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### ODE TO THE SIXTEENTH JANUARY.

Oh, fatal Friday!  
Monumental Dry Day!  
Ah, dreadful Sixteenth day of January  
That expurgates the Nation's commis-  
sary,  
For all the years to come,  
Of whisky, brandy, gin and beer and  
rum,  
The sparkling flow of Veuve Clicquot  
and Mumm  
And all the wines—I cannot speak the  
worst;  
Drought leaves me glum and dumb,  
O Day accurst  
Oh Thirst!

Hushes is that song of high emprise,  
"Give us a drink, bartender!"  
"Drink to me only with thine eyes!"  
Now is the dirge we render.  
Home-brew shall not beguile us in the  
least.  
Hard cider is not good for man or beast.  
Away with grape juice! whether primed  
with yeast  
Or furtive raisin. Cheer your sorry  
feast,  
If cheer ye can, with soda wan and  
pale,  
Or Ginger Ale!  
Can naught avail,

Is there no Mandate, none,  
By which this Day's dread work may  
be undone,  
Restoring us our wonted liquid rations?  
Say! what's the matter with the League  
of Nations?  
In vain we grope,  
No hope, no hope,  
This arid Day  
Has tucked away  
All Drops of Happiness from mortal  
ken.  
No more shall vintage, lightly alcoholic,  
Rejoice the weary soul and rule the  
frolic,  
Nor men  
Say "When?"  
Again?

### CAUSTICS BY CAUSTICUS.

Human emotions are the wires pulled  
by the gods to bend men to their will.

Woman was invented as a corrective.  
Without her, man might have discovered  
how near the divine he really was. Her  
influence confines him to earth who else  
might scale high heaven.

God alone can help woman; man was  
never intended to.

Woman resembles the Sphinx, minus  
the gift of eternal silence.

To be in love represents a passing  
emotions; to love partakes of the infinite.

To live is a far more difficult accom-  
plishment than to merely die.

It has been said "all's fair in love."  
There is, however, such a thing as honour  
even among thieves.

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1 All-wool Singlet	8	6	
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1 Collar, any style, 1/6; 1 Tie, 3/11	5	5	
1 Pair President Braces	5	6	
1 Nice Striped Shirt	11	6	
3 Handkerchiefs	2	3	
1 Pair Solid Leather Boots	1	16	0

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## A HUMOROUS IRISH SKETCH.

## A FAMILY GENIUS

It was not altogether the fault of Ignatius O'Hara that he had an exaggerated idea of his own importance. He had been suffering from that royal disease known as swelled head, practically from the time when he had first possessed a head at all. From the moment when he had been able to walk about with any degree of steadiness, people had been in the habit of measuring his prominent brow and throwing out dark allusions as to the possibility of some such thing as brains being concealed behind the broad expanse of forehead. Which threatened wave of intellectuality had caused Mrs O'Hara, his indulgent mother, to bring up her promising son according to the light and privileges of a family genius.

It ever there was the case of a man having greatness thrust upon him, that case was the case of Ignatius O'Hara. Let him do his best or his worst, it was all to the same purpose. His grand reputation, travelling in front of him always, made his path difficult, and raised hopes which there was no possibility of fulfilling.

That he was not a brilliant success at school, or that the teacher had great difficulty in driving anything into his wonderful head, Mrs O'Hara put down to the vagaries of genius. She would have him a genius, and nothing but a genius.

When Ignatius had arrived at an age when he might be expected to choose some trade or profession, his chief intellectual stock-in-trade consisted of an accurate and exhaustive knowledge of cock-fighting and horse-racing. With such brilliant endowments, Mrs O'Hara decided that the extraordinary talents of her son demanded nothing less than the study of medicine.

So Ignatius was sent to the city and entered at the university as a student of medicine. He spent some seven years there, during which time he exerted himself mainly in getting rid of his mother's money, contracting debts, and securing infallible racing tips. At the end of that period, Mrs O'Hara being on the verge of bankruptcy, and Ignatius receiving the gentle hint that a university was for the purpose of supplying learning and not brains, that incorrigible genius retired to his mother's farm, presumably to complete the ruin of her fortunes.

I was at this stage that the peculiar genius of Ignatius sought an entirely new field for the purpose of its development. Ignatius entered the lists of love. As he had always lived on borrowed reputations, laying claim to what was not his own, it was not to be expected that Ignatius in love would be materially different from Ignatius in school. In short, when he looked for a sweetheart, he proposed to steal one from a friend.

His despised cousin, big John Houlihan, who lived on the side of a neighbouring hill, had modest ambitions, which did not go much further than ploughing, sowing, and reaping, but which, in their narrow scope, aimed at the hand of the local beauty, Kate Carney. Ignatius, with his fine airs, had always affected to treat his big country cousin condescendingly, so it was something in the nature of a humiliation to him when he had to plead his suit as the rival of a ploughman. O'Hara's modesty, however, was not his most decided characteristic. Also, there was a dowry at stake, and he needed money badly.

The country mind, being little exercised, is slow to perceive or draw conclusions. Ignatius O'Hara had already insinuated himself into the good graces of Kate Carney, before John Houlihan, her recognised lover, became aware of the fact. Even then, it was his friend, Phil Brady, who apprised him of the fact.

"It's a terrible shame, so it is," said Brady, as he met Houlihan on the road, "the way that insignificant little body Ignatius O'Hara, does be carrying on. What would you think he'd be doing now. No less than setting his cap at Pat Carney's daughter."

"The presumptuous little spalpeen!" said Houlihan. "But sure, I'm thinking if he makes no more headway at courting than he does at book-learning, he won't do anyone much harm."

"John Houlihan," said Brady, "I've seen as purty heads as Kate Carney's

turned by fine airs before now. Do you know that it's sending her presents he is?"

"I did not," said Houlihan, with some warmth. "The dirty little individual! It'll be that ould mother of his that will be putting him up to this. Sure, if it's not one thing she has him at it's another, and if he can't earn money by any means he can marry it."

"And a brave penny it is, I'm told," said Brady.

"Three hundred pounds," said Houlihan, "and more besides. She will have five of the best heifer calves about the place the day that she goes to the altar."

"And what, I would like to know," demanded Brady, who was evidently burning to see a fight, "has this little spoiled doctor done to deserve it?"

"Nothing at all, then," said Houlihan feelingly, unless it be in giving impudence.

"I'm thinking," said Brady, "that it was small notice the same boy took of Kate Carney when he was playing the doctor in the city. But sure, her money will come in very handy for setting up the remains of a scapegrace in a respectable way."

"It will not, then," said Houlihan determinedly. "There are those who have a better right to a girl with three hundred pounds and five heifer calves. Who was it that stuck to her through thick and thin, when she was down with the fever, and her beautiful hair came out that she was so proud of?"

"Who but you, to be sure," said Brady promptly. "And it's proud I am to see that you don't intend letting your bone go with the dog."

"You may depend on it," said Houlihan. "He will never put a finger on that money, even if I should never enter Pat Carney's door again."

"It is left a fit subject for the hospital he ought to be," said Brady.

"I will never touch a hair of his head," said Houlihan, "for I wouldn't know where to hit the little spalpeen to save his life. And, besides, it's taking the law of me for assault he would be anyway."

"It would be a mortal pity to let him go unpunished," objected Brady. "Sure, he has been working for something all these years, and it would be a sin to let the opportunity pass."

"I'll leave that to somebody else," said Houlihan. "For sure, the little fellow hasn't enough brains to bless himself with, and if I can't beat him with brains, I'm not worth my salt."

"And what are you for doing, then," asked Brady, somewhat crestfallen at seeing the fight falling through, "if you're not for giving him a licking?"

"Sure, I haven't just settled it," said Houlihan, "but I promise you one thing, that I will put O'Hara from troubling Kate Carney."

"I believe you," said Brady, contemplating his friend with admiration, "as if it was done already. I'll keep my eye on that playboy O'Hara, and if you don't bate him with your fists or your head, my name's not Brady."

Phil Brady was as good as his word. His activities for some time consisted chiefly in following the movements of Ignatius O'Hara. Where there was the possibility of a fight you could always depend on Phil being in the vicinity, and he had not altogether given up hope of bringing Houlihan and O'Hara together in an exhibition of the manly art.

The immediate result of Brady's observation was something which astonished him not a little. Appearances pointed to the fact that John Houlihan and Ignatius O'Hara had discovered a sudden liking for each other, and had become fast friends. Brady, who judged appearances to be deceptive, guessed that this portended no good for O'Hara, and decided to follow close on the scent of mischief. That two friends should be constantly together is natural but that two relations should be friends is contrary to all experience.

Wherever Ignatius O'Hara went, John Houlihan was with him like his shadow or family ghost. They adapted themselves to each other's habits wonderfully, and made the most of the short time at their disposal. They talked on every-

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thing but one subject, and yet there was a suspicion that that subject was the implied object of all their conversation. The name of Miss Carney was never mentioned between the two friends.

It seemed as if Ignatius, with his city breeding and general air of refinement, had made certain of his conquest of the lady. His natural and hopelessly blind conceit would not allow him to accept the idea of defeat even as a possibility. Houlihan, on the other hand, behind a rough and simple exterior, was evidently playing a cautious game, trying to glean all the information he could get hold of, and taking good care that his rival took no undue advantage of him.

This novel and unnatural companionship did not, as might have been expected, affect the course of true love which ran between Ignatius and the lady. That egotistical gentleman still performed his devours daily at the home of the Carneys, and continued to use up his substance—or rather his mother's—in inundating Kate with all sorts of presents. He did not even trouble to hide from Houlihan the nature of these presents, for he had the effrontery on one or two occasions to take his cousin into a drapery emporium, in the market town, to help to choose "something for his sweetheart."

Whatever inward pangs these circumstances may have occasioned John Houlihan, they did not appear to affect his intimacy with O'Hara, which seemed to become closer every day.

Phil Brady, whose system of espionage left nothing to be desired, could make very little out of the carefully camouflaged intentions of Houlihan. The latter, who now spent all his leisure moments with O'Hara had practically dropped his former acquaintances for the time being. He even became reticent towards Brady, who could extract no information from him beyond an exhortation to patience. He was evidently laying a deep scheme for the undoing of O'Hara, which admitted of no accomplice.

This stage of things had continued uninterrupted for about the space of one calendar month, when the fair at Killybracken came on. Houlihan and O'Hara were together as usual, paid their usual visit to the drapery emporium, drank rather much together, it is to be feared, and returned home together with every token of good fellowship. Phil Brady who met them on the road, could scarcely decide which was the worse case, 'til Houlihan, by a well-calculated stagger, caught him by the arm and pressed something into his hand.

This proved to be a piece of paper, which, by striking a match and making a lantern of his coat, Phil found to contain the following, written in a very illegible hand: "Meet me at Pat Carney's to-morrow evening, about the same time as Ignatius O'Hara does be in the habit of calling."

The following evening, at the time subsequent to the hour at which he was due to meet Brady, John Houlihan was still busy in his own farmyard. Apparently he had forgotten all about the appointment. Then, as the first faint shadows of night began to fall, Phil Brady in a high state of hilarious excitement entered the yard hurriedly.

"I'm not sure," said Brady, "but what I shouldn't tell you, seeing that you ought to have been there to see it for yourself."

"What is it at all, at all?" said Houlihan.

"It's the downfall of Ignatius O'Hara

I'm after witnessing with my own two eyes," said Brady breathlessly, "and him being kicked out of the house like any rat by Pat Carney."

"How did it happen?" asked Houlihan. "It was all because of the appointment," said Brady, "and following O'Hara to Carney's meaning to see yourself there. If it hadn't been for that, and me hiding under the hedge to let O'Hara get through the door first, I might have missed the fight, which with the grace of God I did not."

"What fight?" said Houlihan impatiently.

"Well, to be sure," said Brady, "it wasn't exactly a fight, being more of a massacre, but it was good value while it lasted all the same. I don't know what happened, but O'Hara had got the length of the door, and I could see Pat Carney standing in the doorway eyeing him: with a face like a thundercloud, and Kate looking through the window, not much better. O'Hara was about to speak but before he could open his mouth, he received Pat Carney's fist between the nose and the chin. There was some loud talk that I couldn't make head or tail of, but I could hear Kate's voice urging her father to kill O'Hara. Well, after O'Hara's back had made the acquaintance of the ground about a dozen times, it wasn't much of a fight. He didn't seem to enjoy much being knocked down, but after that it was as fine a foot race as you could wish to see."

"I knew it would do it," said Houlihan.

"You knew what?" asked Brady.

"I knew," said Houlihan, "that the little present I sent Kate Carney yesterday would do the trick."

"I can't see," said Brady, "what that has to do with Pat Carney kicking Ignatius O'Hara out of his house."

"It has everything, then," said Houlihan. "Have you ever heard of Kate Carney having the fever?"

"I have surely," said Brady.

"And of her losing her lovely hair?" said Houlihan.

"I've heard something of that, too," returned Brady.

"And of her wearing a wig?" continued Houlihan.

"I have not," said Brady.

"Well," said Houlihan, "it's Kate's sore point that she has to wear a wig, but she doesn't like anyone to know. I sent her one yesterday from Killybracken."

"But, surely—" began Brady.

"It's how it happened this way," said Houlihan. "O'Hara bought a present in the draper's yesterday for Kate Carney—Gloves, and brushes, and combs, it was for I heard him telling the girl. When we had got outside, I told him how I had left my pipe on the counter, which was no word of a lie. I went back into the shop, and gave the girl the wig to try on with Mr O'Hara's parcel. So I'm thinking, Ignatius O'Hara will not be visiting terms with Kate Carney for some time to come."

"He will not," said Brady, "for I once took him as I came down the road, with his fine linen collar hanging by a thread to the back of his neck, and he looking as if a steam-roller had passed over him and solemnly swearing to have the hair of Pat Carney for malicious damages."

There was no sex problems in the story. Age. Primitive man fought for his mate, won, and subdued her.

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A certain crochety old farmer once had trouble with his neighbour, and as a result sought his solicitor.

"I want yeow ter write him a letter an' tell him this here foolishness hez got ter stop," he said. "I know what I want ter say, but I ain't got the larin' to put it right."

"Very well," said the lawyer, "what do you want to say?"

"Waal," answered the farmer, "begin by tellin' him that he's the blackest, lyin'est, thievin'est, low-downest scoundrel on airth, and then work it oop."

Women often pose as martyrs. Men for women's sakes are hourly crucified.

Passing Notes

BY JACQUES.

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

If it is time that "the good die young," Wellington must be able to give New Zealand towns points in sinfulness. According to the "Southland Daily Times" a "lady" was recently charged there with a theft of a ring in 1817. An old offender, I presume.

PRINCE AND SALES GIRL.

PANAMA, April 1.

At the ball given by the British Minister, the Prince of Wales asked for an introduction to Miss Carleyne Cranberry, a sales girl and danced four dances with her.

The cable-man at Panama accurately appraising our tastes, and impelled by a keen sense of duty, flashed the above message to us a few days ago. It must have cost a bit, but hang the expense, since it set our loyal hearts palpitating with pride, and gave an added zest to our breakfast bacon. That our own little Prince should descend from his exalted pedestal to seek an introduction to a pretty girl of the people, and that he should dance four times with her—well, it simply staggered belief. You see, we have read our "Young Lady's Novellettes," and so know that princes and lords are not as other men, even where a pretty face is concerned. But there it was, in print, and cabled too—two sure guarantees of its truth. And now that we have got used to it and we are, feeling hungry for a little more of the same sort of thing. The appetite, you know, grows by what it feeds on. It would be so nice, for instance, to know whether he prefers his breakfast eggs hard or soft boiled, his fancy in socks, and his favourite method of wiping his Royal nose, unless indeed it is treason, or sacrilege, or lese majeste something of that sort to refer to the Prince's nose, as it is, or used to be, to speak of the Queen of Spain's legs. Anyhow, let us hope that the cable men everywhere will continue sending us the stuff that our soul loveth.

This is the age of professions. Like Byron's heroes, "every day and hour brings forth a new one." But plentiful as they are, they are mostly overcrowded arenas, in which men fight with each other, like the gladiators of old, for very life and even the sexes are brought into unnatural and unhealthy conflict. A French professor, M. Paul Carnot, has, however, suggested a new one, "for ladies only." It is that of professional maternity. Of course there is nothing new in the idea of maternity for women; they possess peculiar qualifications for it, and have, therefore, in that domain, always enjoyed complete immunity from the competition of that brute man. But, so far as I know, it has never before been given professional status. The whole details of the French professor's scheme—which is intended to cope with the decline in the birth rate—are not yet to hand, but we read that the "mission is to be confided to volunteers," who will be properly "remunerated," the children to become charges of the State. (Poor little beggars!) The proposal shocking as it is to our staid British prejudices, shows that the French intend to sink all prudish qualms and grapple with the birth-rate problem in dead earnest. That being so, and since almost anything may happen in France, if the proposal experiment proves at all successful, we may yet see established there its natural corollary in professional and remunerated paternity.

There seems to be trouble brewing in Ireland just now, if one may believe the daily papers. It has long been an open secret that there was some slight dissatisfaction with English rule in that Green Isle, but of late it has become more pronounced, and protests against the tyranny of the Lassenach are occasionally made. These mostly take the form of assassination—not too many, about one an hour being the average—with Sunday free fights and pitched battles between the troops and populace, and a little dynamiting to fill in the slack times between. The situation is rather delicate, and may easily become serious, if not tactfully handled. Whether the present Government is equal to the settlement of the difficulty remains to be seen. So far, little

has been tried but repression—the worst weapon possible. Charles the First lost his head, England lost America, Louis of Franco and Nicholas of Russia lost their thrones and lives through its use, and hundreds of historic instances of its utility could be cited. The reason is very plain. You may bludgeon your obstreperous neighbour into submission or insensibility, but you will not make a better friend of him thereby. There is no use blinking the fact that right down the centuries we have ruled Ireland with the rod, which we used pretty freely at times, with no other right than our superior strength gave us. Small wonder that the Irish regard us rather as a harsh stepfather than an affectionate brother.

Ireland is tired of the role of sleeping partner in the firm of John Bull and Co., and wants to break away completely and set up in business on her own account. This, we say, we cannot allow, as her secession would jeopardise England's safety. It is to be feared, however, that the argument of John Bull's self-interest will have but little effect on Pat, who will retort that his own interests are HIS first consideration, and that he believes these will be best served by separation. We have ourselves largely to blame for Paddy's present hostility. Time was when he asked for, and would no doubt have been satisfied with a limited measure of autonomy. But, whatever he asked for, we offered something less, until at length, his patience snapped, and he decided to go "the whole hog or nothing." A few years ago the cry in Ireland was for "dominion autonomy"—the same measure of self-government as we in New Zealand possess. This we refused, at the instigation of Ulster, who raised the religious bogey—a bogey that was never perceptible to Emmett Parnell and scores of other Irish Protestant leaders. Accession to their demands then would not only have been just and proper, but would have provided a safety valve that seems much needed now. Can we keep Ireland within the Empire? That is the question. Evidently not by force, for as has been said: "You may stamp out Sinn Feinism in Ireland, but you will have to stamp out nearly every Irishman in doing it." The only way to keep her is to win her confidence and affection if we can, by giving her the fullest possible measure of justice. But perhaps it is now too late, thanks to Ulster and its Romanist bogey.

Religion is, no doubt, an excellent thing in its way and place, but it is a pestilent thing when used for political purposes, as we in New Zealand proved at the last elections, if never before. Still there is always a savour of good even in things evil, and the eternal feud between Catholic and Protestant provides no exception to that rule. It has, at the least, given us some good stories. Here is one of them:—

A lady had bought a beautiful green parrot, and called in her gardener—a true son of the old Dart and of Mother Church—to inspect it. Pat was charmed with its appearance and colour, particularly the latter.

"What a purty bir-rd, ma'am," he said, "will it talk?"

"Oh yes, Pat," said the lady, "just scratch his head."

Pat did so, and the gratified bird responded with "Hurroo for Ireland."

Pat was delighted beyond expression at discovering that the bird was so patriotic in sentiment as well as in colour, and again scratched Polly's head. This time, however, the bird (which had possibly once belonged to Mr Howard Elliott) screamed out the imprecation, "To the devil with the Pope!"

Pat started back, speechless with anger and dismay. Again the parrot screamed out "To the devil with the Pope."

Then Pat's wrath broke loose. Glaring balefully and shaking his fist at the feathered P.P.A. member he shouted, "Be the holy poker, it's only your colour that saves ya, ye spalpeen. If ye wor a canary now, I'd wring your blasted neck!"

Scientists have stated that man in the distant future will have no use for his teeth, which will therefore depart in accordance with the slow and sure gait of Nature.

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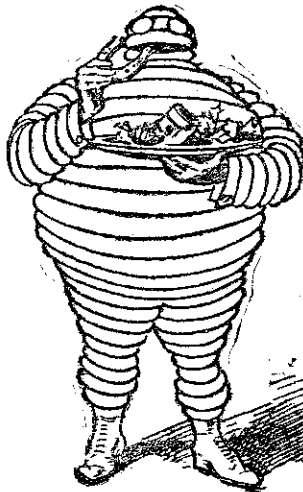
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**LLOYD GEORGE AND CHATHAM.****LIKE AND LIKE.**

Plutarch discovered many years ago that history loves to repeat itself. Having once done a thing thoroughly well, it generally contrives to do it over again. History, indeed, is very much of the same mind as the writers of successful novels and successful melodramas. It changes the names of its characters. It changes the scenes and it alters the costumes. But the plots remain the same. Thus it happens that the incidents in the lives of prominent men of one generation can almost always be paralleled in the lives of prominent men who have lived in preceding generations, and the comments, the criticisms, and the eulogies can be appropriately repeated almost without change.

**EXTRAORDINARY RESEMBLANCE.**

There is, for example, an extraordinary resemblance between the positions of Mr Lloyd George in 1919 and the elder Pitt in 1760. Pitt entered Parliament at the age of twenty-seven in the year 1725. Mr Lloyd George first gained fame through his persistent and brilliant attack on Mr Joseph Chamberlain when he was the autocrat of the House of Commons. Pitt first gained fame by his persistent attack on Walpole, then the established autocrat of Great Britain. Macaulay's description of Pitt as a speaker could be applied with the smallest qualification to Mr Lloyd George:—

He could treasure up in his memory some detached expression of a hostile orator, and make it the text for lively ridicule or solemn reprehension. Some of the most celebrated bursts of his eloquence were called forth by an unguarded word, a laugh, or a cheer. . . . His merit was almost entirely rhetorical. He did not succeed either in exposition or in refutation; but his speeches abounded with lively illustrations, striking apophthegms, well-told anecdotes, happy allusions, passionate appeals. His invective and sarcasm were terrific. Perhaps no English orator was ever so much feared. But that which gave most effect to his declamation was the air of sincerity, of vehement feeling, of moral elevation, which belonged to all he said. . . . The enthusiasm of the orator infected all who heard him; his ardour and his noble bearing put fire into the most frigid conceit and gave dignity to the most puerile allusion.

