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TRY SMILING.

(By C. Baker, in "N.Z. at the Front").

When the rations come up short
And you don't get half you ought,
It's no use to raise a strafe;
That won't bring the other half—
Try smiling.

If your dinner you've begun,
And your playful friend the Han
Drops a "sausage" on your plate,
Do not sing the Hymn of Hate—
Try smiling.

When you get the blooming hump
Carrying sandbags to the dump,
And to make things rather worse
It comes on to rain, don't curse—
Try smiling.

When you go before the "quack,"
Having pains across your back,
And he orders "Number Nine,"
It is little use to whine—
Try smiling.

When you feel as if the war
Would go on for evermore,
Just remember that it can't;
Then make up your mind it shan't—
Try smiling.

THE PROFITEER.

"Over the top, with the best of luck!"
Sitting at home you "admire" his pluck,
You do not know him, nor do you care
So long as you've your easy chair.

"What are yer fighting for?" Don't
ask me—
Ask that blighter there that you see
With his patent leathers, his fat cigar,
Plenty to eat, and an easy chair.

What does he care, with his big
account
Drawn from the blood of the boys that
mount
The parapet there in the dawning
light?
His only use is for them to fight."

"Over the top and—"Now, play the
game;
Come over with us, or share the shame
Of the bloke on the gate, who doesn't
care
So long as it's lager and easy chair.

*—A.J.R. in "N.Z. at the Front."

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The Onoto, Self Filler, 20/-

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THE SILENT WIFE!

Remarkable Drama of Married Life.

By MARK ENGLISH.

THE FIRST PART.

Doris Thobury, the sister of the childless ward, was telling the little ones stories, when the door opened and the matron and Dr Weston came in. Doris's cheeks took a deep tint, for she loved the kindly, grave-faced young doctor deeply.

As the doctor went his rounds, she held each little patient's hand, for the pain never seemed so bad when Sister Doris was near, and when all the patients had been examined her duty for the day was over.

As she was going out of the Cottage Hospital gate, Paul Weston overtook her. "May I accompany you?" he asked, and she smiled and nodded. They spoke of many things, and at last when they had reached a more secluded spot the doctor seized her hand.

"Miss Thobury," he said, "I love you—I love you with all my heart and soul. Will you be my wife?" She looked at him steadfastly as she answered "Yes." It was some time later when they parted, and when they did so Doris was the happiest girl in the world.

The next morning she received a telegram: "Come home immediately," it ran. "You are wanted at once." And a little later she was speeding towards her home.

At the very moment she was answering Paul Weston on the previous night, an interview was going on which was to alter her whole life.

"Those are my terms; take them or leave them. Accept them and I pull you through; refuse and you are ruined!" The speaker, Roger Armer, was a strong, hard man; he was Walter Thobury's manager, and the man he faced as he uttered those words was Walter Thobury himself.

Doris's father was a failure; he was weak and lazy, and as he faced his manager he looked frightened. His uncle had died and left him the huge business of Thobury and Co. But he did not trouble himself about the business; he left it all in the hands of Roger Armer. And now he found that he was on the brink of ruin, and only Armer could pull him through, and that he would only do so on one condition, and that was that he should marry Doris. And in his weakness and fear of ruin the crushed man agreed—actually agreed to sacrifice his daughter to save himself.

When he told Doris she was horrified. "Father," she cried, "you are not in earnest. Marry Mr Armer? I couldn't. You can't mean it." At last she cast aside all her hopes for the future and promised. That evening she wrote a short note to Paul Weston telling him she had changed her mind and could never be his wife.

Her engagement to Armer was announced, and eventually Doris Thobury became Doris Armer.

She found her husband domineering, and determined to break her proud spirit. She discovered, too, that she had been won by a trick, for her father's business had never been anything but perfectly solvent.

Doris invites Paul Weston, the young doctor to whom she had been engaged, to dinner. When he comes, Roger insults him in front of the other guests, and orders him from the house. In sudden anger, Doris tells him she will never open her lips to him again.

"BOUGHT AND PAID FOR."

"This unnatural condition of affairs could not go on without a break."

This was what Roger thought; but it seemed as though it would! Doris would not speak. He, in turn, grew to be silent too, though always watching her with furtive suspicion.

Only when guests were present—and they grew fewer and fewer, except Isobel Vane, who seemed always at hand—was there any relief from the strain that had now reached breaking-point.

In these days Doris walked a great deal. Or, if she did not walk, she rode, and always chose The Demon as her mount. Perhaps she felt sympathy with the horse her husband had schooled into obedience.

Be that as it may, she and the beautiful animal were on excellent terms with one another.

One day, during one of her lonely, melancholy rides, she came across Paul Wes-

ton. He, too, was riding, and by one accord they stopped.

Paul was horrified to see the ravages Doris's unnatural life had made in the girl he had once loved and hoped to make his wife.

He had heard rumours of her strange silence—for Isobel had been careful to set gossip going—but that it had reached the pitch it had he would not have believed unless he had heard it from her own lips.

"I'm glad I've met you, Paul," she said, in the frozen tones that had replaced her low, rich ones. "I want to tell you it was all my fault—that night. My husband did tell me to—to write and say he would not receive you—and I disobeyed him. I had no right to do that, had I, Paul? A wife like me must always be obedient to the man who has bought her—at a price."

Paul's face grew grave and troubled. "Don't give it another thought," he told her.

He admired her immensely for her courage in telling him the facts. He would have given much to know what truth there was in the rumours he had heard. He was soon to know!

"From that night to this I have never opened my lips to Roger Armer," she said abruptly—stooping down to pat The Demon's sleek neck, so that he could not see that frozen look upon her face.

But Paul Weston's keen eyes did see it, and his heart ached for the girl who had been so bright and helpful in the little Cottage Hospital, cheering the suffering—a very angel of the wards. How did it come to pass, this ill-matched union? There was something very wrong somewhere.

"You heard me say I would not speak?" "Yes, I heard you. But I—I did not believe it possible that you really meant it."

"Yes—I meant it."

Paul touched the hand that lay upon the horse's neck.

"Doris—such things work madness in the brain. Let me entreat you to let bygones be bygones. I'm sure your husband does not deserve so great a punishment. To me it would be insupportable."

"To you—yes. Because you are good and kind, and understand that a woman is only flesh and blood; that a wife should be a comrade, and not a chattel bought and paid for. Roger is different. He is hard and cruel. Look at The Demon's sides! Those scars are the result of the cruel spurring my husband gave him, across his flanks are the marks of his whip. He would like to serve me, his wife as he has his horse. Only one thing deters him—public opinion. Now you know the manner of man my vows on that day of horror and despair bound me to live with."

Paul was speechless with horror.

"Doris, if you feel like this, leave him! It is better to go than to endure this living death. It will kill you. Write to Miss Dalty. I'm sure she would be glad to have you back, you were always her favourite nurse."

The girl shook her head drearily. "It wouldn't be the same. I am not the same. Something has gone from me here."

She laid her hand across her heart. Just then there came to their ears the purring of a car in the distance. The lane was narrow, the horses fidgety.

"Go now Paul, I'll think over what you say. I'll write to Miss Dalty. It may be I shall find rest in relieving the troubles of others. Only," she sighed deeply, "I'm not sure he'd let me stay. You see, he has bought me."

Paul rode quickly away, his mind full of forebodings.

The car—a tradesman's delivery van—rushed down the lane, almost grazing The Demon, who resented the liberty by rearing straight up. Doris had all she could do to keep her seat.

Again he reared, and would have bolted had not a strong and powerful hand reached up and caught the terrified animal by the curb, bringing him down with tremendous force; and Doris, looking down, saw the grim, determined face of her husband.

"Get down! I am going to give him a lesson—and you too!"

Roger's face was deathly white. His teeth were set. Upon his handsome countenance was an expression that might

well have struck awe into the heart of the wife who defied him.

Had Roger imagined that his words would have drawn a retort from those sealed lips, he was mistaken. She sat her horse immovable.

He reached out his hand, and lifted her from the saddle as though she had been a featherweight. He placed her against a tree, and, taking her place in the saddle galloped The Demon out of sight.

Doris put her hands before her eyes. For one brief moment she thought of speaking; of entreating Roger to spare the horse, whose action had been the outcome of fear.

"No. I will keep my vow." She shuddered, picturing what might be happening to her beloved Demon.

She need not have feared. Could she have seen what was taking place a quarter of a mile off, it is just possible she might have relented.

Roger had dismounted, and with gentle hand was caressing the animal, who knew his master, and feared him far more than he had feared the snorting, noisy car.

"Why should I punish you because you are afraid?" He stroked the velvet muzzle.

"It's only sheer rebellion I want to curb."

His face grew intensely melancholy, and then it hardened.

"She has disobeyed me—defied me! She has met the one man of all others I have forbidden her to speak to. Let her take the consequences."

He led The Demon back, and placing Doris in the saddle, led the horse homewards.

"You have met Paul Weston," Roger said sternly. "Be prepared to take a motor journey this evening. I am going to be master in my own house. Go to your rooms—now!"

Slowly Doris Armer ascended the stairs, and when she reached her own rooms, locked the door. Then she sat down, and broke into the bitterest weeping that she had given way to since the day she had entered her proud home.

What did it matter where he took her? One prison was as good as another—to Doris Armer.

THE LONELY HOUSE IN THE WOODS.

"Send Mrs Armer's maid to me."

Jenkins entered the study. Her master sat at the table, an expression on his face which the girl later on described as "making my blood run cold."

"I wish you to pack Mrs Armer's clothes. She is going away this evening."

Now, as this was the first the servants had heard of their mistress going visiting—for so they supposed the order to mean—she naturally looked surprised.

"Madam has not given any orders, sir," she ventured rashly.

"I give you the order." He frowned.

"Yes, sir, of course. Am I to go with madam?"

"No."

"What amount of luggage shall I prepare, sir?"

"As small an amount as possible, compatible with comfort. Pack plenty of warm clothes. No evening dresses. Where Mrs Armer is going—they do not wear evening-dress." The grimness on Armer's face was terrible.

Roger had felt unable to bear the situation another hour. He had now decided on taking a step from which he had hitherto shrunk. He would isolate this silent wife of his, make her in reality the prisoner she believed herself to be.

His complex nature was at war. One minute he hated her, the next she was the dearest thing on earth to him. His longing to crush her to his breast at times was unbearable, at others he could have killed her.

"Tell Mrs Armer I wish to see her. Meanwhile, start packing. We leave in an hour."

He sat brooding. There came the rustle of a woman's gown, and his silent wife stood before him, her slim white hands folded lightly in front of her.

"Once more I ask you to speak," he said.

Her lips folded more closely.

"You don't intend to obey me?" "I will no reply. Very well. You will be ready to take a motor drive with me in an hour's time."

Doris turned and left the room.

It was dark when the car, driven by Roger Armer, drew up at the entrance to the Court. In the hall stood Doris. Her maid stood beside her, her mistress's travelling bag in her hand. The remainder of the luggage was already in the car.

Doris Armer came quietly down the marble steps. Her husband opened the door of the car, and she got in.

Roger had half expected a scene, but there was none, nothing but that dead silence, which he was determined to break at any cost.

The car sped through the darkness, Roger at the wheel. Doris, inside, lay back among the cushions, her eyes closed, her face mask-like and cold.

What did it matter to her where Roger took her? A prison is a prison, no matter where it is situated.

How long they had been travelling she did not know or care. She had sunk into an apathetic condition, when the senses are lulled, the brain semi-dormant.

From this half-conscious state she was awakened by a violent jolt. The car seemed to stand still for a moment. Then, to her horror, it began to move swiftly forward, gathering speed at it went.

Rising from her seat, Doris gazed through the window. The figure in the fur-coat was still at the wheel, but that he had practically lost control over the powerful car was evident to the least experienced.

As the full horror of the situation burst upon the girl she put her hands before her face, and crouched back in her seat. A prayer that they might be saved broke from her pale lips, and, strange to say, her thoughts at that moment were more for Roger than herself.

"Was it possible,"—the thought flashed lightning-like, through her mind—"that she cared for this man who had insulted and outraged her as Armer had done! At they met their end, it would be together. The frozen silence must be broken—now."

Her hand went out to the window in front. It caught the strap. Her lips opened. Her husband's name "Roger" was on her lips when, as suddenly as the car had started, so it slowed down. Roger had it under control again. The danger was past.

The car came to a standstill. Doris sank back on her cushions, more unnerved than she cared to show. She heard the door handle turn. Roger's face—white and drawn as one who had faced a great peril—appeared.

"Thank Heaven, Doris, you are safe—that you did not attempt to jump out!" He waited a minute. "We have nearly reached our destination," he said briefly.

He closed the door, and set the engine going. The car moved slowly on. For about three minutes it ran smoothly, then stopped before a high wall.

By the light of the powerful lamps Doris saw a tall, narrow doorway. On every side were trees, tall, gloomy firs and pines.

The house she could not see. She concluded it was hidden by the denseness of the woods. She could not repress a shiver as Roger opened the door and assisted her out.

He took her dumbly, and with a key which he took from his pocket he unlocked the door in the wall. By the light of a torch, he guided her across a courtyard overgrown with rank grass and weeds.

The air was chill, the atmosphere was like a tomb. The prospect on which Doris' wide eyes rested was about as cheerful. All she could see of her future home was a large square, stone house, like the courtyard, overgrown with moss.

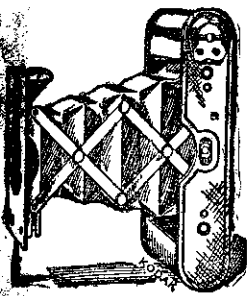
With another key, Armer unlocked the door. A woman came quickly forward. "I hope," said Roger, "everything is ready for—the lady's reception?"

Doris glanced quickly up. "I think you will find all in order, sir," the woman replied respectfully.

"Please come this way, madam. You will no doubt be glad of tea."

With a firm but not ungentle touch, the woman, who wore a kind of nurse's uniform, took hold of Doris' arm.

"Thank you," said the girl haughtily. "I am quite able to go alone. I have not been ill. I require no assistance from you."



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She walked across the hall. It was cold and cheerless, like the outside. She turned, in time to see a strangely meaning glance pass between her husband and the elderly woman with the hard, fierce countenance.

What did it all mean? Where was she? Why did they treat her like this?

"My name is Merton—Nurse Merton," her guide said, as she threw open a door on the upper landing. "I hope you will find all as you wish. Mr Ross was most particular that you should be comfortable and happy."

A bitter laugh broke from Doris. Happy? And why did they call her husband by another name than his own?

"My name," she said coldly, "is Mrs Armer."

Again she caught a meaning look pass between her husband and Nurse Merton.

"Yes—yes. Of course it is." The woman spoke soothingly. "And now, sir, if you won't take tea, perhaps you would go. I should like to begin my—treatment as soon as possible."

Low though the words were spoken, they reached Doris Armer's ears. Treatment! Mystery upon mystery!

And then in a flash it came to her. This woman believed her to be mad! She—who was as sane as any of them!

