

No. 27.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1920.

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acre section, northerly aspect. No
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have other tip top properties worthy
inspection. Give us a call and we will
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CIGAR DIVAN,
ESK STREET
(Late H. J. Riddell's)

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CIGARS,
CIGARETTES,
TOBACCO, and
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ALWAYS AT YOUR DISPOSAL.

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Take that Old Suit
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Ladies' Costumes and Gents' Suits Cleaned
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supply of all smokes, and other lines, such
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RAZORS, PIPES, SOAPS, etc.,

and when a SHAVE or HAIR-CUT is re-
quired we solicit your patronage.

ALSWEILER BROS.,
Dee street,
INVERCARGILL.

LOOK UP!

W. E. Butcher's,

HIGH-CLASS TAILORING ESTABLISH-
MENT,

At No. 8, TAY STREET.

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

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LICENSED SECOND-HAND DEALER.

WHY THROW ANYTHING ASIDE?
WE LIVE OFF WHAT YOU DON'T
REQUIRE, AND PAY CASH
FOR SAME.

Bottles, Rags, Bones, Fat, Metals,
Gents' Clothing, Boots, Books, Old Bikes,
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Harness.

WE WANT YOUR BUSINESS!

Remember, it costs money to advertise
now, and its up to the people of South-
land to remember us when there's any
business in these lines we've mentioned.
Our carts will call at your home on re-
ceipt of an order or a ring to 101 on the
phone.

YPRES.

Through the long years, stone upon
Stone you rose,
Wet by men's tears; safe from the nation's
foes.
By moat and wall, guarded, your people
dwelt.
In churches tall, saintly your priesthood
knelt.
Graceful your trees, through the long
centuries
Grew by degrees, fanned by the passing
breeze,
Stately and tall, ease-giving shadows cast;
In winter's squall, bared by the icy blast;
Now, by the enemy razed to the ground.
Gone is security—ruin around;
Smashed the Cloth Hall, shattered by
German shells,
Broken the wall—ghastly death lurking
dwells,
Fled are the people, and gone home they
knew,
Broken church steeple, gone leafy avenue—
Cursed be they—authors of ruin red;
God will repay, blood of thy brave sons
shed.
Come the day soon when may you rise
again,
Cease soon the fray, and then the sons of
men
Build up thy walls, churches, and busy
marts,
Houses and halls, peace dwelling in their
hearts.
Flourish your trees—calm may your future
be—
Through centuries, God watching over
thee.

—R.B.L.

APRES LA GUERRE.

'Tis weary waiting, months and years,
While still the old, sad road leads on,
O'er moor and fen, and never nears
The rest our hearts are set upon.
That rest which will be Heav'n indeed—
When Spring returns to earth again,
And all the sons of men are freed
From war's long winter-time of pain.
When I return to my loved home,
'Neath sunny skies beyond compare,
And o'er the tussocks, freely roam
And breathe the perfumed hillside air.
E'en now I feel the bracing breath
of Southern breeze o'er Ocean's swell:
Oh! may no haunting fear of death
My steadfast glow of hope dispel.
Q. (3rd Field Ambulance).

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THE Choicest of every housewife who
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AND THE DELIGHT
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OUR TEA DEPARTMENT

is still as capable as ever of supplying the
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We are still receiving regular ship-
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WE HAVE JUST LANDED OUR NEW SEASON'S STOCK OF MEN'S TIES IN ALL THE LATEST
COLOURS AND DESIGNS.

WIDE-END TIES, 2/6 up to 7/6. COLD KNITTED TIES, 1/6, 1/9, 3/6, 3/9.

BOYS' NARROW TIES, 9d, 1/-, up to 2/6.

BUY OUR TIES AND YOU WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE WITH TWISTED LININGS.

McGruer, Taylor & Co

WITH THE NEW ZEALAND DIVISION IN FRANCE.

The Guns Bark In Their Last Action.

(NEW ZEALAND CHRONICLES).

Towards the end of the Division's rest in the comfortable quarters of Beauvois, signs appeared of another stunt and a re-entry in to the fighting area. On October 16th, the artillery came under the jurisdiction of the 42nd British Division, and that day the battery commanders reconnoitred in the vicinity of Viesley, a small village near the River Selle, across which our own infantry had driven the enemy in their last victorious push. The following days were spent in carting ammunition forward to the new positions on the right of Viesley, and on the 18th each battery sent in half its complement of guns, followed during the next day and night by the remainder. This brought preparations to the eve of the advance. Weather conditions were far from good. The roads were muddy and in bad repair; it was cold and rain had fallen—not in heavy quantities, but sufficiently to make things decidedly uncomfortable. At this time the 2nd (Army) Brigade, N.Z.F.A., had rejoined the Division, and were working in conjunction with the other two permanent brigades of the Division. The preparations were completed, despite the harassing work of the enemy artillery, which, during our period of rest, had had ample opportunity of consolidating in strength to the east of Selle. The positions which the batteries occupied were by no means healthy; in fact, two batteries of the brigade were obliged to change their location on account of the heavy shelling.

Zero hour is 2 p.m., and the silence of the chilly autumn morning is broken by the spontaneous outburst of thousands of guns, barking away in maddening confusion, belching forth their wild tongues of angry flame as the metal physis is poured forth on the enemy's line. Along the whole front descends a liquid curtain of fire, dealing out death and devastation as the barrage creeps across the face of the land. It is a veritable hell, if ever there was. Behind the guns the gunners themselves toil on. The ground is sodden through recent rains, and the gun wheels in some instances sink almost to the axle. The trails dig in deeper and deeper as the shock and concussion of each shell send it down a little further. For some hours the barrage blazes away; then, in the dawning light, the infantry advance. By this time the enemy has joined in the turmoil. His fire of retaliation comes down, but it is a feeble effort compared to our own tremendous concentration.

The day wears on. The infantry have gained their objectives, and early in the afternoon news arrives of an impending enemy counter-attack. Shortly after one o'clock the S.O.S. goes up, and as wave upon wave of German infantry approach from the direction of Briastre, the guns respond to the infantry call, and promptly quell the attack. Again, for the while, all is quiet; but the gunner has little respite. Ammunition wagons arrive; they have to be unloaded, shells fused and stacked, in readiness for another barrage to open at 4 o'clock. Punctually to the minute it drops, and the infantry go over. Once again hell breaks out, and in due course dies down. Still the day's work is not completed. About 9 p.m. the S.O.S. signals go up, and with wonderful rapidity the protective barrage descends in front of the infantry upon the attacking Germans. Rain is falling and mud is everywhere. Conditions could scarcely be worse. Eventually the enemy attack dwindles, and quietness and calm prevail once more. Then the gunner, tired and worn out after hours of the severest physical exertion, is able to look round to find a place to gain some sleep during the night. He dare not go far from his gun. Near by he digs a narrow little hole in the ground, sufficient to lie in, perhaps with an oilsheet above for covering. It is wet, and the rain has trickled in. That is his bed. That is the price he pays for victory in the field.

After the activity of the opening day, the next day was on the whole quiet. During the morning new positions were reconnoitred, and the batteries moved forward. Here the River Selle was crossed near Briastre, and the guns came into action on the western face of a high ridge extending towards Solsmes. Fritz was sending across a fair amount of shells, yet that night and the next twenty-four hours were busily occupied in preparations for another stunt in the morning. By this

time our own infantry had come into the line, and it was they who carried on the advance.

At 2 a.m. on October 23rd the barrage began, and the infantry attack developed with complete success, driving Fritz sufficiently forward to enable the guns to be moved up in support straight-away. At noon the batteries were ordered forward, and moved north-east through a little cluster of houses called Maron, and on through the village of Verigneul, the guns coming into action beneath the slopes of that cone-shaped hill, on the top of which is a Crucifix at the junction of half a dozen roads.

On the 24th there was little doing. On the 25th another trek was made, an advance of about three kilometres, which brought the guns into action behind Beaudignies, a village lying a short distance south-east of Le Quesnoy. The waggon-lines moved forward that day as well but it proved to be too close up, so that many anxious times were spent. Fritz's artillery seemed to have taken a new lease of life. That night they drenched Beaudignies and its immediate surroundings with such a hurricane of high explosive and gas as had seldom been experienced before, not only gun areas, but waggon lines, too. It was as trying a night as any, and the next day the waggon-lines were ordered back, returning to positions in the vicinity of the Crucifix near Verigneul. Even then one of the batteries met with misfortune at Pont a Pierres, the bridge crossing the narrow little gully between Salesches and Escarmain. Fritz had been firing intermittent bursts of shell-fire on this one point. Much of the transport had passed through in safety, when suddenly Fritz opened out again, and caught two teams of the 13th Battery, knocking out horses and men, although, luckily, the latter were only wounded. It was a scene of indescribable confusion.

On the same day, however, the guns were again moved forward to the other side of Beaudignies, and even forward sections of guns from each battery were thrust up another thousand yards or so. For the next four days affairs were considerably quieter, and on the last day of October the brigade was relieved, passing out of the line for a few days' rest, and the guns withdrawing to the waggon-lines which, in the meantime, had again moved up behind Beaudignies. But the rest was brief. On the second day ammunition was carted forward to the positions recently occupied, and continued until the night of November 3rd, when the brigade moved into the line once more in readiness for the assault on Le Quesnoy.

It was scarcely thought then that this attack on the highly-fortified town of Le Quesnoy, with its defensive walls and ramparts, was to be the last big engagement of the Division in this war. It was an attack on as grand a scale as any during the war of movement of the last three months. The artillery strength was as intense as on any previous occasion, and it was estimated there was a gun to every ten yards of the front. Our own infantry held the posts of honour immediately in front of Le Quesnoy, with the Dinks in the centre and the other brigades on either flank. Similarly our artillery, supplemented by British brigades, covered them, and played its memorable part in that cyclonic storm of metal which descended upon the outskirts and ramparts, but which spared the town itself. So skilfully managed was the barrage that the town, which still contained a large proportion of its inhabitants, was purposely avoided, and suffered nothing from our shell-fire. What damage was done came from the German artillery which, with characteristic inconsideration, directed its fire upon the town as soon as it was lost.

THE ATTACK ON LE QUESNOY.

The morning of November 4th was not favourable for the opening of a big attack. It was wet underfoot, though no rain was falling, while a cold wind blew towards the line. At 5.30 a.m. the barrage crashed down on the German front line, and simultaneously the Diggers advanced to the attack. Few will forget that barrage. The thousands of flashes from the guns lit up the morning's darkness. The earth fairly trembled to the staccato barkings of the lighter field guns,

and the deeper resonant crumps of the heavies which, together with the sharper rather of hundreds of machine-guns, created a terrific noise and din during the height of that intense bombardment. To the gunner, beyond his own small sphere of work, where he is more than fully occupied with the management of his own gun, all is more or less oblivion. But to a man who is in a position to witness a barrage, to be actually in it, with the guns barking behind and the shells screaming overhead, then it is he marvels greatly at the immensity of the effort and the intense concentration of destructive force. How well our boys manoeuvred round Le Quesnoy, outflanking it, an operation which is regarded as one of the finest feats of the campaign, we all know. And, as our guns rattled away hour after hour, while the barrage crept around and beyond the town, Fritz retaliated, first with persistent heavies, but gradually with lessening activity as the infantry broke through and over-ran his guns. By 10 o'clock in the morning his fire had completely died, and only an occasional toutsuite shell came over. The area round the guns was fairly immune from shell-fire—a frequent state of affairs during a big stunt.

The infantry had made such excellent headway that it was possible to move the batteries forward. Le Quesnoy itself, until late in the afternoon, was holding out, and in order to get round east of the place, the gun teams were obliged to make a wide detour to the north, almost up to the village of Orsival, and then, skirting round in front of Le Quesnoy, going through the small village of Villereau, outside which the batteries went into action. Next morning the advance was continued, and a barrage from field guns only opened out. The infantry went on, meeting with little resistance. The enemy was falling back. At 9 o'clock the batteries again moved forward, and trekked up as far as the north-eastern edge of the Forest de Mormal into positions of readiness. Subsequent operations took the form of purely open warfare. The waggon-lines moved forward with the guns, the whole "parking up" together. Three batteries of the brigade remained near Le Carnoy for the night, while the 12th Battery, which had been placed at the disposal of the infantry commander, went ahead with the infantry, and spent the night in the Mormal Forest. That night, also, the Division, less the artillery, was relieved by the 42nd Division, and once again we came under Imperial command. Two days later, Fritz having again fallen back, a long, dreary trek was made through the Forest de Mormal to Hargnies, a village on the western edge of the forest. We left Le Carnoy late in the afternoon and made the journey through the forest in an inky darkness. The trek was far from a pleasure trip. The day had been fairly wet, and the forest roads were in a wretched state because of hastily filled mine-craters and shell-holes. Wagons and vehicles were becoming bogged, and there were many vexatious halts and delays on the road.

On the night of the 8th the enemy was again reported to be retiring, and later on in the day the batteries moved up to the neighbourhood of Bousieres. The next day we were relieved and the artillery passed into reserve; and, as Fritz had again withdrawn in the night, the brigade trekked on into Hautmont, a one-time flourishing industrial town within a few miles of the bigger fortified centre of Maubeuge. Here the boys received a magnificent reception from the civilians, who, in their great delight at having been liberated from the German bondage, could not do enough for them. They took the artillery diggers into their homes and extended to them such cordial hospitality that their short stay at Hautmont will not be forgotten for many a day. That night no one slept in the open—or, if he did, he need not have done so. Those nights the majority of the boys slept between white sheets, and, after the rough times and hardships of the last couple of weeks, luxuries of that kind were a blessing indeed. The first evening the rumour ran round of the approach of the German armistice delegates to the French front, followed, the next day, by another, reporting the abdication of the Kaiser and the Crown Prince, but little credence was placed in them.

CHANGING TIMES.

On November 11th, the memorable day on which the war petered out, the artillery left Hautmont on their way back to rejoin the Division on the Beauvois area. The war, in its dying stages, had receded some twenty kilometres or more from Hautmont, and, as the batteries were on the point of setting out on the trek, the official news of the signing of the armistice and the cessation of hostilities slowly filtered through. In some instances the news was received on the march, and, so good it seemed, that many at first were sceptical, and accepted the announcement with the proverbial grain of salt. Perhaps under

different circumstances the boys would have celebrated such an event in a manner befitting the occasion, but, while the folk in Blighty were soaring to ecstatic heights of delight and joy, the very men who had done their full share in the deeds which brought the armistice about had little opportunity for any outburst of feeling. On the whole, the news was received with absolute calm. Few realised perhaps that, at last, the war had come to an end, and that they had fought the last action.

In Quivicy, in a quiet little village near Viesley, where the last series of advances began, may be found the whole of the New Zealand Divisional artillery, batteries, D.A.C.'s Trench Mortar units, and all. We arrived here after a two days' trek from Hautmont, stopping overnight at Villereau, near Le Quesnoy, and continuing the journey next day, Quivicy being reached that afternoon.

For the moment all has dropped into insignificance against the news of the proposed move to the Rhine, where the Division is to form a part of the Army of Occupation. The air is full of demobilisation talk and educational schemes. To-day has been "enrolment day" under the latter proposal, and before long the boys will be back at school again. Things are moving apace and now all are beginning to fully realise that we are done with fighting days, that at last we may turn our thoughts towards home and what the return there means. Deep down in every heart is a sincere thankfulness that the war is over. But a soldier, after years of rough living and times of hardship, has had knocked out of him much of his former emotional spirit. Inwardly, no doubt, he rejoices; but outwardly he displays little to betray the fact.

—D.V.G.S.

THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN CUP.

In 1851 an American schooner, built on the lines of a New York pilot boat at New York, was brought over to Cowes by some members of the New York Club to try what she could do with British yachts and on August 22, 1851, she met the best of the English yachting fleet in a race round the Isle of Wight for a cup given by the Royal Yacht Squadron. The Yankee schooner outsailed our yachts and won the prize, and her owners took their trophy back to New York and in later years decided to make it a challenge cup. Thus the winners of the cup drew up a "deed of gift," which lays down the conditions of the competition. Roughly this deed provides that the Club which challenges for this cup must select its challenging yacht ten months before the race and forward with the challenge the length of the yacht on the water-line, and her "register" as soon as possible afterwards. It will be noticed that as far as the challenging country is concerned, all trial and competition carried out with a view to selection of a challenger must cease ten months before the actual race, during which time the Americans have the enormous advantage of continuing their selection trials right up to the seventh day before the race. Could any rule be more one-sided or in favour of the Americans? This rule alone is sufficient to make it almost impossible to win the cup. Its effect upon the recent contest has been most disheartening, for whilst the Americans had three yachts to choose from—Defiance, Resolute, and Vanitie—the British have had only one boat to choose from namely, Shamrock IV. The challenging yacht must also sail across the Atlantic on her own bottom, and the race is to be sailed in open water outside headlands.

The defending club is bound to choose a yacht for the defence of the cup before the dates fixed for the race. The defending club may build any number of yachts during the ten months period; but on the day of the race they can only defend with one. The yacht chosen must then defend the cup in the best out of five races.

Since the year 1851 the following races have been sailed for the America's Cup:—

- 1870.—Magic beat Cambria.
 - 1871.—Columbia beat Livonia.
 - 1876.—Madeleine beat Countess of Dufferin.
 - 1881.—Mischief beat Atalanta.
 - 1885.—Puritan beat Genesta.
 - 1886.—Mayflower beat Galatea.
 - 1887.—Volunteer beat Thistle.
 - 1893.—Vigilant beat Valkyrie II.
 - 1895.—Defender beat Valkyrie III.
 - 1899.—Columbia beat Shamrock I.
 - 1901.—Columbia beat Shamrock II.
 - 1903.—Reliance beat Shamrock III.
 - 1920.—Resolute beat Shamrock IV.
- The American yacht has been the winner in each contest.

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STYLE
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FIT
FINISH.

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- The Dedonne, Self-filler, 10/-
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- The Conklin, Crescent Self-filler, 20/-
- The Cameron Waverley, secure, Self-filler, 22/6; gold-mounted, 30/- and 35/-
- The Onoto, Self Filler, 20/-
- The Waterman, Lever Self Filler, 25/-

The self-filling principle saves bother and jinky fingers and the quality of the above pens is beyond dispute. Post free anywhere.

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INVERCARGILL
AGENTS.

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—MUTTON BIRDS!—

LARGE SUPPLIES NEW SEASON
BIRDS TO HAND.

COOKED AND UNCOOKED.

Wholesale and Retail at—

LINDSAY & CO.,

TAY AND ESK STREET
SHOPS.

NEW HATS

NOW SHOWING. Black, Brown, and
Mouse shades in

GENTS' VELOUR HATS.

Superior FUR HATS in assorted
liable shades.

TWEED HATS.

TWEED and CRAVENETTE HATS.

LATEST COLLARS, WIDE-END TIES,
BOWS, and ENGLISH MADE
BRACES.

SPECIAL LINE

Of WIDE-END TIES all being cleared
now at 2/6 each. Work nearly
double.

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OUR PRESCRIPTION!

WE CAN FILL IT.

When you have a prescription to be compounded—remember, it is your duty to take it to any chemist you like. A large share of the prescriptions in this locality are brought to us, and our reputation as Reliable Dispensaries is established.

People know we will have all the ingredients called for, that they will receive accurate service, and that the price will be compounded at the lowest possible consistent with quality.

NEIL'S DISPENSARY.

H. BROWN, Prescription Chemist,
(By Exam.), Manager.

COPELAND'S.

STORE IS FULL OF WARM

WOOLLEN GARMENTS

FOR SOUTHLAND WEATHER.

BOXED SUITS in the Famous—

ALL-WOOL COLONIAL TWEED

are far the nicest Tweed seen to-day.

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FOR COUGHS, ETC.,

—Use—

KIWI COUGH DROPS.

EUCALYPTUS TABLETS.

ACCIDULATED FRUIT DROPS.

GINGER AND BUTTER NUGGETS.

ALMOND AND BUTTER.

All 1/4 per lb.

—At—

RICE'S,

LEADING CONFECTIONERS.

DEE STREET.

LAND SETTLEMENT.

PAST YEAR'S OPERATIONS.

AREAS FOR SOLDIERS.

QUESTION OF AGGREGATION.

The annual report on the operations under the Lands for Settlement Act, 1908, states that the number of estates offered during the year was less than that for the previous year, being 451 of an area of 619,680 acres. The whole was considered for soldiers' settlements. The area purchased and completed was 176,835 acres, valued at £1,929,435. There was also purchased for soldiers 25,235 acres, valued at £583,281, for ballot, and 15,814 acres, valued at £403,466, for individual soldiers. This is a large increase on previous years.

The Hill Springs estate, adjoining Teviot, of 9820 acres, with 28,600 acres of Crown leasehold given in, should be ready for selection next February. As in the case of Teviot, the stock was purchased and will be available for soldiers later on. The same course was followed in the case of Waitohi Peaks, and the owner, Mr George Rutherford has rendered the department generous assistance in dealing with the stock since the purchase. The soldiers on these blocks will be able to start with established flocks used to the country.

The general demand for land, especially for dairying and grazing, is extremely keen, and prices are being paid for properties far beyond what the members of the boards feel they can safely recommend. A large number of the places offered present insuperable difficulties in the way of roading and subdividing into reasonable areas, and the want of suitable homestead sites. The lot of a new settler is far from a happy one, the cost of all farm requirements being practically prohibitive, and many are unprocurable.

Several cases of alleged aggregation have been inquired into, and so far in nearly every instance a satisfactory explanation has been forthcoming. The mode of procedure does not render the detection of aggregation an easy matter. Something more is still required.

CLIFTON SETTLEMENT.

DECISION POSTPONED.

The question of allowing additional areas of the Clifton settlement to discharged soldiers who already have sections therein was the subject of a lengthy discussion at the meeting of the Otago Land Board on Wednesday afternoon, and it was resolved to postpone the decision for a month, the settlers in the meantime being asked to specify what additional areas they desire.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS.

WHAT RETURNED SOLDIERS THINK.

Questions affecting the punishment of conscientious objectors were considered at the meeting of the Dominion executive of the N.Z.R.S.A. on Saturday.

A letter was received from general headquarters stating that 16 men were still undergoing imprisonment, and that there were 2000 men for whose arrests warrants had been issued.

The meeting carried the following resolution: "That this executive of the N.Z.R.S.A. recognises that in the case of genuine conscientious objectors imprisonment is unnecessary, but affirms the principle that such persons have no claim to civil rights for the period provided by the Statute; on the other hand, this executive is firmly of opinion that all military defaulters who are not genuine conscientious objectors should be proceeded against (if not already tried) and that they should serve their full term and lose their civil rights for the period specified."

