

# THE DIGGER

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## THE REAR-GUARD.

Groping along the tunnel, step by step,  
He winked his prying torch with patch-  
ing glare  
From side to side, and sniffed the un-  
wholesome air.  
Tins, boxes, bottles, shapes too vague  
to know,  
A mirror smashed, the mattress from a  
bed;  
And he exploring fifty feet below  
The rosy gloom of battle overhead.  
Tripping, he grabbed the wall; saw  
someone lie  
Humped at his feet, half-hidden by a  
rug,  
And stooped to give the sleeper's arm a  
tug.  
"I'm looking for Headquarters." No  
reply.  
"God blast your neck!" (For days he'd  
had no sleep).  
"Get up and guide me through this  
stinking place."  
Savage he kicked a soft, unanswering  
heap,  
And flashed his beam across the livid  
face  
Terribly glaring up, whose eyes yet wore  
Agony dying hard ten days before;  
And fists of fingers clutched a blacken-  
ing wound.  
Alone he staggered on until he found  
Dawn's ghost that filtered down a shaft-  
ed stair  
To the dazed, muttering creatures un-  
derground  
Who hear the boom of shells in muffled  
sound.  
At last, with sweat of horror in his  
hair,  
He climbed through darkness to the twi-  
light air,  
Unloading hell behind him step by step.  
WIRERS.  
"Pass it along, the wiring party's going  
out!"—  
And yawning sentries mumble, "Wires  
going out."  
Unravelling; twisting hammering stakes  
with muffled thud,  
They toil with stealthy haste and anger  
in their blood.  
The Poche sends up a flare. Black  
forms stand rigid there,  
Stock-still like posts; then darkness, and  
the clumsy ghosts  
Stride hither and thither, whispering,  
Tripped by clutching snare of snags and  
tangles.  
Ghastly dawn vaporous coasts  
Gleams desolate along the sky, night's  
misery ended.  
Young Hughes was badly hit; I heard  
him carried away,  
Moaning at every lurch; no doubt he'll  
die to-day.  
But we can say the front-line wire's  
been safely mended.

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# OUT OF THE SHADOWS.

Moreton Grant, his face set in lines of grim determination, stood regarding a pretty, poorly clad girl, who sat upon a settee clasping a child in her arms.

The girl's face was pale and she was labouring under the stress of deep emotion as the man spoke.

"I believe I was always a just and reasonable father to you, and you had everything a girl could wish for," he said. "I tried to persuade you not to marry a penniless engineer, but you persisted in your madness. And now, because you realise you have made a mistake, you have come home to me!"

"Father, you know that is not true," returned Irene Lorne. "I love Jack with all my heart, and all that we have endured has only served to strengthen the bonds between us. It is not Jack's fault that his health has broken down after these years of war strain, and that he has lost his position in the firm. Then baby came, and things have gone from bad to worse."

Sobs rose in her throat and threatened to choke her, but she struggled on bravely.

"For baby's sake, I have smothered my pride, and come to ask you if you will do something to get Jack into a berth," she told him. "He is quite fit again now, but I cannot answer for him if he is out of employment much longer."

"Well, you have my answer; I refuse to do anything to help this worthless husband of yours!" declared the father grimly.

"You refuse, even though you could give Jack a position in your own business to-morrow!" cried the girl bitterly. "And you consider that just—because I have dared to marry the man I love. And because of your pride, you will allow your own child and grandchild to starve rather than give way."

She rose from the settee and moved slowly towards the door. At the door she paused, and, as she did so, Moreton Grant called her back.

"One moment, Irene," he said sharply, in the same hard tones. "I have one suggestion to make to you before you go. I cannot forget you are my daughter, although you have deceived and defied me. If you will leave this man who has ruined your life and never see him again, you and your child may come home to me, and, surrounded by every luxury, you will soon forget the greatest mistake of your life."

"Leave Jack—leave my husband!" stammered Irene incredulously.

"That is exactly what I mean!" returned Moreton Grant. "Upon those terms only will I consent to take you back as my daughter."

"It is a cowardly proposition!" exclaimed the girl hotly. "Life spent apart from my husband would not be worth living, and I would suffer poverty in all its sordidness than part from the man I love!"

Her outburst left Moreton Grant absolutely unmoved. Clasping his hands behind his back, he stood before the mantelpiece and watched the girl closely. He saw her move again to the door and he made no attempt to prevent her from passing out.

Not until the door had closed behind her did he give the slightest sign that the interview had had any effect upon him, and then he sank into an armchair and a deep sigh escaped him.

"It's hard to hold out against her pleadings!" he muttered brokenly. "But I am her father, and she should not have defied me!"

Unaware that her father had been impressed at all by her sad plight, Irene Lorne hurried to the two shabby little rooms where she lived.

An hour later, Jack Lorne returned from an all-day search for work. It needed but one glance at his white, wan face to tell Irene how the search had resulted, and she refrained from questioning him.

"Cheer up, dear old man," murmured the girl bravely. "Our luck is bound to turn soon."

"Everything seems so hopeless, little girl," answered the man in a tone of despair. "It doesn't matter about me, it's the thought of you and baby; that's what makes it so hard. Sometimes the remem-

brance of what I have brought you to nearly drives me to desperation!"

The girl slipped her arms around his neck and pressed her face against his.

"Hush, dear; you mustn't talk like that. If I had the choice again, I would do exactly as I did before," she murmured. "And while we are together nothing is too hard to bear."

"God bless you little girl, you are the truest little wife a man ever had," he answered brokenly.

There was a moment's pause, and then the girl spoke again.

"Jack, dear, I do hope you won't be angry with me," she began. "But I went to see my father to-day."

"I would not have gone, only I thought it was for the best," went on Irene Lorne quickly. "I thought he might use his influence to obtain a situation for you; but he refused. Not only that, but he so far forgot himself as to make a suggestion that was both cowardly and insulting."

Jack's grip tightened on her arm.

"Go on," he said grimly.

"He—he said that he would look after baby and me for good—if I would promise to leave you and never see you again!"

The man's jaw set, and he stared away over her shoulder.

"And what did you say to that, Irene?" he asked in a voice that sounded strangely unlike his own.

"What would you expect me to say, dear?" cried the girl in surprise. "Why, I told him that under no circumstances whatever would I part from the man who meant more than life to me!"

## II.

The following morning, when Irene Lorne awoke, her husband had already left the house. This was not an unusual occurrence, for he commenced his daily search for work as soon as it was daylight. He had done so ever since the day that had followed his discharge from his previous berth.

Irene dressed herself and passed into the sitting-room. A sheet of notepaper on the table caught her eye, and she crossed to it. A puzzled expression appeared on her face as she recognised the handwriting of her husband.

"My Dear Wife,—I am going away to-day and I shall not return. I am doing this because I think it will be for the best for you and baby. Ever since the day you linked your life with mine, I have brought sorrow into your young life, and now I want you to find some of the happiness."

"Go to your father and tell him that I have gone out of your life for ever; if his promise still holds good, he can now take you back, because I shall never see you again."

"I know that you will miss me, dearest wife, for you have shown me how great your love is; but remember that you have our baby to consider, and your father's proposal means life and happiness to her."

"May Heaven bless you, little woman; I shall pray for you always."

"Your devoted husband, Jack."

As in a dream Irene Lorne allowed the message to drop to the ground, then, passing into the other room, she sank to her knees beside the tiny cot. Lifting the baby from it, she crushed the mite to her.

"Oh, my baby!" she sobbed. "Why wasn't he content to wait a little longer! Everything would have come right in time. Now—now—Oh baby, my heart is breaking!"

## III.

A year had passed, and in the garden of a large house in the western suburbs of London a man crouched among the bushes.

The man was Jack Lorne, but no one would have recognised him had he been seen. A beard covered the lower part of his face, and the upper part showed traces of the privations of hunger. His clothes, old and shabby, hung loosely over his emaciated figure.

The air was heavy and oppressive, and as he stood there a low rumble in the distance was just audible, the herald of an approaching storm.

Jack Lorne smiled grimly. It was the first time he had wavered from the straight path, but sheer desperation had driven

him to the house that night. He had not tasted food for more than twenty-four hours, and it was to obtain some that he was contemplating breaking into this quiet suburban house, standing alone in its grounds.

He did not intend to touch any money—only food; and for that he was risking his liberty.

Again the thunder roared in the heavens and this time the peal was louder than the last.

"Providence is playing into my hands," murmured Jack Lorne. "My task will be easy, for in the noise of the storm nobody will hear me."

He tied a mask across the upper part of his face, emerged from his hiding-place and made a careful survey of the rooms at the back of the house. The French windows of the library offered the best chance.

He approached them, and with a knife worked upon the catches that held the window. An experienced burglar would probably have succeeded in lifting them within a few minutes, but twenty minutes elapsed before the way was open to Jack Lorne.

Cautiously he parted the heavy curtains that hung before the windows, and stepped into the room.

Standing in the doorway was a woman, holding a revolver in her right hand.

A cry of dismay broke from the lips of Jack Lorne, and he started back.

But it was not her presence there nor the fact that she held the revolver, that caused him to cry out.

It was because Jack Lorne had recognised the woman—as his wife!

He had broken into the house of her father—the house to which, for the sake of the baby, she had gone when her husband had left her.

Jack straightened himself as the woman regarded him intently. At all costs he must prevent her from guessing his identity.

"Steady, ma'am!" he mumbled in a husky voice, which it would have been impossible to recognise as his. "Don't shoot. It's a fair cop. I never argue with guns!"

"You came to steal?" inquired the girl sternly. "From your methods I should think you were a particularly bad burglar, for even amidst the noise of the thunder I heard you at the window."

"I'm not an expert yet," returned Lorne gloomily; "and from what I can see of it now, I don't look like having much chance for practice for some time."

"Why don't you try and get honest work?" asked the girl, after a pause.

Jack Lorne could not repress a bitter smile. She ought to know as well as he did how hard it was to find work.

"I've tried hard enough, Heaven knows, but I can't get any," he answered truthfully. "There's many an honest man who has searched for work for six months or more without finding it!"

As he spoke a vivid flash of blue light tore its way across the black sky outside, and instinctively the woman drew back and closed her eyes. The stormlight was followed by a deafening clap of thunder which seemed to shake the building to its foundations.

A moment later a dull reverberating roar as of falling masonry sounded from another part of the building—then all was silence.

An expression of terror came to Irene Lorne's white face, and she swayed slightly.

Jack Lorne sprang forward, and while he supported the tottering figure, a girl clad in her nightdress burst into the room.

"The lightning!" screamed the girl.

"The top floor, ma'am!"

Irene Lorne composed herself with an effort.

"Baby—!" she gasped. "Where—where is she?"

"I was on my way to her room when—"

the lightning came and—and—the—"

Irene did not wait for the girl to finish, but darted out of the room. The man caught her up before she reached the stairs, and, thrusting her aside, commenced to ascend.

He reached the top of the flight and hurried along the long corridor, and so disappeared from the sight of Irene and the nurse.

Jack Lorne came to another flight of stairs and looked up.

The way was impassable. That part of the building was entirely wrecked by the lightning, and huge mounds of plaster and timber entirely cut off the way to the upper story.

A faint cry in the distance came to the man. It was the cry of a child.

Unsteadily he made his way back to the central hall.

"There's no chance of getting her that way!" he cried. "I must try the outside."

And, dashing through the open door, he made his way through the grounds to that part of the building which had been demolished by the lightning.

At the top part of the building on the third floor, he could see the damage done.

Three rooms had been added to the building, and they were the rooms which had been set aside for the child. Two of these had entirely disappeared, while the third remained practically untouched. It was likely to collapse at any moment.

Jack Lorne stared about him quickly; then he noticed an old tree growing close to the house. Without a moment's hesitation he ran towards it, and a second later he was lost to view among the branches.

Opposite the remaining room of the three he paused, then, with an effort, he commenced to swing backwards and forwards on the stout branch. Nearer and nearer he swung, until at last he released his hold and swung from the tree towards the window.

With a crash he landed full at the pane and a few minutes later, bleeding and torn by the glass, he picked himself up. He was inside the bedroom, and a child—his child—was sitting up in its cot looking around it in fear and alarm.

The man darted across the room, and, picking up the baby, crushed her to him.

Then, realising that any moment that part of the building might give way, he wrapped up the child in a blanket and darted to the window again.

Down below he saw a small crowd of people, but even as he appeared at the window a cry went up, and barely a minute later one of the manservants was clambering up the stout oak tree towards the window.

From branch to branch scrambled the young man until he was on a level with the window, taking from his shoulders a length of rope, he grasped one end of it in his left hand.

"Catch!" he called to the waiting man, the window at which Jack Lorne stood.

Lorne set the child down and waited. The man flung the rope and Jack Lorne caught it.

"Right! Let go!" he turned, and at once vanished from the window.

Tying the rope securely around the child, he lowered the precious baby down the front of the house.

Below a dozen hands were waiting to receive it, and the moment that he was quite sure that it was safe a profound sigh of relief escaped the unhappy father's lips.

Tied the rope around a large wardrobe.

Turning back to the room again, he standing in one corner. He crossed to the window again and as he did so he began to realise that his strength was fast failing him.

His senses were reeling, and the room seemed to be swimming around him. He was weak through want of food, and his efforts had told upon him in his feeble state.

Clutching at the rope, he lowered himself over the sill, and then, as a mist swept before his eyes, he lost his balance, and with a cry he pitched forward and fell—down—down—

When Jack Lorne opened his eyes once more his gaze fell upon the face which during the past year had ever been present in his dreams. It was the face of his beloved little wife.

For some time he laid there, and it was not until a soft kiss was imprinted on his cheek that he realised that it was indeed Irene herself, and not a dream woman who was bending over him.

"Jack dear, how glad I am that you are better at last!" she murmured. "The time has gone so slowly, and has been so full of dreadful fears. It seemed at times that you were never coming back to me out of the shadows."

"How long have I been here, dearest?" asked the man, gripping her hand which rested upon the coverlet.

"Nearly a fortnight, dear," answered the girl.

"And where am I?" went on Jack, gazing around the unfamiliar room.

"You are in the house of some friend of my father's," was the reply.

A low moan escaped the man's lips. "I didn't mean to come back; but I will go as soon as I get well enough. I owe it to your father."

Irene Lorne smiled happily.

"Dear old Jack," she whispered softly.

"I have got all sorts of good news for you. Dad will never be satisfied unless you promise never to leave us again. After you went away, dear, baby and I went to dad and from that very moment he seemed to change. I think it was baby that changed him. We advertised for you, but without success, until in the end we almost gave up hope of ever finding you again. Then came that wonderful night, when you came back—sent by Providence that you might save your own baby."

The man did not answer, for his heart was too full for words. His arm passed about his wife's shoulders, and he fell, with his face pressed against his, he fell asleep—to dream of the happiness which had come to him at last.

The end.

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By "X," in the Sydney "Mail."

Unless in secret, General Birdwood never smokes. He has never been heard to swear. He drinks so little that it would be not unjust to call him a teetotaler. No one in the A.I.F. has ever seen him angry or even excited. His calm and business are his most natural characteristics. He is instantly sensitive to an impression, and he has remarkable natural intuition. He can select men, and is free from all jealousy towards them; inside that circle of his choice he trusts all men implicitly. He has an abiding faith in the essential good of human nature, ready to believe, against any hasty conclusions, that every man does his best, more or less energetically. He has no sympathy with politicians, and quite probably does not really understand politics. The "push-and-go" sort he loathes. What he might have been in any other walk of life than the army is hard to say. The army has contributed a good deal to his character, for that has been moulded, a little here and a little there, with every years of his life. It gives a touch of youth and versatility to him even at the age of 55 years, which is saying a lot for a full General, risen by steady promotion, of the British Regular Army. Many other Sahibs—and he is still unmistakably a Sahib—have become hard and bigoted. "Birdie" could never possibly become either if he lived for a thousand years. His unflinching vocative at the opening of an address to the Australians was "Well, boys!" What he proceeded to say after that might not always have been eloquent or enlightening, or worth repeating—indeed, it was generally hard to find afterwards anything of "Birdie's" address to repeat—but he always manifested, sometimes conveying with rather too much sentimentality, perhaps, that simple, enduring affection for the "Diggers" which, even when they scoffed at it, never failed to please them. This method became easier for him as his acquaintance with them lengthened. That same genuine affection made him approachable by any man, able to talk with any man, among them; and, though at times these unorthodox soldiers took extraordinary liberties with him in the matter of casual speech and address, he never gave any sign of noticing it. What sense of dignity he has is always well under control.

General Birdwood came to the A.I.F. at a difficult time. The men had grown restive under tedious training in Egypt, away from the sound of the war which they wished to take part in, and there had been several high-spirited riots in Cairo. This was before the time when the mettle and discipline of the Australians had been put to the test; it would have been easy for Regular Army general to take a wrong view of this decidedly new and independent type of soldier. It is to be eternal credit of "Birdie" that, coming from such an environment as the Indian Army, he sized up the situation, took careful measures (and good advice) of the men he had to deal with, and with his natural facility made the right decision. He perceived at once that in the Australians and New Zealanders he had such raw material for soldiers as few generals must ever have had before, that an effective army could be made of it only if it were trained and developed along its own natural lines, and that any other plan would meet with nothing but disaster. The unruly element he must have felt in that raw force could not have pleased him as commanding officer; but with his experience of men and things, and of soldiers, white and brown, the superb manhood and the high level of intelligence throughout those rough colonial ranks impressed him at once. Not a captain of all the great ones in history but would have given his private fortune for such an army.

He took them to Gallipoli, and there "Birdie" and the Australians first got to know each other. "Birdie" saw his intuition confirmed at once on the day of the landing; the fame of the (later) Anzacs was being flashed all over the world after that first grim day; they were a new military wonder. And the command of them was his, Birdwood's. If "Birdie" ever said to himself in a private moment at that time that the leadership of these wonderful Dominion troops was his golden chance to win great personal fame, who can blame him? The custody of such great moments is not for any man to analyse afterwards in cold blood. His sensitiveness to impressions is so keen that some such thought cannot have escaped him; he would not be human if it had. What over he thought, his actions spoke clearly enough. War is fame, perhaps ultimately, but it is life or death in its present, and great-hearted exaltation in the swift gusts of crisis. "Birdie" made up his mind (though he never said so) that if he had to die on Gallipoli there could be no nobler

death than in such company. To that first little force at Anzac he felt and behaved as a father or a close brother. He lived as much in the trenches as in his camp. He is a gallant little man naturally, and here was every incentive to gallantry. The men respected him at once, and grew to intimate affection for him. The stories of "Birdie" on Anzac are legion. No ordinary general preserving the more normal headquarters habits could have written such a message to the Australians as "Birdie" wrote after the Anzac campaign was over. The very intimacy and comradeship of his words tell their own tale:—

"Our eight months at Anzac" (he said) "cannot help stamping on the memory of every one of us days of trial and anxiety, hopes, and perhaps occasional fears, rejoicings at success, and sorrow—very deep and sincere—for many a good comrade whom we can never see again. I firmly believe, though, it has made better men of every one of us, for we have all had to look death straight in the face so often that the greater realities of life must have been impressed on all of us in a way which has never before been possible. Bitter as has been my experience in losing many a good friend, I personally shall always look back on our days together at Anzac as a time never to be forgotten, for during it, I hope, I have made many fast friends in all ranks, whose friendship is all the more valuable because it has been acquired in circumstances of stress and often danger, when a man's real self is shown."

If the General who wrote that had not himself gone as a regular habit into every post of danger to proclaim those great sentiments he describes, and to win for himself a reputation for the same courage and endurance which he perceived so clearly in his troops, he could never have addressed those words to his command. They indicate how mutual were the esteem and affection between the commander who moulded the A.I.F. into a fighting force and the force whose exploits made the fame of their General. Those bonds have never been broken. Even after the original force had expanded into an army five or six times its size, General Birdwood still strove to maintain his achievements of knowing (or believing that he knew) nearly every man in it. Men were sometimes astounded in the trenches at hearing "Birdie" walking along towards them, suddenly address them by their correct names, and with every appearance of having come there specially to see them. The General occasionally honestly did remember their names and a previous meeting with them—his memory for the names belonging to the faces which the photograph in his receptive brain was phenomenal—but where he did not it was always easy to ask an officer beforehand. The little subterfuge would raise a smile later, but always with it a comment of the most generous affection, for no one ever doubted that "Birdie's" heart was in its right place. To speak to his men by name, with a most easy informality and with genuine personal interest, was one of the earliest habits in the A.I.F. He tried to keep it up to the end, and he must in kindly appreciation be allowed some occasional recourse to outside aid.

General Birdwood left the command of the Australian Corps in May, 1918, but retained the office of G.O.C., A.I.F., where he superintended the higher administration of all Australian military forces in France and Palestine. As each batch of men left for home, in early repatriation on long leave of 1914 and 1915 men, he made a point of bidding them farewell on parade, and of speaking to them right from his heart.

**TO THOSE WHO SLEEP IN FLANDERS FIELDS.**

(A Canadian Response).

Heroes, sleep on! in that long row  
Of graves where Flanders poppies grow;  
The larks, with hearts undaunted sing.  
And, rich in hope, their music fling  
Where guns have scattered death below.  
Men call you dead; ye are not so,  
For you the Unsetting Sun will glow;  
Your deeds will kindred souls inspire  
And fill with patriotic fire;  
Grief on your graves her tribute lays,  
And Gratitude her homage pays,  
And Love, with proud yet wistful eye,  
Keeps vigil, where ye sleeping lie  
In Flanders fields.  
Still more now is your fight our own;  
The torch that from your hands was  
thrown  
Shall not be quenched, but held on high  
The faith ye teach us shall not die.  
Then take your rest in slumber deep.  
Doubt not that we the trust will keep,  
Nor dream that ye in vain have died:  
FREEDOM shall not be crucified;  
Through summer shine and winter snow  
Sleep where the drowsy poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

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**MUSINGS OF A CYNIC.**

It's a long head that has no turning.

Marriage is serious only when it's for life.

The egotism for women is always for two.

Without money all is vain; with it, all is vanity.

If you want to make light of trouble keep it dark.

He who lives without folly is not as wise as he fancies.

Some women's motto—It's never too late to pretend.

Worry is the interest paid on trouble before it becomes due.

Always pay debts and compliments and you will always succeed.

Love makes the world go round, and that's what makes us giddy.

All easy ways are downhill. You don't notice it till you try to climb back.

The man who does what he pleases, is seldom pleased with what he does.

Don't marry a saint. They're better to try to live up to than live with.

A snapshot photograph often demonstrates that truth is stranger than fiction.

If politeness costs nothing, why is it that so few men give any of it to their wives?

At a wedding a bride weeps because it's hers, and her friends because it isn't theirs.

Experience is what a wise man gets at the expense of others, and a fool at his own.

A bridegroom is like a microbe on an elephant—about the most insignificant thing there is.

It is difficult for any grown man to realise that he was once the prettiest baby in the world.

In the game of life the handsome woman scores by honours, and the plain woman by tricks.