A dull sensation of despair crept over her in her husband's power. She had her, as she realised how absolutely she defied him, and he intended she would pay the penalty.

"Yes. I see you have everything in order. I will call again as soon as possible. In the meantime, let me know how the—treatment succeeds."

He muttered:

"Good-bye, Doris." And then suddenly he asked Nurse Merton to leave them alone for a minute.

"Will you speak? For the last time, will you break this intolerable silence?" She looked at him, her exquisite face white as marble, and as unresponsive. "Then on your own head be all that will undoubtedly happen. In this house, far from the world, you will remain. To those who will attend on you—you are mad. You will be treated as insane. Good-bye!"

He was gone. She heard the front door, and then the gate, close behind him. Nurse Merton came, and with quiet persistence induced her to go to her own room. Then she left her, locking the door behind her.

After all, Doris was not unwilling to be alone. Her little suite consisted of a bed and sitting-room, opening off one another.

They were prettily and cheerfully furnished. Chintz coverings and hangings banished, in a measure, the sombreness of the panels and ceilings.

"If only I knew where I was!"

Doris beat her hands one against the other. She pulled aside the curtains. She could see nothing. It was pitch dark outside. Only a wind had arisen, and the trees whispered to each other.

She took off her walking things, put on a warm wrapper, and sat down by the fire to nurse her gloomy thoughts.

Then a strange thing happened. She thought she heard a slight noise; and, turning round, to her astonishment she saw one of the oak panels slide slowly back.

She held her breath as a man quietly slipped down into the room.

A MAN OF MYSTERY.

Doris's amazement at this unexpected invasion of her privacy was unbounded. She stared at the man, whilst the man returned her stare with interest. It was quite evident that he was utterly surprised to find the room occupied.

A heavy muffler hid the lower part of his face; a slouch hat pulled down over his face; a slouch hat pulled well down over his face added to the disguise.

"Who are you? And how do you come to be here?" he demanded roughly. "Are you a spy? If so—" His hand went to his hip pocket with a gesture which could mean one thing only.

But Doris did not flinch. Not by so much as the flicker of an eyelid did she show fear.

"I do not know what you mean," she said coldly. "I did not even know of that secret entrance." She pointed to the panel, which the intruder had not slid back into position, but had left open, showing a yawning chasm.

"You swear that?" His attitude was menacing, his hand still remained in his hip pocket.

"There is no need to swear. I give you my word of honour that I know nothing about this house. I only came here a few hours ago."

The man, whom Doris now saw had pale eyes and a bearded face, came up to her, and looked steadily at her.

"I wonder if I can believe you?" he muttered.

His voice was cultivated—that of an educated man. Very quietly she replied.

"I assure you you can."

Again he muttered:

"I wonder?" And turning quickly closed the panel.

Doris Armer's heart began to thump, and small wonder if it did! Up to the present, by reason of her declaration of silence, her existence had been one of dreary monotony. Now it threatened to be full of incident.

Alone in a room with a strange man who had suddenly appeared before her, a burglar, or desperado, in a house the very name of which she had never heard—a supposed lunatic imprisoned by her husband's orders—surely the situation might well have terrified a defenceless woman.

But Doris felt no fear, not in the ordinary acceptance of the term. She had gone through so much that her senses had become numb.

And well for her, in this crisis, that this was so. Had she shown abject fear, screamed for aid or resorted to the usual means of summoning help, there is no knowing what might have been her fate.

"You're a good plucked 'un, and no mistake!" There was a note of reluctant admiration in the man's voice, and he withdrew his hand from his pocket. "Aren't you afraid?"

Doris shrugged her shoulders.

"Not particularly," she said coolly. "I do not suppose you will shoot me. Firearms make quite a loud noise. My attendant would come running to see what's the matter. I am a prisoner."

"A prisoner! Who has imprisoned you?"

The man's tone had altered in an extraordinary manner. It betrayed the deepest interest. It seemed as if he had forgotten the object of his visit—whatever it was—in contemplation of the beautiful young woman who stood calmly meeting his gaze.

"Does it matter?" she said.

"To me—a great deal."

Certainly this was an extraordinary reply, and Doris stared—as well she might. She had never seen the man before, and yet he appeared to take an intense interest in her.

"That can hardly be," she said quietly, "since you don't even know my name."

The fact that she asked no questions of him seemed to surprise the intruder.

"Shall I guess it?" he said, after a long pause.

"If you like. I do not think you will succeed, though."

"I'm not so sure."

Again a long pause, during which the man's eyes never left the lovely face, on which was the imprint of deep suffering. "You are Mrs Roger Armer—the Silent Wife!"

Now indeed was Doris Armer's interest aroused.

"How on earth did you know?"

The man laughed.

"There is very little we don't know. It is our business to know most things—particularly about Roger Armer."

There was a sinister note in his voice that did not escape Doris.

"But why about him?"

Again the man laughed—this time grimly.

"Trade secrets, lady—business secrets. secrets that must never be told!" And then suddenly: "Would you like to escape from this prison of yours?"

"Yes!" She drew an eager breath.

"Then you shall. But not to-night—'t would be too risky. Be ready to go to-morrow at this hour. I will arrange everything. Leave all to me."

Before she could utter a word or ask a single question, the man went towards the panel.

It slid back. Lightly as an acrobat he leapt upwards. The panel closed noiselessly behind him. Doris stood in the centre of the room.

Was it a delusion after all? Had her brain indeed given way, as it was supposed to have done? Had she fallen asleep over the fire, and dreamed a remarkably vivid dream? No, she could not believe that.

She crossed to the spot where the stranger had appeared and disappeared so mysteriously. She ran her hand along the worm-eaten oak panelling, and found it stronger than it looked. No sign that this particular panel was in any way different from the others was apparent.

She stirred the fire into a blaze, and sat down to think. Suppose she trusted to this stranger to release her from her prison? What might the result be?

It was a risky and dangerous proceeding to trust herself in the hands of a man virtually unknown to her.

And yet that way lay freedom. By going, and leaving no trace behind her, she could escape a far worse fate than any the future could probably hold for her.

That Roger would seek her far and wide she knew well. He would not be balked of his vengeance. Yet she need never see him again. She would never see him again.

(Continued on page 4.)

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WIZARD LIGHTING SYSTEM.

The Silent Wife.

(Continued from Page 3.)

And now, as she realised this possibility,
she experienced a dull ache at her heart.
She would be dead to him, and in time
he would accept this as truth, and form
a new life for himself. There was always
Isobel Vane to console him.

For her—Doris—life was ended. For
Roger the future might hold much.

Plans began to formulate, visionary as
yet, to crystallise in time into as strange
and romantic a dream of real life as it is
possible to imagine.

Doris Armer was wrong! Her career was
only just beginning! Life and adventure
lay before her!

Before she sought rest, she made a
careful examination of the two rooms in
which she was, by Roger's orders to spend
long, weary weeks and months.

Well had they guarded against her
escape. The windows were screwed down,
the doors locked on the outside. She was
as much a prisoner as though she occupied
one of His Majesty's cells!

The indignity of Roger's way of treat-
ing her drove the last bit of softness out
of Doris Armer's breast. A hard, bitter
feeling filled it, to the exclusion of all else.

Not that she had any reason to com-
plain of her treatment as far as comforts
went. Nurse Merton appeared early at
her bedside with a daintily-spread tray; a
rosy-faced girl lighted a fire. For here,
in this tree-surrounded house, it was chill
and damp.

But the sun was shining, and Doris's
spirits rose—as those of the young and
healthy are bound to do.

If Nurse Merton noticed an underlying
excitement in her patient's manner, she
took no notice. The mentally afflicted are
usually excitable.

"Can't I go out?" Doris inquired, as
she looked out of the window upon the
gardens below. Uncultivated though they
were, there was yet a wild luxuriance
about them that appealed to Doris's
stormy mood. They, at any rate, were
free.

"Which I shall be to-night, unless the
mysterious stranger does not keep his pro-
mise," thought Doris.

"I'd rather you didn't, Mrs Ross. Not
until Mr Ross has been."

"All right," acquiesced the girl, feigning
an indifference she was far from feeling.

"But why do you call him Mr Ross?"

Nurse Merton smiled indulgently.

"Because that's his name," she said.

Doris said nothing.

Nurse Merton brought her a pile of
books and papers. Jenkins had packed
up her work-basket, and Doris set herself
a task of embroidery, hoping by this means
to make the time pass more quickly.

Her one thought was of what ad-
ventures lay before her that night.

(To be Continued).

N. Z. R. S. ASSOCIATION.

CLOTHING FOR SALE BY THE
DEFENCE DEPARTMENT.

The following completes the list of cloth-
ing, etc., offered for sale by the Defence
Department:—

BOOTS.—New, 31s; part worn, re-bot-
tomed, 18s 6d; part worn, repaired, 15s
6d; part worn, not repaired, to be graded,
prices to be had later.

SHOES.—Black leather, new, 12s 6d
and 14s; black leather, new, not repaired,
to be graded; deck, black canvas, leather
uppers, leather soled, 8s; deck, black,
canvas, not repaired, to be graded.

SUITS.—(A la steward), blue, special
pattern consisting of coats, trousers and
waistcoats, £2 10s per suit.

DRAWERS.—Woollen, new, 7s 6d; re-
novated, 5s.

GREATCOATS.—Dyed indigo or Navy
blue, £4 10s; renovated, to be graded.
JACKETS.—Denim, renovated, 1st
grade, 6s 6d; 2nd grade, 4s 6d; 3rd grade,
3s 6d.

JERSEYS.—Woollen 10s 9d; woollen,
renovated, 8s 9d, all first grade.

CAPS.—Balaclava, 1s 6d each.

I have been advised by Headquarters
that samples of the goods for sale will
be on view at the Ordnance Office, Dunedin,
but the local Defence Office informed me
to-day that the samples have not yet
come to hand. They will no doubt be
available in a few days.

Will you please note, however, that the
whole of the goods required by the respec-
tive districts will be ordered by Head-
quarters. I shall therefore, be glad if
you will let me have your requisition at
the earliest possible date in order that
Headquarters may not be unduly delayed
in getting in the Dominion one.

Toronto University is asking the On-
tario Government for £60,000 to increase
the salaries of professors and teachers.

ANGLING NOTES.

BY "CREEL."

THE FISHY ANGLER.

Have I been a fisherman long, sir?
Aye for sixty-three summers or more.
Why I fished with a bent pin and cot-
ton, in the slop-pail before I was four.
I've caught plaice and skate from the
sea shore,

From the piers I've caught congers and
dabs,

And even when I went out boating, I
was always a-catchin' of crabs.

In the wet I've caught many colds, sir,
When the rain has been pourin' full pelt,
And even if I fished in the sewers, I'll
bet I'd catch fishes that smelt.

I've sat and gazed over the boat-side,
right down to the sea's rocky bed,
Where the lobsters crawled by in such
thousands,

That the water was tinged a bright red.
You want my most thrilling adventure?

Well it happened in nineteen-hundred-
and-ten, I was after a mighty big trout, sir,
which at times by my pals had been
seen,

It kept to one pool in the river, by all
fisherman round it was feared,

For they noted whenever it was spotted,
Some poor angling chap disappeared.

Now I'd long been determined to land
him,

I'd made my arrangements for years,
So I dashed off by train for the spot, sir,

When the news of his coming I hears.
I'd long kept a special great lob-worm,

Which for thickness would quite take
the cake,

I'd fed it on port-wine and bovril,
Till it grew as big as a snake.

I arrived at the place in the evening,
And resolved that next day I'd begin, so

I looked up my pals and we drifted, to
drink my success at the inn.

As we drank I fetched down on the
table,

A stuffed salmon trout from the wall,
And for two hours I studied each detail,

to help me in making my haul.
Well I started next day for the river,

Where I soon had a sight of my mark,
But I'm bound to admit I was scared,

sir,
For it's size was as big as a shark.

It suddenly leapt from the water, and
barked with a 'orrible din,

Then flopped back again with a wallop,
Which wet me right through to the skin.

If a Billingsgate porter had seen it,
'twould have coloured his language a
bit.

'Twould have frightened the life out of
Jonah,

Or gin'n Isaac Walton a fit.
I went straight for my worm in a jiffy,

But he didn't quite like my fierce look,
He bit me and fought like a viper, till

I had him at last on the hook.
Then I heaved him right into the river,

at the moment the trout rose again,
He gobbled it down in a moment, and

I pulled it with might and with main,
But lor, sir, my strength was as nothing

Beside this phenomenal fish,
In a flash I was jerked off my feet, sir,

And pulled through the waves with a
swish,

Then he stopped and he turned in his
tracks, sir,

His evil eyes gleamed in his head.
And his horrid great mouth was wide

open,
And his teeth were all dripping with

red.
Then I knew what had happened to

others,
And I said "here's the last of Bill

Jones,"
For as I looked into his gullet, I could

see human skulls and great bones.
He paused for a moment then darted

Towards me with lightning like pace,
So I prayed to St. George and Sam

Isaacs,
And closed in a deadly embrace.

Down, down through the water we
battled,

I could feel I'd got many a wound,
Till at last I was fairly exhausted, my

breath was all gone and I swooned.
I was found late at night at the inn,

sir,
With my arms round the stuffed salmon

trout,
But how I managed to get there, is a

puzzle I'd like to find out.

—By Chas. J. Winter.

The rivers throughout Southland have
been unprecedentedly low for the opening
month of the season, and as a consequence
fly fishermen have been able to secure
some good bags on the Oreti on reaches
that as a rule do not give good results
to the consummate art of casting a delicate
3 x 4 x cast at the end of a nice 10
or 11ft fly rod, until later on in the season.
While fishing the Makarewa the other

evening the writer had a unique (to him)
experience while fishing with the fly. Fish
were not on the move in the afternoon,
but about 4.30 p.m. the trout started to
feed on the whitebait, and noticing a
nice hefty fish about 2½lbs swishing into
a shoal he was tempted to try him with a
well-directed cast into the centre of his
feeding patch. The flies duly arrived
there, and the fish turned like a fish and
took the tail fly (red body Waipahi). He
seemed surprised when he got a sudden
jab, but woke up with a start, and then
went it. He was a very strong fish, in
splendid condition, and put up a good fight
before being eventually creeled. The same
tactics were adopted again and this time
a "beauty," 4½lbs in weight was the vic-
tim, and there was some satisfaction in
landing him on a fine 3 x red loop cast.
Other two good fish were encountered, but
two flies were left in two, and a third
(3lbs) was lost in netting. However,
three fish, 4½, 2½, and 2lbs respectively
were very welcome on fine tackle.

Mr J. W. Smith landed from the Oreti
on the fly, sixteen fish on Wednesday,
October 27. Mr J. Blick fishing the same
river at the iron bridge secured a bag of
twelve. The killing flies were Red Body
Waipahi, Purple Grouse, March Brown,
and Red Tip Governor.