SOLDIERS!

The Invercargill Municipal library are anxious to have a complete file of all publications on transports, or others published by the soldiers. It is fitting and in the interest of all concerned that this file should be obtained, and copies from soldiers will be greatly appreciated. All copies should be accompanied by the sender's full name and address, and will be acknowledged through the columns of "The Digger." We have undertaken to help the librarian in this matter and would appreciate the action of returned men in helping to bring it to a successful issue. Copies can be forwarded to "The Digger," Box 310, Invercargill, or to the Public Library direct.

OTAHUTI NOTES.

Last Friday the Wright's Bush and Otahuti teams combined and played a football match, married versus single men, which ended a drawn game, 6 points each. Anderson and F. Finlayson scoring for the married men, McCrostie Bros. crossing the line for the bachelors. Finlayson's try was the result of a splendid piece of work from fullback. He raced down the line and scored under the posts amid a scene of such enthusiasm as has seldom been witnessed on this ground.

Owing to Anderson, McFarlane and Finlayson being unable to produce their bona-fides as married men, they will in all probability be disqualified until they do. Mr Frank O'Connell controlled a difficult game in an excellent manner, letting trifling offenses pass. Carter (married) and McFadyen (engaged) were seen to be horribly "mixing it at times."

The 1921 season promises to have a much stronger married team to take the field.

THE MODEL SOLDIER.

Ever meet the chap who never ducked
When shells were bursting round his head;
Who saw his captain, pale as death,
Take cover underneath his bed;
Who never, never left his post
Through any weather, wet or fine?
Then rest assured that chap was well
Behind the line.

Ever seen the cove who loved to spend
His evenings out in No Man's Land;
Who never lost his way, e'en when
He couldn't even see his hand;
Who fought a pill-box on his own
Till Huns lay dying by the score?
Then you can bet he's never seen
A five point four.

Beware the man who tells you: "Sure!"
The Colonel reckons I'm a gem;
In fact, he says he'll recommend
Me shortly for the D.C.M.;
And shun the man who talks for hours
About his doings in the line—
For he's a soldier only when
The weather's fine.

J. Davey.

BRITISH TRADE OUTLOOK.

"PERIOD OF DECLINING PRICES."

In a review of trade conditions and prospects of the United Kingdom, made about the middle of July, it is stated that within the preceding two months there had been a relatively rapid change in the whole business position and outlook of the country. Whatever doubt may at first have been felt as to the permanence or otherwise of the relaxation of post-war boom conditions, there can now no longer be any question that a period of declining prices has been entered upon, which is beginning to affect all industries in a greater or less degree. The outstanding fact appears to be in the present situation that the immediate urgent needs of the world have been satisfied. Where this is not the case, as in Central Europe, Russia, and elsewhere, the financial position precludes any effective demand. Lacking credit, and therefore inadequately supplied with the raw material for manufacture, the exchange of commodities becomes impracticable. The fall in silver has severely checked Great Britain's Asiatic trade, while Japan is still suffering from the financial crisis. Thus the fact has to be faced that, from one cause or another, a large part of the world is not hungry for British goods. There is, at all events, a decided pause in buying, and competitive conditions are once more coming into force after a period of practical monopoly. In America the tendency suggests a much keener development of the export trade than obtained prior to 1914, and although at present competition from the United States and elsewhere is not very pronounced, it has to be taken into account prospectively. It is in the relation to home affairs, however, that the most serious and immediate problems of the trade position have to be reckoned with; no greater financial or economic problems have ever confronted the leaders of British industry than is the case to-day.

The immigration of ex-Imperial soldiers to the Dominion was discussed on Saturday at the meeting of the Dominion executive of the New Zealand Returned Soldiers' Association. A sub-committee, consisting of Messrs C. W. Batten, D. S. Smith, and W. E. Leadley, was set up to go into the question of formulating a scheme for the settlement of ex-Imperial soldiers in the Dominion, and the following motion was carried: "That from evidence before this executive of the N.Z. R.S.A. the nominated system of immigration is working satisfactorily, but the overseas settlement scheme breaks down through lack of care at the Commissioner's office."

DIGGERS!

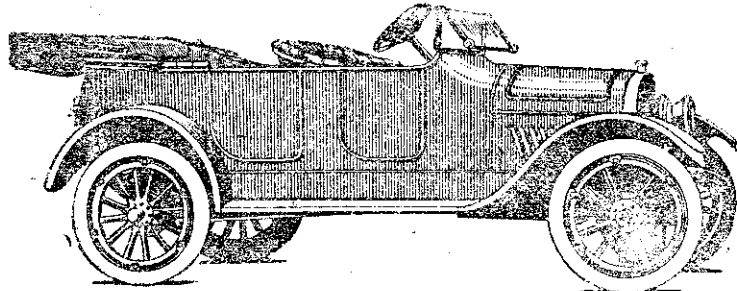
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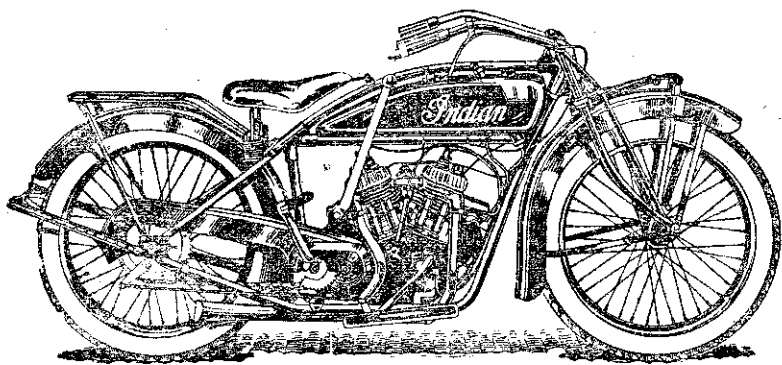
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J. ALSWEILER,**GENERAL CARRIER.**Phones—124, 518,
INVERCARGILL.**Southland Electric Power
Board.****ENGINEERS' REPORT.**We have the honour to report as fol-
lows:—**Design Surveys:** The survey of the main
transmission route from Monowai to Win-
ton has been completed and is now being
plotted. On completion of schedules, etc.,
the necessary plans required for Order in
Council will be submitted.**Distribution Plans:** These are practically
complete and are now in Wellington being
printed.**Generation:** Plans of Weir, intake and
earth dam are in progress. General layout of
power station has been made. Specifications
for hydraulic machinery written and
quotes asked for. The plans of the layout
of the power station, electrical machinery,
and equipment are in progress and also
specifications for same.**Distribution:** This important part of the
scheme is now being considered in detail
by our Mr Ferguson, now located in In-
vercargill. The work involved is consider-
able as many alternatives have to be tried
and we are appointing an assistant to Mr
Ferguson to hasten completion.**CONSTRUCTION.****Generation:** Contracts have been let as
follows:—No. 7 contract, 14 M-15 M, met-
alling, J. Wardle; No. 10 contract, 15 M-
16 M, metalling, J. Gorrie; No. 8 con-
tract, Waiau Bridge approach, formation
and metalling, W. Baird; No. 9 contract,
main access road, Waiau to Monowai, for-
mation, W. Baird; No. 19 contract, tram-
line, Mill to Peg 45, formation and track
complete, Guildford, Herricks and Merri-
lees; No. 18 contract, tramline O to 45
(0.45), formation, McLean and Teraki;
No. 11 contract, Store Tuatapere, J. Karl-
sen.The following contractors have started
work:—No. 11 contract, J. Karlson. This
work is approaching completion. No. 7 con-
tract, J. Wardle. Good progress is being
made with this job. No. 5 contract, Dono-
van and Thomas, metalling 13 M to 14 M.
Has been completed and a very good job
has been made of it. No. 4 contract. This
contract was let to Selwood, conditional
on his putting on two more teams. He
has failed to do so and the contract should
be formally cancelled by the Board and
fresh applications called for this work.
No. 3 contract, Selwood. Fair progress
has been made. No. 2 contract, Baird
and Hogan. This work is approximately
two-thirds complete. No. 1 contract,
Baird and Hogan. Complete except for
raking in.**Sawmill:** The mill has cut 22,000 feet
of timber. It has not got into full work-
ing trim yet, but we hope that in two
weeks' time it will be working at full
capacity.**Construction Staff:** Messers Elliott and
Erickson have reported and taken up their
duties in Invercargill. Mr Moen will re-
port in about ten days.**Men Employed:** The total number of
men employed on the works is eighty, and
there are about 40 horses.**Plant:** Concrete mixer, Tangye engine
and scoops have come to hand. Three
horses for road maintenance and one hack
for overseer are now required.**Cement:** The works are ready to receive
cement and we trust that the requirements
already notified to the Board will be pro-
cured and forwarded to Tuatapere.**Men's Welfare:** At a meeting of the
men at Sunnyside held on Wednesday 8th
instant, it was decided to invite the
Y.M.C.A. to open and run an establish-
ment on the works. With the Board's in-
vitation and acceptance of the conditions,
the Y.M.C.A. now that the men have
expressed a desire to have them, will be
prepared to come on to the works and
cater for the welfare of the employees of
the Board. In connection with this move
we feel that in capable hands it will be a
great boon to the job. There is one point,
however, which should be made clear,
namely, that no providing of meals should
be undertaken by the Y.M.C.A. that
might infringe on the rights of, or com-
pete with, the man running the boarding
house under agreement with the Board.**TENDERS.**Tenders have been received for:—Poles,
pole iron-work, insulators, cross arms,
Waiau Bridge ironwork, and have been
separately reported on.**GENERAL.**The works are proceeding according to
schedule.

(Signed) HAY AND VICKERMAN.

**SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY
CONSTRUCTIONAL ENGINEERS
(Messrs Hay and Vickerman).****TRANSPORTATION.**We now beg to report on the question
of transportation which naturally divides
itself into two distinct jobs—one being
the long steady haul from Tuatapere to
Monowai and the other the distribution
of poles and line equipment over the
country to be reticulated. We have al-
ready dealt fully with the cartage from
Tuatapere to Monowai in our report of
May 24, and now, having fully considered
the relative advantage of petrol tractors
and traction engines, taking into considera-
tion the advisability of having one uni-
form system of transport, have no hesita-
tion in recommending traction engines for
this haul.We anticipate that by next Autumn two
engines will be required, and in the Au-
tumn of 1922 probably three engines, un-
less the roads permit of winter carting.
One engine and waggons should now be
purchased as the roads will shortly permit
of traction-engine transport.The second problem—the distribution of
poles—is different in character as the haul
is short and higher speeds are required.
The loads to be carried may vary and at
times light loads may have to be transport-
ed a few miles for which purpose the
traction engine would be uneconomical and
unsuitable. For this work we recommend
4-ton or 5-ton petrol lorries capable of
trailing a heavy load on good roads. Tak-
ing the total transportation on distribution
as 240,000 ton miles, the number of days
worked per year by a lorry as 240 and the
total time to complete the job as 2½ years,
and the daily work done by a motor lorry
as 80 ton miles, then the average number
of motor lorries required is five and, add-
ing one for standby, the total is six. Each
lorry should be provided with trailer for
carrying poles.The estimated cost, allowing for stand-
ing and overhead charges is 1s 8d per ton
mile.For immediate requirements two motor
lorries would be sufficient and should be
obtained by November next to start pole
distribution.If this report is adopted we recommend
that advertisements be inserted in the
principal papers (including Timaru and
Oamaru) calling for tenders for supply of
the following, new or second-hand:—One
Traction Engine, four flat topped waggons
for same; required in three weeks. Two
4-ton or 5-ton motor lorries, three sets
timber trucks for same; required in two
months. Tenderers to state price and full
particulars and where plant may be in-
spected.**CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT.**This Department is now being organised
and is split into two branches, the en-
gineering and the clerical, both of course
under our control. The duties and re-
sponsibilities of the officers in charge of
branches have been detailed to them and
the system is expected to work smoothly
and efficiently. All dealings that the
Board will have with the Construction
Department should be addressed to Hay
and Vickerman, Construction Department,
Southland Electric Power Board, Invercar-
gill, and not to Wellington, thereby saving
time. Our Wellington office will deal
wholly with the design. Specifications,
plans, etc., will be forwarded direct to
the Board from Wellington as heretofore,
but on approval, the directions of the
Board should be given to the Construction
Department. The duties of the Construc-
tion Department should include advertis-
ing tenders, writing for quotes, getting
Board's authority for acceptance, placing
order, and all the operations necessary
for and connected with construction.All vouchers prepared by the Construc-
tion Department will show on the face the
Board's authority to purchase. There will,
however, be occasions, when to expedite
the work, it will be necessary to purchase
small items without waiting for formal
authority. These vouchers would be
stamped "purchased in anticipation of ap-
proval" and a list of same would be sub-
mitted monthly for approval if this pro-
ceeding meets with the Board's approval.
At the end of each month the Cost State-
ment showing the whole operations of the
Constructional Department and the cost
of the work will be submitted to the
Board.**ADVANCE ACCOUNTS.**We beg to submit for the approval of
the Board, that Advance Accounts be
opened as follows:—(1) £10 (ten pounds)
at Tuatapere: For use by store-keeper, I.
A. Jones, for the payment of telephone
calls, postage stamps, small freight ac-
counts and other petty expenses, which he
is called upon to pay from time to time
by the various departments. He has been
in the habit of paying these charges out
of his own pocket and obtaining refund by
preparing voucher at end of month and
attaching receipts. He has asked that
some other arrangement be made and to
overcome the difficulty the above sugges-
tion is made. (2) £50 (fifty pounds), at
Monowai: For use by Mr Walker, Resi-
dent Engineer, for the purpose of paying
off men who resign or are dismissed before
the close of the pay period, thus obviating
the necessity of men having to come into
Invercargill for their money.Strict supervision will be kept over the
above accounts and periodically audited
by the Chief Clerk who will instruct the
Officers referred to how the accounts are
to be kept.Should the above meet with the ap-
proval of the Board, we shall be glad if
you will please take the necessary action
and have the accounts opened at an early
date.**COPY OF INSTRUCTIONS SENT TO
RESIDENT ENGINEER.**"The progress of works is on the whole
satisfactory. It was expected that the Saw-
mill would be working in full swing and
you are now instructed to see that the
following schedule is carried out:—By
Saturday, September 18, 10,000 super feet
in addition to sawmill requirements by
Saturday, September 25, 15,000 super feet
in addition to sawmill requirements; by
Saturday, October 2, 20,000 super feet in
addition to sawmill requirements.Give definite orders to the mill for these
quantities of timber and continue to do so,
always keeping two or three weeks ahead.
The timber for pipe lines is to be absolute-
ly sound, all heart, totara, and shall
measure when seasoned 8 inch x 3 inch. The
lengths may vary from 8 feet up to any
length. There should be by the end of
this month 10,000 feet of pipe line timber
cut in addition to other immediate re-
quirements and monthly thereafter at least
40,000 feet. This timber must be carefully
stacked at end of tramline so as to season.Please make out a list of stores required
for next four months. Materials other
than timber to be supplied from your own
mill will be ordered from this office and
copies of orders sent to you. It will, how-
ever, be your duty to satisfy yourself that
orders have actually been placed for mate-
rials, to notify this office of any errors or
omissions in such orders, and also to urge
speedy completion.Any plant required for carrying out the
work, will if not already purchased, be
requisitioned for by you and in this respect
look about six months ahead.**RE MOTOR CARS.**You are authorised to keep at present
two motor cars for use when necessary
on the work. These cars must be kept in
repair and good running order. You will
return to this office at the end of the
month the mileage run by cars with a
report on their condition. All issues of
fuel, oil, spare parts, shall be recorded
against the car to which issued as well
as repair bill and costs and will be kept
in the Construction Office. To the run-
ning costs will be added 1d per mile for
depreciation and the total cost shall not
exceed 6d per car mile. The surplus car
you now have will, when put into thor-
ough repair, be returned to Invercargill.
These remarks apply to motor lorry
also, but the return shall be ton miles per
month.The Construction Office will forward you
copies of all contracts and the Chief
Clerk will henceforth be responsible for
seeing that the timekeeping, storekeeping,
costing and clerical work is done properly,
and can discharge any of the Construc-
tional Staff that do not carry out their
work satisfactorily and make whatever ar-
rangement and adjustments he may think
advisable to obtain the greatest efficiency
and best results in the work of his
branch.You will give operative orders to the
clerical staff on the works—it is the duty
of that branch to "deliver the goods" and
keep track of their disposal.**BLUFF REPORT.**The proposed depot site at the Bluff has
been inspected by Mr Hay, who was met
by Mr Hinchey and the Works Committee
of the Bluff Harbour Board by appoint-
ment last Friday. The Harbour Board
has a piece of reclaimed land available
for a dumping ground and has surplus

(Continued on Page 5.)

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three-roomed house and scullery, meat
shed, cowbyre (8 stalls), milking machine,
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years grass, 46 acres limed. No waste land
on the farm. Buildings: Six-roomed house,
cowbyre for 20 cows; 5-stalled stable, meat
shed, windmill. Price £28. Terms**THE HOUSE TO SUIT RETIREES**Six large and sunny rooms with
ceilings and heavy panelled ceiling in the
living room; electric light throughout, porce-
lain bath and basin, hot and cold water
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ON THE TELEPHONE.

JOHN MILLBANK, a successful, stern judge, quarrels with his only son.

K, who leaves his father's house to his own way in the world; and first serving with the Australian contingent, under the name of Dick Foster, he meets, and falls in love with.

TY, the adopted daughter of Sir John. However, Sir John has arranged for her marriage with

RD HAVERHAM. In a moment of despair, Kitty writes to Dick, asking him to meet her in the Blue 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 sentence of death, 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 Wimmerleigh; 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. Dick, believing this story, leaves that morning for Wimmerleigh. Kitty goes down to breakfast, and is cross-examined by Mr Chase, but on his promise of assistance tells him the whole story. At a fabulous price Mr Chase engages the services of

PELHAM WEBB, a clever but unscrupulous detective, to find Dick Foster, and extracts a promise from Kitty not to attempt to see or write to her lover until a year has elapsed. Pelham Webb discovers Dick, and unbeknown to Beaumont Chase, takes him to the latter's residence where he is installed as gardener. Sir John and Kitty arrive at Beaumont Hall, and Beaumont Chase loses no time in asking Sir John for the hand of his daughter. Sir John consents. That afternoon Kitty receives news that the gardener is seriously injured.

The concluding paragraphs of last week's instalment, reprinted to refresh readers' memories.

"It is a lie," cried Chase vehemently. "What business has he with you? He is a gaolbird, a worthless vagabond of no account. Why should he come to see you?"

Judge Millbank seemed to gather his strength by one desperate effort.

His emaciated figure became erect, his old eyes seemed momentarily to regain their ancient fire, and his voice rang out proudly:

"Because he is my son!"

Dick took a step forward as though to defend poor Kitty from an enemy, and then, recalling the helplessness of his position, he stood motionless, his face betraying the bitter anguish of his soul.

Kitty was the bravest, the clearest headed of them all.

"Mr Chase," she said, "you made me a promise on condition of which I became your wife. Do you still intend to keep that promise?"

"Of course I do," replied the millionaire warmly. "I have been called a hard man, but no one has ever accused me of breaking my word. The secret which you and I share is perfectly safe. No power on earth could make me reveal it now. The evidence is destroyed, and the portion we know of, as far as I am concerned, is absolutely secure."

"I thank you," said Kitty not a little moved by the earnestness of his tones. "But you have since made another promise. You have given me permission to remain with my father as long as he needs me."

Beaumont Chase made an impatient gesture.

"In the first place, Sir John Millbank is not your father; and in the second place he no longer needs you. He has his son."

"I am here to say good-bye," interposed Dick Foster eagerly. "My father sent for me and I came, but—"

"Enough! My daughter does not leave this house, Mr Chase. You shall never have her, and if you come here and molest her again, I will have you thrown into the street!"

The judge's voice, strong and vibrant as of old, rang out and startled them all.

"Do you think I do not know the dastardly means you adopted to secure Kitty's consent to be your wife?" he continued scornfully. "And do you think I care? Do you think you can frighten me as you frightened that chivalrous girl? Make what disclosures you like, sir. If you think you know anything about me, publish it from the house-tops. Do your worst! While I have breath in my body I will fight you. Now go!"

Beaumont Chase surveyed the tall, gaunt figure of the old man, who seemed to tower in his wrath above the normal height and could not resist a feeling of admiration.

Nevertheless, this feeling did not divert him one atom from his purpose.

"You alarm yourself unnecessarily, Sir John," he said coolly. "Your secret is safe with me. I have given my word to my wife and I shall not break it. At the same time, if you try to keep me and Kitty apart—"

"Well?"

"I will find other means to bring you to a more reasonable frame of mind. Is it necessary for me to remind you, Sir John Millbank, that you are in my debt for a considerable sum of money?"

The judge's pale face whitened to a deeper pallor, and for a moment he could not speak.

Kitty moved quietly to his side and took his hand.

The old man looked down at her.

"It is true, my dear," he said tremulously. "All I have cared for in my life has been for fame and distinction among my fellows. I was never expert in the money-grubbing game. I became financially embarrassed recently and the man offered his assistance. I took it with little thought. It is not much—"

"Four thousand pounds, and I want it now," interposed Beaumont Chase quietly and decisively.

"You shall have it at my convenience," retorted the old man haughtily.

"I'll have it at once or I'll sell you up," said the millionaire brutally. "We will see then who it is that will be thrown into the street."

Kitty turned on him, her eyes flashing. "Mr Chase! How can you be so cruel, so wicked?" she exclaimed.

He looked at her and smiled.

"A promise is a promise, Kitty," he said grimly. "I'll keep mine; other people must keep theirs. I get what is mine in my own way. You will leave this house with your lawful husband at once; or, by Heaven, I'll enforce payment of that money before nightfall."

At this moment Dick, who for some time had been hardly able to contain himself, strode towards the door.

Kitty, seeing him going, lost her nerve. "Oh! Dick—Mr Foster—don't—don't leave us!" she ejaculated impulsively.

He turned his head.

"I shall not be long. Do not, any of you, leave this room until I come back."

The next moment he was out of the room.

He went at once to a small apartment on the other side of the hall where there was a telephone.

Hurriedly he fumbled in his pocket for the letter-heading given to him by Harry Pinch's strange client, Dixon Drake.

Meanwhile, Mr Drake's words were ringing in his ears.

"If you ever want money, don't go to a money-lender. Come to me."

After some delay he got the number on the 'phone.