**THE SEVEN YEARS' WAR.**

In 1756 England began the Seven Years' War against France. The war started with a series of disasters, the most humiliating of which was the loss of Minorca, for which Admiral Byng was shot on his quarter-deck. Military misfortune and public apprehension led, as it led in 1916, to the formation of a Coalition Government, in which Pitt was Secretary of State, with the supreme direction of foreign affairs and the war. The formation of this Government and Pitt's vigorous leadership at once led to victory in every theatre of the war. The French Fleet in America was destroyed. Great victories were gained by Clive in India. Wolfe's triumph on the Heights of Abraham secured British supremacy in Canada. Hawke defeated the Brest Fleet, and led the way for Nelson to establish British mastery of the sea. On the Continent, by a wholesale system of subsidies to weaker Powers (a system for good or ill generously followed during the late war), a series of defeats were inflicted on the French which culminated in the battle of Minden.

**FIRST ENGLISHMAN OF HIS TIME.**

Summoning up the situation as it existed in 1760, and Pitt's part in it, Macaulay writes:—

He had undoubtedly great energy, great determination, great means at his command. His temper was enterprising; and, situated as he was, he had only to follow his temper. The wealth of a rich, the valour of a brave nation, were ready to support him in every attempt. In one respect, however, he deserved all the praise that he has ever received. The success of our arms was perhaps owing less to the skill of his disposition than to the national resources and the national spirit. But that the national spirit rose to the emergency, that the national resources were contributed with unexampled cheerfulness, this was undoubtedly his work. The ardour of his soul had set the whole kingdom on fire. It enflamed every soldier who dragged the cannon up the heights of Quebec, and every sailor who boarded the French ships among the rocks of Brittany. . . .

The Minister, before he had been long in office, had imparted to the commanders whom he employed his own impetuous, adventurous, and daring character. They like him were disposed to risk everything, to play double or quits to the last, to

think nothing done while anything remained undone, to fail rather than not to attempt. . . . The situation which Pitt occupied at the close of the reign of George II, was the most enviable ever occupied by any public man in English history. . . . He domineered over the House of Commons; he was adored by the people, he was admired by all Europe. He was the first Englishman of his time.

**A STRIKING PARALLEL.**

Almost all this can be applied practically word for word to Mr Lloyd George today. There is another parallel, more accurate three or four months ago than at present. Macaulay records that after Pitt's victories, Parliament was quiet. "The old party distinctions were almost effaced; nor was their place yet supplied by distinctions of a still more important kind."

The situation at home, however, was very different then to that through which we are living now. War had brought with it a large measure of prosperity. The nation was never so wealthy. Trade had never flourished so brilliantly. Merchants had never waxed so rich. There was none the less then bitter opposition to the continuance of the war as there is now to the operations in Russia for the destruction of Bolshevism and Soviet rule and to the subsidizing of Finns and Estonians. Macaulay records that men were asking what was it to England whether the House of Hapsburg or the House of Brandenburg ruled in Silesia, just as they are asking now what is it to England whether Koltchak or Lenin rules in Moscow. They were asking why the best English regiments were fighting on the Main as they are asking now why any English regiments are fighting in Archangel. Truly, history is almost grotesquely unoriginal.

**OUT OF OFFICE.**

A suggestion of originality arises from the fact that Pitt, unlike Mr Lloyd George did not sign the Treaty which brought to an end the war that he had waged so successfully. Peace was signed at Paris in 1763, as it was signed in Paris in 1919. Pitt went out of office two years before, and in 1762, when England found herself at war with Spain, as well as with France, he made a speech in the House of Commons which Mr Lloyd George repeated several times between 1914 and 1918.

This is no season for altercation and recrimination. A day has arrived when every Englishman should stand forth for his country. Arm the whole; be one people; forget everything but the public.

The fame of Pitt was at its highest in this year. It was eclipsed long before his death. Let us hope that a striking historical parallel will remain partial.

**LOST DAYS.**

The lost days of my life until to-day,  
What were they, could I see them on the street  
Lie as they fell? Would they be ears of wheat  
Sown once for food, but trodden into clay?  
Or golden coins squander'd and still to pay?  
Or drops of blood dabbling the guilty feet?  
Or such spilt water as in dreams must cheat  
The undying threats of hell, athirst  
alway?

I do not see them here; but after death,  
God knows I know the faces I shall see,  
Each one a murder'd self, with low last breath.

"I am thyself—what hast thou done to me?"

"And I—and I—thyself" (lo! each one saith),

"And thou thyself to all eternity!"

—C. G. Rossetti.

Some comment has been aroused recently in connection with the quicker discharge which is alleged to be secured in London for South American meat. As it is now pointed out, South American liners have brought no chilled meat for some months past. In accordance with Government instructions, the liners have been bringing frozen the same descriptions of beef which had previously been carried chilled. It is clear, however, that South American meat reached the market in the United Kingdom much more quickly than Australasian meat, which is also suffering from the length of time it has been in store. It is asserted that until the vast stocks of old meat have been disposed of the good character earned before the war by fresh Australian and New Zealand frozen meat cannot be fully remedied. It is further contended that not much progress will be made with the disposal of meat until it is offered at a price nearer 4d per lb. The present wholesale price is 6d per lb.

**SHORT STORIES.****THE RIVER BEDS.**

A story is told concerning Father Bernard Vaughan when he was touring in America. A boastful American at St. Louis said to him one day, "Look at our Mississippi and Hudson rivers. Why, in comparison with them your Mersey and Severn and Thames are sleepy, sickly streams."

"Oh," said Father Vaughan, "I think yours are just as sickly as ours."

"How do you make that out?" inquired the American.

"Well, they are all confined to their beds," replied Father Vaughan.

**VERY CHEAP.**

A clergyman, upon introducing some new hymn-books to his flock, instructed his clerk to give out the notice just before one of the Collects. The clerk forgot, and instead read out:

"All those who have children to be christened, please let me know after the service."

The clergyman was very deaf, and added blandly, "And I should like to say for the benefit of those who have none, that they may be obtained in the vestry any day between three and four, the ordinary ones at a shilling, and the special ones at one and six."

**CRUSHING.**

A lady of doubtful musical abilities was calling on a friend. She settled herself before the piano, and proceeded to entertain the little daughter of the house, aged five, with a selection from her repertoire.

After thumping for a spell she glanced round to the listener, who surveyed her round-eyed. Thinking that her music was being thoroughly appreciated, she gathered all her skill together for the finale. With a vigorous pound and a crashing discord she closed the performance.

Little Daisy looked up and said, quite innocently, "I can't play that tune either, Miss Pounder."

**WHICH IS WHICH**

There is a family that has recently had presented to it a very brilliant parrot that is a great talker. The bird was presented to the family by a sea captain, and as a gift it is greatly prized. But recently it has become a thorn in the side of the lady of the house, who has a little son seven years old. The other day she said to a neighbour, "I am afraid we shall have to get rid of that parrot—that is, as sure as I am sure of one thing."

"What is that?" asked the neighbour.

"Whether Johnny is corrupting the parrot, or the parrot is corrupting Johnny."

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

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Sir John Millbank, a successful, but stern criminal 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 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 death sentence Sir John recognises the prisoner as his own son Jack! A few days later Sir John interviews the prisoner at his private residence under escort of the warders, and tells him he will have to serve at least three years' imprisonment. Just as they are leaving, Dick with the assistance of Kitty, makes his escape, and that night they decide to drive into Winnerleigh, but the car breaks down, and they are forced to accept the hospitality of

Beaumont Chase, a millionaire. The following morning Dick's host informs him that Sir John had called during the night and taken his daughter away. A few hours later Dick leaves for Winnerleigh.

## A DOUBTFUL FRIEND.

Kitty awoke, stretched herself luxuriously, and then sat up in bed. With curious interest, she gazed round the room. It was a handsome apartment, and the morning sunshine pouring in at the three big windows showed it at its best.

It was some moments before she quite realised where she was. Then she remembered, and a frightened look came into her eyes.

Last night, in the darkness, everything had seemed easy. She had been so intent upon her plan for effecting her lover's escape from justice that she thought of nothing else, and the awkwardness of her own position had not occurred to her.

But now, in broad daylight, with the sunshine pouring into the room, it was very different.

She and Dick were in a strange house, many miles away from Winnerleigh, that safe sanctuary, where Clara Clarke was, no doubt anxiously awaiting them.

They must get away as soon as they could. How long, she wondered, would it take to put the car right?

She glanced anxiously towards the door, and then remembered, with a little wave of fear, that she had forgotten to lock it.

She slid out of bed and turned the key, and then crossed the room to a tall mirror and stood before it.

She was wearing a man's sleeping-suit, much too large for her, and her fair hair tumbled about her shoulders.

"You don't look a bit like a boy!" she said, addressing her reflection reproachfully. Then she looked around in search of the wig that she had been wearing the night before.

As her glance swept the room, her attention was attracted to another door.

She went to it and opened it cautiously, and discovered that it admitted her to a bath-room.

She had a cold plunge, and felt much refreshed and a little braver.

Then she dressed herself carefully. She found the black wig which she had obtained from her actress friend, Miss Clarke, and with a good deal of trouble she fitted it on her head and concealed her golden curls beneath it.

When, having completed her toilet, she surveyed herself once more in the mirror, she was a little more satisfied. She held a slim, good-looking boy, somewhat effeminate-looking, perhaps, but not more so than many boys she had met.

She was still admiring herself when she was startled by a tap at the door.

"Who's there?" she demanded, turning quickly.

But, without waiting for a reply she unlocked the door and threw it open.

She realised swiftly that she must put a bold front on it. Any show of timidity now would spoil everything.

A discreet-looking maidservant stood on the threshold.

"Mr Chase wishes me to say, sir, that he will be glad to breakfast with you at any time that may suit you."

"Is my brother down yet?" asked Kitty, trying to speak carelessly.

"Mr Chase is in the breakfast-room alone, sir."

Kitty experienced a new thrill of alarm. She did not relish the idea of meeting their host alone. However Dick would probably be down soon.

"I am coming," she said. "I am quite ready."

She followed the girl down the stairs. At every step her nervousness increased.

The impressive grandeur of the house, and, above all, the sunshine pouring in through the tall, arched windows, made her feel horribly conscious of her disguise.

Last night, in spite of the dangers and excitements she had felt quite at her ease. It was not nearly so simple a matter to play the man in the daylight.

On entering the big, handsome breakfast-room, she found Mr Beaumont Chase awaiting her, and had a good look at him for the first time. She had scarcely seen him the night before, but had been only too glad to get to her room as quickly as possible.

She noticed now that he was tall and good-looking, and that he had an easy manner.

He welcomed her genially, asked how she slept, and commented on the brightness of the morning.

"We may as well have breakfast," he said, and gave the order for it to be served.

Several times Kitty's eyes wandered to the door.

"My brother is tired," she contrived to say. "He—er—he had a heavy day yesterday."

"Yes, it was rough luck your car breaking down, though I ought not to say that, since it has given me the pleasure of your company. I don't get many visitors, and yet this is not a bad old place. You must let me show you round after breakfast."

And then he began talking about himself and his home.

Much to Kitty's relief, he asked no questions, and seemed quite content to discuss his own affairs and the quiet life he lived in this out-of-the-way corner of Essex.

Would Dick never come?

The breakfast ended, and Mr Chase led the way through one of the windows on to the broad, sunlit terrace.

"Will you have a cigar?" he said, producing his case.

"No—er—no, thank you," said Kitty, turning very red.

The other did not appear to notice her

embarrassment. He selected a cigar for himself and lit it.

They walked to the end of the terrace, and then suddenly Beaumont Chase turned and faced his companion.

For a moment he looked at her in silence, and as he looked this weary man of the world, who had tasted all the pleasures of life that money could buy and found them savourless, was surprised to discover that at last he had come across something that stirred within him a genuine interest.

He really wanted to know who this stranger was, to hear her story, and learn the secret of her queer adventure.

He felt no pity for her, nor any remorse for the trick he had played upon her. He was still intent only upon his own amusement.

"I have some news for you," he said suddenly, "and I am afraid you will consider it bad news. That is why I put it off till now, lest it should spoil your breakfast."

A startled look came into Kitty's eyes. The man noticed they were very bright eyes.

"News? News for me?" she said anxiously.

He nodded gravely.

"You and your brother left London rather hastily yesterday," he said.

"Well?" she demanded, on her guard at once.

Her courage revived instantly in defence of Dick.

"You had a reason?" said the man slowly.

"Naturally. Do you wish to question me, sir? If you think your hospitality gives you the right to inquire into our affairs, I can only refer you to my brother."

"I have already spoken with him."

"Then I have nothing to add."

Beaumont Chase smiled good-humouredly.

"You have not yet heard my news," he said quietly.

Kitty's foot began to tap impatiently, but she made no reply.

"When you left London you were pursued," said the man.

"Pursued? How do you know?"

There was now real alarm in the girl's face.

Beaumont Chase threw away his cigar.

"Look here, my young friend," he said, "I am in a bit of a quandary, and I don't quite know what I ought to do. You are my guests, and naturally I want to oblige you in every possible way; but the question is, if I help you, shall I be doing right?"

"You are afraid you might get into trouble for giving us shelter?" said Kitty. There was a note of contempt in her voice, and she flung back her head as she spoke with a gesture which the man though uncommonly attractive.

"No," he answered gravely; "I am afraid of nothing. I have spent my life in doing eccentric things. The law has no terrors for me. I please myself. No, that is not my trouble. What bothers me is whether I shall be doing right in shielding you and your brother from those who are after you. If I choose, I can protect you. But shall I be doing right?"

Kitty stared at him doubtfully, all kinds of thoughts racing through her mind.

"Where is Dick?" she demanded abruptly.

"You mean your brother?" said the man quietly.

Kitty flushed, angry at herself for her folly.

"Yes—er—yes, we call him Dick," she said hurriedly.

"He is safe for the present. I have got him out of the way. They came for you early this morning, and I put them off. I don't know if I did right, but I did it. Then I persuaded your brother to go off alone. If you two want to escape you must not travel together."

A look of blank dismay came into Kitty's face.

"Dick has gone? Gone and left me here?" she cried blankly.

"It was the only way. You can join him later. That is, if I don't decide to give you both up—"

"You won't! You won't send Dick back to prison? Oh, sir, you would not be so cruel!"

The girl uttered the words with a quick gesture of passionate appeal, and a new look of interest came into the eyes of Beaumont Chase.

"So!" he muttered to himself. "Prison! There's more in this business than I thought."

(Continued on page six.)

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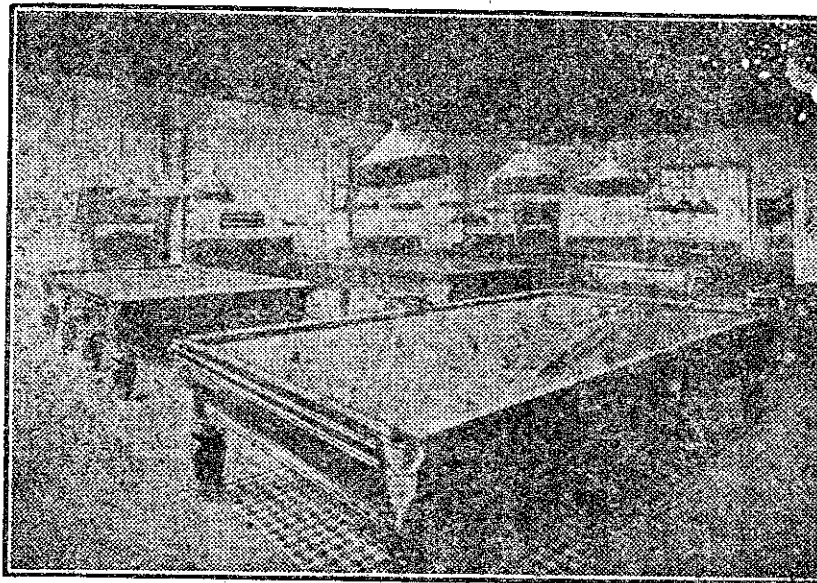
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## BILLIARD NOTES.

## POTTING THE RED TO RUN THROUGH THE WHITE DEAD ON THE BOTTOM CUSHION.

It is possible to obtain position for an in-off from the white when the latter is dead on the baulk cushion. This stroke is a very difficult one, inasmuch as the resting place of the cue ball has to be gauged to a nicety, the space between the points marked covering about the limits of the position from which the run-through is easily on even for anyone who can play run-throughs with ability and certainty. Of course, in the ordinary way, such a stroke should not be attempted, as it would be a far safer game to try to go on scoring from the red ball only, with the knowledge that it is pretty safe to go out for anything with your opponent handicapped by being tucked up under the cushion. At the same time, it is an example of what is possible in the way of bringing a white ball out of baulk by means of an in-off.

## POTTING THE RED THROUGH THE WHITE, DEAD ON A SIDE CUSHION.

With the white ball dead on a cushion in baulk, but this time on a side cushion. This position differs from the former by reason of the very great amount of latitude that exists for the resting-place of the cue ball. In fact, after the latter has once reached the top cushion—provided, of course, that the position of the red allows an angle similar to the former being made—position for the run-through exists practically from any points on its path down the table, and any player who can play ordinary run-throughs with a sufficient degree of certainty, should most assuredly try to bring the white into play by means of this most useful stroke. Some running side on the cue ball—to bring it off at a better angle from the top cushion—will often be of assistance when the red is so placed that good position cannot be easily obtained by a plain ball stroke.

It is possible to get position for a run-through in-off from the white—when that ball lies on a baulk side cushion—by means of a pot into either pocket. A little

running side will often be of assistance when it is desired to bring the cue ball across the table. In playing this stroke if the cue ball come to rest in an unfavourable position for the run-through off the white, position will often be left for an in-off from the red or a pot, and if for the latter, it will often be possible to play the pot in such a way as to leave the cue ball well placed to attack the white the next stroke.

The red ball so situated that the spot it occupies would be a very favourable one from which to run through the white, which lies dead on the baulk side cushion. In a position like this the red ball should be potted in such a way that the cue ball remains in or near the spot previously occupied by the red.

If the red happens to be further away from the centre pocket, and from where lies the position be too square for a run-through off the white, the cue ball should follow on a little after pottling the red, and by this means obtain position for the subsequent in-off.

## A SCREW-BACK FROM THE RED TO OBTAIN POSITION FOR AN IN-OFF FROM THE WHITE.

A means of obtaining position for an in-off from the white by pottling the red and screwing back. I simply give this as an illustration of what is often on; but, though a very useful stroke in the hands of a capable player, it is not one that I should advise even pretty good players to play. To attempt to pot the red—playing from baulk—into a centre pocket at a high rate of speed is always a dangerous proceeding—except, of course, when the red is over the pocket—owing to the pocket not being an open one even from the most favourable part of the D; and, of course, it would be impossible to play the screw-back at gentle strength.

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## JUDGMENT.

(Continued from page five.)

"That depends," he said aloud. "I will help you if I can, but you know, my dear young lady—"

Kitty started back, her face crimson. "Then you know—you know all?" she said despairingly.

"No, I do not know all, but I know a good deal, and if I am to help you you must tell me the rest."

Poor Kitty was miserably ashamed, and her first impulse was to turn and rush into the house. But then she thought of Dick. This man could help him. For Dick's sake she must be brave.

"You will save Dick?" she said breathlessly. "You will save him?"

The man nodded.

"If I can. Now, tell me your story." Impulsively Kitty came to the decision to trust this stranger. She told him everything, the whole story, keeping back nothing.

Beaumont Chase listened with an amazement that increased with every word that fell from the girl's lips.

He had expected to hear the story of a couple of young fools who had run away to get married without their parents' consent.

The truth staggered him, and for a while he could only stare at the gallant boyish figure before him in incredulous wonder.

"Then this man, your companion, is a convict?" he said at length.

"Yes; but he is innocent."

He is your sweetheart?"

"Yes."

Kitty answered defiantly, and the man noted with admiration the proud, frank look in her eyes.

"And you are the daughter of Judge Millbank, who tried and condemned your lover?" he asked, still speaking as one who can hardly bring himself to believe. "I am his adopted daughter."

"And you actually worked this scheme yourself?"

"Why shouldn't I? They had no right to lock Dick up. He is innocent. He did not kill Lord Haverham."

"How do you know?"

"He told me so," replied Kitty innocently.

The millionaire suppressed a smile.

"That of course, is conclusive," he said gravely. "And you want me to conspire with you to defeat the laws of England and help this man to escape?"

"Yes, please."

Beaumont Chase stroked his chin thoughtfully.

He was amused. But amusement was not his only emotion. The queer adventure into which he found himself so unexpectedly plunged appealed to him in many ways.

It offered danger and adventure. It promised to give spice and flavour to a life which had become indescribably dull and monotonous.

Moreover, this girl, so beautiful and so courageous, attracted him as he had not been attracted by any woman for many years.

"It is a big thing you ask me to do," he said quietly.

"But you'll do it!" exclaimed Kitty eagerly. "You are a man, and you are not afraid. I know you'll do it."

The man fixed his eyes very intently upon her bright, eager face.

"Yes," he said slowly, "I will do it if—if you will do your part."

"I will do anything to save Dick," replied Kitty impulsively.

"You mean that?"

"Of course I do! Haven't I done much already? Do you think I will hesitate?"

"No, I don't think you will; but, at the same time, your part will not be easy. If I am to help you to get your friend safely out of the country, you must obey me in everything. I can't afford to run unnecessary risks."

I will do whatever you think best," declared Kitty.

"Very well. Then, in the first place, you must not go after your friend. You must not see him again."

"Not see Dick again?" faltered the girl, a look of dismay coming into her face.

"Don't you see that is the one mistake you made. If you travel together he is certain to be traced. The thing is to keep apart. Eventually you will be found by the police. Nothing can prevent that. But, meanwhile, your friend, with my help, can be making his escape."

"Oh, yes, I see—I see!" said Kitty, nervously clasping and unclasping her hands.

"Then what—what am I to do?"

"You must remain here," replied the millionaire quietly. "I am going to London to-day, and shall be away a few days, but my housekeeper will look after you. She will provide you with everything you require. When I come back I think I shall have news for you—good news. Do you think you can wait and be patient?"

"Mustn't I write to Dick?"

"On no account. That would be fatal. I will find a safe way of communicating with him, and if you give me a letter I will see that it reaches him. The question is, Miss Millbank, will you trust me? It all depends on that."

Kitty looked at him, and then suddenly held out her hand.

"Yes, I trust you," she said. "You are strong and brave and clever, and I believe you can save Dick from his enemies."

Something in her frank, steady gaze disconcerted the man for a moment, and he lowered his eyes.

Nevertheless, he replied calmly:

"We can save him together, Miss Millbank—and we will!"

They shook hands, and then he strode away, leaving her standing alone on the terrace.

BEAUMONT CHASE GOES TO LONDON.

Beaumont Chase proceeded at once to London, and called at the house of Judge Millbank in Kensington Park Gardens.

He was received by Mr Frank Montague.

"I wish to see Sir John Millbank," said the millionaire bluntly.

"I am sorry. Sir John is seriously ill. He can see no one," replied the secretary.

"I bring news of his daughter."

Mr Montague's face brightened up immediately.

"Indeed, I am glad to hear that," he said eagerly. "She is safe and well, I hope."