Last week-end Messrs Hoffman and
Baldwin, landed seven well-conditioned
fish from the Makarewa, and a further
thirty-seven heaviest weighing 7½lbs,
from the New river. Nineteen fish were
caught in one ripple, and the anglers re-
port the river to be well stocked this
season. Natural bully and smelt was
the bait used.

Our Mandoville correspondent con-
tributes the following: The best bags secured
were by Messrs Geo. Richardson, Joseph
and Max. Hoffman, at Gore, who got 75
very nice trout. They used both fly
and creeper, but got the majority with
the creeper. Mr Taylor, of Kaitangata,
got sixteen with the fly in the Otamita,
and in about twenty minutes in the even-
ing landed five from the Waimea, also
with the fly. Both the Waimea and
Otamita are in excellent condition after
the recent rain, and have been well pa-
tronised by disciples of Isaac Walton since
the opening of the season.

The triangular team representing the
Southland Angling Club will be picked
from the following:—Messrs A. E. Tapper,
C. Wilson, N. R. McKay, W. Steel, G.
Braxton and A. N. Pattle.

The following interesting article is
taken from the "Field" of August 21st,
1920. The "Field" is recognised as be-
ing one of the most authoritative journals
published in the Old Country, with re-
ference to anything pertaining to to
angling:—

THE MODERN EDUCATION OF TROUT.

For these many years the education of
the trout has been proceeding apace; but
it is rather a difficult question to decide
in which direction they have made most
progress. I suppose every angler would
agree that they are more difficult to catch
than they used to be, especially in waters
that are much fished. But we cannot
cross-question or examine; we can only
draw our own conclusions from their be-
haviour. The conclusion which I come
to is that, whilst we are endeavouring
more and more exactly to imitate the nat-
ural insect, and to present our invitation
to the fish in a natural manner, the trout
is all the while far more concerned with
our gut than our fly. The modern trout
may be particular about the fly—some-
times he is, at other times he is not, but
he is far more inclined to be suspicious
of a gut attachment. I am inclined to
think that we may overdo the fly ques-
tion. Most of the modern books on angling
are devoted to the tying of flies. Now
fly tying is a delicate art, and fly collect-
ing is a nice hobby. But many men, and
those by no means the least successful
anglers, regularly fish the season through
with a very limited number of patterns. I
believe the secret of their success is the
attention they pay to their gut. With
really fine gut and half a dozen patterns
of flies a fisherman might give a pretty
good account of himself for the season on
most trout streams; let us say, Dark Red
Spinner, March Brown, Red Body Wai-
pahi, Greenwell's Glory, Jessie No. 4, and
perhaps Purple Grouse or Red Tip Gover-
nor (I have substituted N.Z. flies for the
English patterns). There is a certain
fascination in making a selection of flies,
and no two anglers, I suppose, would
agree upon the subject, as most men have
certain favourite flies. Those that they
believe in most they try the oftenest, and
so reinforce their beliefs. Our own at-
tention to-day is chiefly directed towards
the fly; fly-tying, as I said before, looms
very large in our modern angling litera-

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I WISH to apologise to the Motorist
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pied by McNie Bros. (adjoining my pre-
sent premises) I have now the largest
Garage accommodation in Southland
capable of storing over 200 cars.

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car here, so why leave it in the street in
all weathers.

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in New Zealand.

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INVERCARGILL

WAIRIO JOCKEY CLUB.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

STAKES INCREASED TO £1200.

The annual general meeting of members of the Wairio Jockey Club was held in Bain's Hall, Wairio, on Saturday evening, when Mr Thomas Todd, president, in the chair presided over an attendance of about seventy members.

In moving the adoption of the annual report and balance sheet the chairman congratulated the members on the sound financial position the club had now attained, and the very successful season they had just closed. The racing had been good, and the course had pleased all the visiting owners. Taxation had been very heavy, but it was characteristic of sportsmen that they were always willing to pay for their pastime, and no other section of the community contributed as much to the coffers of the country as racing men. Mr M. Gaines seconded the motion, which was carried without further discussion.

In vacating the chair in favour of Mr J. P. Forde, who had been elected unopposed for the position of president, Mr Todd referred to the pleasant relations that had always existed in the management of the club during his seven years of office. During the lean years of war they had not always been able to run their race-meetings at a profit, but the members of the committee had stood together and personally guaranteed the account. Now, thanks to a couple of good seasons, he was able to hand over to his successor with a good margin of profit. He congratulated the members on their selection of Mr J. P. Forde as their president. He (the speaker) had worked on the executive of the club for 15 years with Mr Forde and had every opportunity of estimating his work. His father, the late John Forde, had been one of the founders of the club, and always one of the keen workers in its interests, and it was another case of "like father like son." He (the speaker) was now living in the backblocks, and therefore could not give the affairs of the club the time and attention they demanded so did not seek re-election. He thanked the members of committee for the assistance they had always given him, and paid a special tribute to the work of the secretary.

Mr J. P. Forde, on taking the chair, thanked Mr Todd for his kind references, and the members for their endorsement of same, and the honour they had done him in electing him their president. He was not going into the position with his eyes shut. He had a very fair idea of the duties of president of a country racing club, and he hoped to be able to carry out the duties. In following a president like Mr Todd he realised the standard set him for few realised the work Mr Todd had taken upon his shoulders and successfully carried out, particularly in the preparation of the course prior to race time. His first duty as chairman was a pleasant one, and he welcomed Mr Todd as a vice-president, and asked the members to add to minute recording his election to that position, a very hearty vote of thanks for his past services to the club.—Seconded by Mr M. Gaines and carried.

For the four vacancies on the committee Messrs G. C. Bain, Martin Forde and John Hogan were elected for two years, and Mr Chas. Keen for one year. Messrs G. C. Bain, John Brazier, Thos. Duncan, J. P. Egan, W. E. Egan, Martin Forde, M. J. Forde, M. Hammill, John Hogan, Chas. Keen, R. Kirkpatrick, Duncan Macgregor, M. O'Brien, B. Rushton, and Thos. Todd were elected stewards, Mr M. Gaines re-elected hon. treasurer, and Mr A. C. Mills auditor.

A notice of motion by Mr M. Gaines to increase the annual subscription to £1 per annum was defeated by an amendment by Messrs Magee and Junker to make it 12s 6d.

It was decided to make the following recommendations to the committee: (a) That the club's financial year close on July 31st each year, and the annual general meeting be held in September; (b) that one of the trotting races on the programme be a two miles race; (c) that the place money be increased to 20 per cent. for second horse and 10 per cent for third. Donations of £2 2s to the jumping prize fund of the Otautau Show, £3 3s to the Birchwood Hunt, £2 2s towards purchas-

LADIES' BLOUSE AND HOSE WEEK.

- 10 Dozen of the newest shades in Ladies' Voile Blouses, 16/6. These are in the very latest colour effects.
- 1 Dozen Fashionable Striped Luvisca Blouses, 22/6.
- 10 Dozen Ladies' House Blouses (dark patterns), 6/11
- 1 Dozen Ladies' Coloured Crepe Blouses, 11/6.
- 2½ Dozen Ladies' White Voile Blouses (handkerchief front), 15/6.
- 12 Dozen Ladies' Hose in Black, Tan, and Nigger (English make), 3/11 pair.
- 20 Dozen Ladies' Silk Ankle Hose; all the newest shades, 6/6 pair.
- 1½ Dozen Ladies' White Cotton Hose, 2/9 pair.

TULLY'S DRAPERY SUPPLY SALE,

NEXT NEWS OFFICE, DEE STREET.

ing Christmas gifts for the children in Lorne Farm, and the same for the children in the Riverton Hospital at Christmas time, were made.

It was decided to have the plough track put in order again immediately, and give it another year's trial.

Votes of thanks were accorded the retiring members of committee, Messrs T. Moncrieff, and John Walsh, and the meeting adjourned with a vote of thanks to the chair.

At a subsequent meeting of the committee it was decided to increase the stakes to £1200, and adopt the same programme as last year, adding the extra £200 to be divided equally amongst the unplaced horses competing at the meeting as a set-off against the heavy expenses nowadays incurred attending country meetings. Mr W. Norman was re-elected starter, and Mr A. Jones handicapper. Mr G. Bain was thanked for his donation of £5 5s towards the cost of maintenance of the plough track, and accounts amounting to £8 10s were passed for payment.

FLOUR BINS! FLOUR BINS!

We have another stock of them made up, so to avoid disappointment order at once as the supply is never equal to the demand

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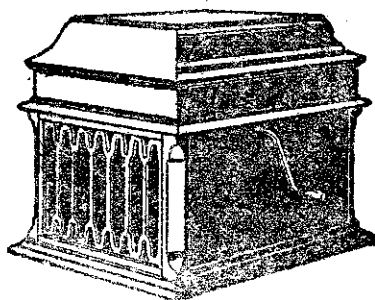
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"Armored with the golden, amber, and ruby essence of Nature's vineyard."—Quotation from "Commercial Civilisation," by W. Hinchey.

and when trout refuse a fly or rise we are far more inclined to change than to change the gut and put finer point. Doubtless this entails trouble, but my contention is that it would be well worth our while. I do think that the need of really fine gut is recently emphasised in looks on though in Halford's book, the could hardly be more emphatic: "The thinnest of drawn gut in the longest is compatible with the strength required to handle the fish when hooked is a considerable advantage on every stream, and is quite necessary on those which are fished." Many a dry fly has come to perfection over a rising trout, but a suspicion of drag is total-ly caused by the fish on account of the weight to which it is attached. The rise of the trout is very remarkable, and their sight extraordinarily keen. Dr. Ward adduces some striking evidence of this. Writing of his photographs from a tank below the surface of water, he says, "When a trout lying on the bottom rises to a fly on the surface he comes like a flash of lightning, so rapid are his movements that, with an exposure 1-250 of a second, it is possible to get more than a blurred image." When trout are rising short, I think that they just pluck at the gut, touching the fly at all; though movements are so quick that I have been able to verify this theory. It is the only explanation I can give many times that one feels distinctly clear water. Even in rapid streams, when fish after fish is just felt, however quickly you strike, you fail to hook one. On such occasions only the very finest drawn gut will defeat the fish.

My advice to anglers on such occasions is, change your point and put on a finer, for the gut is more important than the fly. Even if a fish does not break you now and again, it will catch more than if you could not get them to take hold of your fly at all. With really fine gut it becomes a matter of skill; but when the trout can see the gut you have practically no chance at all; and in clear streams the most successful fisherman use the finest gut. My experience of this was strongly corroborated by what I saw, of a very fine trout last year. He certainly cast a beautiful fly, but I noticed particularly carefully he was to grease his line before he commenced operations, and how he only used the finest gut point that could be procured, and I am certain this was the secret of his success, when other anglers could not induce a fish to fasten, after what fly they put on. By all means imitate as nearly as possible the fly that is on the water; but when in doubt change your point, for if the trout is on your fly, he certainly has his eye on your fly, he certainly has his eye watching for your gut. What the natural fly may look like to the trout, and whatever impression he may have of colour, it is quite certain that the natural fly is accompanied by the flash of light in the sunlight, or the streak that even the finest, leaves in the clear water.

RE-FOUR WEEKS PRIVILEGE TICKETS.

The following extract memorandum read from the Officer in Charge War Accounts Records, is forwarded for information. You are advised that after midnight November 30th, privilege railway tickets will entirely cease except to those members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force still undergoing treatment, and are not sufficiently recovered to travel before that date. These men may be issued tickets up to one month from date of discharge from hospital, but such tickets will be issued only from the War Accounts and Records Office, Wellington. Application for a privilege railway ticket should be supported by necessary medical certificate. Applications should reach the office at least seven days before the applicant desires to commence travel.

able characters are, of course, read on fingers, but one armless blind man has been taught to read with his tongue.

Total of 9000 boys for training to be teachers are required each year to supply the supply for the United King-

For your Garden Seeds,
Plants and Trees, go to

TINY DANIEL

Albion Buildings, Dee Street, Invercargill.

Southland Floral, Plant,
and Seed Supply,

Passing Notes.

BY JACQUES.

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

Mr Gavin Brighton, writing on "The Marriage Act" in last week's "Digger," says that the R.C. Church's daughters "include all churches, from the Church of England down to the Salvation Army, Presbyterians included." Which somehow reminds one of the prayer once offered up at a church gathering, "for all those present, including the reporters, oh, Lord, for we know that even the souls of these are precious in Thy sight."

It is an axiom that people cannot be made moral by law. America seems to have made a further discovery, viz., that people cannot be legislated into sobriety. It is now some months since that "great and glorious republic" went dry, but, if cabled reports are to be credited, it seems not one whit nearer the great desideratum of the prohibitionist. The drug habit has increased to a staggering extent, and enormous quantities of that crude kind of "whisky" that quickly adds to the populations of lunatic asylums, are being illicitly manufactured, smuggled hither and thither, and sold under the very eyes (and, it is whispered, with the actual connivance) of the authorities. Worse still, where even that poor article is not procurable its place is taken by very queer and not too healthful substitutes. The trade in wood spirit is booming; more hair wash finds its way to the stomach than to the heads of Uncle Sam's children; flavouring essences are in great demand, and perfumes command a ready market. Anything at all that can be swallowed, and that will for a moment make this grey old world look less dull, is sure of a ready sale. The consequences do not matter. All of which goes to prove that the prohibitionist, in his stubborn ignoring of the more stubborn facts of life and human nature, threatens to bring on us far greater evils than those he is endeavouring to combat. Also it reminds me of a little story.

It was in a back blocks hotel. Trade had been unusually brisk, supplies were exhausted, and there was little hope of the carrier coming for a week. A party, on pleasure bent, strode into the back bar and demanded "same as usual." The drinks were served, and promptly swallowed. Next moment several gasping, raging men were roaring at the landlord. "Wot in 'ell djer mean by it," screamed one, "that was blanky pain-killer yer gave us."

"Hush," said Boniface, in an agonised whisper, "don't let the fellers in the front bar 'ear yer, or they'll think I'm favourin' yer. Yer see, they've 'ad nothin' but Elliman's Embrocation all day."

"Say, Jax," said Bill, in a tone of discontent, "Why the 'ell don't yeh write somethin' useful in that paper of yours once in a while?" I modestly replied that I had had occasional thoughts of doing so, but have been afraid that the editor and public would not understand it. But, I asked, what was the trouble now? "Well, Jax," he went on, "there's a flamin' lot of things I can't make 'ead or tail of, an' I'd like yeh to explain 'em in your rag. For instance, as I think yeh know, I've been wantin' a decent suit an' an overcoat for a long time, an' the old woman 'as been worrying me for blankets ever since the beginnin' of winter. But after payin' fifty bob for a suit for each of the boys an' eight-an'-six a pair for their stockin's, an' buyin' a few things for the girls I found there was nothin' left to meet the wants of the old man an' the old woman. I took it quiet all along, thinkin' that there wasn't enough wool to go all round, an' that it was up to all of us to grin an' bear it. An' now Jimmy Allen tells us that the reason why I can't get some decent clobber, an' the family can't sleep warm is because there's been a flamin' over-production of wool. Somethin' like a million bales of New Zealand wool on 'and that they don't know what to do with! An' fifteen quid for a suit! Blimey, but it's a puzzle. An' again, the other day I read in the papers that the tea growers 'ad so much tea on 'and that they was afraid there'd be a fall in price, so they decided to "regulate the output," as they call it, to prevent the damned calamity of cheap tea fallin' on us. Same with rubber (though, not ownin' a motor, I'm not so much in-

terested in that), an' other things. Seems to me that if they'd let us 'ave these things at a fair price we'd use more of 'em, so that they'd be as well off an' we'd be better. Hanged if I can understand it at all, Jax." And I have to confess that I don't, either.

