

ALEX PEAT AND CO., LTD.,
1, LEET STREET, INVERCARGILL.

Garage Phone—471.
Sole Southland Agents Allen Maxwell,
Oldsmobile Cars.
MAXWELLS.

WE have just landed a large shipment of 1920 Maxwell cars and there are two left unsold. Anyone in search of a good reliable car could not do better than inspect these before purchasing elsewhere. The Maxwell has a noted reputation of being the most economical car on Petrol, Oil, and Tyres, which means a great saving at the present high prices.

Many users are averaging thirty miles and over to the gallon. Now is the time to buy as prices have advanced at the factory, and in consequence the next shipment will be much dearer. Just come along and let us point out the excellent qualities of these cars. You will be astonished when you see the value we are offering for £450.

We have several good reliable second-hand cars for sale.

TYRE DOCTORS

B. & F.
RUBBER COMPANY,
KELVIN STREET.

MESSRS BOYCE AND FLEMING
wish to announce that their
VULCANISING PLANT has arrived
from America and is now in full work-
ing order, and that they can REPAIR
ANY MAKE and SIZE of MOTOR
TYRE and MOTOR TUBE.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.



WHERE TO GET YOUR PRIME
JOINTS,
WHERE THE BEST OF MEAT IS
KEPT.

PRIME OX BEEF

And

WETHER MUTTON

CHEAP FOR CASH,

At the Leading MEAT Suppliers.

WILLS AND METCALFE,

CASH BUTCHERS,

Dee street.

Registered Plumber. Telephones: Shop
320, House 74.

W. K. SCRYMGEOUR,

(Member R. San. Inst., London.)
Successor to Anchor and Co.,

SANITARY HEATING AND VENTI-
LATING ENGINEER,

ESK ST., INVERCARGILL.

Sole Agent in Southland for Ward's
Patent Ventilating Skylight.

Supreme Petrol Light Installations on
shortest notice.
Certif. Sanitary Science. Certif. Sanitary
Inspector.

All work done by competent tradesmen.

J. ALSWEILER,
GENERAL CARRIER.

Phones—124, 518.

INVERCARGILL.

THE OUTCAST.

(Continued from page 2.)

And when Molly looked round a moment later after re-shutting the drawer, she found the room empty.

Drexel was crossing the street in front of the house, when he heard a cry behind him.

"The jimmy! You've forgotten the jimmy!"

What followed was stamped on his brain like the flame picture revealed by a fork of lightning.

Molly came flying into the road after him, her whip of white silk frock fluttering, and her baby curls astream behind her. Out of the darkness a huge motor-lorry leapt, thundering upon her.

Drexel leapt at the same moment.

For a fleeting fraction of time he was conscious of silky hair in his eyes and the clasp of a tiny body against his own. Then something monstrous flung him aside like a rag doll.

Twenty hours later Drexel came to his senses in Archer's house. He was in bed, Mrs Archer was leaning over him, and her husband was sitting a little way off. If ever remorse and repentance were written on a man's face, they were written on Harold Archer's.

With returning memory, Drexel's eyes clouded with a mist of horror. He dragged himself up on the pillows.

"Molly," he cried hoarsely. "What about Molly?"

"She is all right, Jack," said Diana Archer quickly. "She has told us all about it—how you came here and talked to her."

"And how I stole my copy of 'The Star of India' from the secret drawer in the desk?"

"Yes, that too!" replied Mrs Archer sadly.

Harold Archer came to the bedside, the muscles of his face working in the effort to control his emotion.

"You saved her life, Jack," he said unsteadily, "at the risk of your own. They say it was a miracle you were not killed. God knows I deserve this little enough from your hands."

"Cut it out, Harold, old lad!" said Drexel, with the happiest smile his face had seen for a long time. "And I'm not so easily killed, I assure you. Where's that manuscript of mine?"

"It is here," said Mrs Archer. "It was picked up by your side in the road."

"Oblige me, Diana, by putting it in the fire. And that's the end of that little difference of opinion."

Diana Archer burst into tears.

"Try to forgive Harold," she sobbed. "He told me all about it long ago, and together we tried to find you, but could not. All the money the play has made we have kept untouched, and we can now hand it over to you. Now that you have returned, Harold will announce in the papers that you are the author of this play."

"Harold, my boy," said Drexel, wiping his brow with his hand, "my head is going on like a thousand beehives, but if you attempt to do anything of the sort, I'll rise from this bed and beat you to a frazzle. As for the money, put it in the bank for Molly."

"And while we're on the subject, that play of yours, 'The Outcast,' is an absolute rotter. When the organ in my brain stops performing, I'll rewrite the name-part for you, and we'll bring it out as a collaboration, and share the spoils."

"Miss Molly is crying to see the gentleman," announced a maid at the door.

"But the doctor says she is not to see him yet," said Mrs Archer.