"Oh, yes!"

The secretary gave a deep sigh of relief.

"I have been very anxious about her. I shall be very grateful if you will tell me—"

"I can only discuss the matter with Sir John Millbank," interposed the millionaire coldly.

Mr Montague frowned.

"But Sir John is quite incapable of attending to any business, whatever," he declared. "He does not even know that his daughter is missing. He had a mental breakdown last night, and his condition to-day is very grave."

Mr Beaumont Chase did not seem greatly concerned.

"Very well, when he recovers he will perhaps communicate with me," he said, picking up his hat and gloves and pointing to his visiting-card, which was lying on the table.

"But, my dear sir, you will tell me where she is!" exclaimed Mr Montague indignantly.

"I regret I am not at liberty to give that information to anyone but Sir John; I can only say she is with friends and well looked after. Good-day!"

Before Mr Frank Montague had time to protest further he found himself alone.

For a moment he was dazed. Then he snatched up the visiting-card from the table and read, "Mr Beaumont Chase, The Old Sports Club, Piccadilly."

He threw it down, and darting from the room, rushed to the telephone.

In a few minutes he was in conversation with Mr Pelham Webb, a very private detective, famous in a narrow circle for his achievements in Society's secret service.

"That you, Webb?"

"Yes."

Montague speaking. Any news of the runaway couple?"

"Not yet."

"Well, I have. Know a man named Beaumont Chase?"

"The mad millionaire? Oh, yes!"

"He knows where they are—the girl at any rate, and the man won't be far off. Chase is in London. Just left here. Get on his track, and he'll lead you to the quarry."

"Thanks. I'll probably pick him up at the Old Sports. He's a member."

"Yes; he gives that address. But you'll be discreet."

"Of course."

"The girl's name must be kept out of the affair somehow."

"Quite so. Don't worry. In twenty-four hours or less the girl will be safe back in her home and the man in prison."

"Hope so. Good-bye."

THERE IS ONE WAY.

Kitty Millbank, now wearing a simple but becoming white frock provided by Mr Beaumont Chase's housekeeper, sat in a rustic seat on the fringe of the wide lawn which stretched from the terrace of Beaumont Hall down on the little stream which flowed through the estate.

Her pretty face was pale, and wore a look of tense anxiety.

Two days had passed since her strange host had left her in his house.

She had been treated with profound respect by the servants. She might have been the mistress of the place.

But she had heard no news, either good or bad.

(Continued on page ten.)

## The Nature Column.

## NATURE ROUND LAKE MONOWAI

One of the things about Cleugharn which strikes the eye most forcibly, is the quantity and variety of wild flowers. Mountain daisies (Celmisias) of different sorts, some with flowers 4 inches across, mountain lilies (Ranunculus) with their beautiful clusters of white blooms and leaves occasionally as large as a dinner plate, and yellow Senecies, are the principal constituents in these wild gardens, which not uncommonly cover whole hill-sides with a blaze of white and yellow. The smallest pine tree in the world grows here, it reaches but a few inches in height, and the average person would certainly not take it for a tree. The curious whipcord veronica with its leafless cord-like stems is also common. The tussocks in sheltered places grow to a great size, and occasionally form quite an obstacle to walking. On the bare wind-swept tops plants grow close together and form cushions. The shingle slope vegetation is very curious, a number of the plants have thick woolly leaves, and quite a small plant make have a root several feet long. They look just like the artificial flowers our grandmothers used to work in wool.

The peaks are formed of synclines. A syncline by the way, is the bottom or valley part of an earth fold which is made so much harder by compression that it becomes resistant to erosion, and later becomes a high part of the land owing to the anticlines or high parts of the earth fold having worn away. This particular structure goes to show that these peaks have been formed by erosion and not by earthfolding. The Green Lake about two square miles in extent seems to have had a glacial origin. Its shores are extremely precipitous in most places. The hills on the west side are apparently of a low morainic character. To the north, with a considerable valley between it and Cuthbert peak, rises Mt. Burns over 5000 feet high. It forms practically one side of the Green Lake. On this mountain the writer experienced the highest wind it has ever been his lot to be out in. Progress had to be made on all fours and the pressure of the wind on the nostrils caused an unpleasant sense of suffocation. There is a fine slab cut, built almost entirely with an axe, about 1000 feet from the top of Cuthbert peak. From this point down to the Monowai flat a sheep track leads through the birch bush. The trip on a fine day is very pleasant. It takes about two and a half hours. Bird life is not very plentiful. The floor of the forest seems to be built up on roots and gives out a hollow sound as you tramp along. Pack horses are very careful on this track, but even so, they frequently fall through the rotten footing.

The Monowai flat seems to possess one of those peculiar soils which the agriculturist has dubbed waterproof. It supports but a scanty vegetation. Lowly plants with a little grass, manuka, and bog pine grow upon it. At first sight an inexperienced traveller is apt to think the bog pine to be the common macrocarpa he sees at home, but on further examination he speedily perceives a difference. In the upper part of the flat small mounds of earth and stones thickly scattered around give one the impression of a graveyard. We are most of us familiar with the sight of a forest giant uprooted, and lying with a large ball of earth attached to the roots. The tree when it rots away will leave the mound of earth standing to witness its downfall. This seems to be the process by which the mounds in question were formed. The flat to the ordinary person is a somewhat dreary waste, but to the botanist the mat of lowly plants with which it is carpeted are of considerable interest. The Monowai river flows down one side of the flat and farther down the Borland flows down the other side, but at a lower level in a deep gorge. The Monowai could be run across the flat and emptied into the Borland which flows through a deep gorge with sheer sides. It would be a cheap scheme but would not develop more than 14,000 horse-power.

The Monowai river is only a few miles long and falls over 200 feet. It rushes along very swiftly and the volume of water is considerable towards the lower end where it enters the Waiau it has cut a deep gorge. Some little distance from the Waiau a sheep bridge affords means of crossing dryfoot. At this point is to be seen the gauge by which the river is measured, and just above this will be a weir and inlet of the pipe line.

Some wines that had been recovered from a vessel sunk about 50 years ago bought £15 a bottle at auction.

A watch, on the average, has 175 parts. Galileo made the first telescope 300 years ago.

\*\*\*\*\* ORIGINAL \*\*\*\*\*

# AHMET.

A True Story of Life with the N.Z. Division in Egypt

(By 11/1275.)

## MAHMOUD RETURNS.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CHAPTER FOUR.

Mahmoud the moghassil was ill at ease at Tanta, his mother was with him and he had been obliged to leave his wives unguarded, a thing that no true moslem likes doing. Moreover he knew that his favourite, Zeinab was by no means discreet as he would have her be. His brother was very sick indeed, and yet to Mahmoud's disgust would neither die or get well. As Mahmoud observed, "It is not that my brother is a bad man that he dreads the approach of AZRAEL (the angel of death), his life has been well nigh as blameless as my own. Now therefore, let me consider if there be not ways to assist him, to join the Houris in Paradise, then may I go home to Helmeih, with my brothers wealth."

Later that day he consulted a Hakim who was of a like kidney to himself, for it is not well known that Hakims of ill-fame and the moghassils are of the one brotherhood, in as the one conceals the villainies of the other.

This Hakim whose name was Mustapha, ordered and administered a sleeping draught to the sick man. Now if the object of this draught was to cause the sick man to sleep, then was its object achieved, for Mahmoud's brother fell at once into a deep sleep, so deep indeed that he never again woke on this earth.

Mahmoud having buried his brother, and carried out the customary acts of mourning, packed up his brother's goods and after disposing of the bulk of them to best advantage, loaded his mother with the rest, for what man would demean himself by carrying burdens when women were created by Allah the Farseeing (to whose name he praised) for this very purpose.

He also took all his brother's wealth which was considerable. As for his brother's widows. Two, he returned to their parents and the third who was young and passably goodlooking, he sold to a neighbouring Pasha, who was seeking reinforcements for his harem.

Having thus disposed of his brother's belongings, he took the train for Helmeih feeling the satisfaction that a man feels when he has done a good deed.

Now six weeks had passed since Mahmoud had been away at Tanta, so that he had much to learn on his return. His wife Zeinab met him, full of complaints against the small Ahmet who had been absent with the soldiers for some three weeks, and for whom she pretended the most loving solicitude. She also told Mahmoud that Abu Suleiman had spoken words of love to her in his absence, as well as trying to entice Ahmet from her, and that she had been obliged to appeal to the Omdar.

Mahmoud was very angry at what he heard, supposing that Zeinab spoke the truth, and he vowed to be even with Abu Suleiman even though he was a holy man. In this frame of mind he after giving his mother strict injunctions to look after his wife, went to the cafe in the bazaar.

It was not long before Hassan the Ghaffir came in and sat beside him, "Saida," said he. "Naharak saideed," returned Mahmoud. The usual enquiries followed as to when Mahmoud returned from Tanta, with remarks on the length of his stay there. Mahmoud however smoked his hooka in silence, whilst Hassan glad of his chance to show his importance and to air his latest bits of gossip rambled on.

"See brothers," said he, "Mahmoud the Moghassil has returned, now our dead will go decently to their graves, and our holy men will not be plagued with the care of another man's children."

Then said the thatcher whose name was Said, "Thou hast not mentioned the thing that counts most O! Hassan, for now that Mahmoud the Moghassil hath returned he will be able to guard his wife, and the lovely Zeinab will not have to call on the Omdar for protection."

There was a roar of laughter, almost as instantly stilled, as each man realised that Said had broken the law, and made mention of another's wife, all eyes were turned to Mahmoud, who had risen to his feet and who was regarding Said with cold passion. Hassan the Ghaffir grasped his about (a stout stick about six feet long and as thick as a man's wrist) more firmly and interposing himself be-

tween the two men, called on them in the name of Allah, the Prophet, and the Sultan to keep the peace. "Let the dog and the son of a pig depart," said Mahmoud, "He hath not long to live, let him bid farewell to his family for ere another sun has set he will go on a long journey on men's shoulders, and by the full of the moon the worms will have grown fat on his carcass, for I Mahoud the Moghassil, have cast upon him the evil eye, and his body is already festering." At this Said the thatcher shrieked aloud and dragged him on his knees toward Mahmoud imploring him for mercy; Mahmoud grasping the kneeling man's beard turned his face up and deliberately spitting into it said, "Would that I had the venom of the serpent that I could spit it upon thee thus," and turning on his heel he left the cafe.

That night Said the thatcher died in convulsions, saying that all the devils in Eklis were tearing at his vitals. Thus was Mahmoud revenged, and all men in Helmeih held their breath and wondered who would be the next victim.

The next day Mahmoud called on the Omdar, what took place between the two was known to no man. They were seen to part on the doorstep of the Omdar's house with apparent friendliness, but the next morning the Omdar found a naked knife on his doorstep. No one knew, though most of them guessed who was responsible for this. The Omdar at once sent and apprised the Mudir (the governor of the province) who dismissed the incident as trivial. No one in the village was at all surprised, when the next day the Omdar was found dead, with his throat cut from ear to ear, but everyone was prepared to swear that the knife found by the body was the same that Omdar had found on his doorstep the day previous.

Truly the evil eye of Mahmoud the Moghassil was a thing to be feared.

Now Abu Suleiman, had been a witness of all that had taken place, and knowing what had led up to these events, felt that even his saintliness was not proof against Mahmoud's vengeance, and he well knew that if he was not the next victim, then at all events his turn was not far off. So he announced that his increasing years made it incumbent on him if he were to again visit the kebla at Mecca, before he died to make an early start. And to make certain that his start really was an early one he went without waiting to say the funeral oration over the dead Omdar.

Next Chapter, Mahmoud starts for Mecca.

## FUN AND FANCY.

## HARD LUCK!

"Bill's going to sue the company for damages."

"Why? Wot did they do to 'im?"

"They blew the quiltin buzzer while 'e was carryin' a 'eavy piece of iron and 'e dropped it on his foot."

## WHAT STOPPED HIM.

First Tramp: "Once I was in a fair way ter becomin' a millionaire, but a labour-savin' device ruined me."

Second Tramp: "How was that?"

First Tramp: "I was gettin' on nicely as a barman in a public-house, when the boss bought a cash register."

## WHO WAS AT THE WINDOW.

Newly-married Husband: "Did you see me kiss my hand to you, darling, as I left for business this morning?"

Newly-married Wife: "No, hubby, dear, I was not in the front room."

Husband (bewildered): "I wonder who it was at the window, then?"

Wife: "I'm sure I don't know. Oh, by the bye, our maid Jane told me she had decided to stay another month."

Most women refuse to accept platonism, which in their inmost hearts they despise.

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mixture. Scrape fine about a tea-  
spoonful of good white soap and add  
the same amount of French chalk. Pour  
two tablespoonfuls of boiling water over  
them, let the mixture cool, and then beat  
it up. Iron the collars till dry, then ap-  
ply a small quantity of the glaze with a  
bit of muslin. Rub the iron over it,  
and a glaze like that of china will be ob-  
tained.



## SPORTING.

Billy Robinson evidently didn't take  
much notice of my remarks about skull  
caps last week. He early discarded his  
own in the Riverton Steeplechase, and  
hunted old Zarkoma along at his fences  
with every confidence that his curls would  
keep his brains from being smashed, should  
he land on his head.

Post Haste is not a good hach to head  
off a handicap with.

Alex. Macaulay may be an amateur  
judge but he has now had a lot of prac-  
tice, and is generally considered sound in  
his judgments. I didn't have a good view  
of the finish of the Visitors' Hack Race on  
Saturday, so am not qualified to say what  
won, but it is a very old saying that "Only  
the man in the box can tell," and know-  
ing Alex as I do I am prepared to wager  
he was right. Two who were in a good  
line endorse his judgment that Sartolite  
won by nearly half a length.

To get the money through the Riverton  
Club had to delay the start of the last  
race nearly an hour each day. Far better  
to arrange for longer intervals between  
the races when making up the race card  
than be altering the time of every race.

Looks as if the Southland and Riverton  
Clubs will be doing something in the way  
of building in the very near future.

Marching Order isn't a good one. He  
left a nasty taste in a lot of mouths after  
the seventh race on Monday.

Thislecrowne landed his party a nice  
stake on Monday, but the same horse cost  
his connections some money on Saturday.

Burnbank isn't a steeplechaser to go nap  
on yet. He will take a lot of teaching  
too. Yet the crowd made him favourite  
on Saturday.

The Boss ran like a duffer on Monday.  
He doesn't appear to be the same horse  
that won in Invercargill a fortnight ago.

"Pat" Hogan's pair, Silverspire and  
Zarkoma, were stones ahead of any other  
jumpers about at the Riverton meeting.

That punter who put 12st 13lbs against  
Silverspire in Monday's race-card as-  
sessed his proper handicap better than  
Abbey Jones did. (I don't mean "Abbey"  
the printer.)

Burrangong ran three good races at  
Riverton, and in addition to having won  
his owner 400sovs with the Riverton Cup,  
he also landed him several hundreds of a  
cheap double with Silver Peak.

George Young did not have a very pro-  
fitable trip to Riverton on Saturday, as  
he only caught one win. Still that may  
help him to head the list of winning  
jockeys at the end of the season.

Mazama was pulling double (not Tom)  
at the end of half a mile in the big race  
on Monday, and wasn't in the picture at  
the end of the race.

Alex. McIvor rode his first steeplechase  
over the Riverton course. He also won  
his first steeplechase on the same course,  
and now thanks to a game committee who  
were not afraid to experiment, he made  
his debut as a starter, and was again suc-  
cessful. Alex. always had the name of  
being thorough as a trainer, he certainly  
showed he was going to be thorough as  
a starter, and even Buller and Andy  
McKay had to behave themselves when  
Alex. got hold of the lever.

Alex. McIvor made a name for himself  
twenty years ago as a successful rider;  
then he gradually climbed to the top of  
the tree as a public trainer, and had no  
superior in Otago. He now appears on  
the scene again in another successful role,  
that of starter, and he has come just at  
a time when most needed. His work at  
Riverton on Saturday and Monday was no  
fluke—it was the result of his long know-  
ledge of the racing game, and both horses  
and riders appeared to realise this very  
quickly.

The steeplechase fences at Riverton  
were pretty this year, but appear to be  
getting smaller and smaller.

Three old steeplechase riders over the  
Riverton country in Arthur Gerrard, Far-  
quhar McKay, and Alex. McKenzie,

were interested spectators on Saturday  
and Monday. We have never seen a bet-  
ter man across country in Southland than  
Arthur Gerrard was twenty years ago. He  
was an amateur that really loved the  
game for the game's sake. Most of them  
now only like it for the gain sake.

Pat Hogan's team are likely to make  
a good showing in the Steeplechase at  
the Riccarton meeting for the Prince.  
That is provided San Sebastian has to  
give them weight.

Frequent fast schooling is the secret of  
Hogan's success with jumpers.

Sasanof is a good one, and weight  
doesn't seem to trouble him when he is  
right.

Arrowsmith is the first imported horse  
of recent years to win the Great Easter.  
He did it well, too.

The Riverton Club will be building  
soon now, and Architect Brodrick al-  
ready has the plans in hand.

Old Awahou nearly came to light at  
Lawrence by finishing second to Jack  
Symons. He would have paid some price  
had he got home.

Eight Bells was lame when she went  
out for her race the second day, and is a  
game mare to struggle on the way she  
did at the finish.

Two ex-starters of the Riverton Club  
in Messrs Fred Wallis and Tom Prender-  
gast were not backward in extending con-  
gratulations to Alex. McIvor on his good  
work.

Handicapper Jones provided two fine  
races in the principal handicaps each day  
at Riverton. No one could wish to see  
better races.

Secretary Geary handled his big  
job on Saturday in good style.  
He has two good lieutenants in Tom Win-  
ton and Ewan Matheson.

Palamon, a hot favourite at Lawrence,  
where he ran like a mule, won easily at  
Bowmont on Monday and also ran second  
in another race to Revolution.

Until won in good style for Scotty at  
Lawrence. He was a good favourite too.

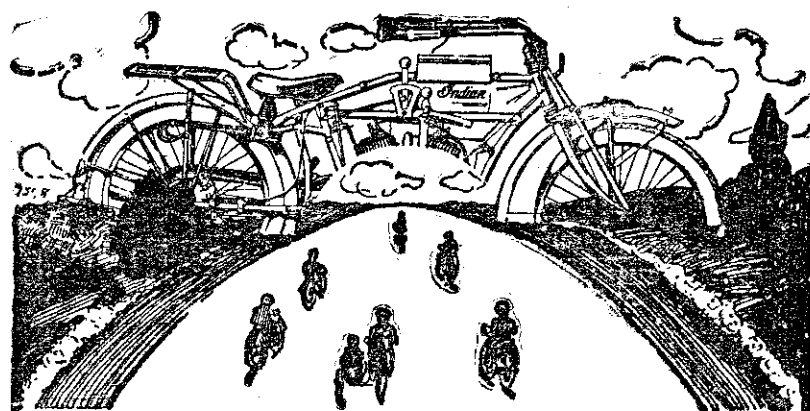
Has the local club any idea of ever  
giving the half dollar crowd a stand  
again? Half-a-crown for the outside and  
we stand in the top dog pieces in Aus-  
tralia for the "commoners" enclosure!

The committee of the Southland Rac-  
ing Club is inviting applications for the  
position of secretary.

The Riverton Club was lucky with the  
weather for it broke a few hours after  
the meeting closed.

Killowen, who was most generously  
treated by both handicapper Gibb and  
Saunders won a race at each of the  
Easter Meetings at the Goldfields.

Sports! Sports! Sports! Their very  
day's work is one of risk every minute,  
these airmen. "I have a rendezvous with  
Death," said a poet; and these flying men  
might have had the words painted on their  
machines, for, notwithstanding the safety  
demonstrated by a flight from England to  
Australia, they have a rendezvous with the  
grim spectre every time they leave the  
earth. The airman, even the German ones,  
displayed sportsmanship in their warfare,  
and made the service noted for it. The  
Smiths landed in the early hours, with  
their characteristic native unobtrusive-  
ness, far from where people would have  
been waiting in thousands to welcome  
them. They received their cheque for  
£10,000—what a prize for two youths—and  
divided it with their mechanics. It was  
what was expected from them. A report  
appeared that they have been given pri-  
vately a gift of £10,000 each, a rich Ade-  
laide admirer being the donor. Next is to  
come a book—an epoch book for Australia  
—of the journey, for it has a wealth of  
detail for us to read about. Then lectures  
are spoken of. The yrose above the world  
as mortal man had not done before. Now  
it is at their feet.



All Roads are like this to the

**Indian**

Its Spring Frame makes Molehills out of Mountains.

**DAVIES & PRENTICE** Southland Distributors,  
Dee street.

## 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.

During the next few issues we will give particulars of some of the  
farms we have for sale.

We have also recently established a "Town Lands" Department.

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.  
INVERCARGILL.

BRANCHES GORE and WYNDHAM.

### CLUTHA VALLEY RAILWAYS.

For a considerable number of years the  
settlers of Clutha Valley have been placed  
at a great disadvantage owing to the poor  
and uncertain river steamer service by  
which their needs are supposed to be met.  
This steamer service was brought into  
commission some 30 years ago, at which  
time it met the requirements of sheep sta-  
tions, comprising approximately 200,000  
acres. With the passing of years this vast  
and highly productive area has been cut  
up and divided into farms on which hun-  
dreds of families have made their homes,  
and immensely increased its production,  
yet they are still served in the same old  
way by the same inadequate steamer ser-  
vice. The farmers and residents of the  
various districts, who have been endeav-  
ouring for past years to secure a railway  
service are now organising an agitation  
in support of their demand. Strong rail-  
way leagues have, we understand been  
formed in the districts of Hillend, Awa-  
mangu, Clydevale, and Pomahaka Downs  
and they are advocating the construction  
of a railway line from Lovell's Flat  
through Hillend, Clydevale, and Pomahaka  
Downs. A number of residents from  
Milton, Lovell's Flat, Hillend Clydevale,  
and Pomahaka Downs, who recently trav-  
elled in motor cars over this route, sat-  
isfied themselves that a railway from Lov-  
ell's Flat to Pomahaka Downs would be  
a profitable concern and would serve the  
public better not only to-day but in the  
future, than it can otherwise be served.  
The journey over the route was commen-  
ced at 3 p.m., and the party returned  
about 6 p.m., adjourning to the Clydevale  
Hall, where, after refreshments had been  
enjoyed, addresses were given by Mr A.  
C. Kee (Clydevale), Mr J. Clark (Lovell's  
Flat), Mr Scott (Milton), Mr J. Begg  
(Pukeawa), and Mr J. S. White (Hillend.)

### SOUTHERN LANDS COMMISSION.

TO BE THOROUGHLY REPRESENTA-  
TIVE.

NAMES OF POSSIBLE APPOINTEES.

The Royal Commission which is to in-  
quire into Otago and Canterbury land  
tenures will be set up shortly. Delays  
have occurred owing to a number of the  
men first selected being unable, for vari-  
ous reasons, to act on the commission,  
and also owing to the inability of the  
department to get in touch with other  
proposed members owing to the fact that  
these men were temporarily absent from  
their homes. Everything, however, is  
now in train for the appointment of the  
commission, which will probably be dealt  
with by the Executive Council at its next  
meeting.

