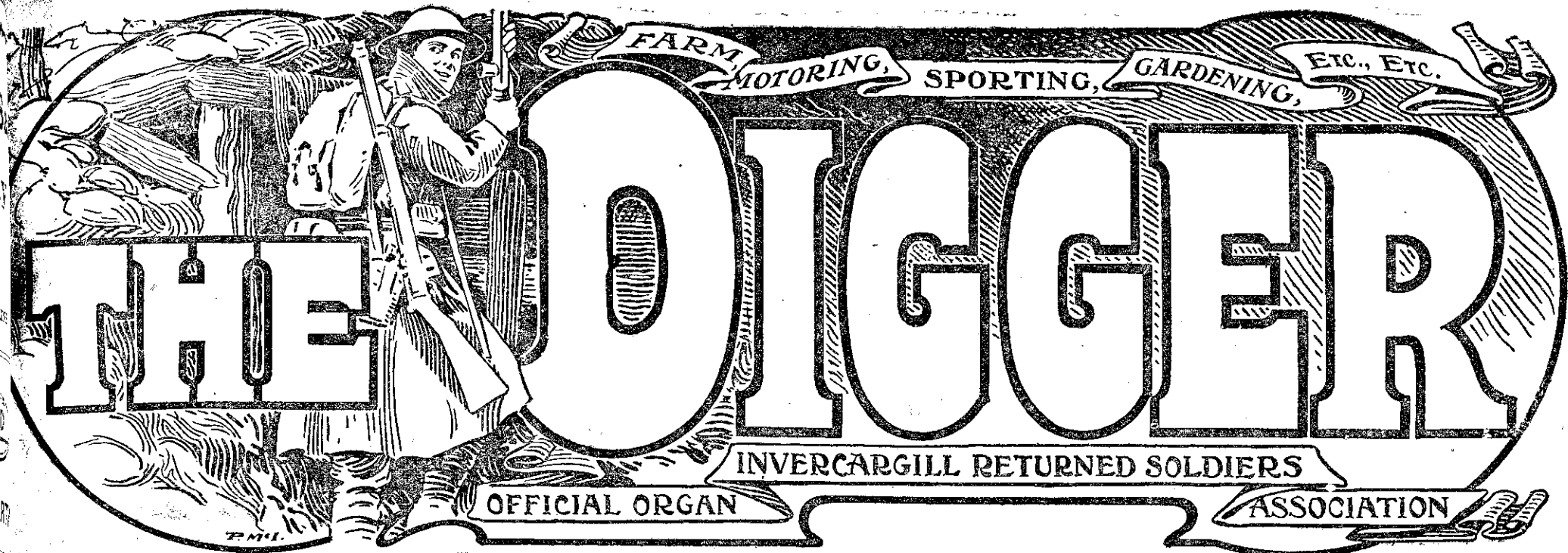




No. 23.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1920.

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RETURNED MEN entrusting their or-
ders to my care may rest assured
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Our carts will call at your home on re-
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A SIMPLE SAPPER.

Down away by Morbecque is the place
for you and me,
Building huts for soldiers of the Great
Armee;
There away by Morbecque, where the
girls are fresh and fair
There's ne'er a sound of battle on the
quiet air.

As we came in by Morbecque town
About the fall o' year,
I spied a lassie watching me,
for you and me,
Her hair was brown, her lips were red,
And she was fair to see;
And when I caught a dainty smile
'Twas Morbecque town for me!

So when the shades of eventide
Lay soft across the plain,
I hastened back along the road
To see that lass again,
And there she stood—the little dear!
To view the setting sun;
And when she sighed, "Bon soir,
monsieur!"
Well—what would you have done?

Said she: "You come Nouvelle Zelande"
Said I: "Mais oui;" and then
She swore she loved New Zealanders
Beyond all other men;
And "Entrez, monsieur, Voulez vous
Some biere—special brand?
C'est chere, mais voila!"—what could I
But squeeze her little hand?

Al! me! how gaily fled the days;
No joy could e'er eclipse
Those tender vows of mutual love,
'Midst beer and eggs and chips
And when at last we took the road
I hadn't got a sou.
But—peace, my heart!—how tight she
clung,
And promised she'd be true!

As we went out by Morbecque town
The heart o' me was dead
To see her wave a mute farewell
And droop her pretty head.
But in a week I came again—
Now, picture this who can:
I found her swapping kisses with
A tall Australian!

Down away by Morbecque is no place
for you or me;
Let others house the soldiers of the
Great Armee;
There away by Morbecque they're as false
as they are fair;
So let's get back to battle and the mid-
night flare.

In an ordinary book the letter "Z" will
occur, on an average, twice in 3000 words.

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THE Choicest 'of every housewife who
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OUR TEA DEPARTMENT

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We are still receiving regular ship-
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Please note, when comparing our prices
remember our Coats are not that cheap,
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Hydrotite Coat, sixty per cent. wool
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Hydrotite Coat, seventy per cent. wool
(guaranteed), £7 10s.

Covert Coat, pure wool, £8.

Hydrotite Coats, all wool, good quality,
£5 15s.

Hydrotite Coats, nice grey, very dressy,
£7 15s.

Trench Horrockses, pure wool, £5 15s.

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—MUTTON BIRDS!—

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LATEST COLLARS, WIDE-END TIES,
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Of WIDE-END TIES all being cleared
now at 2/6 each. Worth nearly
double.

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COMPLETE DRAMATIC STORY

A YEAR OF LIFE.

"It isn't good enough. A fight is all right if you've got a sporting chance; but when defeat is certain, what's the good? I'm down and out! The world has no use for me, and I've no use for the world."

The young man who formed these words in his mind, though he did not utter them, was little more than a lad.

He stood on the Thames Embankment, leaning against the parapet, and staring down moodily at the dark and sluggish river.

He had quite made up his mind what he was going to do, and he was not afraid. Death had no terrors for him; it was life that frightened him.

He gave one swift glance to the right and left, to be sure he was alone, and then scrambled up to the parapet.

At that moment a man, who had been watching him, leaped out from the dark shadow of a buttress, seized him bodily, and flung him back on to the pavement.

With a cry of rage, the young man leaped to his feet, and faced his rescuer.

The latter was a tall, well-dressed man of forty; handsome, in a dark, foreign way, with a black, crinkly beard, and a pair of keen eyes, glittering beneath black shaggy eyebrows.

"Going to make a hole in the river?" he inquired pleasantly.

"What the deuce is that to do with you? My life is my own, I suppose?"

"Quite so, and as you were evidently going to give it away, I thought you might care to sell it."

"Eh?"

"I'm a buyer."

"What do you mean?" demanded the youth, and his tone was still angry and impatient.

"I'll tell you if you'll listen. After all, there is no hurry for your job, is there? I've had you in my eye for the last three months. I know what you've gone through. I have watched your career, and I've seen this coming. I know all about you!"

"Who are you? I've never seen you before."

"Never mind. Listen! You were brought up as a gentleman. That means you are an ignoramus. You have no profession, no trade, no means of getting a living. Then you were thrown on the world without money and without friends. You got a job as a clerk, and you can't even spell."

He laughed softly, as though the situation rather amused him.

The young man flushed angrily, but made no reply, and the other continued:

"Your training and your natural tastes incline you to all the refinements of life. Instead of these you have encountered nothing but humiliation, degradation, poverty, sordidness, and dirt. Am I right?"

"What if you are? Why should you blame me for putting an end to a life which I find so vile?" cried the young man passionately.

"I don't. I think you are quite right. You will never make a success of life. I wasn't thinking of you when I interfered with your plans. I was thinking of myself. I want to make money."

"Out of me?"

"Yes."

"Oh, go to the devil! You're crazy!"

"Not really, though eccentric, and a bit of a sportsman. Listen! You have quite made up your mind to take your life?"

"I have; and as soon as—"

"Quite so. Now, you must not change your mind. That is the only thing I insist on. You have got to commit suicide, but not to-night, nor to-morrow, but in exactly twelve months' time!"

"Eh?"

The older man slipped his arm through that of the youth, and led him away.

"You are healthy—fit and sound, eh?" he said, as they strolled along.

The other laughed bitterly.

"Oh, yes! I am healthy enough," he said. "One can't make much out of that."

"Don't be so sure. Agree to my proposal, and I will give you three thousand pounds to spend as you like during the next twelve months."

"Now I know you are mad!" ejaculated the young man.

"Well, hear my babbling to the end, Mr Wrench. The trouble with you is that you are a fool! You don't know your Lon-

don. You don't know the varieties of ways there are of making money in this wonderful city. I do. At any rate, I know some of the ways. This is my plan. To-night we will have a nice little supper together, and I will provide you with some decent clothes. To-morrow we will insure your life for twenty-five thousand pounds. What's your age?"

"Twenty-one."

"Then the premium will be something over five hundred pounds. I'll pay that. The first premium, I mean. Of course, the second will never be paid. Just before it comes due you must meet with an accident. We must make it look like an accident. Well, what do you say?"

The young man stood still, and stared at his companion.

"Yes; three thousand pounds and one whole year of glorious life."

Tom Wrench flung back his head, and gave a wild, reckless laugh.

"What do I say?" he cried. "Lord! Need you ask? Give me a year of life—real life, and you can do what you like with me at the end. You need not fear that I shall not keep my part of the bargain."

"No, I don't fear that," replied the other drily. "Of course, I shall take precautions. I shall so arrange it that if you fail me, you will meet with not only poverty, but also public disgrace and imprisonment. There are one or two papers you will have to sign."

"I'll sign any blessed thing!"

"Good!! Now come along. Let us get into evening clothes, and then we'll go and have a bit of supper at the Savoy."

LADY ZARNLEY'S BALL.

"A very distinguished-looking young fellow."

"Yes; and so clever."

"Is he rich?"

"I imagine so. He spends money very freely, and besides, I heard only this morning, that Lord Zarnley offered him the position of private secretary, and he refused."

"Indeed!"

"Yes. His lordship is so disappointed. So are we all."

The speakers were the Duchess of Berwick and Lady Zarnley.

Lady Zarnley's ball—the ball of the season—was in progress in Zarnley House, in Grosvenor Square, and the two ladies had seized the opportunity for a little confidential chat.

"He cannot be very ambitious," observed the duchess. "As Lord Zarnley's secretary any career would be open to him."

"That is what we cannot understand. He has been helping Lord Zarnley, you know, and has displayed extraordinary talents, and yet he won't accept a salaried position."

"Cannot your daughter persuade him to change his mind?" said the duchess significantly. "Lady Mary has influence in that quarter if I am not mistaken."

Lady Zarnley looked grave.

"You have noticed that? Yes, it is pretty obvious. The young people are in love. He as much as she, although he tries to hide the fact. I cannot understand it. This, of course, is strictly between ourselves."

"Oh, quite!"

"Well, do you know, my dear duchess, although young Wench is so obviously in love with my daughter, yet the affair does not progress in the least. Something seems to be holding him back."

The two ladies' heads came closer together, and the conversation became still more confidential.

The band ceased, the dancers scattered, and across the polished floor of the great ball-room a handsome young couple moved side by side.

The man was Tom Wrench, the girl Lady Mary Zarnley.

Lady Mary was barely twenty, and radiantly beautiful.

It was her first season, and she looked up at her companion with eyes of innocent and undisguised adoration.

Tom Wrench's face was grave, even when he returned her smile. He was good looking, and of commanding appearance. In spite of his youth, he looked a person of importance, and many eyes were turned upon him.

At Lady Mary's suggestion they passed from the ball-room to the cool conservatory.

"I am sorry I have to leave early to-night," said Tom when they were seated.

"So am I," replied the girl, looking down and toying nervously with her fan.

"It has been very pleasant, our friendship, Lady Mary—very pleasant to me, I mean."

"And to me."

"It is good of you to say that. I may be going away soon—"

"Going away?"

She was too innocent to conceal the startled note in her voice.

"Yes. If we never met again, would you regret our friendship?"

The girl looked up at him then, and there were tears in her eyes.

Burning, passionate words rose to Tom Wrench's lips, but he forced them back and rose hastily to his feet.

How he tore himself away he did not know, but he did not feel safe till he was outside the house.

Nearly a year ago he had begun to live, and for ten months he had lived a full and eager life—happy, reckless, and care-free. And then he had met Lady Mary Zarnley. That was six weeks ago, and since then all was changed.

Tom Wrench was a young man absolutely without fear.

He had never repented of his bargain with the stranger who met him on the Embankment. He had thoroughly enjoyed his year of life, and he was quite prepared to pay the price.

Before he met Lady Mary the thought of the coming end had never troubled him, never cost him an hour of sleep.

But now, as he walked home to his suite of bachelor apartments through the quiet London streets after parting with the woman he loved, he was shaken, and his whole soul was torn by a bitterness far worse than the bitterness of death.

A DAY AT THE RACES.

"Six more days?"

"Yes; on Tuesday next the—er—the accident must occur."

Tom Wrench looked at the man as he sat in his office chair and bent over the papers on the desk before him.

Silas Brooke was very calm, very definite, very business like. There was no relenting in his gleaming eyes.

"There is no way out?" suggested Tom hesitatingly.

"Hardly. You see, by your lamentable death I shall collect 25 thousand pounds. It has cost me, with your allowance, the premium, and sundry expenses, about four thousand pounds. If you fail me I have the means of sending you to prison and of disgracing you in the eyes of—"

"That will do! I shall not fail!"

"Of course, if you can give me the 25 thousands pounds—"

"Don't be absurd! Have you arranged how my death is to be—"

"Everything is arranged. If you will call here at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, you will find everything fixed up to—our mutual satisfaction."

He rose and smiled evilly.

Tom Wrench was once more in the street, he went to his bank.

He had lived joyously during the last year, but not viciously, nor had he indulged in any wild, extravagant follies. He knew there must still be several hundreds to his account at the bank, and he determined to spend the whole amount in buying a little farewell present for Lady Mary.

The whole amount, sir?"

"Yes, I wish to clear the account."

"Exactly one thousand and fifteen pounds, sir. Will you have a thousand pound note, sir?"

"That will do."

Tom left the bank with three notes—one for a thousand, one for ten, and one for five pounds.

He went next to Bond street and spent an hour of the morning looking into the windows of jewellers' shops. Suddenly a club friend accosted him—a good fellow named Terry, of somewhat sporting proclivities.

"Why, Wrench, how solemn you look! Pipped?"

"Not a bit of it!" replied Tom, rousing himself.

"Then come with me to the races. There's some good racing to-day. The weather is ideal, and my car is here."

Tom laughed and assented.

They had a glorious run down, and when they were in the ring, and all the animated life of the racecourse was going on around them, Tom almost forgot the

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BELT FASTENERS AND BELT LINKS. All sizes.
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ACCIDULATED FRUIT DROPS.

GINGER AND BUTTER NUGGETS.

ALMOND AND BUTTER.

All 1/4 per lb.

—At—

RICE'S,

LEADING CONFECTIONERS,
DEE STREET.

"You are not betting, Wrench?" remarked Terry, after several races had been run.

"No; I'm not greatly interested in that side of racing."

"Quiser chap! Well, you must have something on the big race, if it is only a tanner!"

"Al right, I'll have a tanner on Lady M," said Tom, glancing at the card.

"Nonsense! A rank outsider! No chance at all! Twenty-five to one against her!"

"Never mind! I fancy her."

Terry laughed.

"Oh, very well! Come along. I'm going to put fifties each way on Bols with old Bryant. I'll introduce you. I dare say he will take your tanner."

"Who's old Bryant?"

"Lord, man, what ignorance! The biggest bookie in the ring!"

The introduction was made, and Tom opening his pocket-book, took out the ten-pound note, and handed it to the great book-maker.

"Will you take that about Lady M?" he asked.

Bryant glanced at the note, and seemed to hesitate.

"Doubtless," thought Tom, "he is accustomed to bigger sums."

"Oh, very well," said the bookmaker, with a smile. "You are a friend of Mr Terry's. Twenty-fives I'm giving about Lady M."

Tom strolled away, and forgot the incident until the big race was run, and Terry came rushing excitedly up to him.

"Why, man, you were right! You knew something, you old villain! Lady M. wins by a head! At twenty-five, too! Why, man, you've made a cool £250."

Tom was not greatly interested, but with his friend he strolled off to interview the bookmaker.

Old Bryant, who was famous for never turning a hair whatever were the fortunes of the day, met him genially.

"Your information was good, sir!"

"Or my luck!" replied Tom.

"I can't pay you now, of course, but if you call at my office in London on Monday the money will be ready. Or, if you prefer to leave your address, you'll get the cheque on Tuesday morning."

Tuesday morning! Tom thought of another appointment he had on Tuesday morning, and a grim smile appeared on his face.

The bookmaker misinterpreted the smile.

"You don't expect me to carry such a sum about with me, I suppose!" he said rather warmly.

"Eh?" ejaculated Tom.

Then instinctively he drew out his pocket-book. He opened it, and stared at the two notes it contained.

One was for £10 and the other for £5.

In an instant the amazing truth flashed across his mind. He had, by accident, backed Lady M for £1,000 at twenty-five to one, and he had won a fortune of £25,000.

Tom Wrench kept his appointment on Tuesday and paid his debt of honour. The same afternoon he called on Lord Zarnley and accepted the position of his lordship's private secretary. A week later his engagement to Lady Mary Zarnley was announced.

The End.

MISSING.

23/2103 TURNBULL G. P.

The above-named left New Zealand with "E." Company, 10th Reinforcements, and returned to New Zealand by "Remuera," October 1919.

Any information regarding present whereabouts of the above-named will be gratefully received by his relatives. Reply to: General Secretary, N.Z.E.S.A. Wellington.

SOLDIERS!

The Invercargill Municipal Library are anxious to have a complete file of all publications on transports, or others published by the soldiers. It is fitting and in the interest of all concerned that this file should be obtained, and copies from soldiers will be greatly appreciated. All copies should be accompanied by the sender's full name and address, and will be acknowledged through the columns of "The Digger." We have undertaken to help the librarian in this matter and would appreciate the action of returned men in helping to bring it to a successful issue. Copies can be forwarded to "The Digger," Box 310, Invercargill, or to the Public Library direct.

Before the war Austria-Hungary was one of the most important lumber producing countries in the world.

BLIGHTY NEWS.

The Machine Gun Corps (Cavalry) is proposing to erect a cenotaph at Folkestone as a war memorial.

Some spectators at a football match at Helensburg, Loch Lomond, were thrown to the ground by shock caused by lightning striking a telephone wire near by.

A soldier belonging to Cradley, Worcestershire, who distinguished himself in the war, has refused a proposed public gift of a gold watch on the ground that there are thousands of almost penniless people in the country.

Thomas Williams, a ship's fireman, of Falmouth, was sentenced at Marylebone Police Court to three months' imprisonment with hard labour for assaulting a railway porter and several policemen at Paddington station. It was stated that he was so violent at the police station that six policemen had to sit on him to keep him down.

The secretary of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research states that the Research Association for the British Motor Cycle and Cycle Car Industry has been approved by the department as complying with the conditions laid down in the Government scheme for the encouragement of industrial research.

A return issued by Dublin gives the following among other particulars of outrages attributed to Sinn Fein during last April:—Murder, 11 (including 10 police and officials); firing at police, 17; raids for larceny of arms, 46; incendiary fires, 294 (including 253 vacated barracks burned); threatening letters, 104.

At a meeting of the County Diseases of Animals Committee, held at Norwich, a resolution was passed unanimously asking the Government, in view of the grave extent of foot-and-mouth diseases in Norfolk, to stop the indiscriminate slaughter of cattle and sheep. One unfortunate owner had had over 2,000 head of stock slaughtered.

At the Central Criminal Court, before the Recorder, Arthur Selsby, 20, a ship's cook, was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment with hard labour for a robbery with violence on a young woman in Soho Square and stealing from her a hand-bag and its contents. The prosecutrix was found in an insensible condition in a doorway, and she said the prisoner tried to strangle her and took her hand-bag. The prisoner admitted taking the bag, and said, "I am a fool, I did not think the London police would catch me."

The Halifax Town Council, in carrying out their housing scheme, are in acute competition with building contractors engaged on private work. After long and unsatisfactory negotiations the matter has been referred by the Corporation to Dr. Addison, Minister of Health.

Mr G. Wyman Abbott, a solicitor of Peterborough, and an antiquary, has unearthed in the district a skeleton of the Neolithic or Bronze Age. The date has been placed at least at 2000 B.C., but is thought more probably to be nearer 3000 B.C. The body was found in a crouching position, with the head to the north and the feet to the east, while the hands were pressed against the chin.

During the hearing at Marylebone Police Court of a charge against a man assaulting three schoolgirls Mr Leicester, the magistrate, said that he could never see any reason for calling upon all women to leave the Court during the hearing of such cases. If men were asked to leave it would be more to the point. He could never see any objection to women who were interested in the cases being present.

Sir Jesse Boot has bought for £20,000 a site of 36 acres beside the River Trent at Nottingham, which, it is stated, is to be handed over as a gift to the city. Sir Jesse, who is now at Bournemouth, is understood to have expressed an intention to spend a quarter of a million to convert the place into a winter garden with a campanile and ornamental buildings. An alternative possibility is the use of the site for the proposed East Midlands university.

Colchester Town Council have taken possession of the private owners' session of Colchester Castle, which they for £8,000. The money for the purchase was provided by Lord Cowdray, who formerly represented the borough in Parliament and who desired to give the Castle to the town as a war memorial. The Castle was built by William the Conqueror, and contains the town's collection of antiquities and Roman remains.

DIGGERS!

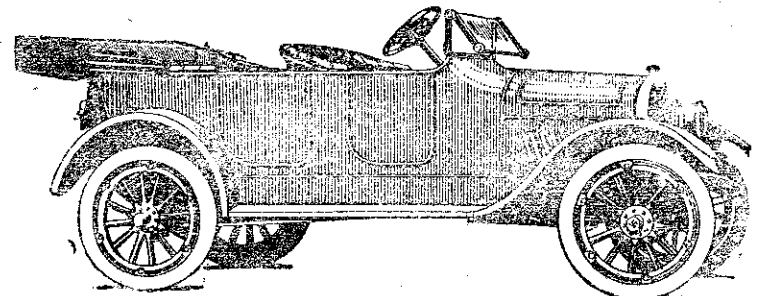
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WAR TROPHIES.