"Doctor he hanged!" growled Drexel. "If Molly is sweet enough to wish to see me I'll hamstring any doctor who tries to prevent it."

"And Harold, for the love of Mike, tell me a bear story—a big, frightful, hobgoblin sort of a bear! I dare not face that blessed child again unless I have a bear story to tell her."

The End.

"So build we up the being that we are; Thus deeply drinking in the soul of things, We shall be wise perforce." Wordsworth.

"Man is his own star, and the soul that can render an honest and a perfect man commands all light, all influence, all fate; nothing to him falls early or too late. Our acts our angels are, or good or ill, our fatal shadows that walk by us still."—Beaumont and Fletcher.

A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY.

If you want knowledge, you must toil for it; and if pleasure, you must toil for it. Toil is the law. Pleasure comes through toil, and not by self-indulgence and indolence. When one gets to love work, his life is a happy one.—Ruskin.

The Nature Column.

(BY "STUDENT.")

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

NATURE ROUND LAKE MONOWAI.

Just now, owing to the electrification scheme, a good deal of public attention is focussed on Lake Monowai, and as the writer knows the country surrounding the lake fairly well a few notes on the region may prove of interest. The lake may best be described as "boomerang-shaped." It is only about fifteen or sixteen miles long but to walk round it means an outing of six or seven days. This does not mean that the journey is to be undertaken at or near the water's edge. On the contrary, the only practicable way of getting round is by climbing on the encircling ridge and keeping, for the most part, on the open country. The lake itself is about six hundred feet above sea level while the track of the tripper would lie at from three thousand to five thousand feet up. If the journey is to be begun at the south side of the lake, the best starting point is where a little stream known as Muddy Creek enters the Monowai Flat. Crossing this a leading spur is located without difficulty and this spur, running close to the lake shore, forms the track for the southern part of the journey, the back of the boomerang.

At Muddy Creek the traveller is counselled to boil his billy, or at least to drink deep, for no other drop of water will he come across for the next six or seven hours. No stream can be expected on the crest of the ridge and the gullies run so steeply down that when rain falls it must all be in the lake in a few hours.

This want of watercourses has a striking effect on the bird life. The bush is the ordinary birch forest of the mountains, a kind of bush in which birds are never very abundant. But on this long ridge they are exceptionally scarce. An odd tit may appear here and there, and a few brown creepers may be met with; at long intervals a fantail's song is heard or a pair of parakeets make their presence known in the tree tops. The most common bird is the rifleman, which seems to be always at hand. Tuas, bellbirds, and the grey warbler seem to be absent altogether though probably, after a wet spell, they come up from the lower bush. The native pigeon is, however, quite numerous at times, the reason apparently being to be found in the abundant food supply provided by the peculiar fungus known as the Maori strawberry, which is everywhere plentiful in the upper birch forests. Kakas are very scarce, or absent, and the only introduced birds in evidence are a few blackbirds.

The scarcity of bird life on this thirsty bush ridge may be set down to the want of permanent running water. But we do not mean that the connection is direct from stream to bird. Rather, the want of streams means the absence of variety in vegetation. Every botanist knows that near a watercourse the vegetation is more varied in character than away from the banks of a stream. The lack of variety in vegetation means less insect life, for many kinds of insect are attracted to one particular species of plant, and as most of our small birds are wholly or in part insectivorous we thus arrive at the end of the chain of cause and effect. No doubt down by the lake shore the birds would be found to be quite as numerous on the southern side as on the northern.

But if bird and insect life is scarce on the first portion of the Monowai ridge there are not wanting plentiful signs of other kinds of life. Wild pigs use the crest as a highway, and from Monowai Flat to the open country on the Billow Mountains their footings are everywhere to be seen. Wild sheep also are not uncommon but the presence of so many pigs probably prevents their increase to any extent. It is well known that, in the lambing season, wild pigs are responsible for a considerable percentage of losses.

These wild sheep are the descendants of flocks that were pastured on the open country on the southwest side of the lake twenty or thirty years ago. None of the high land is used now for sheep, but a few posts still mark the site of an old holding-yard where the mustered flocks were penned overnight preparatory to being driven down through the long miles of bush next day. Of deer but few traces are to be seen; perhaps pigs and deer do not care for each other's company.

In connection with the wild sheep a question arises as to the alleged depredations of the kea. The bird is common on all the high country surrounding Lake Monowai but yet these sheep manage to survive. If the bird is such an inveterate foe of the sheep one would think that these few stragglers, left behind so many years ago, would have been exterminated long before this. From the writer's observations he is inclined to minimise the losses due to the bird. Certainly sheep may often be seen feeding with several keas hopping about in their midst, without the sheep exhibiting the least fear of the birds, or indeed taking the slightest notice of them, and without any sign on the birds' part of a disposition to molest the sheep. But we have over-run our space and we are not halfway round the Lake yet. We will complete the trip in some future issue.