"Hello! Yes, Drake? Dixon Drake?"

"Speaking."

"I'm Dick Foster, you met me—"

"I know. Well?"

"Did you mean what you said in Pinch's studio?"

"Always mean what I say."

"About money—"

"Yes, I meant it."

"But let me make it clear. You said—"

"I know what I said."

"But the amount, I want money—rather a large sum."

"How much?"

"Four thousand pounds."

"Will you sign—?"

"Anything!"

"All right, when do you want it?"

"As soon as I can have it."

"Where are you?"

"Kensington Park Gardens—Judge Millbank's house."

"Oh, yes, I know. All right, I'll do it. I'm coming along right away in a taxi."

"But the money?"

"I'm bringing it with me."

"But—Hullo! Hullo!"

There was no answer. Mr Dixon Drake had rung off.

(To be continued.)

SOUTHLAND'S SOLDIERS.

To the Residents in the Counties of Southland, Wallace, Lakes, Fiord, and Stewart Island.

The Compiler of the Southland Soldiers' and their Next-of-kin Roll of Honour Book has posted a specimen copy of sixteen pages to all Head School Teachers within the aforesaid Counties known as Group Area No 14, Southland Military District for the purpose of receiving orders for the sale of 3000 books guaranteed before ordering the Printer to proceed with the whole book, this number being required by the Publisher to reach his lowest quotation of price per book ret. Copies have been placed also in the hands of all Borough Mayors and Town Board Chairmen. This book, when well circulated will prove a crowning act to the grand patriotism displayed in the Southland Queen Carnival, the funds of which are proving such a help and blessing to soldiers and their relatives. Subscribers to the book would do well to group the orders in school areas as much as possible, to make the delivery more expeditious and certain. Mr Troup purposes serving the main centres of delivery by an advertisement in each local paper, giving hour and date of delivery. The price of the book is 4s delivered.

The shortage of sugar in Otago is very acute, there being no sugar in wholesale hands and very little in the retailers' bins.

The Pahiataua Racing Club farmed its course last year, and made a profit of about £3 15s per acre.

SOLDIERS!

The Invercargill Municipal Library are anxious to have a complete file of all publications on transports, or others published by the soldiers. It is fitting and in the interest of all concerned that this file should be obtained, and copies from soldiers will be greatly appreciated. All copies should be accompanied by the sender's full name and address, and will be acknowledged through the columns of "The Digger." We have undertaken to help the librarian in this matter and would appreciate the action of returned men in helping to bring it to a successful issue. Copies can be forwarded to "The Digger," Box 310, Invercargill, or to the Public Library direct.

WAR TROPHIES.

In addition to asking the loyal co-operation of all soldiers for transport publications for the public library, we are anxious to receive on behalf of the Southland War Museum a collection of trophies. It is very important that nothing be lost that will be in any way a war trophy. Southland soldiers have played an important part in the war and we must preserve, for the benefit of those who follow, something of a tangible character.

Every part of the Dominion is seeking a collection of trophies and we must not be behind. Numbers of articles which have been brought from the battle front are being lost sight of, and we would be glad to receive anything at all. Name and address must be sent, also full particulars of article, where found, stunt, etc. Articles can also be displayed in the museum and remain the property of the sender, but can we, as representing Southland soldiers, make a direct gift to the people. Trophies can be sent to "The Digger" office direct, box 310, Invercargill; or to Mr Crosby Smith, Athenaeum Buildings, Dee street, Invercargill.

(Continued from Page 4.)

store accommodation amounting to 60 feet x 120 feet floor space. The store and dumping ground are served by a siding and loop coming off a back-shunt on the main line. The existing track does not permit of efficient handling of poles and cross arms and the unrestricted use by the Power Board of the Bluff Harbour Board's siding would most certainly hamper the operations of the Harbour Board when loading or unloading their store.

There is, however, an area of railway land between the Harbour Board Store and the main line which could be served by a loop off the main line and which would give storage room for poles and provide more sheltered place for workmen. By using this area for the main pole depot the Harbour Board's land as a surplus dump and the Harbour Board's Store for such goods as require protection from the weather, a good depot could be established at the Bluff. The terms under which the Harbour Board would be prepared to let the Power Board have the use of land and store are, we understand, under discussion. Mr Hay, on Saturday, interviewed the District Railway Engineer, re lease of land and siding and Mr Lowe expressed himself as willing to consider an application if made.

FURNITURE!

LET US QUOTE YOU FOR THOSE ARTICLES YOU ARE THINKING OF BUYING.

You will then be convinced that our Prices are Right.

GEO. MOIR & SON,

FURNITURE DEALERS AND MANUFACTURERS,

72 and 74 TAY STREET.

(Next Price and Bulleid.)

For your Garden Seeds, Plants and Trees, go to

TINY DANIEL

Albion Buildings, Dee Street, Invercargill.

Southland Floral, Plant, and Seed Supply.

PASSING NOTES.

Henare tells the story. "Honi an' Pita, they get to the plume, an' I go Rie-ton an' see Doctor Trotter, an' tell him. He say to get to parameter to see what Honi an' Pita temper like, an' if it too hot to give 'em plenty whisky. So I pay to parameter an' two pottle or whisky. First I go to Honi, an' put to parameter in he mout, like to Doctor say. Then I look at the parameter an' to parameter say 'werry dry.' So I give it Honi to whisky, an' he drink nearly all to pottle, an' he smile an' say, 'Py crapes, tat te stuff. Gimme some more.' So I know he alright 'en, an' I go over to Pita. Pita werry bad; kick about a lot. So I say to te two or three wahine 'ere, 'You hol' 'im tight while I try te parameter on 'im.' Te wahine hol' he arm an' he leg, an' I poke te parameter in he mout. P'raps I poke 'im in too far; I dunno. Anyway, Pita he kick out pretty quick an' knock all te wahine over on te floor, an' sen' me flyin' troo to window. As I fallon te road outside I look at te parameter, an' I see it mark 'Werry stormy.' O, py crapes, te parameter orri; he tell him true efery time."

"In view of the higher cost of living, etc.," our M.L.A.'s are demanding an increase in their "screws." I don't know who it was (probably Harry Holland, or some other Labour agitator) who first preached the "glorious gospel of discontent" to them, but it is clear that his labour has not been in vain. There will be no strike, for since they are their own paymasters, the matter will, of course, be settled to the satisfaction of all concerned. Well, nobody grudges them a fair thing; the labourer is (sometimes) worthy of his hire. But a glance at the various division lists of late leads one to think that payment on a daily, instead of the present yearly, basis might be adopted with advantage. I do not know of any other industry than law-making in which an employee can absent himself practically as often as he pleases, and at the most critical times, without having his "screw" doctored. It is safe to say that if our "honourable gentlemen" were paid at so much per day of eight hours—with short time deducted and overtime paid for at "rate and a-half"—the Parliamentary division lists would not show such a woeful paucity of names as is so often the case at present.

I must confess to a certain amount of fog over the Ne Temere business, and our recent legislation thereon. To my misty intelligence it seems that the R.C. Church wants to call me, whose parents were not joined together with its peculiar knot, a bastard, and that our legislation says that it really mustn't. Then (still according to my limited intelligence) it would appear that the R.C. Church only uses the term bastard in a sort of Pickwickian sense, but will insist on its right to call me that, in that way, even if Cardinal Cleary and Pope Brodie and the rest of the crew have to go to quod in vindication thereof. Well, it seems a pity to deny them their coveted martyrdom. For myself, I am inclined to think, with that fellow Shakespeare, whom I have mentioned once or twice before, that there is not much in a name. Still, there is much of inconsistent human nature in myself, as well as others; and if I hear anyone, whether he be pope, cardinal, bishop, or priest, who calls me or my children (we were all born outside the R.C. fold) bastards (Pickwickian or otherwise), then I will strike him as hard as I can over his filthy mouth. That, I think, is the simplest and most natural way to settle these little things.

If the request of the Tokatoha settlers for the freehold of their present National Endowment leaseholds is conceded Mr Massey will start a ball rolling which will never stop until our cherished National Endowments are nothing but a memory. For, such a precedent once set up, the same privilege must, in all logic and equity, be granted to every leaseholder under the Crown. And the present voracious appetite for land values would ensure the speedy mopping up of the whole nine or ten million acres of land held in trust by the Government for the aged and helpless of this and future generations. The only two arguments put forward in favour of the proposal by the Lands Committee were the proceeds of such sales would, if invested, yield a greater revenue than that at present obtained from the lands, and, secondly, that the settlers would be better able to finance their undertakings. Both are weak and unsatisfactory. In reply to the first, it may be pointed out that money has a more or less stationary value; the revenue derivable from a given sum will be, broadly speaking, the same fifty or a

hundred years hence as it is to-day, even assuming that it is safely earmarked. Land, on the other hand, will increase in value with the increase in population, and so yield a revenue more commensurate with the larger demands of that increased population. The plain answer to the argument is that the leasehold leaves the settler's initial capital free for development purposes, while the freehold absorbs it, and so almost invariably throws the settler into the arms of the mortgagee. The leasehold system has placed many a man on the land who would certainly never have got there under a single freehold system. But it is notorious that the man who has prospered under the leasehold almost always covets and demands the freehold, usually for no other reason than that the latter gives him greater opportunity to traffic in land values.

KINGS AND PRINCES I HAVE MET.

H.R.H. PRINCE FUOHY.

As his name denotes, Prince Fuohy is of French extraction. He proudly traces his lineage back through a long list of warriors to that illustrious somebody who marched an army somewhere and did something a good many years ago. His ancestors were, for the most part, fairly respectable; very few were outlawed, and fewer still were executed—which says much when we consider the strenuous times in which they lived. In his own person the Prince represents the best qualities and the loftiest traditions of his race. True, it must be sorrowfully admitted that comparison of his features with the old ancestral portraits is not altogether flattering to His Highness, but he thinks that a possible explanation of this fact is that he may have been changed in his cradle. What he lacks in physical beauty, however, is more than compensated for in his manifold virtues. Foremost among these is his boundless and indiscriminating hospitality. As is well known, the doors of his palace stand open day and night for friend and stranger alike. All are welcome; never once has he been known to turn anyone away. Rich and poor, old and young, gay and wretched, sober and drunk, all find shelter and repose beneath his roof. All night his light shines brightly to guide the weary and tangled wayfarer to that sweet haven of rest. Nor is his large benevolence content merely with this, but by day and night he sends forth his servants to search the highways and by-ways, and doorways, and taxi stands, to gather them in. "Bring 'em in—rope 'em in," he says, in his hearty, cheery way, "and I will look after 'em when they come." And his servants go out and bring in the halt and the lame and the blind drunk to the Prince, who receives them with open arms, and feasts them royally, and lays them on soft couches between lavendered sheets, so that the crows won't be able to peck them before morning. He guards them carefully from straying and all evil, and next day presents them at the Court of H.M. King Cruickshank, that they may be comforted.

Incredible as it may seem, there are many who show a coy reluctance to accept of the Prince's bounty, and it takes all their guide's persuasive powers to win them to the palace. Still others, of the baser sort, proclaim their strange perversity and black ingratitude by violently resisting the Prince's servants, blackening their eyes, kicking in their brisquets, rending their raiment, and expressing a fervent and ferocious desire to tear their livers out. Some are even so depraved as to open the vials of their wrath within the very precincts of the palace itself, and to "talk to Fuohy like a Dutch uncle," as they afterwards irreverently boast. But the Prince is not easily discouraged in his philanthropic work, and so does not turn even those away from his hospitable doors. May the saints reward him.

I have mentioned the Prince's military servants—a word or two of description of these faithful fellows may not be out of place. They are familiarly and affectionately designated "slops," "cops," or "John Hops," and are distinguishable from ordinary men by their inordinate love of truth and the curious shape and large size of their feet. This latter peculiarity attracted the attention of Huxley and other scientists, whose investigations revealed the fact that the good Lord or Nature had bent their legs up abruptly at a point midway between the knee and the ankle, thereby providing a strong understanding. This strange physiological fact serves to prove that John Hops, like poets, are born and not made. They are usually attired in blue, and have certain mysterious passwords, such as "Move ahn, now," "I've got me eye on ye," "Ye'd better come along wid

me, me bboy," etc. Their chief duty, besides roping in guests for their royal master, is finding clues. They get quite a lot of these at times. In fact, the Prince has three rooms chock-full of them. These clues are almost invariably circular in shape, so that, whatever point one starts from, one, by following them, always gets back to the same place. They are very useful, as they provide copy for the newspapers, and keep the public satisfied until they have forgotten the case. They are also handy in enabling the "wanted" person to get safely away. Many a fleeing malefactor has had reason to thank God for the John Hop's clue. Another remarkable peculiarity of the John Hop is an infinite capacity for being anywhere but where he is wanted. This faculty is common to all of them, though it varies in degree; some, by dint of long and constant practice, have developed it to a point bordering on actual genius.

But, to return to our muton—that is, the genial and distinguished Prince. I shall never forget my first—and last—experience of his hospitality. I had been participating in that common, but extremely pleasant, form of entertainment popularly known as "a night out." I had somehow lost my friends, and would, no doubt, have lost myself too, but that I encountered an angel in the blue uniform, who affectionately smell my breath and then tendered me a cordial invitation to accompany him to his masters palace. I demurred, but he would not be denied, and, owing to the difference of opinion between us, in a moment we were engaged in a more or less friendly wrestling bout all over the footpath and roadway, and occasionally in the gutter. But the direction of the struggle somehow tended always towards those portals above which shone the aforementioned lamp, and presently a breathless John Hop and an equally breathless myself stood in the presence of His Highness. His greeting was all, and more, than I could desire, and after hearing the testimony of his servant to my excellent character and the circumstances under which he had met me, the Prince ignoring my requests to be excused, insisted on my acceptance of shelter for the night. (The happenings of the following morning have already been recounted in an earlier article of this series.) I am grateful to Prince Fuohy for his kindness, but I am always loth to trespass too far on good nature, and so trust that I shall never again become the object of his overflowing charity. One can have too much of even the best of things.

"CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE."

JURIES AND THE WORD "MAN-SLAUGHTER."

At the Supreme Court in Hamilton Mr Justice Stringer congratulated the district on the absence of crime during the past three months. There was only one criminal case on the list, a charge of manslaughter against J. C. Johnstone arising out of a motor accident. His Honour added that it was a matter for regret that these cases of death caused by negligence, in such circumstances as the present, should be designated "manslaughter." Manslaughter, in the minds of people generally, was regarded as a mitigated form of murder, and that being the case, there was, unquestionably, extreme reluctance to convict on a charge of manslaughter when no intentional injury was done. His Honour also said that it was imperative that persons driving motors should have a full sense of responsibility, and there was some danger that they did not appreciate this responsibility. If juries failed to convict in even cases where the evidence of negligence was very clear, His Honour expressed the opinion that the law should be altered in such cases and a charge of this nature should be designated "criminal negligence." The crime of manslaughter included a wide range of offences, which might be punishable by a mere fine, or a short term of imprisonment, or may be even difficult to distinguish from actual murder. Where cases of death were caused by the neglect of another person, called "criminal neglect," juries would not have the same reluctance to convict and the punishment should be adjusted in such a way as to deprive the convicted person of the right to control in future the particular instrument which caused the accident, or, at any rate, for a definite time.

Sing up those ragtime melodies
They make me feel so gay.
I'm in no mood for rhapsodies
And sentiment to-day.
Cut out those "Songs of Araby!"
Sad strains I can't endure—
Make me rejoice and clear your voice
With Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

THE SOUTHLAND ELECTRIC POWER BOARD.

SUMMARY OF THE CORRESPONDENCE TO BE PLACED BEFORE BOARD.

SEPTEMBER, 14, 1920.

Correspondence Inward.—

Wallace County Council, Otautau, 23rd August: Asking for particulars of the position on the roads the Board proposes to erect the poles for its transmission and distribution lines.

J. and W. Faulkner, Dunedin, 26th August: Intimating that they would be unable to tender for the bolts and nuts, etc., required by the Board in the time specified.

Jas. Macalister, Ltd., 27th August: To the effect that they had put in a quotation for road scoops, etc., as requested, but that they had received a reply from the Board stating that the orders for the various machines had already been placed. Intimated that, in their opinion, Southland manufacturers should have preference, and asked to be advised why the matter was dealt with so hurriedly when no date was specified in the specification submitted to them.

Town Clerk, Mataura, 27th August: Advising that the Mataura Borough Council pays 1d per unit for power and 2½d per unit for lighting, and that they incur no expense in respect to wages for Engineer to look after the switchboard, as all this work is included in the above charges.

Post and Telegraph Department, Invercargill, 30th August: Re charges for telephone service between Tuatapere and Monowai, and stating that as the charges were computed under the Electric Lines Act the local office had no power to alter them, but that the Board's letter would be forwarded to the Head Office with a recommendation that under the circumstances the suggestion made therein be given favourable consideration.

Board of Trade, Wellington, 30th August: Advising that the application for a permit to erect a store shed had now been considered and authority had been issued for the granting of the necessary permit.

Hay and Vickerman, Wellington, 1st September: Enclosing copy of letter received by them from Jas. Macalister, Ltd. regarding the purchase of road plant, etc., and also a copy of the letter in reply thereto.

J. A. Redpath and Sons, Christchurch, 2nd September: Intimating that they were willing to supply the Board with insulators only, as they were experiencing great difficulty in securing stems, the prices of which were increasing considerably.

State Fire Insurance Office, 2nd September: Giving information re the Fire Insurance covers on goods in store; goods in transit and on travelling huts.

Hay and Vickerman, Wellington, 3rd September: Enclosing list of firms to whom the plan and specifications for hydraulic machinery had been sent, and asking them to tender in connection with same.

State Fire Insurance Office, 6th September: Advising that they have obtained the builders' risk covers in connection with the Board's new offices from the Yorkshire Co., and the Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Co., Ltd.

Town Clerk, Bluff, 8th September: Stating that the Bluff Borough Council will purchase the power in bulk from the Board, and will also order all material required through the Board.

Town Clerk, Riverton, 7th September: Stating that the Riverton Borough Council desires the Power Board to reticulate the energy within the Borough boundary provided that the Council has the right at any time to acquire the installation at valuation if so desired.

Taparui Borough Council, 8th September: To the effect that the Borough will purchase the power in bulk, the Board to supply all material, etc.

Hay and Vickerman, Invercargill, 8th September: Requesting the Board to furnish the Construction Office with an Underwood Typewriter as soon as possible. Decided.

Hay and Vickerman, 6th September: Regarding tender for hardwood poles from Messrs Cumming and Burnie, Tasmania.

Hay and Vickerman, Wellington, 6th September: Stating that they had forwarded copy of specification, etc., for hydraulic machinery to Jno. Burns and Co., Auckland.

Hay and Vickerman, 6th September: Enclosing copy of cable received from International Earth Boring Machine Corporation as follows:—"Credit has been entered. Have begun the execution of order. Consider it advisable to make forward contracts, price exclusive of packing. Do you wish us to send some one competent to take charge at your expense."—Recommended that the matter of placing further contracts be deferred until receipt of the machine at present on order,

and also that it was not necessary for someone to come over to take charge of the machine.

Cory-Wright and Salmon, Wellington, 7th September: Asking that they be allowed until the end of December to submit their detailed tender for Turbines and pipes, etc., for the Monowai Plant, as it would be necessary for them to forward the drawings and specifications to their principals abroad.

Leyland Motors Ltd., Wellington, 7th September: Asking that they be allowed land Lorries in the event of the Board requiring motor lorries for the purpose of carrying machinery, etc.

British General Electric Co., Wellington, 7th September: Requesting that copies of all specifications be sent to them in order that they might submit tenders.

Jas. Lumsden, Chairman, Railway League, Invercargill, 8th September: Asking that the Board press upon the Government the desirability of keeping faith with the petitioners and favourably considering the petition for the proposed Wright's Bush to Drummond Railway Line, such petition having been forwarded to the Government General about two months ago—Received.

Wright, Stephenson and Co., 9th September: Advising that they could supply the Board with three or four tons of good chaff at present being cut, at the price of 27 15s, sacks extra—Accepted.

Hay and Vickerman, 10th September: Enclosing a letter received from Jno. Chambers and Son, re tender for Monowai Turbines, in which they ask to be advised of the limit of time the Board can allow for receipt of tenders, as they estimate that it will probably be three months before they can get a mailed quotation from their principals in America.

Hay and Vickerman: Enclosing copy of letter received from Jno. Burns and Co., Auckland, to the effect that they would be unable to submit a quotation for Turbines, etc., before two or three months.

Hay and Vickerman, Invercargill, 11th September: Advising that the rails, fastenings, points and crossings for Siding at Tuatapere could now be sent forward to Tuatapere.—Rails not now available but other negotiations being made.

Hay and Vickerman, Invercargill, 11th September: Requesting that the 250 bags of cement at present stored in Invercargill be sent forward to tuatapere.

National Bank of New Zealand, 27th August: Regarding the purchase of the International Earth Boring Machine, and asking them to dispatch a cable to their agents in Chicago through whom the transaction would be made.

Huon Timber Co., Ltd., Hobart, 26th August: Thanking them for their attention to the Board's request for samples of timber.

Queensland Forest Service, Brisbane, 28th August: Same as above.

Right-Hon. W. F. Massey, Wellington, 28th August: Informing him that the Chairman would visit Wellington on the 2nd September in order to go more fully into the question of finance.

Forests Department, Perth, 28th August: Informing them that in view of the fact that the duty on sawn timber coming into this country would probably make the cost of Jarrah poles prohibitive, the matter of forwarding samples of Jarrah may remain in abeyance.

Forestry Commission, Sydney, 28th August: Advising them that owing to the cost at which they could supply samples of timber to the Board, it had been decided that until the tenders had been received and the contract for poles arranged, it would be unnecessary to incur this expense.

Jas. Macalister, Ltd., 3th August: To the effect that the matter of dealing with the quotes for road plant, etc., had been placed in the Engineers' hands.

A. Walker, Tuatapere, 30th August: Enclosing agreement, special conditions of contract, etc., in connection with Gorrill's undertaking to be signed by Mr. Gorrill.

Jno. Merrilees, Orepuki, 30th August: Advising him that his tender for construction of tramline had been declined.

H. C. Guildford and W. Herricks, Orepuki, 30th August: To the effect that they altered charges for laying tramway and for culverts had been accepted.

R. Donnelly, Ohai Railway Board, Wai-ri-ri, 30th August: Notifying him that six cases of petrol had been consigned to him on behalf of the Power Board for the use of the surveyors on the transmission line.

W. Macalister, 1st September: To the effect that the special committee of the Board set up to interview him regarding the legal charges would meet him on the 14th inst.

