

ANGLING NOTES.

(By "Creel").

"MY OLD BROQUES."

Old pals of mine; old friends of fishing days;
We both got old and frail, yes, sad to say,
The glorious days we had upon the river,
Bring back, sweet, sad thoughts, from mem'ry's quiver.

Old pals of mine, you must remember well,
The happy days we spent with our dear Nell.
She was so sweet and pure as Gold above,
She's there with Him now, my love, my love.

It did seem hard when He first called her,
The devil nearly got me then, the cur;
For on the brink of hell I began to shiver,
You took me back, old pals, to the clean river.

And there I felt the good of Nature's plan,
It cleansed my soul and made a better man;
God's lesson there I humbly learnt anew,
To trust in Him, to guide me safely through.

And as we sit to-night beside the fire;
Those memories sweet seem so much nigher;
I see within its blaze, old faces, friends,
Whose kindness in our sorrow made amends.

For her sad loss to me, old pals, and you,
Her soul had gone to heaven, and they knew.
I seem to feel her presence close to-night,
An angel's voice singing "Lead Kindly Light."

Why, really, pals, you seem to understand,
That I am leaving for the promised land.
Yes, yes, dear wife, I hear you calling me,
I come at last my love, my love, to thee.

—By "Creel."

I would again like to ask all secretaries and anglers in general, to forward for publication, items of interest, for this column.

MAIL BRAINS FIND SMALL "FUN."

A disgusting experience to some anglers, as been related to me, and, I think my readers will agree that the above heading is the clever culprit "like a glove." While fishing the Oreti in the precincts of 3yal Bush, a party of anglers left their car on the road, absolutely in a place where it could not do any harm to anybody, but on their return, found that some "clever" busybody, had altered the terminals on the sparking plugs, thereby causing them considerable anxiety and inconvenience. This was not an isolated experience as another party in the same locality had a similar happening just recently. Luckily, one of the members of the latter party, was a partaker in the previous stunt, and profited thereby, finding the same treatment had been meted out to his friend's car. Such a despicable "practical joke" is worthy of grave censure. A warning and example should be made of the guilty party, by laying a rap for the individual (a stronger name would suit better), and making it a subject for police enquiry. It is to be hoped that this warning in these notes will suffice.

For week-ending December 4th, Messrs Hoffman and Baldwin, fishing the Makarawa, with the natural bully, caught 19 well-conditioned trout, and for week-ending the 11th December, eleven fish weighing 38lb (heaviest fish 7lbs), all in good "nick." Natural bully was again the bait used. (Their footnote on their report was eagerly scanned by the Editor, Messrs. Gavin Brighton, the lady typiste, and the printer's devil, and they all hope that next week's catch will be a record one). —"Creel."

Messrs Speden Bros. and J. McArthur (Gore), creeled 30 fish on the Otamita in splendid condition. The creeper and red

body Waipahi fly was used. The heaviest fish weighed 43lbs.

Mr J. Sparkes (Railway) and friend, visited the Oreti, at Lady Barclay, last Saturday. The river was in beautiful order, but owing to the very high wind prevailing, fly fishing was very difficult. However, 18 nice fish rewarded their efforts, and they report the water to be particularly good, fine ripples and holes (where good fish must lie) being predominant. The Stone fly, red body Waipahi, and Owaka were the killing flies.

A HEART-BREAKING SIGHT.

Displayed in a fish shop in Invercargill, last Saturday, was a beautiful display of estuary trout. To the angler they would be great sport if he only had the opportunity of catching them in some of our Southland rivers. However, some day this class of fish will have the opportunity of running up our streams, as it is only a matter of time when the unjust netting will be totally abolished.

FINE GUT AND A BREAKING STRAIN.