In addition to asking the loyal co-operation of all soldiers for transport publications for the public library, we are anxious to receive on behalf of the Southland War Museum a collection of trophies. It is very important that nothing be lost that will be in any way a war trophy. Southland soldiers have played an important part in the war and we must preserve, for the benefit of those who follow, something of a tangible character.

Every part of the Dominion is seeking a collection of trophies and we must not be behind. Numbers of articles which have been brought from the battle front are being lost sight of, and we would be glad to receive anything at all. Name and address must be sent, also full particulars of article, where found, stunt, etc. Articles can also be displayed in the museum and remain the property of the sender, but can we, as representing Southland soldiers, make a direct gift to the people. Trophies can be sent to "The Digger" office direct, box 310, Invercargill; or to Mr Crosby Smith, Athenaeum Buildings, Dee street, Invercargill.

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INVERCARGILL.**GARDEN NOTES.****THE FLOWER GARDEN.**

It is also getting late for the planting of roses, and any who are still anticipating planting these should lose no time in getting this done, as most of the roses will be found making a start into growth. When planting, see that the soil is made firm around the roots of the plants, whether they be fruit trees, shrubs, or roses, for very few things like the soil loose about the roots, as they are not only unsteady and unable to get a proper grip of the soil, but the air penetrates to the roots and injures the plants.

A great quantity of hardy plants may be simply and easily raised from seed, but not many of them will bloom to any extent during the same season. To obtain blooms the same season it would be wiser to rely upon the better class of hardy annuals, and meanwhile pay attention to securing a better stock of the best perennials ready for planting in their permanent positions next autumn. The following are some of the fine family of which plants may be raised from seed with no more trouble and cost than incurred in raising stocks of annuals or tender things:—Achillea, alyssum, anemones, agnoligias, armeria, asters, aubretia, campanula, coreopsis, delphinium, dianthus, pentstemons, phlox, primrose, and scabiosa. Many others could be named, but I think these will suffice for the present. These seeds are perfectly hardy, and may be sown outside in beds if the soil is good and clean. A nice sheltered border containing a free, open soil will do for them, taking care to sow the seed thinly. The young plants then grow away unchecked. But unless the ground be good and the position favourable, I should advise sowing them in boxes and placing them in a cold frame or in a cool part of a greenhouse. Prick out when the plants are strong enough to handle.

Tender annuals, such as stocks, marigolds, phlox Drummondii, salpiglossis, and many others, should be got in now, providing this can be done under glass and the seed pans are kept in the warmth during the early appearance of the young plants. Sow in boxes or pans in any good open loam and sand, covering the seed very slightly with fine, rich, sandy material. Give them a good warm part of the greenhouse, or, better still, a little bottom heat with some hotbed manure. A little hotbed manure often causes stale seed to germinate when otherwise it would have failed. A sheet of brown paper or a square of glass placed over each pot or box will greatly assist germination by retaining the heat and moisture in the soil, and it will bring the seeds up much quicker than if they received no covering. As soon as the seedlings are up and they have made their rough leaf, prick out singly about 1½ in apart in other boxes, and protect until they are strong enough for planting out.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN.

Prepare the ground by breaking down all lumps with the fork or large hoe.

Plant cabbage and cauliflower, but before doing so dip their roots in a bucket of paste made with soot, a little soft cow manure, and garden soil made the thickness of paint. This assists the root action, and tends to check club root, wire worm, and other pests, as they do not like the soot.

Sow potatoes of the early kinds.
Sow parsnips, turnips, carrots, beetroot, lettuce, radish, mustard and cress, and parsley.

Rhubarb roots should be planted on good, deeply-dug, and well-manured ground. Plant 3 ft apart, with single crowns, and just deep enough so that the top of the crown comes level with the surface of the ground; and on no account pull the stalks the first season.

Plant seakale, either for forcing or for planting in clumps to cover in the ordinary way with pans or boxes to bleach before cutting.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.

It is now getting time for pruning and planting to be out of hand, though it is quite possible to plant and prune yet for a few weeks; and, indeed, it will be several weeks before all fruit-tree planting in Central Otago is accomplished, for there are many thousands of fruit trees still to be got in. By the way, what a quantity of fruit New Zealand will be in a position to export when all the miles and miles of fruit trees come into bearing! Few persons have any conception of the vast number of fruit trees there are being planted. What is wanted very badly, especially in the Roxburgh district, is rapid transit for the product by direct communication with the centres by rail. This seems to be the great drawback. It is continuous hammering away at the powers that be that will have the desired

effect, for no one can deny, who knows anything about the district; that it will become a very valuable asset to the Dominion in the near future.

THE COOL GREENHOUSE.

This house will soon be gay with early bulbous plants, also the tuberous kinds, such as cyclamen, freesias, and the narcissus family.

Freesias will require tying to small sticks for support, or what are equally good and much less trouble are small, branching twigs inserted here and there amongst the plants. This gives support. They will also require an abundance of water and some liquid manure. As with cyclamen, this should not be given until the bloom spikes appear; then apply it to assist the blooms. They are much stronger and better when assisted in this manner.

Pasture Notes.**COW-TESTING IN AMERICA.**

According to the annual report of the Bureau of Animal Industry, at Washington, there were in the United States in 1919, 385 cow-testing associations, representing over 10,000 herds, with 167,313 cows under test; these figures comparing with 353 associations representing 9,778 herds and 168,348 cows in 1918. It is pointed out that the work was being carried on with difficulty during the first half of the year, when practically all the official testers were on military service. During the latter half of the year the work was resumed with energy. In many of the States the cow-testing associations are also becoming co-operative feeding stuffs, and in Michigan one agent of these bodies selected foods for the herds which resulted in a saving of £600 in the cost of feeding the herds for which the food was bought. The report also states that the tabulation of records of 38,532 dairy cows from 110 cow-testing associations is nearing completion and that a number of interesting points have been brought out, showing the relations between milk production, butterfat test, butterfat-fat production, and income over cost of food. The average milk production was 5,936 lb per cow, and the average butterfat production 246 lb. For each increase of 50 lb in butter fat production there was an average increase of £3 in income over cost of food. In the case of every breed an increase in the use of the butterfat test was accompanied with an increase in butterfat production, and by a decrease in milk production. Larger cows excelled the medium and small cows in production of both milk and butterfat.

Another section deals with the need for improved live stock, a fact which has been emphasised by the results of an investigation which has shown that the consumption of meat per head in the United States is increasing—apparently as one of the results of the war. This state of things, coupled with the increase in the population points to the need of improving live stock for greater production, which is also necessary for milk and dairy products and poultry, as well as for meat. For this the value of pure-bred sires of good type has become so evident, and in all classes of live stock, "that a special campaign has been undertaken to place the facts before the public and enlist efforts to use pure-bred sires. In co-operation with the various agricultural colleges, live stock associations and similar organisations, the Bureau formulated plans for the work applicable to all parts of the country, and the campaign was inaugurated effectively in October, 1919, under the slogan, "Better sires, better stock." Briefly it provides official recognition for live stock breeders using pure-bred sires in all classes of stock; a means of recording prominent breeds and varieties in States and counties, and printed information on successful breeding methods suitable to average farm conditions. Every live stock owner is eligible to enrolment in the campaign, the purpose of which is to banish scrub and inferior sires from the United States."

TEST THE BULL.

A point which dairy cattle breed societies would do well to consider is the common practice of disposing of bulls before the milking powers of the heifers sired by them are known.

Many a bull that might have made a great name for himself and a fortune for his owner has been fattened for slaughter before his value as a dairy sire could be proved.

The question is referred to in the report of an agricultural association of Great Britain on "Production and Distribution of Milk," and it is suggested that

breeders should keep the bulls till the value of the progeny is known. There is now in this country a bull that has come into the possession of his third owner before his value as a sire of dairy cattle was recognised, and it was only his good looks and good breeding that saved him from the butcher.

RIVERTON FOOTBALL CLUB.**UNVEILING WAR MEMORIAL.****A GOOD RECORD.**

The unveiling of a memorial tablet containing the names of members of the Riverton Football Club was held last Sunday in the Empire Theatre.

Mr Albert Ward, president of the club, occupied the chair. The proceedings were opened with the singing of the "Old Hundredth," led by the band, Mr Ward having expressed pleasure at the attendance of so many, read apologies for the unavoidable absence of the Revs. C. A. Gray, M.A., and Featherston, both of whom had engagements in the country. He said that soon after the armistice had been signed the club had taken steps to raise funds for a memorial tablet, and he was glad to say that the response to the call had been liberal, with the result that they had been able to have the names of their gallant and heroic comrades inscribed on enduring brass. Through the courtesy of the Athenaeum committee the tablet would be temporarily hung in the Athenaeum until such time as the club had rooms of its own. They had met that day to do honour to the noble dead, and he would now call upon his Worship the Mayor (Dr Trotter) to unveil the memorial. Before doing so he paid a tribute to the men whose memory they were perpetuating. All through the war, men belonging to the club had joined the streams of khaki going to the front, and gallantly and nobly they had played their part. The Latins had a saying that "it was sweet to die for one's country," and the most glorious death was that of the patriot. So far as the present generation was concerned, memorials were not necessary to remind them of the sacrifices of the war. The memory of these were carried in their hearts. But they were required to remind those who would come after of the great sacrifices that had been made to preserve to them the freedom and liberties enjoyed. They honoured the noble men, and the brass was emblematic of the enduring fame which they had earned. He then removed the Union Jack from the tablet, and Bandmaster Sergt-Major Hunter sounded the Last post. The Rev. H. Parata followed with an appropriate and sympathetic prayer, concluding with the Lord's Prayer, after which the 7th Regimental Band played "Nearer My God to Thee." Mr J. C. Thomson said people would little note nor long remember what was said on that occasion, but they could never forget what the noble dead had done. That day they were reminded of the patriotism, devotion and self-sacrifice of those men, and the one feeling was of gratitude. One hundred and twenty-eight men men connected with the club had joined the army, and of these twenty-seven would answer the roll call no more. While the men were away the club had raised nearly £400 which was expended in buying comforts for them when they were in the trenches. The club had a fine bond of comradeship, which had shown itself in Saturday's match to raise funds for a sick member. He paid a deserved tribute to Mr Charles Cassels, the secretary, for all the good work that gentleman had done, and concluded by saying that on the football ground and in the Great War, the men had played the game. The band having played another hymn, the chairman moved a vote of thanks to Bandmaster Hunter and his band for turning out, the National Anthem concluding the proceedings.

The Tablet bears the following:—In Memory of Members of the Riverton Football Club, who fell in the Great War, 1914-1918.

E. F. Beer, R. Blackburn, J. L. Cloughley, W. Dwyer, E. J. Geary, F. Geary, W. Gray, H. Hall, J. Hare, F. W. Hunter, J. W. Hunter, W. G. Hunter, H. Hunter, J. P. Hewat, A. S. Hewat, W. R. McIvor, C. C. McIntyre, E. S. McIntyre, S. W. Mills, T. P. Milne, M. A. Pankhurst, J. C. Thomson, jun., A. E. J. Wright, B. White.

"They lie buried in many lands, that we might live in Peace."

Owing to the inability to float a loan in London the Queensland Government is unable to proceed with the scheme for settling several thousand soldiers on the land and also the establishment of State iron works.—News item. In other words to — with the returned soldier when shekels of silver are involved. No doubt some of the autocratic satellites who control the "Comrades of the Great War" movement for political purposes are among the antagonists.

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

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

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

LORD HAVERHAM. In a moment of despair, Kitty writes to Dick, asking him to meet her in the Blue Room at Rivercourt Mansions. At the appointed hour, Lord Haverham goes to the Blue Room to write some letters, and, 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 Wimmerleigh; 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 Wimmerleigh. Kitty goes down to breakfast, and is cross-examined by Mr Chase, but on his promise of assistance tell 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. Pelham Webb discovers Dick, and unbeknown to Beaumont Chase, takes him to the latter's residence where he is installed as gardener. Sir John and Kitty arrive at Beaumont Hall, and Beaumont Chase loses no time in asking Sir John for the hand of his daughter. Sir John consents. That afternoon Kitty receives news that the gardener is seriously injured.

The concluding paragraphs of last week's instalment, reprinted to refresh readers' memories.

With a muttered oath, Beaumont Chase sprang to Kitty's side, and, flinging his arms about her, lifted her, lifted her bodily in his arms.

"Now drive on!" he said savagely, addressing the chauffeur of the judge's car.

It was at that moment that the chuck-cluck-clatter of a rapidly moving motor cycle was heard coming along the quiet country road.

The thing whirled round the bend and came upon the scene in a cloud of dust.

Outside the church it stopped, and a young man fell off.

He strode forward, wiping the sweat from his face with an oil-stained hand. It was Dick Foster.

DICK FOSTER'S WAY.

"What's the trouble?" Dick Foster's voice was calm, self-possessed, almost nonchalant.

Then, as he strode in among them all and looked about him, his gaze fell upon Kitty, struggling desperately in the arms of Beaumont Chase.

His eyes blazed with sudden fury, and in a single bound he had reached the millionaire and seized him roughly by the throat.

"You scoundrel!" he cried. "What are you doing? Release Miss Millbank! Do you hear? Release her at once!"

Beaumont Chase obeyed the command with extraordinary rapidity, but he was induced to do so not so much by the words as by the violence of the young man's attack.

Dick's grip upon his throat was so savage that the millionaire had all he could do to defend himself.

Choking and gasping and mad with rage, he struggled helplessly in the other's grasp.

Then suddenly Dick flung him contemptuously aside, and turned to Kitty, who was standing, white and trembling, by the side of the judge's car.

"What is the matter, Miss Millbank?" he asked quietly.

The girl stared at him without speaking, a look of mortal agony in her soft blue eyes.

He did not know. Even yet he did not realise what had happened. And she—she must enlighten him—she must tell him the truth.

"Oh, Dick!" she faltered pitifully, while the big tears rolled down her cheeks, "you—you must not call me that any more. Oh, my poor Dick, forgive me! I had to. It was for Daddy—I—I—Dick! I am married."

She buried her face in her hands, and could say no more. Her frail, delicate form was shaken with sobs of hopelessness and despair.

The young man, who had been on the point of springing forward and taking her in his arms, fell back a pace, and then stood motionless, as though turned to stone.

"Married?" he repeated stupidly.

"Yes, sir! Married; and to me!"

Beaumont Chase uttered the words in a tone shaken with passion.

But, in spite of his rage, he did not approach too near to Dick.

The latter turned his head slowly and gazed steadily at the millionaire.

"You have married this lady?" he said quietly.

"I have!"

There was a note of grim triumph in the reply.

"When?"

"The ceremony has just taken place, and I will trouble you, sir, to get out of my way and allow me and my wife to take our departure. This ridiculous scene has lasted long enough!"

Dick Foster bowed slightly.

"Of course, I shall not intrude where I am not wanted," he said gravely. "If—er—if Mrs Chase tells me to go, I shall obey her at once. I intend to do exactly what she wishes."

He fixed his gaze very steadily upon the millionaire as he uttered the last words, and for a moment the eyes of the two men met in a mortal challenge.

Then Dick again turned to Kitty.

Her hands had fallen from her tear-stained face, and she was looking at him,

and the expression in her eyes was one almost of desperation.

"Can I help you? Can I do anything—Kitty?"

Dick's voice was low and tremulous.

"Oh, Dick! I—"

"Hush, dear. Just tell me what I can do."

With an effort Kitty contrived to speak with some degree of calmness.

"Daddy is ill. He tried to stop the wedding. And when he found he was too late he had a stroke, and now he wants me. He wants me to go with him and nurse him. Oh, Dick, I must go! Don't let them stop me! Please, please let me go—"

"Isn't all this rather silly?"

Beaumont Chase had recovered himself somewhat, and his voice had resumed its characteristic drawl.

He now sauntered up, still keeping one watchful eye upon Dick, however.

"My wife, of course, cannot accompany Sir John. She is going to town with me, and to-morrow we leave England. I am sorry for you, Foster, but you must realise—"

"Get into the car, Kitty," interrupted Dick coolly. "Sir John needs you. Of course you must go with him! You will doubtless hear from your husband later. But for the moment—"

Kitty, as she scrambled into the car by her father's side, looked at Dick inquiringly.

"You can leave him to me!" he concluded calmly.

"How dare you? I—I forbid—" spluttered Beaumont Chase.

"Drive on!" said Dick curtly.

The great car began to move.

With a snarl of rage the humiliated husband leaped forward, but Dick stepped in front of him, and then seizing his arm, slipped it through his own.

"No good making a scene," he said in a low, significant voice. "Mrs Chase is going to London with her father. And what is more, you are not going to follow her!"

"What the—"

"Look!" interrupted Dick, at the same time pointing to a cloud of dust in the bend of the road.

He muttered a savage oath, and tried to release himself from the other's grasp.

Dick, however, retained a firm hold upon his arm.

"The best thing you can do, Mr Chase," said the young man coolly, "is to invite me home to your house. Let us go to Beaumont Hall together, and get away from these curious people."

"I'll see you hanged first!" cried the millionaire furiously. "Clear off, you meddlesome goal-bird, or I'll have you horse-whipped by my men, and flung into a ditch—"

"Nonsense! If you really care for Kitty you will do as I suggest, and invite me to your house to talk matters over."

Beaumont Chase stared at the speaker, impressed, in spite of himself, by the quiet significance of Dick's voice.

"What do you mean?" he demanded doubtfully.

"I mean, Mr Chase," replied Dick, gravely, "that it depends upon me entirely whether you ever see your wife again!"

Beaumont Chase stared harder, then tried to laugh, and made a failure of the attempt.

"You insolent young cub!" he said in a low voice. "You will explain exactly what you mean, or I shall at once summon the police and demand protection from a raving lunatic."

Dick inclined his head gravely.

"I will explain what I mean," he said.

"You are a rich man, Mr Chase. Are you anything else?"

"Oh?"

"What I mean is this. Are you simply a rich fool, and is your pursuit of Kitty merely the whim of a rich fool? Or is there some manhood in you? Do you love her, and are you prepared to devote your life to making her happy? You have won her by a trick—a mean, cowardly trick! But she does not love you. At the present moment she is nearer to hating you. You know that! Are you man enough to devote yourself to the task of winning her love? Will you wait? Do you love her enough for that?"

The earnest voice ceased, and Beaumont Chase gazed at the speaker with wonder in his eyes.

"You love her?" he said in a low voice.

"I love her," replied Dick.

"Love that?"

"Yes."

(Continued on page 6.)

FURNITURE!

WE HAVE THE STOCK IF YOU HAVE THE DESIRE, COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF AND GET OUR PRICES BEFORE PURCHASING ELSEWHERE.

IF WE HAVE NOT JUST EXACTLY WHAT YOU WANT WE CAN MAKE IT FOR YOU AS WELL AS ANY, AND CHEAPER THAN MOST.

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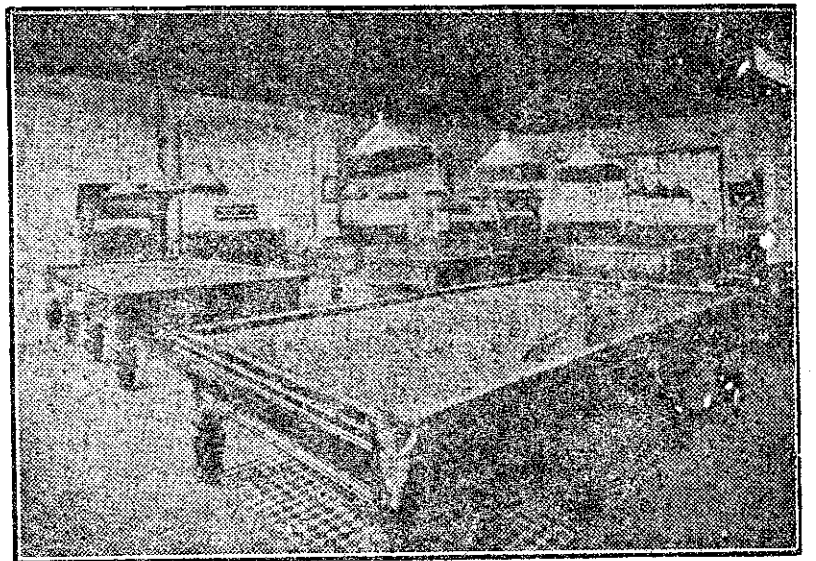
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NEWS OFFICE BUILDINGS, DEE STREET, INVERCARGILL.

(Above "The Digger.")

EVERY ATTENTION AND CIVILITY.



BILLIARD NOTES.

AN IN-OFF PLAYED WITH RUNNING SIDE.

A position from which the in-off should be played, by striking the cue-ball with plenty of left-hand side. In the first place, owing to the object-ball being so near the pocket, the top angle will not be touched by the cue-ball after contact with the object-ball, therefore, right-hand side would be of no assistance in taking it into the pocket.

And, secondly—and this is the chief point—owing to the comparatively large angle at which the cue-ball strikes the cushion, side very considerably alters the angle of reflection. In this position by the use of plenty of left-hand side (running side off the cushion) the cue-ball is thrown off the cushion at such an angle as allows it to get sufficiently behind the object ball to enable the in-off being made. Were the stroke played with right-hand side (check side off the cushion) so full on to the object-ball that the stroke would fail.

A DIFFICULT CUSHION IN-OFF.