The "News" tells an interesting little story of an Adelaide lady and her motor-riding "hubby." She suspected him of taking another young lady for occasional "touring excursions" (a neat euphemism), and, her suspicions being confirmed by the discovery in the side-chair of a garter other than the brand she wore, she set to work on the bike and side-chair with an axe, completely spoiling the appearance and utility of the whole turn-out. If her example is followed in Invercargill there should soon be a big boom in the local motor repairing industry.

Much of what the Rev. Hector McLean said at the unveiling of the Knox Church memorial to our fallen soldiers will be speedily forgotten, but at least one thing should find lasting place in our memory. That was his earnest appeal for greater charity—or, at least, justice—in our judgment of the faults and failings of our returned soldiers. Now that our sense of gratitude is dimming we are becoming more and more prone to measure their transgressions and shortcomings by our harsh, rigorous, everyday standards—to their, and our own, great wrong. "The war has made a waster of him," we often hear said, and always in contempt, rather than pity. In many cases it is true, no doubt, but even in those it behoves us not to be too ready with blame. There are many lads among us to-day whose lives, had it not been for the war, would have been bright and happy. But we took them and threw them—sacrifices on the altar of our own security—into a hell, of the horrors of which we can form no conception. Through months and years they lived in brutalising shambles, the battle madness always in them, and with Death as their daily companion. Small wonder that so many of them came back to us with disordered brains, shattered nerves, blunted feelings, and impaired moral sense. The wonder is, in fact, that any at all escaped these pitiful consequences of their hellish experiences. In judging these unfortunates, let us always remember that their blighted lives are a part of the price paid for our own safety.

In his report to the last meeting of the Town Council Mr Ronnie voices the very general complaint re "motor hogging" through our city streets. This is especially noticeable, he says, in Esk street, which seems to have become a recognised testing track for motors, notwithstanding the fact that the proximity of a large school makes undue speeding more than ordinarily dangerous and reprehensible there. Which is all very well, as far as it goes; most of us will heartily endorse the inspector's complaint. It is the proposed remedy, however, which provokes the laugh. "A special signboard should be erected near schools requesting motorists to slow down . . . during those hours when the streets are crowded with children." Could anything be more fatuous and futile? The plain fact is that if the motor hog is hoggish enough to disregard the presence of the little ones in his track, he is not going to be converted to decency and gentlemanliness by a mere municipal notice board. A better plan would be to supply every school child with a liberal supply of tin tacks, and instructions to ignore all laws of economy in their distribution in the vicinity of the schools and playgrounds.

Sweden is proposing to erect one of the largest wireless stations in the world, able to be in constant communication with North America.

In the recent census of Budapest the population was found to be 1,100,000. Before the war the population of the capital was 880,000.

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.)

Glad to see your letter, Norland. I agree with you that it is difficult to account for the quartz having travelled down the Mataura. On looking over the matter again carefully another aspect of the matter has cropped up. The water-tight clay overlying the white quartz gravel looks uncommonly like Papa rock. Now Papa occurs at the base of the Oamaruian formation under the limestone. Professor Park figures this in his geology, and the strata can be so seen at the Orawia and in the bed of the Waiau. If the water-tight strata should prove to be Papa then the water-bearing gravels are much more ancient than has hitherto been supposed. Some millions of years at the least. Owing to the enormous amount of denudation which has taken place since tertiary times it is harder than ever to point to the source of this gravel.

A knowledge of Southland's artesian water supply is highly desirable from a commercial as well as scientific standpoint, and notes on deep wells sunk in various parts of the district would be welcome. Many farmers in this district, have sunk deep wells and if the knowledge possessed by these individuals were brought together, it would prove both interesting and profitable.

I spent the Labour Day week-end with kindred spirits in a little run north to see the famous Castle Rock limestone. On the way up we inspected the limestone at Limehills. This stuff is full of fossils which are easily procured. We devoted a few hours to the Otapiri Gorge, which is no gorge at all being but a rather deep valley. The valley is interesting but we did not manage to strike a good bed of fossils. What we saw were Jurassic. In the bed of the Otapiri, however, there were many pebbles which were very like the Matai gravels. While here we were kept under close watch by the Acclimatisation Society's ranger who regarded our presence as suspicious.

The high road over the Hokonui into the Oreti valley is interesting, with many perilous loops and hairpin bends. The mysterious charm of the place has gone, the bush is down, and of illicit distillers we saw no trace. The hills are cultivated to a considerable height.

On Labour Day we proceeded over the Taringatura hills into a beautiful little valley. The rocks passed on the way were conglomerate with many fossils similar to those in the Otapiri, and would thus appear to be Jurassic.

The Castle Rock is typical of many of the limestone formations seen in the old world, the towering castellated formation providing as wild a bit of scenery as one could wish to see. It is surrounded by rolling peaceful looking hills which enhance the effect. The strata are tilted at high angles and the hill ends in a precipice some hundreds of feet high. Straggling vines and creepers clothe the faces in places, and the ubiquitous cabbage tree grows in almost impossible spots. Great obelisks tower perpendicularly or overhang in a way which makes cold shivers run down the back of the mortal creeping round their bases. Snails were found in great abundance. We did not see a single bloom of the clematis, and the only flowering plant which made any show was the straggly shrub, Corokia cotoneaster, whose little starlike yellow flowers enlivened the scene.

At the end of the hill are caves in a deep cleft in the rock. These caves are famous for the amount of avian remains found in them. The cleft surrounded by bushes made a trap which for untold years engulfed large numbers of birds, particularly those which were flightless. Moas, notornis, and several good bones of the extinct eagle harpagornis were found together with those of birds of all sorts which are still in existence. The explorers dug through about eight feet of bird remains. The finds were of great value. A full account will be found in volumes 25 and 26 of the Transactions to be seen in the Athenaeum. Librarian Farnall is always pleased to see people making use of his carefully arranged reference library and will go to all sorts of trouble to find the book you want.

The country above Wallace town and up the Kingston line is having a mild drought, and though it rained in Invercargill we had nothing more than a slight drizzle. The Messrs Lindsay brothers of Glenkenich station who were our pilots to the Rock, have started to take rainfall records. Good luck to them. To other young farmers in this district with a mind above turnips and grass, I would say, "Go thou and do likewise."

DRAUGHTS.

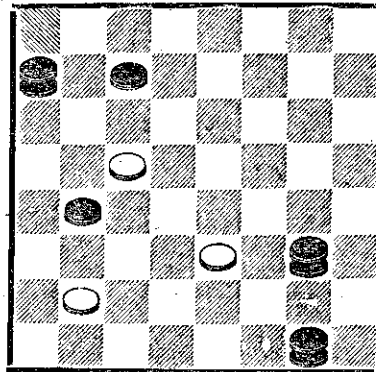
(Conducted by F. Hutchins.)

All communications of interest to readers of this column to be addressed to "Draughts Editor," 28 Biggar street.

The Draughts Club will continue to meet in Athenaeum on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons and evenings until further notice.

PROBLEM 34.

(By H. MacKean, Salt Lake City.)
BLACK.



WHITE.

Black to play and win.

Black 6, 17, Kings 5, 24.

White 14, 23, 25, King 32.

Not difficult, but will interest the amateur.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM 33.

By A. Jordan, Champion of England.
(No. 154 in "Yorkshire Weekly Post.")

Black Kings 10, 11, 13, 14.

White 12, 29, Kings 1, 6.

Black to play and win.

10. 7A	17.14	5. 1	11.15
6. 2	2. 6	6. 9	13.17
7. 3	14.18	7.10	14. 9
1. 6	6. 2	29.25	17.22
14. 9	18.15	1. 5	9.13
6. 1	2. 6	9.13	21.17
13.17	11. 7	10. 6	13. 9
1. 6	6. 2	2. 9	22.25
9. 5	15.11	5.14	11.15
6. 1	1. 6	25.21	B. wins.

A. If 11.15, 12.8, 14.9, 6.2, 9.6, 2.9, 13.6, 8.3, 15.11, 1.5, 6.1, 5.9, and the piece being on 29 instead of 21 appears to force a draw.—D.E., Y.W.P.

VAR. 1.

29.25B	10.14	6.10	11.16
7.10	25.21	14. 7	18.15
2. 2. 6	15.18	2.11	16.20
11.15	1. 6	1. 5	15.11
6. 2	5. 1		B. wins.

Black wins by Second Position.

B. 2.6, 7.2, 6.10, 11.7, 10.14, 7.10, 14.7, 2.11.—Black wins by First Position.

VAR. 2.

25.22	6. 2	17.14	6.10
10.14	14.18	15.11	3. 7
2. 6	22.17	1. 6	10. 3
11.15	18.22	22.17	17.10
			B. wins.

OLD FOURTEENTH.

(By W. Veal, Southampton.)

11.15	9.14	10.15A	2.11
23.19	22.15	19.10	22.17
8.11	7.11	6.15	14.18
22.17	30.26	1. 27.23	25.22
4. 8	11.18	18.27	18.25
17.13	26.22	32.23	29.22
15.18	3. 7	15.19	19.23
24.20	22.15	23.16	17.14
11.15	7.11	12.19	23.26
26.22	31.26	20.16	22.17
15.24	11.18	8.11	26.31
28.19	26.22	16. 7	14. 9
			Drawn.

A. An interesting var.

VAR. 1.

32.28C	6.15	14. 5	15.24
2. 6	25.22	1.10	28.19
22.17B	18.25	27.24	8.11
15.19	29.22	19.23	22.18
17.10	5. 9	24.19	Drawn.

B.

27.23	23. 9	22.17	25.4
18.27	6.13	13.22	Drawn.

C. If 22.17, 15.19, and Black can draw with a piece down.

"BETWEEN THE MOVES!"

What is the best thing to do between the moves? Probably it is not fully recognised that players may win or lose games when it is not their turn to play. Some are always at work, whether it is their turn or not, and the fatigue produced by such incessant strain accounts for the aggravating slips that so often at the end of a game destroy a fabric built up by much persevering effort. Others, regarding the time of waiting as an opportunity for rest and recreation, chat with

their friends, look at other games, and do anything but think about the business in hand, and, consequently, are liable to lose the thread when they come to resume the struggle. To look at the position with a fresh eye may sometimes be helpful, but the frequent changing of the point of view does not make for continuity. In any tournament there may be observed in operation a variety of methods of filling up the interval, approaching more or less nearly to these extremes, or taking a middle course between them, according to the idiosyncrasies of the players. There are those who can dreamily contemplate the position while consoling themselves with tobacco and refreshment, and there are others who find outlets for suppressed excitement in a feverish revision of score sheets, and a vigorous sharpening of pencils. It is not everyone who can relax the attention just sufficiently to review the situation calmly and with something of the detachment of an onlooker, while feeling no impatience at the protracted calculations of the adversary, which generally seem longer than they really are, and longer still if one harbours impatience.

N. Z. R. S. A.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTES.

No. 17.

(1) To ask the Minister of Internal Affairs whether the money forwarded from this Dominion to the Save the Children Fund in England is being disbursed to the relief of the starving children of Central Europe and by what machinery; also the exact amount lying undistributed in the aforesaid fund, and in the other funds to which New Zealand has sent contributions together with a statement of the amounts that have been disbursed.—Mr Downie Stewart, M.P.

Reply.—The Hon. Mr Anderson replied that monies remitted from the Dominion to "Save the Children Fund," London, were being distributed for the relief of starving children of Central Europe by the headquarters of the Fund, which is supported under the War Charities Act of England, 1916, assisted by the Allied Red Cross and other funds operating in the famine area. The appeal was a worldwide one and no information was available as to the amount at present in the hands of the organisation. Full particulars covering monies raised for other overseas funds were now being prepared for presentation to Parliament at an early date.

(2) To ask the Minister of Defence whether he will state on what date the military censorship of letters coming to this Dominion will cease. (Note: Correspondence which came from America and which was delivered here on the 2nd October, 1920, was opened and passed by the Military Censor.)—Mr Howard, M.P.

Reply.—Then Hon. Sir R. H. Rhodes replied that the military censorship automatically ceased when the War Regulations Continuance Act, 1920, became operative on the 6th October.

(3) To ask the Minister of Defence whether he will, during the recess, bring before Cabinet the question of amending the War Pensions Amendment Act so that dependent sisters of deceased soldiers who are residing in Great Britain may be provided for.—Mr McCallum M.P.

Reply.—The Hon. Sir R. H. Rhodes replied that the question of providing that War Pensions should be available to dependent sisters of deceased soldiers residing outside of New Zealand would be submitted to Cabinet as requested by the hon. member.

(4) To ask the Government whether returned soldiers and other dairy farmers who, through lack of butter factories in their districts to which to send their butter fat are making their own butter for supply to grocers and for town consumption will participate in the allowance to be made by the Government out of the Consolidated Fund to equalise local export prices?—Mr Field, M.P.

Reply.—The Right Hon. Mr Massey, Prime Minister, replied that the question is under investigation at the present time, but it is pointed out that under previous equalisation arrangements it has not been necessary to subsidise the sale of dairy and milled butter. Makers of this butter by forwarding to cool store could obtain the export values of such butter. The prices for first-grade dairy and milled butter were £13 1s 4d and £12 7s 4d per cwt. respectively.

Both crocodiles and alligators have voices, and the sounds they utter are terrifying at night to those who have to cross streams in which the reptiles lie. The crocodiles note varies between a hoarse bark and a deep bellow.

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00.—Very superior seven-roomed slab-tile grates, art mantels, picture and wide freizes; commodious room. Full 4-acre freehold in handy Terms: £300 down, balance

Comfortable six-roomed house; water; one-eighth acre freehold sea. A handy home. Terms: balance 6 per cent.

Twelve acres freehold land; new five-roomed house, cowbyre, shed, etc. Close to factory and only 3½ miles from Invercargill Office.

00.—Special new five-roomed Bungalow with porcelain bath and panelled half-acre freehold land with ample for another house. Real good bargain. See it.

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work required—and do it well.

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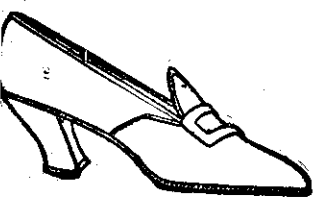
BOX 143. 'PHONE 1148

LAMP! Tramp! Tramp! Hear their
ceaseless beat:

near the Town Council bleat,
it on earth is that they have upon
their feet,

hey! Boots repaired at Hawthorne's
shop!