Love is like debt—the satisfaction of falling out is only less than the fun of falling in again.

A widow's advantage is that she can give reference which cannot be disputed by the departed.

Every cloud has a silver lining, but that is poor consolation when you can't see through the cloud.

No one really understands how to manage a man except a spinster. That's why she so often remains one.

Women give to men the very gold of their lives; but they invariably want it back in such very small change.

The only difference between a grass widow, and a real one is that the former is in clover, and the latter in weeds.

Some women regard their husbands as they do the Ten Commandments—something to be studied, but not obeyed.

Women are always finding each other out, which accounts for the appalling mortality among feminine friendships all the world over.

Never believe a woman can't do without you—she can; but if she does, she's afraid you'll find out you can do without her too.

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VERY OFTEN  
FASTIDIOUS  
IN HIS TASTES.

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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.

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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 quality, and he will recognise the following as the right stuff.

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## FOOTBALL NOTES.

## SATURDAY MATCHES.

SERVICE, 8; v. BLUFF, 3.

This game opened with poor weather conditions and a one-short side for the ultimate winners though the numerical inferiority of Service was removed later through the compulsory retirement of a Bluffite, his attendant medical adviser insisting on his not further participating in the game as he had an attack of reciprocity and got caught in the act. His autopsy should tend to cure some players, Saturday not so much as Wednesday ones, of a disease that may become chronic and spread life 'fue. Well, Service got to work with a side in sixes and sevens, but with a fine enough forward lot, and with backs that seemed to like the grease. The opening up of a back attack flabbergasted Bluff, but Service played one man off in the movement, and relief came followed by a typical Port bull-rush and force. Then Service took on the appearance of workmen of a fair order, when a check gave Bluff the ball to kick, follow, and beat an out-of-place wing and full. Bluff 3, and—they never scored again. The visiting forwards were pushing the Government men though not getting the ball on the hook. Service took a long time to clear their lines, and the defence angle of play was not changed often. However, the forwards were good in the loose and Bluff not excellent in dribble checking; their short kicks at last got Service a mark and a position for attack, which came and was not handled to fruit until the emergency wing had the luck to regain and score. Service 3, Bluff 3. The stock kicker had too difficult an angle with a greasy ball. Bluff were soon again in trouble, the admirable healing of the Service forwards reflecting great credit on their honorary coach, Mr J. Mawson. The Dalglieshs, trailing their pack secured, and McDonald, to whom the "come higher, friend" had been said, gave it up to Fortune who made three for the two he missed, getting another two from the fear-post player. Service 8, Bluff 3. The top dogs then showed some good positional defence kicking, all the more commendable as the rain was wet. The second spell was spoilt by the rain, and Service managed to keep Bluff out and nearly scored again. The pegging of the Port forwards couldn't make their backs handle, there was too much water with it, and Service went off smiling with a win they deserved, and with backs that had adapted themselves admirably to the conditions. They are now looking for a say in the Sports Banner Competition.

UNION, 9; v. Law, 6.

The Union forwards began their short-end rushes right away, and wing-threes were severely tested. In the middle-field too something was wrong, and Stead's ground work being absent, the Union made the famous backs look weak. Yet St. George and Gilmour cleared several times with determination and clever snapping and booting. The Banks and Law forwards appeared light, but in loose work they had some stunning rushes, Pryde and Broughton being prominent. Banks and Law missed a scoring chance, and Dame Fortune called Union, who responded to score a try from a mis-kick. The Combined forwards appeared rattled and a Union swarm mesmerised a back and let front row man Murray secure. Union 6. After the orange adjournment the non-scorers sparkled up; but their backs had not mittens and a fumble let Cockcroft and company into the Bank strong room, and Kelly dived over without protest. Union 9. The three-three men had a breather to quiet their scoring astonishment, and Dykes got the new first-five to make the first try for Banks and Law. Only six behind at this stage. Union didn't seem to care, so their opposing forwards pushed them back into humble place for the prettiest movement of the day, Prain scoring in his usual up-to-date style after all one side had handled. Three behind for Banks and Law, and three ahead for Union. Look out, Skipper! He looked out and so did his backs, and they won after the other forwards had given him and his some very anxious moments. The losers' forwards were lighter than usual, but they played a determined game against a heavier lot, showing good condition. Their backs were not of the wet-day variety. Keep going, Banks and Law! Hurrah, Union.

## SCOTCH! HOTCH! POTCH!

## MOSTLY ABOUT BURNS.

Contributed by "The Groper."

"Fully to appreciate Burns one must be a Scot of Scots. This involves so far as Burns is concerned, that one must cease to be a critic. The cold Englishman may try to take Burns to pieces, like an old watch, so as to find out how the wheels were made to go round; but a Scot of Scots would as soon consent to follow the Englishman's example as to preside at the vivisection of his own favourite dog."—(Julian Hill).

Hill's opinion is of "Sheffield" standard—unsurpassed—and withal humorous. Suffice it that Scots concur.

"When a man is born with an utterance like swift fire he is not as a rule particularly zealous regarding the proprieties and Burns's habits speedily marked him out as "impossible" in the circles which he had once illuminated." . . . . . To his countrymen Burns has left the deathless heritage of a song-craft unequalled in the lyric history of mankind (Everyman's Encyclopaedia). An opinion radiant with English chivalry, Scotland says, "Just so."

Thomas Carlyle, in his unsurpassed, even though Scottish analysis, of Burns states: "We reckon every poet of Burns' order is, or should be a Prophet and Teacher to his age; that he has no right to expect kindness, but rather is bound to do it. Burns, in particular, experienced fully the usual proportion of goodness. . . . . The blame of his failure lies not chiefly with the world."

Consider the two English opinions quoted in conjunction with this last of Carlyle's and you have examples of some of the qualities which have enabled these two nationalities to dominate and stabilise the world—humour, chivalry and merciless logic. Did anybody say Sinn Fein?

Now let us to it. "Robbie," or "Rab," just as you like. The rolling of the "r" will be heard in either, and the musical ear of Scotland pleased. I had forgotten about the bagpipes, but that's a circumstance. When you come to the surname "Burns," emphasis again on the "r." You heard the burr of Euan Dickson's aeroplane a few weeks ago. You ought to know now. There's no excuse hereafter for an insipid watery pronunciation, rhyming with the correct English pronunciation of—say "turns." Get a bit of colour into it—Dewar's tinge for preference.

Let the poet speak for himself as he did to Lapraik.

Then up I gat, an' swear an aith,  
Tho' I should pawn my plough and  
graith,  
Or die a cadger pownies' death,  
At some dyke-back,  
A pint an' gill I'd gie them baith  
To hear your crack.  
But, first an' foremost, I should tell,  
Amaist as soon as I could spell,  
I to the crambo-jingle fell,  
Tho' rude an' rough,  
Yet crooning to a body's sel',  
Does weel enough.

I am nae poet in a sense,  
But just a rhymier, like, by chance,  
An' hae to learning nae pretence,  
Yet what's the matter?

Whene'er my Muse does on me glance,  
I jingle at her.

Your critic-folk may cock their nose,  
And say, "How can you e'er propose,  
You, wha ken hardly verse frae prose,  
To mak a sang?"

But, by your leave, my learned foes,  
Ye're maybe wrang.

What's a' your jargon o' your schools,  
Your Latin names for horns an' stools;  
If honest nature make you fools,  
What sairs your grammars?

Ye'd better tae up spades and shoofs,  
Or knappin-hammers.

A set o' dull, conceited hashes,  
Confuse their brains in college classes  
They gang in stirks and come out asses,  
Plain truth to speak;  
An' syne they think to climb Parnassus  
By dint o' Greek!

Gie me as spark o' Nature's fire!  
That's a' the learning I desire;  
Then though I drudge thro' dub an' mire  
At plough or cart,  
My muse, though hamely in attire,  
May touch the heart.

Shaun O'Sullivan is not bad—not half bad—but might I suggest that he take

stock of the Burns method of talking to the muse:—

The tapetless ramfeez'd hizzie,  
She's saft at best, and something lazy,  
Quo, she, "Ye ken, we've been sae busy,  
This month an' mair,  
That trowth, my head is grown right  
dizzie,  
An' something sair."

Her dowff excuses pat me mad;  
"Conscience," says I, "ye thowless jad!  
I'll write, an' that a hearty bland,  
This vera night;  
So dinna ye affront your trade,  
But rhyme it right."

"Shall bauld Lapraik, the king o' hearts  
Tho, mankind were a pack o' cartes,  
Roose you sae well for your deserts,  
In terms sae friendly,  
Yet ye'll neglect to shaw your parts,  
An' thank him kindly?"

Sae I gat paper in a blink  
An' down gaed stumple in the ink;  
Quoth I, "Before I sleep a wink,  
I vow I'll close it;  
An' if ye winna mak it clink,  
By jove! I'll prose it!"

Sae I've begun to scrawl, but whether  
In rhyme, or prose, or baith thegither,  
Or some hotch-potch that's rightly  
neither,  
Let time mak proof;  
But I shall scribble down some blether  
Just clean aff-loof.

My worthy friend, ne'er grudge an' carp  
Tho' fortune use you hard an' sharp;  
Come, kittle up your moorland-harp  
Wi' gleesome touch,  
Ne'er mind how fortune waft an' warp;  
She's but a devil.

I notice "devil" doesn't rhyme. Blame the printer's "devil." If you want any more, Shaun, you may read another yard of this poem in "To Lapraik" (second epistle). It's exactly the same length as one of the nimble Sandy's Scotch Concerts. But, Burns is hardly the stuff we 20th century people care to read in a three-penny paper. We prefer to pay a couple of guineas for an original copy and read privately. Of course, of course! One of the most charming ladies of Burns time said: "An hour with him in the dark was worth a lifetime of light with any other body," while the beautiful and gifted Duchess of Gordon confessed that no man carried her so completely off her feet as Robert Burns.

If my good Irish friends don't cut me off during the week for neglecting a reference, which I hope to make later, for the sake of Scots, I promise to complete next week. I may be compelled to pay advertising rates to get it in, but that's nothing to a Scot. Use your influence on my behalf, Shaun—I like your name, tho' you always patronise "The Times." I'd sooner trust to your Irish luck in my interest that employ even a Macalister. By the way I think Robbie characterised some legal chaps he met as "the hell hounds that prowl in the kennel of justice." It was a glad world then. I wonder how the gilded Nabobs of wool and mutton—the purveyors of transparent lingerie, the Meek Max, the Cumming Gordon, and the lonely Cairns of the land—the engine driver, and the chap who is creating a corner in bottles—I say I wonder how these would be described could "Robbie" again appear to use his rapier tongue upon this perverse generation. Lewis's Boyes Ott to know. Perhaps they don't now. By Jove, they will when R.B. Ca.'s!

## MILLION HOUSES WANTED.

Mr Bonar Law opened the housing campaign in the London Guildhall to-night supporting the housing bonds scheme of Dr Addison, Minister for Health. It is estimated that a million houses are required in England alone.

Mr Bonar Law, in his address, emphasised that if the nation did not make every effort to improve conditions it would be faced with a spirit of sullenness, even of anger, which would be fatal to trade, industry, and credit. He mentioned that 180,000 housing proposals had been finally approved, more than 100,000 tenders had been approved, and 30,000 houses were in course of construction; but progress was held up by the lack of financial support. He agreed that it was necessary that the State should lend its support, as local authorities were unable to bear the whole burden. He announced that the Government would give additional assistance to the poorer localities.

Meanwhile the congestion of London has been intensified by a great influx of Americans on the Mauretania, which has brought in the "greatest number of wealthy Americans ever landed in England." Other vessels crowded with people are following.

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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, unbeknown 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, and decides to make a fight for it. However, the detective explains that he has come to befriend him, and Dick, believing his story, accompanies him to the residence of Beaumont Chase, where he is installed as gardener. Sir John Millbank and Kitty arrive at Beaumont Hall, and Beaumont Chase loses no time in asking Sir John for the hand of his adopted daughter. Sir John consents. That night Kitty receives a note which is thrown through her window. It reads: "Be brave. I can't speak, but I am watching over you. God bless you!"

## WHO WAS THE MESSENGER.

Kitty, with startled eyes, stared at the scrap of paper she held in her trembling hand.

The brief message bore no signature, but to the girl that mattered nothing at all. The handwriting was Dick Foster's. With a wild hope leaping up in her heart, she darted to the open window and leaned out. She almost expected to see her lover, like another Romeo, climbing up to her balcony.

But outside all was still and silent save for the faint murmur of the night wind among the trees.

Eagerly the girl's eyes scanned the moon-lit grounds for some sign of movement, but she could see none.

"Who is there?" she demanded, in an eager but cautious whisper.

It was with mingled fear and hope that she awaited a response, but none came.

Then, with a sigh of disappointment, she withdrew once more into the room and examined again the mysterious message.

Yes, it had been written by Dick. She was sure of that. But when? And where?

A new and more plausible explanation occurred to her. Dick had sent her this word of hope and encouragement by the hand of a messenger.

How foolish she had been to think that Dick himself was here, close at hand, ready to help her in her need. He was away on the high seas, or perhaps already in a foreign land.

"And I am glad!"

She repeated this again and again, as though to convince herself that she spoke the truth.

"I am glad! Of course I am glad! He is safe, and so long as I am brave, so long as I do not seek to find him or to call him back to me, no harm can come to him. Oh, Heaven, give me strength! Help me to let him go!"

She fell upon her knees by the bedside trying to pray, trying to choke back her sobs.

Then her thoughts turned to the messenger who had brought this precious note from her beloved. Who could it be? Would he ever reveal himself? Would he be able to give her news of Dick?

In the morning perhaps she would meet him. She would surely be able to find out if any stranger had entered the grounds. Her heart beat wildly at the thought. She had determined to give up Dick finally, but her heart yearned for some news of him.

Some true and faithful friend of his must have brought that message and thrown it in at her window. One who could do so much would do more.

In the morning she would find him and talk to him—talk to him of Dick.

With this hope in her heart she fell asleep, clasping to her bosom the precious scrap of paper which had come to her so mysteriously out of the silence and the darkness.

## AN OLD MAN'S TYRANNY.

"You are more to me than a daughter, Kitty. I love you very dearly. For many years—ever since you came into my house a poor and friendless child—I have indulged you in every possible way. I have surrounded you with luxury and wealth, and have striven to give you everything a girl could desire. Under these circumstances, don't you think you are a little unkind, a little inconsiderate, to me now that I am an old and broken man?"

Sir John Millbank and Kitty were alone together in the library of Beaumont Hall.

Three days had passed since Kitty had received the message from her lover, and no further communication had reached her.

Sir John had had a relapse, and had kept to his room for two days, but now he was a little better, and this afternoon he had sent for Kitty.

The old man looked very frail, and there was the querulous look of an invalid on his drawn haggard face as he addressed the girl.

Kitty dropped on her knees at his feet and looked up at him tenderly.

"Dear daddy," she said earnestly. "I know you love me, and I love you, never can I forget what I owe you. You don't need to remind me, I shall never be able to repay you, but I do so want to make you happy if I can."

"And yet when I make known my wishes you raise a foolish and unreasonable objection! It is so absurd. Can't you see I am thinking of you and your happiness? Mr Chase has made you an offer of marriage. He is enormously wealthy. He is a fine fellow. You admit that. You raise no objection to him as a husband. Why should you? He can give you what I have striven to win for you and failed. Wealth, position, power, social standing—all will be yours as his wife. And yet you want to postpone the marriage. Why? He wants to marry you next month. You want to postpone it for a year. Was there ever anything so foolish, so unreasonable?"

A look of desperation came into the girl's face.

She did not know what to do. The pressure that was being brought to bear upon her was almost more than she could fight against.

"A little while ago I gave a promise to Mr Chase which I will keep," she said unsteadily. "But in return he gave me a promise. He said I should have a year of freedom."

"Freedom! Nonsense! You will have more freedom as his wife than you have ever had in your life!" snapped the old man irritably. "Besides, what may not happen in a year? I may be dead."

"Daddy!"

"Well, well, who knows? I seem fated to meet with ingratitude and to have my hopes destroyed. I once had a son. He disappointed me cruelly. Then I adopted you. I grew to love you, and once more all my efforts to achieve fame and fortune seemed worth while. Again things went wrong. My health broke down, but still I hoped through my efforts that you might make a brilliant marriage. The affair with Haverham came to a tragic end, and it seemed as though my own life would end in failure and defeat. And now comes this chance—this splendid chance—and you want to fling it away and disappoint me once again."

He was almost whimpering as he concluded. The once clear and powerful intellect was clouded and weakened by illness, and in this hour of bitterness the famous judge was little more than a querulous child.

"I don't want to disappoint you, daddy. I don't want to make you unhappy. You are all I have in the world now," said poor Kitty pitifully. "I want to make you happy. But Mr Chase told me I need not marry for a year. I cannot believe he has changed his mind."

"Well, he has. He has made his feelings quite clear to me. You will marry him at once—that is, early next month, or there will be no marriage. You may take my word for that. If you refuse him he has some other plans in his mind. I don't know what, but I have spent my life in reading men's minds, and I tell you that Beaumont Chase will be your friend or your enemy. It is for you to choose. But enough! I am tired. He is in the next room. Go to him and settle it between you. If you have any consideration for me—not to speak of your own happiness—you will do as he wishes."

## THE PROMISE AND THE ACCIDENT.

Kitty did not speak a word in reply, but with bowed head passed out of the room.

In the big drawing-room overlooking the terrace she found Beaumont Chase awaiting her.

He came to meet her as she entered, and she stood before him erect and deathly white.

"Your father has spoken to you?" he said.

"Yes."

"You think me cruel, child, but, believe me, I have my reasons. And is there really any need for delay? You do not dislike me. You have consented to marry me. Why should we put off our happiness?"

A look almost of scorn appeared on the girl's face, but she answered quite calmly.

(Continued on page 6.)

## FURNITURE!

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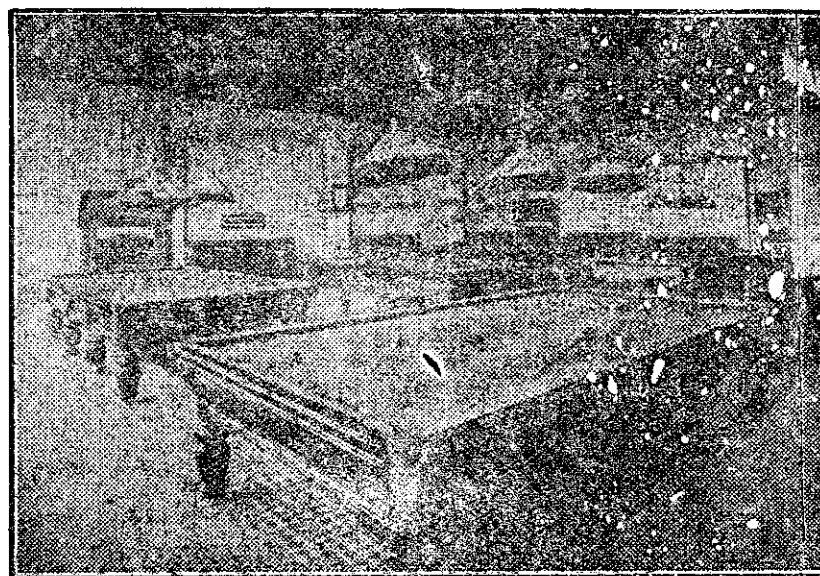
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(Above "The Digger.")

EVERY ATTENTION AND CIVILITY.



## BILLIARD NOTES.

## VARIOUS IN-OFFS.

## CHIEFLY WITH THE WHITE AS THE OBJECT BALL.

When the in-off from the cushion is played with right-hand side, which is running side off the cushion, the ball must go clean into the pocket, for if the angle of the side cushion be touched, the side on the ball, which is here cheek side, will tend to keep the ball out of the pocket. When the stroke is played with right-hand side (running side off the top cushion) the cushion must be struck farther away from the ball than when played with left-hand side, and it is perhaps easier to judge the angle in the former case than in the latter; but the left-hand side has the advantage off the opposing angle. Of course, the stroke could also be played without side at all. The stroke is also on when the object-ball is considerably nearer the top cushion than shown in the diagram. All in-offs of the nature just described are, however, always more or less difficult, and some practise of them is very advisable.

## A DIFFICULT CUSHION IN-OFF.

An example of an in-off that is often on, and while strokes of this nature are always difficult owing to the great judgment required as to where the cushion must be hit (a very slight error will cause the stroke to fail), they are not quite so difficult as they no doubt appear to the majority of players.

The white ball over a top pocket, and it is intended to be in such a position that, whilst a ball held in one fingers could be

passed into the pocket, touching the bed of the table, without disturbing the other ball, there is barely 1-16 of an inch to spare—that is, about 1-32 on each side as the ball is passed through. In playing an in-off with the white ball so located, especially when striking from a position a considerable distance away from the pocket the safest way of getting the stroke is to aim straight at the pocket, as though playing to give a three miss. The reason for this is that from a distance it would be very difficult indeed to give a three miss even if facing the pocket as the ball would have to go into the pocket just missing both the side cushion and the object-ball by 1-32 of an inch. If it travelled only a shade to one side of this three-miss path it would either graze the side cushion and then graze the ball, or else finely touch the pocket. If any player doubt this, let him try this stroke a dozen times, playing from a distance, and see how often he can give a three miss, and he will be surprised at the result. If, on the other hand, a player tried to play such a stroke by first striking the cushion, there would always be a probability of the in-off being missed owing to the object-ball being struck too full.

## Grand Billiard Saloon.

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**TINY DANIEL**

Albion Buildings, Dee Street, Invercargill.

Southland Floral, Plant,  
and Seed Supply,



JUDGMENT.

(Continued from page five.)

"Will you give me your word of honour, Mr Chase, that Mr Foster is safe in a foreign land?"

"On my word of honour, he is at this moment safe across the seas," replied the man earnestly.

"And, if I marry you, will you swear that you will use all your wealth and power to prevent any harm coming to him?"

"I swear it!"

"Then, Mr Chase, I will be your wife whenever you choose," said the girl.

"Kitty!" he cried, springing forward.

But she raised her hand and motioned him back.

"Not now," she said. "Please let me go; I want to be alone."

Abashed, he drew back, and Kitty, turning from him, passed out of the room on to the terrace, bathed in the morning sunshine.

"Poor child!" he said to himself. "I have frightened her. I am a fool to force matters like this, but patience was never one of my virtues. How splendid she is!"

Meanwhile, Kitty passed from the terrace on to the lawn, and then made her way to the solitudes of the rose avenue at the further end.

He stopped, breathless, in front of her, and she perceived it was one of the stable men.

"What is the matter?" she exclaimed.

"Please, miss, there's been an accident!" gasped the man breathlessly. "He's nigh on killed! We've taken him to the summer-house yonder, and Parker has gone for the doctor. But I'm feared it won't be no good. His skull is stove in."

"But who is it?"

"That old gardener, ma'am, what Mr Pelham Webb brought."