THE SOLDIERS' CONVALESCENT HOME.

Matron Looney, who has been in charge of the Soldiers' Convalescent Home almost since its opening, is retiring from the position shortly, and intends opening a private hospital in Leet street. She will be accompanied by her sister (Miss R. M. Looney), who has been a Resident V.A.D. at the Home for some time. It is not yet known who will succeed Matron Looney, the appointment being made by the Defence Department. Matron Looney has done excellent work while she has been in charge of the Home, and she will be very much missed by the soldier patients.

Very great credit is due also to the V.A.D.'s who have worked so well during the whole time the Home has been open. Many of them have been there without a break from the beginning, while others have come in later, after the exciting days of the war, and all have worked willingly and cheerfully for the soldier patients, who have been broken by the hardships they have endured. The time has now come when some of those who have been engaged in this noble work for a long time are feeling the need of a rest, and wish to be relieved of their duties, and the Committee feel that it only needs to be made known that there are vacancies, to have them filled. Three Resident V.A.D.'s are also required, to whom a small allowance is made.

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT LOVELY FRUIT?

THAT HANDSOME BOX OF SWEETS?

THOSE BEAUTIFUL PALMS AND

ASPIDISTRAS?

WHY AT—

WELSH'S

FRUITERER AND CONFECTIONER,

TAY STREET.

THEY HAVE ALSO CLEANEST AND

BEST OF FOUNTAIN DRINKS.

A. E. HOBBS,

Proprietor

Phone—400.

J. A. DOIG,

Sports Depot,

TOBACCONIST & HAIRDRESSER,

Opposite Post Office. Phone 574.

ALL LINES OF SPORTS GOODS.

Full stock of all Smokers' Requisites.

Largest stock of Pipes in Southland.

Tobacco Pouches, etc.

Up-to-date HAIRDRESSING SALOON.

Head and Face Massage, Shampooing.

RAZOR SETTING A SPECIALITY.

Every one guaranteed.

In attendance in Saloon—

J. B. TUCKEY, J. BELL.

RABBITSKINS.

RABBITSKINS.

RABBITSKINS.

RABBITSKINS.

RABBITSKINS.

RABBITSKINS.

J. K. MOONEY & CO.,

(Geo. Stewart, Manager),

STUART STREET, DUNEDIN

Postal Address: Box 54 Dunedin.

Telegraphic Address: "Mooney," Dunedin.

TRAPPERS, WEEKENDERS AND OTHERS.

It is to your own interest to send your RABBITSKINS to us.

We PAY HIGHEST MARKET PRICES.

CHARGE NO COMMISSION.

SEND PROMPT RETURNS.

A TRIAL CONSIGNMENT WILL CONVINCE YOU.

Phone—1415.

Phone—1415.

TRILLO'S GARAGE

DEE STREET.

IS THE

DIGGER'S GARAGE.

DIGGERS, bring your REPAIRS along —"Large or Small"—and have them executed by an "Expert Digger." The more complicated it is the better I like it. OIL, GREASE, PETROL, ACCESSORIES AND FORD PARTS ALWAYS IN STOCK.

ALL REPAIRS GUARANTEED.

C. S. TRILLO,

ENGINEER AND MOTOR EXPERT,

Dee street,

INVERCARGILL.

LAND HO!

WHEN the sailor on the look-out makes the welcome cry from the crow's nest, he has just caught sight of the top of a mountain, but he has discerned the land and it is welcome news, no matter if it be a bleak and barren mountain.

But let us get down to the plains. Here we find the real land that will yield up its hidden treasure to the man who seeks it.

To the sailor, whether mountain or plain, it is merely land, quality not concerning him. But the practical landsman wants quality, and he will recognise the following as the right stuff.

(1) 75 ACRES; originally all heavy bush now in grass or crop. All necessary buildings. Great carrying capacity. Undoubtedly one of the best little dairying places in Southland. Price £52 10s. Cash £1000. Balance 5 per cent. for term of years.

We have a very fine selection of farms far and near.

Your enquiries will be appreciated and no pains on our part will be spared to see you properly suited.

TOWN PROPERTIES.

We handle large numbers of Town Properties and invite you to call on us to make known your wants.

MEEK & OUGHTON

LTD.

Land Agents,

ESK STREET.

Anglo-American Candy Shop

AYSON'S

72 DEE STREET.

Our Toffees Sweet

Are hard to beat;

In any line,

At any time,

And especially now.

For a Soda Drink,

I do not think

You can surpass,

A delicious glass

Of our assortment.

* TO MR RETURNED SOLDIER. SEE us about PAPERING and PAINTING that new house you have bought. We have a nice range of new Wallpapers. Remember that we Frame PICTURES cheaply and well. Phone 422.

J. STRANG AND CO.,

TAY ST., INVERCARGILL.