Boots that can't be beat.



J. A. HAWTHORNE.

BOOT REPAIRER,
RAY STREET.



SPORTING.

Diggers, you had better be a bit with Hector Gray and Oratress on Saturday. Hector is worth a few pounds over a two mile journey.

Bill Stone's luck, trainer, and a good mare like Silverpeak, may all combine to enrol his name amongst the list of winners of the C.J.C. Steward's Handicap next Saturday.

If Author Dillon is as good as Jarden says he is he will win the Trotting Cup on Tuesday. If he isn't then Fred Holmes, the elder, and Trix Pointer will be very hard.

Tommy Todd was in great form in opening the annual meeting at Wairoa last Saturday evening, but he did not stay the journey too well. Certainly it was a long course, and, as he explained, through living in the backblocks nowadays he was a bit out of training.

The "Colt" (I never met him before, but he is some size), was apparently very delighted with himself on Saturday night. He has always been a good worker in the club's interests I am told, so the promotion to a seat on the committee was deserved.

The Wairoa Club has a good officer in treasurer Matt Gaines, and the members did not waste any time in appointing him to the position again. I could not help being struck with the keen interest every member appears to take in the welfare of a country racing club. If the same interest were taken by the members of the local club it would be running a Melbourne Cup meeting inside a couple of years.

Jack Forde hasn't any delusions about the duties of a president of a country racing club, and when telling the members that he was not taking the job of president on with his eyes shut, he turned a nice compliment onto his predecessor, Tommy Todd. He told the members what Tommy had been in the habit of doing off his own bat at race time, and to his efforts it was very largely due the good racing track the club now possessed.

"There's a friend for little children," in the members of the Wairoa Jockey Club. It was a kindly and thoughtful action of the members to remember the children inmates of Lorne Farm and the Riverton Hospital at Christmas time. Actions such as these are what makes true sportsmen popular the world over. The money voted for Christmas cheer to these children will help to make the festive season for them a little happier.

Banker Bert Mills did not seem at all pleased with the vote made by the members of the Wairoa Jockey Club to the Birchwood Hunt Club on Saturday night. He says that the sixty-three bob will just keep the dogs one week. Well, half a loaf is better than no bread, Bert, and there looked at one period of the debate as if they had a good chance of getting none.

The appointment of W. F. Dunne as handicapper to the Southland Club is not looked upon with favour by local owners and trainers. One owner informed me that he considered the appointment a joke that northern owners would not stand for. Mr Dunne certainly did make a mess of the second day of the last Dunedin Christmas meeting, but it is by mistakes that one learns, and he is not likely to make the same errors he did on that occasion. Give the man a chance anyhow.

The Wairoa Jockey Club has hit upon a novel idea of popularising its meeting. Last season this little up-country club gave a cool thousand quid to the horses lucky enough to run first, second, and third in each race. The committee (they looked like the Peace Conference, one and all, at the hall last Saturday night), realising that it is expensive to take horses to up-country meetings, now-a-days, to say nothing of training them, added a couple of hundred to be divided amongst the "also starteds." This means that every horse competing at the meeting will receive something. The idea is new to the Dominion, and I think will at once be popular with owners and trainers. There are certainly more horses race at a meet-

ing who don't get into the money than those who do, and if it were not for the losers, the game could not be kept going. They are a progressive crowd are the committee of the Wairoa Jockey Club, and their meeting deserves all the popularity it enjoys.

The appointment of Major S. Rice, of Wyndham, as a member of the Royal Commission to inquire into and report on the applications for further totalisator permits came as a surprise to most racing men, but no one can say that he is not thoroughly qualified for the job. A very capable business man before he went to the war, he showed he had organisation well developed as a squadron commander, and his selection as one of two representatives of the South Island will certainly meet with approval in Southland.

TOTALISATOR FRACTIONS.

The totalisator inspector's report recommending Bill Massey and Co. to collar the totalisator fractions which will not divide into sixpences is causing the Sports Protection League to buck. Mr Skerrett, chairman of the Board of Control of that almost defunct body, says that the clubs do not retain the fractions at all. Well, perhaps they don't in the actual sense of the word, but in that same sense clubs don't retain any of their receipts. The totalisator inspector's reasons why the Government should take this further amount, estimated at about £42,000 a year, may not be very convincing, but neither are the reasons against the proposal put forth by King's Counsel Skerrett. The money belongs to the people who back horses that return them the dividends, and as these people can't claim it I don't think they care very much who gets it, and if the clubs don't retain it then why not let it go towards paying off some of our heavy national debt. Bill Massey, P.C., is in some need of boodle, by the look of things now he will be in greater need before long, and if this additional amount is going to help him, and also help to return the totalisator to the people, by all means give it over to the Consolidated Funds. The sporting public now pays through the nose for its sport, and last year contributed some half million in direct taxation from the racing game. Racing clubs are doing well everywhere in the Dominion and can afford this extra amount without any risk of bankruptcy. They should remember that the opposition to the totalisator is weakening each year, chiefly because many of those who were opposed to it realise that the money it provides in direct taxation, besides the revenue through the railways and post and telegraph departments, very considerably helps to reduce their own taxation. The monish talks!

NEW ZEALAND METROPOLITAN TROTTING CLUB.

ACCEPTANCES.

CHRISTCHURCH, November 2.

The following acceptances have been received for the New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club's meeting:—

Trotting Cup, 2500 sovs, class 4.33, 2m — Author Dillon scr, Matchlight 4sec, 'Cello Sydney Wilkes 4, Trix Pointer 5, General Link 6, John Dillon 6, Sherwood 7, Dean Dillon 7, Albert Cling 8, Willie Lincoln 8, Moneymaker 9, Erin's Queen 9, Mintson 9, Steel Bell 9, Reta Peter 9, Hal Junior 9.

Spring Handicap (harness), of 300 sovs. For unhoppled trotters; class 4.4. One mile and five furlongs.—Eruption scr, Marvin Junr 2 seconds, Parkfield 3, Rosalie 3, Rothmoor 4, Overrate 4, Patard 5, Succory 5, Pieter Timmerman 6, Lady Linwood 7, To-night 8, Corwar 8, Effie Bingen 8, Waihinapai 8, Waiwera 8, Blazer Wilson 8.

St. Alban's Handicap (saddle), of 300 sovs. Class 2.18. One mile.—Captain Stanley 2secs, Birdwood 2, Xavier 2, Lord Dillon 3, Granger 3, Idris 3, Duke Whips 3, Bill Brown 4, King Karri 4, Proud Spring 4, Pleasant Mount 4, Pax 4, Greta 5, Hayseed 5.

Empire Handicap (saddle) of 300 sovs. Class 4.48. Two miles.—Dandy Chimes scr, Goldstream 3secs, The Gunner 4, Bridgewood 5, Pleasant Mount 5, Mario Lloyd 5, Wild Petro 6, Watchman 6, Silver Shoe 7, Voter 7, The Dingo 8, Maud Wilkes 8, Coll 8, Guy Dillon 9, Prince

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Burlington 9, Energy 9, Mara 9, Marie
Tempest 9, Lindetta 9, Rewanui 9.

Riccarton Handicap (harness), of 500
sovs. Class 3.44. One mile and five
furlongs.—Capriccio 2secs, Rangitata Lass
4, Asturio 4, Emperor 5, Legacy 5, Paul
Dufault 5, Maoriland 5, Huon Patch 6,
All Bell 6, Mako Mako 6, Irvar 6, Bun-
dong 6, Ouimet 6.

Middleton Handicap (harness), of 500
sovs. Unhoppled trotters; class 4.48.
Two miles.—Whispering Willie scr, Home-
leigh Dick 3secs, Whislet 6, Red Heather
8, Theuseus 8, Olive L 9, Gold Boy 11,
Michael Galindo 11, Belmont Chimes 11,
Wild Pedro 12, Harold Child 12, Electro-
cute 12, Koraki 13, Win All 14, Billy Pa-
role 14, Paul Huon 14, Bon Patch 15,
Eruption 15.

Victoria Handicap (harness), of 500
sovs. Class 4.40. Two miles.—Man o'
War scr, Silver Nut 1sec, Sympathy 2,
Nancy Stair 2, Asturio 2, Partner 3, Royal
Step 4, Brown's Nugget 5, Jack Arrah 6,
Master Hal 6, Rorke's Drift 7, Ouimet 7,
G. M. Dillon 7.

Hagley Handicap (harness) of 500 sovs.
Class 2.49. One mile and a quarter.—
John Dillon scr, Lord Minto 1sec, Sunged
2, Emillus 2, Chid 2, Moneymaker 2,
Vice-Admiral 3, Our Girl 3, Gleaming 3,
Gold Girl 4, All Bell 4, Birdwood 5, Dil-
linwood 5.

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26in. The price is right. Get one for
the holiday season.

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repair Prams and Bicycles, AND
WE DO IT WELL.

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we will sell you a new one. THAT'S
FAIR.

Thomas Bird,
122 DEE STREET.

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there you cannot buy to the best ad-
vantage.

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THAT BIRTHDAY

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Act.

FOR THE EMPIRE'S CAUSE.

IN MEMORIAM.

KEANE.—23/799 Rifleman Peter Mar-
tin, killed in action at Le Quesnoy,
France, November 4, 1918, aged 37 years.
R.I.P.

There's a little white cross, but it's
not all alone,
There are thousands its vigil to share.
No monument high, and no rich carven
stone,
Mark the graves of our boys over there,
But the bright, cheerful sun through
the dancing leaves peeps
And lovingly touches the sward,
Caressing the spot where our dear
brother sleeps
With the little white cross keeping
guard.

—Inserted by his brothers J.M.K. and
D.P.K.

"The Digger."

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1920.

THE R.S.A.

It is now approximately six years ago
that the Returned Soldier's Association
was brought into being. At that time
men were returning from active service
and it became essential to formulate some
machinery which would look after their
interests. This being accomplished, much
valuable work has been done and thou-
sands of returned men throughout this
Dominion can thank the R.S.A. for the
many benefits they have received. Others
again, for reasons best known to them-
selves, have not assisted the R.S.A. by
becoming members. They have par-
taken of its benefits which have been
achieved by the subscriptions of members
and the tireless energy of those responsible
for its destiny. Retrospective allow-
ances, back pay, matters regarding land,
soldiers' dependents, and a host of other
things, have been accelerated by the
R.S.A. The Government fought hard
against R.S.A. activity and only yielded
under the utmost pressure. Returned
men would not have received one half of
the benefits had the Association not taken
up the cause of the returned man. In
the whole of its activities we can con-
fidently say that it has not lost its pre-
stige with the public, which is indicative

that it has justified its existence and con-
ducted its campaign along legitimate
lines. Nevertheless the R.S.A. has its
difficulties. It has carried on its back,
those to whom personal interest and self-
aggrandisement stand pre-eminent. It
has suffered from a lack of co-ordination
in the working of its machinery. A new
scheme of organisation has recently come
into operation which necessitates the exis-
tence of district councils, composed of re-
presentatives from each association. The
original work of the R.S.A. is nearing
completion, and we find that organisation
merely provides cheap trips for members
and accomplishes nothing but cumbersome
and ineffective machinery. It is an ex-
pensive piece of machinery whose exis-
tence depends on a portion of the sub-
scription paid by members. Mr Graham,
secretary of the Invercargill R.S.A. has
told the Executive that there is a falling
away of membership which must essen-
tially financially reflect on the R.S.A.
Other Associations will have the same
experience, and all Associations must face
this position before long. The money
spent in preserving a channel of red tape
must be used to prolong the life of the
Association. It is these local associations
which do the work and it is to their in-
terest to dispense with useless machinery
which is absorbing money on a diminish-
ing income. The local Association has
done good work. Mr Graham stated, at
the last Executive meeting, that the time
had arrived when a part-time secretary
should be employed. This is no doubt
true, but saving can also be effected in
other directions. There is still a great
sphere of usefulness for the R.S.A. and
what is wanted is the strong support of
every returned soldier in the Dominion,
and when the present work is completed,
they should throw their whole weight
into the political scale. There is ample
room for a new party and the R.S.A. can
be an effective force in bringing it into
being.

THE DIGGER'S LETTER BOX.

J.S., Titiroa.—Question I. Birthplace of
Kitchener?

In the year 1850 Kitchener's father
bought a place called Ballygoghlan, in
the counties of Kerry and Limerick, the
property included a little village de-
populated by the potato famine. While
alterations were being made on the house
a shooting-box, Gunsborough Lodge was
rented, near Listowel, and here Horatio
Herbert Kitchener was born on June 24,
1850.

Question II.—What religion or church?
Kitchener was christened in the church
of Aghavallia on September 22, 1850. His
biographer records that his father had his
own ideas about "bring up" and this
characteristic is reflected in Kitchener as
we knew him. He attended a French
school at Geneva when 14 years of age
and was subsequently transferred to a
Church of England school at Montreux.
He also studied Hebrew to learn parts of
the old Testament in the original.

Question III.—What year did he com-
mence naval operations? So far as we are
aware Kitchener took no part in naval
operations. The question is ambiguous.
He returned from France and Switzerland
in 1866 to prepare for a commission in the
Royal Engineers and was passed into
Woolwich in February, 1868. Owing to ill-
ness he dropped a term at Woolwich and
passed out in December, 1870. This was
the time of the Franco-Prussian war and
he offered his services to France and was
appointed to the "Second Army" of the
Loire, commanded by General Chanzy.
He was now a colonel and it may be the
answer to your inquiry that this was the
start of his military operations. If not
write again.

Question IV.—Number of years he held
the rank of lord? It was on September
4, 1898, that Kitchener received word that
Her Majesty the Queen was pleased to
express her deep appreciation of the vic-
tory at Khartum by conferring on him
a peerage as a reward for his brilliant
services. Kitchener states that the Queen
offered him a peerage in a nice manner
but Kitchener is too horrible a name to
put a "lord" in front of. If there is any
further information we shall endeavour to
supply it.—Editor "Digger."

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—Allow me to congratulate your
cartoonist in this week's issue. His car-
toon illustrates the truth of the scriptures
which says, "God causeth the tents of the
robbers to prosper." "The Most High
ruleth in the kingdom of men and giveth
it to whomsoever. He will setting up
over it the basest or lowest or vilest of
men." But I would ask them to read
James 5th. Please, Mr Jacques, do not
ascribe that when James 5th comes to pass

that Mr McSweeney's death through hun-
ger-striking has had anything to do with
it. Jacques' note on this, this week,
partakes too much of the wowser to my
liking.—I am, etc.,

GAVIN BRIGHTON,
Nightcaps, November 4, 1920.

