.

Now Nightcaps, the "Digger" is inter-
ested in your local doings and wonders
why the band was unable to get a meet-
ing. You know the band is a very neces-
sary thing and fulfils a very important
part in local affairs. In view of this it
should receive your support. Our advice
to the band is to start playing about
1 o'clock in the morning and you will be
sure to be taken notice of. We note the
band is running quadrilles and are start-
ing with a ball. We wonder if anyone will
turn up.

The Otatau "Farmer," states that the
Nightcaps Entertainment Society has been
at loggerheads with the local branch of
the War Funds Association over the
amount collected by the former from their
last entertainment. The amount is stated
to be about £16. The War Funds As-
sociation has been asked to close its ac-
count, and it wants the money held by
the Entertainment Society so as to wind
up matters. The matter in dispute is the
question of how the money is to be spent.
The Entertainment Society maintains that
the War Funds Association can only use
the money raised by them for the object
for which it was raised, i.e., soldiers'
medals. There are quite a number of re-
turned men who received no medals, but
received cheques of more than double the
value of a medal, but the Entertainment
Society has taken exception to this, and
will not give up the proceeds of their last
concert. On Friday evening the members
of the branch of the War Funds Associa-
tion asked the members of the lesser so-
ciety to meet them, and see what could be
done. Mr Jas. Grant, senr., was in the
chair. A lively meeting was the result,
both sides maintaining that they could
manage their own affairs. One member
of the Association wanted to put the mat-
ter into the hands of a solicitor, and,
after much talk and heated debate, the
Entertainment Society were allowed a
little time in which to think the matter
over before the Association takes any
legal steps to recover the amount due.
Some time ago a deputation from this
concert party met the members of the
War Funds Association over this very
matter—medals versus cheques for return-
ed men—and the matter was considered
settled, and that the moneys so raised
could be used by the War Funds Associa-
tion at their discretion, but the matter
now seems to be in dispute again, the
concert party denying that this conclu-
sion had been come to.

Nightcaps has no medical officer, but
has its V.A.D. workers, who render good
service in cases of sickness. The removal
of one of these workers from the Flat is
causing dissatisfaction as the Morley
Village or the Flat have to come to the
township if they want assistance. There
are now two V.A.D.'s resident in Night-
caps and the doctor visits once a week.
Now Nightcaps where is your Medical As-
sociation, and what are they doing in
not seeing that adequate provision is
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Day, at that, he muzzled 26 head of
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SHORT STORIES.

THE DRUTE.
The other day a woman entered the office of—and asked him to be her lawyer in a divorce case. She said she had been married only a day.
"Married only a day, and you want a divorce?" gasped—incredulously.
"Yes," insisted the woman, and explained:
"When my husband came home from the office I was crying. He asked me why, and I said:
"Oh, John, I baked a lovely cake and put it out on the porch for the frosting to dry, and the dog ate it."
"And John said, 'Don't cry, dear, I know a man who will give us another dog.'"

LATEST SCHOOL "HOWLERS."
"Pompeii was destroyed by an eruption from the Vatican."
"The Gorgons were three sisters that looked like women, only more horrible."
"Edward the Third would have been King of France if his mother had been a man."
"Benjamin Franklin produced electricity by rubbing cats backward."
"George Washington married Mary Curtis, and in due time became the father of his country."
"A deacon is the lowest kind of Christian."
"An ibex is where you look in the back part of the book when you want to find anything that is printed in the front part of the book."

A MATTER OF SPELLING.
A capital story in "The Dover Patrol," Admiral Bacon's much-talked-of book, concerns a sailor who was taken ill with a bad attack of rheumatism while mine-sweeping on a trawler.
The sick man was promptly ordered to hospital, but later on the doctor found out, quite by accident, that he was still on board ship.
Angrily he asked why his order had not been obeyed.
"Well," replied the captain, "we tried to send him ashore, but a sergeant of police hailed us and said that on no account was he to be landed or we'd be fined £100 so we just kept him on board."
"But did you not signal to the depot, as I said?"
"Yes, we did; but neither me nor the signalman knew how to spell rheumatism, so we called it small-pox."

GETTING TIRED.
A Scottish minister on arriving at his church one Sunday morning found that he had thoughtlessly left his sermon behind him at the manse. He was somewhat upset, as the congregation were all assembled and waiting, and the manse happened to be some distance away. He summoned the beadle, a most important functionary, and directed him to give out to the congregation the tremendously long 119th Psalm, which they might sing, while he hurried back to the manse for his sermon. The minister waited to hear them start the psalm and then rushed off to the manse as hard as he could go.
He got his sermon, and on his return saw the faithful beadle standing at the door and waving his arm as a signal to make haste. The minister arrived breathless. "Are they still singing, John?" he gasped out.
"Aye, sir," replied the beadle, "they're at it yet; but they're jist cheepin' awa' like wee mice."

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