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The popular Confectionery and Soft
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YET?

If not, why not buy from our list and so
keep yourself in comfort for the rest
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At prices ranging from £60 to £300
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Plain design, sound, at £500 to £1100.
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Five acres with house, £1200.
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THE FARM.

MILK AND ITS HANDLING.

ELECTRIC STERILISATION.

In the newest and, it would appear to
be, the most effective method yet devised
for purifying milk, New Zealand will
find something which she can exploit to
the limit of its usefulness. Few coun-
tries can boast of having both a dairying
industry of the first order and a copious
and inexpensive source of electrical
power.

And it is in just this conjunction New
Zealand will find the newest milk steri-
lising scheme, which is electrical, one of
which the Dominion farmers can avail
themselves more freely, perhaps, than
any other country. Further, as the
system is one in which efficient refrig-
erating following the electrification of the
milk is an essential to success, the ad-
vanced methods followed in New Zealand
in everything connected with refrigeration
will be just one added factor making for
the successful adaptation of electrical
means of purifying milk for human con-
sumption.

Two Liverpool University professors,
Messrs Beatty and Lewis, began their
experiments before the war. They tried
the sterilising effect of direct electrical
currents and of static electricity, but it
was not until they had recourse to alter-
nating currents that they found them-
selves working along the right lines. The
apparatus they finally evolved enables the
treatment to be applied to milk flowing
continuously along a tube to which the
alternating current is supplied through
three electrode chambers. The process
frees the milk from bacillus coli com-
munis and bacillus tuberculosis, and leaves
it pure without raising the temperature
higher than 63 or 64 degrees centigrade,
and that, as Pasteur long ago demon-
strated, is important, the high tempera-
ture given to milk by ordinary boiling
being destructive to milk, and making it
much less useful as a human food.

The use of refrigerating plant is re-
commended as a necessary adjunct to the
electrical apparatus in large scale prac-
tice in order to ensure rapid cooling, and
so improve the keeping quality. The
milk, especially if rapidly cooled, can be
kept for several days at ordinary room
temperature, without any apparent
change. On several occasions milk was
kept in the laboratory without any obvi-
ous change, and in a few instances re-
mained perfectly sweet for a fortnight.
In all cases milk treated in this way has
remained in perfect condition for two or
three days. The taste is not altered,
and, as far as careful chemical tests can
determine, the properties of the milk are
not in any way impaired.

There is a difference of opinion on the
question whether the sterilisation is due
to the direct action of the current on the
bacilli or to the heat generated in its pas-
sage. The opinion of the Liverpool in-
vestigators, however, is that the tempera-
ture effect, which is of very short dura-
tion, is not in itself the principal factor
in the destruction of the bacteria. Pro-
fessor Leith, who, with Professor Sir
Oliver Lodge, have at Birmingham Uni-
versity been interesting themselves in the
matter, takes the view that both the
thermal and electrical methods of sterili-
sation act in the same way. "The ther-
mal is simpler and cheaper," he says,
"the electrical quicker in action." This,
one may remark in passing, may be true
in England, with no easily available elec-
tric power, what the verdict would be in
New Zealand is another story.

Professor Beatty declines to commit
himself to an estimate of the cost of this
method on a commercial scale. The
first cost, that of the installation, would
be the heaviest. After that the expense
of supplying the electric current would be
small.

The inventors experimented for three
months with plant which could deal with
thirty gallons of milk an hour, and dur-
ing that period they handled the milk
supply of the Liverpool Corporation in-
fant Welfare Centres. The Medical Re-
search Committee of that country borough
reports of the milk that the new method
provides an elegant and practical means
for purifying milk for human consump-
tion. To this conclusion one may add
the rider that the inventors themselves
claim it to be much more effective in rid-
ding milk of bacteria than are processes
now in use. The results are regular,
and the risks of after contamination are
comparatively small if the rules of ordi-
nary cleanliness are observed.