Right-Hon. W. F. Massey, 2nd September: Stating that the Chairman would be in Wellington on the 7th inst. to go

(Continued on Page 11.)

GORDON BROWN.

THOSE in search of houses and farm lands cannot do better than consult me. I shall at all times do my best to submit properties that are fair value and arrange your finance at lowest current rates of interest.

£900.—Very superior seven-roomed villa; slab-tile grates, art mantels, picture rails, and wide freizes; commodious bathroom. Full 1-acre freehold in handy position. Terms: £300 down, balance 6 per cent.

£1275.—Twelve acres freehold land; nearly new five-roomed house, cowbyre, trap shed, etc. Close to factory and school and only 3½ miles from Invercargill Post Office.

£800.—Special new five-roomed Bungalow, with porcelain bath and pabelled hall; half-acre freehold land with ample room for another house. Real good buying. See it.

GORDON BROWN.

UNION BANK CHAMBERS,
TAY STREET, INVERCARGILL.

H. D. PRESTON.

BUILDING CONTRACTOR.

WINDOW FITTER AND SHOW-CASE
MAKER,

TAY STREET, INVERCARGILL.

IF you require anything in the way of woodwork please call and have your wants attended to

I have the staff and material to do any work required—and do it well.

H. D. PRESTON,

TAY STREET, INVERCARGILL.

Phone—472.

Private—507.

CONSIGN, OR BRING YOUR

CALFSKINS

TO

ANDREW WILSON.

Corner DEE and LEET STREETS,
INVERCARGILL.

Also—

TALLOW, HORSEHAIR AND
RABBITSKINS.

Tags on Application to—

BOX 143.

PHONE 1148

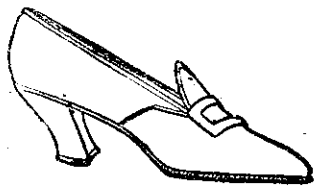
TRAMP! Tramp! Tramp! Hear their ceaseless beat:

Hear the Town Council bleat,

What on earth is that they have upon their feet,

Why? Boots repaired at Hawthorne's shop!

Beapins that can't be beat.



J. A. HAWTHORNE.

BOOT REPAIRER,
TAY STREET.

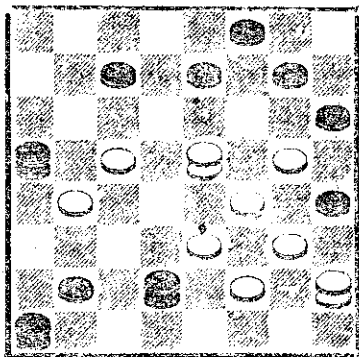
DRAUGHTS.

(Conducted by F. Hutchins).

Draughts Club meets in Athenaeum on Wednesday and Saturday evenings. Visitors invited.

PROBLEM 27

By L. S. Burrows, Oxford.



White to play and win.

Black—3, 6, 7, 8, 12, 25, kings 13, 26, 29.
White—14, 16, 17, 19, 23, 24, 27, kings 15, 28.

The idea is ingeniously concealed.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM 26:

Black—Kings 1, 10, 12, 13, 27, 31.
White—6, 17, 20, kings 11, 25.

White to play and win.

20.16 11.15 18.11 17.14
12.19 White wins.

GAME "CENTRE"

A brilliant game, with a more brilliant shot in which "Stonewall" Barker was beaten by the subtle Heffer, of Chicago.
11.15 10.17 16.19 9.15 7.14 11.18
23.10 21.14 26.22 26.23 27.23 32.14
8.11 11.16 7.11 13.22 19.26 White
22.17 19.15 31.26 23.16 30.25 wins.
15.18+ 4.8 2.7 12.19 13.27
17.14+ 24.20 22.17+ 14.10 25.2

A 19.15 is generally preferred at this stage.

n A tempting bait, but white has nothing better.

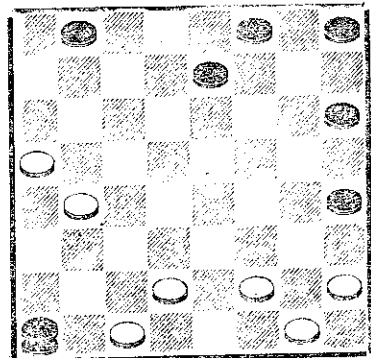
c If 19.26, 30.23, 13.22, 14.10, 7.14, 27.24 White wins.

Below is a game played in a match between two well-known experts.

GAME 2126—BRISTOL

Black—Gardner.		White—Ward.	
11.16	16.20	9.11	15.19
22.17+	18.9	25.22	24.6
9.14+	6.22	11.15	2.25
25.22	26.17	31.26	17.13
8.11	5.9	14.13	25.29
22.18	29.25	23.11	21.17+

† See position at this point.



Black to play.

4.8 17.14 11.15 19.28
26.23 15.13 10.7 10.6
8.11 25.19 8.12 1.10
13.9 7.11 7.3 27.24
11.15 19.15 16.19 20.27
28.24 12.16 14.10+ 32.7+
3.8 15.10+ Drawn.

A An opening bristling with multitudinous possibilities.

n Now a formation of the Double Corner.

c 14.10 will also just draw.

d An interesting game.

w 3.7, 19.28, 7.10, 15.19, 10.15, 19.24, 15.22, 24.31, 14.10, and White for choice.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Geo. H. Brown: Your solution of problem is correct.

W. O'Malley (Queenstown): Glad to hear from you. Thanks very much for games and problems. The games you played blindfolded are interesting and I will publish them next week.

Racing Notes.

on the local tracks, and I intend paying regular visits to the tracks each week in future, and I trust my trainer friends will show off their charges to their best ability the mornings I get up early.

Tuehana broke a hind leg while schooling on the Gore course the other morning, and had to be destroyed.

My old friend "Put" has always had a grudge against handicappers for putting too high weights on good horses, and I am not sure he isn't right. But how about himself, I saw "Put" and the whole d—n family except the dog being towed to the football match on Wednesday by a small pony. I guess Rorke's Drift has carried all his heavy burdens allotted by Henry, Jones, Saunders, Gibb and Co., much easier than that pony hauled his load on Wednesday.

The Gore Trotting Club is going to give £1700 in stakes on Boxing Day, including £400 for the principal stake. New blood is telling in the management of this Club.

The great Arrowsmith is slightly amiss and has been scratched for the Wanganui meeting.

Fleetham, one of the few imported from Blighty stallions available in this island, is getting solid support for his opening season at the stud.

Young Ellis has been engaged to ride Royal Star in the New Zealand Cup next November. I like nothing better than this horse in the big two mile race, and there would be rejoicing at Wairoa should the local boy steer the winner of that heat.

The local tracks have improved a great deal during the past fortnight, but according to the trainers Tom Marshall might make things much better for them. Tom knows his business as well as any caretaker in the island, and he is one of those gifted men who can listen to all ideas and carry out the best—his own. The tracks are a credit to him.

The Otago Trotting Club's first annual meeting of members was quite a successful affair, and treasurer Bert Mills presented a very prosperous looking balance-sheet. This Club is sure to make good under its present enthusiastic management, and with a good and conveniently situated course I expect to see it an important training centre before long.

Recently at Riccarton, Fabrinade and Listening Post had a sprint over half a mile. Fabrinade was holding Digger Eric's niddy easily at the end which was reached in 52 3-5sec.

Amythas, who was reported to be off colour for a while, has evidently recovered well for he is now credited with doing great work on the Riccarton tracks.

Billy Cowie is reported to have sold his pubby at Winton. Should he leave the district both local clubs will miss him for he has been a grand worker in the interests of sport. He is a former secretary of both clubs, and last year made a good President of the Trotting Club.

The Winton Trotting Club has decided to give £1200 in stakes for its meeting next February, and from the enthusiastic manner in which this country club has taken up the suggestion of forming a six furlong track, there are some good sports around Winton who don't mind spending a quid or two to improve their course and appointments.

A recent cable from Sydney says that the great Gloaming will have to be spelled for a couple of months. He was galloping in great form and promised to play a big part in the w.f.a. events at Randwick next month.

General Petain looks nicely treated in the hurdle race on the first day at Ashburton.

Those who fancy Royal Star for the New Zealand Cup should remember that the race he is engaged in at Ashburton next week is only seven furlongs. He is better suited over a distance, and though the opposition at Ashburton is not strong should he not win there his chance in the big race would not be affected.

A SPORTSMAN ON WOWSERS.

President W. T. Hazlett delivered another of his annual lectures on the Wowsers last Friday night, and our local contemporaries gave him nearly as much space next day as they would a Premier's policy speech. No one could ever even think Mr Hazlett a wowsers, but surely, he made too much of his objections to them to be in good taste? Even a wowsers has a right to live, and if they don't see eye to eye

TO THE DIGGER IN SEARCH OF LAND.

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WHISKY.

with the head of the local Jockey Club on matters pertaining to sport and liquor, his abuse is certainly not likely to convert them. Everybody in Southland, wowsers and anti-wowsers, knows how Mr Hazlett has improved the tone of the sport in the district, and the standing of his own Club in particular, and sportsmen throughout Otago are proud of his efforts. But, Mr Hazlett should remember that all racing men and patrons of the totalisator are not blind opponents of the prohibition movement. If the investments on that machine on the Invercargill course could be analysed it would probably be found that the totalisator (or wowsers, in Mr Hazlett's opinion) have contributed very considerably to the coffers of the local club. No doubt, quite a number of them also are members. Surely the president was speaking a little out of his turn when he castigated them as he did last Friday evening. We do not propose to know all about the management of a jockey club, but we, and most sportsmen, do know that in the past licensed booths on our race-courses have not been in the best interests of the sport. The Riverlton, Winton and Wairoa Clubs all used to have licensed booths, and the managements of these clubs found it better to abolish the licensed sale of liquor on their courses. Mr Hazlett's connection with the Trade may have been the cause of his advocacy for a renewal of the old order of things on the local course, but fortunately the course is situated within a "dry area." Now-a-days ladies form a very large proportion of the attendances at our race-courses, and Racing Clubs should be very careful in their management not to do anything which will not make their courses and sport attractive to our women folk.

Mr Hazlett, as one of Southland's representatives of the New Zealand Racing

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Parliament carries a great deal of weight as an authority on sport and as a sportsman, and it was unfortunate that his enthusiasm should have carried him over the bounds of fair criticism of a section of the community, who, whatever their views on sport and continuance may be, have as much right to the sunshine and rain of this world as has Mr Hazlett himself.

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"The Digger."

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1920.

LAND.

We have frequently referred to the practice of placing men on land of poor quality and which has been bought at a high price. Several cases of this sort have been brought into prominence lately, and the Clifton Settlement is one of special interest owing to its close proximity to our own surroundings. The settlers on this land have now proved that they are unable to make any headway under the present conditions. This land was bought for £10 per acre and cut up into twenty-three sections. During a period of three years, only ten of the sections were taken up and the balance of the land is standing idle. An investigation committee visited the settlers and found that they were a good class of farmer, but considered that the area allocated to each settler was too small owing to the poor quality of the land. The settlers themselves have asked for a reduction in the rent. After many months of agitation, in which this journal played its part, a Special Committee has visited the Settlement, and practically recommends an increase in the area of the farms. This is an admission that the claims of the settlers were just, and that the Government had placed men on land which was so poor that it could not produce a sufficient margin, after rent, etc., had been paid. The land was sold to the settlers at £11 per acre, and its present value is £8 10s per acre. It is stated that many of the men left the property, and left all they possessed for the succeeding tenant. Another estate is the Tiraumea, which is stated to be poor, one sheep country. At the present time the settlers are clamouring for redress. The area is 10,130 acres and was bought at the end of 1916 for £81,000. It was rated in the Eketahuna rate-book at £19,050, and its capital value was £44,000; therefore the Government paid £37,000 more than the capital value of the land. Then the unimproved value was put up and the

soldier pays taxation on £38,000 or 100 per cent. more than the large landowner paid. At the same time, four large estates adjoining this property have been increased 36 per cent. The owners of this estate paid 2d in the £ on £19,000; at the present time the soldiers are called upon to pay 3 3-16d on £38,000. The former owner paid £158 in rates and the present soldier tenants pay £600. Another case is one in which the unimproved value of the place was £3,658 and the soldiers were placed on it at £14,000. In Taranaki a speculator bought land at £30 per acre. The owner was an independent man and was not anxious to sell, so put a high price on it. This land was afterwards sold to returned soldiers at £45 per acre. The former owner declared that he was making more money out of it with the interest on the money than he could get out of it by farming. So it will be readily seen that "all is not gold that glitters" as far as the Government's land policy is concerned. The speculating parasite is a menace and decidedly unpatriotic. The soldier maintained land values at the risk of life, and arrives home again to pay war inflated values, and in many cases to struggle along on land which is not reasonably good.

THE DIGGER'S LETTER BOX.

A REPLY.

Jacques.—I am relieved to hear that you do not feel "wilted." It would grieve me to learn that any statements of mine should prejudicially affect you personally and physically. But your assertions re McCabe's reliance on telepathy have "wilted," and that most seriously, there is no denying. Remember that you gaily sailed into the controversy with the statement that "in his debates on spiritist matters, McCabe's usual method of disposing of scientifically inexplicable phenomena is to airily ascribe them to telepathic sources or energies." You added that "he was, and is, persistent" in the use of this method. And you wound up by stating that he "Continues working the unprovable telepathic argument for all that it is worth—and much more." Pretty definite statements, are't they? Now, you watch them "wilt." When it was pointed out to you that in his recent great debate with Conan Doyle, McCabe never mentions telepathy, you replied that the phenomena discussed were not such as the telepathic explanation would apply to. You must surely have read the report of the debate very hurriedly or you would have seen that a large proportion of the phenomena discussed were just such as telepathy-communication by one mind to another would apply to. The Piave incident, the Raymond incident, the Lusitania incident, the Morphia incident, the cases of Mr Letham, Dr Hutchison and Mr Powell, all these could have been explained away, more or less successfully, by the telepathic hypothesis. Yet there is not one syllable by way of a telepathic defence. Strange After you have assured us that Doyle's opponent holds that "telepathy provides the whole key to the puzzle." (Pronounced sensation of "wilted"). Let us proceed. I asked you for some reference to this "persistent" obsession of McCabe's and the best you can do is to refer me to two publications, one six years' old and the other ten. You quote from "The Religion of Sir Oliver Lodge" where McCabe says "These (telepathic) experiments are to me convincing." I will carry your quotation a little further, "These experiments are to me convincing; as they were to Podmore and others. Many scientific men refuse to admit telepathy." Not much of a dogmatic temper about that. Then you refer us to another page where you say that McCabe "roundly and erroneously asserts that the one type of (spiritist) experiment from which the action of telepathy is vigorously excluded never succeeds." We only turn to the page indicated and we find that McCabe's real words are "apparently—the one type, etc." May I compliment you on your polemical skill. And may I also point out that you say that I admit that McCabe's affirmation that telepathy had been scientifically established would be dogmatic. Not so, what I said was that if he "declared that telepathy was wholly or generally accepted by men of science" that would be dogmatic. And McCabe readily admits the contrary. To conclude, I am still after exact facts regarding the £1000 challenge. In your first paragraph you stated that someone "was provoked into offering Joseph McCabe" this money for proof of telepathy. Was this challenge made definitely to McCabe, as your words are intended to indicate, or was it a general offer? I submit that your aspersions on one of the most honest men and capable scholars of the time have been shown to be mere wild exaggerations. They're past the "wilted" stage; they're dead and mouldy.—I am, etc., "A."

A challenge for two pounds—deposited with "The Digger," to be covered by "Scotch Terrier," re Irish and Welsh Terriers.

(To the Editor.)

Sir.—As my name appeared in your last week's issue, I wish to reply to "Scotch Terrier," who takes exception to my leaving the Wellington Show. In reply to this, I wish to state that I did not leave the Show one day before it terminated, on the 7th August. What I did was to leave the Show two hours before, instead of one day as stated, in order to catch the boat which left at 8 o'clock instead of 9.30 as in previous years. When I was informed of this in the morning, it being a Saturday. I at once applied to the Secretary, Mr Hollis, and the Committee, and I left the Show good friends with all. I may also state that I could take my dogs home at 9.30 being there to attend to them, and thus the Show is relieved of any liability of feeding, etc. You, Mr Scotch Terrier would leave your dogs behind, I suppose, in order to obtain your dogs returned free of expense. Now, my reason for bringing the dogs home was to give them the feed and water which they would not have got, had I not been on the journey with them. I also wish to challenge "Scotch Terrier" for £2, re his remark that my well-known dog, Paddy's Selection, is more like a Welsh terrier than an Irish terrier. First of all, we will take the colour of the Irish, which is red. Red wheater or wheaten. Now, Mr "Scotch Terrier," compare the Welsh terrier with the above—black and tan, or grizzle and tan, or black, tan and grizzle. This, apart from size, if you are a breeder at all, should suffice you, and if you wish to know more about the Welsh terrier, I will give it to you, providing you talk sense. With regard to my making myself a fool as you quoted me as doing, I have the pleasure of saying one fool makes many. I should like you to come out from behind your non-de-plume in giving your opinion as to my dog's size? I wish to tell you, as you say you have seen him several times, that he has been shown fearlessly eight times in two years winning 30 firsts, 7 specials, and 1 cup, under eight different judges who were of the opinion that he is the best headed Irish terrier seen for years, and they never spoke of his size to me. Again, here is where the Welsh terrier fails, in head, as given by the writer Mr Jarrold. The only time this dog was put down in the Show ring, was at the Invercargill Show under Mr A. Kidd (judge), for his size, and he was defeated by his son, who I bred and owned carrying off 5 special gold medals, 6 firsts. His size was the correct one, so you see he can breed them small, Mr "Scotch Terrier." Also enough said. I am not the breeder of the above criticised dog; but I am proud to be his owner.—I am, etc.,

J. DOE.

Breeder of Irish Foxies, and Airdales.

Correspondence to these columns should be in ink and clearly written. We have no time to decipher correspondence. The £2 sent to this office is not required, and must be removed. We do not act as stakeholder for anyone's challenge.—Ed. "Digger."

**THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
SOUTHLAND ELECTRIC POWER
BOARD.**

Sir, and Gentlemen.—The last meeting of the Board passed off very quietly, but it was evident that members had been reading "The Digger." Even Mr Hay has read it, and no doubt, he found it interesting and candid in its comment. The Board meeting has confirmed what we have been saying through these columns, regarding the administration of the Board's affairs and the time is past when criticism should be of a suggestive character and we believe that the Board is decidedly weak. To illustrate this statement; take the question of tenders which were dealt with at the preceding meeting. At that meeting tenders for certain works were found to be in excess of the Engineers' estimate. The Board refused these tenders and decided to advertise again. The Chairman reported at your last meeting that one of the contractors had agreed to accept the work at the cost estimated by the Engineer and the contract was signed. Now, Gentlemen, the decision of the Board does not seem to count for much, and if the Board decided to advertise again—then, in fairness to other tenderers the wishes of the Board should have been carried out. When the Chairman made this announcement, every member of the Board wore the look of disappointment, and we venture to state that members were not satisfied with the Chairman's action. In face of these facts, not a member said a word. This is a weakness which any local body can do without and a change in the personnel of a number of members of the Board

would be beneficial. We notice from a published report of the Board's meeting certain correspondence eliminated. The press took the trouble to report a statement from Nightcaps as applying for a position of boarding-house keeper. This was in the inward correspondence and yet a reference to the letter from a firm of solicitors; making an appointment to investigate legal charges, was eliminated. The Board evaded this question during the whole meeting and in the final stages of the meeting when members were getting uneasy about catching the train, I wonder that does not appear in the report. The Auditor, which stated that if the Chairman goes abroad, the Board will be liable for the money. In other words it is illegal for the Chairman to go abroad and Section 34 of the Electric Power Board's Act, which provides for the payment of "reasonable expenses" is not capable of such a wide interpretation. Both these matters were in the typewritten sheets of correspondence and, to say, are not in the published report, while a very minor matter such as the Nightcaps incident was published. We do not blame the Board for this, but the incidents themselves have been referred to in these columns before and are now made more explicit. So the Act does not give wide enough powers for the Chairman to proceed abroad, and now an amendment to the Act is to be placed on the Statute Book. If you could bring the Board into the realm of practical reality, as early as this, we should feel more comfortable. During the discussion on electrical machinery, the Engineer stated that unless the Engineers could say what sort of electrical machinery was required they would not accept responsibility. And quite right, too! But why not carry it to its logical conclusion? Furthermore, there should be adequate provision for finance. The Board's overdraft at the bank is £25,000 or 8d in addition to this there are large commitments in addition to the several thousands of pounds of tenders accepted at last meeting. On the question of finance you went into Committee and we will await a statement from the Board in order that the public may know the flimsy fabric on which it rests. There was some justification for the Board going into Committee on this occasion, but when things assume a more concrete form we have no hesitation in saying that the Board should make a statement. The supplementary report of the Engineer throws important light upon our previous comment regarding the Engineers' agreement. The Engineers claim the right to keep all accounts dealing with construction. They already have their own office in Invercargill. This office will have a complete record of all transactions which come under the category of construction. Mr Campbell is the executive officer of the Board and will be responsible to the Government Auditor. Under the present machinery he will have no records and we say definitely that all records should have their final resting place under the jurisdiction of the Executive Officer, and that all other members of the clerical staff should direct their reports, etc. to his office. The Board may think that it is good policy to keep two sets of books, which are an exact copy of one another, but we do not, and the present position is not in the best interests of the ratepayers. We heard some time ago that there was friction over this matter and now we can understand it. In a recent issue of this journal we referred to an advertisement in the "Evening Post" where applications were called for assistant electrical engineers. The business of the Board proves that we were correct, and we again affirm the principle that all positions should be advertised locally, as well as in other parts of the Dominion, and all things being equal, Southland men first whether it is a question of labour or the supply of materials. The practice of going outside the Dominion without even advertising and giving all applicants an equal opportunity is decidedly wrong. Another appointment at a salary of £200 per week was made in a similar manner. It is not a question of Australia and New Zealand, but that all positions should be advertised.—I am, etc.,

EDITOR "DIGGER."

Owing to pressure on our space correspondent "John's" letters held over until next week.—Ed. "Digger."

"That which we are, we are,
One equal temper of heroic hearts,
Made weak by time and fate, but strong
in will
yield."—Tennyson.

To strive, to seek, to find, and not
"Honour and profit do not always
in the same sack."—George Herbert.

THE RANFURLY SHIELD.

