

SCOTCH! HOTCH! POTCH!

(Contributed by "The Groper.")

In seventeen hunder'n forty-nine
The deil got stuff to mak' a swine,
An' coost it in a corner;
But willy he changed his plan,
An' shaped it something like a man,
An' ca'd it Andrew Turner.

—Burns.

This biting epigram is supposed to have been written at Turner's own suggestion. Of the truth of this we have doubt. Of one thing we are sure, the editor of the "Tablet" would smile a benign "thank you" for passages as caustic, with say David Lloyd George as the subject. The "Tablet" is an exceedingly truthful, clever and loyal journal which consists in the interest of the Empire and freedom, should be read by everybody. The other day the "Tablet" called the foremost man in Europe a rat!

A Highland adherent of one of the Dundee Presbyterian churches took the parson aside and with great earnestness warned him against one of the elders. "She be a very bad man—a very bad man indeed!" "How comes that?" asked the parson. "Oh, weel, she told her ta get oot o' the tam road!" "How long would this be ago?" asked the parson. "Oh, it would only be about six or seven years ago—when she met her in her cart wi' a trove o' sheep at Tapanui!"

There's a chap on "The Digger" called Blake,
Vote for him and you'll make no mistake;
He stuck it and fought as a Digger,
With bayonet, pin-bomb and trigger,
Now he's after a seat at the table,
Vacated by Bill of the stable.
He knows all about bridges and roads,
Ships, docks, and gold-bearing lodes,
Maybe he can't sell a mare,
Or blow his own trumpet to blare,
But you'll find him keen, square and true,
Just the chap to represent you
On the Council.

The big men of Europe, whether they be amongst our legislators or as yet "undiscovered," are sorely needed. There is much wrong to right, and a million infant mouths to feed. There's the Irish question, the Turkish question, and a dozen others as perplexing. Poland's case is about the worst. For six years the ebb and flow of bloody war and horrors unmentionable have been her lot. It would be interesting to know the truth—whether Poland was not in reality "plucking chestnuts"—and for whom? The fact is that the fall of Poland is pregnant with awful possibilities. Not much over one hundred years ago Thomas Campbell wrote:—
So all to fate to man.

"The Groper" doesn't trust Lenin and Trotsky, and expects to see the Napoleonic touch limited. Napoleon welded the would-be Bolsheviks of revolutionary France into what became the scourge of Europe, and forced the conquered to supply contingents for his armies. The Russia of to-day is a hundred years behind the France of Napoleon, and Lenin lacks the generosity of the great chap. If Germany is not allowed to stem the lawless stream of Bolshevism, she must in the nature of things become part of it. France will then be a frail child indeed, holding an insecure door against Hercules. God help her!

THE POWER OF RUSSIA.

So all this gallant blood has gushed in vain!
And Poland by the Northern Condors beak
And talons torn, lies prostrated again.
O, British patriots, that were wont to speak
Once loudly on this theme, now hushed or weak!
O, heartless men of Europe—Goth and Gaul!
Cold, adder-deaf to Poland's dying shriek;—
That saw the world's last land of heroes fall—
The brand of burning shame is on you
all—all—all!

But this is not the drama's closing act;
Its tragic curtain must uprise anew.
Nations, mute accessories to the fact;
That Upas-tree of power, whose fostering dew
Was Polish blood, has yet to cast o'er you
The lengthening shadow of its head
o'late—
A deadly shadow, darkening nature's hue.

To all that's hallowed, righteous, pure, and great,
Wo! wo! when they are reached by
Russia's withering hate.

Russia, that on his throne of adamant,
Consults what nation's breast shall next
be gored;
He on Polonia's Golgotha will plant
His standard fresh; and, horde succeeding horde,
On patriot tomb-stones he will whet the sword,
For more stupendous slaughters of the free.
Then Europe's realms, when their best blood is poured,
Shall miss thee, Poland! as they bend the knee,
All—all in grief, but none in glory
fitting thee.

But Russia's limbs (so blinded statesmen say)
Are crude, and too colossal to cohere.
O' lamentable weakness! reckoning weak
The stripling Titan, strengthening year by year.
What implement lacks he for war's career,
That grows on earth, or in its floods and mines,
(Eighth sharer of the inhabitable sphere)
Whom Persia bows to, China ill confines,
And India's homage waits when Albion's star declines?

Say, e'en his serfs, half humanised,
should learn
Their human rights—will Mars put out
his flame
In Russia bosoms? no, he'll bid them burn
A thousand years for nought but
Martial fame.
Like Romans:—yet forgive me, Roman name!
Rome could impart what Russia never can;
Proud civic rights to save submission's shame.
Our strife is coming; but in freedom's van
The Polish eagle's fall is big with fate to man.