"Poor fellow! In the summer-house, you say? I will go and see him," said Kitty.

To be Continued.

SOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The usual meeting of the South School Committee was held on Tuesday, May 18. Present: Mr A. W. Jones (in the chair), Messrs C. S. Longuet, Gardiner, C. Paton, T. D. Lennie, G. Dyer, and Mesdames Parkins, McGregor, and Garrett. The Headmaster's report was read and received. The report stated the roll number as 670, with an average attendance of 625. Since 1919 the roll number has dropped considerably. This has been due almost entirely to families removing from the district, the number who have left for other reasons not exceeding ten. Attached to the Headmaster's report is a tabulated statement showing the results gained during his six years as Headmaster and those of six years previous. This shows that the average number of certificates, proficiency and competency gained per year during Mr Hain's term of office was 70, during the previous six years 48. For three years Mr Hain had only one male assistant, this when the average attendance was running to 800.

Mr Lennie reported that the Committee had visited the school and found the school organised and the work done by the children all that could be desired.

The Chairman reported having interviewed Mr McCaw re new South School. Mr McCaw stated definitely that the new school would be commenced in two months' time.

It was moved that a letter of appreciation be sent to the teaching staff congratulating them on the excellence shown by the scholars in marching and drilling.

A sub-committee was formed to carry out the resolution passed at the householders' meeting, that Mr J. Stead's long and faithful service be suitably recognised. With him were coupled the names of Mr McCulloch and Mr W. Stead.

The tabulated statement is as follows:-

SIX YEARS, 1908-1913.

| Year.   | Average. | Proficiency. | Competency. | Total. |
|---------|----------|--------------|-------------|--------|
| 1908    | 690      | 39           | 7           | 46     |
| 1909    | 692      | 50           | 3           | 53     |
| 1910    | 742      | 40           | 2           | 42     |
| 1911    | 761      | 61           | 1           | 62     |
| 1912    | 756      | 42           | 1           | 43     |
| 1913    | 919      | 62           | 1           | 63     |
| Totals  | 4510     | 274          | 15          | 299    |
| Average | 752      | 45           | 2 1/2       | 43     |

SIX YEARS, 1914-1919.

| Year.   | Average. | Proficiency. | Competency. | Total. |
|---------|----------|--------------|-------------|--------|
| 1914    | 971      | 71           | 6           | 77     |
| 1915    | 792      | 71           | 15          | 85     |
| 1916    | 833      | 53           | 12          | 65     |
| 1917    | 763      | 58           | 8           | 66     |
| 1918    | 733      | 53           | 11          | 64     |
| 1919    | 660      | 53           | 8           | 61     |
| Totals  | 4752     | 359          | 60          | 419    |
| Average | 732      | 60           | 10          | 70     |

Scholarships gained, 14.

In 1916 and 1917 a South School pupil headed the list for Southland in the Scholarship Examination.

The Nature Column.

(By "Student.")

"Student" will be pleased to receive notes on any branch of Natural History. Observations on birds, insects, plants, etc., will be equally welcome. If using a pen-name, will correspondents please enclose real name and address.)

Niagara.—Your enquiries will be dealt with next issue.

The Bluff hill—though most of those who visit it consider it more from the standpoint of a convenient place to consume picnic dainties—is of more than passing interest to the naturalist. Here we have a hill made up of practically one homogenous piece of rock. Expelled from the bayass in a semi-liquid state aeons ago and forming as it were a gigantic blister at a great depth in the earth. Long continued cooling has produced the tough handsome granite rock called norite which we have to-day. We know it cooled at a great depth because of the character of the crystals. It varies in appearance, the grain being fine in some places and coarse in others. As a general rule it is coarse grained and speckled black & white. The black mineral is mostly hornblende and the white constituents feldspars. A microscopic analysis shows the rock to contain feldspar augite hypersthene and hornblende. Even the molecules of the chemical constituents in rocks "flow from form to form," just as much as do "the solid lands." In the Bluff rock the growth of a different crystalline gradually taking the seen. Hornblende gradually taking the place of augite and hypersthene. Augite crystals from this region have in some cases completely changed to hornblende though retaining former crystalline shape. Rocks like other things change with age and fall to dust. The norite is showing the passing of time, but is a tough sturdy rock still. In point of lasting quality and beauty, there is probably nothing in New Zealand much better.

A greenish tint in a rock is often a sign of age. The rocks at Greenhills (our local road metal), and at Howell's Point, Riverton, owe their green colour to the decomposition of the minerals in them.

When the Bluff hill welled up it caused some commotion in its neighbourhood. There was much crushing and squeezing and intense heating. This probably happened in the jurassic period when New Zealand rose from the waters to take on continental dimensions, a time long anterior to man or his immediate ancestors. Some geologists say thirty million years ago.

The effects of this disturbance can be seen in the older rocks which fringe the shore from Henderson street, round some distance towards the Point. It will be noticed that the rocks here are of a thin platy character. They are noticeably different from the round boulders met with about the Point. They have taken on a schistose character and having been altered belong to the metamorphic rocks. The strip of rocks so altered is a hornblende schist. The rock on the quarantine station side also much altered, is a porphyry and together with the hornblende schist form part of the metamorphic aureole surrounding the Bluff hill.

These older rocks are also probably igneous in origin, for they appear to be a continuance of the dykes which outcrop towards Greenhills.

Long ages of erosion by water and weathering gradually removed the rocks which covered the hill, and left it standing like a lone sentinel on the outskirts of civilisation. Looking at it from the north we see at intervals flat steps on the sides. These are no doubt raised beaches which stand witness to the fact that the hill was probably formed before these islands were submerged till little of them remained above the waters. Then as the land rose again the beaches were formed.

If you climb the hill on a fine day and look towards Portrose, you will notice that Awarua Bay and Waituna Lagoon make a long strip of water just inside the beach line. Probably Bluff harbour was formed somewhat in this fashion. The currents sweep along the south and up the east coast of the South Island, forever carrying with them their load of sand and gravel. Behind the shelter of the hill the sand would be dropped and gradually a spit would be built which in time would reach to Portrose. The sand and gravel would be piled up highest at the Portrose end, and the swelling waters of the rivers would break through at the weakest spot close to the Bluff. By and by lateral spits would divide the lagoon off and it would form its own outlet. The same type of spit can be seen at many places on the East Coast of the South Island. A glance towards Riverton will show that the Oreti has also been driven along the coast till it reached solid rock.

A lot of interesting things can be seen from the Bluff hill, but to these we will return another day.

DRAUGHTS.

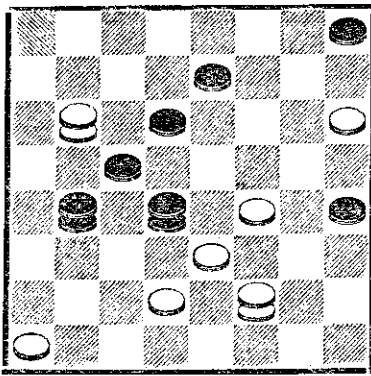
(Conducted by F. Hutchins.)

Draughts Club meets in Athenaeum Wednesday and Saturday evenings. Visitors welcome.

PROBLEM 10.

(By A. Rattray, Cabrach.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

Black to play and win.  
Black 4, 7, 10, 14, 20, Kings 17, 18.  
White 12, 19, 23, 26, 29, Kings 9, 27.

The finish is very pretty.

The above is an exceptionally good stroke from the "Draughts World" and should prove interesting to young and old. Solutions should be sent in to "Draughts Editor," 28 Biggar street.

In the Australasian championship held in Brisbane (says the "Western Mail"), in his seventh game with Evans, Egan gained a fine win with the black forces in an Ayrshire Lassic attack (11—15 24—20) the visiting expert continued his attack down the centre of the board by the exchange made by the move 11—15, etc., and Evans adopted the less favoured but nevertheless strong defence on the double corner side of the board, arising from the move 32 to 28. Egan made the unorthodox reply of 7—11, a move from which, however, he developed a powerful attack which he maintained by exact manoeuvring. He won by forcing a capture and then, with a king as convoy steering down the board two men, which otherwise would have been open to the attacks of his adversary's two kings. The eighth game was drawn, the set thus went to Egan by one win and seven draws. At the close of the hard fought round the Southerner described Mr Evans as being one of the finest crossboard players he had ever met.

The following is a game played between the first and second prize-winners in the recent Victorian championship.

DENNY.

|       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 10.14 | 8.12  | 19.24 | 6.9   |
| 23.18 | 22.18 | 28.19 | 7.2   |
| 14.23 | 6.9   | 6.10  | 9.14  |
| 27.18 | 25.22 | 18.15 | 2.6   |
| 12.16 | 4.8   | 2.6   | 14.18 |
| 32.27 | 24.19 | 22.18 | 23.14 |
| 16.20 | 1.6   | 13.22 | 16.32 |
| 26.23 | 19.15 | 26.17 | 6.10  |
| 11.16 | 7.10  | 9.13  | 32.27 |
| 30.26 | 14.7  | 18.14 | 31.24 |
| 9.13  | 3.19  | 13.22 | 20.27 |
| 18.14 | 21.17 | 14.7  | 14.9  |

Drawn.

Below is a good stroke in what is known as the slip cross opening:—

|       |       |       |        |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| 11.15 | 18.11 | 4.3   | 19.15  | 16.20 | 32.23 |
| 23.18 | 16.20 | 25.22 | 3.8    | 28.19 | 6.24  |
| 8.11  | 24.19 | 8.11  | 22.17a | 9.14  | Black |
| 27.23 | 7.16  | 29.25 | 20.24  | 18.9  | Wins  |
| 11.16 | 22.18 | 10.14 | 17.10  | 11.27 |       |

(A) Play 31.27, 2.7, 22.17, 7.10, 17.13, 10.19, 26.22, 19.26, 30.23, and black now appears to be in trouble, the solution is instructive, continue: 11.15, 18.4, 14.17, 21.14, 9.13, 23.14, 6.9 13.6, 1.26, and draw.

Our readers will peruse the following not only with interest, but with amusement:—The lovers of the game of draughts have doubtless taken part in many a curious game (says the Glasgow "Evening News"), but I question if the ancient and honourable "dambro" has ever supported queerer men than it does every day in a boot and shoe factory near Glasgow. The dinner hour is just rather long for those of the hands who do not return home for that meal; and the management, disapproving of the aimless loafing which was apt to result, were only too glad to take a hint from two of the men who always spent the extra twenty minutes or so in playing draughts. They instituted a draughts league among their workers and offered prizes. The draughts boards were supplied, but the men were made by the players out of odd scraps of leather, the different sides in this case being "square" and "round," instead of "black" and "white." So far the experiment has been a great success, and several players of no despicable calibre have developed among the "Dinner Hour League."

Passing Notes.

BY JACQUES.

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

The most astonishing thing about the Prince of Wales' visit is our astonishment at discovering that he is a gentleman after all.

A Sydney lady recovered £20 damages from a hair specialist for turning her golden hair green, instead of red.—S. Times, May 17.

Perhaps she's anti-Irish altogether in her views.

Perhaps she's merely Orange, with a taste for yellow hues;

But be the reason what it may, one thing is clearly seen,

She has a strong aversion to the wearin' of the green.

Professor Chilton says the time will come when we shall ask not how many pounds a man has, but how he got them, and what he is doing with them. That is the worst of these scientific fellows; they are always trying to see the other side of the millennium.

It may be salutary, but it is not always pleasant to hear the truth about ourselves, especially such (if truths they, indeed, be), as Mark Prentiss, the American financial authority, has been uttering lately. According to him, Great Britain is practically bankrupt at the present moment, and, failing something like a miracle, actual repudiation is an easy and early possibility. He admits that it seems like sacrilege to talk of British repudiation, but the facts are there, and to ignore them is not to change them. Great Britain's plight is such, according to this expert, that any banker, asked to lend money on such securities as she has to offer, "would reach a very quick and positive decision." Her foreign investments have shrunk by 75 per cent; her interest charges have risen enormously (amounting to £30 annually per man against an average earning capacity of £125), her expenditure, even now that the war is over, is vastly in excess of her income; and industrial and political disturbances have lowered her productivity to a startling degree. Mr Prentiss does not mince matters. He says that England's seemingly favourable Budget depends on figure juggling. In other words, it is a "cooked" balance sheet. Altogether, if his statements are trustworthy, our financial outlook just now is a very bleak one. Only two things can save us, he thinks. American help (this he favours for his own country's sake. "America," he says, "cannot exist, the only prosperous nation in a world of bankrupts") and a resolute endeavour on our own part to produce more and consume less. The first condition is possible, of course, but, judging by the present chaotic state of industrial Britain, it seems a far cry to the attainment of the second.

The passion for whist and dancing has entered into many of the Sunday schools in England, and is causing the ministers and officials an anxious time. In some of the Sunday schools there whist and dancing have been permitted for many years.—Recent par. "Southland Daily News."

Our Sunday school is booming—we are roping every sinner in; The penitents are coming till they overflow the place;

Our hearts are filled with gladness, for we surely backed a winner in

Discovering in dancing such a potent aid to grace.

The meetings that we used to have were lacking in variety,

And so we changed our methods and brought 'em' up-to-date;

For we found that turkey trotting gave a stimulus to piety,

While tangos and Missouris solved the problem of the plate.

We've done with gloom and prudery, for ever we've discarded 'em;

We've felt the fascination that the light fantastic has;

Our services are nicer, now that we have interlarded 'em

With two step and maxina, with the bunny hug and jazz.

No longer through an hour or more the preacher drives drearily

About the flesh's frailty, and the sinner's horrid fate;

A sermonette (a little one) and then we caper cheerily

In polka or mazurka—then we pass around the plate.

'Tis sweet to see the brothers and the sisters all embracing in

The waltz, and tasting all its little titillative thrills;

'Tis sweet to hear their laughter, as they're riotously racing in

Time gallop, or cavorting through the mazes of quadrilles.

'Tis sweet to see the older folks, the gouty and rheumatismal,

At whist, or crib, or other pastimes sober and sedate;

But sweeter far than all it is—our joy is quite ecstatical,

To hear the bobs and tanners as they jingle in the plate.

The saddest truth in the world to-day is that the terrible struggle from which we have just emerged has proven almost barren of beneficent result. It is true that we have clipped the claws and pinions of the German eagle, but beyond that we cannot be said to have achieved anything worth the while. The aims and ideals for which our sons gave their lives in hundreds of thousands seem as far off realisation as ever. We were told by our leaders that to conquer Germany was not the sole object of the war; that that was, in fact, only a means to great ends. First, it was said, war must vanish from the earth, and this war was to end war. Our boys fought that those who came after them might live in peace—yet we see to-day on every hand, feverish preparations for the next struggle. The nations were to dwell together in commercial amity, yet now that the bond of common danger is dissolved, they are again grappling in deadly rivalry with each other. Political meddling was to cease—yet France seems bent on shaping the politics of all Europe (a dangerous course, as history has frequently shown). The world was to be safe for democracy—yet Lloyd George has declared open war on the most democratic element in British politics, the Labour party. The right of small people to self-determination was to be held sacred, yet we have already seen that right repeatedly abrogated where its exercise might clash with the interests of the more powerful nations. And so on, right down a far lengthier list than can be stated here. The world is no better to-day for the war; nor does it show any promise of becoming so. We are cheating our heroic dead out of what they paid for with their lives.

The health authorities move in a mysterious way their blunders to perform. Wherever the 'flu appears they promptly close the picture theatres and other places of entertainment; not to all alike, but to children under fifteen years of age. The logic of it is rather obscure. The danger lies in congregation rather than in juvenility; therefore picture theatres, churches, and other places of amusement should be closed to all, old and young alike, during an epidemic. It is rather tough on the kiddie to be cheated of his fun, and then to catch the 'flu at home after all from the picture loving elders of the family.

There are stars which are said to race around their orbits at the rate of 400 miles a second. Arcturus, which can be seen clearly, is declared to get over 300 miles in a second, and Groombridge 200 mile in the same brief period of time.

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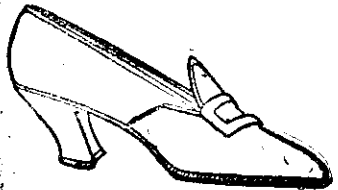
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TRAMP! Tramp! Tramp! Hear their  
ceaseless beat;  
Hear the Town Council bleat,  
What on earth is that they have upon  
their feet,  
Why? Boots repaired at Hawthorne's  
shop!  
Repairs that can't be beat.

  
**J. A. HAWTHORNE,**  
BOOT REPAIRER,  
TAY STREET.



## FOOTBALL NOTES.

THE PRINCE'S VISIT GAMES.  
WAIKIWI 25 v. ATHLETIC 0.

A mistake by Waikiwi let the kick-off  
out at the middle flag and Waikiwi ran  
straight into attack. A period of un-  
interesting play brought on the hail and the  
south-west wind, and things were general-  
ly rotten. The ground was surprisingly  
good for the continued attack, and Dar-  
ragh from a set-scrum pass fainted, jinked,  
and ran over scathless, the between-  
posts registering Waikiwi 3, Athletic 0.  
Athletic loved the round figure and held to  
it right through the game. Well, Wai-  
kiwi got a chance to tackle some of Coak-  
ley's men, but lord! they wouldn't do such  
a thing and fall on that sleet swept area,  
not they. But the other Athletic backs  
than Coakley were enjoying a holiday  
from football and Waikiwi forwards made  
mincemeat of them and got a scramble  
score. Waikiwi 8. On with the at-  
tack went the suburb team, and their  
taking and kicking were immense. Their  
charges on to their own frees and marks  
were excellently delivered, though they  
might have dropped a couple of men back  
to fill up gaps. Athletic tried attack—  
their defence sickened even themselves,  
and solo work was in high favour with  
them, and Waikiwi at last began to tackle  
hard, the lash of Forde's tongue from the  
line biting into their red and black con-  
sciousness. Coakley jinked well to kick  
but Green puffed slowly to the ball and  
Waikiwi sent it back, with Whyte lead-  
ing his scrummers into the last stretch.  
Again Coakley cleared with a good cross,  
but no man of his side cared to distress  
himself so the ball went back to the  
middle. A penalty shot gave Waikiwi  
three, and the first spell ended. Waikiwi  
11. With the sleet and the wind in their  
faces Athletic continued scoreless but con-  
fident, Waikiwi backs were cool and re-  
sourceful, Wills, Knight, Dawson, and  
Reid, being especially helpful to Darragh,  
the bed-rock of Waikiwi defencement solo  
attack. Coakley seemed the only Athletic  
rear-guard on his own side, and one swal-  
low not making a meal, and the Waikiwi  
forwards pushing Athletic easily with  
close pack work, two more everybody's  
tries were added. Waikiwi 17. The re-  
feree was in happy mood, and the absence  
of over-whistling was refreshing, the  
game brightening with the lucid spots in  
the snowy sky. Athletic should have been  
blown and sleeted into attack in spell  
two, but they were not, and the seventeen  
pointers got near the scoring line, when  
a pair of Athletic backs did some fine  
defence passing and cleared their lines.  
Then Horan cross-kicked judiciously, but  
the cool Waikiwi backs forced. Green  
attack kept on and Coakley dropped the  
slippery ball when his jink into the open  
promised a try. Hard luck! Waikiwi  
got offside but neutralised the penalty  
with an excellent take, driving green over  
the line to force. Dawson and Knight  
put in some careful line kicking, clearing  
to the middle, where a defence Athletic  
pass cleverly put them into attack. Wai-  
kiwi forwards were irresistible in their  
attack; their backs then cross-kicked, but  
the wing was absent, and the effort  
failed. A change gave green an attack  
for some time, and supporters thought  
Waikiwi line was twice crossed, but not  
so. Waikiwi then got two tries, Athletic  
a number of forces, a relief time whistle,  
and a score of Waikiwi 25, Athletic nil.

STAB 3 v. INVERCARGILL 0.

Star had kick-off let Vial send to their  
25, and a weakline scrum went with a  
swish to the left, the poor packing dis-  
gusting supporters. Handling occurred  
and had tackling and slow passing dulled  
the view, Lilley failing to stop a ground  
rush let Blue into attack, and to a mark  
which Lilley returned with such force that  
he made up more than the ground lost.  
Blue attacked and the ball from a mark  
struck the bar. Star just forcing. On  
came the hail! Star attacked against the  
wind, Agnew putting in strong spoiling  
of Blue backs, though their forwards  
were spreading well and bucking in hard.  
A heavy defence pass from Lilley cleared  
an awkward attack, Fraser kicking in-  
stead of handling. Star then made the  
short side play for them and their wing  
was very good; they bit in near the posts  
but their centre lost himself, leaving

Lilley to recover the lost ground. At this  
stage the referee penalised for dropping  
on the ball and the ground defence suf-  
fered, Star being favoured with the maj-  
ority of the frees. Star lost a try  
through the referee being blocked and  
Blue did some good heeling and passing.  
The supply of ball went mostly bluewards,  
but Agnew spoilt many a good transfer.  
Star were neglecting middle kicks. A  
free was put over by Star but a Blue  
touched. Star were playing coolly and  
their forwards bumped harder than I.F.C.  
Whistles were extremely frequent, and  
two men were given marks that they  
prayed on their knees. Star frees con-  
tinued, the stand voicing its disapproval.  
Snow hid the air view and scrum follow-  
ed scrum in monotonous succession. Lilley  
waited for the bounce three times but  
Blues couldn't score; otherwise Star de-  
fence was good, though Blue backs seemed  
faster. The first spell ended with the  
score—love all.

With the help of the wind the second  
spell promised a Star win; but Invercar-  
gill stood the gruelling very well and  
drove Star into defence time and time  
again. Oughton and Lilley were ex-  
cellent on defence, the latter failing only  
in ground work. A star wing crossed  
and were let off to smother the Blue full  
and a pack of his forwards took the risk  
close to the goal. Immediately an at-  
tempted Blue kick was marked and goaled  
by Lilley. Star 3. Blues dashed into at-  
tack from the 25 and Star were all out to  
defend. A free to Invercargill was pre-  
charged by Star. The referee waved  
back the offenders, but did not whistle a  
free-charge. Why not? Star mucked the  
Blue kick. Fraser put in a good run  
and a mighty fend at a high tackling  
back and the game ended with Star 3, In-  
vercargill nil. A mighty battle!

## MARKET NOTES.

Messrs Bry Bros., Limited, Auctioneers,  
etc., Dee street, report as follows:—

Large supplies of Potatoes have been re-  
ceived by us during the week, and the  
market shows a weakening tendency. Pre-  
sent prices range from £8 to £8 10s for  
special quality. Onions, 13s cwt. Wheat,  
35s to 37s per sack. Oats (for fowl feed),  
5s 6d per bushel. Chaff to £8 10s per  
ton. Oaten Straw to £5 10s per ton.  
Meggitt's Linseed Meal, 25s per sack. Ost-  
dust, 5s per bag, Bran 10s 6d per bag,  
Wheat Pollard 12s 6d per 100lb bag. Bar-  
ley Pollard 22s 6d per 200lb bag.