P.S.—Perhaps, Mr Editor, you will al-
low me to try and brighten Jacques' box.
He acknowledges that it is a bit dull.
Fear cometh of ignorance; to love any-
thing we must know it and partake of it.
"Perfect love casteth out fear; he that
feareth is not made perfect in love." Jacques
does not seem to know or under-
stand me. I fear not God! I love Him
for what He has done for me. I can
appreciate a joke just as well as I can
combat superstition; of malice I have
none, for which Jacques gave me credit.
Did I attack Jacques? I know that after
reading the correspondence between
Jacques and A, on spiritualism in which
telepathy was mentioned, I asked the
question, "Telepathy, what is it and how
is it worked?" and lest they should think
I was taking advantage of them, I ex-
plained it, which seems to have been
written in a style incomprehensible to him.
If he will read the letter and call the
two persons A and B respectively, even
his "dull brain" may be able to under-
stand. I do not, like the parson and the
priest, debar anyone from utilising their
brains. The joke may be turned back on
Jacques, who, like a pig in clover has
done some rooting which is rare fun for
him.

GAVIN BRIGHTON,
TO THE GROPER.

Sir,—Thank you for your contribution
this week, else I would not have seen
it. Say! are you one of the "we" in
the first paragraph, who I take it as
speaking for the churches. To me that
article from the "Argus" is a howl as
of one in despair. This week's "Otago
Witness," see article on inside cover was
contributed too. Took form as of a cheap
advertisement. It stated Sir Arthur
Conan Doyle's purpose and his reason for
visiting Australia. He is just as much
in earnest in his purpose as the churches.
Why this howling? The churches are
afraid. Why? Because they cannot meet
it. Why? Because of disobedience, there-
fore they grope about at noon-day as if
it were midnight. How? Instead of uphold-
ing the truth of the Bible they have been
robbing the people by teaching that which
is not in or implied in the Bible. Our
Lord said, "And I, if I be lifted up from
the earth, will draw all unto myself." Has
the church been faithful to this? If so,
then this passage just quoted is a lie.
But it is not a lie, for it is truth, as many
can bear witness to the fact, that those
that trusted in the name of Jesus have
been drawn to Him. Yea, though they did
not understand. Instead of telling the
people the purpose for which He had
come, what have they done? Our Lord
said, "I came that they might have life
and that they might have it more abund-
antly." They, the churches, made the
scriptures unintelligible by their various
shibboleths, that it is, as Paul said it would
as speaking for the churches), says, "We
be, hard, difficult or trying at times.
This article from the "Argus" (I take it
cannot welcome Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
as an advocate of spiritualism. He re-
presents a force which we believe to be
purely evil." If it is purely evil why
not meet it and prove it in his belief. He
is reported to have said, "spiritualism is
a helpmate to christianity." If church
teachings are correct, this is true, it is a
helpmate to church teachings, but church
teachings are not christianity. And the
churches do not want to share the spoil,
therefore this howl.—I am, etc.,

GAVIN BRIGHTON,
Nightcaps, November 4, 1920.

R.S.A. EXECUTIVE.

The usual monthly meeting of the R.S.A.
was held recently. The chairman gave a
detailed account of the circumstances of a
returned soldier at Matarua who had been
subject to pressure from certain firms re-
garding supply of goods. The meeting
then went into the finances of the R.S.A.
The secretary presented a balance-sheet
and stated that considerable saving could
be effected by having a part-time sec-
retary. The work of the Association
was growing less and it was reasonable
to expect a decrease in membership each
year. After a good deal of discussion
it was decided to get a statement regard-
ing the finances of "The Digger" and the
Soldiers' Club, and the same to be fully
considered at next meeting. Mr Caws
explained that Col. Hargest was placing
the colours of the 2nd Batt. O.I. Brigade
in the St. John's Church, Invercargill.
It was decided to give Col. Hargest any
assistance possible to ensure a parade.

MANDEVILLE NOTES.

The weather here for the past month has
been exceptionally good, and may it con-
tinue likewise. There has been sufficient
rainfall to stimulate a good growth, but
it was wise enough not to interfere in any
way with the races held at Gore last
week. A fair amount of wind was ex-
perienced, which of course is only
seasonable.

The farmers are well ahead with their
work, having managed to get their crops
in while the ground was in good order.
Shearing is now in progress in the district,
and turnips are about to be put in.
The competitions held at Gore recently
provided us with plenty of entertainment
for a week. They had record entries and
a packed house each night, and con-
sequently were a pronounced success. Man-
deville school carried off the honours in
the Public School Essay Competition,
Master William Collett gaining 98 points
out of 100, thus winning first place in a
field of thirty-nine competitors represent-
ing the leading schools of Southland.
Other local competitors to gain distinction
were:—Miss M. Stephens and Mr M.
Roche, second in impromptu conversation;
Miss L. Crombie, third in violin solo;
Mr John Wayte, third in violin solo; and
Miss I. McLeod, fourth in recitation, girls
under 12 years. With big fields in each
section, some almost professionals, we con-
sider Mandeville more than held its own.

The races came and went, and Monday
(Labour Day) saw a record crowd on the
Gore racecourse, visitors arriving by car
and retain from all parts of Otago and
Southland. Mr W. D. McLeod, of
"Wantwood," Mandeville, placed another
win to his credit by winning the Matarua
Handicap, with War Scot, returning his
supporters a very handsome dividend.

Miss Connegien, of Opunake, Taranaki,
who has been visiting relatives in the
district returned home on Monday.

Mrs J. P. Murphy and Miss N. Murphy,
of the Grosvenor Hotel, Timaru, spent
last week-end with Miss Roache, of Man-
deville. They were present at Gore on
Monday to see their Timaru representative
Almoner, score in the Gore Cup, he also
returning his supporters a nice dividend.

Very little local interest was taken in
the eclipse of the moon which occurred
last week; but it came on all right, and
it still shines.

As all diggers' privilege leave expires
at the end of November, there is a general
exodus of diggers from all over the dis-
tricts facing the starter in the farewell
handicap; Carnival Week in Christchurch,
which includes trotting, galloping, and
show, will be their first objective. Having
survived the elements of a week's snows,
they will push on to see what they can do
New Zealand gratis. As I am one of the
above-mentioned privileged victims, I in-
tend taking twenty-eight days' iron rations,
three hundred rounds of ammunition, gas
helmet at the least, ride on every train
I see, and go around New Zealand three
times, while my luck is in, and then I will
return home after having a good spin
and I will say to myself: "Well, she was a
good war after all!"

NOTES FROM PAHIA.

Much sympathy is extended to Digger
George Skerrett and his wife in the loss
of their infant daughter, who passed away
last Wednesday at Pahia.

The dairy factory is doing very well
this year, 1000 gallons a day, coming 500
gallons above this time last year. They
will probably have to put in another vat
before the height of the season, and they
are also considering putting in a whey
butter plant, so things are looking very
promising for the Pahia farmers.

The weather of late has been just ideal,
except for the wind now and again, for
farming operations, and the farmers seem
to have taken advantage of it as everything
is well ahead of last year.

SOCIAL NOTES.

Miss Vera Wilkin (Dunedin), is the
guest of Mrs Bews, Dalrymple Road.

Dr. Applegate left for the north on
Wednesday, to take charge of the (Hail)
Sanatorium.

Mrs O'Beime, Esk street, gave a de-
lightful tea on Monday afternoon.

Mrs B. C. Bastian entertained a few
friends at tea on Monday afternoon, at
Lewis' Tea Rooms. The guest of the
afternoon being Dr. Applegate.

Mrs Honeywood, Gala street, is spending
a few days in Oamaru.

The German Ambassador states that the
German Republic has come to stay.

SCHOOL OLD BOYS' SMOKE
CONCERT.

A very pleasant evening was spent by members of the Southland High School Boys' Association in the form of a concert in the Floral Tea Rooms on Tuesday evening. Mr J. H. Reed held the chair in the absence of the late Mr W. Macalister. The guest of honour was Mr E. Diack, winner of the Championship at the sports in the Musical items were interspersed between the various business items and were very capably rendered by Holtz, Reed, Gilfedder, and others. Special reference was made to the old boys who had died since the last general meeting. They were G. C. Todd, Dave Morton, Geo. Arnott and the Rev. W. W. Wain. A silent tribute was paid to all present standing. After the business had been served toasts to the school athletics (coupled with the school of the school champion), and absent old boys were duly reported the secretary (Mr Brodie) that steps were being taken to re-roll of Old Boys and asked that all should be sent in to him as possible. Reference was also made to the branch of the association and recently been formed in Dunedin. In conclusion of the report he reported the whole-hearted co-operation of all old boys of the school to assist in keeping the association alive. New members of committee were being Messrs Mawson, McLauchlin, Hedder and D. Cox. A remit from the association was discussed in connection with bearing on it to the effect that the association should honour the teams when successful in the football and cricket competitions was carried. It was also carried that the committee take into consideration the erection of a memorial in honour of those who had served in the Great War and that an appeal be made to all old boys. Votes of thanks had been given to the performers, chairman and secretaries. The evening concluded at 10.45 with singing of "Auld Lang Syne," and the national Anthem.

NOTE FROM OTAHUTI DIGGERS.

With feelings of deep regret that on the death of a staunch cobbler, the digger, Private Vessie McKenzie, who knew him at the war and at Otago, we can testify to his sterling qualities as a soldier and a civilian. Meeting early in the war, it was a great fortune to often share his company and whether in the front line or in billets, he was always cheerful and his merry laugh made one of the many discomforts that go to making of a soldier's experience. We extend our deepest sympathy to his parents, sisters, and brothers of our comrades, whose memory we will all associate with that which is noblest and best.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Rolshaviks are planning an offensive on the whole front.

A man named Matthews has been arrested for the Timaru murder.

Total week-end casualties in Ireland six killed and nine wounded.

Ratepayers! Vote for Norman, Fraser, and Bowman, to represent you on the City Council.

Heavy rain has been falling in connection with the Patea hydro-electric scheme was washed away.

Asquith is advocating the re-opening of trade relations with Germany and a wide interchange of commodities.

Water-side workers at Brisbane are holding a ballot with a view to stopping over-sea vessels.

A writ has been issued on behalf of B. Partridge, otherwise Sister Mary, the ex-nun, claiming £5000 damages against Dr. Dwyer, Roman Catholic Bishop of Waiata, on the ground of malicious arrest.

Thousands of people participated in a demonstration at Washington on the occasion of McSweeney's funeral. Thirty and attended service at Boston and paraded at Philadelphia. Protest against the Irishman's death. Fifty and gathered in New York to pay tribute to McSweeney.

WINTON JOCKEY CLUB.

HANDICAPS.

The following handicaps have been declared for the first day of the Winton Jockey Club's meeting on November 17: Trial Stakes (six furlongs).—Flag Lieutenant 9.0, Clothilde 9.0, Admiral Fisher, Wild Shot, Canio, Destined, Filigree, Glenhupai, Linton, Naomi, Queen's Gift, Red Mac, Restlight, Rockhampton, Royal Admiral, Ruddy Gold, Sabor, San Salvador, Soldier Boy, Strowana, Frenchman, Soldiers' Pride 8.11, Martial Dance, Middle Fedalma, Markilla, Rosaire, Brownie, Kilbroney Glory 8.8, Goodstart not eligible.

Winton Stakes, for three-year-olds (six furlongs).—Listening Post 10.0, Corn Rigs 9.1, Windermere 8.5, Ruena 8.2, Mantua 8.0, Paddy's Hope 7.9, March Off 7.9, Lady Blissful, Lomagundi, Middle Fedalma, Markilla, Martial Dance, Moulin Rouge, Navy Cut, Pop, Pride of Martian, Seelight, Rosaire, Copper Trail, Lady Barkly, Brownie, Cannon, Advice, Morse Signal, Lady Joan, Rose Noble—Plaisanterie, Vice-Admiral—Corrie Dhu, Vice-Admiral—Mountain Flower 7.7.

Winton Cup (one and a-quarter miles).—Elems 9.0, Bengeroop 9.11, Tin Soldier 8.9, All Ready 8.5, Almoner 8.5, Linden 8.4, Kilkee 8.3, Jock 8.0, Don Pacifico 7.10, Marianne 7.6, Claverhouse 7.6, Silent King 7.6, Twinkle 7.2, Awahou 7.0, Blue Admiral 7.0.

Hokonui Trot, class 5min (two miles).—Full Cry scr, Nellie Scott 2sec, Solace 2, Biddy Tracey 3, War Scot 3, Coldwater 3, Satin Boy 5, Harold's Treasure 5, Lenamhor 6, St. Mihel 6, Seaward Spot 7, Sweet Chimes 7, General Joffre 8, Eros 8, Black Harold 8, Lady Marvin 8, Cross Battery 8.

Steeplechase (about three miles).—San Sebastian 12.6, Palladia 11.9, Graftella 11.8, Dunmure 9.13, Barrister 9.12, Wicklow 9.11, Glenisla 8.9, Staff Officer 9.8, Lifebuoy 9.7, Red Tape 9.7, Canna 9.7, Dalwhinnie 9.7.

Flying Handicap (six furlongs).—Satisfaction 9.0, Rokelaine 8.6, Kilkee 8.3, Eight Bells 8.2, Redshire 8.0, Linden 8.0, Buller 7.12, Moneymusk 7.0, Revolution 7.0, Orderdown 7.0.

Otapiri Trot (one and a-half miles).—Bell Fashion scr, Hectoroo 5sec, Red Empress 6, Flower of Turi 6, Black Harold 7, Country Queen 9, Quick March 14, Quick Match 14, Bellfire, Enoch Arden, Bell Wallace, Harold Yet, McGrath, May Tracey, Moor Chimas, Pay Soon, The Sheikh, Wild Queen, Eppie Adair, Dorinda 15s.

Tradesmen's Handicap (seven furlongs).—Silent King 9.5, Cattach 9.2, Twinkle 9.2, Marching Order 9.0, Etta 8.9, Mazama 8.8, Adelina 8.8, Blue Admiral 8.8, Sartolite 8.8, Barley Rigs 8.8, Kilmeedy 8.7, Hineamuru 8.7, Moneymusk 8.4, Sunlit 8.4, Mirza 8.2, Martifors 8.0, Goodstart 8.0, Mistle Drift 7.13, Wild Night 7.13, Cammie Jack 7.13, Vice-Grand 7.8, Breton 7.8, Kokowai 7.7, Red Eagle 7.7, Linton 7.7.

C.J.C. ACCEPTANCES.

Following are the Canterbury Jockey's Club's acceptances:—

Spring Plate.—Adopted, Cashmere, Some Two miles.—Hohu 11.9, Lord Nagar 11.7, General Petain 11.6, Jack Symons 10.9, Gamecock 10.6, Good Hope 9.0.

Spring Plate.—Adopted, ashmore, Some Kid, Walton, Chaeronia, Forty Winks, Eskari, Cambræ, Chrysostom, Insurance, Jazz, Petunia, Royal Mac, Shamrock, Bebehead, Isabel, Wanigan.

Linwood Handicap, of 300sovs. Seven furlongs.—Early Dawn 9.3, Ben Bolt 8.12, Truthful 8.12, Killala 8.9, Prince Hal 8.7, Link Up 8.6, Bondage 8.2, Twinkle 7.13, High Heels 7.12, Shamrock 7.11, Battle Scene 7.10, Irish Elegance 7.9, Deep Well 7.8, Barley Corn 7.6, Carubrac 7.0, Reproachful 7.0, Campfire gelding 7.0.