An extreme kind of cushion in-off. In positions like this the in-off can only be made by the use of plenty of side. This very pretty stroke is a difficult one, for not only must the cue-ball be hit with as much side as possible, but the aim must be judged with the utmost nicety, as, though, of course, the cue-ball must not hit the object-ball until it rebounds from

the cushion, it must almost graze it as it passes it, otherwise it will strike the cushion just a little too low down to enable it on its rebound, even helped as it is by the side that it carries, to get sufficiently behind the object-ball to ensure the in-off being made. This missing of the object-ball by so little when first passing it is what makes the stroke so difficult, as in attempting this the object-ball will often be thinly struck, and when this happens the shot fails. Also, unless plenty of side be imparted to the cue-ball it will come off the cushion too full on to the object-ball to allow of the in-off being made. The nearer the two balls are to each other (the angle being the same) the less difficult does the stroke become, simply because it is easier to play what is really a fine shot when near the object-ball than when at a distance from it. Also, the farther down the table the cue-ball is, the easier the stroke becomes, and the higher up the table the more difficult, until a point is reached when the in-off is no longer possible by this kind of stroke. In playing this shot, I have stated that if the cue-ball touched the object-ball before hitting the cushion the stroke fails, and this is so in the generality of cases.

It will sometimes happen, however, that the object-ball is touched so very finely indeed that the cue-ball is not appreciably deflected thereby, and when such is the case the stroke may still be got. It is needless, however, to remark that the stroke is not to be played in this way. When the same shot is played into a baulk pocket a stroke ball out of baulk, especially if the cushions be fast.

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Plants and Trees, go to

TINY DANIEL

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Southland Floral, Plant,
and Seed Supply,

JUDGMENT.

(Continued from page 5.)

Beaumont Chase drew a deep breath, and was silent for some moments. "I love her, too," he said at length. "And if I tell you that I only want to make her happy, and that I am prepared to devote my life to the task of winning her love, and that until I succeed I will be patient—what then?" "Then—then I will help you," said Dick, solemnly, though his voice faltered, and a strained look of agony came into his honest brown eyes. For a while both men looked at one another in silence. Then, impulsively, Beaumont Chase put out his hand. For a bare second Dick hesitated, while a mortal struggle went on within his breast. Then he took the proffered hand. "Come," said the millionaire in a calm commonplace tone, "let us get to the Hall. You will stay with me for the night?" "I shall be pleased," replied Dick simply. The two men walked in silence side by side to the car, and the bewildered crowd gathered outside the church saw them drive away together in the direction of Beaumont Hall. The following morning Kitty, coming out of Sir John Millbank's rooms in the house in Kensington Park Gardens, encountered a servant who had a letter for her. Her hand trembled as she took it. Then she opened it, and read: "My dear Wife,—Please stay with Sir John as long as you think he needs you. I will not call until you tell me I may. I realise now that I have been very cruel to you. It was because I wanted you, dear. And now you bear my name, I see I have lost you more than ever. Forgive me, if you can, for loving you so much. "Your blundering, but devoted husband, "Beaumont Chase."

CLUTHA R.S.A.

An extraordinary general meeting of the above was held in the R.S.A. rooms last Saturday night. Present:—Messrs A. E. Russell (in the chair), S. J. Werren, J. Weir, T. J. Walter, R. S. Jordan, H. Holgate, A. L. Shephard, G. Sinclair, J. Little, Dr. Brown, and the secretary (Mr A. C. Laing). The Chairman stated that the chief business was the appointment of a president to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr E. E. Drummond. He stated that the Association had been unfortunate in that its presidents had been unable to carry on for various private reasons. Mr Weir proposed Dr. Brown for the position, and Mr Jordan seconded, and there being no further nomination Dr. Brown was declared unanimously elected, and assumed his seat amidst applause. He briefly thanked members for the honour conferred upon him. The secretary then reported on the social activities of the Association. He drew attention to the fact that they now had secured a piano, and would be in a position to hold social gatherings, which should go a long way towards popularising the Association's rooms. Mr W. B. McEwan (of Dunedin), had promised a lecture, "A Trip through Scotland," on the 26th inst. Mr Mitchell was giving the ball free of charge and the pipe band was also assisting. It was intended to give also a programme of Highland dances, etc., and patrons could look forward to a very enjoyable evening. The proceeds were to be devoted to the formation of a library for the rooms. The fortnightly assemblies were becoming very popular, and a committee of ladies had consented to provide supper for the next one, which would be an extended evening. It was decided to hold the annual ball on September 22, and it was left to the social committee to make the necessary arrangements. In regard to a question regarding Clifton settlement the secretary reported that representatives of the Farmers' Union would visit the estate on Saturday, 21st, and on the 27th representatives of the Land Board, Farmers' Union, the R.S.A., and the settlers, would confer together on the ground on matters in connection with the settlement.

MAIL NOTICES.

From and after the 16th inst., the commission on money orders for payment in Canada and the United States of America will be reduced to 6d for each £1 or fraction of £1, and the rate of conversion will be altered from four dollars eighty-seven cents to the pound sterling to four dollars thirty cents in the case of Canada, and four dollars in the case of United States.

The Nature Column.

("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.)

NOTES ON STICK INSECTS.

Stick insects belong to the order Orthoptera, or straight winged insects. This order includes the cockroaches, mantids, stick and leaf insects, grasshoppers, locusts and crickets. The mouth parts of such insects are formed for biting, not for sucking, as in the moths and flies. Many Orthoptera, as in the case with our stick insects do not possess wings, but in those that have them the front pair is narrow and of a stiff leathery consistence, while the hinder wings are delicate structures, broad and ample and fold up like a fan when not in use. The order includes the largest of existing insects and no members of it are very small. The most destructive of insects belong to it but it is only in countries where cultivation is not in an advanced state that the full extent of their injurious habits manifest themselves as cultivation becomes general, their numbers rapidly decrease and their influence is less marked. The order Orthoptera is divided into many families, and that to which the stick and leaf insects belong is known as the Phasmidae. The imitation of vegetable structures by the members of this group is carried to an extraordinary length. Twigs, leaves living or dead, mosses and lichens are copied with the most wonderful fidelity. In some of the leaf insects not only do the upper wings take the exact form and likeness of a leaf but expansions of skin on the legs look just like so many smaller leaves. There can be no doubt but that such mimicry is of the highest importance to its possessors and that it is frequently the means of deceiving enemies, both birds and insects. The naturalist, Belt, whilst watching an army of predatory South American ants, saw a leaf insect right in the middle of the column. These ants forage for food in vast numbers, and every insect that does not quickly get out of the way falls a victim and is carried to the ant colony. The leaf insect, however, remained perfectly still and the ants ran right over it without attacking it, being apparently quite deceived by its appearance, and not thinking it was anything other than a fallen leaf. The eggs of the stick insect are not attached to any object or laid in any selected position, but are dropped singly by the female insect and allowed to fall to the ground where they lie among fallen leaves and other refuse until the young larvae emerge. The number of eggs laid is not generally large, 20 or 30 is the usual number, although one American species lays upwards of one hundred. This insect (Diaperomera femorata), is very abundant and the noise caused by the dropping of eggs from the trees in which the insects are feeding, to the ground, is said to resemble the sound of pattering rain-drops. Very curious things these eggs are, and very unlike eggs of any kind. Some bear considerable resemblance to a bishop's mitre, whilst others can be best compared to a grenadier's busby. Other species resemble seeds, and in addition to the shape they also show a lozenge-shaped mark similar to a scar to be found on such seeds as are united to a column by a stalk. At one end of the egg there is a little cap or lid which is pushed off by the young insect when ready to emerge. The egg of our largest New Zealand form (Acanthoderus horridus), is a rough irregular object looking like a fragment of dry earth. It has a prominent conical lid and well marked scar on the side. A smaller species probably Pachymorpha annulata, deposits a long and pointed egg which might easily be passed over as the seed of some bush plant. It is known that the eggs of some kinds of stick insects do not hatch for nearly two years after being dropped, and it is probable that all kinds take longer than is usual with other insects. Why this should be so is not clear, but it may have some connection with the fact that the young stick insect is well advanced in development on leaving the egg. There is no well defined larval stage, and apart from its size there is not much to distinguish it from the mature insect.

Writer: "What magazine will give me the highest position quickest?" Editor: "A powder magazine if you contribute a fiery article." The sun has gone, my darling one, The gentle night has come; The mother sings her lullaby—"Tra-la-la-rum-tum-tum." No danger threatens you, sweet one, You're tucked in quite secure; And on the nursery mantelpiece Is Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

DRAUGHTS.

(Conducted by F. Hutchins).

Draughts Club meets in Athenaeum smoke room on Wednesday and Saturday evenings.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM 22.

Black 9, 22, 23, King 2. White 15, 18, 30, 31. White to play and win. 15.10, 9.13, 18.14, 13.17, 14.9, 17.21, 9.5, 22.25, 5.1, 25.29, 1.5, 29.25, 31.26, 23.27, 26.22, and White wins.

The following interesting game was played in the Athenaeum with Mr D. Wilson, winner of the Handicap Tourney in Timaru last Easter.

BRISTOL.

F. Hutchins (Black). D. Wilson (White). 11.16 16.20 5.14 11.16 10.15 2.7 22.18 19.16 16.12 25.22 28.24 9.6 8.11 12.19 7.10 15.18 15.18 7.11 25.22 23.16 22.17 22.15 13.9 6.2 4.8 14.23 11.15 10.26 1.5 21.25 24.19 27.18 17.13 30.23 21.17 2.6 10.14 9.14 8.11 6.10 14.21 11.15 29.25 18.9 26.23 31.27 23.14 6.10

The game continued: 15.18, 14.9, 5.14, 10.17, 25.30, 17.14, 18.22, 14.18A, 22.26, 18.14, 26.31, 14.18, 30.25, 18.15, 25.22, 15.11, 31.26, 11.15, 16.19, 32.28, 26.31. Black wins.

(A) 24.19, 16.23, 27.18, etc., should draw.

Those who follow this column would be somewhat puzzled by the publication of notes in last week's column, of a game that was left out by the printer's error. Below is the game, which is well worthy of study by those who wish to become proficient.

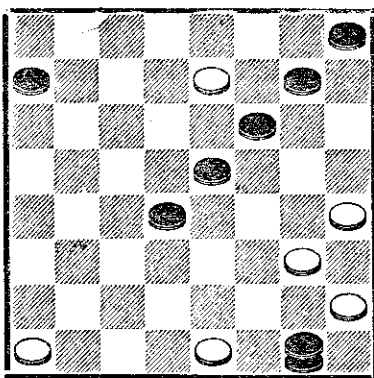
DOUBLE CORNER.

(By "X.Y.Z." in the "Draughts World.")

9.14 25.22 14.18 13.6 24.20 3.7 c 23.14 2.18 5.9 22.17 9.18 17.14 22.18 7.10 21.17H 16.19 10.15H 17.13 12.16 14.10 28.24 10.15 17.14G 19.23 15.22 32.28F 18.22 10.7 26.10 1.5 26.17 23.32+ 7.14 30.26 6.9

Now we have a critical ending which was evolved in the Jordan-Freedman contest for the championship of the world, the former, with the White pieces, just managing to secure a well-earned draw, see illustrated diagram:

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and draw.

7.3 8.15 25.21 14.10 8.12 24.27 40.26 5.9 3.8 31.24 21.17 24.19 18.22 22.26 32.27 27.31 24.19 29.25 17.14 10.7 A 15.24 26.10 20.22

Ultimately drawn.

- (A) A finely contested game.
- (B) Quite as strong as the usual routine 11.16
- (C) A strong move, and introduced by Freedman against Jordan.

VAR. 1.

24.19 19.16 8.11 7.2 15.24 11.15 10.7 11.15 28.19 16.12 15.19 2.7 23.32

The harsh demands of commerce will probably cause the extinction of the classic scent, attar of roses. Bulgaria used to produce 126,800oz annually, but the last crop was only 52,000oz. Five thousand acres of rose gardens have been planted with tobacco, which pays larger profits.

Passing Notes.

BY JACQUES.

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

A correspondent to a northern paper—writing over the strikingly original pen-name of "Pro Bono Publico"—has been exploring the "total absence of courtesy in our public service." The writer is evidently "one of the old school," since comparisons are freely drawn between these degenerate times and the good old "days that are no more." "To ask a question," he (or she) says, "is to court a humiliating snub," while the service for which our officials are paid "is given grudgingly, and with a most exasperating air of a superior conferring a favour." Well, we have all, perhaps, felt that way at times, but I really do not think that discourtesy is a general characteristic of the public service. Here and there we may have the misfortune to encounter a somewhat peppery or morose official, but it is hardly fair to generalise too freely from such instances. I, personally, have experienced much courtesy at the hands of our public servants, and, even when this admirable quality fails—well, there is often much to be said on the other side. For instance, gentle reader, have you ever made one of a crowd of forty or fifty people waiting furiously at the railway ticket-office within five minutes of train time while some old woman (of either sex), having obtained her ticket, bombards the ticket-clerk with a lot of fool questions? If so, you can enter into the feelings of the wearied, worried clerk, and better, perhaps, realise his human limitations. All of which leads me up to another story.

A freckle-faced girl stopped at the post office and yelled out:—

"Anything here for the Murphys?" "No, miss," said the busy postmaster, politely. "Anything for Jane Murphy?" "Nothing." "Anything for Ann Murphy?" "No!" rather shortly. "Anything for Tom Murphy?" "No, nothing, I tell you," said the official with growing impatience. "Anything for Bob Murphy?" "No," yelled the postmaster. "Anything for Terry Murphy?" "No!" in a frenzied scream. "Anything for Mike Murphy?"

The postmaster fairly fumed. "No," he roared, "nor for Pat Murphy, nor Dennis Murphy, nor Pete Murphy, nor Paul Murphy, nor for any Murphy, dead or living, born or unborn, native or foreign, civilised or uncivilised, savage or barbarous, male or female, black, white, or brindle, franchised or unfranchised, naturalised or otherwise Sinn Feinn or Orange. No, there is positively nothing for any of the Murphys, either individually, jointly, severally, now and for ever, one and inseparable."

The girl looked at the postmaster in astonishment and said: "Please to look if there is anything for Clarence Murphy."

KINGS AND PRINCES I HAVE MET.

WITTINGHAM DE WET, T.W.O., K.H.G., J.A.R., Etc.

I had anticipated some difficulty in gaining access to the presence of this puissant and philanthropic Prince, but the kindly influence of his Prime Minister, Baron de Bissett, proved a veritable "Open sesame," and I received an invitation to wait on His Imperial Highness the following day. Punctually at the appointed hour I arrived at the castle—a massive pile picturesquely situated on the northern bank of the beautiful Waihopai River, and representing in its structure every known and unknown style of architecture, the Katzenjammer predominating. This was the country seat of the industrious Prince, and the birthplace and centre of that noble institution of his founding, "The Tangled Brotherhood of the Jar." Through the hospitably open portals numbers of his subjects were passing; those entering carrying curious wicker-covered vessels, obviously light and empty; while those emerging bore similar vessels, but whose evidently greater weight proclaimed eloquently the Prince's munificence. I noticed, also, that the latter had invariably a smile in their eyes, and traces of froth on their upper lips. I was aroused from the contemplation of this pleasant spectacle by the mellow tones of the Baron's voice invit-

ing me to come along, if I wanted to see old "Witty"—as, with that civility which is born of intense veneration and affection, his subjects usually call him. Preceded by my guide, I presently found myself in a long, low chamber, sumptuously furnished in the old barbed style, while numbers of the aforementioned wicker-covered vessels were scattered about with tasteful promiscuity. But I had barely time to note these things before the Prince came forward and greeted me so heartily that I at once felt at my ease. I feel that it is needless to describe his personal appearance, since that is quite familiar to most of my readers. He graciously motioned me to a seat, and asked me if I would "have one." I "had one," and in a few moments we were conversing as unrestrainedly as though we were equals, who had known each other for years. During our conversation—punctuated by occasional "tastes"—I gathered much of interest concerning his self-imposed mission in life.

It seems that, in his early youth, the Prince had acquired from a wise old alchemist the secret of concocting from certain seeds, flowers, and saccharinous substances a most mysterious and delectable beverage, to which he had since given the strange but distinguishing title of "Whittingham's XXX." Some of the properties of this elixir, he explained, bonded on the miraculous. For instance, taken in sufficient quantities, it had the effect of making the widest footpath too narrow, and every direction up-hill. In many cases it developed additional and most embarrassing joints in the legs, a curious impediment of speech, and a mystifying optical affection which often had the startling effect of multiplying one's mother-in-law by three, or even four. The phenomena were not, however, always uniform. While it would sometimes melt a six foot, sixteen stone navy to tears over the pathos of his lone, orphaned condition, it would, at others, send a five foot, seven stone jockey looking round for the most stalwart "member of the force" to do sanguinary battle with. Among its later results were an almost invariable enlargement of the head, combined with a penitential resolve that it would never occur again. This condition, the Prince explained, was known as "the recovery," or "the morning after." Another occasional result was a visit to the court of that other potentate, King Cruickshank; in fact the two rulers could be considered largely complementary to each other.

It would take too long to recapitulate all the strange powers and properties of this wonderful beverage, but the strangest and greatest may be mentioned before closing. It seems that the protracted use of it sometimes induces a condition which has been variously diagnosed by rival schools of scientists as "jim-jams" and "dingbats." Those privileged to reach this state usually become the excited and bewildered possessors of temporary menageries of pink monkeys, green rats, six-tailed dogs, tartan spiders, and other rare and interesting zoological specimens. Others, again, discover that alarm clocks can become quite quarrelsome, and that every article of furniture in the house has funny looking eyes, and can make ugly faces at one. But this delightful condition is the reward only of long perseverance; the mere dabbling amateur never attains to it. Much more he told me of this wonderful preparation, its powers and properties. "And it is this delightful nectar, with its clear amber body and frothy head, which hath given me dominion over many, and imparted a gratifying corpulence to my treasury. This it is that thous hast quaffed with me to-day. It pleases thee, have another." It pleased me, and I had another—several times, whereafter I became divided between a desire to yodel and an inclination to lie down and hold on tight to the ground to prevent myself being swung off. What happened after that is not very clear, though I have a hazy recollection of howling along behind my taxiteer, and, later, of trying to pick out the right one of seven distinct keyholes in my door, murmuring the while:

"I often wonder what the brewers buy. One half so precious as the stuff they sell." And so ended a memorable interview and a perfect day.

GORDON BROWN.

THOSE in search of houses and farm lands cannot do better than consult me. I shall at all times do my best to submit properties that are fair value and arrange your finance at lowest current rates of interest.

£900.—Very superior seven-roomed Villa; slab-tile grates, art mantels, picture rails, and wide freizes; commodious bathroom. Full 1-acre freehold in handy position. Terms: £300 down, balance easy.

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£1275.—Twelve acres freehold land; nearly new five-roomed house, cowbyre, loft, trap shed, etc. Close to factory and school and only 3½ miles from Invercargill Post Office.

£800.—Special new five-roomed Bungalow, with porcelain bath and panelled hall; half-acre freehold land with ample room for another house. Real good buying. See it.

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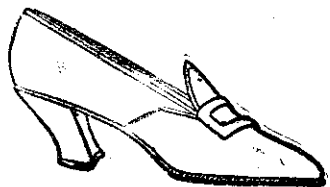
TRAMP! Tramp! Tramp! Hear their ceaseless beat:

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.



SPORTING.

Winton Jockey Club will hold a dance on Friday night, in honour of its returned soldier members.

The annual general meeting of the Southland Racing Club will be held on Friday, September 3rd.

At the National Meeting last week there was an entire absence of khaki. Let us sincerely hope that we will not see it again on our courses, nor anywhere else excepting on the parade grounds.

Nominations for the S.R.C. Committee Stakes on Tuesday night. The retiring ticket will probably be re-elected without any trouble.

Dunmure is good bush Gaelic for "dirty dog." At least one of his backers told me so, and not being a Gaelic scholar I take his interpretation as being correct.

The Birchwood Hunt non-totalisator meeting promises to provide a very pleasant afternoon's sport on the Otautau Racing Club's course next Wednesday afternoon.

Author Dillon is still our champion pacer of the Dominion, and his victory at Addington was very popular. The public dearly love a game horse!

Royal Step, gave Southlanders some money at Addington on the opening day of the trots, and doubled the amount on the second day. But for his owner he is reported to have increased his bank account by a win running into four figures.

Coalition is a good one, and it was a pity to see him fall on Saturday. Had he and Oakleigh stood up there was every prospect of them giving Cub a good fight in the Lincoln Steeplechase.

It is hard, very hard, to say whether Lochella is or is not a good one. If last week's performances were his true form then he is no champion. But was it his correct form? Well, Charlie Christie might be able to tell you, but I can't.

"Put" Hogan has had his annual trip to the National Meeting and though his team raced on five days since he left home he failed to catch a heat. It would be a costly trip, I'm thinking, for somebody, but one can't always win, and the patrons of Rorke's Drift Lodge have had a good time during the past season.

According to all reports Calma was unlucky to fall at Riccarton on Tuesday, as she was going particularly well with the leaders when the accident happened. She raced in the colours and nomination of P.T.H., who has apparently acquired her from Mr Miller.

Everyone was sorry to hear that Digger Dick Hazlett's game horse Samuel had run his last race through breaking his leg at Riccarton last Tuesday week. He was a useful horse and showed great promise as a hurdler. This horse was bought a few years ago by Alex. Chisholm, the Otautau veterinary surgeon, and it was through his care and attention that he became a sound horse again, after breaking down in Mr Crigg's colours a season or two earlier.

Some horses soldiers should have backed at Riccarton last week, Bombproof, Gamecock, Coalition, High Heels, General Petain, and Royal Star. The following are some horses they probably did back: Tumult, Fire Eater, Marchwell, Trentham Rose, War Tax, General Wanchope, Blazeaway, All Talk, Bill, Melee, Warlike, Jock, Nightrider, General Advance, and Miss Camouflage.

Coalition was one of those horses who came down to Riccarton to run at the Royal Meeting last May, and was prevented from running owing to the jockeys' strike trouble. It was some reward to his owner that he should win the National after his long enforced stay.