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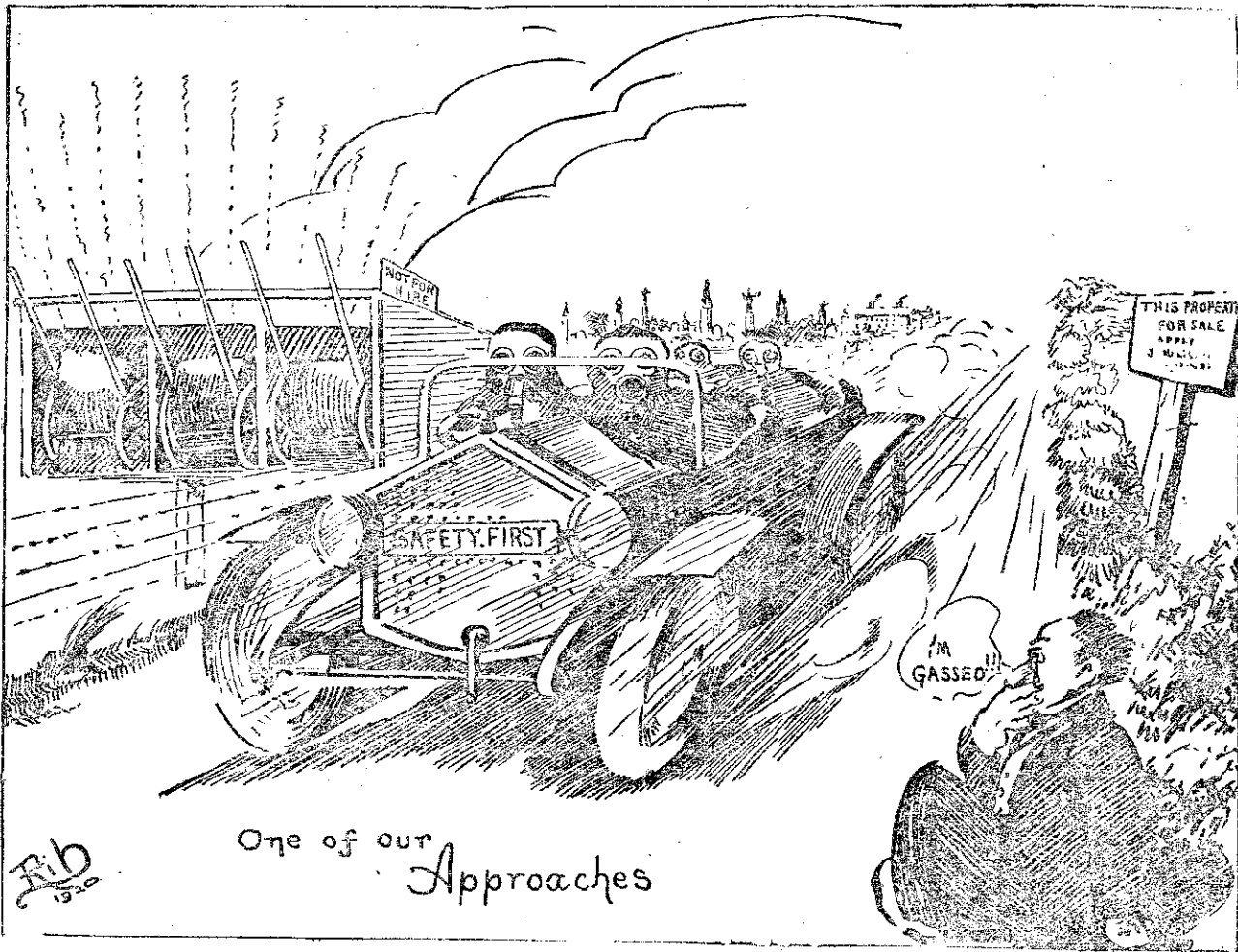
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One of our Approaches

A WELL KNOWN FEATURE OF THE EAST ROAD.

DIPTON HUNT.

The annual meeting of the Birchwood Hounds took place at Dipton on Wednesday, 28th July, in splendid weather. A large number of spectators turned out to witness the sport. Twenty-two horses followed the bounds over the trail laid out through Messrs McDonald's, Tylee's, McKay's, and Giles' properties. Although there were a few empty saddles no serious accidents happened.

Amongst those I noticed close up at the kill were:—Messrs T. Gerrard (Grey Girl) acting master; J. Kirkwood (Red Troon), huntsman; E. Ellis (Lavina), whip; J. Cosgrove (Captain French), F. Ford (Dalmeny), A. Gerrard (Wrangle), K. Gerrard (Miss Patrick), A. Pattinson (Gipsy Queen), W. Pattinson (Lip), W. Evans (Fying Ginger), W. Campbell (Blue Mountain), S. Love (Digger), J. Scott (Humming Bird), and J. C. McDonald (McClusky).