SOUTHLAND (17) v. WELLINGTON (6).

(Maroon) (Black).

Teams were: Southland: Backs: Holmes, O'Kane, Fortune, Stead, Dalgleish. Forwards: Miller, Agnew, Whyte, Cockroft, McKenzie and Baird (winger).

Wellington: Backs: Brook, O'Sullivan, McCabe, M. Nicholls, Roberts, H. Forwards: Pearce, S. Shearer, Harkness, Wilson, Standen, J. Shearer (winger).

Wind was south-east but dropped in the first spell when Maroons hit, growing much stronger after interval thus favouring Blacks. The Blacks were ideal for either forwards or backs. Conditions therefore were at Southland won conclusively in admiration of its public and to the benefit of its opponents. The Maroon team was regarded as the best in the Dominion, and they had well earned their reputation; but in Murihiku that victory-crowned side met defeat from a team that gave is what it had not had for some time—forward play. The members of the Wellington combination were the first to take this, taking their loss of the Shield as a true sportsman's spirit. Several things to the home victory: the dribbling, kicking, bunching, following, condition of the forwards; the tackling, determination, and opportuneness of the Blacks. These were the positive factors.

A negative one were: the lack of vigour of the Wellington forwards, their reliance on merely their backs, and the failing of the Wellington forwards to tackle—save for Roberts—or to come down to rushes. To these might be added the uniformity of their back attack, everything depending on Robert's jink. A enthusiastic or impartial crowd never witnessed a Rugby game, Wellington get, perhaps, more applause than Southland for movements. This is to be explained from the fact that passing in the Blacks has more attractions to the ordinary spectator who does not readily pick the difference in any system. Southland's pass is not spectacular, but it is deadly in itself, as proof of which note the home Blacks' four tries—all from back efforts—the visitor's one try. A record crowd witnessed the great game; so the S.R.F.U. is in funds for its ground improvement scheme that must give the province a football area fitted to produce fast play. The result of the game must be greatly pleasing to the executive, the players, the clubs, the players, the sub-unions, the various enthusiasts who aided in the coaching of the team, the writers who stirred up the public to the keenness of old times, and to the kindly public, which gives its footballers, its sides when they are tried, and the good old game of Rugby football. Now, that the province it at the pinnacle of its fame, we must guard against either giddiness or megalomania.

Canterbury, which scored 16 points against Wellington when the latter were beaten—Wellington has had some thirteen side games this season—has to be played next Wednesday, and Otago must be in return on its own midden, and Otago has a very strong side, a side that is right out to beat the Shield holders thus to finish a good season gloriously.

—The Wellington Backs.—
This back division was about the best in down here this season—light, but fast, snappy, quick to take advantage of an opportunity, and always dangerous. Their kicking formation allowed for great variety of movement, and had they seen more of the ball, they would doubtless have made some pretty displays. Their weakness was a decided disinclination to go down to rushes, relying rather on tricky passing on defence, and at times they were adepts. But Southland were on the back, and the Wellington defence were usually well smothered by the Maroon forwards. H. Nicholls beat the scrum rarely received a clean knock, nevertheless, he got the ball well. His scoop to Roberts was well seen. Roberts was very quick in attack, and several times was able to run Stead and cut Lopdell completely out of the defence. Fortunately for Southland, he had no opportunity for exercising his potting skill. M. Nicholls, last year's Wellington College captain, proved some fine football, his cut-off in his 25 being an especially bright piece of work. His handling and kicking were of high order, and he will undoubtedly go on Ryan at centre was unfortunate in seeing O'Kane, the latter's hard tackles really sending his passes away. McCabe and O'Sullivan were fast men, but seemed the light side. Brook at full took the very well and did some extremely neat

—The Southland Backs.—
The home backs surpassed themselves. We thought they might possibly hold-up the Wellington attacks by solid tackling; but a score against Wellington from a passing rush seemed far too much to hope for. But they did pass, and Holmes got his chance. Dalgleish was not up to his usual standard in kicking, but his passes came clean from the scrum, and as usual he did much defending. He was wise in his first spell punting. Lopdell did well especially in attack; some of his tackles, too, were very timely. Several times, however, he was too slow to get to Roberts. Stead played his best rep. game of the season, tackling vigorously, and biting into the Wellington defence persistently. But the honours go to O'Kane, whose work was brilliant throughout. He was always there on attack, and on defence he proved himself one of the soundest centres we have seen for some time. Had it not been for his solid tackling, Southland would have had many points against them. As it was most passing rushes ended in an advantage to Southland. When Wellington scored, he had not got clear of the forwards. Fortune proved as cool and resourceful as ever, and Holmes gave a rare taste of his stride. He might be called "The Speculator King," and be advised to take a ticket in Tatt's. He paws for the ball like a grizzly, gets into pace like an elephant, and scores like an Arab steed. He is one of those players—born doubtless under a lucky star—with whom you never feel safe, but who, nevertheless, seldom let you down. Holmes does many curious things, but somehow he gets there; and the crowd will forgive anything to the man that can score as he did against Wellington. Brown played his usual fine game at full-back, save that his kicking was not quite so sure as usual. His great tackle of the Wellington wing added to the number of his many admirers. Surely he will get his chance for South Island honours this year. We certainly haven't seen his equal this season.

—Southland Forwards.—
The front row men met hookers who had got all the ball from Otago—hookers on whom the Wellington side relied and who have spoiled a forward pack by their success in securing the ball. A careful record kept by an intra-representative front row man of this season made the ball-deliveries from set-scrums, line-heels and rucks as a total of 56. Of these six were marked neutral, 23 went to Southland, and 27 to Wellington. It was very noticeable that in the first spell, when the visiting winger put in the ball, that it was nearly always kicked back to him. To particularise the other forwards would be invidious. They all played right up to the best standard of Southland forwards although at times there was high-tackling. The emergency for Roche, Agnew, will be hard to leave out. Baird, who is neither a forward nor a back, gave a great exhibition, putting his marker completely in the shade. He was up on to everything.

—How the Tries Came.—
A Wellington pass broke down in their own 25. Fortune secured and was insufficiently tackled. He ran north, across the goal front behind the visiting pack. On being tackled Fortune grounded and Millar dribbled over and secured. The second try came after a forward rush into Wellington's 25. Holmes and Fortune were in a kick and pass movement which failed. The sequent scrum saw a quick heel, Dalgleish sending to Lopdell who bounced the ball, throwing his marker out of gear. Then Stead was fed to score. The try coming third was from mid-way, the play being well to the north side of the field. A set scrum feed allowed Dalgleish, Lopdell, Stead, O'Kane handle, the last named feeding Holmes who ran towards the south line—opposite the grand stand—where, he rounded the wing three and scored with a straight run of 25 yards. The fourth crossing occurred when the Southland forwards swarmed all over the Black-Yellow monograms in front of the west goal. A series of short passing rushes by Southland were checked, but the Wellington team continued to be penned up. A heel gave Dalgleish an opportunity to set Lopdell going straight. On the first being collared, O'Kane dashed into the scramble, and securing was thrown down. He passed from the ground and Stead received and dived over between the posts. The Wellington try was a beautiful piece of transferring work. A line feed gave half Nicholls the ball to send Roberts on his errand from half-way. The first five cut across to Stead, M. Nicholls, Ryan, and McCabe handling in turn, the last named touching down. O'Kane was in the ruck, so home was between two men. The scores were made up of: Southland 4 tries (one converted), and a penalty goal; Wellington, one try, one penalty goal. The Wellington team played the cleanest game seen here this season, no illegal interferences being noticeable. The men are good sportsmen and clean players of Rugby.

FIRST ANNUAL BULL FAIR.

and

HORSE FARADE.

will be held on the Show Grounds

on

WEDNESDAY, 6th OCTOBER,

at 11 p.m.

Entries close through selling agents on

SATURDAY, 25th September.

Full particulars from

D. CUTHBERTSON,

Secretary.

SOUTHLAND COUNTY.

ELECTORS ROLLS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the County Electors Roll for each Riding will be closed on the 6th day of October, 1920. Owners and Occupiers of property are notified that alterations in accordance with "The Rating Act, 1908," can be made till the closing of the Roll on above date.

A. J. SERVICE,

County Clerk.

County Office,
Invercargill, 14th September, 1920.SOMETHING CHOICE AT NORTH
INVERCARGILL.

FOR IMMEDIATE SALE.—Modern especially well built four-roomed home. h. and c. water; 2-acre of high ground; sheds; cowbyre and pigsty. Five acres adjoining can be leased at a very low rental. A real good home for somebody. Price for house and one section—£700; with extra 1/2-acre—£850. Call for particulars to W. A. OTT and Co., Ltd., Dee street.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Casual Advertisements—One insertion, 4/- per inch; 3/- per inch for each subsequent insertion (prepaid).

Births and Marriage Notices—3/6 one insertion; 5/6 two insertions.

Death Notices—3/6 one insertion, 5/6 for two, and 7/6 for three insertions.

Memorial Notices—For notice only, 3/6; notice with verse, 3/6, plus 6d per line for each verse.

Wanted, Lost and Found—1/- for one insertion of sixteen words.

Millinery in popular shapes and shades. Straw shapes 5s 11d, 8s 11d, 12s 6d, to 29s 6d. Panamas, 7s 6d, 10s 6d, to 19s 6d. Leghorns, 25s 6d, 37s 6d, to 47s 6d. Ready-to-wears, 10s 6d, 15s 6d, 19s 6d, to 29s 6d. Semi-trims, 12s 6d, 18s 6d, 22s 6d, to 35s. Black tulle hats, 25s 6d to 35s. Black crepe de chine and silk hats, 32s 6d to 47s 6d. Models in many new shades and styles, 22s 6d, 29s 6d, 35s, to 45s. Matrons black toques, 25s 6d, 29s 6d, to 47s 6d. A very choice selection of berries, flowers, mounts, and ribbons. New and fashionable costumes in serge, gaberdine, and tweed, 89s 6d to 199s. A very smart selection of skirts in voile, silk, and tweed. All alterations free of charge; 1s in the £ discount on all cash sales. See lovely display upstairs at H. and J. Smith, Ltd., Progressive Drapers, Tay street, Invercargill, and Main street, Gore. Phones in all departments.

The Diggers' Motor Car,
FOR HIRE.

SPLENDIDLY UPHOLSTERED.
FIVE-SEATER,
WILLYS' KNIGHT CAR—35-h.p.

R. A. BAIRD.

Ring 'Phone—744.

REMOVAL NOTICE.

SHIELDS, JENKINS & CO., LTD.

(Late Farmers' Machinery Exchange).
PROPRIETORS & MANUFACTURERS
STORRIE IMPROVED
MILKING MACHINE.

Wish to notify their Customers that they have removed to premises at rear of Club Hotel.

ENTRANCE:

DEE ST.: Club Hotel Right-of-way.
LEVEN ST.: Mackerras and Hazlett
Right-of-way.
P.O. BOX—278.
TELEGRAMS: "Pulsator," Invercargill.

Distinctive Styles

IN

READY-TO-WEAR GARMENTS

AT

"THE EXHIBITION."



The Smartest of Smart FLANNEL COSTUMES; all sizes; long Coats, medium Skirts; 6 to 8 guineas.

New TWEED COSTUMES in Brown and Grey effects; all new styles. Prices 6 guineas to £8 19s 6d.

A great selection of GABARDINE and SERGE COSTUMES, in all the new styles.

NEW UNDERWEAR—Just opened a choice selection of Fancy Cotton and Cotton and Silk VESTS in Britain's best makes. Prices range from 4/11 to 17/6.

New COTTON CREPE WASHING BLOUSES (Crepe), in latest Shirt styles; all sizes. A great assortment in Plain White, Rainbow Stripes, and block stripes. Prices 11/6 and 13/6 each.

New Net and Lace BLOUSES, in pretty designs, showing the new wide sleeves. Prices 25/6, 27/6, to 32/6.

NINON BLOUSES, featuring Net Camisole effect lining. Prices 39/6, 45/-, to 95/-.

The latest in GEORGETTE BLOUSES. Prices 35/6 to 97/6.

Thomson & Beattie, Ltd.

THE QUALITY HOUSE.

'Phone 13. P.O. Box 46. Tay Street, Invercargill.

CALEDONIAN HOTEL,

DUNEDIN.

TUAPEKA ALE AND SPEIGHT'S ALWAYS ON TAP.

P. V. STEVENS, Prop.,
19 Carrol street,
Dunedin.

PURE FOODS ACT.

IT was reported in this paper on the 27th August that a North Island firm of Cordial Manufacturers had been fined for using red ink or some other colouring in the manufacture of Raspberry Cordial.

THOMSON & CO. wish to advise the public that they use no artificial colouring of any kind. The colouring of their Raspberry Cordial is the natural colour of the Pure Fruit Juice that they use. Their "Purity" Cordials are pasteurized and contain no preservatives of any kind. They guarantee their Lime Juice Cordial free from citric, tartaric, or any other added acid. They use only the highest quality of Rose's Pure Refined Lime Juice and there is nothing purer or better in the world. They invite the public to visit their factory in Leet street, and to see the materials used in the course of manufacture. They encourage inspection.

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SCOTCH! HOTCH! POTCH!

McTaggart: "You opponents o' Scotland are a' the same, speakin' about our brouge and findin' fault wi' the glass—the 'drinkin' habit' ye ca' it. I tell you it's no habit at a'; it's a gift!"

The Catholic Bishops and that pugnacious stalwart of Presbyterianism, the Rev. Isaac Jolly are insinuating that they will do things should the proposed marriage legislation be enacted. Marriage is doubtless an ordination of the Creator; but equally a civil contract. This contract made between men and women of a civilised state is sufficiently valid in the absence of priest or parson. It should be patent to the most simple minded that a marriage vow solemnised before a legislator, and kept to the death, will please the Deity just as well as one provided over by the moderator or his holiness the Pope. We say give religious liberty to the full, but don't allow ecclesiastics to dictate the policy of the State.

Mon ye ken it wis grand to see the Southland tithal boys win hame again. In fact it wis glorious. May they have many more like triumphs. We are all proud o' them. Some o' the local folk have been criticisin' the combination of the Red's but as Sandy McGraw says "The proof o' the puddin' is the eatin' o' it!" The Southland team was the better one any way ye like to tak' it!

As an example of woman's wit, Chauncey Depew cites the following: A man once found that his wife had bought a few puffs of false hair. This displeased him. Some day he hid in the hall outside her room, and, just as the lady was adjusting the false puffs, he darted in upon her. "Mum!" he said reproachfully. "Why do you put that hair of another woman upon your head?" "John," retorted Mary, with a glance at her husband's shoes. "Why do you put the skin of another calf upon your feet?"

It is reported from Moscow that Enver Pasha, at the request of Lenin and Trotsky, has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Bolshevik forces which are marching on India. The Bolshevik forces in the Caucasus, Persia, Afghanistan and Turkestan have been placed under his command. Enver Pasha recently sojourned at the Bolshevik headquarters in Samarkand with Trotsky. French diplomatic circles consider that the principal aim of the manoeuvre is to compel Britain to make peace with Russia quickly.

Enver Pasha is, far-and-away, the most unscrupulous and ambitious mischief maker in the Mohammedan world. Possessed of great ability and the Napoleonic touch fired by a burning hatred of England "The Gopier" opines that this "disturber of the peace" will create trouble enough before he goes home.

It is questionable if one-tenth of our citizens have any idea of the extensiveness of the work of reclamation carried out by the Prison Authorities across the Waihopai. Take a walk to the wharf thence by the embankment running north, recrossing at the bridge at foot of Victoria Avenue you'll get some idea of what is being done across the water.

Sergeant McDuff had a squad of Highland recruits on the rifle range. At 500 yards they all missed the target. He tried them at 300 and 200 yards but with little success. Exasperated, he cried, "Tam you! Tam you! Squad, Attention! Fix bayonets! Charge!"

Little Johnnie, aged six, had been to church and had displayed more than the usual juvenile attention to the sermon, in which the origin of Eve had been dwelt on at some length. On his return home, there being company to dinner, he displayed more than usual attention to the good things on the table. Some time afterwards, Johnnie was missed. When his mother discovered him he was sitting on a stool in a corner holding his side, his face bearing marks of sorrow and distress. "What on earth is the matter?" asked his mother in alarm. "Oh, mamma, I'm afraid I'm going to have a wife."

MARKET REPORTS.

Messrs Bray Bros, Ltd., auctioneers and fruit salesmen, Dee street, Invercargill, report as follows:—Produce: Table Potatoes.—Plentiful supplies. Price 6s cwt. for prime quality—other quality from 5s to 7s 6d per bag. Seed Potatoes.—There is still a fair demand at satisfactory prices. Onions.—Supplies scarce. Oats.—24s 6d to 27s 6d per sack (sacks included): Chaff 28 10s per ton, and 6s 6d to 6s per sack. Straw Chaff.—4s per sack (sack included). Baled Straw.—5s 6d per bale. Meggitt's Linseed Meal.—We have a small supply available. Meggitt's Calf Food.—30s bag.

Oatdust.—6s per bag. Bran.—11s 5d bag. Pollard.—13s bag. Farro Food.—12s bag. Molasses.—21s cwt., 12s 6d per tin.

Fruit.—Consignments of fruit are now on the decrease and prices have increased. Dessert Apples are selling at from 10s 6d to 14s per case for prime quality—other quality from 8s 6d to 10s; Cooking Apples prime quality 8s 6d to 9s 6d case—other quality from 7s to 8s case. Dessert Pears, are in short supply and are selling at up to 5 1/2d lb.

Vegetables.—Cabbage, scarce, consignments wanted. Swedes.—4s to 4s 6d per bag. Carrots.—4s bag and 6s 6d per cwt. Parsnips.—2d lb.

General.—We have supplies of posts and stakes, and are prepared to accept orders for Totara, Broadleaf and Kanahi. Lepp Salt Lick—the unrivalled cattle tonic 2s 3d per brick; wholesale, quotation on application. Cow covers 25s to 30s. Horse Covers 22 1/2s to 23. Boots to 35s. Honey—in 10lb tins 10s. Tea (b.p.) in chests and half chests and in 10 and 50b packets 2s 6d to 3s 3d per lb.

Furniture.—Oak and Rima Furniture made to your own design. We have stocks of the best quartered Oak which works up into a beautifully grained finished article. We have specimen designs on view at our Furniture Showrooms in Spey street, and invite your inspection. Beds and bedding also Kapok and Seagrass goods always on hand.

Land Department.—One five roomed semi-bungalow house for sale, at Eastend, Invercargill. There is a good garden, concrete paths and about 1-acre, and the price is only 2850.

CALCIUM NOTES.

Soldiers' Memorial.—A vigorous canvass last week resulted in a satisfactory sum being promised for this worthy object. It was feared that the time which has elapsed since the war would have blunted the sense of gratitude and affection with which our fallen heroes were regarded, but the fears were groundless. In only one case did a settler refuse to recognise the heroism of men who fell in defence of his life and property. It is a pity that there is not some method of bringing such an individual to a sense of his civic responsibilities. However, it is a matter for congratulation that the memorial will be erected without the assistance of persons who have no conception of its significance.

Hall Committee.—This public body postponed itself and the neighbourhood early in the winter and raised a tidy sum towards projected improvements. Up to date the

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.

DISPLAY OF SPRING GOODS.

OUR BLOUSE VALUES CANNOT BE BEATEN.

See our VOILE BLOUSES, trimmed Chinese Lace and Madalions, 8/11 to 19/6.
SILK BLOUSES, splendid values, 19/6 to 28/-
CREPE BLOUSES, all colours, 11/6.
LADIES' SILK SPORTS COATS—a few only at 50/-
LADIES' HOSE, Cashmere, from 4/6; Silk Ankles, all colours, 6/6.

MILLINERY!

The smartest SHAPES IN READY-TO-WEARS for Ladies and Children now showing.
CHILDREN'S DRESSES from 5/11 to 12/6 in all durable materials.
LADIES' UNDERWEAR—our own make—CAMISOLES 6/6, CHEMISES 6/6, NIGHTGOWNS 10/6.
MORNING BLOUSES, special value, 6/11.

TULLY'S DRAPERY SUPPLY SALE,

NEXT NEWS OFFICE, DEE STREET.

improvements consist of a small heap of stakes placed prominently on the hall grounds. The public is not impressed, neither are wandering cattle. But an intimate acquaintance with the personnel of the Committee leads me to prophesy better things. When the members awaken from their peaceful slumbers we can look for a new fence, the removal of noxious weeds, and the promised ante-room.

Dominion Geography: Question: Where is Waiwaiwa?
Answer: Next week. No map.

Rumoured: That in view of the depreciation of the unoccupied manse, the Dea-

cons' Court proposes to appoint a resident caretaker until the cost of living is reduced sufficiently to permit some kindly disposed preacher to accept the charge.

That the debate at Otahuti was a great success.
That the town contingent carried too many guns for the rustics.

That as a result of the decision arrived at, armament shares have hardened.