Fruit consignments have been very  
heavy. Apples (dessert), vary in price  
from 2½d to 3½d per lb., according to variety  
and grade. Cooking Apples, sell readily  
at from 2d to 2½d per lb. Pears, 2d to  
3d per lb. Quinces to 3d per lb. Peaches  
(small supply), 4d per lb.

General.—Lepp Salt Lick, 2s 3d per  
brick. Cow Covers (lined), 21s 6d; (un-  
lined), 19s. Horse Covers, £2 8s to £2  
15s each. Mutton Birds, 1s per bird in  
kits containing 24 to 40 birds. Honey in  
10lb tins, 10s per tin. Men's working  
Boots, 35s per pair. Totara Posts, £7  
10s per hundred, on trucks at country  
stations.

Furniture.—Our Spey street Furniture  
Showrooms report an excellent demand for  
all classes of Oak and Rimu furniture  
made to order. We have just received a  
nice line of Seagrass Arm Chairs, and  
have large supplies of Kapok Beds, Bol-  
sters and Pillows of splendid quality. We  
also have some splendid Dining Room  
Morris Suites in leather and tapestry. We  
invite your inspection.

Lands Department.—These are prop-  
erties worth inspecting:—1116 acres of graz-  
ing land in the Western District. This  
property has been carrying up to 1600  
sheep and 20 head of cattle throughout the  
year. 60 acres good turnips. Price £7  
10s per acre, terms can be arranged. 100  
acres at Rimu, 30 acres turnips. Price £15  
per acre. There are no buildings on the  
Rimu property. We have a number of  
other properties for sale, and invite en-  
quiries.

## SOCIAL NOTES.

Mrs G. Moffett gave a delightful dance  
for young people on Friday evening.

Mr John Hunt gave a most enjoyable  
dance at "Bainfield," Waikiwi, last Wed-  
nesday evening.

The Misses Shercliff and Massey are the  
guests of Mrs Garfield Crawford, Don  
street.

A most charming "tea" was given on  
Friday afternoon, by Mrs Ritchie Craw-  
ford, for Miss Storey, "Venlaw." Some  
of the guests were Mesdames Tapley,  
Hall-Jones, Gabites, G. Crawford, J. G.  
Macdonald, Caws, G. Crawford, H. Mac-  
donald, John Macdonald, Misses Storey  
(2), Corbett, Tucker, Shercliff, Massey,  
Hazlett, Morrah, Ellis, Wylie (2), Moffett,  
McCaw, Haggitt, and others.

## TO THE DICGER IN SEARCH OF LAND.

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289 ACRES; eight miles from Mataura school; four-roomed house,  
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Thirty acres in Turnips. Balance Grass. Carrying capacity 400 sheep,  
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roomed house, stable, barn, etc.  
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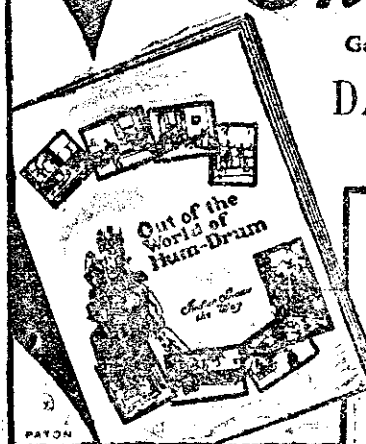
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**"The Digger."**

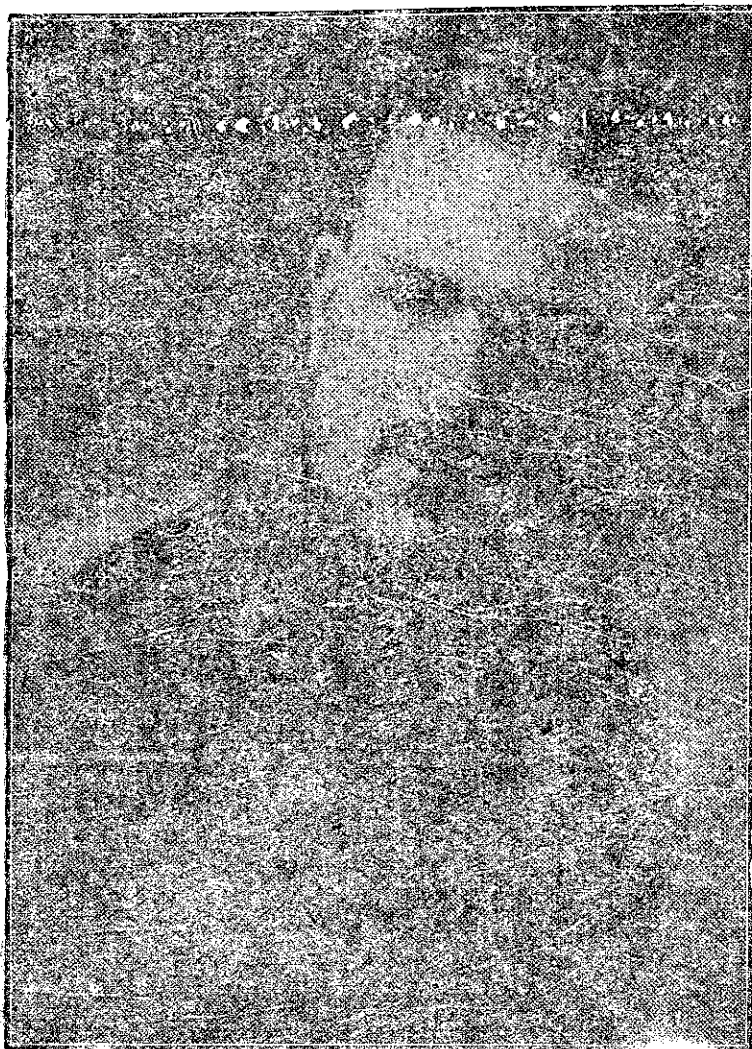
FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1920.

### THE LAND BOARD ELECTION.

The candidature of Lieut-Colonel  
James Hargest, D.S.O., M.C., will un-  
doubtedly meet with a great deal of sup-  
port from Crown settlers, who are anxi-  
ous to fill the present vacancy with a man  
of experience and sound judgment charac-  
terised by that essential qualification of  
justice required to adequately fill the  
position. The candidate is well known  
throughout Southland and all indications  
point to his successful candidature. He  
has what has so far been unusual in  
Land Board elections, namely, the unani-  
mous backing of the Invercargill and Gore  
Returned Soldiers' Associations, combined  
with the loyal support of all sub-Associations  
throughout Southland, and it is very  
essential that the R.S.A. make itself a  
force felt in this contest. The Colonel is  
a Crown settler himself and also a mem-  
ber of the Land Purchase Board. It is  
very necessary that he should possess  
these qualifications in addition to his other  
outstanding qualities. The question of  
experience is one that must not be over-  
looked as it enables him to understand the  
requirements of the settlers.

It is admitted that the great bulk of  
the work which comes before the Land  
Board deals with applications under the  
"Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act,"  
and naturally enough the returned soldiers  
should be represented on the Board. The  
question of land settlement is of vital im-  
portance to this Dominion and every effort  
should be made to administer the law  
equitably. The Act states that money  
shall be no bar to a man going on the  
land and yet it would be somewhat unique  
if we heard of a man going upon the land  
under the terms of this provision. A  
short time ago the Mt. Wendon run was  
balloted for. A number of applications  
were from men of practical experience and  
sound backing, and yet they were not in-  
cluded in the ballot. It will take some  
demonstrating to convince the Crown  
settlers that this is the correct thing, and  
they in turn will cast their vote in favour  
of a man who, with no axe to grind, will  
do his utmost to secure equitable adminis-  
tration of the Act.

The returned soldiers throughout South-  
land should do their utmost to secure the  
official candidate's success. This can be  
accomplished by everyone taking an active  
part in the campaign. By loyal co-  
operation the issue cannot remain in  
doubt and Colonel Hargest will be elected.



**LIEUT.-COL. JAMES HARGEST, D.S.O., M.C.**

Member of the Land Purchase Board and now contesting the  
vacancy on the Southland Land Board as the official nominee of  
every Returned Soldiers' and Sub-Association throughout Southland.

## Land Board Election.

### CANDIDATES:

**GARDNER, JAMES GARDNER, CLIFDEN.**

**HARGEST, JAMES, JUNR., MANDEVILLE.**

**HEFFMAN, BENJAMIN JAMES, DUNMONT, NIGHTCAPS.**

**WIND, JAMES, THATADERE.**

**THE VOTING PAPER AS IT WILL APPEAR AFTER HAVING VOTED  
FOR JAMES HARGEST.**

### HOME SERVICE LEAGUE.

The central executive committee of the  
Home Service League of New Zealand  
held a meeting this week, when the  
articles of incorporation were perused  
and formally adopted. The league has  
primarily been formed and registered  
under The Incorporated Societies Act,  
1908, with a view to obtaining Govern-  
ment recognition for those men of the  
New Zealand military forces who served  
in the Dominion during any period of the  
late war, and the principal aims of the  
organisation are briefly: (a) To obtain  
the payment of a war gratuity to mem-  
bers; (b) to enable members to partici-  
pate in the privileges and benefits under  
the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act,  
1915, and the Repatriation Act, 1918, and  
amendments; (c) to obtain payment of the  
increased separation allowance to mem-  
bers; and (d) to obtain payment of the  
multi allowance. It is the further in-  
tention of the league to take up and  
investigate all alleged cases of loss or  
hardship arising out of the military ser-  
vice of members. In the course of the  
meeting, it was explained that the present  
Dominion membership approximates 3000,  
with every prospect of doubling that num-  
ber in the near future. Excepting one or  
two technicalities connected with registra-  
tion, there now only remains the signing  
of the petition to Parliament, on comple-  
tion of which the league will be prepared  
to proceed with its claims. It is antici-  
pated that everything will be in readi-  
ness for the introduction of a deputation  
during the coming session, and from the  
fact that promises of support have been  
given by more than half the members of  
Parliament the league is particularly san-  
guine of success.

We are glad to acknowledge an increase  
of sales from Messrs Matheson, Ltd., of  
Edendale. We will always acknowledge  
increases of sales through these columns  
and are anxiously awaiting further com-  
munications from some of our agents.

### PERSONAL ITEMS.

The new Minister, the Hon. G. J. An-  
derson, Member for Maitua, has been in  
the House of Representatives since 1908,  
in which year he defeated the sitting mem-  
ber, the late Dr. M'Nab, then Minister of  
Lands. It was the year after Mr M'Nab,  
as he then was, had introduced his Land  
Bill, which was considered to be a some-  
what serious infraction of the freehold  
tenure of land in New Zealand. Mr An-  
derson chose to fight the election on this  
issue, and he did so, winning against a  
very strong candidate by a majority of  
some 700 votes. Since then he has held  
the seat quite safely, and he has held also  
to his very firm freehold views. Mr  
Anderson was as a young man a com-  
positor, and later, when he acquired an  
interest in the "Maitua Ensign," a  
paper in Gore, he took a part in the edi-  
torial and business control of the news-  
paper. As a worker in the printing  
trade he was at one time a prominent  
trades unionist. He was persuaded to  
enter politics quite against his personal  
wishes. He had no thought of doing so,  
but there were many influential people in  
his district who were anxious that Mr  
M'Nab should be opposed, and they pre-  
vailed on Mr Anderson to contest the  
seat. Once in the contest he fought it  
with the utmost vigour and won.

Another Digger has made a start in  
Invercargill. Mr G. E. Gibbs has bought  
the business of fruiterer, confectioner, etc.,  
situated at the corner of Yarrow and  
Dee street. The place has been thorough-  
ly renovated and neatly arranged. There  
is ample accommodation upstairs for the  
tea rooms which, in addition to its attrac-  
tive surroundings, has a splendid view.  
There is no doubt that Mr Gibbs will  
receive a fair share of public support  
and his premises being the home of refuge  
for those desirous of having a dainty  
afternoon tea. An advertisement to this  
effect appears in our columns.

## RETURNED SOLDIERS.

### VARIOUS MATTERS CONSIDERED.

#### DELEGATES TO ANNUAL CON- FERENCE.

The adjourned annual general meeting  
of the Wellington Returned Soldiers' As-  
sociation was held last evening, Mr W.  
Perry presiding over a very fair attend-  
ance.

The first business of the meeting was  
the election of delegates to the annual  
conference. The chairman explained  
that under the constitution of the  
N.Z.R.S.A. a curious anomaly existed.  
Only three delegates from each local as-  
sociation could actually sit at the con-  
ference, but the Wellington association,  
by reason of its large membership of  
6800, was entitled to 17 votes. The meet-  
ing, therefore, would have to elect seven-  
teen delegates, fourteen of whom would  
hand their proxies to the three gentle-  
men who would represent the associa-  
tion personally at the conference. Mr  
Perry said that the constitution had  
been amended at the October conference  
in order to meet the position he had  
mentioned, but owing to several difficul-  
ties it had not been possible to bring  
the alterations into effect.

The meeting then proceeded to elect  
the three delegates to represent the as-  
sociation personally at the conference,  
and the following were appointed—  
Messrs W. Perry, A. B. Sievwright, and  
J. D. Harper. The remaining delegates  
whose proxies are to be handed to the  
three gentlemen mentioned were also  
elected by the meeting.

Considerable discussion took place re-  
garding the personal files of returned sol-  
diers. It was asserted that the police  
had access to the military files of sol-  
diers, which practice, it was held, should  
not be allowed.

Mr M. Badger urged that soldiers who  
were defending returned soldiers' pri-  
vacy should have the right to peruse  
the medical files of their clients in or-  
der that full information should be ob-  
tainable for the preparation of the de-  
fence.

Mr A. B. Sievwright contended that  
all files should be kept inviolate behind  
the doors of Base Records. Informa-  
tion regarding soldiers' military records  
could be obtained by solicitors from their  
clients, or from the latter's friends.

Mr W. Bell moved: "That this associa-  
tion views with great apprehension rum-  
ours that the private files of ex-soldiers  
are open to the police, and requests the  
Government to publicly reaffirm the ab-  
solute inviolability of the secrecy of such  
files."

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr A. B. Sievwright proposed the fol-  
lowing remit to the annual conference:  
"That in all appointments to the New  
Zealand Staff Corps, commissioned offi-  
cers of the N.Z.R.F. shall have equal  
opportunities, and members of the pre-  
war permanent staff shall not be pre-  
judiced."

The remit was adopted, Mr Sievwright  
having pointed out that instances were  
on record where pre-war permanent  
n.c.o.'s who had gained commissions in  
the field had, on return to New Zealand,  
been compelled to revert to their un-  
commissioned rank, and thus been pre-  
judiced in securing appointment to the  
Staff Corps.

Looking out of my window this morn-  
ing I noticed Mr Crosby Smith intensely  
interested in the "fernery" outside the  
News Office. Crosby was arrayed in the  
splendour of a "banjo" and was very busy  
digging and making preparations for the  
ferns, etc. His smile was one consistent  
with congenial surroundings. We feel sure  
that the Council will be pleased at the re-  
cent acquisition to the staff.

A placard upon the trams just now pro-  
claims "Startling News for the Prime,"  
and then follows something about creep-  
de-chine, etc. The transparency of creep-  
de-chine would be rather startling for His  
Royal Highness, especially in Southland's  
climate. We are wondering what you  
mean, Abraham!

A harmonious gathering of children's  
dresses, coats, etc., for winter wear.  
Come in and let us demonstrate our  
ability to serve you. Hundreds of  
children's dresses to choose from in an-  
viseable materials and smart styles.  
Children's dresses in colonial tweeds; sizes  
16in to 24in, 9/6 to 27/6; sizes 27in to  
33in, 21/6 to 42/6; sizes 36in to 45in, 26/6  
to 59/6. Dresses in velvet, sizes, 9/11 to 29/6. Dresses in flannel,  
from 25/6 to 45/6. Boys' tunics in flannel,  
velvet, and drills, 6/11 to 25/6. Trouser  
suits to match. Also a splendid showing of  
infants' dresses in radiance, cashmere, silk  
and tussore, 6/11 to 19/6; children's over-  
alls in endless variety, 26/6 to 69/6.  
Specials made to order at 11. and J.  
Smith, Ltd., Progressive Stores, Inver-  
cargill, and Gore.



## NEWS IN BRIEF.

for Hargest.

key is not likely to sign the Peace

ce has been concluded between Rus-  
ad Georgia.

eral Birdwood will arrive in the  
on May 31.

na has established an aerial postal  
between Pekin and Tientsin.

ot manufacturers have decided on a  
er increase in the price of boots.

ree local fishermen were fined £2  
with 3s 6d costs, for spearing trout.

ance has agreed to a minimum in-  
ity of £6,000,000,000.

the first Allied list of war criminals has  
forwarded to Germany.

the League of Nations propose to send  
mission to Soviet Russia.

Twenty-five Indians have left Fiji for  
Auckland.

recent attempt to wreck the Auck-  
land express by placing a log across the  
rails failed.

As the Prince passed he seemed to be  
enjoying his flag. Wonder if it was a Red  
Hussar or a Ruby Queen?

A verdict of "Accidentally killed" was  
returned by the jury in the Edendale  
fatality.

The Golden Bay Cement Company has  
increased the price of cement by 9/- a  
ton.

All British troops in France and Fland-  
ers will be withdrawn before the end of  
the summer.

Lord Jellicoe and Lord French were  
granted the Freedom of London.

Mr Charles Evan Mackay, mayor of  
Wanganui, is in custody on a charge of  
attempted murder.

Two thousand troops have been landed  
at Bantry and will be distributed through  
west Cork.

Bolshevik forces have invaded Persia.  
They declare that it is their intention to  
expel the British from Persia.

Sim Feiners broke up a meeting of the  
Clare County Council, kidnapping three  
councillors and carrying them off in motor  
cars.

Senator Borah will introduce a Bill  
providing that American coastal vessels  
will pass through the Panama Canal free  
of charge.

It is understood the British Govern-  
ment is distributing £6,000,000 sterling  
among Australian wool growers.

An OFFICIAL regulating traffic at the  
Grand Hotel yesterday: "Now then; don't  
git handemetha them eer ropes."

A profiteer was recently ordered to re-  
fund 1/- News item. It is nice to think  
we haven't set up the Board of Trade  
for nothing.

Sharks have appeared around Timaru  
watering places. News item. It is pre-  
sumed they are dodging the Board of  
Trade.

Japan has begun to make peace with the  
sheviks in Siberia. Japan will immedi-  
ately withdraw 20,000 troops from Vlad-  
ivostok.

There are thirteen portfolios held by  
North Island Ministers and five by the  
South Island.

Trotsky has gone to the Polish front to  
personally lead the Reds against the Poles  
and Ukrainians.

A Sydney message states that the  
Licenses Reduction Board will probably re-  
duce the number of hotels in the State by

Walking down town yesterday after-  
noon I noticed a gentleman coming out  
the News Office wearing a straw hat.  
A nice to be able to appreciate the  
shine, isn't it?

By the way, as the Prince passed the  
"Digger" office he had a flush upon his  
cheek. There were a number of "eldest  
daughters" upon the pavement too.

Mr Massey states that the League of  
Nations is far from being established. We  
agree that since the signing of the Treaty  
we haven't progressed half a league on-  
ward.

A large number of Trade Unions are  
supporting the jockeys in their demand  
for improved conditions. The whole of the  
races in the North Island have been  
declared "Black."

The House of Representatives in Mel-  
bourn voted that the Government be re-  
quested to increase members' salaries to  
£1000 per year.

At the Supreme Court at Dunedin,  
Adam Murdoch McDonald, manager of the  
Ormaglade Station, near Roxburgh, was  
fined £125 on a charge of sheep stealing.

The Methodist Conference in Sydney  
passed a resolution in favour of Church  
union.

A woman, head of a Wellington busi-  
ness firm, stated that 50 per cent. profit  
was being made by the firm on furs.

The next meeting of the League of Na-  
tions will invite Austria, and probably  
Hungary, to join the League, Germany,  
Turkey, and Bulgaria will be permitted to  
join later.

A school boy's description of the Coun-  
cil's archway in the Crescent: "A thing  
like a swing but a bit wide."

Mr G. J. Anderson, member for Ma-  
taura, has been appointed Minister for In-  
ternal Affairs.

In the Auckland district there are about  
400 soldiers and soldiers' widows looking  
for houses and about 1500 for land.

To assure the safety of the fernery Mr  
Crosby Smith will be obliged if any would-  
be meteorologist would give timely warn-  
ing of any cyclonic disturbances in the  
way of high winds, etc., calculated to in-  
terfere with the safety of Crosby's botani-  
cal arena.

It is proposed in Russia that numbers  
be substituted for names. If carried out  
we may expect to see in the birth columns  
something like this:—7 & 8 equals 1.

I noticed a lady yesterday walking  
down Dee street carrying a black cat. A  
patriotic cat, too. It was decorated with  
red, white and blue. Possibly another  
case of "Love's labour lost."

Returned soldiers in England reported  
to have a mania for high coloured waist-  
coats. Probably they hope that, if they  
look sufficiently like Robin Red Breast,  
the would-be patriotic profiteer may throw  
them some crumbs.

A good bright and breezy Prince. No  
wonder he reached the people's hearts.  
And Scutblad gave him a right, royal  
welcome. Good luck to him.

The Prince spoke a few words to the  
returned soldiers. I heard a number say  
that his words were well chosen.

Honour to whom honour is due. The  
"Digger" just passes on a word of ap-  
preciation to the Council and reception  
committee for the success of yesterday's  
proceedings.

The chairman of the German Socialist  
Majority Party stated that the issue of  
paper money is a non-paying proposition  
and should be discontinued. News item.  
We may expect another great "Scap"  
of paper.

A man in a recent Poli Court case was  
described as having the brain of a Cabinet  
Minister. It is said that the Cabinet  
Minister did his work just as well with-  
out it.

Tiny Daniels, a local florist, has been  
appointed to arrange the decorations for  
the Grand Hotel, in connection with the  
Prince's visit. We may soon expect to see  
the signwriter erasing the old sign from  
the window and replacing it with some-  
thing like this: Tiny Daniels, O.B.E.,  
Under Royal Patronage, etc.

We keep things moving. Step in and  
look around. A huge sale of flannellets  
in stripes, white and plain greys. It is  
pleasing at the present time to be able  
to offer such splendid value. Striped  
flannellets, 27in to 30in wide, free from  
dressing, 1/5, 1/6, to 1/11; best qualities  
procured 36in wide, in twills and plain,  
1/11, 2/3, 2/6, 2/11. See bargain line of  
white flannellette, 29in, usual price 2/6,  
sale price 1/11. Best horrockses makes,  
36in wide, twills and plain, 2/6, 2/11. Real  
bargains in wadded and down quilts.  
Wadded quilts for single beds, size 6 x 4,  
17/11, 19/6, 25/6. Wadded quilts for  
double beds, 6 x 5, 29/6 to 39/6. Real  
down quilts for double beds, 6 x 5 double  
stitched and ventilated in all the newest  
colorings, 45/- to 105/-. Best quality  
colonial all pure wool blankets, single  
beds, 37/6, 39/6. Double size, 55/- to  
59/6. H. and J. Smith, Ltd., the stores  
where supreme value can be acquired under  
the easiest and most pleasant conditions,  
Tay street, Invercargill, and Gore.



## ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

REMITTS to be submitted to the Annual  
Conference will be received by the  
Secretary, Invercargill R.S.A., up till 5  
p.m. on

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1920.

All members are invited to be present  
at an Executive Meeting to discuss the  
Remits submitted on TUESDAY, May 25,  
at 8.30 p.m.

L. S. GRAHAM,  
Secretary.

SUPERIOR HOME of eight rooms in  
city area; scullery, washhouse, h.  
and c. water, gas, gas cooker, etc.; 4-acre  
section. Price £1850. Deposit £500. This  
property should suit a retired farmer.

F. H. TUCKER.

## BLOUSES

READ OUR POPULAR PRICE LIST.

300 FINE WHITE SILKS, sizes 13½ to  
15, 12/6 each.96 WARM MORNING BLOUSES, all  
sizes, 11/- each.100 NEW VOILES, Fancy Collars, 17½  
to 14½, 6/- each.200 WASHING VOILES; 10 styles; all  
sizes, 9/6.75 FANCY VOILES, all sizes, 14/6 each.  
240 TUSORE SILKS, all sizes, 15/6.STRIPE SILKS, latest styles, 26/6.  
Sizes 14, 14½, 15, 15½.CREPE DE CHENE, from 27/6 to 110/-.  
1000 to choose from.POSITIVELY A BEAUTIFUL DIS-  
PLAY.

INSPECTION INVITED.

1/- in £ Discount. Postage Paid.

NOTE ADDRESS—

ABRAHAM WACHNER

SAMPLE ROOMS.

Top Floors Only.

140 DEE STREET, INVERCARGILL.

Side Entrance. 'Phone 1335.

£700—Half-acre and good six-  
roomed dwelling; in good  
locality; handy to Georgetown tram.Nicely laid out; orchard and garden.  
Well fenced and sheltered. Several sub-  
stantial outbuildings.

Easy ingoing. Owner shifting north.

Absolutely the cheapest property of the  
kind in the market.

Apply (promptly)—

W. A. OTT &amp; CO., LTD., DEE STREET.

FRUIT.

CONFECTIONERY.

DAINTY TEA ROOMS

—At—

C. E. GIBBS,

CORNER DEE AND YARROW  
STREETS.Under New Management and  
thoroughly Renovated.For your AFTERNOON TEA  
remember:

C. E. GIBBS.

NORTH INVERCARGILL—Six-roomed  
House with every convenience; gas,  
bathroom, pantry, and scullery and wash-  
house all under one roof; concrete paths,  
etc. Price £900.

F. H. TUCKER.

# SMART DISTINCTIVE AND MODERATE PRICED Wearing Apparel Is Here Awaiting Your Inspection.



SMART MODISH COSTUMES in Tweeds,  
Serges, Gabardines, and Cloths,  
featuring all the most approved ideas,  
are here in endless variety. 84/- to  
17 guineas.

TWEED COATS in Plain and Check  
effects. Lovely stylish garments that  
are real cold weather resistors. Prices  
84/-, 95/-, to 8 guineas.

GOVERT COATS are shown in Brown,  
Fawn, and Drab shades in smart belt-  
ed styles. These useful coats are  
priced from 99/6 to 155/-.

FUR COLLARS from 17/6 to 5 guineas,  
made to order and fitted to above  
Coats or your own coat. No charge  
for attaching.

FUR LINED COATS, direct from a lead-  
ing London manufacturer are here in  
all their freshness. Lovely Tweeds,  
with Fur Collars and Squirrel Lock  
Linings, 12 to 20 guineas.

RICH BLACK HARE COATS, in the  
new 3-length; lined rich satin. Price  
£27 10s.

NEW SHIPMENT OF RICH FURS just  
opened, comprising Fox, Wolf, Walla-  
by, Blue Kit Fox, Crossed Fox,  
Opossum, Sea Wolf, etc. Fine goods  
that look well and are as good as  
they look.

NO BETTER VALUE OFFERING THAN THESE.

FURS RENOVATED AND FUR COATS REPAIRED BY COMPETENT  
FURRIERS.

1/- IN EACH COMPLETED £ FOR CASH. COUPONS FOR SMALL AMOUNTS.

Thomson &amp; Beattie, Ltd.

THE QUALITY HOUSE.

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



## LAND BOARD ELECTION.

CROWN TENANTS are urged to consider the qualifications of

MR JAMES HARGEST, Jr.,

who is standing at the request of Returned Soldiers' throughout South-  
land.

A Practical Farmer working a Crown Lease Farm.

A Returned Soldier with a brilliant War Record.

631

## Farms for Sale.

107 ACRES Western District; four-roomed  
house, stable, cowbyre; well shel-  
tered; 36 acres turnips; 16 tons chaff  
in. Price £22 per acre.

260 ACRES, renewable leasehold; three-  
roomed house, cowbyre, etc. A good  
handy sheep farm. Goodwill £5 10s  
per acre.

703 ACRES Leasehold; three-roomed  
house, stable, implement shed, store-  
house, etc. Suitable for both sheep  
and cattle. Goodwill £4 per acre.  
Terms £700 cash.

1000 ACRES, good cattle country; new  
five-roomed house and two huts. This  
is land with a great future. Price £5  
10s per acre. Easy terms.

250 ACRES, Western District; new six-  
roomed house and all necessary build-  
ings; 30 acres turnips; handy situa-  
tion. Price £26 per acre. Deposit  
£1000.

T. D. A. Moffett,

Land and Estate Agent, Grain, Seed,  
and Hemp Broker,  
Athenaeum Buildings, Invercargill.

COLLINGWOOD — £950: Five-roomed  
House; scullery, bathroom, electric  
light; 4-acre section. This house has  
only been built about four years.

F. H. TUCKER.

## MUTTON BIRDS! MUTTON BIRDS!

FIRST OF THE SEASON.

Only obtainable at—

—PASCO BROS.—

DEE STREET.

FRESH CONSIGNMENTS JUST  
ARRIVED.

REMEMBER—

PASCO BROS.

—For—

MUTTON BIRDS.

GLADSTONE—Five-roomed Brick and  
Rough Cast Bungalow. Nicely  
finished throughout; gas, hot and cold  
water, concrete paths, motor garage, etc.  
As owner is leaving town, will accept  
£1100.

F. H. TUCKER.

GOOD COMMISSION.

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

"DIGGER."

Apply—

DIGGER OFFICE,  
Early Next Week.

## THE PRINCES' VISIT.

## PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES.

## THE CITY'S ADDRESS.

The Mayor read the following illuminated address:—

To:—

His Royal Highness Prince Edward, Albert, Christian, George, Andrew, Patrick, David, Prince of Wales, Earl of Chester, Duke of Cornwall, Duke of Rothesay, Earl of Carrick, Baron of Renfrew, Lord of the Isles and Great Steward of Scotland, High Steward of Windsor, K.G., G.M.M.G., G.M.B.E., Military Cross, Etc.

May It Please Your Royal Highness:—

We the Mayor, Councillors and Burgesses of the Borough of Invercargill desire to extend to you a sincere and cordial welcome, not only to our town but also to the district of Southland, of which Invercargill is the commercial centre.

We would assure your Royal Highness that in this, the most southerly portion of the British Empire, the inhabitants yield to none in their loyalty and devotion to our Gracious Sovereign, your Royal father, King George V.

Like that of His Majesty when Duke of York, the visit of your Royal Highness to the Empire overseas will serve to strengthen the sense of unity and brotherhood throughout the British Dominions, while it will also bring you into personal touch with these remotest parts of Empire, over which you may one day be called upon to reign as King.

In common with His Majesty's subjects throughout the Empire, Your Highness must have derived intense satisfaction from the victorious termination of the Great War, which, whilst it resulted in irreparable loss and suffering to victor and vanquished alike, yet served to show that in the Dominions Overseas as well as in the Homeland, there still survive untarnished those supreme virtues of courage, self-reliance and endurance for which our nation is so justly famed.

We desire to express the hope that the Peace that has now been proclaimed may be a lasting one, that the social and industrial unrest now existing in many parts of the Empire may speedily come to an end, and that harmonious relations between all sections of the community may soon be re-established so that the Empire may advance in solidarity and prosperity.

We desire gratefully to record our appreciation of the great service rendered to the Empire by Their Majesties King George and Queen Mary in organising help for the sick and wounded, in speaking words of cheer to our soldiers in hospital and in providing material comforts for our soldiers on the battlefield.

In this war work Their Majesties were ably assisted by Your Royal Highness, by Princess Mary and other members of the Royal Family. The association of Your Royal Highness with the armies in the field and your interest in the forces from the Overseas Dominions, including those from this country, were a source of particular satisfaction to the subjects of Your Royal Father in this part of his realm.

We greatly value the honour that you have conferred upon Invercargill and Southland generally by your visit and we trust that the impression made by the scenes through which your Royal Highness has passed and the people you have met, both here and throughout the Dominion, may be a lasting one, and that the knowledge gained from your tour may enable you to grapple confidently and successfully with the problems of Empire that may from time to time arise.

## COUNTY ADDRESS.

The county address was as follows:—

To:—

His Royal Highness, Edward, Albert, Christian, George, Andrew, Patrick, David, Prince of Wales, Earl of Chester in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Duke of Cornwall in the Peerage of England, Duke of Rothesay, Earl of Carrick and Baron of Renfrew in the Peerage of Scotland, Lord of the Isles and Great Steward of Scotland, K.G., G.M.M.G., M.C., etc., etc.

May It Please Your Royal Highness:—

We, the Chairman, Councillors and inhabitants of the County of Southland beg to extend to your Royal Highness a right loyal welcome on this most auspicious occasion—the first on which Southland has had the honour of being visited by a member of the Royal Family, whose head, our Gracious Sovereign King George V has no more devoted subjects than the people of Southland, which forms an important part of New Zealand, "the greater Britain of the South," as it has been happily termed.

In view of the part your Royal Highness took in the tremendous conflict which ended in victory for the Allies it is scarcely necessary to recall the manner in which the manhood of New Zealand, in common with that of the Empire's other dominions, responded to the call of King and Country. Generous tributes have already been paid to their "brave 7," endurance and initiative.

Many of our returned soldiers have gone on the land, and are now engaged

in the important task of increasing the primary products of the Dominion, of which the Southland district contributes a very substantial amount. We are pleased to know that your Royal Highness is taking an active interest in the agricultural and industrial development of the Empire.

We trust, in conclusion, that the rest of the tour of your Royal Highness may be attended by the good fortune which has so far marked it: that the knowledge you will have gained of the feelings and aspirations of His Majesty's lieges in these southern lands will be of service to your Royal Highness in years to come; and that your report of us will be that of a happy, loyal and contented people—a people who can justly boast the enjoyment of "a greater measure of freedom combined with security, than any other State has known."

## COUNTRY NOTES.

## LAKE COUNTY.

Householders' Meeting.—The following additional school committees were elected on May 3:—Gibbston—Messrs W. Perriam (chairman and secretary), F. C. Perriam, Joseph Miller, T. Cowan, and T. Kinross, junr. Rees Valley—Messrs M. Harris (chairman), J. George (secretary), J. Cronin, W. Grant, and H. Ross.

Farmers Indignant.—A good deal of indignation is expressed by district farmers in regard to administration of the Rabbit and Noxious Weeds Act, and a public meeting to discuss the question is to be held in Arrowtown on the 22nd inst.

Failing to Destroy Noxious Weeds.—A large number of district farmers appeared at the Magistrate's Court at Queenstown and Arrowtown on Saturday and Monday last to answer charges of failing to cut Canadian thistles. Mr W. Wilson, district fields inspector, prosecuted, and in the majority of cases a plea of not guilty was entered. Convictions were, however, recorded in each instance. At Queenstown the following fines, with costs, were inflicted:—J. E. O'Connell, Frankton, £3; executors estate Hugh McBride, £3; P. Reid, Lower Shotover, £1; H. Angelo, Frankton, £1; W. J. Churstein, Lower Shotover, £1; J. H. Davies, Queenstown, £1; Leo Lee, Lower Shotover, 18s. At Arrowtown the following were fined:—Mrs Mutter (Arrowtown), and Mrs Baird (Bendemeer), £3 each; E. T. Shand, Gibbston, £2; M. Feehly (Lake Hayes), Allan Ross (Thurly Domain), £1 each; R. M. Paterson (Ayrburn), J. T. McIntyre (Arrowtown), E. Fitzgibbon (Arrow Junction), and R. Jenkins (Arrowtown), 10s each.

At the Magistrate's Court, Arrowtown, on Monday, before Mr G. Cruickshank, S.M., Edgar T. Shand, Glenroy Station, Gibbston, was charged with failing to destroy rabbits on his run. Although evidence was given that a considerable amount of trapping and filling in of burrows had been done, the Magistrate inflicted a fine of £25, and costs.

Another old resident of the Arrow district, in the person of Mrs Cosgrove, wife of Mr John Cosgrove, Arrow Junction, passed away on Monday evening. Deceased was 60 years of age, and had been in ill-health for some considerable time. She was a native of County Limerick, Ireland, and arrived in this district over forty years ago. Of a kindly disposition, she was respected and esteemed by all who knew her. A husband and family of four sons and two daughters are left to mourn their loss. The funeral took place at Arrowtown, the burial service being conducted by the Rev. Father Woods.

## CROMWELL.

Golf.—Play has now started in real earnest, and already members are getting into their old and well-known swing. It is intended to play more outside competition this year, and consequently the devotees of this most popular winter pastime are looking forward to a very pleasant season on the links.

Many people are journeying to Dunedin in order to be present at the Prince of Wales's visit. There will also be a large number of children from the local schools and from the surrounding districts who will take advantage of the free trip to Dunedin to be present at the children's demonstration. These children go to school Monday, leave Cromwell on Tuesday morning at 7.15 o'clock (possibly in fog and frost), and arrive in Dunedin at 4.20 p.m. Then, after the children's demonstration on Wednesday, they leave for Cromwell on Thursday at 3.8 a.m., and arrive home

## 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.

## INVERCARGILL R.S.A.

## MEETING OF EXECUTIVE.

The usual meeting of the Executive was held on Tuesday last. Letter from Otautau asking for rebate. The secretary reported that nothing had been definitely decided as the conference of delegates representing sub-associations had not all considered the recommendations made by the conference. It was decided to point this out and hold the matter over until word had been received from all sub-associations as to their attitude towards the recommendations of the conference and circular from headquarters giving date of annual conference. Complaints were made of the shortness of the notice giving date of annual meeting. It was decided in view of the short notice given by headquarters, the secretary write the sub-associations asking for remits and decided to advertise to this effect asking for all remits to be sent in as soon as possible. Representatives to be requested to attend next Tuesday's executive meeting. Mr Glass to be invited to accompany the secretary to annual conference as delegates. Decided to notify headquarters that we get at least one month's notice of annual conference. It was decided to send the following remits for consideration of the conference, "That a soldier's Pension shall be exempt from income tax." "That returned soldiers should be exempt from land tax to the full extent of the mortgage." Decided that the secretary obtain particulars of the scheme to place Imperial officers on the land in the Dominion. Mr Cuthbertson reported that Red Cross will be very pleased to work in with R.S.A. regarding issue of tobacco, and that a meeting of delegates from the country were attending a meeting dealing with the Convalescent Home. It is proposed to sell it to the Y.M.C.A., provided that accommodation be reserved for returned soldiers nominated by the Red Cross. The expenses of same to be borne by the Red Cross Society. Decided to advise the Red Cross and the War Funds Association that the R.S.A. approve of the proposed arrangement.

## PREFERENCE TO SOLDIERS.

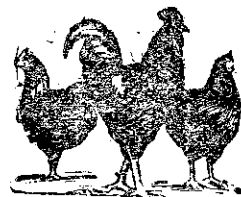
That preference of employment should be given to returned sailors, soldiers, and nurses was urged by Mr A. B. Sievwright recently at a meeting of the Wellington Returned Soldiers' Association. Mr Sievwright moved that the following remit be sent from the association to the annual conference of the N.Z.R.S.A.:—"That the Returned Soldiers' Association demand preference for returned sailors, soldiers, and nurses when public appointments are made, and recommends that preference be given by private employers also." "That people of this country are beginning to forget the war, and beginning to forget that there were ever returned soldiers who came back from the war," said Mr Sievwright. "I say that because it is noticeable on all sides."

Mr G. Samuel mentioned that preference to soldiers was the statute law in New South Wales, and recently an employer was fined \$10 for failing to give preference of employment to a discharged man.

Mr H. Brown said that the juvenile aspect of the question should be taken into consideration. It would appear that some employers were employing boys in certain positions which could very well be filled by discharged soldiers. Also, it had to be remembered that on some occasions the returned men were "up against" the trades unions and the union secretaries. It was one thing to get preference from employers, and another to obtain it from the union secretaries.

Mr W. Bell pointed out that the matter was so important that care should be taken to frame the associations' views in such a way that they would receive the support of the public.

On the suggestion of the chairman (Mr W. Perry) it was decided to refer the remit to the association's delegates at the annual conference, with a view of properly co-ordinating the association's views on the subject.



## POULTRY NOTES.

## EFFECT OF OVARIAN WEAKNESS.

Ovarian weakness, while apparently an almost inevitable result of heavy egg production, is to a considerable extent a matter of stamina, and some strains show greater susceptibility than others.

Apoplexy is the most frequent direct cause of death. This is characterised by suddenness of attack, with death supervening through rupture of some of the blood-vessels of the brain, the hen being in the pink of condition right up to the laying of the egg and the time of death. The immediate cause of the rupture of the blood-vessels is the high distension of the oviduct, which is often clothed with fat in the omentum, or lower portion of the body surrounding the oviduct. The oviduct itself may also become ruptured, as may be seen in a post-mortem; this sometimes affects the brain, and sudden death takes place, or peritonitis sets in, and the bird may linger for some days. Sometimes metritis, or inflammation of the oviduct, occurs. This is diagnosed by the hen being in the pink of condition, and laying daily, when suddenly she stops laying, walks about listlessly, and then dies. A post-mortem will show the inflamed state of the duct.

## OVARIAN DISORDERS.

It would appear that ovarian trouble must be considered as almost a necessary concomitant to high egg production. In the early days of commercial poultry-keeping, little was heard of this; but when hens were kept in a systematic way, under careful conditions, and forced by means of the "full-and-plenty" system of feeding to lay to their extreme capacity, the consequences become apparent. Just as mammary troubles are usually more in evidence in cows of high milk-yielding capacity, so ovarian disease may be said to be most noticeable in hens bred solely for egg production. Thus, while it may not be safe to say that it is of modern origin, its effects have undoubtedly forced themselves on the attention of poultry-breeders within recent years. And just as the "full-and-plenty" system of feeding has conduced to increased egg production, which again has resulted in somewhat high mortality, there is a distinct connection between the methods of feeding employed at competitions and the comparatively high death rate.

This naturally raises the question, "Why feed so heavily?" And to this the reply must be made that profit is the deciding factor. It pays to feed in this way, and thus secure the present satisfactory returns rather than revert to the older system, with the much smaller egg yield. In other words, it is more profitable to raise an extra number of hens to allow for deaths from this cause than to secure immunity from such losses by lowering the egg capacity.

The oft-quoted statement that farmers are not troubled with deaths from ovarian causes may be partially true, but the reasons are not far to seek. The hens are not fed heavily, and therefore are not subjected to the same strain. They do not receive the same close attention, and the losses, when they occur, are not defined in the same way, or attributed to the proper cause.

The Shah of Persia has one of the most valuable collections of precious stones and jewellery in existence. He possesses among other precious stones the famous pear-shaped pearl, valued at £60,000 which forms a part of the Persian crown jewels.



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It can always be depended upon.



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FURNISH A HOME,  
SECURE EMPLOYMENT,  
LEARN A TRADE,  
Etc.,

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Local Committees at Gore and  
Queenstown.

A. GLASS,  
Secretary,

Tay Street, Invercargill.

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hold or approved leasehold prop-  
erties.

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terms varying from 5 to 14 years.

Loans may be repaid in full or in mul-  
tiple of £50, interest ceasing at date of  
repayment.

Applications are promptly dealt with and  
the money paid over without delay.  
Valuation and mortgage fees are low.

The Society receives money on deposit at  
call or for fixed periods at good rates of  
interest.

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H. L. HAY,  
Secretary.

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(W. A. Ott, A. W. Jones, Directors.)

IF in search of a HOME call on us and  
inspect our lists. We will be  
pleased to show you personally what we  
have to offer.

Our Directors know Invercargill from  
A to Z, and can refer you to many satis-  
fied clients who have entrusted their busi-  
ness to us.

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We are Agents for Standard Insurance  
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your house and furniture.

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W. A. OTT AND CO., LTD.,  
Dee street,  
INVERCARGILL.

(Opposite Post Office, above Economic).



## Kennel Notes

To-day and Saturday, Invercargill Ken-  
nel Club Show in full swing.

For terriers and cocker spaniels take  
pride of place as regards numbers.

Fanciers should make a point of seeing  
the dogs which are exhibited. There are  
some very fine specimens of the various  
breeds.

Irish terriers also make a good entry, in  
fact no show in the North or South Is-  
land has had such strong classes for many  
years past of this breed.

We notice at northern shows the Irish  
is nearly always conspicuous by his ab-  
sence, thus showing that he has had to  
give place to the Airedales and fox terriers  
as regards popularity. Nevertheless we  
consider him a good class of dog, very  
faithful and a splendid watchdog. For the  
benefit of young fanciers we will give be-  
low the Irish terrier standard:—

The following is the official descrip-  
tion and standard, issued by the Irish  
Terrier Club:—

1. Head.—Long; skull flat and rather  
narrow between ears, getting slightly  
narrower towards the eye; free from  
wrinkles; stop hardly visible except in  
profile. The jaw must be strong and  
muscular, but not too full in the cheek,  
and of a good punishing length. There  
should be a slight falling away below  
the eye, so as not to have a greyhound  
appearance. Hair on face of same  
description as on body, but short (about  
a quarter of an inch long), in appearance  
almost smooth and straight; a slight  
beard is the only longish hair (and it is  
only long in comparison with the rest)  
that is permissible, and this is character-  
istic.

2. Teeth.—Should be strong and level.

3. Lips.—Not so straight as a Bull ter-  
rier's, but well-fitting, showing through  
the hair their black lining.

4. Nose.—Must be black.

5. Eyes.—A dark hazel colour, small,  
not prominent, and full of life, fire and  
intelligence.

6. Ears.—Small and V-shaped, of mod-  
erate thickness, set well on the head, and  
drooping forward closely to the cheek. The  
ear must be free of fringe, and the hair  
thereon shorter and darker in colour than  
the body.