Master Strowan, though he went very short prior to and in the early stages of the Grand National Steeplechase, appeared to be going well when he ran off at the back of the course and looked like having some say in the finish. The old chap was too sore to persevere with and was sent home next day.

Digger Jock McArthur had a couple of nice rides on Southern at the National Meeting. His horse lacked pace and

staying power just where it was most wanted, but with a little more condition, and in cheaper company I think Jock might catch a race.

The Government were beaten on the Gaming Bill amendments as suggested by the Upper House, and the list of those who defeated the proposals to allow the publication of dividends and the forwarding of money for investment direct to secretaries of racing clubs, makes interesting reading. Amongst the list are Awarua Hamilton, "Joey," of this town, and Digger Mitchell, of the thirty who were against the amendment. I wonder how many know intimately the matter on which they were voting?

So True Blue Dave landed the Winter Cup after all, and I would bet a hat or two there wasn't a Southlander on or off the course that was not glad to hear that this valuable stake had been won by such a good sport. Killowen won it like a racehorse, was first out and first all the way to the winning post. His owner, unfortunately, was not able to see him win, being still in hospital, but naturally was delighted when the news came through. The good price he paid cheered a good many besides his owner, and one local ivory merchant is reported to have made a nice little wad out of the win.

Mr Isitt on the Gaming Bill amendments: "I say that this is a most callous and barefaced attempt on the part of racing clubs to encourage betting at a distance in absolute indifference to its financial effect on the people." This pious member for Christchurch also told the House that no less than £34,000,000 had passed through the totalisator in New Zealand. It is a good job something has attracted the owners to put that thirty-four million in circulation as there are too many tightwads still hanging on to their pocket books and the contents. We must get money into circulation to make the country prosperous, and for that reason the totalisator helps.

A fellow digger advises me that in a list of dates of meetings recently published in these columns a slight was offered the Otautau Racing Club by omitting its fixture on January 21st. I can assure my friend that no slight was intended this progressive little club, but by an oversight the fixture was omitted. I regret very much that the officials of the club should have been in any way annoyed at the omission, and I promise to make it good on race day.

SOCIAL NOTES.

The High School girls and boys gave a very nice dance on Tuesday evening for young people.

A delightful dance was held by St. John's Church in Ashley's Hall on Friday 13th inst. The hall was tastefully decorated with ivy and native greenery, and reflected much credit on those responsible. About 100 couples took the floor to music supplied by Mr J. Aldridge's orchestra, and the verdict of all was that the evening was a great success. Among those whom I noticed present were the Rev. Geo. Coates and Mrs Coates, Mesdames Brooksmith, Cochrane, Hannah, Jennings, Thomson, Stewart, Camm, and Pollok; Misses Crofts, Redwood, Ashley, Miller, Godward, Featherstone, Searell, Washer, Hawke, Brooks; Messrs C. H. Williams, Hannah, Dunnett, F. Bray, Camm, Bean, Pollok, Hinton, Tressider, McNatty, Frampton, Connor, and Washer.

One of the most successful dances this season was one given in Ashley's Hall, on Saturday evening, got up by a small committee of ladies: Mesdames W. Gabites and W. Hodges, the Misses Bews, Callender, Henderson and Tucker. Among the guests I noticed: Mr and Mrs F. Rowley, Dr. and Mrs McCaw, Mr and Mrs Raymond, Mr and Mrs Bassian, Mr and Mrs Hall-Jones, Mr and Mrs Gabites, Mrs Ritchie Crawford, Mrs Haggitt, Mrs T. M. Macdonald, Mr and Mrs W. Hodges, Mr and Mrs Lewis, Misses Watson, Hackworth, Hazlett, Guthrie, Morrah, Bews, Henderson, Tucker, Hain, Macdonald (Edendale), McCaw, Haggitt, Snow, Irvine, Logan, Smith, H. Macdonald, Macdonald, Messrs Cameron, Tucker, Dunnett, Christophers, Brown, Gilmour, Hewat, Rae, Wadsworth, Dr. Gow (Winton), Callender, St. George, Ivo, Dr Macdonald and Broughton.

TO THE DIGGER IN SEARCH OF LAND,

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

289 Acres Leasehold, Four-roomed Cottage, Stable, Chaff-shed, Dip, Sheep Yards, 259 acres grass, 30 acres turnips, carrying 400 sheep, 20 head cattle, and 10 horses. Rent, 5s per acre. Price for goodwill, £5 per acre. This is a real good property, and we recommend inspection.

212 Acres, Five-roomed House, Dairy Washhouse, Stable, and Cowbyre, 40 acres grass for cutting, balance older pasture; carry 500 sheep. Price, £22 per acre; £600 cash.

We think this would suit two returned soldiers.

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

CARSWELL & CO., LTD.,

LAND AGENTS, WOOD ST., INVERCARGILL.

Lewis's
ESTD 1862 LIMITED

SOUTHLAND'S SHOPPING CENTRE.

DEE & ESK STREETS. INVERCARGILL.

BRANCHES . . . GORE and WYNDHAM.

Tea Rooms — Top Floor by Elevator.

Quality - Value- Variety - Service.

Finest in the World.

**DEWAR'S SPECIAL
PURITY SODA.**

ADVERTISERS!

We guarantee the "Digger" to penetrate the whole of Southland, Lake District, South Otago, and to a lesser degree, a few places beyond this sphere, including as far north as Auckland. The destiny of the "Digger" as an effective and efficient advertising medium is assured.

We can tell you of a number who can testify to our claim and we are always ready to discuss advertising with firms who are desirous of reaching the purchasing public.

Remember ONE advertisement in the "Digger" covers the whole field.

We guarantee to have the largest circulation of any weekly, south of Dunedin, and the largest circulation outside of the leading morning and evening papers.

Failure to change your advertisement is failure to get effective service, and no fault of the "Digger."

A FEW POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION.

"An excellent paper."—Col. Pow, General Secretary, N.Z.R.S.A.

"Let me compliment you on your excellent production, 'The Digger.'—General Sir Andrew Russell.

"Your Journal is an excellent advertising medium. I have just received by mail an enquiry from Gore, Nightcaps, and Waimatuku, regarding a farm advertised in the "Digger." An Invercargill business man.

"Please send me the 'Digger' for 12 months."—A subscriber from Clarendon, near Milton.

"The boys are anxiously awaiting the 'Digger' every week."—Diggers of Calcium.

"Reference to my poultry advertisement in the 'Digger,' I have just received an enquiry from Purekino, near Clinton." An Invercargill poultry fancier.

"Please post me 'Digger.'—W.A., Auckland.

"As the 'Digger' is a war journal, I should like to have a complete file for record."—Parliamentary Librarian.

"It is surprising the number who come into my shop and ask for the 'Digger.' I buy three every week and am lucky to get home with one of them."—A Local Barber.

Seed Potatoes.

ALL THE BEST VARIETIES OF EARLY AND LATE SEED POTATOES IN STOCK AND CAN GIVE IMMEDIATE DELIVERY.

If you have any Seed to dispose of consign to us. We can get you highest price going.

NEW FURNITURE.

Splendid showing of all kinds of Furniture at wholesale cash prices.

McKAY BROS.

AUCTIONEERS AND LAND AGENTS.
EXCHANGE MART.
INVERCARGILL.

Box—17. Phone—15.

CYCLES and all Cycle Sundries for The Digger.

SEWING MACHINES for Mrs Digger.

PRAMS, PUSH CARTS, and PUSH CHAIRS for The Little Diggers.

Repairs to Cycles, Prams, etc., by Expert Mechanics.

Give us a trial and we will do our best for you.

Thomas Bird,

THE PRAM AND CYCLE SHOP,

122 DEE STREET, INVERCARGILL.

Telephone 862.

SPEND THAT £50 TO THE BEST ADVANTAGE.

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

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

VERNON SMITH & CO.

ATHENAEUM BUILDINGS,
INVERCARGILL.

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

OUR WHOLEMEAL DIGESTIVE

BREAD

IS WINNING NEW FRIENDS

EVERY DAY.

A. C. MILLARS LTD.

PROFESSIONAL.

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

MACALISTER BROS.,
Barristers and Solicitors,
INVERCARGILL.

Money to Lend on approved security at current rates.

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

P.O. Box 48. Telephone 36.
RATTRAY & HALL-JONES,
BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS,
ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL, N.Z.

MR CHARLES DUERDEN, Pianist,
is open for engagement at Private Parties, Dances, Socials, etc.

FULL ORCHESTRA SUPPLIED.

Address—
25 Princess Street, Georgetown,
Invercargill.

ERIC M. RUSSELL, SOLICITOR,

Hallenstein's Buildings,
ESK STREET,
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Money to lend on freehold security.

STOUT & LILLICRAP,
SOLICITORS,
Esk street.

MONEY TO LEND

On Freehold Security at Current Rates of Interest.

KEDDELL & HEWAT.

BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS,
72 ESK ST. (Opp. Times Office),
INVERCARGILL.

Money to Lend on approved security at current rates. Solicitors under Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act.

SOUTHLAND SCHOOL OF HIGH-

LAND AND CLASSIC DANCING.

Rooms over Wasney Brothers, Dee street.

ALEX. SUTHERLAND, Principal.

Miss Melba Lipscombe, Assistant.
Box—41. Telephone—1410.

FOR THE EMPIRE'S CAUSE.

IN MEMORIAM.

BRYSON.—In loving memory of Private W. J. Bryson, 24th N.Z. Reinforcements, dearly beloved eldest son of Mary and the late James Bryson, who was killed in action, somewhere in France, August 15, 1917.

To-day as I gaze on your photo,
In likeness so faithful and true;
Do you know that my heart is still aching

And longing dear Alex for you.
God called you home, it was His will,
But in my heart you liveth still;
Your memory is as dear to-day,
As at the hour you passed away.
There is a link death cannot sever,
Love and remembrance lives for ever.
So loved so mourned.

"The Digger."

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1920.

HOUSING.

From several spheres of R.S.A. activity we hear of provisions for the putting into practical effect the principles of co-operation. The R.S.A. have spoken in very definite terms upon the necessity of expediting the erection of houses which is a big factor in the repatriation of returned men. The co-operative housing scheme which was originated in Wellington is a promising experiment worthy of State support. In its first simplest form it laid down the principle of a working partnership between employers, employees and the Government to erect 500 houses in the Wellington district within a year. The Government was to find the money, the employers to supply expert supervision, plans and heavy plant, and to secure and assemble the necessary material purchased at the Government's expense, and the unions were to find all labour necessary for rapid construction. For their services the employers were to receive 2½ per cent on cost. It was originally proposed that the workers should receive the

same percentage, in addition to a standardised wage, but the Building Trades Federation preferred to accept instead 10 out of the 500 dwellings, to be held in trust for incapacitated members. The general supervision of the work was to be the responsibility of a board of three members representing the three parties in the scheme, but "the actual policy to be adopted in the purchase of materials, in the method of construction and in the placing of men" was to be the concern of the employers' and workers' representatives alone. An essential part of the scheme was that the buildings which were to be of such permanent materials as brick and concrete—were to have first call on supplies. As first expounded the scheme applied to Wellington only, but Mr James Fletcher, one of its four principal promoters, afterwards gave it a Dominion application. The other three Wellington firms concerned have since denied that this was intended or authorised. However this may be, Mr Fletcher is undoubtedly correct in his contention that such a scheme must have a national basis. The housing position in the other centres is far too acute to permit Wellington any monopoly either of material or of Government assistance. Criticism of the proposals is shaping itself along two lines. The first is voiced by the smaller builders of Wellington that in their present form the proposal may create a monopoly for the four firms advancing them. It is essential that this possibility should be guarded against and that every opportunity should be given to every builder to join a national effort to construct dwellings. The second is expressed by the Dunedin Master Builders' Association in its preference for a system of competitive tendering if the Government will supply materials at a fixed price. The insufficiency and high cost of materials is undoubtedly one of the chief factors in delaying building, but a board organised on the lines suggested by the Wellington firms might do much to improve supplies and cut out middlemen's profits. The plan now submitted to the Government is worthy of very careful consideration, but it must be made national in its scope and wide enough to embrace every employer and worker in the industry. It should prove no less interesting as an industrial experiment than as a housing experiment.

THE DIGGER'S LETTER BOX.

JACQUES, THE GROPER, AND A CRITIC.

(To the Editor).

Sir,—I am afraid your contributor "Groper" has, to use a rather inelegant phrase, fallen in the soup over his remarks about Mr Joseph McCabe, and your correspondent "A" has dealt very effectively with him over same. He now shifts his ground to attack McCabe over the subject of Christianity and slavery, where he is most assuredly in no better plight. He quotes McCabe as saying that "not one single syllable is written in condemnation of slavery throughout the Bible," and condemns this statement as dogmatism. I submit, sir, that this is not dogmatism, but fact. If "Groper" wishes to prove otherwise he must quote a text that condemns it as slavery, not one which merely seems inconsistent with other teachings which are found in the Bible upholding slavery, such as Leviticus 25, verses 45 and 46: "Moreover of the children that do sojourn among you, of them ye buy, and of their families . . . And ye shall take them as an inheritance for your children after you . . . They shall be your bondsmen for ever." No matter how "Groper" and others try to explain it away, the above was looked upon as an inspired message for centuries, and right down through the ages for over a thousand years the Christians bought and kept slaves.

What does Theodore Parker, one of the Christians quoted by "Groper," in his works Vol. 6, page 233, say: "If the whole American church had dropped through the continent and disappeared altogether, the anti-slavery cause would have been further on." He pointed out that no church ever issued a single tract among all its thousands, against property in human flesh and blood; and that 80,000 slaves were owned by Presbyterians, 225,000 by Baptists, and 250,000 by Methodists. So much for Christianity and slavery.

Now for the McCabe—Conan-Doyle debate. Both "Jacques" and "Groper" are of the opinion that McCabe came out of it second best; they are welcome to their opinion, but I would just remind them that it is the point of view one takes, and as showing that all those able to judge do not come to that conclusion, I will quote the New York "Truth's" article which says after congratulating McCabe on the result of the encounter: "It is evident at a glance that he came out of it signally victorious." and again, the "Expository Times," which is not often com-

plimentary of Rationalists, concerning the debate: "It is not quite so futile as public debates usually are . . . McCabe evidently knows the subject a great deal better than the most popular exponent of it."

"Jacques" evidently knows Mr McCabe much better and has less personal bias than has "Groper," and whoever he is, evidently wishes to be fair, in fact, I think, the desire to be fair is the reason for his reference to McCabe as being dogmatic. The one instance that he gives, however, that in his debates his usual method is to "fairly ascribe inexplicable phenomena to telepathy" is, I think, not altogether in accordance with my experience. He may have done so in some earlier debates, but in this one under discussion, I cannot find any passage to that effect, neither can I find one in his latest book: "Is Spiritualism Based on Fraud." To give the instances he does, and quotations (which are very numerous), to prove that the spiritualist movement reeks with fraud and trickery, he must have a very wide knowledge of his subject, and the whole trend of the book is to contend that where there is so much fraud, so much that was inexplicable at one time which has been proved fraud later, it is unwise and foolish to ascribe that part which we cannot understand as due to spirit influence. I see nowhere where he ascribes it to telepathy. I am, etc.

JOHN.

A REPLY.

(To the Editor).

Sir,—I stand rebuked. The laborious logic and pointless sallies of your Otahuti correspondent in his reply to my letter of the 6th., have found me defenceless, and I bow to his superior judgment. With due reverence and respect I wish to compliment him on the great improvement he showed in his more recent effort in reporting the match Otahuti v. Waianiwa, which Otahuti won. Unkind people are saying that the Otahuti scribe is very generous to teams which are defeated by Otahuti, and that Calcium incurred his displeasure by registering a draw. I sincerely hope that there is no ground for this statement, and that your correspondent will disprove it when the time comes to report the final match of the competition.—I am, etc.,

SPECTATOR.

(To the Editor).

Sir,—Mr McDonald can also be accused of having a facile imagination in an extraordinary degree should the occasion give him the opportunity. Seeing he could "remember nothing" concerning the Otahuti—Calcium match, maybe he has also forgotten the wording of Mr Sim's speech, part of which was as follows: "Although feeling may creep in during the game it should not be taken over the touch-lines, and I am sure as far as Otahuti is concerned it will not be," to which Mr McDonald in his reply agreed with entirely. Surely he does not want reminding of the ugly behaviour of several members of his club almost immediately afterwards. Mr McDonald need not worry about the Otahuti club members or players as I am sure he has his work cut out attending to his own club's business.—I am, etc.,

CORRESPONDENT.

PEACE ANNIVERSARY.

The attention of all returned soldiers in Southland is directed to the advertisement appearing in these columns concerning the complimentary ball to all returned soldiers and nurses. We have previously referred to the good relationship existing between the soldiers and the civilians, and it is hoped that everyone will attend and assist in making the ball a success. The citizens have done their part and the question is, will returned men and sisters do theirs? By the way it would be quite a change to see the sisters in their uniforms again, and it is hoped the soldiers themselves will dig into the wardrobe and unearth the uniform. But don't stay away because you have no uniform. The ball will be held in the King's Hall on Friday, August 27th., commencing at 8 p.m. In a previous issue we mentioned the difficulty of sending out personal invitations to all, and returned men and sisters are asked to regard this as the only invitation. The committee would like to be able to form some idea of the number who will be present and a notification to the secretary (Mr H. J. Farrant) will be of assistance. Any notifications left at "The Digger" will be communicated to the secretary. However, before we forget to accept the invitation we may say "The Digger will be there."

A conference has been held in connection with difficulties at the State coal mines and a settlement effected.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

WEDNESDAY (18) v. SATURDAY (19).

Some difficulty was found in getting a Saturday team, the mid-week half-holiday not favouring the losers, also Cockcroft, St. George, and Fortune not turning out. The first spell was a very ragged affair, and was all in favour of Saturday. The play was taken as a joke by spectators, the lack of tackling by certain men being considered laughable. Stead was very aggressive in this spell. Tall and Potter, of Bluff, showing up well in spoiling and in solid diving. Coakley, the Wednesday centre, did foot-work of an amazing intricacy and fooled non-divers often. This player appears to know exactly how to treat players of his own particular style of defence. Certainly his fooling of some of the other side was ludicrous. The forwards of the Wednesday side moved into the Saturday 25, and from a scrum a penalty was given against the week-enders for being swished around without the ball. Lilley goal. Wednesday 3, and half-time. The score was not earned, and the penalty was an error. The big Wednesday forwards, Sparks, Roche, Whyte, with Miller and Smith, doing loose work were not taking the game seriously. Agnew had a kind of roving commission, and the front row, McKenna, was playing extra all-back. It was a queer spell! The attack of Saturday was all the more commendable as it was against the solidest part of the representative forward pack; but the links in the back chain were uneven, though Gilmour was in the game—the first time since before the Canterbury win.

The second spell opened out with Saturday attack, but though some of the movements were fair, Stead, Cleland and Gilmour appearing well, no score came when the tug in the rope came. Then the Wednesday forwards took charge, Miller popping out from nowhere to score near the old Canterbury post. Wednesday 6, Coakley then did a treble shuffle, going on to pass to Agnew, who hurled himself over. A strong lad this. Wednesday 9, Saturday nil. Whyte brought on a dribble, capture and pass to Agnew, who crossed. Wednesday 12, Saturday nil. Lopedell was playing soundly in defence, tackle, ground work, and kick, being ahead of any other back on the ground. Vial came into the open and passed to Roche who lost the ball, but recovered it to score. Some thought it a shame for a try to be registered after such a break. Well, accidents will happen. Canterbury's first try was not less fortunate. Wednesday 15, Saturday nil. Without delay the forwards came on attack again, and Whyte picked up ten yards from home and crossed. Wednesday 18, Saturday nil. Saturday put up a good performance in the first spell, but in the second the big forwards had most of the play. It was noticeable in the many passing rushes that Stead was first-five in that the play very often stopped at Gilmour, who dislikes parting with the ball except after a cut in. Lopedell out-played the other five, and the game could not have been a trial as Dalgliesh was not playing. Lilley's kicking for lines was excellent.

INTRA-PROVINCIAL.

TEAM AGAINST OTAGO.

Fullback Brown. If this man plays even near his Canterbury-game form, even Moore of Eastern will not put him out. Wing-three: Fortune. Brown (Star) could not put this Service man out on the game the Star man played in the Wednesday-Saturday go-as-you-please. Wade or A. Brown of Western, should be kept in training.

Holmes. Starved as this player was on the long-side passing, yet his physical qualities, his experience, and his determined attack in the south-west corner during the second spell of the Canterbury match, mark him as the right man. It is to be hoped that his centre will connect with him and not go solo so often, and when he does go for a cut in, that he will find his other wing or come out to Holmes.

Centre: Gilmour. There is no more surprised man than Gilmour. He is luck to get a chance to show that he was simply very good in the first representative match. If he cannot wire himself up to tackling, he will learn of the universal detestation of Southlanders for a non-tackler. Gilmour has his points. Let tackling and finding his wing-three be two more of them.

Second five MacGibbon, the Eastern man will be keenly watched. We know he can play a back game; but if his first five runs across him to find the centre, how can he play a second-five game. His tackling is very sound, and he will not hide to escape the drudgery of stemming forward rushes.

First-five: Stead. We like Stead in the team. His Saturday habit of running out to find Gilmour must be limited in the number of its efforts, and his own

requent kicking should be checked. His defence on Wednesday last was good. He must give his second-five a chance to get to the game at the right place.

Half-back: J. Dalgliesh. The fitness of this man for the place is undeniable. One has seen his game against Western. The fact that Davidson was used for half against Canterbury shows the lack of attention by the selection committee, who saw Davidson in the Star-mergill final. He played just a simple game to his Canterbury one, and he is not on that. Dalgliesh has not played half since the Western match. Southland attacked a good 35 minutes of the second spell against Canterbury and the backs did not look like scoring. All the same, then, has been laid on Davidson, by the selectors—not by the public.