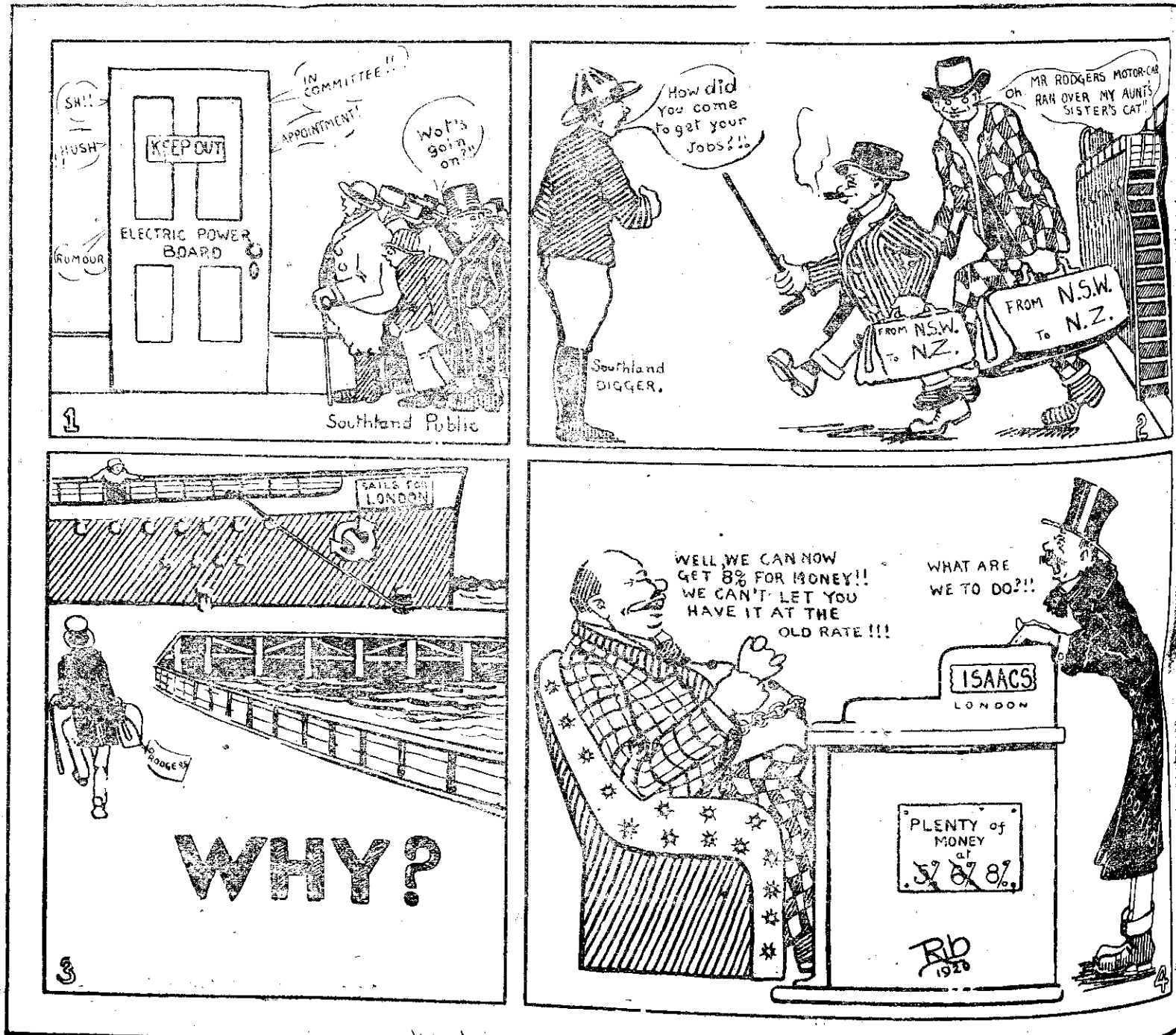
That the judge made a very able summing up.

That though Mr Cruickshank, made a very good impression, his plain business is not likely to become popular with his country friends.

That Baxter is not half dry, and if he can secure a bottle license his food is made. Fill-em-up-again.

That McKenzie, J.P., appeared before the beak on Monday last. Keep it quiet.

That the Magistrate's visit to Otahuti was not official, and had nothing to do with football or any other form of fracture.



FOUR PHASES OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOUTHLAND ELECTRIC POWER BOARD

"HIGHLANDER" MILK PRODUCTS

Are Manufactured in Southland, and are made by a Company all British owned.

HIGHLANDER BRAND

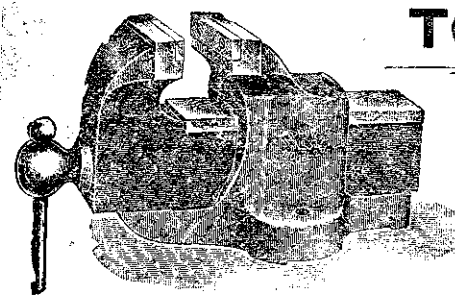
Is a guarantee of quality and nationality.

It can always be depended upon.

TOOLS.

CARPENTERS,
MECHANICS,
FARMERS.

Call and inspect
our range of Tools



John Edmond,

TAY STREET,
INVERCARGILL.

BRING IS WITH US.—Now is the time to order your Motor Cycle and Sidecar for the coming season.

WE OFFER YOU THE WORLD'S BEST MOTORS AND "VALUE."

"THE TRUSTY TRIUMPH."

The first selection of the British and Allied armies for the strenuous work of the war. To ride a Triumph is to get the best from motor cycling because it is "TRUSTY."

"THE HARLEY DAVIDSON."

The motor cycle magnificent. "Has made its way by the way its made." The United States War Department after very extensive experimenting signed the "LIBERTY MOTOR CYCLE," and it was an exact replica of the Harley. Made in three models—Electric, Standard, and Sports.

"THE A. B. C."

MADE BY THE SOPWITH AVIATION CO.

The most scientifically designed Motor Cycle in the world. Quality is secured by the most exact knowledge, with the aid of the Scientific plant in the world for the testing to destruction of all materials used in its manufacture.

IT IS WORTH YOUR WHILE TO PAY US A VISIT.

Wilson & Fraser
MOTOR CYCLES SPECIALISTS

WHITE SWAN BUILDINGS,
DEE STREET INVERCARGILL

As
COACH
BUILDERS
and

WHEELWRIGHTS

will find us supremely satisfied with our "on-the-spot" service. With our

Years Experience

branches of wheelwrights can be surely relied upon for accurate neat trustworthy work. For repair

anything on Wheels.

For new work or repairs to absolutely any vehicle. Try the "Bath service." It's there to please.

BATH & SONS,

BATH'S GARAGE,

YARROW ST., INVERCARGILL

For Furniture.

That is strikingly handsome
and conscientiously made in
every detail.

Come to

W. S. Robinson & Co.,

The Reliable Furniture House,
KELVIN STREET.

'Phone—760.

Kennel Notes.

An authority on the dog hobby advises as follows:—If you are showing dogs as a business, you must have several different breeds, but the man who keeps dogs as a hobby will be content with one, and he will find that one breed alone will probably take up all the time that he can give to dog-breeding. By going in for one breed alone, making up your mind to keep only the best dogs, and extending your operations very gradually, you may have no expenses and even make a profit, while at the same time you are getting together a good and valuable kennel of show dogs. I do not advise people to allow their dog keeping to develop into a business. Professionalism in dog keeping, as in sport, is not to be desired; but at the same time do not make the opposite mistake and allow your puppies to be sold too cheaply simply because you do not care to ask for higher prices. There is also this danger in making a business of dog keeping. The man who does this gets to regard his dogs as money-making animals, which are to be sent from show to show, and used generally for winning purposes. I do not think that any man should keep dogs unless he has, at any rate, a dash of sentiment in his character; but this does not mean that fanciers should be foolishly fond of their dogs.

A word or two about pedigrees. Some people regard a pedigree as almost a sacred thing. They seem to think that if they have a dog with a pedigree they have one which is exceedingly valuable—quite one of the aristocracy of the dog world. No greater mistake can be made. It does not follow that because the father and mother of your dog have taken innumerable prizes and are entitled to be termed champions, that your dog is therefore a valuable dog or even a good one. It is quite possible that you may have been palmed off with the weed of the litter, and that as a matter of fact, your dog is so poor that if the dealer had not been able to sell him to you or to someone else, he would soon have put an end to him. Therefore, do not be led away by people who tell you that such and such a dog must be good because he has a pedigree. As a matter of fact, pedigrees are not always reliable. If you get a pedigree you can verify it yourself by going to the breeder of the dog; but many a dealer takes as one of his many maxims "Give me a dog and I will find him a pedigree." A pedigree is of course useful to those who think of breeding dogs, but the mere possession of a pedigree does not make a dog valuable and therefore does not justify the dealer in charging a high price for the animal. Some dogs with no pedigrees win prizes. Their age and parentage are shrouded in mystery; but luckily a dog is not judged according to the records made by his parents.

Some people refrain from showing their dogs simply because they do not possess them and have no means of ascertaining pedigrees. They have an idea that show dogs must have pedigrees, otherwise they would not be allowed in shows. It is true that when you register your dog at the Kennel Club, you have to give names of his parents and that of his breeder, and the date of his birth (if these facts are known to you), but if you do not know them and have no means of ascertaining them and have no means of ascertaining as "age, breeder and pedigree unknown."

POMERANIANS.

THE STANDARD.

Appearance.—The Pomeranian in build and appearance should be a compact, short-coupled dog, well knit in frame. He should exhibit great intelligence in his expression, activity and buoyancy in his deportment.

Head and Nose.—The head and nose should be foxy in outline, or wedge-shaped, the skull being slightly flat, large in proportion to the muzzle, which should finish rather fine, and be free from hippiness. The teeth should be level, and should on no account be undershot. The hair on the head and face should be smooth and short-coated. The nose should be black in white, orange, and shaded-sable dogs; but in other colours may be "self-coloured," but never parti-coloured or white.

Ears.—The ears should be small, not set too far apart, nor too low down, but carried perfectly erect, like those of a fox.

Eyes.—The eyes should be medium in size, not full nor set too wide apart, bright and dark in colour, and showing great intelligence. In white, orange, shaded-sable and cream dogs the rims round the eyes should be black.

Neck and Body.—The neck should be rather short and well set in. The back must be short, and the body compact,

being well ribbed up, and the barrel well rounded. The chest must be fairly deep and not too wide, but in proportion to the dog.

Legs.—The forelegs must be well feathered and perfectly straight, of medium length, and not such as would be termed "leggy" or "low on leg," but in length and strength in due proportion to a well-balanced frame. The shoulders should be clean and well laid back. The hind legs and thighs must be well feathered down to the hocks, and must be neither "cow-hocked" nor wide behind. They must be fine in bone and free in action. The feet should be small and compact in shape.

The Tail.—The tail is one of the characteristics of the breed, and should be turned over the back and carried flat and straight, being profusely covered with long, harsh, spreading hair.

Coat.—There should be two coats—an undercoat and an overcoat; the one, a soft, fluffy undercoat, the other a long, perfectly straight coat, harsh in texture and covering the whole of the body, being very abundant round the neck and forepart of the shoulders and chest, where it should form a frill of profuse, standing-off straight hair, extending over the shoulders. The hindquarters should be clad with long hair or feathering, from the top of the rump to the hocks.

Colour.—All whole-colours are admissible, but they should be free from white shadings. At present the whole-coloured dogs are:—White, Black, Brown (light or dark), Blue (as pale as possible), Orange (which should be as deep and even in colour as possible), Beaver, and Cream (which should have black noses and black rims around the eyes). Whites must be quite free from lemon or any other colour. A few white hairs in any of the self-coloured dogs shall not necessarily disqualify. Dogs other than white, with white or tan markings, are decidedly objectionable, and should be discouraged. They cannot compete as whole-coloured specimens. In parti-coloured dogs the colours should be evenly distributed on the body in patches; a dog with white or tan feet or chest would not be a parti-coloured dog. Shaded-sables should be shaded throughout with three or more colours, the hair to be as uniformly shaded as possible, and with no patches of self-colour. In mixed classes, where whole-coloured or parti-coloured Pomeranians compete together, the preference should, if in other points they are equal, be given to the whole-coloured specimens.

(Continued from Page 6.)

into the question of the Board's finance with him.

Town Clerk, South Invercargill, 4th September: Acknowledging receipt of his communication regarding the reticulation of power with the South Invercargill Borough.

Board of Trade Wellington, 4th September: Acknowledging receipt of permit for erection of store shed at Tuatapere.

J. A. Redpath and Sons, 4th September: Ordering them to supply twelve dozen insulators complete with ironwork at 22s 6d per dozen.

—Correspondence Outward.—

Mr W. J. Broome, Audit Inspector, 25th August: Advising him that the matter in connection with the Chairman's visit abroad had been discussed by the Board, and that the Auditor's letter and copies of the resolutions referred to therein had been forwarded to Mr W. Macalister to enable him to advise the Board on the position.

Hay and Vickerman, Wellington, 26th August: Advising them of the Board's decisions on the various matters mentioned by the Engineers in their report.

Jas. Gorrie and R. H. Whyte, 26th August: Advising them that the tender put in by them had been declined.

P. R. Baillie and Co., Wellington, 26th August: Intimating that the matter of the Board's copper requirements had been referred to the Engineers.

H. C. Guildford and W. Herricks, 26th August: Notifying that their tender for the Timber Company had been considered by the Board which decided to accept the tenders for the formation, erection of bridges, and the gateposts and straining wire, but to decline the tenders for laying the tramway and the culverts.

Macalister Bros., 26th August: Enclosing copy of the Chairman's memorandum referred to in the Auditor's letter regarding the Chairman's visit abroad.

A. Walker, Sunnyside, 26th August: Enclosing list of the timber required for the Siding at Tuatapere, and requesting him to take steps to get quotations from the Tuatapere Sawmills for same.

County Clerk, Wallace County Council, Otautau, 26th August: Advising him that the question of the distance from the road line fences at which the poles for the Board's transmission lines would be erected, was receiving most careful consideration by the Engineers.

Winter Bros.,

GENERAL CARRIERS,
SPEY STREET,

WISH to announce that they have a first-class Motor Lorry for Hire.

All kinds of Carrying undertaken, and Furniture removed.

The Lorry has comfortable seating accommodation for twenty passengers and will take parties out day or night at reasonable prices.

GIVE THE DIGGER CARRIERS A SHARE OF YOUR PATRONAGE.

OFFICE—SPEY STREET.

'Phone—779.

THE FINAL

WOOL

VALUATION

Under the

GOVERNMENT COMMANDEER

Is fixed for

OCTOBER 5.

FARMERS AND GRAZERS

Are requested

TO SEND ALL THEIR

WOOL

To the

**NATIONAL MORTGAGE AND
AGENCY CO. LTD.**

STORE

AT ONCE

FOR CATALOGUING.

W. E. TAYLOR, Manager.

District Railway Engineer, Invercargill, 26th August: Conveying the Board's consent to the terms of the agreement for the Siding at Tuatapere.

A. Walker, Tuatapere, 27th August: Advising him that the Board had decided not to include in its Accident Insurance Cover any of the employees of contractors, and informing him that if it would be necessary for contractors to keep themselves and also the Board insured against all liability to pay compensation and damages.

The Treasury, Wellington, 27th August: Informing him that the sum of £1 5s, being payment of the report of British Association meeting received by the Board from the High Commissioner, London, had been paid into the Public Account, Invercargill.

Superintendent, Telegraph Department, Invercargill, 27th August: Regarding the increase in the annual charges in connection with the proposed telephone service between Tuatapere and Monowai, and suggesting that, in view of the fact that men, thoroughly competent to carry out this work, will be employed by the Board, the Department may be prepared to delegate the patrol and upkeep of the line to the Board and make a corresponding reduction in the annual charge.

The Nature Column.

(By "Student.")

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

Recent files from England show that science is making some very great strides. An attempt is now being made to further the interest in science of all reasonably well educated people. Excellent articles by scientists of note written in non-technical language, are now revealing the latest advances in scientific thought.

One of the latest discoveries is in connection with the structure of crystals. A large number of the substances with which we come into contact in our daily life, are crystalline in structure. The crystals of such substances as salt and sugar are easily seen, while those in steel require a microscope. The rocks are mostly crystalline, and from the shape of the crystals we can determine the kind of rock, and even give a fairly accurate statement of the chemical constituents. The angle at which two faces of a crystal meet is always the same for a particular mineral. Many crystals also have the property of splitting or cleaving in a certain direction or directions.

It has been supposed that the above properties of crystals are caused by the way in which the molecules composing them are built up, or arranged. We now have proof of this, with the most powerful microscope we cannot see anything much smaller than a particle one thousand times as large as a molecule. This is not because we cannot make better microscopes, but because particles of matter, smaller than the wave length of light, scatter the light and do not reflect it so as to form an image. It was necessary to find something that would take the place of ordinary light. X Rays have many of the attributes of light. They travel at the rate of 186,000 miles per second. This is the same rate as light, heat and wireless waves. Wireless waves are slow vibrations, heat and light are quicker and X Rays are very much faster. By transmitting the rays through a crystal on to a photographic plate, it has been possible to get patterns showing a diffraction grating as a plate ruled with from 10,000 to 20,000 lines to the inch and is used to show interference between light waves. A number of models have been made to illustrate the way in which crystals are built from molecules, showing the characteristic angles and cleavages.

The age of the earth is another one of those perennial questions which occupy the minds of scientific men. Evolution demands a long period of many millions of years to bring life to the state in which it is to-day.

Many methods have been devised for the purpose of estimating the age of the earth such as: the loss of heat from the incandescent stage to the present. Calculation of the time necessary to lay down the thickness of sedimentary rocks at the present day rate of deposition. Estimates have been made on the basis of the amount of salt present in the sea. Lord Kelvin in his final estimate based on the loss of heat, gave the age of the Earth at 20 million years. Other investigators working on the other methods go up to 300 million years. Biologists would not hear of Lord Kelvin's estimate, and for many years the source of error in his calculations was sought for.

The appearance of Radium solved the difficulty. Radio-active substances have been found in such quantity that the physicists are embarrassed to account for the fact that the Earth does not grow hotter. For if the same conditions applied throughout the metamorphic shadens hth throughout, this world should grow hotter. However the explanation seems to be that the radio-active materials are only present in quantity in the crust. It has been found that the elements Uranium Thorium gradually break down through radio-activity until they finally become lead. The rate of breaking down has been determined and measurements of the products of decomposition found in the rocks give a fair estimate of the age of the rock concerned. By this means it has been estimated that the age of our globe is more than 1,600 million years. The above method of estimating the age of rocks is going to be of considerable use to the geologist. It enables him to make comparisons of the age of those rocks comprising the pre-Cambrian period. These rocks have little or no definite time marks, though they comprise about half of the strata since the beginning down to the present. The Tertiary period is put down at 70 million years and biologists have plenty of time to account for the diversified forms of life now to be found.

The Home.

TO SOFTEN A HARD SPONGE.

1. Soak it in cold buttermilk for a few hours, then wash out in clean water. 2. Take one quart of rain-water make it quite hot, then add a teaspoonful of soda and a little soap. Lay in the sponge for ten minutes, then it will be ready for use. 3. Place the sponge in a saucepan with cold water, and a spoonful of borax. Let it come to a boil, then take out and rub with a little borax.

TO WASH BLANKETS.

Plunge the blankets into a tub of warm water in which some boiled-down soap has been beaten to a good lather. A little liquid ammonia may be also added in the proportion of one tablespoonful to two gallons of warm water. Work the blankets in the lather; do not rub, but squeeze them well. Do not let them lie in the dirty water, but squeeze the water out of them as much as possible, and place them in another tub of clean tepid water, and rinse them well, and yet again in another one; by which time all the soap should be out. If any is left in they will be hard. They should then be passed through the wringer, well shaken, and hung out of doors to dry.

CLEANING BRASS WATER TAPS.

If the taps are not in too bad a state, try any of the metal polishes obtainable at most oil and colour shops. If the taps are very much tarnished, proceed as follows: Boil together some soap lees and wood ashes in water to make a strong solution. Dip in the brasswork, and the old lacquer will come off at once. Wash the pieces in clean water, then dip them into a solution of aqua-fortis and water strong enough to remove the dirt; then immediately wash again and dry. The parts are then lacquered; any polishing that is required should be done first. To make the lacquer, dissolve 1oz. of shellac in one pint of spirits of wine. Special colours and depth of colours in lacquers are obtained by adding various ingredients—such as dragon's blood, tumeric, etc. Warm the cleaned brasswork to about the temperature of a hot iron—not sufficient to blister the lacquer—and apply the lacquer evenly with a camel-hair brush. Do not go over the same spot twice. The best lacquering has as many as six coats; but one or two coats are sufficient for taps.

CHOW CHOW.

Ingredients.—A lb of shallots, 3lb of cauliflower, 1lb of garlic, 2 tablespoonfuls of mustard, a desertspoonful of ground cloves and mace, a teaspoonful of ground cinnamon, a teaspoonful of cayenne pepper, 2 teaspoonfuls of tumeric, 1 cupful of flower, 1 cupful of sugar, 2 1/2 quarts of vinegar.

Method.—Peel the shallots. Break the are desired (don't cut it). Peel the garlic and cut up fairly small. Soak all in a brine (a breakfastcupful of salt to a quart of water) for 24 hours. Cover while standing. After remaining in the brine the required time, drain the vegetables and heat up the brine; just as it comes to the boil drop in the vegetables and let them scald. Then drain them again. Put on the vinegar to heat. Work the flour, sugar, tumeric, cayenne pepper, and spices into a paste with a little cold vinegar. As the vinegar comes to the boil stir the paste in. Thin it down with a little of the hot vinegar before pouring in. Put the vegetables into the thickened vinegar, and stir them constantly for twenty minutes. The writer puts the pickles into ordinary jam bottles, and covers them with two thick paper covers, using flour and cold water for the purpose. They always keep as long as they are required to. Mark the bottles so that they won't be used for jam. It's better to keep them apart, white string tied around the bottles will mark them.

VEGETABLE MARROW MARMA-LADE.

Peel the marrow and take out all the seeds. Cut into pieces about half-an-inch thick and three or four inches long. Add half a pound of sugar to every pound of marrow, and the rind and juice of a lemon and quarter-ounce of dry bruised ginger to every lb of the vegetable. Tie the ginger up in a muslin bag. Remove the seeds from the lemons and put the fruit through the mincer. Let stand all together over-night. Next day boil for four hours. Keep the ginger for flavouring apple puddings.

Put a soap-plate on a chair and place under the mincer to catch the juice which runs out as you mince the fruit.

Children's Column.

Mater invites children to send in stories for this column, or correspondence which will be replied to through these columns. All matter to be clearly written in ink, and on one side of the paper only. Name, age, and address, must be clearly given, and correspondence directed to "Mater," care of Editor, "The Digger," Box 310, Invercargill.

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT.

THE REST OF THE STORY OF HUMPTY-DUMPTY TOLD FOR CHILDREN.

There's not a child in all the Land who doesn't know and understand the Humpty-Dumpty lay. Upon a wall—so stories tell—he sat, grew giddy, and then fell—all on a Summer's day!

Oh, dear, it was a dreadful fall! It was no joke at all, at all! For Humpty was, you see, an Egg of most unusual size, which broke in bits with sobs and cries, and howls of misery.

The story tells how the King's men tried hard to pick him up again, but how they failed, each one, although they came on horseback, and tried hard to help and understand—no, nothing could be done!

But that's all that the stories tell; still, I know more, and I know well that Humpty was, I fear, the worst and most unpleasant brat in all the whole wide world—that's flat! Oh, dear! Oh, dear! Oh, dear!

And now I'll tell you what I know. He lived—oh, very long ago. He was the only child of a King Giant, known as Grings, who terrified all living things, because he was so wild.

King Giant Grings lived in a Cave, and there he'd groan and storm and rave all through the day and night; and when he wanted food, why he would stalk abroad most cruelly, to every person's fright.

He was the very last of all the Giants in the World—so tall that he could touch the sky, so fierce that lions fled in fear, and all their manes turned white, I hear, if Giant Grings came nigh!