7. Neck.—Neck should be of a fair  
length, and gradually widening towards  
the shoulders, well carried, and free of  
throatiness. There is generally a slight  
sort of frill visible at each side of the  
neck, running nearly to the corner of the  
ear.

8. Shoulders and Chest.—Shoulders  
must be fine, long and sloping well into  
the back; the chest deep and muscular,  
but neither full nor wide.

9. Back and Loin.—Body moderately  
long; back should be strong and straight,  
with no appearance of slackness behind  
the shoulders; the loin broad and power-  
ful and slightly arched; ribs fairly sprung,  
rather deep than round, and well-ribbed  
back.

10. Hindquarters.—Should be strong  
and muscular, thighs powerful, hocks near  
ground, stifles moderately bent.

11. Stern.—Generally docked; should  
be free of fringe or feather, but well  
covered with rough hair, set on pretty  
high, carried gaily, but not over the  
back or curled.

12. Feet and Legs.—Feet should be  
strong, tolerably round and moderately  
small toes arched, and neither turned  
out nor in; black toe nails most desir-  
able. Legs moderately long, well set  
from the shoulders, perfectly straight,  
with plenty of bone and muscle; the  
elbows working freely clear of the sides;  
pasterns short and straight, hardly notice-  
able. Both fore and hind legs should be  
moved straight forward when travelling,  
the stifles not turned outwards, the legs  
free of leather and covered, like the head,  
with as hard a texture of coat as body,  
but not so long.

13. Coat.—Hard and wiry, free of  
softness or silkiness, not so long as  
to hide the outlines of the body, par-  
ticularly in the hindquarters, straight  
and flat, no shagginess, and free of  
lock or curl.

14. Colour.—Should be "whole col-  
oured," the most preferable being bright  
red, red, wheaten or yellow red. White

sometimes appears on chest and feet; it  
is more objectionable on the latter than  
on the chest, as a speck of white on chest  
is frequently to be seen in all self-coloured  
breeds.

15. Size and Symmetry.—The most  
desirable weight in show condition is for  
a dog 24lb and for a bitch 22lb, and no  
dog should exceed 25lb and no bitch 23lb.  
The dog must present an active, lively,  
lithe and wiry appearance; lots of sub-  
stance, at the same time free of clumsi-  
ness, as speed and endurance, as well as  
power, are very essential. The expression  
should be wicked, but intelligent—to-  
gether a rough, merry, but game-looking  
terrier. They must be neither cloddy nor  
cobby, but should be framed on the lines  
of speed (showing a graceful racing out-  
line (resembling a greyhound or whippet  
in anatomy).

16. Temperament.—Dogs that are very  
game are usually surly or snappish. The  
Irish terrier as a breed is an exception,  
being remarkably good tempered, notably  
so with mankind, it being admitted, how-  
ever, that he is perhaps a little too ready  
to resent interference on the part of other  
dogs. There is a heedless, reckless pluck  
about the Irish terrier which is char-  
acteristic, and coupled with the head-  
long dash, blind to all consequences,  
with which he rushes at his adversary,  
has earned for the breed the proud  
epithet of "The Dare-Devils." When  
"off duty," they are characterised by  
a quiet, caress-inviting appearance, and  
when one sees them endearingly, timidly  
pushing their heads into their master's  
hands, it is difficult to realise that on oc-  
casions, at the "set on," they can prove  
they have the courage of a lion, and will  
fight unto the last breath in their bodies.  
They develop an extraordinary devotion  
to and have been known to track their  
masters almost incredible distances.

### SCALE OF POINTS FOR JUDGING IRISH TERRIERS.

#### Positive Points.

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Head, Ears and Expression | 20 |
| Legs and Feet             | 15 |
| Neck                      | 5  |
| Shoulders and Chest       | 10 |
| Back and Loin             | 5  |
| Hindquarters and Stern    | 10 |
| Coat                      | 15 |
| Colour                    | 10 |
| Size and Symmetry         | 10 |

Total 100

### CHEAP BRAVADO.

#### NO SYMPATHY FROM R.S.A.

#### A WANGANUI CASE.

The conduct of several returned sol-  
diers on the occasion of the Prince's visit  
was scathingly denounced at the annual  
meeting of the Returned Soldiers' Asso-  
ciation on Wednesday night, and Lieut.  
Wales, of the Defence Staff, appealed  
to all soldiers to safeguard the name  
"Digger," which hitherto had been asso-  
ciated with soldiers and gentlemen. He  
said it seemed to him that some men  
considered that to be a "Digger" entitled  
them to make a loud noise and insult the  
King's uniform on parade. He referred  
to two sergeant-majors, one a Main Body  
man, who had been grossly insulted by  
some returned soldiers. He considered  
that it was wrong for the Returned Sol-  
diers' Association to allow this sort of  
thing to go on. He contended that men  
in civilian clothes should respect the uni-  
form they once wore, and no man should  
"chuck mud" unnecessarily at others in  
uniform. He considered that men who  
went out of their way to insult others in  
uniform should be expelled from the asso-  
ciation.

The statement provoked a good deal of  
discussion, in the course of which the  
president admitted that he had had occa-  
sion to speak to two men in the rear rank  
for playing "two up," but he thought it  
was done more in the spirit of bravado  
than for any other intention. They  
ceased when spoken to.

Lieutenant Wales replied that the De-  
fence Department staff looked for help  
from the returned men. The Department  
had no scheme before it at present, and  
was doing the best it could under the cir-  
cumstances to train lads. Personally he  
did not think the returned soldiers were  
taking enough interest in the training of  
the youths, and should come along and  
help. The Defence Department wanted  
the help of the returned men. Without  
a scheme it was difficult to train the  
boys, more especially as the training only  
consisted of one and a-half hours per  
week.

Many people have decided to spend only  
as much on coal as they did last year.  
It is expected they will be asked whether  
they will have it sent or will take it with  
them.

## 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.

## CHEAPEST GRAZING

PROPOSITION  
ON THE MARKET.

240 ACRES FREEHOLD.  
1500 ACRES LEASEHOLD.

LEASE ABOUT 15 YEARS TO  
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ANNUAL RENTAL—£200.

CARRYING AT PRESENT—

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50 Head CATTLE.

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considerably more stock.

ALL NECESSARY BUILDINGS.

Situated within four miles of rail,  
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#### TERMS—

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FRUIT  
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they have always on hand a good  
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quired we solicit your patronage.

ALSWEILER BROS.,

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INVERCARGILL.

### HOT WATER BAGS.

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listening to the Clock tick-tick-  
tick, and wish you could sleep.  
Act. Get one of our

HOT WATER BAGS.

ALL SIZES. WITH OR WITHOUT  
COVERS.

The cost is small compared to the  
comfort.

—Buy Now!—

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COLDS, WHOOPING COUGH, Etc.

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PRESCRIPTION CHEMIST,

GRAND PHARMACY,

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THE PAPER FAMINE is world wide.  
Supplies are running low. Take my  
advice and replenish your stocks while  
prices are reasonable.

#### MY PRICES

LETTER TABLETS, 9d, 1/-, 1/5, 1/6,  
and 1/9 each.

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

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

LETTERETTES, 2/-

## T. Hide,

TAY STREET, INVERCARGILL.

## Of Interest to Women.

## MORE ON HEALTH.

A subject so important seems to deserve two articles—or is it that we want to make it serve as long as possible and even after we have said all we have to say, "to let the pen wander on," like the ghost of wit returning after the death of the body? I believe the former alternative is the true one. This week's article might have been on "wealth," if I hadn't met a patent medicine advertisement through the week. It advised the public that "a healthy week-end habit was to take Dr. Bosh's Peruvian Pink Pills" or something equally outlandish, containing no doubt some more or less noxious purgative drug.

It is a common gibe that fortunes have been made out of patent medicines in modern times. I have never met one, but the fact is alleged; and perhaps the "pink pill" is not peculiar to modern times either. No doubt some quack hawked it round Athens and sold it to the silly Romans when they had over-eaten themselves at a banquet. "Gullible, by fit appearance, all public are," says Carlyle, and unless people buy patent medicines, how do the medicines pay their advertising?

At the risk of becoming tedious let me repeat that if we took plenty of exercise, did some good hard, rousing physical work, breathed fresh air, drank plenty of water and reformed our diet, Doan and Merse and Williams, and even the famous Beecham, "worth a guinea a box," would all be out on the rubbish heap—not flaunting in the advertisement columns and making the landscape hideous on the boardings.

The pill habit goes with an unsound mentality. Take pills and talk ailments and you will have all the unhealth you deserve. Whether it be possible or not to cure toothache by thinking on the absolute—I am positive that if you had to run for your life you would forget the worst toothache that ever jumped—it is very certain that mind and body do continually influence each other. Mere conviction has been known to raise a blister, so what are the possibilities of a constant dwelling on illness and its symptoms? You think you have a headache and you take aspirin and you lie down in a darkened room, and afterwards you wander out and meeting a headachy friend, you compare notes. You live in an atmosphere of headache and end in the "pink pill."

There are headaches due to biliousness, or indigestion or some such vile complaint, there are headaches due to over-fatigue of nerves or brain, and the best remedy for most of them will be found in fresh air and sunshine, rest and the contemplation of healthy things.

And while upon the subject let me interpose a word about rest. There is nothing in the world more valuable than the ability to work and the opportunity to exercise it. Work to do and strength to do it with are the best things life can give us; and it behoves us to husband the strength, use it wisely, not throw it away foolishly. The habit of late hours, the going to bed at midnight and after, to rise late and jaded in the morning, it is a sin against oneself whether the blessed hours of sleep be sacrificed to pleasure or to work. There are even some people who waste the hours of day when they should be working and then hope to repair the damage by burning the midnight oil. They only make additional contribution to their own undoing.

In emergency, or necessity, there will be found store of vital energy in the human body to carry it through apparent impossibilities; but foolish beyond measure are those who draw upon that reserve wantonly or dissipate its store for nought. The physical effects of silly over-work or more silly over-pleasure on the bodily constitution are less grave than the mental. Can anyone forget Byron, at three and twenty, crying: "My days are in the yellow leaf and sere," and complaining of how his "glow of youthful hope declines in feeding's dull decay." Doubtless he thought himself much worse than he was—so do many of ours—but, "there's nothing in this world or good or bad, but thinking makes it so."

"A sound mind makes a sound body," says the ancient saw, and we should never forget to take the proverb both ways; for a sound mind makes a sound body, just as a sound body gives health to the mind. Healthy habits in breathing, cleanliness, exercise and diet, together with the habitual contemplation of healthy things, will do more for us than all the drugs and doctors in existence. "If there be anything sound, lovely and of good report, think of these things. Let good drive out ill. From the beauty and goodness of out-door life and recreation, from our association with the grandeur of mountains, and woods and flowers, from

moving waters and the creature life in earth, and air, and sea, from the love and goodness that is in man, from God who is all these things, we shall draw the vital energy, in strength of which we may rise up and do a goodly work, sweeping away disease and every evil thing, building all together the fabric of the world beautiful that is to be.

## Children's Column.

## WHAT HAPPENED NEXT.

## LITTLE BO-PEEP WHO LOST HER SHEEP.

Everyone, has heard, I think, of little Miss Bo-peep, and of how she lost her flock of snow-white lambs and sheep; how she could not find them, though she searched both far and near, and of how she sat down and cried, and cried, poor dear!

Listen, then; I'll tell you what came next. Well, while she cried, suddenly she heard a voice and looked up teary-eyed, and she saw—who do you think? an old Witch standing near.

"What's the matter, child?" she asked. "Stop crying, Bo-peep dear!"

Well, I'm glad to say, I'm sure, that Bo-peep didn't shrink—didn't fear the Witch was fierce (as some small children think). No, indeed; she told her tale and begged the old Witch, then, if she wouldn't help her, please, to find those sheep again!

Happily, the Witch was quite a kind and sweet old dame—though she had a broom-stick—for all witches aren't the same.

This one said: "Now, come along; we'll find them, you and I! Come along, Bo-peep, with me, we'll fly up to the sky!"

So they did, and, dearie me with what immense surprise little Bo-peep opened both her lovely big blue eyes when, as they'd flown very high and quite near to the clouds, she saw they weren't clouds at all, but snowy sheep in crowds!

Dancing, gambolling all around and baaing very loud, all as terrified, they were, as any poor lost child.

"Dearie me!" exclaimed the Witch. "We've found them nice and soon. Take them home, Bo-peep, before their baaing wakes the Moon!"

Well! well! well! That wasn't all. Bo-peep must count her flock. Down she sat upon a star, and then she got a shock!

"Why!" she called to the old Witch, "whatever shall I do? I had forty-three white sheep, and now I've forty-two! She was quite my favourite! Oh, how unlucky I am! Witch, please whistle down the sky, for perhaps she's wandered far; p'raps she's hiding somewhere else, behind some other star!"

"Mistress dear," baaed all the sheep, "do listen, for we know! We can tell you, Miss Bo-peep; we saw the lost lamb go. We all flew up to the sky for mischief, mistress, please, but she stayed behind, because she's far too good to tease!"

"And we saw her wandering through Nurs'ry Rhyme Book Land. Baaing very loud, she was, and lost, you understand. No, she's not up in the sky; you may be sure of that. You must go to Nurs'ry Land to find her; that is flat!"

"Oh, oh! oh!" cried poor Bo-peep; and sobbed so very loud that the sheep all gathered round in an excited crowd.

And the Witch, she grew quite cross, and said:

"Why, dearie me, you've forty-two sheep back! Stop crying instantly!"

But Bo-peep was sobbing for a reason that was good. She knew all the dangers that still lurked in Nurs'ry Wood.

"P'raps the Wolf has eaten her and carried her away! And had Tom, the butcher's son, he stole a pig one day! Perhaps he's stolen Pearl, my pet!" she sobbed, with tearful eyes.

"Sold her to the pie-man, to be made into meat-pies! Sheep dears, will you stay up here if I fly down and see?"

"Yes! yes! indeed, we will!" they cried tremblingly.

Oh, if I had time, I'd tell the story of that day! How Bo-peep went here and there, this way and that way. How she searched all Nurs'ry Land and couldn't find her Pearl. Poor Bo-peep, she was indeed, a most unhappy girl!

First she asked Jack Sprat, and then she went to Nelly Bly.

"Have you seen my lamb?" she asked. And they said:

"No, not I!"

Then came Simple Simon, and he said:

"Well, it's my rule to ask questions of the children from the school! For they must be clever after learning all the day. Surely there's not anyone so very wise as they? Here they come!"

And as he spoke the school-house door flew wide, and a troop of boys and girls came rushing from inside.

There was Tommy Tucker and Boy Blue and Goldilocks; there was Baby Bunting, but—oh, what a shock of shocks! Suddenly Miss Bo-peep felt when, sure as anything, out walked Mistress Mary, holding Pearl by a long string!

"Oh, Bo-peep," she cried; "it's you! Where have you been all day? Why I found this lamb of yours this morning on the way! And it was so frightened that I took it into school, and the teacher's been so cross and says I broke a rule! Here's your lamb."

And, as she spoke, Bo-peep's wee woolly Pearl saw her mistress, ran to her, and licked the little girl. And that is the story's end, and, of course, because, you see, now Bo-peep had found her sheep—yes, all the forty-three!

## The Home.

## STOVE POLISH.

Instead of using blacklead, use plum-bago. Mix with a little water to a paste—half a pound, which can be bought at any oil shop for a few pence, will last a year.

## ALUMINIUM SAUCEPANS.

These, if not successfully mended to stand much wear afterwards, try the following plan:—Get a jam sponge tin, one to fit tightly, place it in the pan and you have an entirely new bottom. These flat tins can be bought to fit any and all saucepans.

## TO RENOVATE A FADED CARPET.

Mix together 4oz fuller's-earth, 1oz pipe-clay, 4oz carbonate of ammonia, and one pint of ox gall. When thoroughly amalgamated put the mixture into a pail of water, in which 4oz of soap has been dissolved, and then apply with a sponge. This will not only cleanse the carpet, but will revive the colours also.

## TO CLEAN WINDOWS.

(1) Windows may be effectually cleaned with a cloth made damp with paraffin, and then polished off with an old newspaper. This method tends to keep them cleaner much longer than with water. (2) Take a square of ordinary household blue, and, after wiping all dust off the windows or glass to be cleaned, rub the blue gently on to a clean, soft cloth, and apply to the glass. This will be found useful in cleaning mirrors, etc. (3) Moisten a little whitening with water, and rub over the glass. When dry polish with a soft rag.

## TO WASH AN EIDERDOWN.

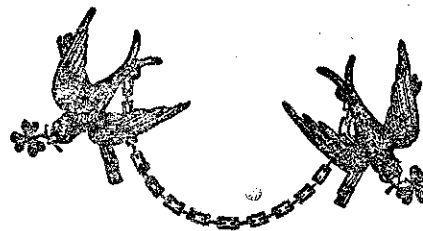
Make a good lather of tepid water and soap powder or jelly, add to this a tablespoonful of vinegar to keep the colours in the covering from running. Place the eiderdown in a tub, and squeeze the dirt out gently with the hands; the eiderdown must not be rubbed, or it will become lumpy. Probably more than one lot of suds will be required. When quite clean, rinse in clear, tepid water. Squeeze as dry as possible with the hands, and hang on the line to dry. A bright, windy day should be chosen for washing. Be careful to turn and gently shake the eiderdown occasionally when drying; this will prevent the down settling in one place, and distribute it equally all over the quilt.

## TO STORE AND PRESERVE APPLES.

Apples to be stored and preserved must be quite sound, and gathered during dry weather from the trees, when they part easily from the spurs. In gathering, great care must be taken not to bruise the fruit. The gathering basket should be lined with soft material, and the fruit laid singly; over the first layer place more soft material; then another layer of fruit, and so on. The apples must not be tumbled out of the basket, but removed very carefully by hand and placed singly on very dry straw, on tiers of shelves in a dark and well ventilated room or cellar. To protect them from being affected to any considerable extent by sudden changes of temperature, it is advisable to cover them with dry straw, about one inch thick. The straw will absorb any moisture that may arise from the fruit, which will ripen of a fair colour, and be more plump than if fully exposed to the air. The fruit may also be preserved very well in clean, dry casks; for packing in these the apples should be carefully selected. After two or three weeks the cask should be opened and the fruit picked over, so that any that may then give indications

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Watchmaker and Jeweller, Dee Street, Invercargill.

## BARLOW'S Jubilee Store.

Is the place to buy your GROCERIES—where you get the best value for 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.

of decay may be removed. The sound apples will, on being repacked, keep plump till fit for use if the cask be kept in a dark, dry, cool place.

Vanilla Cream.—Half-cupful fresh butter, 1½ teaspoonfuls sifted icing sugar, one tablespoonful essence of vanilla. Beat the butter until it is like a whipped cream. Sift the sugar and add it gradually and smoothly, adding a little of the vanilla at a time. When sugar and vanilla are all added it is ready to use.

Shortbread.—Half-pound butter, 1lb. flour, quarter-pound sugar, pinch of salt a few drops of essence of lemon, or lemon juice if liked. Beat the butter and sugar together until the sugar is almost dissolved. Then stir in the flour, working it well until a firm but pliable dough is formed. Turn it out on the board, knead it a little, then cut it into three. Press each piece out into a round, flat cake, lay the cakes on a baking sheet, pinch up the edges to give them a fluted appearance, and cut the cakes right across several times. Bake in a slow oven until the shortbread is pale brown in colour. Let it get cold before removing it from the baking sheet.

## JOTTINGS.

It is proposed to extract poison-gas from plants. Morticulture!

Drink prices, they say, may go higher yet. A terrible prospect when already a goblet spoils a goblet.

A man who was asked by an insurance agent to show him where he kept his valuables pointed to the tannery and coal-cellar.

An elderly defendant said that he had spent the best part of his life in goal. One wonders where he spent the worst part.

"Hurry-up Stew" is the name of a dish we recently noticed in a list of "Simple Recipes." On a steamship menu, it would be unpleasantly suggestive of "Hurry up, steward!"

"Tommy Comes Marching Homeless" is how a famous song might now be sung.

The churches are tilting against both boxing and bigamy. In each case they complain of mis-use of the ring.

How to get a commission. By giving up your house and becoming a left-tenant.

A hymn has been the subject of a French lawsuit. Hitherto, the only hymn we have associated with the legal profession is "Brief life is here our portion."

German firms are already making stealthy efforts to get a new hold on our

## MISS BREY,

THE PARAMOUNT, THE PARAMOUNT,

If you have not already seen our Autumn display of

VELOUR TWEED AND RAIN COATS,

make a point of doing so early. You will be delighted with our exceptional range.

From 69/6 to 12 Guineas.

## INVERCARGILL MILK SUPPLY.

Phone 556. 53 Yarrow street.

MILK and CREAM! MILK and CREAM! MILK and CREAM!

From the finest pastures in Southland. Clean, pure, sweet, wholesome, and scientifically pastured.

## A BOON FOR BABIES.

Our Motto: "Purity."

MILK and CREAM! MILK and CREAM! MILK and CREAM!

## Invercargill Milk Supply,

53 YARROW STREET.

trade. So we shall have to guard against "Prussifoot" as well as "Pussyfoot."

Tipping is "immoral," a meeting of French hotel workers has decided. Agreed: but it also seems to be immortal.

It is complained that many men have not increased their wives' dress allowance to meet the increased cost of living. Certainly the average woman's dress allowance is visibly inadequate.

In America, now, one swallow (if you can get it) doesn't make a pleasant summer.

The argument of the profiteers is that they only took advantage of an opportunity. That was just what Dick Turpin used to do, too.

Barbers now have an official rating in the navy. It can be the Silent Service no longer.



HERE IS NO BETTER VALUE THAN  
THE  
**"VIKING" SEPARATOR.**  
EASY RUNNING, DURABLE, CLEAN  
SKIMMING.

The "VIKING" does the work properly  
and quickly. It is simple, efficient, and  
secures thorough separation. Has a  
larger capacity than any other machine of  
equal rating.

YOUR LOGICAL CHOICE IS A  
"VIKING."

Size A—15 gals. per hour, £9 10s.  
Size B—27 gals. per hour, £14 10s.  
Size C—50 gals. per hour, £25 10s.

MONTH'S FREE TRIAL

**Southland Farmers'  
Co-op Assn. Ltd.**

INVERCARGILL, GORE, WINTON.  
Sole Agents for Southland.

## Farms for Sale.

**60 ACRES** close to Invercargill. Good  
six-roomed house and all buildings,  
three miles to school, rail, factory. Price,  
£45 per acre. Deposit £600.

**90 ACRES** in good district; good four-  
roomed house and all buildings.  
Handy to factory, school etc. Price £20  
per acre. Deposit £700.

**132 ACRES** close to Invercargill; no  
buildings, well fenced. Price £20  
per acre. Deposit £500.

**200 ACRES**, Western District; good  
six-roomed house and all build-  
ings; close to school, etc. A really good  
farm. Price £20 per acre. Terms ar-  
ranged.