The appointees will be largely represen-  
tative of the different districts that will  
come under review, and it is understood  
that the greatest care has been taken in  
making the selection. The names of those  
who are to constitute the commission are  
not yet available, but it is generally un-  
derstood that Mr R. T. Sadd (Commissioner  
of Crown Lands for the Otago land dis-  
trict) will be chairman, and that he will  
have associated with him Mr Cockayne,  
of the Agricultural Department. The  
other members will represent the country  
from Southland to North Canterbury.  
Amongst those likely to be appointed are  
Messrs Charles Todd (Dunedin), Robert  
Scott (Kyebrum) formerly M.P., for Tua-  
peka), Mr Dixon Jardine (Southland)  
M'Innes (Otago), and Buckhurst (Canter-  
bury). Indeed, it is quite likely that this  
will be the actual composition of the  
commission, though nothing definite will  
be decided till the meeting of the execu-  
tive.

Finest in the World.

**WATSON'S No. 10**  
**WHISKY.**



## MCKAY BROS.

AUCTIONEERS AND LAND AGENTS.

FARMS—If you are considering buying a farm, consult us. We have good farms in all parts of the country and at the right price. If you are selling send us particulars.

HOUSES—We have some very desirable properties for sale, including some which are eminently suitable for retired farmers.

SECTIONS—We can show you some of the best building sites available in Invercargill.

MCKAY BROS.,

EXCHANGE MART.

Box—17. Phone—15.



OUR STUDY—THE EYE!

WE have made a life-study of the human eye—especially eyes that are affected by weakness and are remediable by Glasses.

How well we are able to advise and help you, you can readily imagine. Why put up with eye troubles when our first-class knowledge and equipment are at your service?

*J.D. Gilmore*

CONSULTING &amp; MANUFACTURING OPTICIAN,

DEE ST. (Opp. P.O.), INVERCARGILL.

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.

## DIGGERS!

BUY your land from a practical farmer, who can advise you right. The following is a sample of a farm proposition we can offer that two soldiers in partnership can be financed into with the assistance of the Board.

258 ACRES—Good agricultural and dairy land; large proportion limed, 24 acres oats, 40 acres turnips, 20 acres oats and grass sown for autumn feed. Almost new six-roomed house, with every modern convenience, including h. and c. water, porcelain bath and basin; washhouse with built-in copper and tubs; six-stalled stable, loose box, barn, implement shed, men's hut. Large cowbyre with milking plant installed.

This property is capable of carrying from 60 to 70 cows, and can be bought for the small price of £18 per acre, including crops. There is money in this. Get in early.

Houses, Businesses, etc., to suit all requirements.

CONSULT—

**Gilbertson & Guise,**  
ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL.

## GOOD COMMISSION.

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

"DIGGER."

Apply—

DIGGER OFFICE,  
Early Next Week.

## HOME SERVICE LEAGUE OF NEW ZEALAND.

THOSE desirous of forming a branch of the above League in Invercargill are requested to communicate with the undersigned from whom all particulars may be obtained. Those eligible for membership are—

- (1) Home Service Men.
- (2) Men belonging to reinforcement drafts who were discharged through
  - (a) Medical unfitness.
  - (b) Cessation of hostilities.
- (3) Men who served in N.Z. before proceeding overseas.
- (4) Men who served in N.Z. after being discharged from active service.

T. J. TRAILL, Secretary,  
9 Thomas street,  
South Dunedin.

Or

MR H. W. BROWNE,  
6 Hensley street,  
Gladstone, Invercargill.

## 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 &amp; HALL-JONES,

BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS,  
ESK STREET, INVERCARGILL, N.Z.  
Solicitors under the Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Act for the Otago District.

## "The Digger."

FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1920.

## PENSIONS FOR DISABILITY.

## WHAT JUSTICE DEMANDS.

The Christchurch Conference decided to press for a pension of a minimum standard of £3 15s per week for total disability. Exactly what this was intended to mean was not clear but it voices a general discontent among ex-soldiers with the present pension scale. This discontent is shared by the public generally and has been shown also in Parliament. It is clear that the time is ripe for final consideration of the question.

The Act at present in force provides for pension for total disability. Now broadly speaking the disability suffered by the incapacitated man is of two kinds: A.—Physical, viz., suffering and general inconvenience.

B.—Economic, viz., the disability which is due to loss of earning power or inability to follow a chosen career.

Let us now take some typical cases to illustrate the necessity for assessing a soldier's disability on this basis.

1.—A clerk and a professional pianist have each lost two fingers on the left hand. The clerk has suffered pain and some slight inconvenience. The pianist has also suffered these but he has further lost his occupation which probably represented years of labour. Under the present system the economic disability of the musicians is recognised by possible vocational training from the Repatriation Department and a possible extra £1 per week from the Pensions Department.

2.—A surveyor's draughtsman married with two children was before the war in an assured position earning £11 per week. At the war he lost his right arm, was badly smashed up and is slowly dying as a result. The utmost that the State can provide is a pension of £6 per week for the family. This amount is the equivalent of about £4 at the pre-war cost of living. In this case in addition to dying as a result of his injuries the soldier's income has been reduced by 60 per cent., and the State says it cannot do more.

Cases of this kind might be cited indefinitely. The crudity of the present system of pensions arises from the following facts:—

A.—Any given injury is assumed by the law as it stands to have resulted in

identical "Disability." As has been shown the real disability depends very largely on the occupation of the individual.

B.—Each individual pensioner is assumed to have some particular (but unspecified) earning capacity at some average (but unspecified) occupation and his pension is adjusted accordingly.

To some extent vocational training provides alternative employment for incapacitated men but this is effective in most cases to only a very limited extent in restoring pre-war earning power, and in cases of real total disability does not apply to all. It is obvious that the departments of pensions and repatriation are both dealing inadequately and inequitably with the economic disability which is the much more important part of his disability in nearly every case. The true responsibility of the state is thus ostensibly dealt with by two departments but is fully discharged by neither.

The first essential of an efficient scheme of pension administration is that the functions of the two departments, which will deal with physical and economical disability respectfully should be clearly defined.

The Pensions Department should confine itself to the physical disability purely and a schedule of pensions for particular injuries would be largely applicable. Its work would then become much more simple and the assessment would be relatively automatic. The Repatriation Department should have exclusive and exhaustive control of the economic factor in every case. Vocational, functional, and general educational training should be included under its administration.

In some cases therefore a disabled soldier would be drawing a pension in respect to physical disability only, in others possible economic disability only—but in many cases in respect to both.

## THE DIGGER'S LETTER BOX.

Mr D. M., Invercargill, complains that as an applicant for employment on the Railways, he interviewed the official who deals with employment. It seems that the applicant was favourably considered from the fact that he was sent to the District Engineer's office to get a note for medical examination. In the meantime the Department discovered that the applicant had previously been employed in the Railway Department and received compensation for having been unfortunate enough to injure his leg. The applicant states he was then refused employment. Our view is d—the regulations that stand in the way of efficiency and justice. Our representative interviewed the chief clerk, in the absence of the District Engineer, who very courteously explained the position and assured us that every preference would be given a returned soldier. The position was that the application would have to go before the manager for approval. Your application is being forwarded to head-quarters, and we anticipate you will get a fair consideration. You should acquaint the Department with your address and await further information. Advise us as to the result.—Editor DIGGER.

## ETHNOLOGICAL DISCOVERY.

"The Times" correspondent at Rotterdam tells of the discovery in the Caucasus of descendants of a Scottish landing at Trebizond (on the Black Sea) in the 15th century. They lived in a village in the mountains near Batum. They were blue-eyed and red-haired, wore kilts, sporrans, and played on bagpipes made out of pigs' bladders. They spoke a mixture of Gaelic, Georgian, and Tartar. "The Times" correspondent offers to escort ethnologists to the village.

Suits that please. It is quality, combined with style and workmanship, that has won for our gent's suits a reputation for superiority—and unrivalled popularity amongst all classes—and the esteem of countless progressive buyers in all parts of Southland; the prices are what you require. Colonial all wool tweeds in suits-to-measure, smart patterns to choose from 115s, 126s to 200s. Boys' suits in latest styles and patterns 95s to 155s. Ask to see our large assortment of men's overcoats in tweeds and waterproofs. The styles are the newest and the prices will suit all. 65s, 95s, 115s to 210s. If you require an overcoat to measure let us show you our coatings, prices from 130s. Before trying elsewhere call and inspect our large stocks of boys' and youths' suits sizes 0 to 6, 15s 6d, 25s 6d, 35s to 37s 6d. 7 to 12 38s 6d, 42s 6d, 45s to 52s 6d. 13 to 18 39s 6d, 45s, 55s to 67s 6d. Boys and youths' coats, tweed and hydrotype, 30s, 35s, 39s 6d to 65s. H and J Smith, Ltd., the Progressive Stores, Tay street, Invercargill and Main street, Gore.

## RIVERTON.

Although the races were Riverton's Easter attraction, there were many who wended their way hither to enjoy a respite from business at the seaside and the out-of-doors conditions were such that they did not fail to enjoy their brief sojourn at the seaside. There are still a large number of visitors at The Rocks and in the town.

The Seventh Regimental Band (Riverton district) under Sgt. Major Hunter, played at the Riverton races. It was their first appearance in uniform and they looked neat and smart. On Sunday afternoon the band rendered a programme of music from a vantage point at the south end of the bridge to the delight of a large number of listeners.

Football.—A meeting of the delegates from the different Western District Clubs was held in the Globe Hotel, Riverton, on Saturday morning. Tuatapere, Orepuki and Nightcaps delegates stated that they wished to have matches played on Saturday. It was therefore resolved that the Union arrange to have these teams travelling matches played on Saturday and home matches on Wednesday.

Messrs F. C. Mills and D. F. Macdonald were appointed as Western District delegates to the Southland Rugby Football Union.

The season fixtures to be drawn, first games to be started during first week in May.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

We have been successful in making arrangements for the complete history of Southland's part in the war. As indicated in a previous issue, people know something about the New Zealand Division but not about the local regiments.

This article will be complete and extend over a fairly long period. It is evident that the writer must receive assistance and it is desired that officers and other ranks will loyally assist. Any information whether of a historical or humorous character will be welcomed. It will take the writer some time to collect dates and contributors of information would render great assistance if they would forward matter as early as possible. Those who find difficulty in writing can send in the matter, we will adjust all. Our requirements will be met by an intelligent statement of facts. All communications to be addressed.—The Digger's Letter Box, Box 310, Invercargill.

## RETURNING TROOPS.

Officer in command, Major C. E. May, England. The other officers are:—Major W. H. Turnbull; Captain J. Boyd, Belfast; Temp. Captain A. Lush, Auckland; Captain J. S. J. Sincox, Dannevirke; Lieutenant E. Schlenders, Nelson. The rank and file are as follows:—

Anderson, J. W., Corporal, Port Chalmers.  
Ashley, F. J. Sergeant, Invercargill.  
Ayling, G. S. Sergeant, Timaru.  
Ball, E. J. South Dunedin.  
Campbell, J. Corporal, Alexandra.  
Campbell, R., Lawrence.  
Cockerill, E. J. Waikiki, Southland.  
Cocklin, J. E., Invercargill.  
Gilmore, J., Mosgiel.  
Harper, T. E., Lance-corporal, Invercargill.

Lepper, J. H., Corporal, Limehills.  
McCutcheon, A. J., Lance-corporal, Wendon.

M'Kenzie, M., Corporal, Invercargill.  
M'Kenzie, R. J., Sergeant, Ashburton.  
M'Kinlay, R., Queenstown.  
Marks, F. W., Dunedin.  
Rarity, W. S. Sergeant, Kaitangata.  
Robson, E. W., Corporal, Lovell's Flat.  
Scrimshaw, H. W. Staff-sergeant, Temuka.

Smith, T. D., Corporal, Rangitata.  
Tepene, J. W., Dunedin.

Thompson, A. J., Sergeant-major, Invercargill.

Tilley, W. W. Acting Sergeant, Ashburton.

## SUPPLEMENTARY LIST.

Major D. E. Bremner, M.C., Auckland.  
Captain T. Julian, Central Otago.  
R. M.A. Bell, Remuera.

Corporal C. E. Fowleraker, South Dunedin.

W. D. Pirrett, Auckland.

— Ross, Palmerston North.

## NAVAL DETAILS.

Engineer-Lieutenant Holm and wife, Wellington.

Lieutenant W. A. Smith and wife, Wellington.

Lieutenant Parker, Wellington.

W. D. Smith, chief motor mechanic, Wellington.

Mrs M. Merton, Wellington.

Lieutenant Blomfield and wife, Auckland.

Lieutenant Fraser and wife, Lyttelton.

Sub-lieutenant Sharp, Dunedin.

## OTAUTAU.

Good progress is being made with the erection of the central sawmill under Mr Geo. Bates. The company has secured an area of almost five acres in Hulme street, adjoining the railway line. The mill will ultimately be connected with Otago railway yards with a private siding.

The Otago Lawn Tennis Club held a very enjoyable dance in the Otago Town Hall on the 5th inst. There was a large attendance, and capital music was supplied by Mrs Cupples, extras being played by Mr Lemon. Mr R. Collett officiated as M.C. A good supper was provided by the ladies.

## HOME SERVICE LEAGUE.

Attention is drawn to the advertisement of the above League. We are not fully conversant with the aims and aspirations of the League but understand that it exists for the purpose of securing redress of the wrongs pertaining to men who through no fault of their own were unable to proceed overseas. If our conception is correct then the League has our sympathy, and if those men who are effected lose this opportunity by bringing themselves into something concrete and presenting their case as one united body, they have only themselves to blame. The Government has not directed a very sympathetic ear to these men's case and the public generally are apt to lose sight of the man who enlisted and was turned down. We believe they should have the benefits of the discharged soldier's Settlement Act, not only from the standpoint of justice but from that of a progressive land settlement policy.

## GRAND ORANGE LODGE.

The twelfth annual session of the Grand Orange Lodge of New Zealand opened at Wanganui on 4th April, there being 150 delegates present. In the afternoon there was a big procession through the Avenue to His Majesty's Theatre, where a service was held in the presence of a very large assembly.

## NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

The annual meeting of the Dunedin branch of the National Council of Women of New Zealand was held last Tuesday, the president (Miss Mackenzie) presiding. The annual report and balance sheet were adopted.

This report stated (inter alia):—At the beginning of last year we had dared to hope that "special" schools would before now have been established for children who were defective physically, mentally, or morally, or who were unable, through the ordinary channels open to children, to have qualified themselves for citizenship. The whole matter of the treatment of "special" children is one calling for immediate and intelligent attention. The evil effects of our want of system in training these children continues a barrier to the best development of the individual, and a menace to the State. The Women's Citizen's Association has sent a remitting the need for the formation of a body of women police in New Zealand.

The election of officers and committee for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Miss Mackenzie; vice-presidents—Mrs Leech, Dr Siedeberg, and Miss Runciman; secretary, Miss MacLaurin; committee—Misses Gow, Hodgkinson, Valentine, and other representatives from affiliated women's and girls' societies, clubs, and sectional groups.

Have you seen the elaborate display of ladies' millinery at the Progressive Stores? The selection offered here is one of the best. All the newest and becoming styles are here in abundance, and at remarkably low prices. See our large showroom display and if we have not what you want we can make it for you. Exclusive models all shapes and shades value at 25s 6d, 29s 6d, 35s to 45s. Beavers in black and colours from 55s, 65s, 75s. Velours in black and colours splendid values at 27s 6d, 35s, 67s 6d. Matrons black toques 22s 6d, 25s, 47s 6d, semi-trimmed in felt and straw, 14s 6d, 15s 6d, 16s 6d, 19s 6d to 27s 6d. Felt shapes all shades 5s 11d, 8s 11d, 12s 6d to 19s 6d. Straw shapes 5s 11d, 9s 11d, 14s 6d, to 27s 6d. See great display of feathers and mounts at 1s, 1s 11d, 2s 6d. Also special values in exclusive and distinctively smart blouses, costumes, coats, furs and jerseys. All alterations to costumes and coats free of charge. Inspection invited at H. and J. Smith's Ltd., Progressive Stores, Invercargill and Gore.



## Germany's New Bid for Commercial Supremacy.

### THE THEORIES OF MARX OVER-THROWN.

Naturally industry is hampered. From a recent official statement that every additional 14 marks a ton put on the coal price, costs industry 2,500,000,000 marks, it follows that since 1914, the coal price raises alone have imposed an additional burden of 10,000,000,000 marks. This among other things, has meant that German hematite iron, which on July 1, 1914, cost 79.50 marks a ton, now fetches 460.50 marks. And these prices do not mean profiteering. They are fixed by the producers—with the Socialist Government's consent—because no other way can be found to make ends meet. Coal production, which before the war yielded the German masters a profit of 1.68 marks a ton, a month after the revolution yielded only .83 marks, and three months later it yielded no profit at all.

But this elimination of the producer's profit is to-day one vital factor making for the recovery of Germany's industrial efficiency. What Lenin has been forced to do in Bolshevik Russia, Germany's Socialists have been forced to do in their Socialist State. In both countries, that is, production has again come to the fore. The old German Socialists from Marx to Kautsky preached that the cause of working class misery was the unfair distribution of profits. The capitalist pocketed too much. To-day, when the capitalist is pocketing nothing, the workman is no better off. So the more intelligent German Socialists quite in the way expounded by Lenin in his famous pamphlet published last Christmas are preaching that production, not distribution, is the thing that counts. In the workman's own interests production must be forced. Already this lesson has been partly learned. After Germany's production of pig-iron and steel reached its minimum in March and April last, it began slowly to recover, and—what is more important—the per capita output began to increase. As results the German ironmasters were able to suspend a new rise in prices and to instruct their foreign agents that within a few months prices would probably come down.

Nevertheless, at the old exchange of the mark, Germany's nominal production costs much, exceeds America's and even England's. But the depreciated Reichsmark, which to uninformed people seems a glaring proof of Germany's economical abasement, is in reality the magic wand by which she counts on reconquering the commercial world. At time of writing the dollar sells for 14.38 marks instead of the former 4.20; the pound for 64.20 marks, instead of 20.40; the French franc for 2.1 marks instead of .81 mark. Therefore, to the chief commercial countries Germany must pay three times what she would pay at normal exchange. Yet, just for this reason one hears German commercial men boasting that their coming mass export will force its way into all markets and establish their international commerce in as impregnable a position as it held on the eve of the war.

A member of the Swedish Board whom I found in a great panic on the score of this coming German invasion, drew up for me a typical scheme of the present exchange advantage of German exporters when taken in connection with basic German and foreign production costs. The ratio stated of German pre-war production cost to Swedish represents a fairly correct average:—

Pre-war price of a unit of manufactured goods in Germany, 100 marks.

Probable pre-war price of the same unit in Sweden, 110 crowns.

Ratio of pre-war German price to pre-war Swedish, at gold parity of mark—(One mark equals .89 crown)—100 to 123.

Probable price of same unit in Germany to-day, 550 marks.

Probable price of same unit in Sweden to-day, 330 crowns.

Ratio of present German price to Swedish at present exchange—(One mark equals .25 crown)—100 to 240.

It follows that though the cost of production has arisen more rapidly in Germany than in a typical neutral country, the fall in the exchange of the mark which took place when most neutral countries were maintaining or even bettering their exchanges, has much more than compensated. Measured in international currency, therefore, Germany is still one of the cheapest producers in the world. The complaints made over high prices by Germans—paid as they are in their devaluated mark—should not blind foreigners to this. The Scandinavian reader of German newspapers sees pages full of advertisements of Sommerkleider and Seidenjacken and Blusen at prices which in marks hardly exceed the Scandinavian

price in crowns, and which in international exchange are not more than half the Scandinavian price; and neutral visitors to the supposed clothless Germany, are even begged by their female relatives to bring back with them some of the marvellously cheap goods. It is the same in other trades. The Solingen manufacturers who formerly sent to America 70 per cent of their export, declare in their last report that at present exchange rates they can certainly regain the South American market, and that "as long as the mark is depreciated we can easily compete with the products of England, Sweden, or any other country of Europe."

The other factor upon which Germany relies for the regaining of markets is dumping—Schleuderpreise. In fact dumping and the fallen exchange, work splendidly together. During the war German dumping to neutral countries was made impossible by the export-license law. This law enacted that licenses to export be granted only on condition that the foreign buyer was charged the full home price, which should be calculated in foreign currency at the peace exchange of the mark. Theoretically this law is still in force. But after the armistice Germany started to encourage dumping by a new ingenious system called exchange rebates. These rebates mean that to counterbalance the fall in the Reichsmark exchange, the exporter is allowed to abate his price, though he must still calculate the mark's exchange at pre-war rates. At first the rebate allowed was 12½ per cent; then 25 per cent; and now 50 per cent. The rebate enables Germans to export at prices very much below those charges to the home consumer, and yet, to make healthy profits—a puzzle which is explicable only by the fact that fundamentally Germany is still one of the cheapest producers in the world.

#### PLAYING INTO GERMANY'S HAND.

How this new system works to Germany's advantage may be seen from a concrete case. A certain unit of goods produced in Germany sell at home for 10,000 marks. The law declares that a similar unit of goods must not be sold abroad for less—that is, in the case of Switzerland, for 12,500 francs, which is the peace exchange equivalent of the home price. But since the armistice, the exporter has been allowed to abate 50 per cent of this price. He sells therefore, to the Swiss customer for 6,250 francs. As 100 francs are to-day worth on exchange about 250 marks, he receives for his francs no less than 15,625 marks. And if on the 10,000 marks charged to the home consumer he made a profit of 20 per cent, or 2000 marks, his profit on the sale to Switzerland is 7,625 marks, or nearly 100 per cent. These figures describe an actual deal discussed in the German press. This "dumping without suffering the dumper's loss" as Germans boast, is being practised in nearly all branches on a very large scale. Only in the aniline trade did Germany, which here has a monopoly, charge neutrals higher prices than she charged at home. But it is of the essence of dumping, that where a monopoly exists the foreigner like the native is made to pay through the nose.

Germany, of course, has not yet wholly solved the problem of adapting her war industries to peace. But the pundits of Versailles, who imagined that by forbidding her to manufacture materials other than for her needs, for her now insignificant army, and her microscopic fleet, they had set her a particularly difficult task in industrial adaptation in reality played into her hand. They forced her to mobilise practically the whole of her industry for the really decisive branches of production.

In Stockholm I found a British agent of an English munitions firm rushing frantically round in the vain errand of inducing Sweden to purchase English cartridges, which his firm, having ideal plant and idle hundreds of workmen, could turn out for next to nothing. At the same time was on visit an agent of Krupp's, trying to get orders for—what? For typewriters. That is, he is sounding the typewriter market. Before the war Krupp never made typewriters. But in Sweden then raged a typewriter famine. Ancient machines recovered from junk shops and roughly repaired, sold for 150 dollars; and a Swedish corporation put on the market a machine for the equivalent of 250 dollars.

