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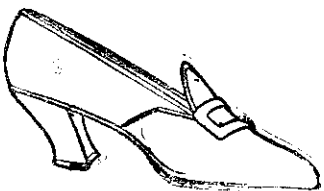
**TRAMP! Tramp! Tramp! Hear their  
ceaseless beat:**

Hear the Town Council bleat,

What on earth is that they have upon  
their feet,

Why! Boots repaired at Hawthorne's  
shop!

Repairs that can't be beat.



**J. A. HAWTHORNE.**

**BOOT REPAIRER,  
TAY STREET.**

## SPORTING.

The Winton Jockey Club will hold its  
annual general meeting of members next  
Thursday evening.

The Birchwood Hunt Club's flagged  
steeplechases will be held at Strathmore  
next Wednesday. A good view of the races  
should be obtained from the main road.

Fortunately Sir George Clifford is too  
fair-minded a man to allow even this sort  
of insult to warp his judgment in the dis-  
pute to come before his conference this  
week, and no man in the Dominion will  
be more honest in his desire, nor more  
anxious in his efforts to bring about a  
settlement between jockeys, that is the  
better class and more reasonable members  
of the profession, and the owners.

And so the great Lochella was beaten!  
But, barring accidents, what a cakewalk  
he would have had in the Wellington  
Steeplechase had Charlie Christie decided  
to start him in that race instead of in the  
hurdle race. The Wellington country is  
small, and as the going was good it must  
have been the pace set by the early lead-  
ers that brought all but the four placed  
horses down.

The owners and the jockeys have always  
been on good terms (of course there are  
very many times when it is essential for  
their own welfare that they should be),  
and there are very few owners who are  
not generous when it comes to winning  
fees with their jockeys. Instead of a  
union to protect the interests of the  
younger boys it would be much wiser if  
the Racing Conference would appoint  
three or four good strong-minded matrons  
to look after them, put them to bed early,  
see they don't waste their money on flash  
clothes, teach them a few good nursery  
games, and give them an hour or so of  
education each day. Then they would  
find less time for that good old service  
game, "two-up." The whole trouble has  
arisen, in my mind, for the lack of sur-  
veillance of these youths both by their  
employers and the Racing Conference.

The stopping of Sir George Clifford  
travelling on one the Union S.S. Coy's  
steamers to the North Island reminds me  
of a good story I heard a couple of months  
ago when a well-known trainer and a sec-  
retary to a labour union were discussing  
the jockey's trouble and other labour mat-  
ters. Each gave his opinion very freely,  
and finally the trainer maintained that  
the constitution of the country was all  
wrong. "What's wrong with the con-  
stitution anyway," demanded the labour  
secretary. "It should be altered so as to  
provide that Bill Massey should be pre-  
mier of the North Island, Joey Hanan,  
premier of the South Island, you premier  
of Dog Island, and none of you allowed to  
leave your own territories," snapped the  
trainer, and the labour secretary was so  
paralysed by this broadside that he didn't  
recover in time to take up his side of the  
argument again.

I saw Joe Wallis the other day in a  
billiard room, hobbling round with a stick  
and evidently in charge of a couple of  
tables. Poor Joe still carries the effects  
of a bad spill on the local course twelve  
months ago last April, and I am afraid  
will continue to do so for the rest of his  
life. He has had a hell of a time with  
operations to a leg in the local hospital,  
but is always cheerful, and trying hard,  
now he has been promoted to be an out-  
patient, to earn a few shillings. It makes  
one proud of our management of racing to  
hear Joe speak of the manner the Insur-  
ance Fund has and is treating him. He  
is being well looked after, but many of his  
old friends can help him by patronising  
his tables when they want a game of bil-  
liards. Joe was always a game horse-  
man, and he needed to be, too, for some of  
the rides he has had on the operating table  
during the past fifteen months.