To preserve us from persucution,
And unravel plots profound,
There's a wonderful "Secret Service"
Which encircles the Empire round.
Though but few suspect its existence,
It operates silent and sure,
With the searching, relentless persistence
Of Wood's Great Peppermint Cure.

GARDEN NOTES.

Vegetable Marrow.—This very useful
vegetable does not often get the attention
it deserves, nor the treatment calculated
to obtain the best results. Some are
rushed up in too moist and close an
atmosphere, causing soft and lanky
growth quite unsuited to their welfare,
and others are sown thinly in boxes or
pots, and lifted direct from these and
planted out. Neither of these ways of
growing will do. My readers should
adopt a more simple method, and one
that is likely to produce a fine crop of
good sound marrows. When I say sound
marrows, I mean thick in the flesh, not
those soft, hollow things that are void of
taste and coarse in appearance, which are
produced upon soft-drawn plants. The
best plan to adopt with the marrow is to
open out a trench 2ft wide and 1ft deep.
Fill this with good stable manure, making
it nice and firm. Cover the whole with
4in to 6in of soil, then in a day or two
place some small boxes, with the bottoms
knocked out, at intervals of 6ft apart. In
these prick out 2in deep three or four
seeds, so as to make sure of two good
plants—one to go one way and one the
other. When the seeds are sown, place a
square of glass on the box, and let it re-
main until the plants are well up, drawing
the glass off gradually until it may be re-
moved altogether as the plants get strong.
Give water only when they are dry. Once
they are well established they will look
after themselves. A warm, sunny posi-
tion should be given them.

Celery.—For the first sowing select an
early and smaller kind than would be
advisable for the main and late crops. A
mild hotbed should be used, or what will
answer well is to sow a few seeds in a
bottomless box, with a square of glass
placed over it, upon the marrow bed. As
soon as the plants are large enough to
handle, prick them out 3in apart, always
using rich and good soil, especially in
their young stage. Never allow them to
want water, for if celery is allowed to get
very dry it is sure to run to seed. The
main sowing of large and late varieties
should be in about a fortnight.

Sow lettuce, radish, mustard and cress,
also peas and beans for succession, also
carrots and parsnips, and as soon as the
first sowing of turnips are well above the
ground sow again. It is better to sow
small quantities and have them young
than to have a lot at once, as the turnip
is apt to get hot and strong, and then is
not nearly so nice as when grown quickly
and used young.

Plant out cabbage and cauliflower dur-
ing dull and showery weather.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

Young and early-struck plants are now
making rapid progress, and if a successful
flowering period is to be the end of nearly
a year's work, they should on no account
receive a check in their early stage.
Therefore, promptly give all, which by
the quantity of roots show they require it,
a shift into larger pots. At this time of
the year they quickly become pot-bound.
Many a promising lot of plants have been
stunted through the potting being delayed
even a week longer than when the plants
have reached the proper stage, which is
when the roots require more room.
Stopping for specimens depends upon the
kind of plant required. For a plant that
is expected to produce, say, 50 fair-sized
blooms, several stoppings will have to be
resorted to; first at 6in in height, to cause
them to break out low down. When these
shoots have made 4in of growth tie
them out to small side stakes, and down
nearly to the rim of the pot, and pinch
out the points of these to make a further
break. By this means fine specimens are
procured. In the case of growing plants
for large blooms (from 1 to 4) it is
different. In this case a start with strik-
ing the cuttings is not made until very
much later; in fact, it is quite possible to
root them yet and still have good blooms
by taking the first break. However, this
is rather too late for making a start.
Those who intend growing these blooms
cannot do better than procure already-
rooted young plants from the nurseryman.
As October is generally the month for
sending out such plants, no time should
be lost in getting the orders sent in, for,
as with most other things, the first in gets
the best chance.

THE VINERY.