The Krupp works—whose employees' roll had already fallen from 170,000 to 32,000, and whose annual profits from 87,000,000 marks to 5,000,000 marks—were naturally watching for opportunities; they were already prepared to turn out machines, metal marine articles, ships' anchors, seamless tubes, clockwork, all sorts of fine mechanism, surgical instruments, and even brass buttons; and they had bought the paper-mill patents of a Dresden firm and set out to be the world's



MEMBERS of the Invercargill Returned Soldiers' Association are hereby reminded that the

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEE of 10/- is NOW DUE.

L. S. GRAHAM,  
Secretary.

#### RETURNED SOLDIERS' HOMES.

FIVE-ROOMED BUNGALOW; nicely finished in red pine; every modern convenience; porcelain bath. House only five years old; £900. You need have no fear in going to the Land Board with this property.  
Colin McDonald, R. B. Caws and Co., Invercargill.

#### DUG-OUTS

ARE OUT OF DATE. The returned man now wants a good home. Here is one: Five-roomed Brick semi-Bungalow; only four years old. All conveniences. Handy to tram; good section in A1 locality, free from shells and mud. £980.

Colin McDonald, R. B. Caws and Co., Invercargill.

#### GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR RETURNED SOLDIER.

MAIL-COACH and PASSENGER BUSINESS for sale, as going concern. Small incoming; assured income. Admirably suited for energetic young man used to horses. Full particulars from

T. D. A. MOFFETT,  
Esk street.

greatest paper-mill equippers. Why not, then, manufacture typewriters? So as a result of the supervise decision of Versailles that Germany must never again sell armaments to foreigners, American typewriter makers are likely for the first time to meet a really efficient competition, from the largest armament works in the world.

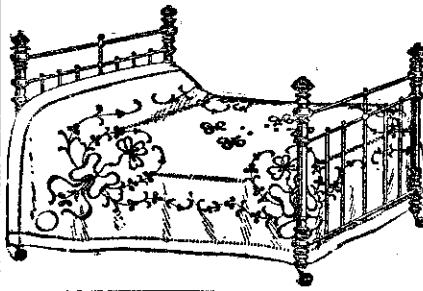
A similar transformation is taking place in the chemical industry. Six prominent German chemical firms, which have an aggregate capital of 340,000 marks, all long ago embarked on peace adaptation; and a month ago three big explosive firms of Hamburg and Cologne altered their characters of incorporation so as to enable them to practice general manufacturing. Germany's niter producers boast that they can beat the world. Before the war the home production was only 100,000 tons as against 140,000 tons imported; to-day the home production capacity is 500,000 tons. Not only in Scandinavia but also in Poland and in the western districts of Russia, a big German aniline works has its agents at work. Agriculture in these countries is at its last gasp for want of nitrates, and Germany calculates that she alone can help, and reap the benefit.

The Leipzig expert, Doctor Halden, declares that the re-adaptation of Germany's factories and workshops, will cost 1,500,000,000 dollars. But Germany's exclusion from colonial and overseas enterprises, he adds, makes the provision of this capital easy. With reason, Bank Director Helfferich, formerly German Finance Minister, declares that "From standpoint of financing export, the loss of Germany's overseas possessions will do less harm than is expected." The peace terms have compelled Germany's banks to seek new spheres for their capitalising activities. All of them showed decreased profits for the financial year 1918, and all except two of them cut down their dividends. The new sphere of activity lies in the capitalising of plant adaption and export; and already the Deutsche, the Dresdner, and other prominent banks are deep in such deals.

Backed in this way with plentiful money, German exporters are already making a show in neutral countries, beside which the mild displays of American and English export firms attract no notice at all. Every week the leading Scandinavian newspapers publish whole pages of German advertisements always correctly worded in the neutral's own language, accompanied by booming editorial comments, and by artistic symbolical pictures, which, extol tacitly Germany's incomparable skill. And the supposedly anti-German newspapers—such as the Copenhagen "Berlingske Tidende," and the "Dagens Nyheter," of Stockholm—lead first of all in this well-planned campaign to pre-German boom.

## WHEN STARTING HOUSE

Or When Replenishing.



Make sure you get the best value possible. When prices are as high as at the present time you cannot afford to take any risks. We have always prided ourselves on the qualities we have offered and are prepared to and do guarantee the goods we offer.

The following are specials and their wearing capabilities will be a better advertisement to us than any newspaper advertisement.

MARCELLA QUILTS, for single Beds, 28/6 to 47/6.

MARCELLA QUILTS, large sizes for double beds, at 45/-, 47/6, 50/-, 52/6 to 67/6.

EIDER DOWN QUILTS, for double beds; good designs and well filled. Prices from 43/6 to 97/6.

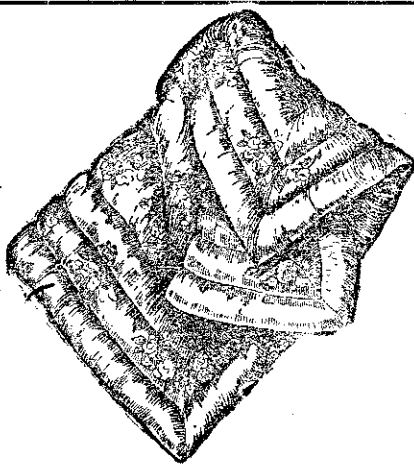
SHEETINGS for single beds, 4/6 to 6/11

SHEETINGS for double beds, including Finlays and Horrockses. Prices 5/11, 6/6, 6/9 up.

CURTAINS—A splendid selection of. Lace, Madras, Voile, and Case-ments.

TABLE LINENS—A very choice selection in all qualities.

MATRESSES, PILLOWS, CUSHIONS, Etc.



## THOMSON & BEATTIE, LTD.

"The Quality House,"

'PHONE 130.

TAY STREET, INVERCARGILL.

### GREAT DOMINION FAIR and ART UNION.

KING'S HALL—APRIL 14 to 24.

(In Aid of Dominion Band.)

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT OF

MISS DOREEN DORE (N.Z. Premier Dancer).

PONY WEIGHT-GUESSING.

BAKING COMPETITION.

NOVELTY BIKE RACE.

Admission by Art Union Ticket, 1/-; or 6d without.

Buy your Art Union Tickets NOW. First prize valued £50.

ALEX. SUTHERLAND,  
Organising Secretary.

## RABBITSKINS RABBITSKINS

SEND YOUR CONSIGNMENTS TO US.

HIGHEST PRICES GIVEN.

WE ALSO BUY:—

WOOL

HIDES

CALFSKINS

SHEEPSKINS

HORSEHAIR

TALLOW.

## Brown Bros.,

SPEY STREET,

INVERCARGILL.

Telephone—192.

P.O. Box—36.

LABELS ON APPLICATION.

## POLLOK FOR PRESCRIPTIONS.

We are Trained to Handle Your Prescription with Care and Skill.

Make use of our Delivery Service. We will gladly send for your prescription and deliver the medicine as soon as possible.

Our Telephone No. is 830.

POLLOK'S PHARMACY,  
TAY STREET.

## Books to Read.

WITH Winter coming on apace we turn our attention to BOOKS—Books of interest.

Here are some of the latest in the popular bound edition:—

"The Woman's Way," "Lorrie," by Chas. Garvice.

"The Girl who was too Good Looking," "The Wrong Mr Right," by Bertha Ruck.

"The Stepmother," by Annie S. Swan.

"Round the Corner in Gay Street," "The Indifference of Juliet," "Mrs Red Pepper," "The Second Violin," by Grace Richmond.

"Black Rock," by Ralph Connor.

"Red Men and White," "Lady Baltimore," by Owen Wister.

"Eric Brighteyes," "Cleopatra," "Heart of the World," "Swallow," by H. Rider Haggard.

"The Trampled Cross," "The Man Who Rose Again," by Joseph Hocking.

"The Return of Sherlock Holmes," by A. Conan Doyle.

All at 2/6. 3/- posted.

## Gardner & Son,

TAY AND KELVIN STREETS,

INVERCARGILL.

## JUDGMENT.

(Continued from page six.)

or bad, till a few minutes ago, when a servant had brought her a telegram.

She still held the flimsy scrap of paper tightly clasped in her two hands.

It was a very brief message.

"Returning mid-day. Have news of importance.—B. Chase."

That was all.

She was staring fixedly in front of her when the sound of a footfall on the gravel path behind her made her turn her head.

It was Beaumont Chase, and instantly he approached her.

He was smiling, and he surveyed her with frank admiration in his dark eyes.

"It is all right?" she exclaimed eagerly.

The millionaire shook his head.

"Well, not quite, yet, but I think it may be. The truth is, something went wrong just where I thought I had fixed it up. I arranged everything, got Foster on to my yacht, and provided, as I thought, for every possible contingency. And then this morning I discovered I was being dogged by a detective. He followed me down here, and no doubt will show himself presently."

"Oh, sir, you won't let him take Dick!" cried Kitty wildly.

"No; I think I can prevent that, but it will be at great risk to myself, and frankly, I want you to understand just what the situation is. If I get Foster out of the country, and enable him to make another start under another name, I must do it in such a way that he can never be traced. If he were found and brought back it would put me in a very awkward position. You see that?"

"Yes."

"Well, then, it comes to this, if you ever go after him and try to join him he will be traced and brought back. A close watch will be kept on you by the police. This, then is what I want to know. To save Dick Foster from a long term of imprisonment are you prepared—to give him up?"

Kitty turned deadly white. For a moment she swayed, and seemed about to fall.

Then she recovered herself, and looked back at the man proudly and bravely.

"Yes," she said steadily, though the tears were trembling in her eyes. "For his sake, if necessary, I—I would give him up."

The man advanced a step nearer, and took her hand.

"That is brave of you, Miss Millbank," he said quietly. "And that is how you feel now. But suppose after months or a year had passed would you not be tempted to go in search of him, and to lead his enemies upon his track?"

"Do you think me so selfish?" cried Kitty indignantly. "Not for worlds would I do anything to put him in danger."

The man, still holding her hand, looked into her eyes with his burning gaze.

"There is one way to make it quite safe, he said slowly, "and only one way."

"What do you mean?" asked Kitty wonderingly and shrinking a little instinctively.

"Will you prove that you are in earnest when you say you will not follow Dick Foster when I send him to a place of safety?"

Kitty stared.

"Prove it? How can I prove it, Mr Chase?"

The man suddenly drew her to him so that their faces were quite close.

"Will you consent to marry someone else?" he said in a low tone.

(Another Long Instalment Next Wee.)

## SHORT STORIES.

A good story that Mr Plowden tells is about the wife of a notorious burglar whom he was once cross-examining.

"You are the wife of this man?" asked counsel.

"Yes."

"You knew he was a burglar when you married him?"

"Yes."

"How came you to contract a matrimonial alliance with such a man?"

"Well," witness admitted, "I was getting old, and I had to choose between a burglar and a lawyer."

A worthy judge, M. Barboux, the eminent French lawyer, who died recently, was well known as an after-dinner speaker and had a wonderful fund of good law-court stories. Perhaps the best of them is the conversation which M. Barboux declared that he overheard in the lobby outside the divorce court one afternoon.

"Well, how did you get on?"

"Splendidly. I got my divorce and care of the child. The judge was on my side, you know."

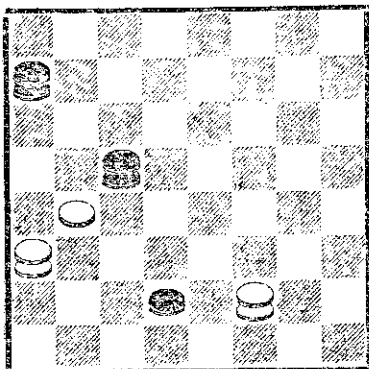
"A friend of yours?"

"Well—not a friend exactly. He used to be my wife's first husband."

## DRAUGHTS.

PROBLEM 4.

White 7, Kings 19 and 23.



Black 16, Kings 6 and 12.

White to Play and Draw.

(By W. G. Leggett.)

A neat little thing from the "Boy's Own Annual."

The Championship Draughts Tourney was opened on Good Friday in Timaru by Mr J. Craigie, M.P. There were six competitors for the championship and eleven for the National Handicaps.

Mr Craigie, in a happy little speech, welcomed the visitors. He said contests such as the present were always beneficial to a town and as his heart and soul was in Timaru he was always pleased to see one there. He was not an enthusiastic draughts player, having too busy a life to find time for it but he knew that it was a pleasant intellectual pastime. One thing he liked about it, it was a silent game. "Your achievements," he said, "are not won by talk." It was a very old game too. The monuments showed that it was played by the ancient Egyptians. The old Greeks and Romans also played it. Where he came from the people called the draughts board the dam-brod and he recounted a humorous little story of a Scotch lady who went into a shop in London for a piece of cloth. She asked for a piece with a dam-brod pattern. The shop assistant was a cockney and did not understand the Scotch dialect and he brought down a piece about two yards in width. He said "I don't know it this pattern will do Madam but its dam broad alright."

Mr Craigie impressed upon the players the importance of playing without ill-feeling. He hoped they would all have a good time in Timaru and carry pleasant recollections away of their stay. He then made the first move in the championship and declared the tourney opened.

The Timaru committee have done all in their power to make the tournament a success and their efforts have been much appreciated by the visiting players. They have been shown places of interest about the town, also motored round the country in the vicinity and are to be entertained at a smoke concert before leaving. They are gentlemen whom it is a pleasure to meet.

ANOTHER EARLY TRAP TO AVOID.

"The Ayrshire Lassie."

11-15	4-8	11-18	30-26	3-7
24-20	23-19	26-22	8-11	22-15
8-11	15-18	7-11	26-22A	7-22
28-24	22-15	22-15	11-16	27-18
		11-18	20-11	10-28

B. Wins.

A. 25-22 18-15 29-22 11-15

27-23 9-13 32-28 6-9

And C Draws.

Below is an unusual and rather interesting game played between Mr H. Morris and Mr J. Mulvey some years ago. Morris, Black; Mulvey, White.

11.15	21.17	4.8	25.21	17.13	13.6
23.18	12.16	22.17	10.15	11.15	2.18
15.19	17.14	8.11	30.25	18.11	11.2
24.15	8.12	32.27	15.22	9.18	19.23
10.19	27.23	6.10	25.18	23.14	26.19
			1.6	6.9	16.32

Drawn.

Through arrangements made by the committee I have been unable to obtain any of the championship games at present but below is an interesting ending played between Hilliker and Calderwood on Saturday. Hilliker won, but Calderwood won two out of the five games played. He also made the same score against Boreham. He has now (at the time of writing) to play the winner in the losers class, so that the present indications are

## FURNITURE.

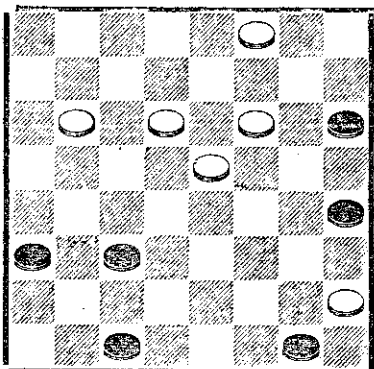
To those in search of Quality and Value, Inspect our Stock and get our Quotations. We carry the Largest Stocks in Invercargill, all of Our Own Manufacture. . .

W. STRANG & CO.,

THE LOCAL FURNITURE FIRM,

ESK & KELVIN STREETS, INVERCARGILL.

that he will again secure the championship.



Black, Hilliker 1.3 11.12 13.21.

White, Calderwood, to play 5.18, 21.

White to Play.

18-14	26-30.
12-16	16-11
24-20	30-26
21-25	11-7
30-21	26-23
16-19	7-3
23-7	23-9
3-26	3-7
20-16	19-15

Black Wins.

## Cricket.

FINAL MATCH FOR CLUB PREMIERSHIP OF 1919-20.

Wyndham 220 v. I.C.C. 24 for one Wicket.—Drawn.

THE COUNTRY TEAM WIN THE PREMIERSHIP.

I.C.C. travelled to Wyndham on Wednesday and took out a fair team on paper, but practice had not been keen after the representative match with Otago, the holiday spirit invading even attendance at the park nets. The wicket supplied by the Wyndham Club was matting, and the change coupled with the lack of steady practice, told severely on the visiting side. Their fieldsmen, too, were not at home on the tree-surrounded oval, catches being dropped, and the bowlers and the outfield tiring visibly through shortage of exercise. The sporting public of Wyndham turned out to an urchin, the applause being frequent and encouraging the home men, who were not all disposed of until there were left only between 20 and 25 minutes for the visiting team to bat. The game was very enjoyable, especially for the batting side and for their supporters. The general opinion of cricketers in town is that if ever a club deserved premiership the Wyndham Cricket Club deserves its proud position this season; for the country-town club has sent in its chosen ones faithfully at great inconvenience to meet engagements on Rugby Park. The team has done consistently well, though its gaining of club points were not so meteoric as was that of the I.C.C., which bounded from four club points to twelve in three games, through having secured two three-point wins. I.C.C. now hold equal second place with Union, which did so well in the beginning of the season. Wyndham finish the season with 6 wins and 4 draws out of 12 games played.

Wyndham won the toss and sent in H. McBeath and G. Bogue to bat, the latter falling to Doig, caught Camm, for 2. D. McBeath replacing him. The batting was very steady, H. McBeath and his brother taking no risks, especially with the frequent bumpy ones at the pavilion end. The light was good; but the batsmen found the bowlers hard to play while muscles and condition held. With the score under 50, A. McBeath took strike and, after he had been missed a few times, he took heart of grace and smashed the tired bowlers as he liked, his efforts resulting in 111 runs to his credit,

and a not-out to his average. Before five p.m. the match was out of doubt; there could be no hope of finishing it; but Wyndham stuck in grimly and played for every run and every minute. The four McBeaths made one short of 180 runs between them, and, if they'd been playing more than eleven men, the one hundred and eleven might have made his second century off the bowling. Two others than the McBeath boys made double figures—Barrett 11 and "extras" 19, the latter the fourth highest marker on the scoring board.

When I.F.C. presented Handford and Hinton to the Wyndham attack, the result of the game was a foregone conclusion—no team can make 220 runs in practically 20 minutes—but the pair gave a good account of themselves, playing regular cricket. Handford at his decade was beaten by the redoubtable D. McBeath. Hinton was playing with care, and he and Gleeson were in when the stumps were drawn, the former having to his account 12, Gleeson 2. Had I.C.C. won the toss, the end of the contest would have come with a drawn game. At 4.30 p.m. the Wyndham ground appeared to be encircled in deep dusk, so a good sight of Dan's left-handers is hard to get. I.C.C. were unlucky only in having a long fielding afternoon against a man to whom the ball must have looked like a balloon. Congratulations to Wyndham Cricket Club from "The Digger" sporting circle.



## TENNIS NOTES.

THE EASTER TOURNAMENT.

The Easter tournament at Dunedin was a huge success, and every player who travelled from Southland has nothing but praise for the officials carried out their duties.

As for the play at the tournament the standard shown was exceedingly high, and many of the apparently easy victories were not by any means anything but freely contested struggles.

Some of the Southlanders did very well nearly all managing to retain an interest until the third day.

On the morning of the last day however only one Southlander turned up with his flannels—Gilmour who together with his lady partner Miss G. Scott had to fight out the semi-final of the mixed doubles with Clark and Miss Black.

The combination of the latter pair however proved too formidable and the match ended 9-4 in favour of the Otago players. L. R. McDonald played exceedingly well and should have won his single in the second round, losing by 9-8, after leading 8-6 and 40 love.

Gilmour also had Shepherd 8 all and 40 love, but could not get the extra point. Hamilton also lost by a small margin.

Walker from Winton played very well and gave the Otagoites a great deal of trouble with his famous "push" stroke. Cowie played very well and reached the semi-finals in the "D" grade single.

Miss Welsh and Miss O'Connell in the Ladies' Doubles had their opponents 8-3 and yet lost the match 9-8. Somehow the Southlanders could not take the one point that would have won them the game and match, but with a little more experience perhaps this failing will disappear.

O'Connell and Dobie both played exceptionally well also Henderson from Wyndham and with just a little luck thrown in one or even more of the

trophies might have found their south

(Held Over from Last Issue.)

Tennis for this season is now about to be drawn to a good finish by what is anticipated to be the most successful Easter Tournament ever yet held in Dunedin.

Our Southland team played exceedingly well in Dunedin last week against the Dunedin team, and gave their opponents a great deal of worry—many of the matches being fought out to the game of the third set.

The local players were exceedingly entertained during their prolonged stay in Dunedin, and have nothing but praise for the Northern Association's management.

The loss of Miss Tucker was deeply felt by the whole team, and her absence certainly made a difference in the result.

However, the Northerners expect same team with another year's play to be a much stiffer proposition with which to contend, and look forward to a contest in Invercargill next season.

The Southlanders had the good fortune to witness the Englishmen make against New Zealand's best, and were greatly struck with their apparent effort of effort to obtain such speed and accuracy.

## The Home.

When boiling new milk, to prevent a skin from forming on top as it cools add two teaspoonfuls of cold milk every pint when at boiling point stir for a minute. The so-called skin will then be re-absorbed and the milk will not be impoverished.

To clean gilt picture frames put a gill of vinegar into a pint of soft, cold water. Remove all dust from the frames dip a large camel's hair brush in the mixture, squeeze it partly dry, then brush the gilt, doing a small portion at a time.

To remove smoke marks from ceilings, mix a thick paste of starch and water, and with a clean flannel spread it over the marks. Allow to get thoroughly dry, then brush off with a soft brush, and the marks will have disappeared.

To remove scratches from furniture mix linseed oil and turpentine in equal parts and apply to the scratches. As soon as the marks disappear, rub briskly with a cloth.

Oak furniture, when dull and shabby looking should be washed over with warm beer, and when dry polished with beeswax and turpentine. Rub well into the wood working in the direction of the grain.

Before sweeping the carpets take a round tin, pierce holes in the bottom and fill with common salt. Sprinkle this over the carpet. It prevents the dust from rising, brightens the colours, and prevents moths.

To wax old floors that were never polished, the following method is good—the floors should first be washed thoroughly and then, when dry, coated with floor oil, such as linseed oil. This should be at once rubbed with sawdust, which removes all surplus oil and polishes the floor. After this any wax may be applied according to its directions, and after a weighted brush is used, the floors will be as smooth as new ones.

## TO STARCH SERVIETTES.

A good laundress never allows her serviettes to be too stiff. They should be glassy and just stiff enough, and is how it is done. After washing them she dries them in the air if possible. She then dips a large soft clean cloth into starch, and rolls the dry serviettes in this, spreading them out on the starched cloth, which also is spread out, rolling all up together. When ironed, they will have acquired the desired satiny stiffness, which is such a charm in a well laundered article.



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owned.

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Secretary.

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Our Directors know Invercargill from  
A to Z, and can refer you to many satis-  
fied clients who have entrusted their busi-  
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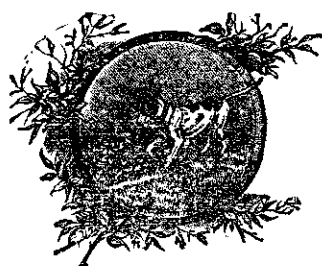
We are Agents for Standard Insurance  
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Advances arranged on freehold security.