Front Row: Smith and Barry. These men did their work well, and Barry should lay even better than he did last match. He must not try one-handed line-work when he is not free to burst through.

Lock: Cockroft. This player should be the lock, he is too valuable next to Laird on the line, and he should be free to break than the lock position will allow him.

Supports: Roche and Whyte. A pair of great line and loose men.

Back Row: Miller, the scoring hero, the man who pops from nowhere. Langbrien, a good, rattling young forward, fearless and keen.

Winger: "Scotty" Baird. Only an all-black of known calibre could go so readily into a team as does this young giant, with all his Australian honours fresh upon him. Potter, whom he replaces, deserves well of his province.

Emergency Backs: O'Kane, Davidson, and Agnew. O'Kane's game in the Eastern District match makes him not unfamiliar to us. He should fit in well. But who is to be centre if Gilmour repeats the Canterbury performance? Agnew played second-five in the Galbraith final and did well. He is versatile, he should be in the team in place of Langbrien, or he should be fighting for Langbrien's place. The Eastern and the Western District have reason to complain that their backs are not tried.

Emergency Forwards: Sparks,—lock if Cockroft's leg doesn't hold, is running into condition. He is inclined to keep the ball in the scrum when his backs should have it.

Potter. If Potter is to be played anywhere except wing-forward then there is no place for him now. His tackling and general spoiling are unequalled here among forwards.

McKenzie. Put in as extra front row. He is a wiry, determined little man with bookish knowledge; but he is a confirmed rover. His tackling is vigorous, if not orthodox. He has a great heart and is out to help the whole team.

The selectors have shown themselves strong men. The storm of criticism has not affected their picking: the team that represents the Province against the strong Otago side is theirs and theirs only. And that is as it should be. It is not likely that the Otago forwards will go to pieces for a whole spell as the Canterbury pack did, so our backs will have to do ever so much better than they did in that game. We sincerely hope that they will.

WESTERN DISTRICT FOOTBALL.

On Saturday two representative games of football will be played in Riverton, one between Tapanui District and Western District, and a junior match between Western District and a team from Invercargill. The Western District teams are: Senior.—Brown, Eade, Guthrie, Brown, Grieve (captain), Bell, Weir; Matheson, Brown, Foster, Popham, Forde, Duggan, Sherwell, and Johnstone. Emergencies: Finnegan, Watt; Lindsay, Greer. Juniors.—W. Dixon (Nightcaps); Childs (Otautau) King, Beer (Riverton); J. Ashley, F. Reid (Nightcaps); W. Burt (Nightcaps), J. Bell, S. Burt, Sizemore (Nightcaps), J. O'Brien, D. Stevens (Riverton), Gray, Fisher, and Thomas (Otautau). Emergencies: Bulman (Otautau), Trotter (Riverton), Beer, Helm (Riverton). Any player unable to fulfil his engagement kindly notify the secretary of the sub-union, Riverton. The junior match will be played at 1.30 p.m., prior to the senior game being played.

Last week the State Department published a Note regarding the Polish situation, stating that the United States desired an autonomous Poland, and did not take exception to armistice negotiations between Russia and Poland. "The United States will not participate in these negotiations, since it fears that they will lead to a recognition of the Soviet and a settlement of the Russian problem upon the basis of dismemberment of Russia. The United States will therefore welcome an Allied declaration that her true boundaries, excepting Finland, Poland, and part of Armenia, will be safeguarded."

R.S.A. EXECUTIVE.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Invercargill Executive was held last Tuesday, the president, Mr Duncan Rae, presiding. Correspondence was read from the Commissioner of Crown Lands regarding Sunnyside run. It was decided to forward a copy to the Tuatapere Association. From Commissioner of Crown Lands re examination of applicants from other districts.

The general secretary of the R.S.A. wrote explaining that the refund of valuation fee deposited by a soldier prior to application to purchase a property from the Government could not be claimed as a right. The complaint is that where a soldier deposits a valuation fee and is unsuccessful, a future applicant, or number of applicants may be likewise for the same property. The Government have already a valuation on the property which has been paid for by an unsuccessful soldier and the Department invariably receives a number of fees and it is considered that the successful applicant should pay the fee and the remainder be refunded.

Members considered that was in opposition to the Minister's reply in the House, and it was decided to forward the matter on to the general secretary. Six outward and five inward transfers were made and one member reported as deceased. A resolution asking the Government to set up a special committee to deal with the repatriation and treatment of T.B. men was carried and to be sent to the general secretary. The provisions of the resolution requested that the committee be empowered to call expert evidence and transmit their findings to the Government. The question of returned men seeking employment in the Railway Department was discussed and action is being taken. A letter from the War Funds met with the unanimous approval of the executive. The question of the soldiers' memorial was freely discussed. The Association had desired to leave the matter entirely in their hands but had now come to the conclusion that it should come to some decision on the matter. Held over until next meeting.

RETURNED SOLDIER'S WEDDING.

A very pretty wedding was solemnised at St. Mary's Basilica, on Wednesday, August 4th., the contracting parties being Annie, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Gorin, 14, Bowmont street, to Mr William James Reid, of Arrowtown. The bride looked charming in a white frock of crepe-de-chine, hand-embroidered, with the usual veil and orange blossoms arranged mob cap style. She carried a bouquet of winter roses. The bride was attended by Miss B. Lyons, as bridesmaid, and her sister as flower girl. The former wore a beautiful frock of vieux rose crepe-de-chine, black net hat, while the latter was in white silk, hat to match. They both carried bouquets of winter roses and pink narcissis and both wore gold bangles, gifts of the bridegroom. After the wedding about fifty guests assembled at the Federal Tea Rooms for breakfast, the usual toasts being duly honoured.

Later in the day the happy couple left amidst showers of confetti and good wishes of their friends for Dundee, where the honeymoon was spent. The bride wore a navy blue costume, hat to match. Mr and Mrs Reid were the recipients of many costly and beautiful presents, including several cheques.

OBITUARY.

It is with feelings of regret that we have to record the death of a well-known and popular resident of Drummond, in the person of Thomas McFarlane, youngest son of Mr John McFarlane, of Drummond, which took place on Monday, 16th inst. Thomas left with the 22nd reinforcements, and during his military career in France he endeared himself to quite a large circle of Digger friends. Of a bright and cheerful disposition, he was at all times ready to do his duty until he became gassed and was sent home. By the death of this gallant lad Drummond loses one of its best residents, and the sympathy of a large circle of friends will go out to Mr McFarlane in his bereavement.

If you are alive to Progressive ideas, examine our clothes for Spring. There are many innovations in their make-up. The many styles combined with correct tailoring are the main essentials in suits that give satisfaction. Our Spring assortment is very interesting. Suits-to-measure, tailor-cut, fit guaranteed, from 130/- to 200/-. Men's box suits made from best colonial tweeds and worsted from 115/- to 150/-. Men's box suits, all pure wool colonial tweeds, from 135/- to 160/-. Men's tweed overcoats, all pure wool, from 105/- to 195/-. Boys' raincoats from 30/- to 60/-. Make a personal visit of inspection at H. and J. Smith, Limited, Progressive Stores, Tay street, Invercargill and Main street, Gore.

WEEK OF PITY!

WEEK OF PITY!

AN appeal on behalf of the Starving Children of Europe. Five million children are dying of starvation! In one district there is not a child living under the age of seven years; in another not one living under the age of three years.

We who live our ordered lives can have no conception of the horror that stalks among the children of Europe—the unendurable agony of thousands of bereaved mothers, many of whom have lost two, three, four children, and are fighting with desperate self-denial against the gaunt death that awaits their surviving offspring.

WE MUST HELP!

WE WILL HELP!

£5000 is asked from the happy, prosperous people of Southland.

GIVE! GIVE! GIVE ALL YOU CAN!

THE WEEK OF PITY

Begins in Invercargill on Wednesday, 25th August, and closes on Wednesday, 1st September.

Contributions to be paid to the collectors, and forwarded to Mr F. Burwell, Hon. Treasurer, Box 51, Invercargill.

Any further information from members of Committee. Chairman, Jno. Stead, Esq.; vice-chairmen, Messrs E. A. Anderson, and H. W. Royds; hon. secretary, Mr H. J. Farrant; hon. assistant secretary, Mr A. S. Wallace.

SCANDRETT & SONS

LIMITED,

Athenaeum Buildings,
ESK STREET.

Four-roomed Dwelling, nice section; wash-house, coalhouse, etc., all under one roof. Terms £100 down.

Six-roomed Dwelling, in good order; full 1-acre section, northerly aspect. No cars required here. Price £650.

We have other tip top properties worthy of inspection. Give us a call and we will satisfy your requirements.

Agents—COOK'S TOURS.

Scandrett & Sons, Ltd.,

ESK STREET.



SAVE YOUR MONEY!

BUY YOUR
BUY YOUR
BUY YOUR
BUY GROCERIES
BUY GROCERIES
BUY GROCERIES
BUY AT
BUY

BAXTERS

QUICKER THE SALES THE LOWER THE PRICE.

During the Bustle of A SALE

MANY ITEMS ARE OVERLOOKED. THIS WEEK WE WILL BRING ALL THESE TO THE FORE AND HOLD A GREAT

ODDMENT WEEK.

AS THERE ARE A GREAT MANY LINES ON OFFER WITH ONLY ONE OR TWO ARTICLES TO THE LINE WE CANNOT ETEMIZE THE GOODS ON OFFER, BUT WE CAN SAY THAT THERE WILL BE

TABLES OF

BLOUSES, SKIRTS, JERSEY COATS, TWEED COATS, COSTUMES AND DRESSES AT REAL REMNANT PRICES.

BALANCE OF MILLINERY AT GIVING AWAY PRICES.

Also, Special Value in Woman's Underwear, including Corsets at 5s 6d, 6s 3d and 7s 6d pair. Worth Double.

REMNANTS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS AT SPECIAL ODDMENT WEEK PRICES

Thomson & Beattie, Ltd.

THE QUALITY HOUSE.

'Phone 13. P.O. Box 46. Tay Street, Invercargill.

PEACE ANNIVERSARY.

COMPLIMENTARY BALL TO RETURNED SOLDIERS AND NURSES.

ALL Returned Soldiers and Nurses in the Southland Province are cordially invited to a Complimentary Ball tendered by the citizens of Southland in Celebration of the Anniversary of Peace.

The Ball will be held in the King's Hall, Invercargill, on FRIDAY, 27th August, commencing at 8 p.m., and will be solely for Returned Men, Nurses, and their partners. Admission by Uniform or R.S.A. Badge. The soldiers are respectfully requested to wear uniform.

Time being limited, no personal invitations are being sent out.

To assist the Committee in arranging for catering, etc., please notify the Secretary of your intention to be present.

H. J. FARRANT,
Hon. Secretary.

Box 272, Invercargill.

PROPERTY OWNERS.

KINDLY note that if you wish to SELL your

SECTION, HOUSE, FARM, or SHEEP RUN

It will be to your advantage to consult us. We deal extensively in all classes of property and will be pleased to have particulars of yours.

BUYERS—

We cater specially for you.

Our Motto—"SATISFACTION."

T. D. A. Moffett,

P.O. Box—193. Telephone—279.

Land and Estate Agent, Grain, Seed,

and Hemp Broker,

Athenaeum Buildings, Invercargill.

REMOVAL NOTICE.

SHIELDS, JENKINS & CO., LTD.

(Late Farmers' Machinery Exchange),
PROPRIETORS & MANUFACTURERS
STORRIE IMPROVED
MILKING MACHINE.

Wish to notify their Customers that they have removed to premises at rear of Club Hotel.

ENTRANCE:

DEE ST.: Club Hotel Right-of-way.

LEVEN ST.: Mackerras and Hazlett

Right-of-way.

P.O. BOX—278.

TELEGRAMS: "Pulsator," Invercargill.

The Diggers' Motor Car,

FOR HIRE.

SPLENDIDLY UPHOLSTERED.

FIVE-SEATER,

WILLYS' KNIGHT CAR—35-h.p.

R. A. BAIRD.

Ring 'Phone—744.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Casual Advertisements—One insertion, 4/- per inch; 3/- per inch for each subsequent insertion (prepaid).

Births and Marriage Notices—3/6 one insertion; 5/6 two insertions.

Death Notices—3/6 one insertion, 5/6 for two, and 7/6 for three insertions.

Memorial Notices—For notice only, 3/6 notice with verse, 3/6, plus 6d per line for each verse.

Wanted, Lost and Found—1/- for one insertion of sixteen words.

SCOTCH! HOTCH! POTCH!

Our column might well be headed "Dry Hash," or "Irish Stew." It's anything that for the moment interests our barmy noddle so here goes:—

To the courteous "A" and others who don't agree with out outpouring we would say:—

"Kill not for pity's sake, lest ye slay
The meanest thing upon its upward
way."

ANATOMICAL.

"Twixt burning bush and burning blush
Analogy is found;
Both indicate as off we rush,
The place is holy ground.

I praise my darling's golden hair,
Her cheeks that shame the rose;
But never, never, do I dare,
To touch upon her nose.

I celebrate her supple waist,
Her foot laudation begs;
My muse is far too wise and chaste
To give the lady legs.

In short, since prudery is queen,
And decency is human!
A poet, or he rank obscene,
May praise but half a woman.

—E.V.L.

The antithesis:—

It must be so—Plato thou reason'st well!
Else whence this pleasing hope, this
fond desire.

This longing after immortality?
Or, whence this secret dread and inward
horror,

Of falling into naught? Why shrinks
the soul
Back on herself, and startles at destruc-
tion?

'Tis the Divinity that stirs within us;
'Tis Heaven herself, that points out an
hereafter,

And intimates Eternity to man.

—Joseph Addison.

That's a piece of real good stuff. It
grips and rings true. It harmonises with
human instinct. Unless we survive the
episode called death and live to square
the crooked accounts of this life in an-
other sphere, there is no logic in the uni-
verse. We don't know, nor shall we,
this side Lethe and for the same reason
as Hamlet we refuse to.

"Our own quietus make with a bare bod-
kin"—or prussic acid. Our reasons are
precisely those of Hamlet. Our conclu-
sions are the same.

"And makes us rather bear those ills
we have,
Than fly to others that we know not
of."

All the world's away. If no nations
are making, many are breaking. The
bloody juggernaut of war rolls on, and the
end is not yet. The worst feature is the
universal disregard for law and order.
In America "hold ups" and shooting—
mostly for filthy lucre, are of hourly oc-
currence. Even sober England has at-
tenuated crime sheets. Sinn Fein Ireland
has cultivated the damnable habit of shoot-
ing, in cold blood, innocent men. And
Mannix boasts that he is a Sinn Feiner.
We hope that he will soon recover his
senses and remember that he is, first, a
priest, and do his native country the very
necessary service of emphasising her
neglect of the Commandment "Thou shalt
not kill." Morality in most lands, but par-
ticularly America, is a thing of shreds
and patches. We don't get Mrs Grundy
to do our washing, nor do we attend the
Presbyterian Church, but, frankly, parents
would be well advised to "slow down"
their children on "Charlie Chaplin"—on
principle. A man who won't adequately
support his offspring is lacking the virtue
of a she cat. "These be thy Gods, oh
Israel!"

A message from Los Angeles states that,
alleging cruelty, Charlie Chaplin's wife has
filed a divorce suit.

He would not go on a mountain excur-
sion with her pleading fatigue; but im-
mediately participated in gay mixed par-
ties at the Coronado Beach Resort.

When, following upon the last incident
she went to New York, Chaplin declined
to send her more than \$50, though earning
\$20,000 annually. When a baby was ex-
pected he refused to furnish a nursery.

Longfellows's:—

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
Is our destined end or way;
But to act that each tomorrow
Finds us further than to-day,

is not the watchword of 1920 A.D. Our

first of war correspondents writing in the
"New Republic" says:— We need a pro-
phet of God to change the evil in men's
hearts, and such a voice is not heard
above the strife and anguish of this pre-
sent time, when many people are sinking
again into the abyss of despair, and others
are behaving with an appalling frivolity
because their time has not yet come."

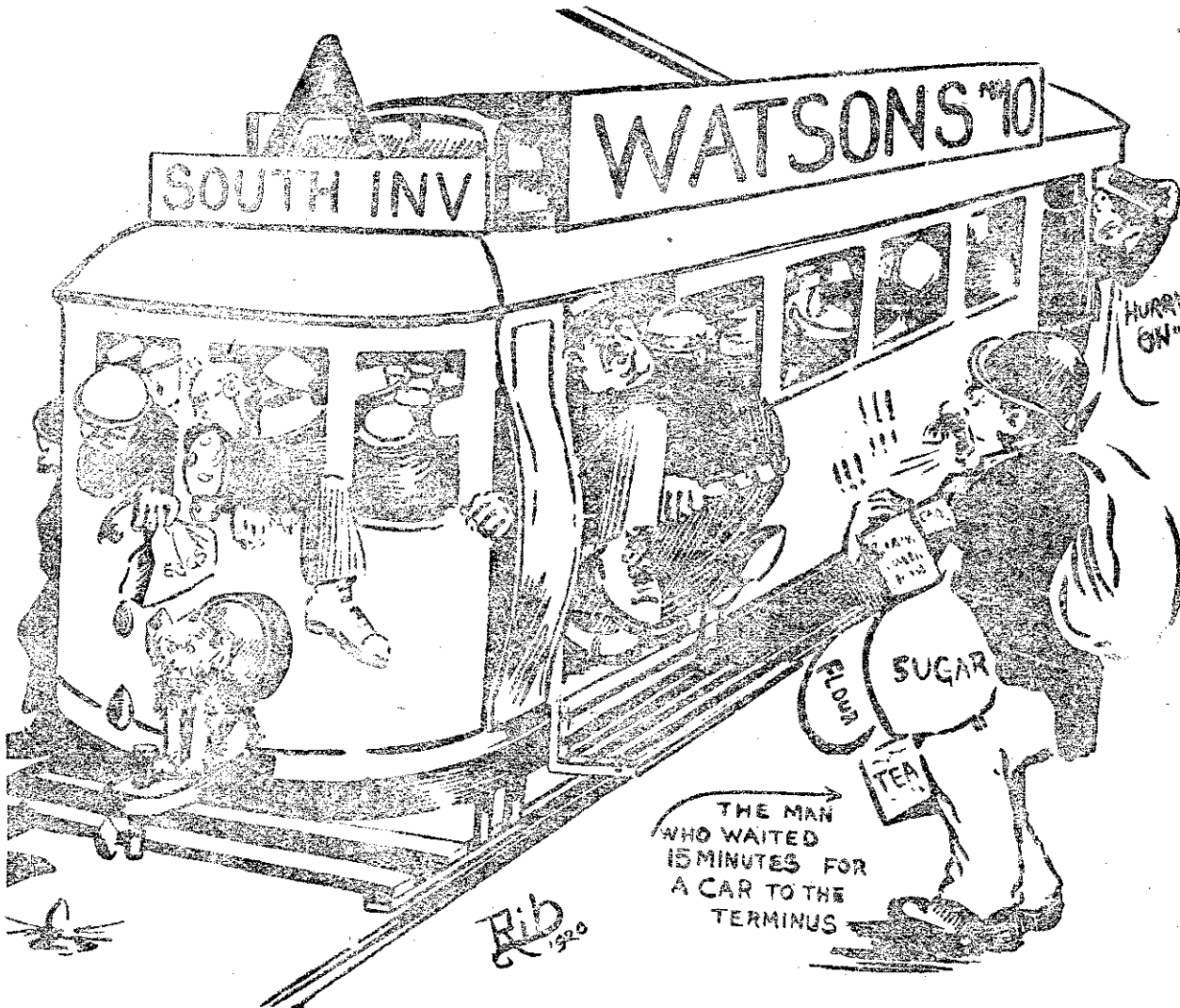
John and Jean had retired for the night.
Jean: "John, get up and see what's in the
hoose." John: "Hoot wuman, wha'd be
in this house?" Jean: "Git up mon, there's
somebody there! It'll be a burglar after the
cookies I baked after tea the night." John:
"Oh weel aw' I hope is he doesn't die
before he leaves the hoose."

A woman, dirty and dishevelled, came
into a dispensary with her right arm torn
and bleeding. The dispenser preparing a
binding, said: "Did a dog bite you?"
"No, sir," the patient replied, "Another
lady."

"The Groper" heartily concurs in the
open letter to the Southland Power Board
in last issue. Storemen and clerks from
Sydney at £7 and £10 per week! We'll
be told that "special qualifications" are
required. "The Groper" wants to know
how the local celebrities, practically self-
appointed, have come by the knowledge
which will enable them to hold the control-
ling jobs down! What's wrong with the
New Zealand Diggers. They took Mes-
sines and stormed La Quenoy and Rap-
paupe, surely they can help to electrify
Southland with the stay-at-homes.

CLIFTON SETTLEMENT.

Otago Land Board has decided to hold
over the opening of the vacant sections
of Clifton settlement for general selection
until the conference at Clifton on the 27th
with the local R.S.A. The Farmers' Union
propose to visit the settlement, and make
themselves acquainted with the position.



MARKET NOTES.

INVERCARGILL, 19th AUGUST, 1920.

Messrs Bray Bros. Ltd., Auctioneers and
Fruit Salesmen, Dee street, Invercargill,
report as follows:—

Produce.—Table Potatoes, large supplies
on the market—price, £6 per ton. Seed
Potatoes.—There is a good demand for
early seed and prices are good up to 12s
per cwt. Onions.—to 14s per cwt. Oats.—
5s 4d to 5s 9d per bushel. Chaff.—Prime
quality to £8 10s; discoloured, to 20.
Straw Chaff.—to £7 10s per ton, s.i. Oat-
en Straw to £5 10s per ton. Hay to £6
per ton. Meggitt's Linseed Meal, 30s per
bag. Meggitt's Calf Food, 30s per bag.
Oatdust, 6s per bag. Bran, 11s per bag.
Pollard, 13s per bag, Farro Food, 12s per
bag. Molasses, 21s per cwt.