After the hunt, a jumping competition was held. The following are the results:—
Open Jump.—1st, Lavina; 2nd, Captain French and Grey Girl (tied).
Local Jump.—1st, Grey Girl; 2nd, Digger.
Messrs C. McDougall, J. Thomson and F. G. Pattinson, acted as judges.

R.S.A. EXECUTIVE.

The usual meeting of the Executive was held on Tuesday evening. Owing to the departure of the Rev. H. McLean, it was decided that the Rev. Gilbert act in the capacity of hospital visitor.

A communication was read from Mataura Island, asking the Association to form a Sub-Committee. The proposed boundaries to take in Titiroa, Pine Bush, Mataura Island, and possibly Seaward Downs. It was decided to refer the matter to Wyndham and consider it at next meeting.

Matters in reference to the Tuatapere Association were considered.

A large number of parliamentary questions were considered and matters of pensions were dealt with.

The blow-fly, poised on vibrant wing,
That drones his welcome to the spring,
Is housewife's most detested pest,
And always an unwelcome guest,
But not a more abhorrent foe
Than many other pests we know,
Those coughs and colds we'd ne'er endure
Had we no Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

MARKET NOTES.

Messrs Bray Bros., Ltd., Auctioneers and Fruit Salesmen, Dee street, Invercargill, report as follows:—
Produce.—The market for Potatoes is very slow, and present value is £6 for prime table quality. Seed Potatoes are in demand and consignments are recommended. Onions, to 14s per cwt; Oats, 5s 4d to 5s 9d per bushel; Chaff, to £8 10s, discoloured £6 per ton; Straw Chaff, £7 10s per ton, s.i. Oaten Straw, to £5 10s; Meggitt's Linseed Meal, 30s per bag; Bran, 11s per bag; Pollard, 13s per bag; Farro Food, 12s per bag; Molasses, 21s per cwt; Stakes and Posts (Totara) to 1s 7d per post; (Birch), £4 to £5 per hundred.
Fruit.—Apples (dessert), choice quality to 13s 6d per case, other quality from 7s 6d to 10s per case. Cooking Apples, choice quality, 7s to 8s, medium quality, 6s to 7s; Pears, choice dessert, to 5d per lb, medium quality, to 4d per lb; cooking, to 3d per lb. Supplies rather short.
Vegetables.—Cabbage, to 6s per sack; Swedes, 2s to 3s 6d per bag; Carrots, 4s per bag, and 6s 6d per cwt; Parsnips, 2d per lb; Pumpkins, 2d per lb.
General.—Lepp Salt Lick, supplies arriving early this month. Cow Covers, 22s 6d to 30s, a tip-top line. Horse Covers,

£2 15s to £3; Boots, 35s per pair; Hens, 10s per tin; Tea, 14s 6d per packet; Mutton Birds, 1s 1d per bird.
Sundries.—We have several motor cars and motor cycles for sale and invite inspection and trial. The owners' guarantees goes with each of them.
Furniture.—Business is very brisk in this line and we advise you to inspect our stocks at our Spey street warehouse, when requiring anything in the house furnishing line. We have a piano and several sewing machines for sale.
Land Department.—This is a chance to you—450 acres including an eight-room house and two cottages of four and six rooms. All necessary farm buildings, public telephone and post office on the farm, school within a few minutes walk of the house. Situated about 7 miles from Woodlands railway station, price £14 per acre.

OTAHUTI NOTES.

Splendid weather conditions prevailed for the Waianiwa-Otahuti match at Otahuti last Saturday, the teams putting up a fine exhibition before a large concourse of spectators.
Otahuti playing against the sun in the first spell set up a hot attack into Waianiwa territory, a force down relieving the remainder of the spell saw play of a fast nature between the twenty-fives, neither team gaining an advantage before half time.
In opening up the second spell, Otahuti fast kicking, fast following up on bad handling by Waianiwa backs, saw visitors in difficulties. A fine kick by Otahuti enabled A. McLeod to place goal. Otahuti 3, Waianiwa nil. Play came very fast and exciting, the visitors making vigorous attempts to cross, and several occasions were almost successful, but good defensive play saw the home forwards clear, play shifting into Waianiwa quarters. From a passing rush J. McCoombe scored in the corner, the attempt at goal falling short. Otahuti 6, Waianiwa nil. Play, till time sounded, was very even, mostly confined to the half-way line, the game ending with no alteration in the score.
Waianiwa had a strong, heavy team and played a splendidly clean game, and although defeated are to be congratulated on the fine performance they exhibited to the onlookers. Mr Gazzard controlled the game in an able manner.
The position of the various teams in the banner competition are as follows:—

	Matches Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.
Waianiwa	6	5	0	1
Otahuti	6	2	0	4
Calcium	5	0	1	4
Wright's Bush	5	0	1	4
Drummond	6	1	1	4