W. A. OTT AND CO., LTD.,

Dee street,  
INVERCARGILL.

(Opposite Post Office, above Economic).



## Kennel Notes.

We have to hand the explanation ten-  
dered by the Dunedin Kennel Club with  
regard to allotment of challenge certi-  
ficates. The secretary writes as follows:—  
The Executive Meeting of the N.Z. Ken-  
nel Club is not held until 2nd or 3rd  
month of each year at which meeting they  
allot the challenges for the shows taking  
place after that date. Therefore the list  
shown in the "Witness" as being allotted  
to my club will not be competed for until  
the first shown held after the allotment.  
When securing affiliation we endeavoured  
to have some challenges allotted for com-  
petition at our recent show, but were told  
the challenges were only once per an-  
num. The list shown in the "Witness"  
can only be added to the schedule of the  
first show which we hold after the date  
of allotment and this in all probability  
will be February, 1921, and until then  
the challenges allotted to my club will  
hold good.

The above explanation calls for no com-  
ment as the position is quite clear so now  
Irish terrier and cocker fanciers can look  
forward to Dunedin Kennel Club's 1921  
show and do their best to win a challenge.

Fanciers in the South are well catered  
has two clubs in action—the Dunedin  
Kennel Club and the Dunedin Fanciers  
Club.

The former has just had its first show  
and only interests itself in dogs while the  
latter the long established club is more  
of an all round show having dogs, poultry,  
pigeons, canaries, cats, etc.

The Kennel Club has fixed on Carnival  
Week as its show date, while the Fanciers  
Club generally holds its fixture in  
June.

Mr S. C. Crisp is to judge all breeds of  
dogs for the Fanciers Club, three months  
hence. He has had Home Country experi-  
ence, and may be depended upon to sort  
them out fairly well.

The latest bulldog to let go his hold  
on life is "Awa Moa." This dog has had  
a very good run and has succeeded in win-  
ning at least one bracelet, as well as put-  
ting down nearly everything that he met  
in his own breed. We never considered  
him a crack-a-jack as he was very diffi-  
cult in under-jaw, and also too heavy in  
quarters. He had no runch to speak of  
either. His strong points were good ears  
and wrinkled, massive bone, and very  
cloddy. He was a nice size and very  
active though had not the desired bull-  
dog gait.

Mr Huttons' "Lady Halsay" was a  
more desirable type of bully, her general  
appearance as a specimen of the breed  
left very little to be desired. She was cer-  
tainly the best of her kind produced in  
the South Island for many years. Her  
death was a blow to her owner who was  
looking forward to breeding one from her  
to take her place.

Mr Gibson has sold his black cocker  
"Mainsmore Prince" to Mr Campbell of  
South Dunedin. We hope that another  
cocker fancier has been launched into the  
game.

The demand for cockers at present is  
fairly keen, but the would-be purchasers  
are stumped when asked a fiver for a pup.  
I would advise some of these chaps to go  
in for breeding white mice of something  
of the kind, and drop the notion of having  
a pedigree dog.

Mr W. Henderson, of Dunedin, is on  
the warpath again. His winning bitch,  
"Peg o' My Heart," has a litter by cham-  
pion "Professor."

The above is a fine combination of  
blood and a good one is liable to turn  
up at any minute.

Mr Henderson has a few defects to wipe  
off so let us hope that he has struck oil  
this time.

Mr T. W. Richmond, of "Sperrydon"  
prefix, is endeavouring to produce some-  
thing in the nature of a high flyer from  
his "Sperrydon Dolly," by "Rocklyn Lad-  
die."

"Rocklyn Laddie" is an imported blue-  
roan dog but is not up to our expectations.  
Better ones have been bred by Mr Sped-  
ding though "Laddie" may sire some-  
thing good. He will never beat any-  
thing hot on the bench.

Mr Biltcliff is wiring with his airedales  
and no wonder. What would some of our  
local fanciers be up to if they caught  
£200 for one of their own production.

"Wairiki Warrior" changed hands at  
the record price and now figures on the  
bench in Australia.

Christchurch is the home of airedales

in New Zealand, and no doubt Mrs Bilt-  
cliff has been the means of many a man  
finding himself with an airedale in the  
back yard.

Mr R. J. Sinclair, also of Christchurch,  
has a very fine kennel of the breed. He  
has done a lot of winning during his short  
time in the fancy. He has the knack of  
spotting a good one.

The Invercargill Kennel Club is no  
longer asleep. The committee is very  
much alive and the generous support be-  
ing given encourages them greatly in  
view of the coming show.

Anyone wishing to become a member of  
the club will be attended to by Mr J. A.  
Lea.

Fanciers wishing to help to make this  
column a real stimulus to the hobby are  
asked to forward any happenings or mat-  
ters of interest to "Spaniel," care of  
"The Digger," Box 310, Invercargill.

### ADVANCE INVERCARGILL.

#### MUNICIPAL BATHS.

At the present time there is a move-  
ment afoot to try and establish Muni-  
cipal Tepid Baths. There has been a  
long-felt need for something of this kind  
in Invercargill as the natural facilities  
for swimming are very bad and climatic  
conditions make it necessary that an arti-  
ficial pool should be built and properly  
housed with all the necessary appoint-  
ments. The committee working under  
the leadership of Messrs A. Wish and R.  
M. Strang have been making preliminary  
enquiries and in their efforts have been  
assisted by Mr E. R. Wilson, architect,  
and Messrs Clapcott and Foster, the  
Town and Tramway Engineer.

The position that seems to find most  
favour is the old Garrison Hall situated  
in Leven street close to the Power House.  
This site is handy to the tramways and  
is very central. The advantage, how-  
ever, is that the Power House would be  
able to supply all the necessary heated  
water and this would do away with the  
need of installing a separate heating plant  
and also do away with the need of a  
pumping plant to supply the water.

The total cost would be somewhere in  
the vicinity of £10,000 or £11,000. This  
would be giving the town a bath similar  
to the Christchurch Tepid Baths. The  
dimensions of the building would be  
somewhere about 150 by 55 feet, and the  
bath itself about 100 by 35 feet. The  
bath would be lined with white glazed  
tiles. The tramway Engineer states that  
he would have sufficient water to allow  
the bath to be emptied four times a week,  
and if necessary perhaps more often.  
There would be accommodation for the  
cartaker on the premises.

The scheme has met with a great deal  
of support from the Education authori-  
ties, who state that from the primary  
schools, the approximate attendance  
would be about 939 pupils, average at-  
tendance 704 pupils. From the secondary  
schools the approximate attendance would  
be 620 pupils, average attendance 390  
pupils. There would be capitation earn-  
ed by the Council for all pupils who were  
instructed in swimming.

Miss Bliss, of the Charitable Aid Board,  
has spoken very enthusiastically regarding  
the scheme and the doctors are also giv-  
ing it their support.

We consider the financial aspect of the  
Invercargill baths would be very well as-  
sured as there is no natural competition  
from the seaside resorts adjacent to the  
town. The great advantage would be  
the healthy exercise for the children be-  
sides adding an extra attraction to the  
town itself. In Christchurch and the  
majority of the towns in New Zealand  
they all have Municipal Swimming Baths  
and in some of the towns they have open  
air baths for the schools and we consider  
that it is time that Invercargill had Mun-  
icipal Baths too.

### PRINCE OF WALES' VISIT.

#### ARRANGEMENT OF PARADES

The N.Z.R.S.A. Headquarters has  
been in communication with the De-  
fence Department regarding military  
arrangements in connection with the  
visit of the Prince of Wales, with a  
view to securing the co-operation of  
the R.S.A. in arranging parades.

The Prince has expressed a desire  
to meet as many returned soldiers as  
possible, and the Defence Department  
has already arranged its itinerary for  
the tour. What is desired is that the  
R.S.A.'s in the four centres shall ar-  
range for parades of their members,  
and the Department is endeavouring  
to secure free railway warrants (avail-  
able for the day of issue only) so that  
returned soldiers living within 40 or  
50 miles of any centre where a parade  
is to be held, will be able to attend

## Winter Bros.,

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SPEY STREET,

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All kinds of Carrying undertaken, and  
Furniture removed.

The Lorry has comfortable seating ac-  
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will take parties out day or night at rea-  
sonable prices.

GIVE THE DIGGER CARRIERS A  
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LOOK UP!

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RETURNED MEN entrusting their or-  
ders to my care may rest assured  
that they will have the very best that  
English Tailoring can produce.

## WILLIAM JOHNSON

GENERAL MERCHANT,

Corner Bowmont and Conon streets.

THE Best of GROCERIES, etc., always  
in stock.

A TRIAL SOLICITED.

'Phone—334.

and return home the same day.

The arrangements of parades and the  
provision of travelling facilities are the  
responsibility of the Defence Depart-  
ment, and it is requested that R.S.A.  
officials make known the particulars  
to the members of their Associations,  
and at the same time arrange with the  
civil authorities who, it is understood,  
are being subsidised by the Govern-  
ment, for the provision of meals for the  
men who arrive by train.

It is necessary that the matter of  
controlling the parades should be dis-  
cussed between R.S.A. officials and offi-  
cers commanding, and Group Area offi-  
cers, so that definite and harmonious  
programmes may be worked out.

At present the intention is to hold  
parades at all places at which H.R.H.  
is time to stay more than a quarter of  
an hour, but it is not intended to  
issue arms, and though returned men  
may parade either in multi or uniform  
it is specially desired that there shall  
be no grotesque mixture of the two.  
Men in uniform and those in multi will  
parade in separate bodies, and it is  
particularly urged that where uniform  
is worn it shall conform to regulations.

These arrangements are as yet ten-  
tative and have to be confirmed, es-  
pecially with regard to free railway war-  
rants and places of assembly. Of course  
it is obvious that the four city centres  
are the only places where it will be  
practicable to arrange large parades  
without undue difficulty.

It is, perhaps, fortunate that the  
majority of returned soldiers have sig-  
nified their preference for having their  
service medals forwarded to them,  
rather than presented on parade, for  
it would be impracticable for such a  
number of service medals to be person-  
ally presented. But Major-General  
Chaytor, and Brigadier-General Rich-  
ardson state that the presentation by  
the Prince of such special decorations  
as M.C.'s, D.C.M.'s, M.M.'s, M.S.M.'s,  
and Foreign Decorations, is being ar-  
ranged for in the various military dis-  
tricts.

THE SOUTHLAND FLORAL, PLANT  
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## TINY DANIEL

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We also supply Pot Plants, Palms, Aspidistras, and Asparagus.

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Clean, pure, sweet, wholesome, and scientifically pastured.

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## NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Several preliminary bouts in connection with the New Zealand inter-University boxing tournament were decided in the Victoria College gymnasium on Saturday afternoon before a large audience. The boxing was up to the best amateur standard and provided some very interesting and willing contests. In the welter-weight the local man, Scott, outclassed the Auckland, Mason, and at the conclusion of the third round was adjudged the winner on points. Scott forced the pace from the outset, and his win was a popular and well-deserved one. The two heavyweight encounters were fast and even. In the first bout McKegg (Otago) was given the verdict against Richmond, of Canterbury, and thoroughly merited it. In the first two rounds the honours were slightly in his favour, and in the last he had his opponent on the ropes several times and narrowly missed knocking him out, the referee finally stopping the bout and giving the only decision possible. Richmond boxed gamely, and only in the third round was the tide turned against him. In the last contest of the day M'Rae, a local man, defeated the Auckland Heron on points. This proved to be a willing encounter, and although giving away 11lb in weight the Wellington representative by his quickness and forcefulness secured the verdict. Mr J. Murphy officiated as referee, and his decisions gave every satisfaction. The following are the results:—

Welterweight.—R. R. Scott (10st 7½lb) Victoria University College, defeated W. F. T. K. Mason (10st 6½lb) on points.

Heavyweight.—A. McKegg (11st 3lb) (Otago University), defeated N. M. Richmond (11st 2lb) (Canterbury College), A. D. M'Rae (11st 10lb) (Victoria College), defeated Heron (12st 5lb) (Auckland University College) on points.

The finals of the University championships 10 bouts in all) were decided in the Town Hall.

HASTINGS, April 1.

Articles have been signed for a return boxing match between J. Clabby and T. Uren for a purse of £550, including expenses. The match will take place at Hastings on April 28.

## Of Interest to Women.

### THE PROBLEM OF DOMESTIC LABOUR.

(Continued from April 1.)

Do we succeed then in having the work done satisfactorily and cheerfully in our homes? In some homes, yes; but only in a minority if we look closely into the matter. There are doubtless numbers of houses kept as well as they can be kept, by energetic and capable women, not hampered by ill-health, but even in these, improvements might be effected and the standard of efficiency in maintained only at a heavy cost in nervous and muscular strength. There are also numberless homes where ill-health or incompetence, or sloth, or some external circumstance spells itself out from day to day in ineffective service, querulousness, sordidness, and dirt.

The field of observation is so large, when we come to answer the question above propounded, the variety of conditions presented is so great that we must proceed methodically to arrive at anything enlightening in the way of an answer. Let us remember that there are, roughly speaking, three classes of homes those of the wage-earners, those of the salaried and middle-class, and those of the wealthy. There are also town homes and country homes. In Southland, perhaps in New Zealand, there is nothing to approach the gigantic wealth of other and older lands; we do not produce as yet millionaires and we hope we never will; but in our own degree we do possess a wealthy class, as distinct from the earners of salaries and the small middle-class tradesman, as these in their turn are from the wage earner. Domestic problems reveal their urgency in the homes of the middle and lower classes; but the conditions that produce them are fostered by the practice of the rich. The value of money to women is most often to procure for them relief from the drudgery of life, to enable them to live softly, eat daintily, and wear fine garments. Their food and furniture are better than those of their neighbours, and they can hire other women to do the toilsome and unlovely work of the establishment. Our economic conditions give them these material advantages irrespective of their merit or demerit. As long as those conditions obtain we must reckon with the fact; and not until we arrive at some means of securing a more equitable distribution of the world's wealth, can we hope for any fairer division of material comfort and refinement, any fairer sharing of leisure and recreation among married women. The inequalities existent among the homes, their necessary reflex in the life of the children, seem to me the most insistent call heard to-day for the drastic overhaul and amendment, if not revolution, of our economic and social structure.

I do not think it necessary to dwell on the fall, on the evidence of the fact that in many homes, perhaps a majority, domestic labour is carried on under adverse conditions and is inefficiently performed. The observations of workers during the epidemic of 1918 showed the state of affairs to be worse than most comfortable people had dreamed. What we want to do is to examine the causes that produce, or the conditions that aggravate present evils. They seem to me to admit of classification under two headings those pertaining to material things, conditions of housing, and appliances first; second, those belonging to the character and capability of the workers. In the actual houses we live in, we are only very slowly escaping from the limitations and mistakes of the past; the women who have to work in our homes, are often handicapped by ignorance and traditional prejudice.

The first houses built in New Zealand were, as a rule, small and inconvenient. Some were mere shanties. Such houses were put up for a generation and a half and they can still be seen in various stages of decay about our towns and countryside. As conditions improved for some people, they built new homes, equipped with modern conveniences; but the old dwellings are still lived in by the poorer class, and until there is no one living in a house without bathroom or sink or proper drains, our civic conscience cannot be at rest. These old houses continue to do duty until they fall to pieces. May they fall quickly. They ought to be systematically pulled down year by year and modern dwellings of a more solid and lasting structure put up in their place.

And now for the ignorance and prejudice. The lore of house-keeping has been in the past traditional; daughter learned from mother what the latter had acquired from grandmother. The tradition of an elder and more leisurely generation, too, was often good, but its prejudices have stood in the way of many modern innovations tending to simplification and the saving of labour; while the home as the

only place of domestic training was hopelessly inadequate for the simple reason that in many poor-class homes there was no domestic craft at all, only ignorance and incompetence.

It is to that ignorance and incompetence in the homes from which domestic servants are drawn, and to the absence in those homes of all modern conveniences and refinements, that we owe the difficulty if not impossibility, of securing competent domestic hired labour; and the popular opinion that tacitly supports all domestic work to be an inferior and degrading form of labour, especially when done for hire, is to blame for our having no other class of person offering for it.

Our ideal commonwealth would lodge all its people in comfortable, convenient, and beautiful homes; it would train its domestic workers to keep those homes clean, orderly and beautiful; it would so esteem and reward domestic service as to induce persons of good character and capacity to take it up as a means of livelihood outside marriage; it would require of all women who married a standard of character and competency; it would arrange all possible means of reducing by simplification and co-operation the burden of unnecessary work. In a word, it would cherish character and promote capability while it economised in time and energy.

What can be done to bring this ideal even a little nearer? In succeeding articles we shall try to indicate some practicable avenues of progress, those of simplification, co-operation, and training.

## INVERCARGILL Y.W.C.A.

(Continued from April 1.)

### SOCIAL.

The "Come Again" evenings have been popular throughout the Winter and have been regularly held on the first Wednesday of each month. There were over eighty at the Annual Meeting on May 7, when we took the opportunity of welcoming Miss Thomson from Dunedin, who had come amongst us for a year as Leader of our Girls' Work. The Hon. A. F. Hawke was in the Chair, and after the usual business programme, stunts of welcome and songs were given by the girls. Supper was dispensed at the invitation of the Board of Directors.

Closely following this was a farewell to Miss Alice Hunt, who for two years held the position of Girls' Department Secretary. Enthusiasm put into this "Alice In Wonderland" party by the ninety-five who attended expressed something of the appreciation which the girls felt for Miss Hunt.

Yet another specially arranged party was that given quite recently, when it was discovered that Miss Earnshaw, one-time General Secretary of this Association, was visiting Invercargill. Quite a number of the girls who had known and loved Miss Earnshaw took this opportunity of meeting her again and talking over old times.

### THRIFT CLUB.

The number of girls taking advantage of this Club is steadily increasing. There are now 48 members on the roll and there is a substantial increase in the amounts deposited. The total deposits for the year are £105 4s as against £48 7s 4d deposited last year. During the Winter some of the girls from the Thrift Club at the Rosedale Woollen Mills formed a Rosedale Saturday Club at the Association.

### LIBRARY.

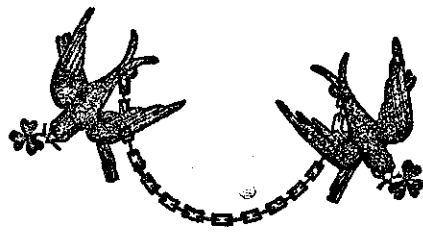
The books have been re-catalogued and numbered and we appeal through these pages for gifts of suitable books from our friends and well-wishers.

### HOSTEL.

At last we have secured a House Secretary. The Wellington Association very generously released Miss Farquhar from their Brougham Street residence, and she arrived to take up duties with us on November 1. Since writing our last report the east wing of the building which contained a large meeting hall has been painted and subdivided into six bedrooms, with electric light installed. Four of these are already occupied. We also report the addition of a man on our hostel staff, whose duty it is mainly to keep the grounds in order. There have passed through the Hostel in the twelve months 107 transient and 47 permanent boarders. In order to purchase some much needed extras the House Committee gave a Donation At Home in the Federal Tea Rooms. Over 100 guests were entertained, and the sum of £19 was realised. We were sorry to say good-bye to Mrs Cartwright, who had been with us as Matron from the third month of our existence, and who had so loyally helped us, during the difficult times which are inevitable at the beginning of such a new venture.

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Dress Rings.



JEWELLERY,  
SILVERWARE  
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DEE STREET, INVERCARGILL.

Mrs Cartwright carries with her the good wishes of all those who resided under her kindly care.

## NATIONAL BOARD OF AUSTRALIA.

The 5th Triennial Convention was held in Auckland in November, 1919. One delegate from Invercargill attended.

A Workers' Conference was held in Christchurch in March, 1919, when many of the delegates had the pleasure of meeting for the first time Miss Amy A. Snelson, National Secretary for Australasia. Two delegates from Invercargill attended.

The New Zealand Summer Conference followed closely upon the Triennial Convention and was held at Hayward's, Wellington, in February, one delegate from Invercargill attending. The leaders of the Conference were Miss Amy A. Snelson, National General Secretary, and Miss Jean Stevenson, National Industrial Secretary.

### NATIONAL.

Although at the very inopportune time of Christmas week, the visit to Invercargill of the National General-Secretary, Miss Snelson, was much enjoyed by those who were able to take part. The attendance at the Sunday afternoon meeting in Victoria Hall was considerably lessened by bad weather and the holiday season, but the happy time spent together both there and at the Christmas tea, which followed was quite an inspiration to the forty-two who braved the elements. The evening spent by the girls with Miss Snelson has left a pleasant memory, and her next visit to this Association is eagerly anticipated by at least one little group of girls. The proposed scheme for Community Work in Invercargill, as introduced by Miss Snelson, at a meeting with the Advisory Board has been widely discussed, but owing to difficulties with regard to buildings, etc., on the part of the Y.M.C.A., nothing definite has been done. We are hoping to hear shortly that some of these difficulties have been surmounted, and that we may yet more definitely consider the idea of introducing Community Work here.

### GIRLS' DEPARTMENT.

Each year impresses upon us the growing need for concentrated work upon the adolescent girls. The All Round Clubs on Monday night prove most popular and the attendance has been good. The subject studies have been Blouse-making physical culture, know your city, glee singing, impromptu speeches and discussions. Two Hearthfire Groups for school girls and one other were formed and continued throughout the year, also two Bible Circles at the Girls' High School, one lead by the General Secretary and one by the Girls' Department Secretary. Members of this Department have joined in the rambles and out-of-door sports whenever possible. On June 2, a High Tea to farewell Miss Hunt was daintily arranged by the girls whose "after-tea" speeches expressed warmly the appreciation of Miss Hunt's work amongst them. Quite a number dressed up in "Alice In Wonderland" costumes for the party, and the Mad Hatter's Tea Party and the Turtle's Story acted by some, added to the fun of the evening.

Hearthfire parties have been held, and the first Swearing-in Ceremony, with Miss Thomson as Chief Guardian, was attended

by several members of the Board of Directors.

The Japanese Fair by which the girls raised their money for the Foreign Work was most encouraging. Each Hearthfire was in charge of a stall and some of the youthful stall-holders sold their wares from cushions on the floor. On the All Round Club depended the arrangement for the supper.

### APPRECIATION.

The thanks of the Association are due to our Hon. physician, Dr Pottinger, who so willingly advises cases of sickness at the Hostel; to Mr C. S. Longuet, Hon. Solicitor; and to Mr J. Hensley, Hon. Auditor. We also thank those who have given gifts and services to both Hostel and Club Rooms or have assisted us at meetings and functions or in other way during the year.

"Thus on we go

Fixing our eyes upon our King,

Though far below;

Unknown, yet not fearing what  
the year may bring."