Fruit.—Heavy supplies. Dessert Apples
are selling at from 12s to 10s per case
for choice, other quality from 9s 6d to 7s
6d. Cooking Apples are selling at from
3d to 2 1/2d per lb. Pears.—Choice dessert
are in good demand at from 5d to 3 1/2d per
lb; inferior, 3d per lb.

Vegetables.—Cabbage, to 6s per sack.

Swedes, 2s to 3s 6d per sack. Carrots, 4s
per bag and 6s 6d per cwt. Parsnips, to
2d per lb. Melons, to 2d per lb.
General.—Lepp salt Lick. Fresh supplies
have arrived, 2s 3d per brick, 2s whole-
sale. Cow Covers, 22s 6d to 30s each
(best quality). Horse Covers, £2 15s to £3
(American Duck). Boots, 55s per pair. Tea
(b.o.p.) 2s 6d to 3s per lb, in chests or half-
chests.

Sundries.—Several Motor Cars and
Motor Cycles for sale. They are in good
order and worth inspection.

Furniture.—Our Warehouse in Spey
street carries complete stocks of furniture.
fittings beds and bedding. We make
furniture to your order. We use only
the best quality wood, and the workman-
ship is all that can be desired. We sell
at the lowest possible price consistent with
quality.

Land Department.—Kapuka property
consisting of 240 acres, close to school,
factory and store. Four-roomed house
and out-buildings. Easy terms to the
right man. Price £6 per acre. Western
District, 1100 acres. This land has been
carrying over a sheep to the acre, dwelling
of five-rooms and all necessary out-build-
ings. Price, £7 10s per acre.

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.

SAVE MONEY!
By Buying Your HOUSE BLOUSES Here!

21 Dozen LADIES' DARK HOUSE BLOUSES. Worth 8/11, 9/6, 10/6.
SALE PRICE, 7/6.

3 1/2 Dozen LADIES' DARK FLANNELETTE BLOUSES.

You will not buy MATERIAL for any of these Blouses at the price we are selling them.

LADIES' COLOURED HOSE; all pure Woollen Cashmere.

We have a splendid assortment of CHILDREN'S BIBS to choose from.

12 Dozen LADIES' WHITE COTTON SINGLETS; good quality.

2 Dozen LADIES' BLACK CASHMERE FINISH HOSE; a guaranteed Black and good weight.

CHILDREN'S PRINT and SILK DRESSES, all at Sale prices.
AT

TULLY'S DRAPERY SUPPLY SALE,

NEXT NEWS OFFICE, DEE STREET.

"Hanging Out the Front Door Key,"
Jellyman; duet, "Perfect Day," Mr.
Mr Holmes; solo, "Pridees," Mr.
Grieve.

LATE CORRESPONDENCE.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS, SOUTH-
LAND ELECTRIC POWER BOARD.

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—In your issue of Aug. 13th I have
read with interest an open letter to the
Chairman and members of Southland
Electric Power Board, regarding the ap-
pointment of Mr J. W. Ellis, of Sydney,
as chief clerk of the construction staff, at
a salary of £10 per week, and Mr W. C.
Brickson, of N.S.W., as storekeeper at
salary of £7 per week.

As one who was "through the mill"
in France and knows the sentiments of
most of the Diggers throughout South-
land, I cannot allow this matter to pass
without some expression of opinion.

Why did the E. P. Board (who I under-
stand are a patriotic body working in the
interests of Southland) not advertise in
the local papers for applications for these
positions? Are there not any of our
returned men with sufficient brains to fill
these positions? (Evidently the man of
to-day who has brains was the man who
stayed at home and shirked his duty to
humanity). Not that I consider that a
returned Southlander should have neces-
sarily been appointed, but that he should
have had an opportunity of stating
his qualifications. There are many re-
turned men who have not found employ-
ment, and I hold, and always will hold,
that the returned men should be given the
preference.

We do not need to look to the F.P.
Board in this respect. There are many
business firms in Southland who pose as
patriotic concerns, but who refused to
give the returned man his job when he
came home. These firms and bodies
should be publicly blacklisted.

I believe that the F. P. Board with
its scheme is a very progressive institu-
tion for the advancement of Southland,
but if they are going to make all their
appointments in this manner, I for one
will no longer support them.

Will the Chairman, whom I under-
stand is a very patriotic gentleman, be
good enough to explain to the people of
Southland, through these columns, why
Southlanders were not given any con-
sideration in these appointments.
I presume they will require a large
number of workmen shortly, and I trust
that consideration will be shown to those
men who kept the Huns away from
Southland prospered,—I am, etc.

FOUR BLUE CHEVRONS.
Invercargill, August 19, 1920.

CONCERT AND DANCE.

A very successful concert and dance
was held at Scott's Gap on Thursday even-
ing, the occasion being a presentation to
Messrs Clothier and Gregg, who are leav-
ing the district for the North Island. The
guests were each presented with a well-
filled purse of sovereigns, Mr W. Aitken,
chairman of the committee, making the
presentation in his usual good style, to
which Messrs Clothier and Gregg, who
were received with prolonged applause,
suitably replied. A lengthy programme
was rendered, every item being accorded
hearty applause. The pianoforte solo;
opening chorus, "Goodbye Summer," Com-
pany; solo, "Invitation," Miss Holmes;
solo, "Mickey," Mr Geo. Grieve; solo,
"Jeannie Black, etc.," Mr Arthur, senr;
solo, "Susy," Miss Agnes Holmes; solo,
"Dublin Bay," Mr D. Grieve; trio, "A
Little Farm," Misses Arthur and Holmes
(2); solo, "When I Got Up This Morn.,"
Mr Jellyman; solo, "Yaddy Kaddy Koo,"
Master J. Holmes; monologue, "The Girl
on the Stairs," Mr A. Holmes; solo, "Af-
ton Water," Mr W. Aitken; solo, "Till
We Meet Again," Mr Coulter; duet,
"Sweet and Low," Misses Holmes; solo,

STARVATION.

HEARTRENDING SCENES AMONGST DYING CHILDREN.

NO FOOD. NO CLOTHES. NO HOPE.

5,000,000 Need Help and Succour.—AND AT ONCE.

RESPOND TO "THE DIGGER'S" APPEAL AT ONCE.

Starvation is the awful monument fast being sculptured by the hand of Death in thousands of towns and villages of Europe where millions of children are starving and dying. They are in daily, hourly peril. It is not a threatened calamity, but a frightful and active tragedy this is being enacted now—minute by minute, even as you read now.

Thousands have died in the past few weeks and thousands more are now on the point of death. Each new death is another hammer blow upon the sculptor's chisel fashioning this infamous memorial to the callousness of a civilisation that allows such things to be.

Shall we in Great Britain permit our cold aloofness to become a byword and a tradition amongst our neighbours? Shall we let these wretched little ones suffer the pangs of a slow and agonizing death because we are apathetic to help?

are in immediate peril. Think of the blood ties, of the terrible sacrifices we have made in the war that civilisation might be spared, and think that now—in spite of all—the awful aftermath of war is threatening the destiny of mankind in this appalling fashion.

Plague and disease, stunted babies, shrivelled breasts, incapable of nourishment; a sterile earth, devoid of crops; hundreds of square miles of country without milk, without bread, without medicine, and without clothing of any kind—and above all, the gaunt and towering figure of starvation snatching babies from their mothers' arms and claiming victims every hour.

This is the tragedy, and to-day is our great opportunity to stay its course. If we let to-morrow dawn before we have done our utmost to help, who knows how many more infant lives will pay forfeit.

THE UNANIMOUS SUPPORT OF EVERY CREED AND RELIGION.

The "Save the Children" Fund is the only organisation exclusively devoted to the relief of children which has the whole-hearted support of the leaders of every movement, every creed, and every denomination.

The Archbishop of Canterbury says:—"We cannot exaggerate the importance of the appeal for our immediate help. Let the greatness of the need be realised, and the British people will, I am persuaded, do their utmost to stay the scourge."

General Smuts writes: "It is the most awful spectacle in history, and no one with any heart or regard for human destiny can contemplate it without the deepest emotion. It is a case . . . for a mission of rescue work such as the world has never seen."

Dr Arthur Guttery (President, National Free Church Council): "The first duty of the new peace is to rescue millions . . . from the threat of starvation. I am convinced that Central Europe is in danger of a famine which may involve all nations in a common ruin. The cry of the hungry can never be foreign to the followers of the Son of Man."

SHALL WE SIT AT OUR MEALS HAUNTED BY THOSE WE COULD HAVE SAVED?

There are ghosts at our feasts to-day. Every hour swells their total and multiplies them. Each haggard, emaciated face is symbolic of the most acute suffering. It represents a poor, helpless child, cruelly done to death by famine, cold, and exposure amidst surroundings of the most unspeakable squalor. If our ears were attuned to the distance, we should hear every moment a chorus of agonised cries, the wailing of countless stricken children, and the awful entry of mothers who have been twice, three times, and four times bereaved.

The great call to our humanity and pity surely cannot fail to stir every generous feeling in our hearts. Nobody is asked to deny themselves. Shillings count as well as pounds. But it must be to-day.

Just think of it, you who live your comfortable lives. The memory of those who died in the war for humanity's sake demands your help in this awful crisis. Let us do all we can before it is too late, so that none can say we have lived, and that others died in vain.

Your personal subscription or offer should be posted to:

MR. BURWELL, Treasurer,
Box 51, Invercargill,

but please do it now, for every moment you hesitate another innocent life may be lost.

Please acknowledge "The Digger" in responding to this appeal.

HOW YOU CAN EASILY SAVE ONE OR MORE FROM A HORRIBLE DOOM.

History has shown that Britons are made of better stuff. The credit, the honour, the dignity of our great Nation are at stake to-day, and this very moment in which you are reading is the period of test. If you send a few shillings now, while there is yet time, you will have saved at least one innocent young life from a horrible doom. But if you feel sorry—and shrug your shoulders—and leave it to others, so surely will another innocent young life be needlessly sacrificed. Just think of it! All the time, outside our very doors, a multitude of helpless children and stricken mothers are perishing for want of food and clothes, not one thousand, two thousand, or a hundred thousand, but millions! It is not in China or Tibet. It is in Europe—a mere tourist's trip from where you are reading now.

A TERRIBLE FACT.

Cruel cold and famine are stalking amongst these helpless mites, without clothing, without fires, without shelter, and spreading their miserable agony far and wide. It is a terrible fact that in some districts there is not a child alive under the age of 7 years.

A recent report states:—"Many of the poor refugees have even been stripped of their clothes, and left naked to die. Thousands of adults and children have not tasted any normal food for weeks, but have existed on roots and leaves and dandelions. The olive-green colour of their skin and deep-sunken eyes testify to their ghastly sufferings. These poor people—mad with hunger—have in some cases eaten the flesh from the bodies of their dead comrades."

"In some towns in Central Europe there is no milk, no fats, no meats. Babies who are not fed by their weak half-starved mothers have no food but frost-bitten potatoes. In most cases they die. But far greater the tragedy of those that live on in this appalling misery."

HOW YOU CAN HELP.

Many of us can spare a few shillings, others a few pounds, others a hundred or a thousand pounds—without stint or sacrifice. Your opportunity is now. All the channels of relief are organised.

WHY HESITATE LONGER? WHILE YOU HESITATE CHILDREN DIE.

But for each one who has given there must be four or five who hesitate—whose hearts have been stirred by the appeal but who have not allowed their better feelings to have their way. It is to these, and to all who read now that the averting of a colossal monument of starvation is entrusted.

Think of the millions of little ones who

"HIGHLANDER" MILK PRODUCTS

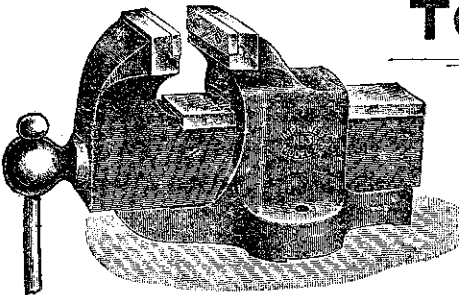
Are Manufactured in Southland, and are made by a Company all British owned.

HIGHLANDER BRAND

Is a guarantee of quality and nationality.

It can always be depended upon.

TOOLS.



CARPENTERS,
MECHANICS,
FARMERS.

Call and inspect
our range of Tools

Shipments just arrived. Satisfaction warranted: Prices to suit everyone.

John Edmond, TAY STREET, INVERCARGILL.

MOTOR CYCLE RIDERS.

Place your order with a Firm who can be depended upon to take a personal interest in your individual requirements

"AS WE ALWAYS DO."

We desire your goodwill before your Business.

We are at your service first and always.

What we advise to-day you appreciate to-morrow.

Intending Motorists should place their Order with us NOW for the coming Season.

As we can assure them all Motor Cycles will advance enormously during the next few weeks.

A SHIPMENT OF

Trusty Triumphs & Harley Davidson Motor Cycles

OF ALL MODELS HAVE JUST REACHED US.

If unable to call, write us for full particulars and prices.

WILSON and FRASER,

MOTOR CYCLE SPECIALISTS,

DEE STREET INVERCARGILL.

For Furniture.

That is strikingly handsome and conscientiously made in every detail.

Come to

W. S. Robinson & Co.,

The Reliable Furniture House,
KELVIN STREET.

'Phone—760.

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 accommodation for twenty passengers and will take parties out day or night at reasonable prices.

GIVE THE DIGGER CARRIERS A SHARE OF YOUR PATRONAGE.

OFFICE—SPEY STREET.

'Phone—779

BEAUMONT SETTLEMENT

NIGHTCAPS.

COMPACT LITTLE FARM.

450 ACRES, L.I.P.

Well Fenced.

SUBDIVIDED INTO 5 PADDOCKS.

BUILDINGS.

NEW 6-ROOMED HOUSE

With all conveniences. H. and C. water.

6-STALLED STABLE.

TRAP SHED.

COWBYRE.

WOOL SHED. SHEEP YARDS.

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Of Interest to Women.

ECONOMICS AND ECONOMY.

Most people are profoundly ignorant of the mysteries of high finance. They hear that fortunes may be made or unmade in an hour; and if this be true, it does not take the wisdom of Solomon to see that such fortunes are made by gambling, and it stands to reason that all money made by gambling, is money for which no return whatever is given, money not made but merely taken—"collared," to use a slang term—from somebody else. A kind of inkling steals then into the backs of a good many people's minds that high finance is a realm of jugglery whence come (like the increasing pennies in the conjuror's trick), the higher prices of everything they have to buy.

Financial experts talk, or are reported in the newspapers to be talking, about the inflated currency; but the man in the street and the woman in the kitchen are not clear as to how this particular bogey acts. They only know the old vicious circle; the workman gets an increase in wages, the teacher an increase in salary, and so forth; then the income tax goes up, and the Borough raises the rates and the sanitary bill, and the cost of gas and electricity, and charges a lighting rate on an occupied section. Letters cost 2d instead of 1½d, and the telephone charges are raised. Soon butter will be 2s 6d a pound, so 'tis said, and we are to be grateful to a paternal government for sugar at 6d to 6½d. And when you've recovered from these things and faced the children's boot bill, where is your increase in salary? I suppose, like the frog in the fable, things will go on swelling until some day they—"bust."

Meanwhile the unenlightened in matters financial, may dimly perceive one or two things. The first of these is that the seeds of all this disorder were there in our economic system before the war; that they only needed war conditions to bring them on and we now reap a harvest that has not grown in a night from nothing. One of these seeds, the commonest of all, is the competition of everyone against everyone else without co-ordination or co-operation among the various sections of the community. Every unit and every class is fighting for itself regardless of the interests of others. At the time when we should be fitting of dovetailing in order to save energy, time, and money, and to prevent waste, we are running about getting in one another's way. How would a household fare if two of the members undertook in rivalry to feed or clothe it; it might seem to be doing very well until it remembered that it was paying for the activities of both. And so with a community; it may seem to be better served by two bakery firms than by one, but it is paying for both, and for all the overlapping they do.

Another thing that the unenlightened do dimly perceive is that there are too many people employed in useless occupations; we have a multiplicity of agents and kindred folk all very busy making a pecking out of our community. Some persons of the kind do doubt we must have, but we actually have a surplus—and that in a kind of occupation where we ought to exercise the strictest social economy. For the matter of that, no doubt we have far too many editors and reporters, and lawyers and members of Parliament for strict economy. The truth is that while many people are very methodical and economical in private affairs, the whole public economy is enormously wasteful and chaotic. I do not mean merely in municipal, or governmental affairs, I mean in social structure, in the economic organisation of society. Here there is waste and disorganisation, a conspicuous lack of economy in the popular sense of the term, everywhere, such as no careful housewife would tolerate for a week in her household affairs.

Meanwhile we must do what we can to make ends meet, though we should also be trying to understand the disease from which we suffer, so that we may intelligently co-operate in the cure. The majority of women are finding out ways of economising such as they never thought of before. Stockings can be darned for longer time, coats and skirts may be turned and so two made from one piece of material, gloves may be dispensed with to some degree, and so forth.

In the household management, I believe a great economy would be effected in the cost of food if women would study the cooking of vegetables more carefully. There are plenty of people who have no ideas beyond boiling vegetables in a large quantity of water and serving them up, after straining, deprived of a good percentage of their food value. Now vegetables should be boiled if they are boiled at all, in as little water as possible, and the stock used to make sauce, so that none of the healthy and nourishing properties are

lost. Baked vegetables, or those boiled and then baked, are more savoury and appetising; and by the aid of a good look on vegetable cookery, dozens of the tastiest dishes may be made, which would enable households to replace meat without loss to enjoyment or fitness. And since vegetables may be grown by every family in Invercargill at very small cost, it is evident that any woman who studied their possibilities thoroughly and intelligently, could save a deal in the cost of feeding her household.

Inordinate flesh-eaters might feel it hard lines to be deprived of meat three times a day; but they would really be more healthy and last longer in good condition if they confined themselves to three times a week.

Of course it is the wage-earner or salaried person who feels most the increased cost of living. The income of these classes is so very definite, so strictly limited; but the economics forced upon the wage-earners and salaried people must return upon the trades people. When your customers cannot afford to buy your goods, your business is apt to look rather blue, no matter what line you are in. And if things go as they are going, a time must come when the great majority cannot afford to buy anything except the barest necessities. The boot will pinch somewhere, the great puzzle is to make it pinch at the right point. What is the class that can best afford to retrench? Or rather, a more profitable question, how can we keep our heads above water, and at the same time contribute our best towards the solution of the world's problem. One thing we can do; we can do our own work thoroughly and generously, to the limit of our time and ability, and if we have to choose work, we can choose useful and productive work; work that will make us feeders of the commonwealth, not parasites.

Children's Column.

MATER'S LETTER BOX.

M.D.M., East Road, we are glad to welcome you to the Children's Column. Your story will be published next week—Mater.

Edna, Clifton., this is your first introduction to the Children's Column and we are glad to hear from you. Your story will be published next week—Mater.

Mater invites children to send in stories for this column, or correspondence which will be replied to through these columns. All matter to be clearly written in ink, and on one side of the paper only. Name, age, and address, must be clearly given, and correspondence directed to "Mater," care of Editor, "The Digger," Box 310, Invercargill.

THE KING OF HONEYLAND.

(By Patricia, Ettrick street).

The King of Honeyland, who was neither too young nor too old, had risen one morning and was sitting on a chair in his bedroom. His minister of the household stood before him holding the royal stocking, one of them had a hole in the toe. Now, although the minister presented the hose as adroitly as possible, in order to hide the sad defect from the king's eye, and although the king, in a general way, thought more of shining boots than of mended stockings, it so happened that in the present instance the hole did catch the royal eye. The monarch, to the horror of his minister, snatched at the stocking, and plunging his hand into it till his finger with the signet ring appeared through the hole at the other end, said with a dolorous sigh:—

"It is all very well for me to be king, but I am sadly in want of a queen. Now what should you say if I married?"

"Your majesty," said the minister, "this is a wise and noble thought. I should myself have ventured to suggest it, but for a certain anticipation that it could not fail sooner or later to flash spontaneously upon the royal mind."

"That is settled, then," said the king. "But do you think I shall easily find a suitable queen?"

"Not a doubt of it," answered the minister.

"Ah, but you must remember I am not easily satisfied. A princess, to please me, must be both lovely and wise. And you know how I love apple-fritters. If I marry a wife, she must certainly know how to make apple-fritters!"

"I am convinced that you will find a princess who knows all about apple-fritters," the minister replied.

"I cannot make apple-fritters, but I can make nice cheese cakes. Don't you think that will do?" said the first princess to

whom the king proffered his enquiry.

"No, I have a particular liking for apple-fritters," she was told.

The second princess did not even wait for the king's question, but asked him coolly if he under beating the kettle drum. When he said he did not, she would not listen to a word of his suit. After some pleading, however, she graciously said that ideals did not realise, and since the king seemed an honest sort of man, she would waive the point and accept him as her husband.

For a year and a day the king and his beautiful bride lived in happiest concord. One day, however, the king rose out of bed the wrong way, things taking to going wrong in consequence. His crown dropped, and was brought to him with a great bend in it; presently the court painter arrived with the new map of the kingdom, and the king examining it, found that the frontiers had been coloured red instead of blue, and finally the queen sent word that she had a headache.

Thus it happened that the royal couple fell out for the first time, the queen insisting on having the last word whenever they spoke. At last she taunted her spouse with his ignorance of the kettledrum. But the words had scarcely escaped her when her royal husband retorted: "And you cannot make apple-fritters!" Then the queen, for the first time, had not an answer back and sat sobbing in her boudoir, but the king was pacing his own floor with delight at having had the last word, till suddenly he walked from his room into the corridor; he felt something warm and clining, "Hallo, what is this?" he cried.