Talking of taxing racing clubs reminds  
me of rather a good story I heard which  
occurred in one of the town schools the  
other day. The teacher was explaining  
taxes to a class composed of boys and  
girls whose ages averaged about 12 to 13,  
and at the end of the lesson asked all those  
children whose fathers paid income tax to

hold up their hand. All except one, the  
son of a poor but honest working family,  
sat tight, but this lad held up his hand  
much to the astonishment of the master,  
who should have known better than ask  
such a question from children who were  
not likely to be taken into the confidence  
of their parents as to whether they were  
earning enough to have to pay this very  
unpopular tax. The boy saw by the mas-  
ter's expression that the wealth of his  
father was doubted, and still holding up  
his hand exclaimed: "I've seen him pay  
it, and every time he pays he gets a dog  
collar." Really some of our teachers are  
brainy fellows!

"Firemen's Sympathetic Action," was  
the nature of the heading in the "Thund-  
erer," on Tuesday morning, over the in-  
formation that Sir George Clifford had  
been forced by the stokers on the ferry  
steamer to return ashore at Lyttelton. Sir  
George was en route to Wellington to pre-  
side at the annual meeting of the New  
Zealand Racing Conference, where there is  
a chance of the quarrel between some med-  
dlesome outsiders who are trying to rig a  
Jockey's Union and the Conference. As  
Sir George left the steamer he truthfully  
remarked that they were stopping a friend,  
but those who know the president of the  
Racing Conference, never for one moment  
dreamed that he would not get to the  
meeting. And very probably the baronet  
has never enjoyed a trip to Wellington so  
much as he did this year. To be treated  
as he was shows that "mob rule" is still one  
of the weaknesses of ignorant unionism,  
and it looks very much as if the leaders  
in this silly muddle are indeed ignorant.

### OTAHUTI NOTES.

On Wednesday last at Drummond  
ploughing match, the concluding matches  
of the first round of the Central Rugby  
Union's competition were played under  
favourable weather conditions.

Wright's Bush met Calcium and were  
defeated by 3 points to nothing, and at  
2.45 p.m. Otahuti met and defeated  
Drummond by 13 points to 3. Wright's  
Bush were most unfortunate in not win-  
ning their match, they being the attacking  
side throughout the first spell. Calcium  
hardly managed to cross the half-way  
mark, and had the Bush backs a little  
finish about them, they must have scored  
on several occasions. However, a greasy  
ball in the early afternoon made back  
play difficult. The sun appearing during  
the first match dried the ground consider-  
ably for the Otahuti-Drummond contest,  
and a fast game was the result, both  
teams playing well, but the Otahuti com-  
bination possessed more knowledge of the  
scientific part of football than their op-  
ponents, and as a consequence had rather  
an easy day. Some good individual play  
was put in by McLeod, Buckingham,  
Shufflebein, Horner, and Ford (2), for  
Drummond.

The Otahuti forwards played splendidly,  
Steele being a constant source of annoy-  
ance to the opposition. Rogers, as rover,  
played his usual brilliant game. Mc-  
Crostitie, McKenzie, Grieve, and Finlayson  
were full of dash and with Donald and  
Sim were an exceptionally good pack.

R. McLeod (half) and A. McLeod were  
in fine form, especially the latter, who put  
through some fine work.

The casualties for the stunt were fair-  
ly light, Horner (Drummond) retiring  
with a broken collar-bone, J. C. Lindsay  
(Otahuti) with an injured leg, C. Donald  
unfortunately had a rib broken early in  
the first spell but carried on; Rogers also  
received injuries to his shoulder which  
will require gentle treatment for a period  
as will the dislocated ankles, etc.

The official referees, Messrs Galt and  
Gazzard controlled the games in an able  
manner. Mr Galt's severe chastisement  
to an over ardent club supporter had a  
sobering effect on some of the onlookers.  
There was a large attendance of the public  
and there were some really first-class vocal  
talent present, the solos were splendid.  
"Bonnie Charlie's noo awa" and the  
"Bluebells of Scotland" were very fine.

Saturday next will see the start of the  
second round, Otahuti v. Calcium at Ota-  
huti, Waianawa v. Drummond at Wai-  
anawa. Both matches at 3 p.m.

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