## MR. HOLLAND IN FIJI.

### LABOUR MEMBER'S INQUIRIES.

Speaking in the Paramount Theatre recently, Mr H. E. Holland, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, referred to his inquiries among the Indians in Fiji regarding the recent industrial troubles. He said he had been assured by the Prime Minister before the party left New Zealand that no restrictions would be placed on members' investigations. Before the party landed at Fiji Sir James Allen asked members to give an undertaking that questions would be put to the Indians. The members were going ashore as the guests of the Fiji Government, and they should not do anything to re-ignite industrial troubles. Mr Holland refused to give this undertaking, and when he landed he got into touch with Indian leaders. He had a "long interview" with them. Later, the "Fiji Times" published a report of his movement, and he was convinced that he had been watched by spies.

His inquiries, added Mr Holland, had shown that the trouble in Fiji had an economic foundation. The coolies demanded an advance to 5s a day, owing to the high cost of living. Once the strike started, the women took a hand, and "did things which probably they ought not to have done" in their dealings with "traitors." But he had been told that the Fijian Government never had employed armed force. The Indian women had presented a petition to the Government on the subject of the increase in the cost of living, and had quoted figures to show that the old wages had become inadequate. They asked for 5s a day as a reasonable wage.

Mr Holland condemned the housing provided for the coolies at Fiji, and said that drastic restrictions had been placed on the Indians' right of meeting and movement. He had learned that Indians were still beaten in connection with their work, and that the moral conditions belonging to the employment of Indians in Fiji were a disgrace to the British Empire. Very many of the Indians wanted to get away from Fiji, but they could not do it.



THE SOUTHLAND FLORAL, PLANT  
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**TINY DANIEL**

(Late with Lennie and Sons),

Begs to state that he has taken over the Southland Floral Plant and Seed Supply, Albion Buildings, Dee street, Invercargill, and hopes by strict attention to business to merit a fair share of public patronage.

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FRUIT TREES, ORNAMENTAL  
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FRESH Supplies of Fish and Oysters  
Daily. Cleanliness and attention  
assured. Give us a trial. Phone 907.

GEO. M. FLETCHER,  
Proprietor.

## APOSTASY.

I've run about lately with folk intellec-  
tual,  
Minds that are flashing  
And clashing  
In strife,  
Making me feel like a worm intellectual,  
only much slower  
And lower  
In life;  
In such a rarified air I've been terrified,  
Left of opinion,  
A minion  
So small  
That—it is risible—I am not visible  
Under the eyebrows  
Of highbrows  
At all.

So I am homesick for lowbrows  
Or nobrows,  
Average people of standard design,  
Down with supernal minds!  
Mix me with vernal minds,  
Ladies' Home-Journal minds,  
Something like mine!

I am exhausted by flights conversational  
Wearied by phrases  
Like blazes  
Of fire,  
Take me away from these tests cerebra-  
tional,

My brain is spinning,  
Beginning,  
To tire;  
Perish such vertigo; back I prefer to go  
with those who shine not  
And pine not

A jot,  
Dull, unsulphuric folk, non-analytic folk,  
Minds of the kind that  
I find that  
I've got.

Yea, I am joyously spurning  
All learning,  
Gaily forsaking the heights I've been  
shown.

Farewell to super-minds,  
Come, let us group our minds,  
We who are frankly bromidic in tone;  
All us stagnating folk  
Non-conversating folk  
Talking of commonplace things we have  
known.

Give me benighted minds,  
Harold-Bell-Wright-ed minds,  
Sluggish and static minds,  
Calm and phlegmatic minds,  
Unacrobatic minds—just like my own!

Berton Braley, in "American Life."

It is customary in Siberia for a girl  
who has accepted the suitor she favours  
to present him with a box of matches and  
a pair of slippers, as a sign that he is to  
be the master in the home.

# Agriculture.

## Pasture Notes.

(BY E. BRUCE LEVY.)

ASSISTANT BIOLOGIST, WERAROA  
STATE FARM.

### GRASSING OF FERN LANDS.

The above mixtures aim at permanent grasslands on this type of country. They are fairly expensive (at least £2 per acre), and will not produce a large bulk of feed soon after sowing, and when late autumn sown as little stocking as possible should be given in order that a good sward be produced so that heavy stocking can be carried out in October.

If it is not possible to put on the above mixtures in view of the high cost the following two alternatives are—

- (1) Reduce the area to be sown.
- (2) Use mainly Ryegrass in the first year's sowings and when this is thinning out surface sow seed of the other species mentioned in the mixtures to be sown:—  
28lb Perennial Rye  
6lb Crested Dogtail  
2lb White Clover.

followed in subsequent years by surface sowing with Cocksfoot, Poa Pratensis, Danthonia, etc.

This method should be successful in a moist climate but in dry areas the surface sowing of seed later may not prove successful.

### INDUCED FERN COUNTRY.

These areas are of recent origin and represent a type of succession to which all bush land in New Zealand is prone a few years after the forest has been cleared and burnt. In dealing with this type of country therefore the utmost endeavour should be made to so regulate the factors of seeding and subsequent farm management that the reversion to fern is prevented. Just so long as a sole of grass is maintained, so that the area is capable of carrying stock there is little danger of fern coming in, but so soon as bare ground appears or that the feed so diminishes that but few stock can be carried then fern will inevitably come in and it being of such an aggressive nature soon overshadows and crowds out what little grass has persisted, resulting in but a few years in a complete covering of fern.

Owing to the steepness of the country and logged state ploughing is impossible, and owing to the poor fern undergrowth the area will not carry a fire. Some years of fern must elapse before sufficient dead undergrowth of fern has accumulated in order that a satisfactory burn can be secured. The aim certainly should be to secure a good sole of grass from the forest fire for on induced fern country, even after a satisfactory burn, the young grass has a very serious competitor in the re-appearing fern more so than has that grass sown on the original forest burn.

Induced fern country must be looked upon, therefore, as difficult country to tackle without experience and a fair banking account. The disability of failure is fairly great and certainly this class of country should not be tackled by the small man without at least some level country that can be ploughed.

If the ploughable area is in the rough logged state the following approximate expenditure would be incurred in order to secure a crop:—

- Stumping and logging up, £15 per acre (fairly heavy bush).
- Seeding, £2 per acre.
- Ploughing and cultivating £1 10s per acre.

It is owing to the high cost of stumping that a great deal of our more level bush country has remained in fern and such vegetation until such time as the stumps have more or less rotted out.

The grass-seed mixtures recommended for natural fern land apply also to induced fern country, and must be varied according to nature of country to which applied.

The renovation by the surface sowing of seed of much of our country now in the stage of transition should be undertaken, the roughish patches of fern etc, being burnt previous to seeding. The species of grasses and clovers likely to be of most value for this surface sowing are: Crested Dogtail, Poa Pratensis, Danthonia, Chewings Fescue, Florin, White Clover, and Lotus Hispidus. If a good deal of burning is done then other grasses and clovers could be added and a mixture similar to that recommended for

fern burns could be used.

The mere surface sowing of grass and clover seed on to a more or less turf is really needful of much experimental work to determine what species actually are the most reliable to use and the time and quantities to sow. Those mentioned above have, however, been tried to some extent, and the times of sowing most likely to be attendant on success are early spring or after the first rains of autumn.

It is quite possible and probable that Crested Dogtail alone would prove quite a satisfactory grass to employ sowing down from 10-18lb per acre plus 2lb White Clover.

Whether the heavy cost of sowing truly permanent mixture on this class of country could be spread over a period of years requires experimental proof and depends on how successful surface sowing of grass and clover seed is when applied to the already existing turf.

There is little doubt but what Paspalum should be valuable in many fern infested areas. A sward of Danthonia and Paspalum, even if the fern did get away, would ensure that the area could readily be fired without injury to either of these grasses. However, where winter feed is the necessity, Paspalum will be of little value, as this grass is essentially a summer one.

The value of Danthonia is not fully appreciated by many of our second and third-class bush burn country farmers. It is considered not good enough for the land of any one particular farmer. The endeavour is made to grass with grasses land that is just a little too poor for those grasses satisfactorily to establish and hold.

If one takes, for instance, a typical mixture used on this hill-side country:—

- 6lb Perennial Rye
- 3lb Italian Rye
- 6lb Cocksfoot
- 1lb Crested Dogtail
- 1lb Poa Pratensis
- 1lb Chewings Fescue
- 2lb Danthonia Pilosa
- 1lb Waipu Brown Top or Fiosin
- 2lb White Clover
- 2lb Cowgrass.

It will be seen that the permanent elements amount to 13½lb per acre, which amount is expected when sown on steep hillsides, where the loss is considerable by wasting away, etc., to give a satisfactory soil. Again the binding element as represented by Poa Pratensis and Chewings Fescue (1½lb per acre) is quite useless, which means that even the Cocksfoot cannot rightly be looked upon as a permanent constituent.

## MARAUDING DOGS.

### A REMARKABLE AUSTRALIAN MENACE.

Mr A. S. Kidman told the New South Wales Minister of Lands in Sydney that wild dogs had pulled down 50,000 sheep in the properties he controls in New South Wales. He stated that the management had been paying £5 for every dog destroyed, but there was no appreciable check in the numbers of the killers. This statement was made when a deputation waited on the Minister to urge that the Government should assist in adopting measures to check the depredations of the dogs which would be in keeping with the magnitude of the disaster which threatens sheep-owners in parts of the western division. An enormous extent of country was represented by the deputation, and the representatives were all thoroughly conversant with the conditions in the back country. Mr G. Jeffrey, the principal speaker, said that unless the dogs could be checked the West Darling would have to go out of sheep. It is frequently said that the holders of the country would have to give up sheep and go in for cattle, but the greater extent of the country is, as is well known, unsuitable for large stock. Other speakers said that dogs had come in as far as Hillston, and there was no limit to the country that was threatened. The Government was asked by the deputation to erect about 150 miles of dog proof fence, and to repair about 180 miles of existing fence, and make this dog proof. The buffer fence would extend from the Darling above Wilcannia to the Queensland border. The estimated cost of the fence is £50,000, payments to be made in the course of three years. The Minister was asked to find this money, and was informed that the lessees concerned had

spent £20,000 on 200 miles of dog-proof fencing, which was now costing them £1000 a year for maintenance. It was estimated that despite this the country had lost £1,300,000 a year in sheep and wool. The Minister proved very sympathetic; in fact he stated that the Government was prepared to go on with the fence immediately.

## PROFITEERING IN LAND.

### HOW THE SOLDIERS ARE BLEED.

### EXTORTIONATE PRICES ASKED FOR PROPERTIES.

It is but a short cry to the time when recruiting meetings were being held in different parts of Dunedin and in every centre in Otago, and it is not difficult to remember how stalwart young men, fired with patriotism, in response to appeals made to them to rally round the "good old flag" and help to turn back the on-rushing Hun, donned the King's uniform and nobly helped to defeat the enemy of civilisation, believing that the promises made to them—that they would be protected and cared for upon their return—would be carried out. It is true that a great many of the promises made to our soldiers have been kept and doubtless will continue to be kept. There are many men to-day who had had opened up for them a life entirely different from that to which they left to go to the front, and, judging from information gleaned by a "Daily Times" reporter last week, others are embarking upon ventures which are doomed to failure at the outset. This applies more particularly to the purchase of property. Instances of the high prices which are being extorted from returned soldiers desirous of settling on the land came before the Otago Land Board at a recent meeting, and which leaves little room for doubt that profiteering in land is being carried on to an abnormal degree. What would appear to be a particularly bad case is that concerning a small farm situated north of Dunedin, which was sold to a returned soldier for £630. Two valuations of the property were made subsequently by Government officials, and each of these disclosed the fact that the value of the farm was considerably below £200. The soldier occupant applied for an advance on his stock, but in the circumstances this was refused by the board. Another case is connected with the sale of a residence for which the owner paid £625, but which he had tried to sell to a returned soldier for £880, but subsequently he reduced his price to £845. This latter price, according to the reports of the valuers, was absolutely excessive, and an application by the soldier to the Land Board for an advance of money against this property was declined. This soldier is a man who suffered severely during the war, and is permanently disabled. In the South Otago district there has been discovered the sale of a farm to a soldier for a sum between £3000 and £4000. The soldier applied for an advance of £2500, and the proposition on paper looked all right, but the Government valuers assessed the value of the property at £1977, and, therefore, the application for the advance was declined by the board.

## KIA ORA.

One incident interesting to New Zealanders occurred on one of the Prince's days in New York. Lieutenant J. Ross Duggan, of the New Zealand Field Artillery, was in the line forming part of the guard of honour of British war veterans, when the Prince paid his visit to the Columbia Yacht Club. As the Prince passed down the line of the guard of honour he shook hands with each member of the guard in turn. When he reached Lieutenant Duggan he was greeted with the "high sign" of the Anzacs, "Kia Ora." Like a flash the Prince halted. He had never been to New Zealand, but he recognised the signal immediately, and although the New Zealand uniform did not differ materially from the uniform of the other British officers in line, the Prince was quick to detect the metal badge on Lieutenant Duggan's lapel.

"New Zealand Field Artillery," said the Prince. "I was with you at Colonne." Lieutenant Duggan asked the Prince when he was going to New Zealand to which the Prince replied: "Just as soon as I can; when are you going back?"

A singular feature to be seen in Japan on New Year's Day is a grass rope running from house to house, with symbolical decorations. It is believed to ward off evil spirits during the year.

The oldest and most frequently-tapped rubber trees produce the richest sap, and some trees which are tapped every other day will yield sap for more than a score of years.

## Economic Egg Crates.

LINDSAY AND CO., Tay street, Invercargill, have been appointed Southland Agents for this well known Crate.

The Economic Egg Carrier has now been on the market for twelve years, and Crates made as far back as 1908 are still giving good service.

Supplied in the following sizes—

- No. 1—Holds 20 Dozen.
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Also Separate Trays to fit petrol cases—4 dozen.

Price on application.

—FOR—

YOUR NEXT SUIT CALL  
AND SEE US.

WE WILL GIVE YOU EVERY  
SATISFACTION.

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

HIGH-CLASS TAILORS,

Dee street,

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FOR SALE.

- 5 ACRES, Waikiki with good 8-roomed house; ideal situation. The price is right.
- 10 ACRES with brick dwelling close to town. This is a good place. Price £1750.
- 13½ ACRES, Edendale, with good dwelling; handy situation. Price £1500. Terms easy.
- 16 ACRES, Lorne; good six-roomed house, etc.; all been cultivated. Price £1500.
- 30 ACRES, Kennington. All in young grass; six-roomed house, etc. Price £1600.
- 30 ACRES, Gore; all in grass; six-roomed house, etc. Price £1200.
- 62 ACRES, Mataura; all in grass; good seven-roomed house; ¼ mile from township. Price £40 per acre.
- 73 ACRES, Makarewa; three-roomed house and hut; part ploughed. The lot for £900.
- 132 ACRES, Makarewa; no buildings; part cleared, part sown and part in stumps. Price £20 per acre.

**T. D. A. MOFFETT**

Land and Estate Agents,

Grain, Seed, and Hemp Broker,

Athenaeum Buildings,

INVERCARGILL.

## SOME GOOD LAW STORIES.

Judge Parry has many amusing stories to tell of the various people who have been brought before him. Some time ago he was hearing a case in which a poor woman was concerned, and he announced that the trial would have to be adjourned.

"What does that mean?" asked the woman.

"Put off," replied the judge.

"Oh, when till?"

"Till next Monday."

"Oh, I can't come on Monday," exclaimed the woman indignantly. "Monday's my washing day. But I tell you what: you'd better come and see me, your Honour. That'll be much better than troubling me to come to this ere court."

Lord Morris was conducting a trial in which a gentleman sought damages from a veterinary surgeon for having poisoned a valuable horse. The issue depended upon the question of how many grains of a certain drug could be safely administered. The dispensary doctor proved that he had given eight grains to a man, from which it was to be inferred that twelve for a horse was not excessive. "Doctor, dear," said the Judge, "niver moind yer eight grains in this matter of twelve, because we all know that some poisons are accumulative in effect, an' ye may go the edge of ruin, with impunity. But tell me this: the twelve grains—the twelve, moind ye—wouldn't they kill the devil himself if he swallowed them?" "I don't know, my Lord," said the doctor, pompously drawing himself up; "I never prescribed for that patient." "Ah, no, doctor dear, ye niver did, more's the pity. The ould bhoy's alive still!"

One of Mr Pett Ridge's stories concerns a London police court.

One morning the magistrate recognised one of the visitors to the court as an old clerkman, and invited him to take a seat on the bench.

The newcomer accepted, and whispered to the magistrate that this was his first visit to a police court, adding, as he looked round the apartment, "But I notice you have a remarkably tough lot of customers to deal with this morning."

"Hush!" replied the magistrate in an agonised whisper, "those are the soldiers!"

THERE IS NO BETTER VALUE THAN  
THE  
**"VIKING" SEPARATOR.**  
EASY RUNNING. DURABLE. CLEAN  
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Size B—27 gals. per hour, £14 10s.  
Size C—50 gals. per hour, £25 10s.

MONTH'S FREE TRIAL.

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

INVERCARGILL, GORE, WINTON.  
Sole Agents for Southland.

### BALLADE OF THE PROFITEERS.

Now milk is twenty cents a quart  
(We must discharge our cat, I fear);  
The price of eggs of any sort,  
Or meats, affords us little cheer;  
The cost of every kind of gear  
Is wildly heavenward careering;  
If everyone's a profiteer,  
Then what's the use of profiteering?  
The coal bill left me sadly short;  
The landlord raised our rent this year;  
And what the farmer won't extort  
The middleman will commandeer;  
Next comes the railway engineer,  
These others' winnings closely shearing;  
If everyone's a profiteer,  
Then what's the use of profiteering?  
When everybody's chosen sport  
Is lifting rates with brow severe  
What sinner dares to come to court  
To press that charge against his peer?  
Whose hands are clean, whose conscience  
clear?  
Who has the right to ask a hearing?  
If everyone's a profiteer,  
Then what's the use of profiteering?  
Envoi.  
Aghast, I view a prospect drear  
Of universal bunko-steering.  
If everyone's a profiteer,  
Then what's the use of profiteering?  
—"New York Life."

### ON A WATCHMAKER.

Here lies, in an "horizontal" position,  
The "outside case" of  
Peter "Pendulum," watch-maker,  
Whose abilities in that line were an  
honour  
To his profession.  
Integrity was the "main-spring,"  
And prudence the "regulator"  
Of all the actions of his life.  
Humane, generous, and liberal,  
His "hand" never "stopped"  
Till he had relieved distress.  
So nicely "regulated" were all his  
"actions"  
That he never "went wrong,"  
Except when set "a-going"  
By People  
Who did not know  
"His key."  
Even then, he was easily  
"set right" again.  
He had the art of disposing his "time"  
So well  
That his "hours" glided away  
"In one continued round"  
Of pleasure and delight,  
Till an unlucky "minute" put a period to  
His existence.  
He departed this life,  
"Wound up"  
In hopes of being "taken in hand"  
By his "Maker,"  
And of being thoroughly "cleaned,"  
"repaired," and "set a-going"  
In the world to come.

### JUST CURIOSITY.

She cycled up to the butcher's shop and entered with a smiling face.  
"I want you to cut me off twenty-five pounds of beef, please," she said.  
The butcher was incredulous. "Twenty-five pounds?"  
"Yes, please!"  
When he had finished, he asked her where he should send it.  
"Oh, I don't want to buy it," she explained. "You see, my doctor tells me I have lost twenty-five pounds of flesh during the last two years, and I want to see what it looks like in a lump. Thank you so much."



## HORTICULTURE.

Early planting has many advantages especially in Southland where the winter is long & than in the north and if not done early the soil becomes wet and cold which sometimes causes delay if planting is put off. Trees and shrubs planted in May and the beginning of June get some new roots started before the wet and cold have much effect upon soil and are ready to start into growth upon the first signs of Spring, and further early orders generally resulting in better plants by having the first pick; therefore attend to your ordering as soon as possible. Make up your mind at once what alterations or additions you intend to make and the class of trees shrubs or plants you want, then make your selections either from the means you have at hand or from lists and catalogues procured from seedsmen or nurserymen. Roses in particular should be ordered at once and your ground got ready for planting as soon as the plants are received. Manuring is of the first importance, and what to use and how to apply it, depends greatly upon the nature of your soil and whether you are planting complete areas or beds, or individual plants. Animal manure is always the best although the addition of a moderate proportion of bonedust or artificial garden manure will be beneficial—bonedust is always safe. Deep digging is always necessary for the best results and in the case of areas or beds the manure can be worked into the soil making the bottom soil a good deal richer than the surface. In the case of individual plants the best course is to manure when planting by digging the hole sufficiently deep, well mixing manure with the soil in the bottom and mixing more with the soil whilst filling round the plant. There has always been some controversy as to the depth of planting, many being of opinion that the stock should be below the ground to slightly above the point where budded. Generally speaking this is satisfactory and certainly gives the plant a much firmer hold in the ground and minimises the effects of the wind in blowing the plant over. However when the stocks and budding are good, planting with the point of budding above the ground gives equally good blooms. Spread the roots nicely and press the soil firmly round the plant. Ordinary bedding roses are hybrid perpetuals and hybrid teas, and which will succeed best depends upon the nature of the soil. All will succeed in heavy loamy or clayey soils, hybrid teas being extremely satisfactory, but pure teas with very few exceptions will not succeed in light peaty soils. Varieties are so numerous and so many charming shades of colour have been attained of late years especially with orange and yellow tints as the result of crossing with Austrian briars etc., and individual tastes vary so much that it is useless to suggest any selection of varieties. Good catalogues all give fairly reliable descriptions but whatever method of selection is adopted there is sure to be some disappointment, however on the whole a little care will result in a good collection. For climbing and pillar roses the Wichurianas are almost always satisfactory, Excelsa as a crimson being simply glorious whilst Dorothy Perkins is always charming, the colour and form being all that can be desired in a pink; white Dorothy is a profuse bloomer and good doer, all three giving a fairly long season of bloom. For a large growing pillar rose Alister Stella Grey is unequalled, strong growing, handsome foliage, perpetual blooming, a mixture of large and small sprays, colour orange turning to very pale yellow; and splendid for decoration needing no foliage but its own, lasting well and having a delightful perfume. Ards Rover with its large rich foliage, fairly large, well formed crimson flowers and continuous blooming is also a grand pillar rose. Some of the dwarf polyanthus and other dwarf bunch flowered varieties are well worth growing and everyone should grow the Orleans Rose.

### LITTLE WILLIE.

Willy Hohenzollern, in one of his letters to Nicky the Late, says that if he hadn't had a religion when he went to Jerusalem he would have become a Moslem. At this stage of the game nobody cares a tuppenny expletive whether he meant it or not. The main thing is that the man who could write such appalling piffle as is being cabled out to the newspapers is no longer in a position to make himself an international nuisance.

The greatest service woman can render man is to save him from herself.