"Only me," said the queen, "I was coming to beg your pardon," she added humbly. On hearing this, the king who had come to seek hers, now abandoned his intention and magnanimously took her into his arms, straightway making a law that two words, "kettledrum" and "apple-fritters" should never be heard again in his kingdom.

THE FIRE FAIRY.

(By Isabel, Elles Road, Invercargill).

It was a bitterly cold day, so cold that nurse said Grace, could not go out, and so sat quietly by the fire until tea was ready. She sat in her armchair and watched the flames dancing and sparkling in the fire. She loved to do so, for she often saw pictures there,—caves in which fairies dwelt, and high rocks where robbers lived, and nurse often told her tales about them. She was just thinking how delightful it would be to have another little girl to sit by the fire with her, when, looking up, she saw a little man dressed in red velvet from head to foot.

"Who are you," she asked.

"I am a fire fairy," was the reply, "would you like me to talk to you for a little while?"

"Yes please," said Grace, "but are you always in the fire?"

"Oh yes! always when it's alight, but I generally stay there," answered the fairy, "only you were so sad at not going out, so I came out to-day to try and cheer you up."

"Thank you," said Grace.

"I have had a curious life, and a long one," continued the little red man. "Ages ago I was a fire fairy and lived in the midst of a wood with great tall trees of fir and pine; then I wore a green coat, but I think this is prettier, don't you?"

"Indeed, I do," said Grace, "it's so cheerful and bright."

"But," said he, "I had lovely times in that wood. On moonlight nights we danced under the trees, the mushrooms were our tents, and the glow-worms crept round and made tiny lamps to decorate our feasting-place."

"Why did you leave the forest if it was so delightful?" inquired Grace.

"It happened like this," replied the fairy. "I went to sleep for a long, long time, and I remembered nothing more until I suddenly awoke to find myself inside your fire, dressed in red. But I must go now," continued the fairy, "Good-bye."

Just then the clock struck five. "Wake up dearies," said nurse, "you've had a nice sleep."

"Oh no, a fairy has been talking to me," said Grace, and then she told nurse all about it.

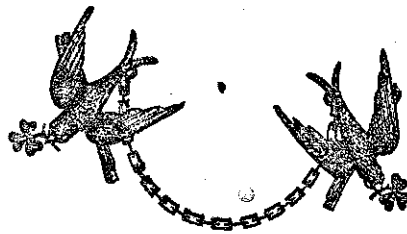
ROVER AND HIS MASTER.

(By Margaret, Oreti Plains).

"Come, Rover" said Harry, as he passed a fine old Newfoundland dog that lay on the mat at the door. "Come, Rover! I am going down to the river to sail my boat and I want you to go with me."

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DEE STREET, INVERCARGILL.

Rover opened his large eyes and looked lazily at his master.

"Come, Rover! Rover!"

But the dog did not care to move, and so Harry went off to the river-side alone. He had not been gone a great while before a thought of her boy came suddenly into the mother's mind. Remembering that he had a little vessel and the river was near, it occurred to her that he might have gone there.

"Is Harry with you?" she called up to Harry's father, who was in his study. But Harry's father said he was not there. "I'm afraid he's gone to the river with his boat," said his mother.

Mr Lee dropped his pen and came quickly down and hurried from the house.

Rover was still lying upon the mat.

"Rover!" he said, "Where is Harry? Has he gone to the river. Away and see, quick!" The dog must have understood every word and he rushed toward the river. Mr Lee followed as fast as he could run. When he reached the river bank, he saw his boy in the river with Rover dragging him towards the shore. He was just in time to receive the half-drowned child and carry him to his mother. After this, Rover would never leave the side of his master, and wherever you saw Harry, you were sure to see Rover.

The Home.

MARMALADE (POORMAN).

Making marmalade in the ordinary way is tiresome work for the busy mother of a family. The following is an easy way of making it, and it is delicious.

Ingredients.—Five Poorman oranges, 2 lemons, 10 Breakfasts cups of cold water, 9lb of sugar.

Method.—Wash the fruit, dry and quarter it, remove the pips and pass it through the mincer. Stand the fruit in a dish or large jug and pour over it the water. Cover and let stand for twenty-four hours. Boil quickly for an hour, then add the sugar and boil for one and a-half hours. Bottle and cover while hot. Warm the bottles before pouring in the marmalade. Make a fairly thick paste of flour and cold water, and you will find this stick splendidly for covering purposes. The fruit certainly does not look so nice after coming through the mincer as when hand-cut, but when to fruit is cooked there is no difference and it saves so much labour. Try it once and you will never do it any other way. The writer used the largest force on the mincer.

CURE FOR CORNS.

Remove any hard skin, then for several nights apply the juice of a lemon, in which has been dissolved a small piece of common pearl. This will destroy corns without pain or injury to the flesh. Corns should never be cut with a razor or other steel instrument, as the operation is most dangerous, even if carried out by an expert pedicurist. Soften the corn by placing over

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53 YARROW STREET.

it a pad of wool smeared with a liberal amount of lanoline; it can then be easily removed with the finger nail.

HOT POT OF RABBIT.

Wash and remove all bones easily detached. At the bottom of a deep pie dish overlap a layer of thick slices of potato, and on top place part of the rabbit, sprinkling with very finely chopped onion, salt and pepper. Add a little cold up pickled pork or bacon before repeating the layers of potato and rabbit. Cover the dish with seasoned water. Bake slowly for two hours, covering the top with an inverted dish during the last hour. Brush over with warm butter or fat after removing the dish. Serve the liver, kidneys and pieces of bone in gravy to serve with the pie.

Mr G. A. Lamb, who has been carrying on Southland on behalf of the scheme for the Co-operative Marketing of Produce, has secured the season's output from the Woodend and Tuatapere factories.

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Size C—50 gals. per hour, £25 10s.

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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.

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Terms to suit.

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and all buildings. Price £13 per acre.
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2700 Acres, Fortrose District; good house
and all buildings. Price £10 per acre.
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1053 Acres, Waituna Plains; good house
and men's hut. Price £6 10s per acre.
Easy terms.

590 Acres, Carleton District. Good house
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FOOTBALL NOTES.

**PUBLIC SERVICE (12) v. BANKS
AND LAW (3).**

(Black). (Blue and Black).

The teams were:—

Service—backs: O'Connell; Saunders,
Fortune, O'Callaghan; Preston, J. Dal-
gleish; L. Dalgleish—forwards: Hunter,
O'Connor, Anderson, Sprout, McDermott,
Langbein, Doogue and Kingsland.

Banks—backs: Christophers; Lopdell,
Stead, Prain; Gilmour, St. George; Tait
—forwards: Broughton, Todd, Wilcox,
Kirkland, Knox, Pryde, Irving and Delar-
gey.

Only a few people witnessed this shilling
with the grandstand free match, and the
money's worth was not worth it. Play
hovered about middle for some time, the
scrums on the lines showing out like poppy
beds, and diversity in the colours of the
jerseys adding to the illusion. There were
two representatives in the Banks and Law,
Stead and Gilmour, and they didn't seem
to take the game very seriously. Two on
the other side were Fortune and Langbein,
and the former excelled himself. There was
also on the Public Service side, Dal-
gleish, who ought to be a representative.
Well these three seemed to be in earnest
and their side won. Dykes was away so
the losing backs were not playing under
their best conditions, though their full,
Christopher, played the game of his life.
About half-way through the first spell Gil-
mour did one of his meteoric solos, and
feinting, sent a promoted junior Service
back to chase air. Gilmour scored close
to the posts and Dykes wasn't there to
kick the goal. Banks and Law 3. The
scorers continued to attack, but L. Dal-
gleish won in an exchange of kicks follow-
ing on a deal of silly play of the "tag"
variety. Then J. Dalgleish made a run
on his own through the well-known non-
tacklers, his pass being fumbled and a line
at five yards from the money-men's line.
Immediately Service passed, and Fortune
scored by the posts with a five of the
other side hanging on to his jersey, which
didn't tear. Then another bad kick left
the score at Banks and Law 3, Public Ser-
vice 3. Service pressed and Sprout show-
ed up. This player is strenuous and un-
tiring, but too often forces the other side
by his strength of boot in the variety of
stuff some teams name dribbling. Half-
time found the play at half-way.

Service with the wind punted high into
attack, St. George showing up well in de-
fence and in attempted attack. Lopdell
missed a pass and the play was against
Banks and Law. Stead cleared, but Dal-
gleish did a solid tackle. Banks and Law
cross-kicked in defence right over the goal
face, Fortune gathered and out-bodied Gil-
mour, O'Callaghan later missing him.
There Fortune ended; no goal resulted.
Service 6, Banks and Law 3. Punting
to nowhere became popular. Stead put in
a good dribble, Sprout returning the com-
pliment, and a force resulting. Christop-
hers stopped a dangerous Service advance.
Lopdell missed in lashing and O'Connell
scored with J. Dalgleish in attendance.
Another of the kicks left the tally, Service
8, Banks and Law 3. Stead charged a
J. Dalgleish kick, and he and Gilmour
passed into Service lines, a free relieving.
Then a line heel put Service into attack
and J. Dalgleish went along untackled to
be pushed out at the corner. Banks and
Law clearing at once, Stead punting to
Fortune who marked, no one else jumping
at the ball. Then at about half-way For-
tune got a punted ball into his black arms.
He ran, as usual, untackled to the full,
punted sweetly over the poor fellow's
head, and flopped on it. Brains for For-
tune. The kick was a good one, but the
score was only Service 12, Banks and Law
3. There was some rushing about at half-
way, Stead brightening things up with an
attempt to open the game out. Fortune,
however, was in fettle, and he cleared to
half-way, following on with a great run
to the Combined lines. He does like non-
tacklers after Canterbury dives. Then
came a scrum, a line, a free to the dis-
tressed ones, and a whistle with the ball
at half-way and the score at: Public Ser-
vice 12, Banks and Law 10. Service
have now 11 banner points and Banks and
Law 10. Union with 12 and a match to
play with Bluff who have 9. Mr Isaac
Jenkins viewed the game.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.

SOUTHLAND (14) v. OTAGO (3).

This annual fixture was played at Mil-
ton on Saturday, and resulted, after a
hard game, in a win for Southland by 14
points to 3. For Southland, McDonough
got two tries; James, one; and Strang,
one, the latter converting his try. For
Otago, McDougall dropped a penalty goal.
The teams were entertained royally at
Milton, being met at the station by the
Mayor of Milton, who conferred upon
them "the freedom of the city." They
were also conducted over the Bruce Wool-

len Mills by the manager (Mr Gray), and
after the match, the customary dinner
was held, and greatly enjoyed. Of the
games played, Southland has won five and
Otago 3. Mr H. White was referee on
Saturday.

SCHOOL FOOTBALL.

TOWN (6) v. WESTERN DISTRICT (6).

On Saturday a Town School fifteen trav-
elled to Riverton and played a Western
District School team, the game ending
in a draw, 6 points all. Trotter got both
tries for Western District after good runs,
and for Town Murray and Lemm each
scored, Lemm's try being the result of a
good dribbling rush by Hamill.

EASTERN DISTRICT (9) v. TOWN (5).

Another Town team went to Mataura
where it was defeated by the Eastern Dis-
trict School team, by 9 points to 5. For
Town MacGregor scored and Wilson con-
verted. As a result of the game five of
the Eastern District boys will play in
the Rep. trials in town.

N.Z.R.S.A.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTES No. 8.

1.—To ask the Prime Minister whether
as there is apparently still a feeling that
the sheep farmer from the Gisborne dis-
trict, who so far has not attempted to
ship his wool will be called upon by the
Government to hand his wool over for
pled that the opinion of the Solicitor-
General's opinion on the position. (Note.
—If this opinion is obtained it will clear
the atmosphere of a feeling that is cur-
rent all through the country that the
Government have been acting ultra vires).
—Mr Brown, M.P.

Reply.—The Right Hon. Mr Massey re-
plied that the opinion of the solicitor-
General had already been obtained in re-
gard to this matter and he advised as fol-
lows:—

1.—The export of wool otherwise than
by the Government save with the consent
of the Minister of Customs, is prohibited
by Order in Council.

2.—The sale of wool otherwise than to
the Government is prohibited by War
Regulations of 8th October, 1918.

3.—These prohibitions so far as they
relate to wool of the 1919-20 and earlier
clips, will remain in force for at least two
years after the termination of War by
Treaty of Peace.

2.—To ask the Minister in Charge of
Pensions Department, whether it is in-
tended to amend the Pension's Act this
Session so as to enable members of the
mercantile marine to participate in the
benefits of that legislation and thus enjoy
the privileges of the Pensions Act equally
with members of the Expeditionary
Forces?

Reply.—The Hon. Sir W. H. Herries
replied that it was not proposed to make
special provision by way of war pension
for members of the mercantile marine.
Section 12, of the war Pensions Act, 1916,
was passed with idea of providing for
war pensions for officers and men employ-
ed on transports and their dependents,
but the Attorney-General advised that it
would not be prudent to make regulations
as the section quoted proposed. The Gov-
ernment accordingly decided that each
case should be considered on its merits,
the War Pensions' Board being authoris-
ed to make recommendations in regard to
injury or death arising from any warlike
operation. Under this arrangement pen-
sions are now being paid, but not in re-
spect of disability or death associated with
the ordinary perils of the sea arising from
natural causes.

3.—To ask the Minister of Lands
whether the Government will allow the
returned soldiers from the South African
War to ballot for land on the same basis
as the returned soldiers from the Great
War.—Mr Jones, M.P.

Reply.—The Hon. Mr Guthrie replied
that when the claims of most of the dis-
charged soldiers who had served during
the recent war had been dealt with, the
question of allowing soldiers returned from
the South African War, to ballot for land
in the same manner as soldiers returned
from the Great War, would be considered.

4.—To ask the Minister of Lands
whether he will favourably consider the
question of procuring Education Reserve
12 IB, lots 1 and 2, blocks 5 and 9, Poe-
rua Survey District, for the purposes of
soldier settlement. (Note.—The land in
question is good dairying country and
suitable for sub-division at once).—Mr
Seddon, M.P.

Reply.—The Hon. Mr Guthrie replied
that the land in question was encumbered
with a lease which had eight years to run.
It was not considered advisable to deal
with the land until the freehold could be
acquired by means of exchange under the
Education Reserves Act or otherwise.

5.—To ask the Minister of Lands

whether he will explain the reason why
the Glengarry Estate purchased in Nov-
ember 1919, has not been opened for
soldier settlement in time to allow suc-
cessful applicants to take full advantage
of the approaching dairying season.—Mr
McNichol, M.P.

Reply.—The Hon. Mr Guthrie replied
that the survey of the Glengarry settle-
ment had now been completed and the
Public Works Department was making an
engineering survey of the proposed road
to enable it to furnish an estimate of the
cost of roading. Until that estimate was
received an actual date for the opening
could not be fixed, but he had instructed
that the opening was to be proceeded with
as expeditiously as possible.

6.—To ask the Minister of Railways
whether he will extend beyond 34 the age
at which labourers and tradesmen may
enter the railway service. (Note.—A
considerable number of railway employees
who joined the service at ages between 34
and 40, and who have served for many
years are ineligible under the existing re-
gulations for permanent appointment.—
Mr Sidey, M.P.

Reply.—The Right Hon. Mr Massey
replied that the age limit at which men
might be taken on the permanent staff of
the Department had been fixed as a result
of experience extending over a long period.
The representations made would, however,
receive careful consideration when the in-
vestigations that are now being made were
completed.

7.—To ask the Minister of Lands
whether it is a fact that returned soldiers
who wish to purchase a property have to
pay £2 to the Valuation Department,
whilst workers under the State Advances
have to pay only 7s 6d which covers the
inspection of buildings erected; and if so
why the anomaly.—Mr Witty, M.P.

Reply.—The Hon. Mr Guthrie replied
that the fees chargeable for valuations
under the D.S.S. Regulations varied as
they were fixed on a shifting scale, the
fee for advances exceeding £500 was fixed
at £2 2s. Although the fee payable to
the State Advance Office for the valuation
of worker's dwellings was 7s 6d, additional
fees of 7s 6d were charged on each occasion
that an inspection of such dwelling under
construction was required for the purpose
of making progress payments. The State
Advances Office charged exactly the same
fees as were prescribed under the D.S.S.
regulations for valuations of dwellings
other than worker's dwellings, the limit
for which was a loan of £750 as against
£1000 under the D.S.S. regulations. When
an application for a loan under the D.S.S.
Act was unsuccessful, provision was made
whereby the valuation fee with respect to
subsequent applications might be reduced
or dispensed with.

The following replies to the remits for-
warded to the Repatriation Department
are circularised for your information:—

1.—That the Association ask the Gov-
ernment and Parliament for a pledge that
land settlement and repatriation benefits
generally shall not be rendered inoperative
until such times as every soldier has had
ample opportunity to train himself, or to
otherwise arrange his affairs in order to
allow him to take full advantage of the
said benefits.

Reply.—Your Association has previously
been informed by Hon. Minister that am-
ple notice will be given before the Govern-
ment closes down the benefits provided by
the Land Settlement and Repatriation
Acts, and the matter will be dealt with by
Parliament this Session.

2.—That when a married man is com-
pleting his indentures under the appren-
tices scheme, the sustenance scale, and
not the £3 5s flat rate, should apply. The
remit is again approved since it was pass-
ed in Christchurch, the allowance has
been made exclusive, instead of inclusive,
of pension. This has not, however, met
the case of the married man.

Reply.—Present flat rate—Single ap-
prentice, £3 per week, plus pension; mar-
ried apprentice, £3 5s per week, plus pen-
sion. The extra 5s per week was granted
to the married apprentice, because, unlike
the subsidised worker, the allowance paid
to the apprentice is reduced in accordance
with any increase granted by his employer.
The R.S.A. is apparently under a misap-
prehension as the adoption by the above
resolution by the Department would mean
a reduction in the allowance paid to mar-
ried apprentices and married men with one
child, and would certainly cause consid-
erable dissatisfaction amongst these men.
Men with two or more children would
benefit slightly, but there are very few
such men amongst apprentices. In the
opinion of the Department, cases of undue
financial hardship should be submitted to
the Repatriation Board, who will no doubt
grant additional financial assistance if the
circumstances of the case warrant it.

A man in Abingdon was fined by a
magistrate for sleeping and snoring in
church. Nothing was done to the clergy-
man for putting him to sleep.—"Rich-
mond Dispatch," May 17, 1870.

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NOBLE'S

Dee street, Invercargill.

Battlefields Tour.

(“Times” Correspondent).

The first signs of the revival of the devastated regions are so fine a sight that they seem to fill the foreground of the battlefield picture. Yet, on closer examination this proves to be more than an exquisite panel imposed upon a huge canvas of a world in ruins. The material waste which resulted from the German invasion of Belgium and Northern France can only be realised when it is seen in all its brutal nakedness. It is so colossal as to rend the heart and oppress the mind.

As one surveys the almost immeasurable extent of the catastrophe which has befallen our Allies across the narrow seas, it is difficult to resist the feeling that the British people might do more than they have yet done to help the French and Belgians in their gigantic task of rebuilding their shattered towns and bringing back into cultivation their wasted fields. The returning population is very poor. It lost all it had in the war, and the French Government cannot afford more than a limited measure of compensation. The only assets that the people have are pluck, patience, and energy. They are showing a dauntless spirit, and a will to work which will assuredly overcome every obstacle in the end. Time is on their side, but they deserve a more active ally. One would like to think that each of these reviving communities was being assisted on its way, in the true spirit of the Great Alliance, out of our richer store, which the Germans coveted but were prevented from looting by the heroism of our soldiers joined to that of these unconquerable fighters.

WARDS OF THE HOMELAND.

The case for some measure of organised assistance is overwhelming, and it is not too late for the more flourishing communities in our midst to give their earnest consideration to some such plan as that of “adopting” towns and villages in whose ruins their youth so lately fought and died. It is extraordinary how strong an appeal this country makes to the Englishman. When our soldiers landed in France on what was, in most cases, their first journey to a foreign land, they were surprised to discover how closely the country resembled their native land. The same thought must often occur to the battlefield tourist, as he makes his way from the coast through the lowlands and over the ridges to the heart of the land. The sand dunes along the Belgian coast might have been transplanted from our Norfolk coast around Wells and Hunstanton. The Ypres battlefield, in the low-lying Flanders plain, is very little different from our Fen country. A Lancashire miner would soon feel at home amid the pit-shafts of the flat country around Lens. And the Somme has been well likened to the uplands of our own down country Surrey and Sussex.

If Lens recalls the source of his wealth to the Lancashire man, is it not the natural ward of the great city of Manchester, thriving as never before? I put the case of Lens first because, in all the devastated regions, it shows the largest area of absolute destruction. Many years must pass before its wrecked and flooded collieries are at work again, and the town itself is more like Pompeii than any other on the whole front. That is to say, there is hardly a building from end to end of this large industrial town which has retained any of its superstructure above the ground floor. So like Pompeii in this respect, so unlike it in another, for Lens again has to-day a considerable population. All the way down the long main street there are to be seen clearings among the ruins for the dwellings which proclaim the coming of the new Lens. The spirit which has brought these people back to the sites of their old homes should appeal with special force to the Manchester man. Lens does not ask for charity, nor does the humblest village between the Yser and the Somme. In the whole of my tour I did not see a single beggar.

If Manchester “adopted” Lens, Bradford might follow its example by stretching out its hand to, say, Armentieres. The outpost of Lille is probably the least battered of the large towns on the British front. With a little patching a large proportion of its houses have been or can be, made at least habitable. To pass through Armentieres by the slow train from Calais to Lille after night has fallen is an eerie experience. The town looks more dead than it is, for every third or fourth house shows forth the faint light of a candle, and it is clear that, although roofs may have fallen and upper windows have been shattered, the daily round has

been resumed on the lower floors. To what finer use could Bradford put some of its newly-gotten wealth than the more speedy restoration of Armentieres than its impoverished citizens can secure by their own unaided efforts?