New Zealand Cup, of 2000sovs. Two miles.—Kilrush 9.1, Vagabond 8.13, Orator 8.7, Glen Cauby (including 10lb penalty) 8.5, Tenterfield (including 7lb penalty) 8.1, Royal Star 8.1, Imaribbon 7.10, Bonnie Maid 7.9, Johnny Walker 7.3, Kilgour (including 7lb penalty) 7.1, Rose Pink 6.13, Warlike 6.13, Nightdrader 6.13, Reuben 6.8, Bengeroop 6.7.

Stewards' Handicap, of 1500sovs. Six furlongs.—Arrowsmith 9.13, Surveyor 9.9, Trespass 8.9, Radial 8.6, Silver Peak 8.4, Rude 8.4, Onslaught 8.3, Missgold 8.1, Right and Left 8.1, Chimera 8.0, Killowen 7.13, Maioha 7.9, Clean sweep 7.9, Sunart 7.8, Solfanello 7.8, Chrysostom 7.6, Early Dawn 7.3, Sunny Corner 7.3, Blackmail 7.2, Will Oakland 6.13, Miss Mimic 6.13.

Riocarton Welter, of 400sovs. Nine furlongs.—Dainty Step 10.1, Maloha 9.12, Elems 9.0, Bonetter 9.8, Starland 9.7, All Ready 9.6, Demand 8.13, Kilkee 8.9, Walton 8.7, Nautical 8.6.

New Zealand Derby, of 1500sovs. One

TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE
WINTON RIDING.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I sincerely thank you for the honour you have conferred upon me in electing me unopposed as your Representative on the Southland County Council. I appreciate the honour and assure you that I will endeavour to the best of my ability to look after your interests in particular and the County in general.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM NORMAN.
Winton, November 2, 1920.

TO THE RATEPAYERS OF WALLACE-
TOWN RIDING.

I WISH to inform you that I am again a Candidate for the office of Councillor for the Wallace-town Riding at the Elections on WEDNESDAY, November 10th. If elected I will endeavour, as in the past, to administer impartially the affairs of the County in general and your Riding in particular.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS FRASER,
Waianiwa.

DIGGERS,

DON'T FORGET your Pals in old Blighly. We have just opened out a choice lot of

CHRISTMAS CARDS

with views of Invercargill, and New Zealand scenery.

Also—
VIEW BOOKS

depicting the Scenery of our Beautiful Island.

Don't forget your friends in distant lands at this season of the year. They will appreciate a Card or Booklet.

JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS.

NOBLE'S

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WANTED IN ANY QUANTITY—

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Our Receiving Days:

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS.

Tempting Prices for Prime Pork. We Pay Railage.

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INVERCARGILL AND GORE.

mile and a-half.—Demand, Duo, Gasbag, Humbug, Right and Left, Royal Mac, Vespucci, Winter Wind, Delight.

New Zealand Oaks Stakes, of 750sovs. One mile and a-half.—Blackmail, Isabel, Sunny Corner, Orange Mart, Truthful, Wanigan, War Cry, Delight.

Becoming Fashions for Summer. "Fashion's latest fascinations," as displayed in our Showroom and Millinery Department, are proving very attractive to ladies in search of becoming attire for the Summer season. Our Stocks are varied and large, to suit all tastes. In the following list we are showing some very exceptional values. Models 25s 6d, 29s 6d to 47s 6d. Matrons' black and coloured toques 27s 6d, 32s to 49s 6d. Black lace and tulle Hats 32s 6d, 39s 6d. Semi Trims with flowers and ribbons 14s 6d, 18s 6d to 25s 6d. Ready-to-wears 9s 11d, 12s 6d, 17s 6d to 29s 6d. A splendid showing of Costumes in flannel, tweed and serge 89s 6d, 99s 6d, 115s, 126s to 198s. Coats in Rainproof, Velvet and Tweed 75s, 95s to 126s. White and coloured silk blouses 17s 6d, 22s 6d to 27s 6d. Silk Jerseys 45s, 65s, 97s 6d to 147s. Wool jerseys 25s 6d, 35s, 55s to 95s. Feather Boas 17s 6d, 27s 6d, 37s 6d to 82s 6d. You are cordially invited to co-operate with us this week and help swell the Salvation Army Funds at H. and J. Smith, Ltd., Progressive Drapers, Tay street, Invercargill and Main street, Gore.

THE NEWEST OF THE NEW

Displayed for Inspection

—AT—

"THE EXHIBITION."



SPORTS COATS.

ALL SILK SPORTS AND JUMPERS in a splendid range of colours and representing all the newest styles. In really high-class goods. No two alike. Prices £7 10s to £14 14s.

MERCERISED SILK SPORTS COATS AND JUMPERS in pretty colour tones; newest shapes. Prices from 99/6 to 7 guineas.

NOVELTY STRIPED AND PLAIN COLOURED WOOL SPORTS COATS AND JUMPERS, in a big variety of colours. Prices 49/6 to 8 guineas.

SMART SKIRTS, for wearing with Silk Coats; novelty checks and stripes on Cream Grounds. Prices from 84/- to 110/-.

MODEL FROCKS.

Our showing in this section is a revelation of right colour tones and styles at very modest prices.

SMART FLORAL VOILE FROCKS, in new designs. Prices 57s 6d to 79/6.

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

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72 and 74 TAY STREET.

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SO HURRY UP AND SEND YOUR

—CHRISTMAS GREETINGS—

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I have just opened the right thing in CHRISTMAS CARDS with local views.

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BOOKS OF VIEWS at 1/6, 2/- and 4/-.

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FURNITURE

of the very

LATEST DESIGNS

to be had at a reasonable price

from

W. S. Robinson & Co.,

KELVIN STREET.

'Phone—760.

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.

ELECTRIC POWER BOARD.

VISIT TO THE WORKS.

The main object of this review is to give a general synopsis of the constructional work as far as it has progressed. On arrival at Tuatapere the party inspected the Goods Shed which has been constructed by the Board at a cost of £327, plus £33 for painting. The object of this depot is to store material prior to its transit to Monowai. A railway siding is being constructed and the Board will pay £15 as an annual rental. The material from this depot will be transported by traction engines and motor lorries. On leaving Tuatapere the Board were met by a deputation from the Wallace County Council, whose first complaint was that the longitudinal decking of the bridge was worn through. Further on the deputation wanted the Board to widen the road. The road in question has been taken over by the Board for maintenance and not for construction. The Council seems to consider the Board fair game to shoulder responsibilities which should be carried on its own shoulders. It was a decidedly trivial matter, and the Council seem to forget that the Board is forming and maintaining miles of road which are an asset to the country. The Board have taken over this road and it will be handed back again to the Council in five years, time, the Board to return it in good condition. The distance from Tuatapere to Sunnyside is 29 miles and represents the length of road which will have to be kept in effective repair. From the proposed suspension bridge to the headworks will mean approximately another nine miles which is being formed. Of the 29 mile stretch of road, about six miles have been formed and gravelled. A large section of this was practically impassable during a certain period of the year. It is now a good metal road which, when consolidated, will greatly facilitate motor traffic. Of the remaining portion about 18 miles is being maintained and in many places gravelling has been heavy. The remaining mileage is in good order just now but will require a good deal of attention when heavy transport begins. At Taylor's Creek there is a fairly steep grade down to the creek which was previously felled. A bridge is being erected across the stream which will have the effect of straightening the road as well as dispensing with the necessity of fording the stream. The bridge is wooden and without going into detail is a decided improvement. Further up the road we came to a bend in the road. At this point there is a gravel pit which has been excavated right up to the boundary line. This pit is a decided danger to traffic and at some time or other will be the cause of an accident. This defect should receive the attention of the Board now, as there is no doubt there will be a great deal of motor traffic on the road. There is a fair sized cutting from the top of the plain down to Sunnyside Flat, on which is situated the depot, consisting of huts, cookhouse, store, blacksmith shop, etc. This depot will remain at its present site for about another five months and will then be situated up to the headworks on completion of the suspension bridge. The huts are very comfortable and portable. The cookhouse is neat and clean, and the men receive a good meal for 1s 4d. At this site the Board have constructed a punt which transports materials across the Waiau. The propelling power is the current, which is fairly strong. Crossing over the Waiau at this point "Diggers' Hill" is reached at a distance of about two miles. The sawmill was designed to cut 5000 feet per day, and in a short time timber will be transported to the works by a tramline which is now being constructed at a cost of about £1000. It is stated that about 60 per cent. of the timber in the bush is totara. Returning to the descent to Sunnyside the road to Monowai turns at an angle to the proposed suspension bridge. If we remember correctly, the span is about 312 feet. The approach to the bridge is a siding on the hillside, and we understand that this is the piece of formation where rock was anticipated and the contractor found soft material. There are no geological indications that hard rock would be struck and in the absence of a geological examination the work was very costly to the Board. It is anticipated that this bridge will be completed in four months' time. The following tenders will give a fair indication as to the work and its cost:—

Road metalling, Letter Box, Taylor's Flat to Peg 90, bank of Waiau River, £922 19s.

Road metalling, County Road, new metal, Peg 29 Taylor's Creek and ends at Letter Box, Taylor's Flat, £532.

Road metalling, County Road maintenance, from 21.6 M. to 24 M. Tuatapere-Blackmount Road, £345 12s.

Road metalling, County Road, new metal from gravel on Otatau flats to

14 M. on Tuatapere-Blackmount Road, £490.

dnt on with his ys shut, lshrdlshrdlsh County Road, maintenance, gravelling Alton Creek-Tuatapere-Blackmount Road, £242.

Road metalling, County Road, new gravel, 14 M. to 15 M. Tuatapere-Blackmount Road, £392.

Forming, etc., main access road, Waiau road, Station 90 to Station 112.5 to Waiau Bridge, £2045 18s.

Forming, etc., main access road, Waiau River to Monowai, Sections, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, £2179.

Road metalling, County Roads, new work, 15 M. peg to end at Wairaki bridge, Tuatapere Road, £344 6s 8d.

Ironwork for Waiau suspension bridge, Sections 1 and 3 at prop. rate of tender for whole of supply, £1371 1s 7d (approximate).

Ironwork Waiau suspension bridge. Sections 2, and 4, at 7d lb., £478 18s 5d (approximate).

Our opinion is that the Board has done good work. The first sod was turned in May last and good progress has been made. The Board, in making good lines of communication, have acted wisely, and money spent in this direction is well spent. In addition to the commitments already enumerated, contracts have been let for the following:—Poles, hardwood, £70.057 10s; pole ironworks, £2250; cross arms, plain, £3924 1s 7d; cross arms, rata bored, 30,000 sup. feet, at 52s 6d per 100ft, £787 10s; insulators and pins, £11849; wood stave pipe (including construction and steel work), £37,064.

These figures make a total of £143,832 17s 3d, so the ratepayers will see that they are well into the scheme. This total cannot represent the total commitments as we have no record of the cost of erection of sawmill at Diggers' Hill, punt, huts, blacksmith's shop, and various other items. Then there is the cost of offices, about £11,000, motor cars, salaries, commissions, etc. We were unable to get to Monowai owing to the short time at our disposal. The following table gives the wages paid to staff:—

Ganger in charge of earthworks, 18s; ganger in charge of concrete works, 18s; ganger in charge of bridge work, 18s; general blacksmith, 18s; carpenter, 18s; traction engine driver, 18s; wagon driver, 18s; leading bushman, 18s; sawyer, 18s; stationary engine driver, 2nd class, 16s; driver three horse dray, 16s; motor lorry driver, 16s; shoeman, 16s; second bushman, 16s; sniper, 16s; tracker, 16s; trolleyman, 16s; tailor, 16s; skiddy, 15s; slabby, 15s; general labourers, 15s; blacksmith's striker, 15s; carpenter's labourers, 15s; concrete workers, 15s; fireman on traction engine, 15s; tallyman, graveling contracts, 15s; storeman, 15s; road maintenance man, 15s.

TRANSPORTATION.

Statement by Messrs Hay and Vicker-man, showing the comparative costs of the different methods of transportation of supplies, machinery, etc., from railhead at Tuatapere to the Headworks.

CONSTRUCTION EXPENSES.

To allow any method of transport to be adopted and to provide access, expenses for construction of necessary works are involved as tabulated below:—

—From Tuatapere.—

	Trac. Motor Horse	Boat. tion. lorry. wag'n.	eng.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Improving County road, 27m.	4000	6000	6000	4000			
Maintenance County road, 27m.	1000	3000	3000	1500			
Bridge across Waiau River	5000	5000	5000	5000			
New road, Taylor's Flat to p.h.	3000	3000	3000	3000			
Maintenance do. S.M.	—	600	600	300			
Railway, Tuatapere-River	3500	—	—	—			
Wharves and Cranes, Tuatapere & Power House	750	—	—	—			
Wire Ropes and Maintenance of Channel Slipway	1000	—	—	—			
Improvement of river channel	2500	—	—	—			
Road at Power House landing	600	—	—	—			
Total	21350	17600	17600	13800			

—From Sawmill.—

	Tramway. Boat.	£.	£.
Tramway, three miles	1800		
Wharf and crane at sawmill	350		
Total	1800	350	

TRANSPORT BY RIVER (WAIU).

The annual charge per boat would be,

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.

MARKET NOTES.

BRAY BROS. REPORT.

Invercargill, November 3, 1920.

Messrs Bray Bros., Ltd., Auctioneers and Fruit Salesmen, Dee street, Invercargill, report as follows for week ending to-day:—

PRODUCE.—Potatoes: The inquiry for table potatoes is slow and prices are nominal, prime to 5s per cwt; other quality from 4s to 6s per bag. Seed Potatoes: The demand is slow and only guaranteed quality are wanted. Onions to 35s per cwt. Oats, 15s to 24s per bag. Chaff, 3s to 4s per bag. Meggitt's Calf Food, 2/6 6d per bag. Bran, 11s 6d per 100lb bag. Pollard, 15s 100lb bag. Farro Food, 12s per bag. Molasses, 12s 6d per tin. Mutton Birds, 1s 1d per bird. Fruit.—Supplies are very scarce, particularly good Stummers. Stummers, 10s 6d to 13s 6d per case; Rokewood, to 12s 6d per case, choice quality; other from 9s to 10s 6d per case according to grade and variety. Cooking Apples.—Prime quality to 10s 6d per case. Pears are very scarce and prices rule high. Vegetables, etc.—Cabbage to 10s sack; Swedes, 4s 6d per bag; Carrots, 4s per bag, Parsnips, 2d lb; Rhubarb, 2d to 3d per lb; Asparagus, 8d to 1s bundle. Cucumbers to 18s per doz; Walnuts to 1s 5d per lb.

GENERAL.—Leep Salt Lick 2s 3d per brick. Cow Covers, 22s 6d to 30s each. Horse Covers, £2 15s to £3 each. Discs (8ft), £20. Black Wire (No. 8), 38s per cwt. Tea in chests, half chests, 10 and 5lb packets, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per lb. Honey in 10lb tins, 11s tin. Tanza, a preparation stopping blight in potatoes, 2s per packet.