**411 ACRES**, Western District; good  
house and all necessary build-  
ings; handy situation. Price £14 per acre.  
Terms arranged.

**500 ACRES**, Western District; good  
six-roomed house and all build-  
ings; handy to rail, school and factory.  
Price £16 10s per acre. Terms arranged.

**SHEEP COUNTRY** for sale in all parts  
of Otago and Southland.

**T. D. A. Moffett,**

Land and Estate Agent, Grain, Seed,  
and Hemp Broker,  
Athenaeum Buildings, Invercargill.

## RABBITSKINS.

Consign Skins to

**R. S. BLACK,**  
DUNEDIN.

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Telegrams—"Blackfoot."  
Telephone—1255.

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Highest Prices. Prompt Returns.

Results Count Every Time.

—FOR—

YOUR NEXT SUIT CALL  
AND SEE US.

WE WILL GIVE YOU EVERY  
SATISFACTION.

**J. H. Geddes & Sons,**

HIGH-CLASS TAILORS,  
Dee street,



## HORTICULTURE.

Everyone interested in gardening should  
have some knowledge of the various  
method of propagation in reference to  
trees, shrubs and plants, generally, and  
also as to the special subjects in which  
they are interested. The various means  
are, seeds, cuttings, layering, division,  
budding and grafting.

Almost everything can be raised from  
seed at least in its specific or "type"  
form, whilst many hybrids and sports do  
not produce seeds or if they do they can-  
not be reproduced true to the seed parent  
whilst others revert to the type, some-  
times giving a proportion true to the  
seed parent and others of intermediate  
hybrid form. Many trees are raised  
only from seed and for these the small  
grower generally depends upon the trade  
growers whilst a considerable number can  
be grown from layers and others from  
cuttings. Most shrubs can be grown  
from layers and many from cuttings, and  
with these it must be remembered that  
in many species the male and female  
plants are distinct, in many cases the  
flowers of the male being insignificant,  
quite different from the female and of no  
value for their flowers, the female plants  
only giving handsome flowers, berries or  
seeds. In all these things the plants of  
commerce as required for gardens or shrub-  
beries must be got from layers or cuttings.  
All trees and shrubs raised from seed are  
slow to bloom some taking many years to  
mature and reach the blooming stage.  
Some seeds also are slow in germinating,  
lying in the ground for two years or more,  
or requiring heat, and often disappointing  
the grower who is anxiously watching for  
results.

By seeds—annuals, and biennials must  
of course be raised by this method. An-  
nuals for bedding which are so greatly  
grown and take such an important place in  
all ordinary gardens should be raised un-  
der glass as unless left till late in the  
spring the growth is so slow and the dan-  
gers of loss so great that there is much  
disappointment, and if sown later in many  
cases the best of the season for blooming  
is over before they come into bloom.  
Petrol tins can now be got in quantities,  
and cut lengthways to a depth of three or  
four inches make excellent seed pans.  
Good clean soil free from weeds and in-  
sects, and fairly rich, should be procured,  
and the pans filled so that when the soil  
is pressed down fairly firm it reaches  
nearly to the top of the pan. Artificial  
manure should be avoided unless the soil  
is prepared a long time before use as it  
is injurious to many tender seeds, even  
such strong seeds as sweet peas resent it.  
The seeds may be sown broadcast or in  
thin lines and the covering of soil neces-  
sary depends upon the size of seeds. Very  
small seeds should be left on the surface  
with perhaps a very slight stirring with  
the point of a stick and a pressure on the  
surface which can be done nicely with a  
piece of glass. Medium sized seeds should  
be similarly sown and covered about an-  
eighth of an inch by a sprinkling of fine  
soil, and large seeds may be covered half  
an inch. Sowing may be done from the  
middle of July to the middle of Septem-  
ber, according to the conditions that can  
be given to them, and the requirements  
of the grower. Pricking out as soon as  
the plants are large enough gives sturdy  
plants that quickly establish themselves  
when planted outside where they are to  
bloom. As however, "pricking out," takes  
considerable space, very good results can  
be got with most things by a reasonable  
thinning when small and planting out in  
little clumps.

Many hardy annuals can be sown out-  
side where they are to bloom and thinned  
when large enough, but if dry weather or  
winds come on when they are small they  
should be given a little protection if pos-  
sible as well as a few waterings.

As biennials need not be sown so early  
all of a hardy nature can be sown out-  
side in beds where they can be protected  
and watered when necessary, and should  
be "pricked" out in a nursery bed so as  
to produce good fibrous roots for trans-  
planting when the time comes. Hardy  
perennials can be treated the same as  
biennials, but those kinds which are known  
to be somewhat delicate when young, or  
slow to germinate, can be raised more  
easily in pots or boxes, as generally speak-  
ing only a limited number of plants are  
desired. *Romneya coulteri* for instance  
takes months to germinate and under cool  
conditions generally a year.

The mechanical newsboy is in use in  
America. A coin is put in the slot, a  
handle turned, and the newspaper is de-  
livered.

## THE FARM.

### WEANING PIGS.

Do not wean all your pigs at one and  
the same time. When you think it time  
to wean, instead of taking all the pigs  
away from the sows, pick out the "tops"  
—say, 50 to 60 per cent. of those that  
show greatest growth and vigour; turn  
these from the sow, or sows, leaving the  
weaker ones, those that show they have  
been "robbed"; let these tail-ends run  
with the sows for another week.

One that has not tried this plan will  
not realise how great an improvement  
can and will be made in that one week  
by the weaker half. The fact is that  
when finally turned with the "tops"  
there aren't any tops; they will be an  
even lot, and anyone who has fed pigs  
knows how valuable "evenness" is. An  
even lot will not only return a greater  
poundage on a given ration, but will also  
bring a high price at selling them.

This plan means more pounds of pork  
without in any way increasing either  
numbers or investment. Again this plan  
is better for the sows—no congested  
udders, no spoiled teats.

Herd testing is becoming an important  
factor in the advancement of British  
dairying. Milk recording societies, subsid-  
ised and fostered by the British Board  
of Agriculture, are springing up all over  
the country. A milk-recording society  
in Yorkshire has a membership of 1,400.

### TREAT THE BULL WITH DISCRE- TION.

The ordinary bad tempered bull seldom  
does harm, other than irritating men's  
nerves and keeping the womenfolk anx-  
ious, but the quiet, docile, "kind as a  
kitten" bull is the one to keep an eye on.  
Years may pass without anything happen-  
ing to injure his reputation; but all the  
while he may be waiting his chance.

Every bull should be handled and man-  
aged at all times as though he were  
known to be dangerous. He is danger-  
ous, whether he has shown symptoms of  
it or not, and some day may make the  
fact sorrowfully manifest.

### ENCOURAGING MILK CONSUMP- TION.

Milk is becoming the favourite drink  
of factory employees in America. Dairy  
specialists sent out by the United States  
Department of Agriculture have been  
arranging little chats, in which the value  
of milk is stressed, to representative  
groups of workers in various trades.  
In Worcester, Mass., short talks on  
milk as a food have been given in eleven  
factories. Exhibits have been set up in  
some of the establishments visited by the  
specialists. After each lecture a number  
of pamphlets were distributed. In Wor-  
cester, fourteen factories are now selling  
milk to their employees during the morn-  
ing or at mid-day.

### VALUE OF CLOVER.

An English authority says:—"White  
clover is an important element in all the  
best permanent pastures, and in dealing  
with poor soils an effort should be made  
to render them more fertile and there-  
fore better suited to the valuable grasses  
which will make a natural appearance in  
due course. On the poorest of soils, the  
quisition was mentioned as a desirable  
introduction of white clover seed gener-  
ally effects remarkable improvement. It  
is usually only possible to improve any  
particular class of grazing land by put-  
ting it into the class immediately above  
it. Thus mountain and hill grazing  
country may be improved so that white  
clover, crested dog's tail, red fescue and  
rough-stalked meadow grass will flourish  
and the pasture will carry an increased  
and more varied head of stock. Grass  
now carrying store cattle and sheep can  
be improved to maintain forward animals  
and become of more value to the dairy  
farmer. Good second-class grass may be  
converted to carry larger and better herds  
of dairy cattle or even fattening beasts.  
The adoption of the graduated method of  
grass land improvement would add so  
much to the valuable herbage of the  
country that thousands of  
acres of poor and moderate grass  
could be brought under an arable  
rotation without appreciably affecting the  
grazier."

### BETTER COWS WANTED.

Our scientific leaders tell us that every  
growing child should have about a quart  
of milk a day. How much of a cow's time  
does it take to produce a quart of milk?  
asks "Hoard's Dairyman." The average  
cow in the United States produces about  
14lb of milk a day, at which rate it would  
take her about 205 minutes to produce  
one day's supply of milk for a child. A

good cow, on the other hand, yielding  
6000lb of milk per year, would require  
only 144 minutes, while the kind of cows  
that a progressive successful dairyman  
ought to have would only require 96  
minutes to produce this same amount of  
milk. Bred down, the question is—which  
kind of cows have you? The most out-  
standing sign of to-day is that we must  
reduce the cost of production to ensure  
satisfactory profits. One of the greatest  
factors in this reduced cost of production  
is more efficient cows. It takes just as  
much human labour to feed ten poor  
cows as to feed ten good ones. It takes  
almost as much human labour to milk the  
poor ones as the good ones. It takes just as  
long to deliver their product to the cream-  
ery. Therefore, there is a tremendous  
saving in the actual cost of production  
when the cows average 9000lb of milk per  
year as compared with those that average  
only 6000 or 4000lb.  
(cont.)

### SKIMMINGS.

While test cutting was in progress in  
West Meath several kegs of butter were  
discovered many feet under the surface.  
The butter was in an excellent state of  
preservation, though it had been lying  
there apparently for centuries.

It is said that the annual production  
of milk in Switzerland per cow has  
fallen off nearly 30 per cent. since be-  
fore the war. Most of the cows now  
milked are heifers, and feed can hardly  
be bought.

The Eltham Dairy Company is con-  
sidering the installation of an ice cream  
plant. In America the central manufac-  
tories send the ice cream to retailers,  
distances of up to 400 miles by rail.  
They have plants that will make 60 tons  
per hour, American investigations have  
disclosed that the food value of ice  
cream as compared with meat is 60 per

The open-air pig system is receiving  
considerable attention. The advocates  
of this policy of keeping pigs base their  
claims upon the natural and hardy  
method of rearing, upon the comparative  
cheapness of allowing the pig to do more  
of its own foraging and the much more  
robust animal that is produced. The open-  
air system has everything to commend it.

Mrs A. Banks and Son, the noted Jer-  
sey breeders of Woodstock Farm, Kivi-  
tea, intend establishing a stud of pure-  
bred Berkshire pigs on their farm. For  
the foundation stock, three sows and a  
boar are being imported from Austr-  
lia. These pigs were bred by, and are  
being imported from that noted Austr-  
lian herd established at Hawkesbury  
College.

Within one month recently four  
American Guernsey cows owned by Mr  
W. Marsh, Waterloo, Ia., made records  
as the leaders in their respective classes.  
Imp Prospect's Rose des Houards pro-  
duced 13,157 pounds of milk and 726  
pounds of butterfat. Lillia of Iowa 2nd  
produced 14,239 pounds of milk, and 776  
pounds of butterfat. Lilly of the Prairie  
has a record of 11,561 pounds of milk,  
and 620 pounds of butterfat. Imp.  
Ladock Jenny's record is 15,453 pounds  
of milk, and 809 pounds of butterfat.

In breeding dairy cattle selection simply  
means the careful culling or exclusion  
from the herd at the very first opportu-  
nity of those animals that have been tried,  
found wanting, and condemned; those  
that do not come up to a fixed standard,  
and every dairy farmer should have a  
fixed standard of performance. At the  
same time individuality should not be lost  
sight of, though performance should be  
placed first.

Mr C. B. Morgan, of Ngawapara, has  
planted an acre of lucerne four years  
ago last October, and has been cutting  
it at intervals for green feed, his cows  
getting a cart load every day. He  
usually commences his first cut early in  
September and takes the last cut about  
the end of April. Last year, he cut the  
acre six times. It grew up again, so he  
put a mob of young stock on to clean it  
right up, then he kept the paddock shut  
up until he started to cut early in Sep-  
tember again. A few months ago, he  
put down another half-acre, and secured  
a beautiful take, with Marlborough seed.  
Mr Morgan has found lucerne a great  
fodder for both milk and test. Last  
season he put milk and test. Last  
Ayrshire heifers under the semi-official  
test and she put up 526lb butterfat with  
an average test for 12 months of 4.7, and  
she was given as much lucerne as she  
would eat night and morning.

**ABRAHAM WACHNER**

SAMPLE ROOMS,

(Top floors. Side entrance only of  
Barrett's, Tobacconist).

Dee street. 4611

EXTRA SPECIAL DISPLAY

—For—

THE PRINCE OF WALES' VISIT.

900 CREPE-DE-CHINE—

## BLOUSES

Of the very latest creation. It will  
cost you nothing to inspect them.

ALSO—

**BOOTS! BOOTS! BOOTS!**

The Latest in FOOTWEAR for Ladies  
and Gentlemen.

Prices to Suit All.

JUST LANDED—

MOLETTE UNDERSKIRTS,

WATER WAVE at 15/-

SOMETHING NEW FOR MEN!

The Latest Patent RAINCOAT. A  
solid wearer. All sizes.

1/- IN THE £ DISCOUNT FOR  
CASH.

**ABRAHAM WACHNER'S**

SAMPLE ROOMS,

DEE STREET.

'Phone—1335.

## Standard Fish Supply,

Tay street.

FRESH Supplies of Fish and Oysters  
Daily. Cleanliness and attention  
assured. Give us a trial. 'Phone 907.

GEO. M. FLETCHER,  
Proprietor.

**J. A. DOIG,**

Sports Depot,

TOBACCONIST & HAIRDRESSER,

Opposite Post Office. 'Phone 574.

ALL LINES OF SPORTS GOODS.  
Full stock of all Smokers' Requisites.  
Largest stock of Pipes in Southland.  
Tobacco Pouches, etc.

Up-to-date HAIRDRESSING SALOON.  
Head and Face Massage, Shampooing.

RAZOR SETTING A SPECIALITY.  
Every one guaranteed.

In attendance in Saloon—  
J. B. TUCKEY, J. BELL

Anglo-American Candy Shop

**AYSON'S**

72 DEE STREET.

This is the shop  
At which you stop.  
To get your sweets,  
While parading the streets,  
At all times.

This is the shop  
Where thousands stop  
To get a drink,  
That makes them think  
'Tis excellent.

## FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

**12 ACRES FREEHOLD:** three miles from Invercargill; two acres bush, balance grass; good four-roomed house, bathroom, h. and c. water; good garden. Price £1500. Terms arranged. This is cheaper than buying a house in town.

**£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.

If you wish to sell, purchase or exchange a property in any part of New Zealand, communicate with me.

**F. H. TUCKER,**

LAND AGENT.

THE SPORTS HARLEY.

THE SPORTS HARLEY.

THE MOTOR EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT.

**THOROUGHLY** up-to-date in every respect. The Harley is an opposed twin of 4½ h.p. with plenty of ground clearance.

Three speed gear-box and clutch running in oil.

Enclosed single drive chain oiled by engine.

Perfect Mechanical Lubrication.

Induction pipe heated by exhaust gases together with dust proof carburetter.

Perfect front and rear springing with wide mudguards. 26 x 3 Tyres.

It is sturdily built and has opened its career by establishing numerous records.

A SAMPLE MACHINE ON VIEW  
INSPECTION INVITED.

**WILSON FRASER,**

DEE ST., INVERCARGILL.

## FOR SALE.

**FRUIT AND CONFECTIONERY BUSINESS.** including American Soda Fountain, ice cream appliances, fittings, and good stock. Situated in good country town, doing a turnover of over £2000. A very sound and profitable business. Suit returned Digger. Further particulars on application.

**BRICK and ROUGH CAST BUNGALOW** of five rooms, with electric light, h. and c. water, porcelain bath, wardrobes, tiled hearths and grates, R.P. finish; just completed; ¼-acre on car route. £1100.

**MAKAREWA**—Four acres, with practically new seven-roomed house, h. and c. water, accret. gas, etc. Two acres in grass. ¼-acre turnips. 1½ acres potatoes. £1500

**Six ROOMS:** gas, electric light, bathroom, asphalt paths, ¼-acre. Immediate occupation. £675.

**WM. TODD & CO., LTD.,**

AUCTIONEERS AND LAND AGENTS,

"Rialto," Don street,

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**STEVENSON BROS.,**

(Late W. D. McRobie).

**GENERAL** Blacksmiths, Wheelwrights, and Horseshoers.

**DRAY AND WAGGON BUILDERS.**

All Classes of Repair Work undertaken.

First-class Workmanship guaranteed.

'Phone No. 447.

## SCIENCE NOTES.

## UPSETTING THE UNIVERSE.

## THE NEW LIGHT DISCOVERY.

The revolutionary discovery, announced at a joint meeting of the Royal and Astronomical Societies in London, that light has weight, recently created a great sensation in the worlds of science and philosophy. It upsets in a moment all the theories that have arisen since the days of Euclid, and brings the "fourth dimension" almost within touch.

The universe no longer extends indefinitely in every direction. All straight lines are really curves. If a "straight" line is projected into space it will not continue indefinitely, but will return to its starting point. Human thought, in fact, must start afresh on an entirely new road.

Dr. Davidson, of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, who was in charge of the British Solar Eclipse Expedition to Brazil, explains in the following article how the discovery was achieved:—

## BENT BY THE SUN.

(By Dr. Charles Davidson, F.R.A.S.)

The result of the British eclipse expeditions to Sobral, in Brazil, and the island of Principe, off the west coast of Africa, stated in non-technical language, is to prove that light has weight in proportion to its mass, as matter has; but it takes an appalling amount of light to weigh an ounce.

The cost of light as supplied by gas and electric light companies works out at something like \$10,000,000 an ounce. This points the moral of daylight saving. The sun showers down on us 160 tons of this valuable stuff every day and yet we often neglect this free gift and prefer to pay \$10,000,000 an ounce for a much inferior quality.

There are two theories of light—the corpuscular and the undulatory. The corpuscular supposes that light is composed of a stream of particles shot across space with great velocity. This is not accepted now, but was the theory held by Sir Isaac Newton, who himself suggested that it would be in conformance with the law of gravitation that light, in passing the sun, would be deflected from the straight path.

## THE WAVE THEORY.

In the early part of the 19th century the corpuscular theory gave place to the undulatory theory, which supposes that light is a wave motion in the ether. Either is a medium hypothesized for the transmission of light.

Light is a form of electro-magnetic energy and therefore has mass, but the question to be solved by the eclipse expeditions was whether light had weight. If light had weight as well as mass it would be deflected on passing near the sun.

The only way in which this could be tested was by observing stars close to the sun, and the only time at which this could be done was during a total eclipse.

The eclipse of May 29 last was a favourable one for the purpose, as at the time of totality the sun happened to be in the midst of a group of bright stars called the Hyades.

## GRAVITY.

If light were subject to gravity, following the Newtonian law, a star grazing the limb of the sun would be displaced outwards by a quantity rather less than the two-thousandth part of the diameter of the moon. Of recent years, however, a new gravitational theory has been put forward by a Swiss mathematician, Professor Einstein, and, according to this theory, the deflection would be twice as great. The eclipse expeditions went in order to determine whether light was deflected at all or not, and, if deflected, whether it was according to the Newtonian or the Einstein law.

Having secured the eclipse photographs of the Hyades, it was necessary for the Sobral observers to remain a couple of months in order to secure the same field of stars in the night sky, the whole test consisting in whether the presence or absence of the sun made a difference in the apparent relative positions of the stars. These photographs were secured in July, and the observers returned to England. The photographs have now been measured and the result is in accordance with the theory of Einstein.

Gum-nut Babies! Gum-nut Babies!  
What's your secret, little ladies?  
It is true, what we've been told,  
That you cannot catch a cold?  
When the weather's damp and breezy,  
Are you really never wheezy?  
We kindergarten kids are sure  
You take Woods' Great Peppermint  
Cure.

## GARDEN NOTES.

## ASPARAGUS.

When the tops are dead, or nearly so, they should be cut down close to the surface of the soil, rather below than above, because the dead tops become hollow, and unless they are covered with soil they afford harbours for woodlice and other vermin. When the tops are cleared off the surface soil may be lightly broken up. Further treatment, manuring, etc. will be dealt with in next month's notes. Anyone intending to plant asparagus next spring should select a site for the plantation at once and get it cleared of weeds, particularly any with perennial roots. It is not now the custom to expend a large amount of labour and material in the preparation of beds, clean soil of fair depth and moderately well manured is all that is required. The culture of asparagus is not yet so general as it should be. This is due partly to the reluctance some people have to plant anything that it not immediately productive, and partly to the erroneous idea that it is an expensive crop. The latter idea is quite wrong; it is, in fact, one of the cheapest crops. The only bar to its general adoption is the fact that it occupies the ground permanently and produces but one crop each year. This prevents those with only small cottage-gardens indulging in it, but is no bar where the area is such that a square rod or two can easily be spared. The advantages are that with modern methods it costs little to establish and once established it requires very little attention, and every year it automatically supplies liberal gatherings of the finest of all vegetables at a time when other supplies are always short. It is, in fact, the greatest asset of any vegetable-garden, and no good garden should be without it.

## CARROTS AND TURNIPS.

Make a sowing of these as soon as possible to supply fresh succulent roots during late winter, and early spring. The turnips will get away free from "fly" now. Rich ground is required so as to get a quick growth, for the turnip is no good unless grown quickly. Sow in drills a foot apart and thin out the seedlings as soon as large enough to handle. At the first thinning space them about three inches apart. In two or three weeks every other bulb can be pulled and used as a vegetable. In a few weeks the same process can be repeated, and the small bulbs used, and it then leaves the crop with plenty of room to grow. Carrots can be treated in a similar manner, except that no fresh manure should be added just previous to the sowing, and at the first thinning out space them to about an inch or an inch and a half apart. Small carrots and turnips are a very useful vegetable, but few ever think of using them till they are quite large. Used when they are about the size of the finger, the roots need no peeling, simply topping and tailing and washing.

## EARLY VEGETABLES.

An experienced and successful gardener was asked how he managed to get his produce so early, and said that in his opinion the following factors were necessary: Sheltered position, warm soil, proper method of cultivation, a liking for the business, combined with attention to details and industry.

By sheltered position he did not indicate a garden enclosed between buildings and walls; on the other hand, it must be open, but protected against the cold winds. It must be open to the sun under whose influence the plants first wake up and grow robust.

A "warm soil" is a gardener's useful expression; by it is meant a soil which attracts and retains warmth. This character is possessed by good loamy soils, but all soils kept under careful cultivation and supplied with plenty of stable manure will gradually acquire it. Compost manures are most useful to bring land into a suitable condition to produce early vegetables. In general it may be said "the darker the soil the better will it retain warmth."