The following article is taken from the "Field," of October 9th, 1920:—

To use a distinctively American expression "Chelidon" has the right dope" when he suggests (in the "Field" of August 21) that the thickness of the gut cast or leader as it is called in America, has a lot to do with success, or otherwise, when fly-fishing for highly educated trout. I have proved the fact over and over again, to my own satisfaction, that the cast is nearly the whole thing, and the fly, provided the size is right, only has a secondary influence on the inducement to rise. A drawn gut point has a theoretical or laboratory breaking strain of about two and a half pounds. When using such a point "on the stream" numerous influences which it is not necessary to specify, reduce this theoretical strength considerably below the value obtained when testing. Even so it is surprising how much strain we can put on against a hooked fish, and not break the point, if we only keep in mind certain advice that nearly every angling writer has given, viz., "Keep the point of the rod up." I will add another word to this, which is, "And do not take hold of the rod at any other place except the handle." Without going into the exact mathematics of the case it is sufficient to say that if we wish to break gut point that has a final strength of two and a-half pounds, and if we hold the rod properly, it will be necessary to exert a force of twenty-two and a-half pounds with the fingers that grasp the upper part of the handle, and at the same time the lower part of the inside hand must be pressing against the bottom of the handle with a force equal to nearly 21lbs. If, however, we pivot the bulk of the rod against our body and hold the rod at a point possibly 10in. above the top of the handle, so as to get more "purchase" against the struggling fish, we shall get it, yes, and also, we shall not get that fish, because in this latter position it only takes a force of about five and a-quarter pounds, applied by the hand that is holding the rod in this position, to produce a strain of two and a-half pounds in the cast, which will ensure the freedom of the hooked trout.

A number of fish are lost in striking, especially on a short line, because the maximum strain comes on suddenly and frequently before the rod has reached the vertical position; but once a fish is hooked it is surprising how roughly we can handle him at times and still keep the fragile connection between us intact.

NEWSPAPER AND AEROPLANE.

Aeroplanes scored heavily against time on Derby Day at Home, and the "Daily Mail," using the new method of travel, scooped other papers with its Manchester and Paris editions, which had photos of the classic event in the next day's papers. To enable the pictures to reach Paris (250 miles) in time, they were handed, immediately after the close of the race at Epsom, to a motor car passenger, who drove with them to Croydon Aerodrome, where an Airco plane was waiting. This left for Paris at once with the undeveloped plates, and reached Le Bourget Aerodrome, near Paris, at 6.45 p.m. A fast car was waiting, and delivered them to the Paris office at 7.30 p.m., photographs being posted up in the Daily Mail Travel Bureau within forty minutes of the arrival of the plates at Le Bourget. Within a few minutes of the race finish another batch of plates was on the way to the London office of the "Daily Mail" in a specially-fitted-up delivery van, in which they were developed on the journey, and contact prints made. Carmelite House was reached at 4.9 p.m., and within 20 minutes half-tone blocks were ready for newspaper

printing. The blocks were taken by car to Cricklewood Aerodrome, where a Bristol "Fighter" was waiting with propeller running. The plane, piloted by Major Foot, left at 5.12 p.m. for Didsbury Aerodrome, Manchester, 185 miles away. This was reached at 7.30 p.m.—a speed of over 80 m.p.h.—and at 7.45 p.m. the blocks were in the Manchester office, whence the Northern, Scottish, and Irish editions of the "Daily Mail" are circulated. Lord Northcliffe is to be congratulated on his up-to-date organisation, and he has led the way for other newspapers in the use of the aeroplane.

The mouth of the River Elbe has been blocked up by a gigantic Swedish raft of 140,000 tree trunks, which was on its way to Amsterdam.

It is thought that 200,000 acres of cotton can be cultivated in Mesopotamia, producing up to 20,000,000lb of cotton every year.

A communication received by the Minister of Lands (Hon. D. H. Guthrie) indicates that William Gordon Low, the Scotsman who claims to own Wellington land to the value of £4,000,000 on account of a grant made to his soldier-grandfather, is not the sole claimant, reports the "Dominion." An English lady has written to the Minister asking him to see that the estate is not made over to Mr Low, since, she alleges, he is not the rightful heir at all. She herself, she adds, is the real owner of the £4,000,000 property. The rival claimants may be relieved when they find that they have really nothing to quarrel about.

Liverpool has now completed 100 of the total of 1200 new houses which are being provided. Some of the occupiers took in their furniture before the paint was dry. The applications for the houses numbered 14,000.