OUR DEBT TO ARRAS.

So it is of Ypres and Arras. We can never do too much for the two martyr cities, which the British Army held in trust for Belgium and France and never surrendered to the enemy. Ypres was the soul of the struggle for Britain. It is the foremost goal of our every peace-time pilgrimage. The ruins of the Cloth Hall, with the swallows nesting in its still beautiful tower, are the most impressive spectacle along the whole Western Front, not excepting the Cathedral of Reims and the Grande Place of Arras. That Ypres will never be far from the thoughts of Englishmen was shown when Lord French went over with the Military Cross which the King had conferred upon the immortal city.

But what of Arras? Saving only Ypres, Arras probably arouses more exalted memories in the mind of the British soldier than any other spot through which he passed in the years of war. Arras, too, was a constant battle comrade of the British Army, playing its part with no less fortitude and sacrificing almost everything it held dear for the sake of France. Arras is not an industrial town with a staple industry of the type of the textile centres farther north. But it has a longer history, and it must be restored. The British race, it would seem, has here a debt of honour to pay. One would like to think of one of the more historic English communities sharing the proud responsibility for the restoration of the ancient capital of Artois to its former placid beauty. The City of London could undertake no higher duty.

Could not a similar spirit of comradeship be established between the smaller English towns and the battlefield villages of Ypres and the Somme, which have undergone a martyrdom as terrible, though not so spectacular, as that of the cities around which they cluster. Here is a great field for the perpetuation of the Alliance in the hearts of the British and French peoples. It would solve one of the problems with which I was constantly faced in my tour, and that was how to ensure that the people at home should not forget the battlefields and all that they mean.

A TAX ON REIMS.

Yet what actually are we doing, or, rather, what is the British Government doing? Far from “adopting” Ypres or Arras, it is proposing in this year's Budget to put a tax on Reims. The Chancellor of the Exchequer's defence of the increase of the duty on sparkling wine as a sort of war levy on the British profiteer can be appreciated for the sorry jest it is as one drives through the Chemin de Dames country from Soissons to Reims and sees the poor shell of the old city. If Reims is ever to regain its former prosperity, it can only be by the aid of the champagne from the rich vineyards on the hills around, where, it should never be forgotten, British troops gave invaluable help in beating off the great German onslaught of May, 1918. None of the Allied troops fought with greater gallantry in those dark days on the Aisne than a Scottish Division. There is a spot off the main tourist road to which pilgrims from over the Border will repair for many years to come. Here stands a truncated obelisk dedicated, while the battle was still raging, to the Scottish troops, with a fine gesture of loving admiration, by the Frenchmen who had fought by their side. There is no more beautiful inscription in the French or other language than the proud declaration on this simple memorial that “here shall blossom always the glorious thistle of Scotland amid the roses of France.”

How ironical is the contrast between the sublime spirit of the soldier and the harsh economics of the politician.

THE ANGEL'S SMILE.

It must not be inferred that Reims is a city of the dead. There is no better illustration of the high confidence of the French people in their destiny than the dogged way in which they are setting about the restoration of their historic city and its noble shrine. You see street upon street in ruins, with here and there a miracle of preservation, like the Roman Gate of Mars, only to be pulled up with a gasp by the sight of a well-filled electric

tramcar bowling along to one of the outer suburbs. The angel knows as the “Smile of Reims” still stands on the great door of the Cathedral for a sure sign that the city will rise again on its ashes. Wild roses are blooming on every bush in the Aisne Valley, but Reims must be deprived of its beauty for a generation. On bidding farewell to my host, I was urged to come again soon. I answered with the natural wish that, when I returned, it would be to see Reims restored. “Ah,” he said, sadly, “pray do not delay so long. That will take 20 years. You see,” he explained, “we have no money.”

That is the heart of the matter. There is great potential wealth in all the region, but there is little money in the coffers of Reims for the biggest task which it has faced in all the centuries of its history. If no other motive can move the British Government, cannot pity stay their hand? Reims must not be taxed.

SCIENCE NOTES.

FLYING IN A GLASS CASE.

It is stated that Major Shroeder, the American airman who lately fell from a height of nearly seven miles, recovering when two miles from the earth, expects soon to be fit again, and one of his plans is to try to fly to a height of 50,000 feet by enclosing himself in a glass case with oxygen tanks.

RECONSTRUCTION OF FRANCE.

The following facts regarding the magnitude of the reconstruction task confronting the French Minister of the Liberated Regions were given out by M. Labbe, Director-General of Technical Services. Building work alone would require 22,000,000 tons of material and the labour of 700,000 people for one year; 100,000 houses are to be entirely rebuilt, requiring 5,000,000,000 bricks, 3,000,000 cubic meters of sand, 1,000,000 tons of lime, 13,000,000 square meters of tiles, and 3,000,000 cubic meters of wood. Reconstruction of highways and railroads would require 3,000,000 tons of materials and the labour of 15,000 men for one year. An addition of 20,000 trains and 5000 trucks would be required.

CONCERTS THROUGH SPACE.

News has come of a wireless telephone instrument for the home, costing but a few pounds, which can be contained in a tiny box, and will, it is claimed, receive messages in England from America. The inventor of this long-range receiving set listens regularly every Sunday afternoon and evening, in his home in London, to a concert taking place in Italy. An aerial 85ft long, stretching from his bedroom window to a tree in the garden, is used, and faint waves are picked up by this, being passed to his receiving set, which magnifies the sounds. It is said that these sets, which are to be manufactured for amateurs have such simple mechanism that they may be easily worked by anybody.

PERISCOPES FOR ENGINES.

Why not use the periscope on locomotives, the Electrical Experimenter asks? It should save many lives for its use should certainly prevent many heretofore unavoidable occurrences, such as rear-end collisions, etc. The periscope for locomotives employs a large mirror, so that the engineer need not focus his gaze accurately on a small eyepiece, as in the submarine periscope. This would hardly do owing to the many duties constantly thrust upon him. For one thing, the locomotive periscope will enable the engineer to see at all times signals from the rear of a long goods train. This means that if he should see a train on the same line approaching at a dangerous speed, he could speed up his own train so as to minimise the effect of the rear-end collision, if such really is to occur at all.

MACHINE TO DETECT UNTRUTHS.

Among the marvels of delicate mechanism is an apparatus invented by Dr. Augustus D. Waller, F.R.S., of the London University, by which it is possible to detect liars. This is done by taking electric records of the effect of cross-examination on a criminal's nervous system to indicate whether he is telling the truth. Dr. Walker discovered that the resistance of the skin to electricity varies with the state of the emotions, and has so developed the discovery that even apprehension can plainly be “spotted” by the fluctuations of a spot of light on a scale. “This,” he says, “is how we shall get the criminal. He will be trying to prove an alibi. He will look the judge in the eye and say he was never, say, at Chelsea, in his life. Now we apply my method. Attach the electric wires to his hands and then show him a few pictures, including one of the place the criminal was suspected of having visited. The others will give the negative results, but when he is shown that particular one the result will be that the light will jump—and there is no power in mortal man to stop it.”

MOTURING NOTES.

USING OLD OIL.

Lubricating oil that has been in the engine until it is dirty can still be put to good use. When it has been filtered, the cleansed oil can be used for oil cups and other external lubrication purposes.

THE ENGINE EXTERIOR.

The car-owner should be careful to keep the exterior of the engine clean as well as the interior. Dirt, grease, and general filth act as insulators, preventing the metal from throwing off heat into the air. Incidentally, this rule regarding cleanliness applies to other parts, such as the axle, and brake mechanism. When mud is allowed to remain on many parts of the car, it soaks up the oil designed to lubricate the points, which become dry and wear excessively. All such parts as this must be cleaned regularly and have fresh oil applied to them.

CLEANING PLUG PORCELAINS.

Spark plug porcelains may be freed of all carbonaceous or other foreign matter by soaking them in a solution of carbon disulphide, which dissolves the carbon and leaves the porcelain white. Of course this treatment applies particularly to the type of porcelain which is removable from the shell of the plug, but the same method of cleaning can be used even if the plug is of the so-called one-piece type. Just soak the whole plug, shell and all. It will do no harm and is one reasonably effective way of attacking that carbon which assists the efforts to dig it out with a knife or other tool.

CAR ON TWO WHEELS.

Designs have been submitted of a very well-thought-out little car on two wheels. Briefly the specification consists of a V twin engine forming part of a unit, with clutch and three-speed gear, the final drive being by shaft and underslung worm. The whole is carried in a simple pressed steel frame, sprung fore and aft. Steering is by wheel, with a geared reduction, and controls are rather on car lines. Two small wheels can be lowered for starting and stopping purposes, though normally the vehicle travels on two wheels only. All the details have been very carefully designed, not only from the point of view of the rider's comfort, but also from the manufacturing side.

COMPRESSED GAS AS FUEL.

In the course of the world war many motor vehicles were operated in England with coal gas, because of the scarcity of petrol. The gas was contained in collapsible bags made of rubberised balloon fabric. At present, however, compressed gas in steel cylinders is being tried. It is stated that the gas is forced into pressures as high as 2,250lb per square inch. The cost of compression is stated to vary between 40 and 75 cents per 1,000 cubic feet of free gas, and the cost as fuel in the engine is equivalent to a cost of 12 cents per gallon on the liquid fuel replaced.

THE STEEL DISC WHEEL.

There is a growing tendency on the part of motorists to favour the pressed steel disc wheel, and increasing numbers of fine cars are being equipped with them and support members of this type. The wheel used for passenger cars is a single disc type, being disc for strength. In most designs the thickness of the metal is greater at the centre than at the rim, thus proportioning the section to the strain coming upon it. A cast-steel master hub is fastened to the axle and the steel disc is attached to this by four easily removable nuts which screw on studs in the permanent hub flange. The disc wheel is as easily removed as other types, and is stronger and more easily washed than the conventional wood or wire-spoked forms.

Red-haired people, it is stated, are less liable to become bald than those with hair of any other colour.

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REPAIRS A SPECIALTY.

ALEX. KIDD,
Bootmaker.

Reparoa Estate.

Sections Without Ballot.

ALLEGED USE OF INFLUENCE.

Denial By The Minister.

The following information is contained in a circular from the Auckland Returned Soldiers' Association under the title of: "The Truth about Reparoa."

The complaint made by the Auckland Returned Soldiers' Association about the allotment of two sections of the Reparoa Estate without a ballot, has not been very long in coming before Parliament. The subject was first introduced by Mr W. E. Perry (Auckland Central), who placed a question bearing upon it on the Order Paper last week. Subsequently Mr H. Poland (Ohiemuri) made the same matter the subject of a question to the Minister for Lands, asked without notice. Mr Poland said that in common with other members he had received a communication from the association which recited the facts, stated that the reply of the Minister was considered very unsatisfactory, and suggested that political influence might have been at work in effecting the allotment of the land without a ballot. The letter said that in view of the fact that this was not the first case where men had been singled out, there was a strong feeling that the selection of these two men was due to political influence.

The Hon. D. H. Guthrie said he had no hesitation in answering the question straight away. He took great exception to the allegation of political influence. Since the beginning of the scheme there had not been one case, so far as he was aware, in which political action had been used in the settlement of soldiers. Everything that had been done had been straight, square, and above board. Exception had been taken in one or two cases, but the explanation had been accepted. The Reparoa Estate consisted of land of a peculiar kind, needing special knowledge. The two men to whom the sections had been allotted had received a special recommendation from Mr H. E. Vaile, among others. They knew the district, and had been working this class of land for some time. It was suggested that they should be secured for the estate, in order that their knowledge might be used for the benefit of the district. Personally he had known nothing of the matter until it was done, and he felt keenly and resented keenly the allegation of political influence.

Mr Poland: It is not made against you.

Mr Guthrie: It is against the Department, and I resent it. He was prepared to back up the action of the board, continued Mr Guthrie. If there had been a weak board and a weak Minister the matter might have been rescinded, but as it was the two men would be retained, and would be of use to the district.

This criticism came only from a section of the returned soldiers; continued the Minister. It was not from the New Zealand Association in any case, but from the Auckland Association.

Mr Poland: They are a big body.

Mr Guthrie: Between 12,000 and 13,000 men, I believe, but this does not come from the whole of them.

Mr Poland: It is from the executive.

Mr V. H. Potter (Roskill): From some of the executive.

Mr Guthrie repeated that there was no political influence used in the case quoted. He was very glad, he said, that the question had been asked, in order that he might have a chance to answer it, especially as the letter had been sent broadcast. There had been absolutely no favouritism. The board might have been right or wrong, but it had acted for what it thought was the best. Many people knew the peculiar nature of the land, and it was because of this peculiarity that the men had been secured for the district.

Mr Perry then asked the Minister if he was prepared to accept the secretary of the Auckland Returned Soldiers' Association as being truly representative of the association. Were they to take it from his answer that he did not recognise Mr Andrews as being truly the secretary of the Auckland Returned Soldiers' Association? Did he not think the precedent established by the allotment of these sections was a dangerous one, and would he not prevent a repetition of this incident taking place?

Mr Guthrie said he did recognise Mr Andrews as the secretary of the asso-

ciation but while it might consist of between 12,000 and 13,000 members, he was informed that the meetings were generally attended and the business transacted by about 200. He did not question the right but he did question its right to level such of the association to send out the letter, a charge against the Department, and always would do so.

THE REPAROA ESTATE.
UNBALLOTTED SECTIONS.
MINISTER AND SOLDIERS.
AN AUCKLAND OPINION.

The statement made by the Hon. D. H. Guthrie, Minister for Lands, in the House of Representatives last week, in replying to questions regarding the Auckland Returned Soldiers' Association's complaint about the allotment of two sections of the Reparoa Estate without a ballot, was referred to by the secretary of the association, Mr E. F. Andrews. In reference to Mr Guthrie's denial that political influence might have been at work in effecting the allotment of the land without a ballot, Mr Andrews said that in the letter which, as secretary of the association, he had forwarded to the Minister, no charge had been made, but it was stated that there was a strong feeling among returned soldiers that the allotment of the sections had been due to political influence.

During the past week, said Mr Andrews, he had had, on the average, thirty returned men daily to see him on this question. He denied the accuracy of Mr Guthrie's statement that in the only two previous cases in which exception had been taken to the operation of the scheme the Department's explanation had been accepted. The Minister had stated that the two men who were allotted the sections had special recommendations from Mr H. E. Vaile, the reason given for allotting them the sections being that the Reparoa Estate consisted of land of a peculiar kind needing special knowledge. There were not less than 1500 returned soldiers on the look-out for land, but were the two men who had been given preference, he asked, the only men out of that number who had the special knowledge to deal with that class of land? If that were so, was it fair to place on this block parts of which were much inferior land to the sections already allotted, men who had not the special knowledge necessary before they could hope for success? It certainly seemed bad business on the part of the Government to purchase this estate if Mr Guthrie's contention were correct. If Mr Vaile considered these men specially suited, the Department evidently agreed with him, Mr Andrews asked why the men had not taken up sections of Mr Vaile's land in the vicinity, under clause 2 of the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act. Had this been done, there would have been no cause for complaint. The association's point was that when estates were purchased for soldier settlement every returned soldier likely to make a settler should have equal opportunities for acquiring them.

Referring to the Minister's assertion that the business of the association was transacted by about 200 out of the membership of 12,000, Mr Andrews suggested that this was incorrect, as meetings where the attendance was in the vicinity of 800 to 1000 had been held during the last 12 months. Ninety per cent. of the returned men in the Dominion were also fully opposed to the allotment without a ballot of some of the best sections in estates purchased.

Mr Guthrie had also stated that if there had been a weak board and a weak Minister the matter might have been rescinded. "I appeal to Mr Guthrie," concluded Mr Andrews, "to show the country that he is a strong man, by having a searching inquiry made into this matter, when I am sure he will find that a mistake has been made, and will have the matter reviewed."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.
REPAROA ESTATE.

Sir,—It is only fair to point out that this property was acquired 15 months

ago, since when the Department has persistently neglected to throw it open for settlement, and it is even stated that a large part of it has been leased for grazing. Every section would have been taken up, and some of the waiting applicants made such a fuss that at last two soldiers were allowed to settle upon it. Of all departments, the Lands Department seems the most hopelessly fossilised, and it is high time that 75 per cent. of its officers were sacked and replaced by men with some slight rudimentary knowledge of land and how it should be dealt with.—I am, etc.,
H. E. VAILE.

COPY OF LETTER FORWARDED TO ALL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT REPRESENTING CONSTITUENCIES IN THE AUCKLAND PROVINCE AND ALSO TO ALL SOLDIER MEMBERS.

REPAROA ESTATE.

Sir,—With further reference to above subject, I am enclosing for your information copy of a letter which appeared in the "N.Z. Herald" of August 2nd. You will observe that Mr Vaile does not support the Minister's statement regarding the reason for the preferential allotment of the two sections.

With regard to the Minister's statement that the letter from this Association did not reflect the true opinion of the returned soldiers as it only came from the A.R.S.A., I beg to inform you that our action in sending the letter in question has already received the endorsement of both the Auckland Provincial and the Dominion Executive.—Yours faithfully,
E. F. ANDREWS,
Secretary.

STOCK FOR SOLDIERS.

GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS.

COMPLAINTS OF DELAY.

REPLY BY COMMISSIONER.

About 40 soldiers gathered at the Hobson County chambers, Dargaville, last Saturday evening to meet the Commissioner of Crown Lands, Mr R. P. Greville. The commissioner explained that he wished to let them know the position regarding stock transactions, with particular reference to the recent agitation of the Stock Agents and Auctioneers' Association. He quoted figures which he had obtained from the various companies that had been financing soldiers, and gave the total in round figures as £12,000 at present owing to these companies.

"Now," said the commissioner, "are any of these companies afraid of their money? Do they really fear that the New Zealand Government is not good enough for £12,000?"

"No," he replied to his own question. "It is merely a question of interest on their money." The commissioner proceeded to state that he did not think the directors of the companies had countenanced this agitation over a few paltry hundred pounds' interest. He then read a list of the directors of a farmers' co-operative, and said any of those directors could, and if need be would, finance the soldiers had made, those present among transactions and would not expect any interest.

The commissioner proceeded to say that when they considered the sacrifice that the soldiers had made those present among many others, they could not speak of the present agitation without emotion. He had now made an offer which the various companies had accepted. He had undertaken that his Department would pay out within 14 days after receipt of the certified schedule of stock. He further stated in answer to a question that his Department would accept the valuation of any reputable person.

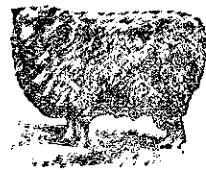
It was suggested at the meeting that the Returned Soldiers' Association should at once submit a list of valuers for approval. The commissioner stated that there was no necessity for soldiers to buy their stock through the various companies. They could deal privately and he suggested that the local Returned Soldiers' Association should form a stock committee for the purpose of assisting their members in fulfilling their requirements. The commissioner went on to say that the stock agents obtained 5 per cent. commission on the sales and 8 per cent. interest on the money.

In answer to a question as to the policy of the Department respecting gum-bearing lands, the commissioner stated that it was proposed to grant licenses for three-acre parcels on a 10 per cent. royalty basis. The licensees would have the right to erect gum-washing plants if they wished, the only stipulation being that the holes should be filled in. These licenses would be available for naturalised Dalmatians. He was having surveys made almost immediately.

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SHORT STORIES.**SHORT.**

She: "It's funny you should be so tall. Your artist brother is short, isn't he?"
He (absently): "Yes, generally."

THE HIGHEST FORM.

Jill: "He's an awfully clever man."
Jack: "Not a bit of it! He only makes people think so."
Jill: "Well, don't you call that clever?"

A CUE-RIOUS INCIDENT.

A local football team was being out-classed by their opponents during a very disastrous game. None of the home players was able to do a thing right, and even most ardent supporters of the team were getting exasperated.

At last one of the home backs, who was bald-headed, jumped up to the ball, but it skidded on his cranium and went through his own goal.

"Hi, Jimmy," called a voice from the crowd, "why didn't yer chalk yer cue?"

THE ANSWER UNEXPECTED.

Tommy had broken one of the school rules, and the teacher told him to tell his mother about it, and also about the punishment he had received. She hoped mother might thrash him again.

The next morning she asked:

"Well, Tommy, did you tell your mother of your bad behaviour yesterday, and how I punished you?"

"Yes, miss," replied Tommy, quickly.

"Well, what did she say?" was teacher's next question.

"Said she would ring your neck if you did it again," replied Tommy, calmly.

A WATERY ROMANCE.

Far down below, the water flowed, opaque,
The while his broken heart throbbed out its aigue;
Then, sadly murmuring: "'Tis for her sake!"
He flung himself far out into the laque.

And, as he, martyrlike, sank out of view,
His darling screamed, "Come back, I love but view!"

And he replied: If what you say is true,
I'm glad the water's only two feet-tew."

EASILY MANAGED.

"How in thunder can you afford a motor, Binks?" demanded Hillier.

"Oh! I mortgaged my house and bought it," said Binks. "I am building a garage now."

"Well, I never—a garage, eh?" said Hillier. "How on earth are you going to pay for that?"

"Why, that's quite simple. You see, I mortgaged my car."

"But my dear fellow, these mortgages will fall due some day, won't they?"

"Sure!" continued Binks, "but that'll be all right. Then I can mortgage the garage."

THE COMPROMISE.

Father, addressing the elder of his two boys, aged eight and twelve respectively: "Now look here, Arthur, I won't have you quarrelling with your brother; just you go and make it up with him; suppose, for instance, your brother died during the night, think what an awful thing that would be."

Arthur thought a moment, and then replied, "Right oh, Dad, I'll tell him I'm sorry and make it up with him." Then going over to his brother he said rather loudly, "I'm sorry, Cyril, I've been bullying you, and ask your pardon," and then in a lower voice so that his father should not hear him, "but, by Jove, if you don't die during the night, you won't half catch it."

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