The growth of the vine will be rapid
from now onward, necessitating strict
attention. Rub out shoots as they mature
or grow sufficiently large to distinguish.
Those that show the best form and size
of bunch, and in the right position, should
of course be left. In the case of (1) (2) (3)
of course be left, and the remainder of
the shoots rubbed off, but this should not
be done until growth is well advanced, or
the wrong shoots may be left. In the case

of young vines recently planted, the object
will be to get as strong a growth as pos-
sible on the leading shoot, so as to make
the future cane. Assuming the vine has
been cut or pruned back properly to 2ft
or so, according to strength of cane and
close to the eye, encourage them to make
strong growth by attending to watering
and ventilating and damping down in the
afternoon at closing time. When the side
shoots have made a growth a foot long,
pinch out the points, leaving the top or
leading canes to grow at will. Tie up to
the under side of the wire as growth
advances.

THE HOME SEEKERS.

Said he: "We'll take Apartment Ten,
Although it's small and in the rear;
I rather think We'll like it when
We've lived there for about a year."
But—just to show how hard it is
To please some folks that come in here
I saw her put her hand in his
And speak so low it reached no ear:
"I want to buy some twilight and a
leafy little lane"
To run to greet him in each night when
he comes home again."
In normal tones she said, "I trust
No one will build across the way.
You see we feel we simply must
Have lots of light throughout the day."
And though her husband smiled and
signed
The lease, and wrote a cheque to pay
The first month's rent; if I'm not blind
I'll swear I heard that fellow say:
"I want to buy some firelight for a lovely
lady's hair."
And oh, what is the price of little castles
in the air?"

HERE AND THERE.

Germany has decided that the title
"von" shall cease to be a sign of nobility.
A "Retreat from Vons," in fact.

A scientist declares that high explo-
sives will be replaced by insect pests in
the next war. It will be rather a scratch
affair.

According to a Scotch doctor, a man
who lives on raw vegetables may attain
to 160 years. But why? Other donkey
doesn't!

An advertiser offers to teach farming
through the post. But people who can
afford to pay the new postal rates cannot
need to learn farming.

"New ideas in sashes and sleeves" is
the heading of a fashion note. The old
idea of putting the sleeve as tight round
the sash as possible is gone enough for
us.

It has been said that cows hate motor
cars. But many beautiful calves may
be seen getting in and out of motors in
Dee street.

A news item states that a labourer
stole a traveller's stock of five thousand
rings. He must sadly have wanted to
give his best girl an exact fit.

Certain people, we gather from a medi-
cal note, are liable to attacks of asthma
when brought into contact with cats.
We know a man who once caught a large
tailor's bill through contact with a dog.

A book has been published that deals
with telling fortunes from the teacup.
We imagine that this is an exhibition of
saucery.

Somebody advertises a situation for an
"office boy 16 years old with large cor-
poration." Isn't that asking a great
deal from one so young?

A new way of obtaining housing accom-
modation, it seems, is to marry the ten-
ant. This sounds like converting matri-
mony into key-money.

Alterations in a new prayer book pro-
vide that, instead of petitioning for "all
the nobility," we shall pray for "the
Ministers of the Crown." Perhaps they
need it more.

Nudging is recommended to church
congregations as a hint to the amateur
singer who encroaches on the choir. It
has, of course, long been in use for the
snorer who encroaches on the sermon.

"Flirtation was once a dignified affair
like whist; now it is more like poker,"
asserts a writer. And, beginning with a
"pair," it frequently results eventually
in a "full house."

A news item states that a man who had
lost his nose as the result of an accident
had it successfully sewn on. Our con-
gratulations to him. A man, minus a
nose, must feel like about as awkward as
a football team without its (s) centre for-
ward.

A resident at North Invercargill had
a unique experience recently. It ap-
pears that the resident keeps a pig. Dur-
ing the evening a noise was heard out-
side, caused by the dog barking. On
going out to investigate, the pig was
found in a sack alongside of the fence.
Apparently a case of disputed ownership.

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FURS!

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SHOES!

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