The Maoris in the Taihape district are predicting a very dry summer and autumn on account of the profuse flowering of the cabbage palms. Some years ago, when the conditions were similar, the Maoris predicted a dry summer and long autumn, which proved to be the driest ever experienced there. If this theory proves correct, Southland may anticipate similar conditions, for cabbage trees have never shown such prolific heads of bloom. Moreover, the flax bushes are flowering stems of quite exceptional size.

MILLINERY AND SPECIAL BLOUSE WEEK.

2 dozen only WHITE VOILE BLOUSES, 12s 6d.
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Smart READY-TO-WEARS from 12s 6d.
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CHILDREN'S TRIMMED HATS, all colours, from 15s 6d.
Good Wearing SCHOOL HATS, from 4s 11d.

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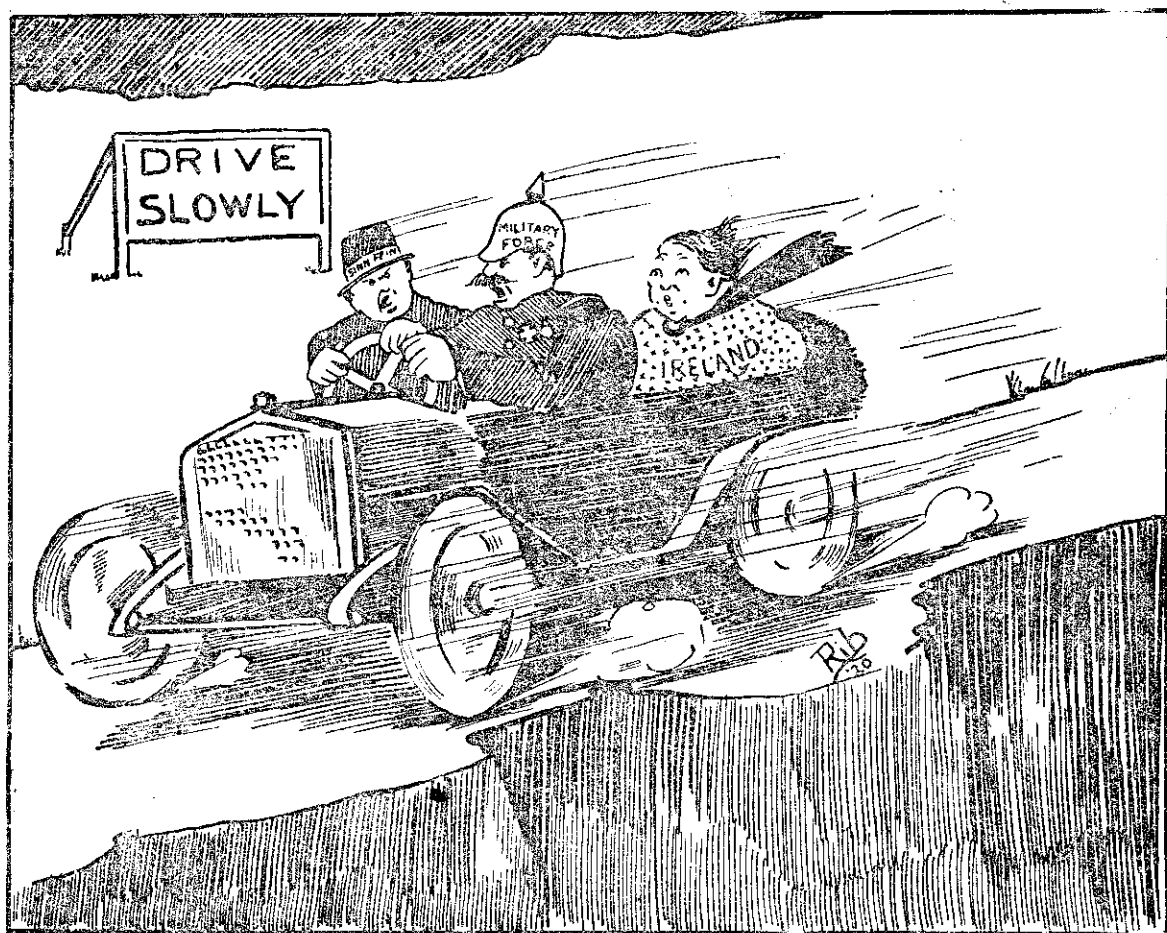
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