And yet, so strange is life, you know, King Giant Grings would overflow with love for his own son. And Humpty—that bad giant-boy—his giant-dad would oft annoy, and think it all great fun.

For Humpty was a horrid child; he was not brave nor even wild he was a Coward born. Though taller than the highest house, he was more timid than a Mouse—a boy whom all must scorn!

And Humpty's such an appetite; but yet he suffered so from fright that oh, he could not bear to chase a rabbit—lest it bit!—or a small mouse—he ran from it! He could not track a hare!

So how was he to get his food? A Giant's appetite is good, but he must hunt, you see. Well, Humpty-Dumpty thought out a plan. "I'll get my supper, if I can, some other way," said he.

He pillaged every poor bird's nest. Ah, me! Perhaps you'll guess the rest—he stole the eggs each day! And broke their shells, and drank their yolk, and laughed, and thought it a fine joke; and then—he ran away!

"Oh, Humpty-Dumpty!" sobbed each bird. "Yes," you're a Coward, as we've heard. You know Eggs can't hit back, and so you're stealing them for food. But they'll not do you any good Alas! Alas! Alack!

"Why can't you hunt us? We can peck and punish you. Yes, wring our necks! Meet us, sir, in fair play! All hares and rabbits say the same. No one but you'd play such a game—suck Eggs and run away!"

But Humpty only laughed and jeered, pretended that he had not heard, and went on in this way. "Cowardly Custard!" cried each beast. "We'll tell the Fairy-folk, at least, and see what they will say!"

So to the Fairy-folk they went and sobbed "Oh, Humpty must repent—he's stealing our sweet eggs! He eats them all, and breaks each shell, and then runs off with giant-yell, on his great giant-legs!"

"Silence, my dears," the Fairies cried. "Oh, yes, of course we take your side but wait a little while, and we will see that punishment for Humpty-Dump is surely sent. Look up, dear Birds, and smile!"

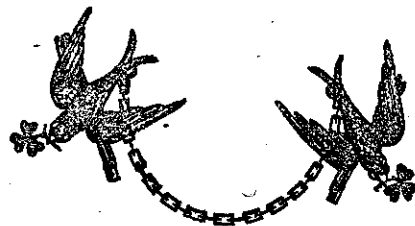
Well, Time went on, and, sad to say, fat Humpty came round still each day, and stole the eggs and went. But all the Birds just watched him come, and when he'd gone they'd ham with great astonishment.

"Just look at him!" the birds would hiss. "He's growing like an Egg he is—an egg of giant size He's got a shell himself—oh, oh! We wonder if the Fairies know? Oh, what a strange surprise!"

And then, one day, while at his tricks—oh, Humpty got into a fix—He climbed a near-by wall to find the eggs of a sweet

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Wren. "I'll sit here, and climb down again when I've eaten them all!"

So said the Giant-brat, for oh, of course, he didn't know that Fairy-folk planned that all his stealing days were past—that these wrens' eggs should be the last that he'd steal in that land!

"How nice they are!" said he. "I'll go and steal some more. Then—"Oh! Oh! Oh!" he tried to jump the wall; and in a second—listen well!—the ground was strewn with yolk and shell; no boy was there at all!

"Hurrah! Hurrah! He's all in bits!" sang all the birds, in screaming fits—in joy, too, and relief. "Oh, never more will Humpty steal our Eggs, and make Bird-parents feel as though they'd die of grief!"

Ah, yes, the Birds spoke truth; for oh, though Giant Grings—the King, you know, who loved his hateful son—came down with horses and with men, to pick up Humpty's bits again—no, nothing could be done!

And ever since that fateful day the Birds have always kept full sway over the forests. So, you boys who take eggs for a joke, remember Humpty! Fairy-folk might punish you, you know!

During the year 1919, 902 motor cars were registered in Dunedin and Southland. Barry beat Felton in the sculling championship. It is estimated there were 150,000 spectators.

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GARDEN NOTES.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN.

Take advantage of each fine day to get
in small sowings of the various kinds of
vegetables, as the vegetation is now in
full activity, the temperature increasing
rapidly. Frosts are less frequent, and in-
deed nearly over—at any rate, let us hope
so, so that what has to come will come
soon, before potatoes and such-like tender
kinds are far advanced.

The gardener, whether he be amateur or
professional, is bound to be vigilant now
to assist Nature in her endeavours to bene-
fit him. He must promote the growth of
his crop by frequent hoeings and forkings
of the soil if the best results are to be ob-
tained. Not only does this assist to re-
tain the moisture in the soil, but allows
the free circulation of the air to a con-
siderable depth, which is a very important
factor in the well-being of plant life,
whether vegetables or flowers. Therefore
take advantage of every fine day, but do
not go on to the ground when it is in a
wet condition, but give the ground time to
get moderately dry or the water to soak
away; then is the time to sow your seeds
or get in plants of various kinds.

THE FLOWER GARDEN AND GREEN- HOUSE.

Plants raised from seed last month
require attention. Sprinkle or damp
down night and morning on all fine days.
Some things may require pricking out into
shallow boxes. Use free, sandy loam, and
shade from the sun for a few days after
pricking out. If seeds have failed to come
up, make fresh sowings, as there is still
time.

Plant out pansies and violas, if this has
not already been done. A very important
point in the flowering of these is to re-
move all faded flowers before they form
seed pods. It is marvellous the difference
this makes both in quantity of bloom and
the much longer time they flower.

THE POTATO.

Early varieties that are pushing their
heads through will require watching for
some time yet, especially in situations
where frost is likely to bite them. It is
by no means safe to leave them exposed
for some time. Go over them occasionally,
and with the hoe, draw soil over them for
protection, and as soon as they become
strong enough mould them up. This is
often left too late. With late moulding
the tops, and also the running roots, are
injured by the moulding process. There
is still time for planting the late ones for
the main crop of potatoes.

ONIONS.

Autumn-sown onions should now require
thinning. In doing this be careful not to
loosen the soil more than is absolutely
necessary, or they will make long necks,
and not be capable of forming large
tubers.

SPRAYING FRUIT TREES.

If this has not already been done no
time should be lost. I think that spray-
ing at this time is more effective than at
any other, providing the fruit blossom is
not out, as the scale are hatching now
and are actually on the move, and conse-
quently will be much more easily de-
stroyed. But strong winter washes must
not be used if the trees are in bloom.
Rather wait and give a summer wash
when the fruit is set and well advanced.
The washes must be made much weaker
if used now on trees coming into bloom.

THE VINERY.

In most cases the vines have made a
start. The buds are bursting into growth.
When signs of this take place no time
should be lost in closing the house, giving
the border a good top-dressing with fresh
cow manure or good rich stable manure,
then a good soaking of water to wash
down through the manure. When I say
"closing the house" I mean closing to
carry on the growth, giving ventilation
only on favourable occasions, as advised
some time back. Keep a warm and moist
atmosphere, ventilating only on warm,
sunny days, when the temperature rises
above 70 deg. Give top ventilation first,
not too much at first, unless there are
signs of a hot day. Anything between
70 deg and 80deg is a good growing heat.
If the temperature rises above 80deg a
little front or bottom ventilation should be
given, closing early in the afternoon.
Even if the thermometer should run up a
little at closing it will do no harm. Close
at 4 o'clock on bright, sunny day, and
earlier if the weather be dull, damping
the floors down a little to soften the
atmosphere.

THE FARM.

SHEEP RETURNS.

DECREASE IN BOTH ISLANDS.

An interim return of the number of
sheep in New Zealand on April 30 last
shows a decrease in the North Island of
998,302 and in the South Island of
873,052—a net decrease for the Dominion
of 1,871,354 in comparison with the
corresponding period of last year. These
figures are approximate, and the Min-
ister of Agriculture says the final re-
turns will probably reduce the estimate
of the decrease very considerably.

MANURING OF PASTURES.

Experiments in top-dressing pasture
land have been carried out at Hamilton,
Victoria, by the Department of Agricul-
ture. The area was dressed with lime
and superphosphate, and a splendid
sward of grass and trefoil was the
result, the manures having encouraged
the growth of many plants which it was
not thought were present in the natural
herbage. Officials of the department
state that in recent years the rearing
of cattle on this farm has been diffi-
cult, many cases of malnutrition having
been recorded. An extension of the
system to other farms is being under-
taken by the more progressive farmers.
An analysis of the pasture is being
carried out, and considerable light
should be thrown on the cause of mor-
tality of dairy cows in the district.
Further illustration of the value of top-
dressing comes from the Portland dis-
trict, where heavy mortality among
stock is of annual occurrence. The
dairy supervisor persuaded a number of
farmers to follow the practice of top-
dressing their pastures with the result
that on one farm where it was impos-
sible to keep a cow there are now 15
in good condition. This is regarded
by the Victorian Department of Agri-
culture as an example of the manner in
which what are frequently reported to
be waste lands may be successfully
utilised. The dressing used in this case
was 10wt of lime and 10wt of bone and
superphosphate.

THE PIG INDUSTRY.

ADDRESS BY GOVERNMENT EXPERT.

Mr Gorrings, Government pig expert,
delivered an address at Carterton. He
said that since 1911 there had been a
decrease of 113,000 pigs in New Zealand.
There were many factors operating in
connection with the decrease, chief of
which, he thought, was the indifference
of farmers to breed pigs. Sixty per cent.
of them depended upon the other 40 per
cent. for their weaner pigs. Last year
there were only 31,364 breeding sows in
the Dominion; this number was alto-
gether insufficient. It was in the
farmers' hands to bring the number of
pigs up to that of ten years ago. If it
paid to breed pigs to sell it paid to
breed them to rear. Pigs could be
reared successfully independent of the
dairy industry—that was by grazing.
Few farmers realised what a good brood
sow was worth. She was a greater profit-
maker than a cow. He produced figures
to prove that three sows running on 1½
acres of land would give a net return of
£24, whereas a cow fed on two acres of
land gave a net return of £13. He knew
of sows which returned £100 in a year.
He urged breeders to look to the sani-
tary conditions first. It was no use feed-
ing a pig well if it was to sleep in a wet,
draughty sty. There were over twenty
distinct breeds of pigs in the Dominion,
though there were only five or six recog-
nised purebred pigs. Those in New Zea-
land were very good breeds. The De-
partment intended to introduce the
Hampshire breed to enable the grazing
system to be tested. The Berkshire
was recognised as a most useful pig, and
the same could be said of the Yorkshire.
His experience as a breeder of pigs for
thirty years was that the Berkshire-
Tamworth cross was the most profitable
for bacon purposes. A second cross
with the Yorkshire was desirable, and
then cross back to the Berkshire. This
pig matured much quicker than any
other. One bushel of barley fed to a pig
would make 10lb of pork, while ten gal-
lons of skim milk produced 5lb. Fed
together, 18lb of pork were produced.
Mr Gorrings expressed the hope that
next season there would be 10,000 brood
sows.

A recent news item stated that Mr
Warren will advocate the plan for the
formation of a permanent Court of Inter-
national Justice as a substitute for the
League of Nations. Presumably half a
league onward.

WYNDHAM HOCKEY GIRLS SOCIAL EVENING.

On Tuesday evening, the 24th August,
1920, the members of the Wyndham Girls'
Hockey Club held a social in the Odd-
fellows' Hall, to which a number of pat-
rons of the Club were invited. A pleasant
evening was spent with games and com-
petitions.

The Club's team were the winners of the
Eastern District Cup (presented by Mr
G. C. Hamilton of Gore), and it was on
view being greatly admired.

Mr D'Arcy Raymond presided and re-
marked that Dr Baird (the Club's Presi-
dent) was to have occupied the chair,
but other duties had called him away.
The social was in itself a good thing, and
then they would have the honour of pre-
senting the Hamilton Cup for safe keeping
to Miss Udy, the Club's captain. Later he
read a letter received from Mr D. D.
Steadman (President of the Eastern Dis-
trict Hockey Association) congratulating
the Club on its glorious win and apologis-
ing for his absence.

Major Rice, called upon for the duty
of presenting the Cup said he had much
pleasure in presenting the Cup to Miss
Udy, the captain. The spirit exhibited by
the players and the way they had conduct-
ed themselves all through merited praise.

They were to be congratulated on hav-
ing Dr Baird to coach them—a gentleman
who had done a great deal for sport local-
ly, as well as in Southland, helping to
impart a high tone to it. In handing Miss
Udy the Cup he gave it with the hope of
the Club retaining it year after year. Miss
Udy formally accepted the Cup.

The Chairman said that Major Rice's re-
marks expressed the feeling of those who
took an interest in clean sport. The girls
well deserved their win as they had kept
in good training and tried to learn all
the points of the game, playing the game
in earnest. There was some grounds for
disappointment in the end, through the
misaction on the part of Gore, but re-
marked the less said about the matter for
all concerned.

One who was familiar with city hockey
had described to him the Wyndham for-
ward line as the best he had seen (the
backs being good too), and a team any city
might be proud of.

Major Rice said that he had a pleasure
to perform on behalf of the Club, in pre-
sents Miss Wilson (secretary), with a
Doulton Salad Dish and Jug by way of
appreciation of the very efficient manner
in which, as secretary and delegate, she
had looked after the interests of the
Club for many years. The members were
grateful to Miss Wilson for the services
she had rendered.

Miss Wilson replying, thanked the mem-
bers for their gift, and as it was her last
year of secretaryship (being secretary for
some nine years), she would be only too
glad to help the new secretary, she felt
she had only done a little, the work being
a pleasure to her.

The Chairman expressed the Club's ap-
preciation of the work and influence of
Dr Baird, and in the words of one of the
members of the Club, he had "done every-
thing" for the Club; he had coached
them on the field and given them evening
lectures. He had attended meetings on
their behalf and conveyed some of the
players in his car to Gore to play matches.
The girls were thoroughly sincere in their
appreciation for Dr Baird.

Mr Currie expressed the thanks of the
guests for the evening entertainment and
hoped that the girls would continue to
demonstrate their superiority and if ever
the Cup was wrestled from them he hoped
it would only be by the Wyndham B
team.

Musical honours were accorded the Club,
Dr Baird and Miss Wilson. A dainty
supper was served by the members of the
Club, which was enjoyed by all present.

NORTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The usual monthly meeting of the
School Committee was held recently, Mr
J. Collie in the chair. Arrangements
were made for commencing the work of
levelling the play-ground. Mr Crawford
on behalf of the Works Committee inti-
mated that the contractor would start
work in the near future. The question of
asphalting a portion of the ground was
held over until a more favourable period
of the year. The Headmaster reported
the average attendance for the month to
be 284.4 and the average roll 343.7; per-
centage of attendance 82.8. The low at-
tendance is due to the prevalence of colds
and sickness. It was suggested that the
Committee keep in close touch with the
Board until the applications for increased
playing areas and additions are sent to
the Department. The School Doctor vis-
ited the school and examined some of the
scholars. The amount contributed by
scholars to the Week of Pity Fund was
£18 11s.

ABRAHAM WACHNER

SAMPLE ROOMS.

FURS! FURS!

FURS!

END OF SEASON.

MUST BE SOLD.

NOW IS YOUR TIME TO BUY.

SHOES! SHOES!
SHOES!

New Court Shoes 20/6.

Ankle Band Shoes, 25/-.

New Style Patent Shoes 32/6.

AND MANY OTHER LINES WORTH
INSPECTION.

ABRAHAM WACHNER

SAMPLE ROOMS.

140 DEE STREET (Side Entrance, Only)
Top Floor.

THE DAINTY MARBLE BAR.

Corner of—

DEE AND YARROW STREETS.

Under New Management.

FRUIT, CONFECTIONERY, AND TEA
ROOMS.

We stock the choicest of Fruit, and the
best imported Confectionery.

Our Speciality—

STEAK AND KIDNEY PIES.

C. E. Gibb.

J. A. DOIG,

Sports Depot,

TOBACCONIST & HAIRDRESSER,

Opposite Post Office. Phone 574.

ALL LINES OF SPORTS GOODS.
Full stock of all Smokers' Requisites.
Largest stock of Pipes in Southland.
Tobacco Pouches, etc.

Up-to-date HAIRDRESSING SALOON.
Head and Face Massage, Shampooing.

RAZOR SETTING A SPECIALITY.
Every one guaranteed.

In attendance in Saloon—
J. B. TUCKEY, J. BELL

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

FARMS.

WYNDHAM DISTRICT.—270 Acres Freehold in this famous locality for £15 per acre. Good grass, well fenced, watered and subdivided. Five-roomed house, 5-stall stable, with loft, large woolshed, 6-stall cowbyre, sheep yards, etc. This is the cheapest farm offering in Southland to-day. Terms may be arranged.

LOOK AT THIS.—395 acres near Woodlands; 45 acres turnips, 100 acres young grass, balance older pasture. This land has been limed and is in great heart. Well watered, fenced, and subdivided. Six-roomed house, stable, cowbyre with milking plant, etc. Price £20. Terms could be arranged.

Here is something good—Five-roomed house; bathroom, washhouse, gas. In good order; situated alongside first section of tram. A cheap home at £550. Terms could be arranged.

If you wish to buy or sell a house or a farm consult me.

F. H. TUCKER,

LAND AGENT.

THE PAPER FACHINE is world wide. Supplies are running low. Take my advice and replenish your stocks while prices are reasonable.

MY PRICES—

LETTER TABLETS, 9d, 1/-, 1/3, 1/6, and 1/9 each.

ENVELOPES, 4d, 6d, 9d, and 1/- per packet.

BOXES OF STATIONERY, 2/- and 2/3.

LETTERETTES, 2/-

T. Hide,

TAY STREET, INVERCARGILL.

GILCHRIST'S
COUGH ELIXIR.

FOR COUGHS, COLDS, INFLUENZA
COLDS, WHOOPING COUGH, Etc.

2/6. Posted 3/-

W. G. Gilchrist,

PRESCRIPTION CHEMIST,
GRAND PHARMACY,
DEE ST., INVERCARGILL.

LADIES . . .
KEEP DOWN YOUR
MILLINERY BILL

BY USING OUR STRAWINE—
MAKES OLD HATS NEW.

WE HAVE IT IN ALL SHADES.

NOBLE'S

Dee street, Invercargill.

BLUFF NOTES.

Remember that Sam Hodgkinson has turned prohibitionist.

The s.s. Palosca is expected to arrive about the 20th September.

The Kiwarra is expected to arrive with 4,000 tons of bulk phosphates from Makatea Island on Monday next.

His Worship the Mayor, Mr. J. S. McDougall, has been appointed by the Council to represent the Borough on the Southland League.

A child belonging to Mr Edge met with an accident by falling off a bicycle. The child was motored into Invercargill where it was found its leg had been broken.

Bradshaw's new building is up-to-date, and a good class of building which will be convenient and provide a good display of goods. It is the class of building Bluff could do with more of.

Be careful Mac. Do you remember stating that there were three parties to blame. The members of the Electric Light Committee, the Town Clerk and those who were using the light.

Kissing seems a very interesting pastime at the Bluff. I noticed a young lady make frequent stops in the main street to kiss the young gentleman who accompanied her.

A notice in a shop window at the Bluff states "That owing to the shortage of paper, purchasers are asked to bring their own paper." The time is not far away when we will be taking our own blankets to the lodging house.

Overheard in the Bluff train: "Really it is a weight on one's mind." The idea of a "weight" seemed unique and we're wondering whether she was thinking of the Borough Council.

There is considerable discontent at the exorbitant increase of railway fares on the Bluff-Invercargill line. Representations have been made to the Member for the District and it is hoped equity will be established.

Mr W. Hinchey has written a book on the Social Structure. It is a local production penned by Mr Hinchey and published by the "Southland News." It is also original and we shall have something more to say about it later.

A local cafe has at least benefited by the discussion on Local Industry associated with Edge's cab. "COSMOPOLITON CAFE" is painted in large letters over the door. Unless our eyesight is bad it is certainly a unique sort of cafe.

The idea of some members of the Council to lease the reserve for grazing purposes seems extraordinary. Allowing cattle to run on the Reserves which is the collecting area from whence the townspeople draw their water supply is not calculated to give the residents pure water.

The Town Clerk stated at the last meeting of the Bluff Borough Council, that he was expected to read meters, collect dog taxes, etc. In view of the fact that the Council is being presented with a machine gun, a local Councillor suggests using it on the dogs and thus relieving the Town Clerk of the duty of collecting.

The "Bluff Press" in reporting the Borough Council meeting states: "—applied to the Council to undertake formation of asphalt in front of their new shop.—Granted on usual terms."

If "usual terms" are the same as the administration of the electric light department, we should say that it is most "unusual."

The Defence Department advised that they have a quantity of gun-powder for disposal.—Received. Borough Council report.

No doubt it could be used to advantage, but since it has been "Received" we're wondering whether Edge's cab still hangs on two wheels.

Mr — applied for permission to erect pigsties.—Referred to Building Committee.—Borough Council's report.

The Building Committee will be the next to complain of over-pressure of work.

He came to the Bluff last Friday week, And he's coming again to-day, And the question is one which you need not ask

Of where he is going to stay ; For the place where they serve and treat you well

Is Hinchey's, Gore street, Eagle Hotel.

The "Bluff Press" states that it is the most southerly newspaper in the "Universe." Seeing that Universe constitutes the planet on which we live, the sun, the moon, stars and millions of heavenly bodies, both seen and unseen, we're wondering what the inhabitants of the planet Mars think of it.

Things are upside down in Municipal affairs just now. It has turned out that the electric light meters have not been read for about four years. About two years ago it was found that the Electric Department was not paying and this involved an increase of rates. It seems strange that at this meeting the Council was not advised of the position.

The Mayor: "This business is unfortunate, but we must make the best of it."

Report of Borough Council meeting in "Bluff Press." Nothing like taking a philosophical view of what is unique in the annals of Local Government administration.

Cr. D. McKenzie: "I know of some. I am a working man myself and my meter was not read."—Council report, "Bluff Press."

The Town Clerk: "Only those whose meters were out of order were not read, and yours was out of order."—"Bluff Press" report of Borough Council Meeting.

In view of the fact that the meters were not read for a period extending over years, it is suggested that in order to have any knowledge of the condition of the meters a sort of telephatic communication has been established between the meters and the Borough Council.

Cr. Cameron: "A good many of these people from what I can 'learn' were glad that no accounts were rendered to them."

Quite right, Cr. Cameron, the accounts were LEAN, in fact too much so for the benefit of the ratepayers.

Cr. D. McKenzie: "How are the working men who have received bills amounting to £10 and £12 to get on?"

Up to the present, at least, they have put it across the Council of business men.