## GARDEN NOTES.

Recently-sown crops of carrots, parsnips, turnips, beet, spinach, lettuce, and other crops are now making rapid growth and should under reasonable conditions produce a good supply. As soon as the plants are sufficiently advanced, thinning out must be attended to allowing sufficient space for the plants to develop fully. Weeding, too, at this season is an almost endless task, and it needs persistent work to keep them under control. Simply hoeing is almost useless, unless the weeds are removed from the ground. The best plan is to weed the rows thoroughly when thinning out the plants, and then lightly dig over the ground between the rows. This will not only destroy most of the weeds, but will allow the air to penetrate and assist root growth. Later-sown cabbage and cauliflower plants are now comparatively free from fly and should be planted out as soon as sufficiently advanced in growth. Little is gained by planting, however, until the plants are strong enough to resist the attack of slugs. To grow these or any of the Brassica family successfully, the ground requires to be thoroughly enriched with manure. Celery plants are now making good growth, and must be kept clean and free from weeds. The liberal amount of manure required to grow celery successfully naturally results in an abundant crop of weeds, necessitating frequent weeding to prevent the plants becoming checked in their growth. The early-planted celery, providing it has been kept well supplied with moisture during the dry weather, may now be ready for earthing up. Nothing, however, is gained by earthing until the plants are well advanced in growth, as there is always a risk of the centres (or hearts) rotting if earthed up before the plants are well furnished with plenty of good, healthy foliage. In earthing up, care in any case must be taken to keep the soil from the hearts of the plants. A good plan is to place a tie round each plant before commencing to place the soil around them, removing the tie after the soil is pressed around them; or, if Raffia grass is used to tie them, it need not be removed, as it will decay before it has time to cut or injure the stalks. Tomatoes will still require attention, keeping all lateral growth removed, so as to expose the fruits to the sun as much as possible. But in addition to removing the laterals, a portion of the main leaves should be shortened, and about half the leaves cut off, thus giving the fruit the full strength of the sun to assist in ripening. All ground that has been cleared of spent or ripened crops, such as peas, beans, potatoes, onions, in fact every piece of ground not under crop, should now be dealt with. Such plots should be deeply dug, or trenched if necessary, and, if not required for cropping before the latter end of winter or early in spring should be sown down in oats, vetches, or other green crops. This quickly covers the ground and effectually keeps weeds under during the winter months. Kumars are now making rapid growth. The runners of these should be occasionally lifted to prevent the runner rooting into the soil.

### THE WAY OF A BOY WITH A SERMON.

Composes himself with a deep sigh; listens attentively for three minutes, in unimpeachable form.  
Cautiously reaches hymn book from rack; drops it; recovers it; reads hymns for five minutes.  
Explores trousers pocket and examines with deep interest one magnet, two nails, three pencil stubs and several bits of unclassified junk. Drops something, and hunts under seat until discovered and as you were d.  
Puts sole of left foot against back of pew in front, at level of knee, and is highly surprised when foot drops noisily. Repeats same exercise with right foot, with same result.  
Sits still and gratefully sucks peppermint offered by merciful aunt.  
Sighs heavily. Experiments to see what will happen if he presses on his Adam's apple while head is extended forward; strange choking sound ensues, immediately suppressed by domestic authorities.  
Takes a recount of articles in book rack, finds old paper fan, and discovers that it will make a cracking noise if flipped in a certain manner. Flips it in a certain manner until reproved.  
Explores coat pocket for solace; looks happier; a mysterious hissing sound, like escaping steam, leads to probe, revealing old camera bulb; confiscated.  
Sighs heavily: Listens for five minutes.  
Dissects and reassembles flashlight; finds piece of string in pocket, and practices Scout knots for a peaceful interval.  
Stands up with a sigh of relief; thank goodness, it's time for the last hymn!  
—Caroline Rockwell Swain.

## MOTORING NOTES.

### OVER LUBRICATION OF FORD FRONT CYLINDERS.

Any defect in the ignition system which allows the engine to misfire gives the soot and oil a chance to pile up on the spark plug and overwhelm it—with the result that the plug is soon flooded with oil.

It sometimes happens that the spark plug porcelain may have a concealed crack, too small to be noticeable to the casual glance, yet quite wide enough for the slippery electric spark to slip through. Or, it may be that the insulation of the spark plug is so old and oil-coated that the spark leaks through the insulator of the plug—instead of jumping the gap between the sparking points, and firing the charge as it should.

Even though the plugs only mis-fire "once-in-a-while," this may be enough to upset the balance of the race between the spark and the oil, and to give the oil a chance to overwhelm the plugs. In case of doubt install a new spark plug.

The spark plug gap may not be right. Too wide a gap will tend to cause misfiring, when the throttle is opened and there is more compression in the cylinders. And too narrow a gap is too easily bridged and insulated by a drop of oil. When the front cylinder spark plug gives trouble with oil, collecting between the points, try separating the points a little, in order that the gap between the points will not be so easily bridged by the oil.

Another vital hint in making the spark plugs less susceptible to oil fouling is to bend the point of the side electrode or wire upward, and in a slanting direction towards the central electrode or wire of the plug. This gives any oil, tending to collect between the spark plug points, a chance to run down the side electrode, away from the gap, and off to one side, where the oil will do no harm. It makes little difference how much oil is on or in the spark plug—the important thing is to keep the oil from collecting in the gap, between the spark plug points.

When the vibrator points of the coil units are in poor condition and are worn or rough or out of adjustment, this may cause an occasional miss, and may put the spark plug out of business. Try changing the coil units around or have the coil units tested and adjusted on a coil-unit testing machine at a good Ford Agency. Install new points if necessary. Good results simply cannot be obtained from old, worn points, no matter how carefully they are filed.

The weakness or the Ford magneto is usually indicated by the dimness of the lights, but the voltage of the magneto can be tested on a voltmeter, if the magneto is suspected of being so weak that it does not give enough current to give a regular spark, without misfiring.

The last, but not least, detail of the ignition system that is apt to particularly affect the spark plug of the front or number one cylinder is the commutator.

At first glance it is hardly apparent just why the commutator being out of order should particularly affect the front cylinder. The vital point is this. The front cylinder segment is the one that is at the top of the commutator—under normal conditions.

The roller and roller brush assembly have some weight. But, when the spring of the roller brush assembly is of normal strength, and the parts are not worn, then the spring pushes the roller up against the top contact segment without trouble, and good contact is made.

But when the spring is weak, or the parts are worn, then the spring may not be able to overcome the force of gravity, and the roller may not make good contact with the top segment—resulting in misfiring.

But, the force of gravity, through the weight of the roller, helps the roller to make even better contact with the other segments. And so we see that the front cylinder contact is the first to be affected, and the first to give trouble with misfiring.

A new commutator roller brush assembly, and perhaps a new commutator shell, is the obvious remedy for trouble of this nature, though bending the commutator arm out a little further may effect a temporary cure, as also may tightening the spring.

The kind and quality of oil that one is using is worthy of careful consideration, especially if one is having trouble with the front spark plugs. Good oil burns up cleanly, and does not foul the plugs nearly so easily as does gummy oil of poor quality.

The use of too heavy an oil is a common mistake among users and owners of Ford cars. New Fords should use light oils. Older Fords in which the pistons are a more or less "sloppy" fit in the cylinders, may use a somewhat heavier oil, tending towards the medium grade.

### FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

**252 ACRES LEASEHOLD.** Rent £38 16s per year; 16 acres oats, 10 acres ridged turnips, 65 acres turnips and grass; carrying capacity 300 breeding ewes, cattle and horses. Buildings: Four-roomed house, dairy, stable, barn, cow shed, shearing shed and sheep yard. Railway 1/2-mile, school 1/2-mile, P.O. 2 1/2 miles. Price £7 per acre. Owner would exchange for a small dairy farm or town property.

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Bootmaker.

## AT AN IRISH INQUEST.

An Irish quack doctor was being  
examined at an inquest on his patient:  
"I gave him ipecacuanha," he said.  
"You might just as well have given  
him the Aurora Borealis," replied the  
coroner.  
"Indade, yer honour, and that's just  
what O'd have given him next if he  
hadn't unfortunately died."

## TEACHING A CHILD TO SWIM.

While there are children who learn  
to swim in babyhood, it is the general  
experience that between the ages of ten  
and fourteen years is the proper period  
for acquiring this art. Before ten, ac-  
cording to many authorities, the muscles  
are rarely strong enough to enable a  
child to swim. It is really such a ne-  
cessary part of a boy's education—and  
a girl's too, for that matter—that one  
feels astonished nowadays to learn of  
an adult who cannot swim.

The following rules for the novice in  
the water are given:—

"With the lungs full of air, a person  
may float in salt water submerged to  
about the nose. He can exist on this  
amount of air from 45 seconds to two  
or three minutes, according to his  
lung capacity. The slightest motion  
of the arms and legs in a downward  
direction will bring the mouth clear of  
the water.

"This breathing exercise, which can  
best be practised in deep water, is the  
fundamental step of the whole thing.  
Once the knack of filling up with air at  
the proper time is acquired the pupil  
gains confidence and self-possession.

"In the beginning all movements  
should be made slowly. It is fighting  
the water that drags a drowning man  
beneath the surface.

"Use no particular stroke other than  
the natural paddling. Always keep the  
body and head parallel to the surface  
of the water, lifting the face and in-  
haling only when necessary. If the  
swimmer attempts to keep the head above  
the water the body will offer more resistance  
to the ahead movement than when  
lying in the plane of its surface."

A famous way to teach a child to swim  
is to suspend him from the end of a  
strong pole, such as a boat hook. A rope  
attached to the end of the pole has the  
other end formed into a noose which is  
placed round the child's body under his  
arms. Then the swimming instructor  
stands on a dock or runway and holds  
the pole like a fishing rod. The child sinks  
in the water as far as the instruc-  
tor considers wise, but, of course, there  
is no danger, as he can be pulled up at  
any moment. When he starts to paddle  
and so keeps himself up in the water to  
some extent the rope becomes slack and  
the instructor then knows that the child  
is beginning to learn. He can then say  
to the beginner, "You were swimming  
then; you swam 10 or 12 strokes." The  
child probably did not realise that he  
really was swimming, but when he  
finds out that he has done so it in-  
creases his confidence. The child is more  
likely to retain self-control by this meth-  
od than when others are used, because  
his first efforts to swim will be almost  
unconscious. With other methods he  
very often becomes excited and begins to  
fight the water.

This lesson is more effective when given  
in deep water, where buoyancy helps to  
keep the child up.

The breast stroke, believed by many  
to be the only proper one for a begin-  
ner has three leg movements:—

First: Legs drawn up under body,  
knees apart and bent, soles flat, just  
under the water surface.

Second: Outward kick from hips as  
far and as hard as possible.

Third: Bring the feet together as  
nearly as possible with energy, soles  
turned inward a little.

The arm movements are:

First: Place hands under chin, then  
thrust them out quickly but firmly, di-  
rectly forward; thumbs under first fin-  
gers, knuckles bent a little so that  
when hands are brought together a hol-  
low is formed by the palms.

Second: Spread the arms apart as far  
as possible; keep hands below the surface  
of water.

Third: Bring hands together under  
chin as before first movement.

Children may practise these movements  
out of the water, first learning the arm  
movements and then clinging to the side  
of a veranda or some similar support  
while learning the leg movement. Such  
efforts are bound to strengthen the mus-  
cles and lead to self-confidence.

## READING EN BLOC.

A printer's devil persuaded Edison to  
join him in changing his publication's  
name to "Paul Pry," which contained so  
pointed personal gossip that one victim  
threw the youthful editor into the river,  
and "Paul Pry" died shortly after. Ed-  
ison's literary abilities had been greatly  
aided by his extremely zealous reading in  
the Detroit Library during the long peri-  
od he spent in that city between the  
early arrival and the late departure of his  
train. His method was to tackle the  
books shelf by shelf and read everything  
indiscriminately.

## SOLDIER SETTLEMENT.

The following review of the progress  
of land settlement under the Discharged  
Soldiers' Settlement Act has been sup-  
plied by the Minister of Lands at the re-  
quest of "Quick March." There are few  
problems of repatriation of more interest  
than this matter of putting the returned  
soldier on the land, and the Hon D. H.  
Guthrie's authoritative survey of the ac-  
complishment to date has particular value  
as a summary of what New Zealand  
has done in providing opportunities for  
soldiers to become farmers. The Min-  
ister expresses his satisfaction with the  
steady progress that has been made since  
the passing of the D.S.S. Act.

Up to the present time a total area  
of 1,477,295 acres has been settled by  
returned soldiers, this area comprising  
222,651 acres of settlement land taken  
up by 1020 settlers, the land having  
been purchased by the Government from  
private owners and subsequently opened  
for selection, together with 643,893 acres  
of Crown Land and National Endowment  
land taken up by 656 settlers, and 600,751  
acres of private freehold land which has  
been purchased by 2968 returned soldiers  
with Government assistance.

At the present time there is available  
for immediate selection an area of 130,807  
acres of Crown land, whilst nearly 700,000  
acres of Crown land is available and suit-  
able for selection, but is not yet ready  
for offering. In addition to this, 58  
private freehold estates have been pur-  
chased by the Government, and are being  
prepared for selection by soldiers, the  
areas aggregating 179,270 acres.

The above figures relate to the settle-  
ment of rural land, but it may be added  
that nearly 5000 returned soldiers, whose  
avocations are in towns, have been as-  
sisted with Government grants in the pur-  
chase of town residences.

It is generally known that the Govern-  
ment, in addition to providing land for  
returned soldiers, also provides fi-  
nancial assistance for the erection of  
houses, purchase of land, implements,  
stock, machinery, etc., and for the mak-  
ing of improvements, and in every way as-  
sists the soldiers to establish themselves  
on the land. Over £10,000,000 has now  
been expended under the Discharged Sol-  
diers' Settlement Act for these purposes,  
and each day further advances are being  
made, and every endeavour is being made  
to continue the settlement of the dis-  
charged soldiers on satisfactory lines.

It may be mentioned that the bene-  
fits of the Act applied primarily to mem-  
bers of the Expeditionary Forces (either  
naval or military) who had left New Zea-  
land for the front and had returned to  
New Zealand and been discharged from  
service with an honourable record. Am-  
endments to the Act provide that bene-  
fits were also to be given to members of  
the Expeditionary Forces who were in  
Camp at the signing of the Armistice and  
had not left New Zealand, and by the  
latest amendment members of the N.Z.  
Army Nursing Service who have served  
abroad are also entitled to some of the  
benefits of the act.

Parliament also provided that instruc-  
tors at a Camp for military training con-  
ducted for the purpose of Expeditionary  
Forces should be eligible for benefits to-  
gether with members of an Expeditionary  
Force who had been classed as medically  
fit, and served in a training camp in New  
Zealand, and, through no fault of their  
own, were discharged from the Forces.

The terms under which land is acquired  
are varied so as to suit the requirements  
of the applicants. Land may be pur-  
chased for cash occupation with right of  
purchase, or renewable lease, whilst there  
is a special tenure providing for purchase  
under deferred payment, the term of pur-  
chase extending over 20 years, or for the  
occupation of the land under renewable  
lease with the right of acquiring the free-  
hold at any time, if necessary under de-  
ferred payment.

Special supervisors have been appointed  
in each district to visit and advise set-  
tlers, and in addition the Crown Land  
Rangers of the Department, and the ex-  
pert officers of the Agricultural Depart-  
ment and other Departments, from  
time to time assist with advice any set-  
tler who may desire it.

It may be stated that the majority of  
the settlers are establishing themselves  
in a satisfactory manner, and had every  
prospect of doing well at an early date.  
Necessarily some of the settlers are not  
so experienced as others and may have  
met with misfortune in the progress of  
settlement, but the provisions of the Act  
which provide, where necessary, for post-  
ponement or remission of rent, and other  
concessions, have been interpreted by the  
Land Boards, and the Government in a  
liberal manner, and every endeavour has  
been made to see that the settlers are  
assisted to maintain themselves under the  
most favourable conditions.

## SCIENCE NOTES.

### FISHING BY TELEPHONE.

Norwegian fishermen are adopting the  
telephone to warn them when great num-  
bers of fish are about. The submarine  
war has taught them the value of the  
telephone. A microphone, which in the  
ordinary way is called the mouthpiece, is  
lowered from a fishing boat and connected  
by a wire with the listening instrument  
in the boat.

### NEW WAY OF FINDING OIL.

A new method has been invented for  
locating oil, which saves the enormous  
expense of drilling in all sorts of likely  
places which may not eventually yield.  
The earth is a conductor of electricity,  
and a known electric current is passed  
through it from one spot to another in  
the region where oil is sought and is care-  
fully measured, so that the resistance of  
the earth between the two spots is found.  
As oil-bearing deposits are bad conduc-  
tors, the resistance will be great if oil  
is at hand, or small if not, and by this  
difference, the presence of oil can be de-  
tected.

### A SCIENTIFIC ROMANCE.

Twenty-five centuries ago, Persian sol-  
diers were armed with swords and spears  
made of a wonderful bronze, which could  
never be produced by the most skilled of  
modern metallurgists. A metallurgist named  
Samuel R. Dawson has now discovered  
the secret of the ancient bronze, which  
has been tested, and proves to be able  
to do just the things which the finest  
modern steels cannot do. The Persian  
bronze, used at the battle of Marathon in  
490 B.C., and now re-made, polishes with  
the lustre and colour of gold; it does  
not corrode, it is harder than finest car-  
bon tool-steel; yet it can be drawn out  
to a wire of incredible thinness. Trolley  
wheels made of it have run 30,000 miles  
with little sign of wear. It is also being  
used for watch hair-springs; being non-  
magnetic and rust-proof, it is an ideal  
substitute for steel.

### 300 WORDS A MINUTE.

As an indication of the rapid progress  
made in the transmission of wireless mes-  
sages, an apparatus for sending 300 to 400  
words a minute is to be installed at the  
naval radio station at Sayville, U.S.A.  
The present speed is ten words a minute.  
Ordinary conversation seldom exceeds 200  
words a minute. Some cable-sending ma-  
chines do 100. The apparatus cost about  
£10,000. An automatic sending machine,  
either of the disc or tape variety, oper-  
ates a master break key controlling  
thirty-eight small break keys. In receiv-  
ing messages, air waves are photographed  
and from the developed films is printed  
a strip of paper with letters forming the  
words indicated by the waves. An opera-  
tor translates from the tape for trans-  
cription of the message on a typewriter.  
The photographing and developing process  
takes twenty seconds.

### SILK FROM SPIDERS.

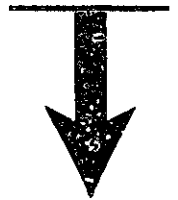
In Madagascar, experiments have been  
made with spider's web as a substitute for  
silk, and the results are so encouraging  
that the opinion is that a great and  
lucrative industry will result. Many per-  
sons have tried to utilise spider's web.  
In 1708, Bon Saint Hilaire, president of  
the Court of Accounts at Montpellier, ac-  
tually made a few pairs of stockings and  
gloves of spider's web. In Madagascar,  
the spiders are bought for about 8 cents  
a piece and put to work. About four or  
five times every ten days they start to  
spin and continue until exhausted. Their  
product is wound on spools as fast as  
they spin it, and at each spinning 300 or  
400 yards are obtained. The threads of  
a dozen spiders are twisted together, and  
two of these twisted strands are again  
twisted so that a thread of twenty-four  
fine threads is obtained. For fineness,  
strength, and beautiful yellow colour, this  
silk is much superior to that of silk  
worms.

### TRAINS TO FIT ANY LINES.

A French inventor has designed a novel  
arrangement of axle and suspension where  
by a railway carriage or truck may pass  
from a broad gauge to a narrow one or  
vice versa; the axles and wheels suspen-  
sion are so arranged that the distance be-  
tween wheels automatically adjusts itself,  
in passing from one gauge to another, in  
such a way as always to fit the gauge of  
the rails. In its simplest terms, the solu-  
tion consists in extensible axles. To go a  
little further into the means of extension,  
we find that the wheel suspension is by  
special platforms, installed laterally be-  
neath a central "chassis," which is at-  
tached to the underbody of the car.  
Each axle is in reality formed of two  
semi-axles connected at the centre by a  
special arrangement enabling the system  
to be telescoped by a distance which is  
limited by a set of connecting rods.



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**Briscoe and Co.,  
LIMITED.****SHORT STORIES.****VANITIES OF THE GREAT.**Although Swift probably meant what  
he said when he penned the couplet—What poet would not grieve to see  
His brother write as well as he?

and, unfortunately the jealousy of genius is proverbial, the Dean, himself as vain as any man, was throughout his life generous in his public admiration of his great contemporary Pope. Yet both men were not only vain of their writings, but were absurdly proud of the most trivial accomplishments which occupied their leisure hours. Pope spent more time and laborious thought designing the gardens and grottos of his Twickenham cottage than on the production of his "Essay on Man" or the translation of Homer. Friends who came to discuss the matchless wit of the polished verse would be bidden to admire Pope the horticulturist and remain dumb on the merits of the poet and satirist.

**THE PRIDE OF SIR WALTER.**

Scott in his Abbotsford home is a case still more to the point. The Waverley novels with their two million words, hundreds of full-drawn characters, and abounding wealth of detail in scenery and comment, form a monument which even a god might be proud to have created. But Sir Walter would not even own to their authorship, until it leaked out and all knew that the country squire, who seemed occupied the livelong day in managing his estate, playing with his hounds, and riding to the hunt, was the writer about whom all the world was speculating. Then worshippers of literary genius having made their pilgrimage to the shrine in the joyous hope of a peep into the penetralia of imaginative creation, would be proudly shown by the author of incomparable Jennie Deans the stucco and plaster and sham Gothicisms of Abbotsford House, the pride of Sir Walter's heart.

**DICKENS, TOO.**

Forster tells us that it was the dearest delight of Dickens to express his personality not on the printed page, but in the strut and fret of an hour in amateur theatricals. As one visualizes the imposing figure and mighty intellect of the great novelist contorted in the effort to delineate this character or that for the diversion of a handful of lookers-on, one is reminded that a genius after all is but a man, with a good deal of the child still surviving. Vanitas vanitatum, wrote Thackeray, sighing over the sins of humanity; yet himself was absurdly vain of his sketches. He was deeply hurt at Dickens's rejection of his offer to illustrate one of the latter's books, failing to realize that his power emphatically lay in the pen and not the pencil. But the classic example of the vanity of authors is undoubtedly Lord Byron. Whatever our opinion may be now of his poetry, it is indisputable that at the time of its production it had an immense vogue, and there was considerable justification for the poet's self-congratulation. All who knew the man, however, record that pride and rank and conceit of his personal appearance easily surpassed his satisfaction in his poetical powers, and that he even boasted more of having swum the Helispont than of all the cantos of "Don Juan."

Decide not rashly. The decision made. Can never be recalled. The gods implore not, Plead not, solicit not; they only offer Choice and occasion, which once being passed Return no more. Dost thou accept the gift?

—Longfellow.

We often ascribe to fate what was merely amounted to following the line of least resistance.

**"Man wants but little here below —"**BUT THAT LITTLE HE WANTS GOOD  
—AND "H.B."FICKLE AND INCONSISTENT AS MAN  
MAY OR MAY NOT BE, HE IS CON-  
SISTENT IN HIS DESIRE FOR POSSES-  
SION OF CLOTHING THAT IS GOOD  
IN QUALITYTHAT IS WHY THOUSANDS OF MEN  
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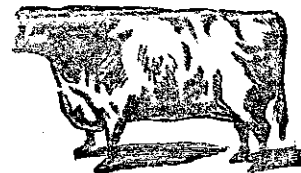
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