The judicious use of artificial manures is a great help. Farmyard or stable manure is essential to maintain the good physical character of the soil, but such bulky, slow-acting manure does not stimulate to early growth and maturity.

## SPINACH.

A good sowing of this should be made now, so as to follow the beans, and to come in before the winter cabbage. The greatest mistake made with spinach is that it is sown too thickly, and not thinned. Ground well manured and in good heart is necessary. A position in full sun, but in the case of cold, bleak districts, the protection of a hedge is valuable. Let the rows be fifteen to

eighteen inches apart, and if the ground is in want of manure give a good dusting of blood and bone at the time of sowing. A piece of ground that has had a crop of potatoes, peas or beans, and is now idle will be all right. There are two principal sorts—one known as "round" and the other as "prickly." The "round" gives the largest leaves and is the best for warm districts such as Auckland; the "prickly" is more hardy and is useful for the colder districts for winter use. As soon as the seedlings are up, thin so that each individual plant stands a foot from its neighbour.

## MOTORING NOTES.

## THE ENGINE.

Too much stress cannot be laid upon the subject of oiling. Use the correct oil in correct quantity. Too little oil will cause wear of bearings and overheating. Too much oil will result in a dirty and sluggish engine, and may cause the exhaust valve to stick or work sluggishly. But of the two, too much oil is the lesser evil. If the machine is not fitted with a "drip feed" lubricator, but just a simple hand pump, it is better to give a quarter of a pumpful every two or three miles rather than a pumpful every 8 or 12, as the case may be.

I have often been asked "How often do you decarbonise, and grind in your valves?" And to that I reply: "As seldom as possible." No hard and fast rule can be laid down, since every engine has its own peculiarities. The best judge of "when to decarbonise" is the actual rider. He can soon tell how his engine is by taking the machine out on a familiar neighbouring hill, and noticing how she climbs, and how she accelerates when nearing the top.

As a rule, an engine will run from two to three thousand miles without overhauling at all. At the end of that distance she may have lost a little speed and power and possibly the compression may be less. Then the valves should be "ground in," and the stems cleaned. At the end of about 5,000 miles the engine should be completely taken down and cleaned.

If however, you have been over-oiling, it may be necessary to clean the engine after 1,000 miles, or even less. So don't forget—oil correctly.

## THE CARBURETTER.

Before petrol can be burned in an engine it must first be turned into vapour, and mixed with air in the correct proportion to make an explosive gas. This operation is carried out by the carburetter.

There are, of course, many makes and types of carburetters, but the general principle is the same. There are two stages in the operation—firstly, the petrol is split up into a number of small drops, in the shape of a fine spray, and secondly, the evaporation of the drops, and their mixing with air.

The petrol is fed into a small cistern fitted with a "ball-valve," known as the float chamber. From here it is sucked through a small hole, called the jet, by the suction of the engine, and is turned into spray. There is a current of air rushing past the jet, and this splits up the drops into still finer spray, and finally into vapour. (The object of the float chamber and valve is to prevent waste of petrol by keeping the normal level just below the top of the jet. The valve works on just the same principle as the one in the domestic hot water cistern, cutting off the supply when full enough).

In most carburetters, the supply of air is controlled by a lever on the handlebar; as also the amount of gas which can enter the engine.

## CARBURETTER TROUBLES.

There is really very little that can go wrong with this part of the machine. Trouble is often caused by water or dirt getting past the petrol filter, and stopping up the jet, or causing the float valve to stick; in which case the instrument should be taken to pieces, and well cleaned out.

This may be prevented by carefully filtering all the spirit put into the tank, but sometimes in spite of all precautions, dirt will get into the carburetter.

Some time may be usefully spent in trying different jet sizes. Too large a jet means a large petrol consumption, and a hot running engine. Too small a jet will mean loss of power, and misfiring. Find the smallest jet which will give you enough power for your district. If you intend touring that country later it is easy to slip in a smaller jet. Remember that benzole requires a smaller jet than petrol to give the best results.

## CURIOUS EPITAPHS.

In Carisbrooke Churchyard, Isle of Wight:—

The World's a city full of streets,  
And Death's the market-place where  
men meet;  
If Death were merchandise that  
could buy,  
The rich would live, the poor  
would die.

At Lincoln, "on a blacksmith":—  
My sledge and hammer lie reclined,  
My bellows, too, have lost their wind;  
My fire's extinguished, forge decayed,  
And in the dust my vice is laid;  
My coal is spent, my iron gone,  
My last nail driven, my work is done.  
Finis coronat opus.

In the old kirkyard at Roslin:—

Underneath this stone doth die  
As much beauty as could die,  
Which, while it lived, did vigour give  
To as much virtue as could live.

On the south wall of Streatham church:

Elizabeth, wife of Major-General Hamilton, who was married forty-seven years, and never did one thing to disoblige her husband.

On the tomb of Sir John Grahame, in Falkirk Churchyard:—

Heir lyes Sir John the Grahame, baird wight and wise. Ane of the chieft raskewitt Schotland thirce. Ane Dalg Knight not to the world was lent—was guid Grahame of Truth and llandment. Sir John was slain by the Eng, 22nd July, 1293.

In Melrose Abbey:—

Earth walketh on the Earth,  
Olistening like gold;  
Earth goeth to the Earth  
Sooner than it wold.  
Earth buildeth on the Earth.  
Palaces and towers;  
Earth sayeth to the Earth,  
"All shall be ours."

The following lines were engraved on the lid of an ancient sarcophagus discovered many years ago in Glasgow Cathedral:

Our life's a flying shadow, God's the Pole,  
The Index pointing at Him in our Soul,  
Death's the Horizon where our Sun is set,  
Which will through Chryst a Resurrection get.

## SONG OF THE AIRMAN.

I sail the air as a yacht the sea, when  
the waves are combing and singing;  
I know the glee of the screaming gull as  
she rides the plunging blast;  
The motor's roar is the thud of my  
heart, and the planes are plumes of  
my winging;  
I am sail and wing and storm and tide,  
as I toss the townships past.

I have done with the weight of the lab-  
ouring world, and time and space and  
resistance;  
I drive the clouds like frightened sheep,  
I catch and loose the wind;  
The spires and chimneys dive and run,  
the rivers wink into distance;  
I worry the trains like a frolicsome dog  
till they drop with a pant behind.

The wondering winds come gathering  
round, like cattle snuffing and loving  
A turn of my hand, a shake of my  
wings, they butt and scatter and fly.  
I thread the lights of the station-sites  
in a necklace glowing and growing;  
I fling the beats of my heart behind to  
measure the rounded sky.

The song of the lark comes spangling  
down, like rain on my open fingers;  
I swoop between the swooping larks  
and the dove she has all but caught;  
I dodge the teeth of the lightning  
as it hisses and turns and lunges;  
I am free in the void as a shouting  
let loose when the worlds were born.  
—Frederick Langbridge.

New Zealand's revenue went up by about another £2000 on Tuesday, says a Wellington paper, when a score of Chinese, mostly young men, lined up at the Customs office. All were from Sydney. It is reckoned that the Oriental population of the Dominion has been increased by the number of about fifty by the three steamers from Sydney.



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IT TO YOUR AD-  
VANTAGE TO DEAL WITH  
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## COUNTRY NOTES.

### SOUTH OTAGO NOTES

The following country notes has been  
unavoidably held over from last issue ow-  
ing to pressure of space.

BALCLUTHA, May 11.

Preparations are well in hand for  
the re-union dinner which is being  
held under the auspices of the Clutha  
District R.S.A. for members of the  
N.Z.E.F. and H.M. Overseas' Forces.  
The dinner will be held on the evening  
of the occasion of the Prince of Wales' visit to Balclutha, as at present arranged  
for the 20th inst. The committee anti-  
cipate that the seating accommodation of  
the hall will be taxed to its utmost capa-  
city, and as admission will be by ticket  
only members requiring tickets would be  
well advised to secure same without delay.

Mr John Mosley, of Stirling, has  
just returned from an interesting three  
days spent in Invercargill demonstrat-  
ing that the presence of the dread dis-  
ease cancer can be traced in a major-  
ity of cases to the persons affected  
living and sleeping in houses under-  
neath which flow subterranean streams  
of water. Mr Mosley, who was accom-  
panied by Mr McSkimming, sen., of  
Benhar had the support of the Revs.  
Robertson and Gardiner, Mr Taylor (of  
McGruer Taylor and Co.), and other  
leading Invercargill gentlemen in his  
investigations, locating the water by  
the aid of his "divining rod" or radio-  
indicator, as he prefers to call it. The  
results were sufficiently startling. Over  
70 cases were investigated and in every  
one a connection could be traced  
between the cancer and the fact that  
the patients had been living in dwell-  
ings situated over underground  
streams. At Wallacetown similar  
cases were found, and Mr Mosley in-  
forms us, four deaths in that little  
place could be traced to the causes  
stated. Mr Mosley has been engaged  
to proceed to Canterbury to-day on  
the Otago railway line, and locate a  
coal seam for a company operating  
there.

Mr H. Simpson (Mayor of Balclutha),  
left on Monday for Wellington to en-  
deavour to arrange for a borough loan  
of £1000 with £ for £ subsidy for fur-  
ther river bank protective work. Word  
was received from Mr Simpson yesterday  
to the effect that the loan had been ar-  
ranged for with the Government, and  
that the grant attached thereto was  
satisfactory. The Town Clerk has been  
advised by wire from the Mayor that the  
loan is to bear interest at 5½ per cent.,  
with 1 per cent. sinking fund; and that  
the grant has been made by the Public  
Works Department on the distinct under-  
standing that this is to be the last.

The new waterworks which are be-  
ing constructed by the borough are rap-  
idly nearing completion. The engineer  
in charge, Mr F. M. de Bazin, informed  
our representative yesterday that the job  
had been delayed through material  
not coming to hand, but this difficulty  
has now been overcome, and it should not  
be very long before the final coupling  
is completed and the water "hitched  
on." Messrs G. and D. Middlemarch  
have practically finished the powerhouse,  
a nice brick building which comprises  
an engine room 37ft x 22ft, and a gener-  
ator room 25ft x 22ft. The air com-  
pressor is in position and the foundations  
are all ready for the engine and other  
portions of the plant, which will have  
to be removed from the present power-  
house at the traffic bridge. Mr de Bazin  
and his men have made a good job of the  
concrete reservoir, which has an area of  
80ft x 50ft, and is six feet deep, with  
sloping sides, giving an impression of  
great depth. An ingenious arrangement  
for emptying the reservoir for clearing  
purposes by means of an ejector pipe to  
the river and siphon has been fitted.  
Twelve hundred feet of 8in iron pipe were  
required to connect the main in Clyde  
street and the laying of this was no in-  
considerable job. The gas main has also  
now been connected. While the engine  
and the rest of the plant are being shift-  
ed into their new quarters it is proposed  
to keep up the town supply of water by  
using a portable engine to work the pump  
at the old powerhouse.

In common with many other towns  
in New Zealand, Balclutha is suffering  
from a visitation of influenza in a mild  
form at the present time, and quite a  
number of people, including several pro-  
minent residents, have been compelled to  
take to their beds. On Monday and  
Tuesday between 60 and 70 pupils  
were absent from the local school,  
partly because of influenza and partly  
owing to an outbreak of mumps. Since

then the number of absentees has less-  
ened.

The River Commission's report is to  
hand and will be much read by settlers in  
and around the flood area. The report  
takes up something like sixty typewrit-  
ten sheets of foolscap and has several  
recommendations, which if carried out  
should ensure the place against flood dam-  
age for ever more.

The fourth annual show of the Green-  
field A. and P. Society, held in the Green-  
field Hall on Wednesday was even more  
successful than its predecessors. The  
entries totalled 696, which was about 150  
in excess of last year. The quality of  
the exhibits was par excellence, and a  
great credit to the district. The show  
was officially opened by Mr John Edie  
(member for Bruce), and although the  
weather was cold the attendance was  
large. The sheep-guessing competition  
resulted in six guessing the correct  
weight (87½lb)—viz., Mrs McLaughlin,  
Misses A. Dalgleish and J. Miller, Messrs  
Archie Wilson, J. H. Jones, and R. Mc-  
Arthur.

### NIGHTCAPS.

Reports are to hand of the presence of  
diphtheria in the district.

The Entertainment Society has decided  
to hand over its funds to the War Funds  
Association. It is proposed to have an-  
other function in the near future in aid  
of the medal fund.

The Presbyterian Ladies' Guild is hard  
at work preparing for its annual sale of  
work in the near future. All ladies who  
would like to help in whatever way they  
think fit are kindly welcomed to the guild  
to help make a success of the sale. The  
young people are busy with their fancy  
work, which in the past has been of high  
quality and sells well at the sales.

### THE CANDID CANDIDATE.

"What are the issues?" we mildly in-  
quired.

The candidate gave us a look of dis-  
dain;

"What are the issues?" he paused and  
perspired.

"Don't be so stupid! The issues are  
plain.

Our party believes in the good of the  
Nation,

We're going to go in and untangle  
this mess."

He wagged his finger in stern indigna-  
tion.

"What are the issues? The issues are  
us!"

"What do you stand for?" we waited  
his answer.

He thumped on the desk with his  
sneaky hand.

"Pray do not be foolish, no woman  
or man, sir,

Can have any doubt as to just where  
I stand, sir,

No person dare make the insulting sug-  
gestion

That I lack convictions for which I  
would fight.

Without reservations I'll answer your  
question.

"What do I stand for— I stand for  
the right!"

"What are your views on the League  
reservations?"

He beat with his fist on his opulent  
vest.

"Why ask me," he cried, "for renewed  
declarations?

My views on that subject I've often  
expressed.

The highest convictions of honour shall  
guide me,

My views are straightforward and  
honest and fair;

No matter what critics may scorn and  
deride me,

They'll be in the platform; just look  
for them there."

"What about liquor?" He pounded the  
table.

"I cannot," he said, "answer ques-  
tions all night;

But if I'm elected I know I'll be able  
To settle that problem, and settle it  
right.

Don't ask for details, I cannot disclose  
them;

To tell you about them would hardly  
be wise;

But this much certain, that when the  
world knows them

They're sure to delight both the wets  
and the dries."

—(New York Herald.)

A change of Vatican librarians takes  
two years to accomplish, since each of the  
forty thousand valuable manuscripts must be  
handed over separately after an  
identification which is by no means per-  
fect.

## APRES LA GUERRE TRAGEDY.

Wee Wilhelmine is on the green,  
Old Kaspar's by the door;  
When Peterkin comes bulging in,  
And casts upon the floor  
A something, large, and tipped with  
brass,

Which he's discovered in the grass.

With grimy hands he proudly stands  
The Something on its base;  
Then, peering up, much like a pnp,  
Into the wise old face:  
"Is't some poor fellow's skull," asks he  
"Who fell in the Great Victory?"

The ancient seer bestows a leer  
Upon the simple boy;  
While Wilhelmine, with optics keen,  
Trips in to view the toy.  
"Why, no," says he, "'tis only just  
A whizzbang, child, that failed to  
bust."

"Now, tell us true about it, do,"  
Demands the infant Pete;  
And Mina flops upon a box  
Hard by her grandsire's feet.  
Now tell us all about this shell;  
For we have heard the war was h—ll."

"Well, 'twas the Huns who used the  
gun.

That flung this scrap-iron round.  
Mayhap this chunk of stuff was punk.  
And really it seems quite sound.  
I really cannot figure just

Why this here whizzbang wouldn't  
bust."

"Now, is that so? I'll make it go!"  
Is Peterkin's next cry.

And in his grip the youthful rip  
Has raised the whizzbang high,  
Old Kaspar, verging on a fit,  
Makes one wild grab, and seizes it.

"Twixt fear and rage, the senile sage  
Gives Pete a mighty clout  
(While Wilhelmine, of foresight keen,  
Turns noiselessly about;  
Regains the door, and slips away  
A hundred yards or so, to play).

The greybeard knits his brow and sits  
Once more beside the door.

How to destroy the evil toy  
Is vexing him full sore.

Till, gazing down the leafy grove,  
He says: "We'll shove it in the  
stove!"

With actions quick, in half a tick,  
Nigh leaping from his skin,

Young Peter makes a fire of stakes,  
And heaves the whizzbang in.

Then on the rug he's swiftly curled,  
And darkness falls upon the world.

A sudden flash, a rendering crash;  
A lurid, blinding glare!

And 'Mina's seat, and bits of Pete  
Are sailing through the air;

While Kaspar goes out with the door,  
At ninety M.P.H., or more.

"That whizzbang must at last have  
bust,"

Weeps little Wilhelmine.

"Poor Peter, sure will sport no more  
On this ere village green."

And as she digs the relics up  
She softly curses Bertha Krupp.

—"Dileas-gu-Brath!" in "The Veteran,"  
Canada.

### ANCIENT ORDER OF FORESTERS.

The ordinary meeting of Court Queen  
of the South was held in the Friendly  
Societies' Hall, Tay street, Chief Ranger  
Sister F. Hamilton presiding. Official  
visits were received from the following  
Courts: Southern, Pride of Edendale,  
Royal Oak (Wyndham), Star of the For-  
est (Woodlands), and Star of the South.  
Visitors were also present from Balclutha  
and Court Loyal Northland (Wellington).

The toasts to the visitors were called in  
the usual fashion observed by Foresters  
by P.C.R.'s, Sisters Baird, Grey, Liddell,  
McNeill, and Carr, and were responded to  
by P.C.R.'s, Bros. J. Barracough (Wood-  
lands), J. Horan (Southern), W. Check-  
etts (Star of the South), C.R. Bros. A. H.  
Jones (Court Royal Oak), the C.R. of  
Pride of Edendale, P.C.R. C. W. Patton  
and W. Sampson.

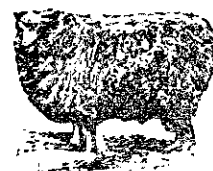
The Secretary (Bro. A. W. Jones) re-  
ported that a liberal response was being  
received to an appeal on behalf of a dis-  
tressed member, and the allocation of the  
fund was left to him and the treasurer,  
with power to act.

The visitors were entertained at a so-  
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**SHORT STORIES.**

WILLING TO OBLIGE.

A Scottish emigrant on his arrival at Montreal stopped for a moment to examine a coat hanging in front of a clothing store, when the proprietor asked him if he would not try on the coat.

"I dinna ken but I wad," responded the emigrant, consulting his watch; and he went in and set to work. No matter how often he found a fit, he tried on another and another till he tried on about 30. Then, again looking at his watch, he resumed his own garment and walked off, saying:

"Weel, I've lost time, nae doot, but hang the fellow that'll no' oblige anither when he can!"

HER MODE OF REFUSAL.

Young Harroby was in love. He had declared his passion to the young lady, and she had passed him along to her father. Father listened to his tale patiently.

"It's all right so far as I am concerned," the old gentleman said, "but I am afraid that Janet will not marry you."

"Oh, don't say that!" the young man pleaded. "Has she said so?"

"No," said the old gentleman, "but from what I know of Jane, if she had wanted you she would have taken you without referring you to me."

REDUCTION.

Some time ago Sir Arthur Conan Doyle arrived in Paris from the Riviera, and, having hailed a taxi at the station, drove to his hotel. As he paid his fare he was rather surprised when the chauffeur said, "Thank you, Monsieur Conan Doyle."

"How do you know my name?" asked Sir Arthur.

"Quite simply," the chauffeur replied. "I read in the newspaper that you were coming from Nice. At the station I examined you and saw that you were English. Your hair seemed to me to have been cut by a southern barber, and on the heel of your shoe were traces of Marseilles mud."

Sir Arthur stared at him in astonishment. "Are those the only signs by which you recognised me?"

"Oh, no," said the driver. "There was one other. I saw your name printed on your trunk."

BLEAK PROSPECT.

"Two bags and a hatbox," said the tourist who was travelling for the first time in Scotland, on arriving at a little wayside station. The porter mournfully collected the articles and put them on board a cab. "And, by the way, porter," said the passenger, "what do they usually give you here for a tip?"

The porter jerked his thumb over his shoulder. "See yon big hoose among the trees?" he asked.

"Yes, but what has that got to do with it?"

"Weel, that's the workhouse, and it's fu' o' auld railway porters."—"Argonaut."

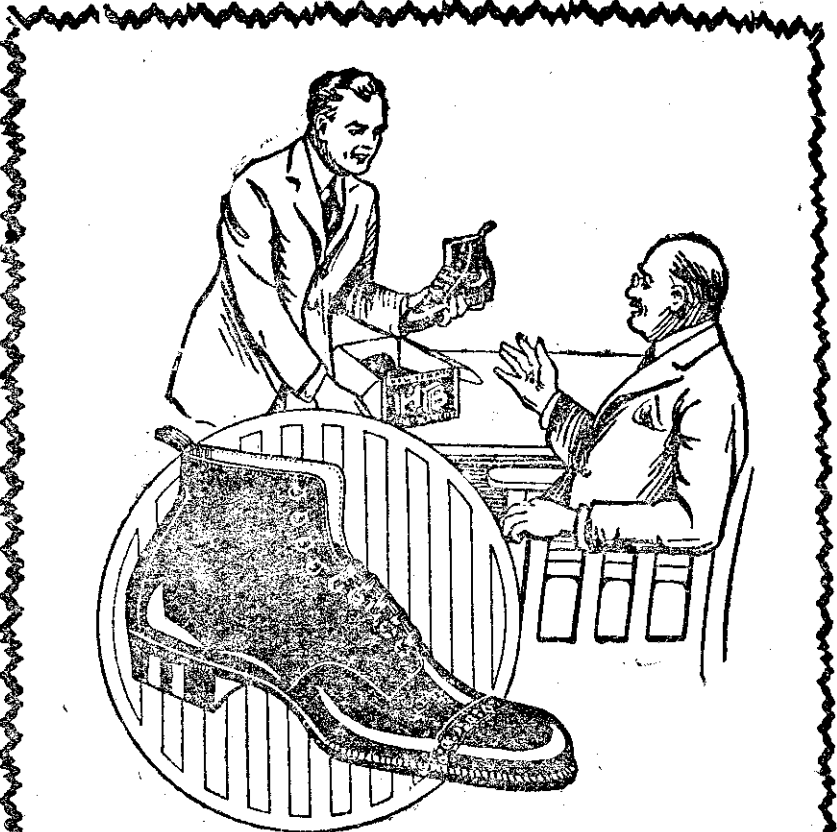
PROOF OF CURE.

"I suppose you have effected some surprising cures in your time?" remarked a young lady at dinner the other night to a famous nerve specialist.

"Rather," came the emphatic reply.

"Only last week I cured a man so completely that he had the nerve to attempt to borrow a 'fiver' off me before he left the hospital."

He—"Oh, pray Miss Johnson, don't call me Mr Brown." She—"Oh, but our acquaintance has been so brief (sweetly). Why shouldn't I call you Mr Brown?" He—"Oh, only because my name's Robinson!"



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