The "Bluff Press" reports the Wanganui boys' visit to the Bluff, indicating that they fortified themselves with a good feed of oysters. Then it states "There is a wide difference between the behaviour of an oyster in his home town and the time he reaches the North Island market." Quite so. There is a difference in the "behaviour of oysters" but it is one of the penalties we pay for over-indulgence.

Wattie Fewster, of Ocean Beach, refereed at the Invercargill Boxing Tourney. Just quietly, Wattie is not bad, and can fill the bill all right. There are some good lads around Bluff and Wattie is one of them.

Very good progress is being made for the purpose of quarrying the Bluff granite. The road is almost completed, poles for carrying electric wires to the works and the site for building is also finished. The owners are going to work in a workman-like manner. It is proposed to have air compressors and other up-to-date machinery. It is a good class of stone and the venture should be a good one for the Bluff.

A local resident who is possessed of the weakness of putting every bob under the clock, is said to have exemplified it in a recent 'phone message with the local butcher.

Ring on the 'phone: "Is that Smith, the butcher?"—"Yes." "Well before sending up the meat, please put in 3d worth of cat's meat."—"Very well, Thank you."—Ring off.

Telephone rings again: "Is that Smith, the butcher?"—"Yes."

"Have you sent the meat yet?"

"No!"

"Then never mind the cat's meat, the cat has just caught a bird on the lawn."

It is said that he is a little more extravagant now, and has adopted the wick.

A local shop-keeper has the following displayed in the window:

NOTICE

Agents for Bluff Carrying Co., etc.

Orders taken for Cab.

We're wondering whether it has any reference to EDGE'S cab which upset the equilibrium of the Borough Council. Cr. Walker called it "a rickety old cab." In a letter to the "Bluff Press," a correspondent, "Local Industry" asks where would Bluff be without a cab? As far as we know it would still be in the same place. But the most interesting feature is the incentive to local industry, which is evidently still existent as evidenced by the order for the cab. The same correspondent states "Cr. Parker has been a Councillor for a long time and should know by this time that it is the duty of a public body like the Council to preserve

local industry and not make it kick the bucket. Presumably Edge's cab was a sample of local industry. But why say "kick the bucket" when the local industry is XXXX.

Mr S. Ferguson, hairdresser and tobacconist, and G. V. Edge, confectioner and news agent, are both agents for the "Digger." Besides delivering the goods in their own respective lines of business, they can deliver the "Digger" too. If you enjoy reading the sins and transgressions of others, don't fail to order your copy. Don't act on hearsay, get a copy and read it for yourselves. The "Digger" has the largest circulation of any weekly south of Dunedin, and can be obtained all over Southland, South Otago and further north, even as far as Auckland. If you are in business and desire to bring your wares before the purchasing public, the "Digger" is the paper to effectually do it. If you wish to join the ranks of those who have already benefited by their advertisements in this journal, then write to Box 310, Invercargill, stating the space you require and we will be pleased to send you our price for contract. Remember our advertising is not cheap. It is a fair and adequate remuneration for the services we can render. Cheap advertising, like cheap goods, has a considerable attraction to the public, but the practical business man knows that a journal that can command a reasonable remuneration for services rendered is the cheapest in the long run. Ring 'phone 1436 or in preference write to us and your communication will receive the necessary courtesy and promptitude essential to sound business trading.

The Bluff boys did not contest any of the events at the Invercargill Boxing Tourney. It is possible they would have contributed nine events and their absence was a decided loss. It appears that the Association neglected to put on a special train and the Bluff boys had to leave work and get back again for work. This necessitated them hiring a car to return the same night. They put in expenses to the Association amounting to a guinea each, this merely covered the cost of the car and other necessary extras were not included. The Boxing Association only allowed each man 10s 6d, and naturally enough there is strong local feeling with the result that the boys declined to spar. The Boxing Association seems to stand on too much red tape and must remember that it exists for the benefit of the sport and not the sport for the benefit of the Association. It is quite unnecessary to adopt the hair-splitting principle and every facility should be provided which will enable men from the outlying districts to contest. Two of the boys alone lost eight hours each at 3s 11d per hour besides extras and their claim should receive justice before any impartial tribunal. Another matter is the recent Bluff Tourney. A set of gloves cannot be bought for under four guineas and if there were no trainers there would be no Association. The Bluff boys claim that the surplus should have provided equipment for the schools. A set of gloves were sold to an outsider for £2 2s now, why were the local schools not given a chance. Whatever may be the strict letter of the law, in the matter, the Bluff boys have just reason to complain and should stick to it.

PRICE OF THINGS.

You surely are the most valiant wings,
Price of Things, O Price of Things!
Their flap is hard by skulking boove,
By folding beds and baby shoes.
It seems there's nothing left on earth
That we can buy for what it's worth
Which leaves us scant excuse for mirth,
Price of Things, O Price of Things!

How distant seems but yesterday,
When I was master of my pay.
I gave a bit and spent a bit;
I even saved and lent a bit.
My heels were straight, my trousers pressed;
In overalls I felt undressed—
A credit to my family crest!
Price of Things, O Price of Things!

I gave against the ills of war;
Returning, gave a great deal more.
The former earned my country's cheers,
The latter helped the profiteers.
In food and clothing and in rent,
In everything on which I've spent
My cash, and now I'm badly bent,
Price of Things, O Price of Things!

'Tis well I'm strong for what may come,
But hear the wail from yonder slum.
The foremost name on every tongue
Is yours, and bitterly it's wrong
Where earnestly the prayer is said,
"Give us this day our daily bread,"
And starving homes must speed their dead
Upon your wings, O Price of Things!
"American Life."—Philip S. McCormick.

IRISH WIT AND HUMOUR.

An Irish crier at Dublin being ordered to clear the court, did so by this announcement, "Now, then, all ye blackguards that isn't lawyers must leave the court."

Mrs Brown: "You know I'm quite a near neighbour of yours now, Mrs Tooley. I've just taken a little house on the river."
Mrs Tooley: "Oh! well, I hope you'll drop in some day."

An Irishman who had blistered his fingers by endeavouring to draw on a pair of boots, exclaimed: "I shall never get them on at all until I wear them a day or two."

Says Norah to Pat, "The other night when I was up to O'Sullivan's, you said you was going to get work next week at 17.15 Per? Now, what the devil did you mean by Per?" "Why," says Pat, "you could goose, don't you see into it, it means 'perhaps.'"

Policeman Sparrow: "Tis the finest Frinch nurse yere aither makin', Biddy."
Biddy Baby carriage: "Frinch nurse, is it? Frinch nurse? O'll give yez to understand that I'm just as much a chauffeur as th' operator of any other horseless carriage."

An Irishman after witnessing the wonderful performances of Blind Tom, the pianist, remarked to his friend, "The powers, that's the best music I ever heard wid me two ears."

Daniel O'Connell, the Irish orator, was applied to by a friend for his autograph, to which he replied:
"Sir, I never send autographs,
Yours,
Daniel O'Connell."

Mr Casey: "Let me off at Milltown."
Conductor: "We don't stop; this is a through train."

Mr Casey: "Thin, playse, sor, will yez stop long enough for me to tell Bridget that it's carried through I am."

An Irishman having accidentally broken a pane of glass in a window was making the best of his way out of sight; but unfortunately for Pat, the proprietor stole a march on him; and having seized him by the collar, exclaimed: "You broke my window, fellow, did you not?"
"To be sure, I did," said Pat; "and didn't you see me running home for money to pay for it?"

Mr Hogan, after hammering on the door for five minutes: "Is is dead or alive ye are?"

Mr Grogan, within: "Nayther; I'm shlapin'."

Among the conditions of sale by an Irish auctioneer was the following: "The highest bidder to be the purchaser, unless some gentleman bids more."

"How old was the wall that fell on me?" said the Irishman to the policeman who was taking him in the ambulance to the hospital.

"Oh, I should say about eighty years," answered the policeman.

"Just my luck," said Pat. "I only arrived yesterday, and it waited all that time for me."

Mrs Dooley asked a druggist the other day if he had any soap.

"Yes, ma'am," he replied. "Do you want it scented or unscented?"

Mrs Dooley: "Well, bein' it's so small, I guess I'll take it along with me."

"How will you have your eggs cooked?" asked the waiter.

"Make any difference in the cost?" inquired Branigan, cautiously.

"No." "Then cook 'em with a nice slice o' ham, if you please."

AN UNSPEAKABLE OUTRAGE.

"You don't know what torture is," said Brown to Smith.

"What is it then?" asked Smith.

"I suffered it yesterday," answered Brown, "when the barber had my mouth full of lather and I sat there watching the shop boy giving my umbrella to another customer!"

SLOW TRAVELLING.

Schoolmaster: "Why are you late, Patrick?"

Patrick: "Tis me new boots, sorr."

"New boots don't necessarily make one late," said the master.

"Well, you see, sorr, mother forgot to cut the string."

PAINT-PROTECTED FARM.

Man on the land wants a paint that will give real protection against the sun, and in specifying Berger's Paint (B.P.) for every painting job on the farm he gets the most desirable and durable paint that science and experience can produce and money can buy. In capacity, in durability, in purity, BERGER'S has no equal.

BERGER'S PAINT, Prepared (B.P.) is the purest paint obtainable. For years the firm of Lewis Berger and Co., Ltd., has been specialising in the manufacture of paint.

BERGER'S PAINT (PREPARED.)

It is made of pure white lead and zinc oxide, mixed with refined, matured turpentine and American spirits of turpentine, and is 100 per cent. pure paint. It is guaranteed to last longer, cover more, work easier, and uniformly, give better results than any other paint, including pure white lead and linseed oil.

BERGER'S Specialities are:—Berger's structural and Reef Paint, for all work; Maiseone, a cold water paint for exterior decoration; Matone, an oil emulsion at moderate cost, and Berger's varnish for all purposes.

Manufacturers: LEWIS BERGER AND SONS (Australia) LTD.,

Established 1760.
Stores at Homerton, London and Sydney, N.S.W.

BROAD SMALL AND CO.

CHAIRS AT YOUR SERVICE.

WHEN you want a HAIR CUT or a SHAVE you want it done well, don't you?
Then go to—

A. E. BUTT'S HAIRDRESSING SALOON, ESK STREET.

A place where you always get the best attention.

W. DRAKE, DEE STREET. (Near Club Hotel).

CHOICEST—
FRUIT, and
CONFECTIONERY
ALWAYS OBTAINABLE.

Everybody's Fruit Confectioner.

Dewar's

Imperial

Thomson's

Purity

Soda.

SCIENCE NOTES.

A NEW STORAGE BATTERY.

A new type of storage battery is described in a recent issue of "Science Abstracts." This new battery appears to be a modification of the nickel-iron alkaline cell as made by Jungner, the chief characteristic being the method of making up the plates from briquettes of active material which are automatically fed in between two perforated nickel-steel strips. These strips enclosing the active material are manufactured in lengths folded together and fitted into a steel frame. The complete electrode is then put through a rolling process to ensure perfect contact between the active material and the strips. Only a brief indication is given of the methods followed.

A BY-PRODUCT FOR ENAMELS.

Some phosphate rocks carry an amount of fluorine sufficient to lead one chemical engineer to consider methods for its recovery and utilisation. Following a series of experiments the technique of recovering this fluorine from the acid phosphate plants was devised and sodium silicofluoride produced. The grade is very satisfactory and the product has the advantage of being reasonably constant in quality. This material bids fair to be substituted for cryolite, an essential ingredient in the type of enamels used on cast and sheet metalware. Most of the cryolite is imported from Greenland, so that the recovered by-product has a considerable advantage in cost of transportation and handling.

SHERARDISING.

Sherardising is not merely the application of a zinc coating on iron or steel, as is the case with electroplating and galvanising. The coating produced by sherardising is an alloy with the underlying metal upon which the outer layer of zinc is afterwards deposited. The zinc therefore enters into every crevice and cavity, making the process quite different from any other method of zinc coating. The coating is not as hard as it is in the case of galvanising, for which reason it is considered more desirable for special uses, as where pieces must withstand severe straining and bending and still retain their rust-resisting qualities. It is impossible to give sherardised metal a finish comparable to nickel plating or silver plating by buffing on a fine polishing wheel and finishing on a cloth wheel.

FOOD SOURCES.

Statistics were given before the American Philosophical Society with reference to the various sources of the chemical compounds which make up the essentials in our diet. More than 50 per cent. of the protein is contained in animal foods other than fish; 36 per cent., including 23 per cent. from wheat, comes from grains; 26 per cent. from meats, 20 per cent. from dairy products, and about 7 per cent. from poultry and eggs. Of the fat eaten, 51 per cent. is derived from meats, including 40 per cent. derived from pork and its products, 27 per cent. from dairy products, 12 per cent. from oils and nuts. Our carbohydrates are principally from grains which supply 56 per cent., 25 per cent. is from sugar, and the remainder is to be found in fruits and vegetables and dairy products.

SOUND AND NAVIGATION.

There has probably been more learned about sound and its transmission during the past four years than during all the rest of time. Listening devices installed outside the ship's skin, or within ship's tanks, not only distinguish different sound sources at considerable ranges when the ship is under way, but the direction can be obtained within an accuracy of two or three degrees. For example, the multiple-unit microphones with electric compensator placed on the Von Stenben enabled that vessel, when running at full speed, to hear the submarine bell on Northfleet lightship, at a distance greater than 35 miles. It may be safely stated that a distinctive sound source, as a submarine oscillator, can be heard at all times and during all kinds of weather in deep water, at a distance of 20 miles or more. In addition to obtaining bearings of distant sound sources, these devices may be utilised to determine fairly accurately the depth of water.

London cables that mails were dispatched for New Zealand on the 9th by the s.s. Tanui.

Four New York picture theatres claim to entertain between them 50,000 people every day, while the Stoll Picture Theatre in London entertains an average of 9000 people daily.

MOTORING NOTES.

ELECTRIC CARS.

On account of the high price of petrol, a decided impetus has been given in some countries, particularly Scandinavia and Italy, to the electric vehicle. The vast hydro-electric schemes now under consideration in various countries may lead to cheap electricity, which will to some extent compete with petrol or benzole as a motive power for cars. An electric garage has been established in Milan, which operates electric buses for the hotels and also a regular lorry service between Milan and Bergamo. In Denmark and Norway electric cars are being used in the postal service.

SPRING FOOTBOARDS.

Many motor-cyclists prefer footboards to footrests, but complain that a fixed footboard conveys vibrations and obstructs access to various items of the machine. A recent English design is free from such objections, and has the further merit of being cheap to make. The footboard is freely pivoted at the forward point of attachment, so that it can be swung up when the rider wishes to adjust any mechanism; when the board is dropped into riding position, the free end of a cantilever spring, bolted to its underside, rests against a cross arm fixed to the bearer bolt. A ratchet adjustment permits the angle of the board and the action of the spring to be reset to please individual tastes.

ELECTRIC SIGNALS AT NIGHT.

The trouble with so many signals is that they fail to attract the attention of the motorists ahead or behind the car that may be operating a signal. But the signal about to be described gives intermittent flashes, which quickly catches the eye of the driver in the rear. The flashes are produced by an electric light attached to the end of an arm, with two revolving discs, the light being located between the two discs. When the arm is in the upright position the light on the arm is extinguished, but as soon as the arm is moved down to any of the three positions, the light automatically comes on, and the action of the air causes the discs to revolve rapidly, thereby giving the intermittent flashes which attract immediate attention to the arm. The nature of the turn that is to be made by the driver is then indicated by the position of the arm.

A NEW VAPORISER.

In cold weather, or when using poor quality fuel, the starting up of petrol engines for lorries, motor-cars, aeroplanes, as well as stationary petrol engines in exposed buildings, more often than not causes considerable difficulty. In contrast with the methods commonly employed, but not particularly effective, such as flooding the carburettor, priming the cylinders with petrol, the application of hot rags or boiling water to the exterior of the carburettor, or repeated cranking up, the scientific way of ensuring rapid ignition would seem to be to heat up the induction pipe inside. The latest device to effect this consists of an enclosed electrical heating element placed within an asbestos cushion. This is mounted on the packing material between the induction pipe and carburettor flanges, the asbestos cushion projecting upwards into the induction pipe. On the suction stroke of the piston, the cushion absorbs the liquid fuel spray injected by the carburettor. This spray is immediately vaporised on coming into contact with the electrically heated cushion, thus producing the necessary volume of hot fuel vapour for starting the engine.

WAR TROPHIES.

In addition to asking the loyal co-operation of all soldiers for transport publications for the public library, we are anxious to receive on behalf of the Southland War Museum a collection of trophies. It is very important that nothing be lost that will be in any way a war trophy. Southland soldiers have played an important part in the war and we must preserve, for the benefit of those who follow, something of a tangible character.

Every part of the Dominion is seeking a collection of trophies and we must not be behind. Numbers of articles which have been brought from the battle front are being lost sight of, and we would be glad to receive anything at all. Name and address must be sent, also full particulars of article, where found, stunt, etc. Articles can also be displayed in the museum and remain the property of the sender, but can we, as representing Southland soldiers, make a direct gift to the people. Trophies can be sent to "The Digger" office direct, box 510, Invercargill; or to Mr Crosby Smith, Athenaeum Buildings, Dee street, Invercargill.

NIBBLES FROM CLEMENCEAU.

FROM "THE STRONGEST" BY GEORGE CLEMENCEAU.

The thing that amuses me most is the variety of ways in which people imagine they can deceive life.

You see, wealth isolates the heart. We get rich and we're surrounded by the selfishness of those who have been beaten, and the worse selfishness of those who have won out.

A curt word of refusal, spoken in the hurry of life; a gesture of disgust with the sordid beings from another world the common cry, "I can't help everyone," which often expresses lack of will, not lack of capacity, to help; these sink deep into the attentive soul of a child.

The unhappy console themselves by showing their miseries. But supreme felicity shuns display, indifferent to the indifferent world.

"Really," she asked, "what more could our parents do for us if they were our bitterest enemies? When I think of the lies at school and at home, falsifying our souls and corrupting our hearts, I wonder that we have any sincerity and honesty left. Tell me, where are the beautiful things we are taught about the family and society? It seems we are to discover the Higher Will in them. Then why do I see, instead of the advertised beauties, nothing but a battlefield in which the desires of the strongest triumph?"

"Who would have thought that Paris would make you a poet of the fields?" he would say to Henri. "That's the punishment for idleness. Instead of going into ecstasies over an oak tree, get into the stream of action in the world, turn back your cuffs, make me a roll of paper out of this tree, bring up your ignorant workers to some conception of industry, increase the substance of mortal man; these are worth more than plain living and high thinking."

The most beautiful sentiments must be translated into action, into everyday movements, and must be realised by activity in full daylight.

Grief has no words, the heart no cobbling, for irreparable disasters. The consoling peace of the tomb is the temptation for helpless weakness.

There is an art of using the words "devotion" and "sacrifice" so that they call up emotions quite distinct from those that they should connote. What is more banal than the exhortation to be charitable? And what action is more rare than disinterested help, given without hope of heavenly recompense or worldly praise? Organised charity, of Church or State, subjecting each and all to the prevailing formula, becomes an excuse for ferocious egotism, freed from all restraint.

The rich are told to give; the poor to be resigned. The former give meekly; the latter are not resigned. The rich often give to prevent the want of resignation in the poor from being fatal; their giving is not the act of sacrifice demanded by the man of Galilee. Greed that has been satisfied is on the defensive against the greed that demands to be satisfied, and the war of the classes is let loose.

The contesse was more of a spectacle to the factory than the factory could be to her. She passes with lowered lids under the ironic silence of the distant creatures at whom she would not even look. She went along, with little movements, among incomprehensible things of iron or of flesh and blood, vaguely consoled with the thought that such things had to be in order that she might shine in her glory. What, to her, were these men begrimed with coal or with paste?—these fellows disgustingly stained at the strainer or fouled with motor oil; these women, so pretentiously aged; the girls, the children, stupefied with the mechanical grind, twisted into an eternal repetition of the same gesture by which they made their living. No, they were nothing to her. They were at opposite poles.

"To love is to suffer," Uncle says.
"Ah, yes. But he will also tell you that it is to know the highest happiness. The egoist is afraid to suffer, and so loses his chance to be happy."

"The only criticism I accept is from experience. A dress must dress you. What are all our frocks but a concession to the infirmities of the masculine heart which refuses to be content with a beautiful soul?"

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SHORT STORIES.

A MISFIT.

Wife: "Well, after long seeking, I have at last found a maid who is exactly what I would wish."

Husband: "Then by all means engage her."

Wife: "Unfortunately, I can't. She is much too large for the servant's bedroom."

TO THE HOUSE OF UNCOMMONS.

Old A—of his lunch made the boast, Scotch Broth is what picked him up most.

What's he having for tea
We must all "wait and See"
I'll have our little Welsh Rare-bit 'on Toast!

SHE WAS WAITING, TOO.

Tramp: "Madam, is your husband up yet?"

Wife: "I guess he is."

Tramp: "Well, I'd like to say a few words to him."

Wife: "So would I. He hasn't come home yet."

HOW FUNNY.

"You seem very much impressed by all these explanations I have been giving you about banking and currency."

"Yes, Charlie, dear," replied Mrs. Bosson. "It seems perfectly wonderful that anybody could know as much as you do about money without having any."

SETTLED.

At a club meeting held in a public house in a small village a discussion took place as to whether a hard or soft substance would last the longer.

The debate continued for some time, until one man spoke up and said: "Now, men, you are all mistaken, as I can easily prove. When me and my wife married she had as good a set of teeth as any woman could have, now she hasn't got one and her tongue is as good as ever."

NOT HIS FAULT.

Jamie, who is the lodge-keeper at a mill in Lancashire, overlaid himself the other morning, with the result that many of the workpeople could not get into the mill.

The manager was furious, of course, when he got to know, and treated Jamie to a sound rapping.

Jamie's face took on an injured look, as he said, "Wey, sir, it wur'n't my fault. Thear aw wur, lying I' bed wakken, wanting to get up, an' th' knocker-up never cöom."

THEIR ONLY MEETING.

They met by chance,

They never met before;

They only met that once,

And she was smitten sore.

They never met again,

Don't want to, I avow;

They only met that once—

A goods train and a cow.

A STEP FORWARD.

Certainly the times had been difficult for a certain provincial railway, and the passengers had borne it all meekly.

As the month passed, however, and there were no signs of improvement, the worm began to turn.

One day a commercial traveller descended from a train at a small station. The train was only an hour and three-quarters late.

"I notice your service has improved very much lately," said the traveller to the stationmaster.

"Can't say I've seen it," snapped the official, suspiciously.

"Oh, you must have!" the traveller spoke solemnly. "Why, the engines can whistle without stopping now!"



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