FURNITURE.—Our Warehouse in Spey street have a complete stock of Furnishing lines. We manufacture Oak and Rimu furniture to any desired design. We also have a number of Pianos and Sewing Machines on view. Your inspection invited.

LAND DEPARTMENT.—A nicely situated six-roomed house within ten minutes walk of the Post Office, Invercargill. The owner is leaving the district and immediate possession can be arranged. Price only £600 cash. This is absolutely a bargain, Bray Bros., Ltd., Dee street.

SOUTHLAND MARKET REPORT.

The local demand for oats for seed purposes is now about over, though there is still an occasional inquiry for feed purposes. Amongst users there is the usual continuous demand, and as some merchants are availing themselves of the opportunity afforded for shipping oats to England, stocks in store will be considerably reduced.

Chaff still maintains recent high rates of £7 10s, and even £7 12s 6d on trucks at handy sidings for prime quality. The demand somewhat exceeds the supply, but as green feed becomes more available the price, which is undoubtedly high, is likely to recede to an appreciable extent.

With the strong local demand for ryegrass for seed purposes, merchants' stocks are getting into small compass, and it is only the continual small offerings from the country that enable some merchants to continue their quotations. The basis of wholesale values may be taken as 10s per bushel for dressed 30lb seed.

During the past week prices for stock have remained practically the same. At last Wallacetown sale there was a very heavy yarding of good fat cattle, £48 being realised for an extra prime bullock, which is a record for the yard for some time past. There was also a fairly heavy yarding of store cattle, and these met with a ready sale. Well-bred aged cattle sold well, but inferior yearlings and two-year-olds were very hard to quit. Store sheep remained unchanged, prices being the same as given last week. The following prices may be regarded as approximate:—

Fat Cattle.—Extra prime steers, £48; prime, £22 to £25; unfinished, down to

STILL THIRSTY!



OH! YOU NAUGHTY CHILD!!!
WHAT WILL MR. BAXTER SAY!!!

£15 10s; extra prime cows, £16 to £18; prime, £14 to £15 10s; unfinished, £10; extra prime heifers, £16 to £18; prime, £13 10s to £14 10s; unfinished, £9 to £10.

Store Cattle.—Yearlings steers, £3 10s to £4 5s; two-year-olds, £7 5s to £8 15s; three-year-olds, in forward condition, £11 10s to £13 10s; average, £10 10s to £11; dairy cows, extra good, £18 to £20; average, £16 to £17 10s; inferior, down to £8.

Fat Sheep.—Extra prime weaners, 46s to 52s 6d; prime, 42s to 45s; unfinished, down to 38s; extra prime ewes, 38s to 40s; prime, 34s to 36s; unfinished, down to 30s.

Store Sheep.—Four, six and eight-tooth ewes, with lambs at foot, all counted, 20s to 22s 6d; inferior, down to 17s; full and failing-mouthed ewes, with lambs at foot, 17s to 19s; extra good hoggets, 24s to 26s; average, 22s to 23s; inferior, down to 18s; two-tooth wethers, 30s to 32s; average, 28s; four and six-tooth wethers, 32s to 38s; average, 35s; inferior, down to 31s.

SOUTHLAND LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting of the Association held on 28th inst, great discussion eventuated over the grading of players to allow of their competing in both Saturday and Wednesday competitions. With the half holiday split as it is, the great question will always crop up and all sports bodies should combine in their endeavour to have the one universal day. It was decided that players may be included in teams on both days, clubs to use their own discretion in the grading.

A player cannot, of course, be included in the 1st and 2nd grade teams competing on the one day.

The club matches start this week, when on Saturday, in the 1st grade, Gore play Y.M.C.A., at Gore, and Winton meet Invercargill in Invercargill, while on Wednesday, Invercargill meet Wyndham, at Wyndham, and Bluff meet Winton, at Invercargill. Several 2nd grade matches are also to be played on both days. All clubs have been putting in good practice, consequently, close, keenly contested matches should be the result.

It was decided to hold the Southland Championship Meeting at Christmas, and a committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. It is to be hoped that every possible support will be given to the tournament by the affiliated clubs, and with the enthusiasm at present prevailing among the players an exceedingly successful tournament should result, especially with the prospect of many entries from our immediate northern association.

A special committee has been appointed to go into the matter of schools' tennis, as the Association is desirous of furthering the game throughout the schools of Southland.

The number of union workers in the diamond industry in Belgium reported to be out of work is 6500, out of a total of 12,000.

"HIGHLANDER" MILK PRODUCTS

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

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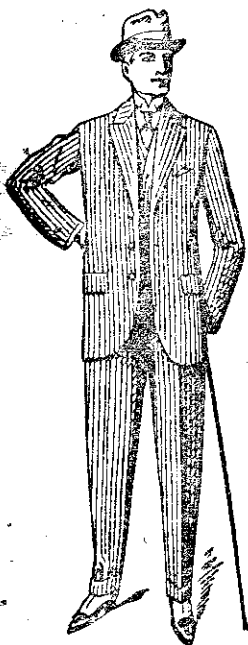
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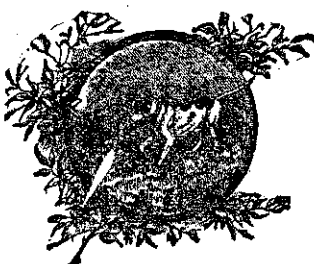
More than that each season finds a downright improvement in these Popular Suits. If anything a little finer cut and fit and of course new style features are embodied.

CHOOSE TO-DAY AT PRICES
105/-.

WE have just the Suit you have in mind; just the colour and texture of fabric; just the style you like and our great system of criss-cross sizes assure just your fit. You should at least call and examine the quality of those sterling garments. CALL TO-DAY.

10 per cent. discount is still given to all returned soldiers.

**COPELANDS, 36 Dee Street,
INVERCARGILL.**



Kennel Notes.

ETHICS OF THE SHOW RING.

(Continued).

By Theo: Marples, F.Z.S.

Exhibitors are perfectly justified in doing everything in their power, in a legal and legitimate way, to win, but they are not justified in endeavouring to win by illicit means—such as secretly trying to bribe the judge, either by presents just before a show, or by direct, if private negotiation, which is not unknown, even in these days of higher dog-show ideals; and this in spite of the Kennel Club's punitive Rule XVII, which, like the sword of Damocles, hangs over the heads of evil-doers. These innocent-looking little frauds are often difficult of detection, but are, happily, not numerous, and their attempt, it is pleasing to record, often carries with it its own punishment and disgrace. I am afraid that some judges are not quite free from the taint of showing a little favour to their friends in the show ring, simply because they, too, are human, and not infallible. I am convinced, however, that this spirit among our judicial bench, happily, is very rare. I am also convinced that, in ninety-nine out of every hundred cases in which favouritism is alleged against judges, there is not a vestige of truth in the charge. Some exhibitors, and particularly young and unschooled exhibitors, are apt to think that all their geese are swans, and submit them for competition under this illusion. Their hopes having been falsely and unjustifiably raised, are dashed to the ground. They must, perforce, find an excuse to their friends for their defeat, and that excuse invariably takes the form of either the judge not knowing the breed, or that there were some of his pals showing under him, who scooped the pool. Shakespeare says: "Trifles light as air, to the jealous mind are confirmation strong as proofs of holy writ"; and when any of these leading exhibitors are seen talking to the judge in the ring, these novices at once conclude that the prizes have all been "fixed up."

I must confess that for prominent exhibitors to hold conversation with judges in the ring whilst the judging of their dogs is in progress is not an act of good taste. I am convinced, however, that in ninety-nine cases in every hundred it would not have the slightest influence with the judge in favour of such exhibitor. With some the influence probably would be the reverse way. Still, I don't think the practice is quite in accordance with correct show-ring etiquette. There are even worse forms of ring manners than that. It is not an unknown occurrence for experts at the ring side to discuss the merit and demerits of dogs while they are being judged, and within the hearing of the judge who is operating. Such conduct is reprehensible, and whilst it would not, of course, influence in the slightest degree a strong capable judge, it might, as in the previous case, have the effect of leading a weak-kneed judge astray. There can be no better way of testing the correctness or otherwise of such conduct in either case than for those who are guilty of it to ask themselves if positions were reversed whether they would approve of it.

Some exhibitors there are who would like to win at any cost, whether their dog is good enough or not; but these are not sportsmen or sportswomen, and the fancy would be better without them. Bad losers, like the poor, seem always to be with us. To set against this small minority there are those—and, happily, their name is legion—who would not appreciate any win of their dog if they thought the dog did not deserve it. These are sportsmen of the most approved type; the best losers are always the best winners.

There always was, always is, and always will be, honest differences of opinion as to the merits and demerits of dogs, notwithstanding the great progress in the study and education of the cult of the classic dog. Indeed, great education on the points of dogs sometimes accentuates differences of opinion. And this difference of opinion if legitimate, although it sometimes momentarily hurts when it clashes with the opinion (or self-interest) of others, is really a blessing in disguise, since it furnishes that glorious uncertainty in exhibiting which gives it a charm and piquancy to the true sportsman and sportswoman, and

keeps the exhibition pendulum swinging. Would that more of that sporting instinct pervaded the great exhibition interest in this country, but which, I must confess, faulty as it is at times, is more marked in Britishers than in any other race with whom I have had the privilege of coming in contact, and which includes Americans, Canadians, South Africans, French, Russians, Austrians, Bavarians, Hungarians, Dutch, Norwegians, Belgians, and last, but not least, Germans, who are the worst sportsmen in kennel matters it has ever been my ill-fortune to meet.
(Concluded next week).

IRISH WIT AND HUMOUR.

"Bridget, has Johnny come home from school yet?"

"Yis, sorr."

"Have you seen him?"

"No, sorr."

"Then how do you know he's home?"

"Cause the cat's hidin' under the stove, sorr."

First Passenger (irritably to Irishman who has stepped on his foot in the car): "Where are your eyes, anyhow?"

Celtic Passenger (pleasantly): "In me head."

First Passenger (warming up): "Well, can't you see my feet?"

Celtic Passenger (more pleasantly): "No; yez have shoes on."

Mike: "Shure, Pat, health is a good thing to have."

Pat: "Yis, Moike, especially when yez is sick!"

A young lady went into a well-known establishment a few days ago and said to the floorwalker, "Do you keep stationery?"

"No, ma'am," replied the floorwalker; "If I did I should lose me job."

Farley: "Pat, have yez heard av this new thing called mind-reading?"

Pat: "No, what is it all about?"

Farley: "Oh, it's a great science and I'm pretty smart at it meself."

Pat: "Phwat am I thinking of now?"

Farley: "Sure ye think I'll ask ye in to have a drink, but divil a bit do I mane to."

"I heard O'Reilly is going to prove an alibi at his trial."

"What's an alibi, Pat?"

"Sure, and it's being in two places at wanst!"

Pat: "Did you attend Casey's funeral?"

Mike: "Oi did."

Pat: "Was you wan av th' mourners?"

Mike: "Oi was, somebody stole my hat."

Casey: "How do you tell the age of a turkey?"

Pat: "By the teeth."

Casey: "A turkey hasn't got teeth!"

Pat: "No, but I have."

"How many men were in the riot?" asked the judge.

"Four, your honour; three in the centre and one on the outside."

"Hello, Mike, do you find much to do now?"

"Yis, I'm jest after cuttin' down a tree, and to-morrow I'll have to cut it up."

"I overheard that man who calls on you say something about betting, Bridget. I hope he doesn't frequent pool rooms?"

"Shure, ma'm he doesn't know there's such a place in the city. He's a policeman."

Mistress: "I want a chicken smothered in gravy for dinner."

Cook: "If ye want it killed in as cruel a way as that, ye'll have ter do it yerself, mum!"

Counting the Chickens.—"I've counted 'em all," said Pat, "but that little speckled one, and he won't keep still long enough to be counted."

British Labour organisations are using the picture shows as a means of propaganda. The scenarios are to be specially written by a number of well-known literary men, and the preparation of the films turned over to one of the great producing firms. Some live young labour men are behind the movement, and they are not likely to have much use for the dry-as-dust "educational" film. They are out for good "human interest" pictures with plenty of thrills and heart throbs, with the propaganda cleverly intermingled with the story.

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.

NEW SEASON'S MANURES.

EPHOS BASIC PHOSPHATE.

WE have just landed, ex s.s. Nitokris, a shipment of this well-known Phosphate.

PRICE—£12 10s per ton; on trucks.

CHESTERFIELD AND WALPOLE GUANOS.

The s.s. Malaita is due about end of October with supplies of both these Guanoses.

CALCUTTA BONEDUST

We are landing a shipment ex s.s. Canara now due.

PRICE—£20 per ton.

WE HAVE FULL STOCKS OF
CRESCENT TURNIP FERTILISER.

PRICE—£10 10/- per ton.

CORAL QUEEN GUANO.

PRICE—£9 10/- per ton.

CHRISTMAS PHOSPHATE (80 p.c.).

PRICE—£11 per ton.

No. 2 TURNIP FERTILISER

PRICE—£9 per ton.

NATIONAL MORTGAGE AND

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W. E. TAYLOR, Manager.

MEMORIALS.

IRON RAILINGS,
CONCRETE KERBS,
HEADSTONES,
BOOKS, TABLETS,
and all
JEWELRY REQUISITES.

A. E. FRASER,

Phone 1103.

Reid & Gray's Buildings,
310 North Road.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

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

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

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

Lost and Found—1/- for one line of sixteen words.

For Furniture.

Call on us

Before Selecting

Your Furniture.

W. S. Robinson & Co.,

The Reliable Furniture House,
KELVIN STREET.

Phone—760.

JERSEYS AND JUMPERS IN ALL
THE NEWEST COLOURINGS.
JERSEYS from 59/6 to £5 10s.
JUMPERS from 79/6 to £5 5s.

MISS BREY,
THE PARAMOUNT,
ESK STREET.

WHY WORRY ABOUT HIGH COST
OF
CLOTHES.

DIGGER RENOVATING SHOP.

All work done by Practical Tailor.

Note Address—
PRESTON'S BUILDINGS,
TAY STREET.

Nearly opposite Salvation Army
Barracks.

SPRING AND SUMMER.

WE are now showing latest styles
in

MILLINERY,
BLOUSES, Etc.

Compare our goods with others for
value, quality, and well-known bed-
rock prices.

MISS HUGHES,
"The Paragon."

TO HOUSEWIVES.

HAVE you a Sewing Machine? If so,
the greatest care should be be-
stowed on its upkeep; especially does this
apply to the method of oiling, and the
class of oil used. A Sewing Machine
may be ruined in a very short time with
poor oil, whereas the machine should
last a lifetime if properly maintained.

WEKA BRAND
SEWING MACHINE OIL,

is a pure mineral oil of the finest possible
quality, with only a faint taste and
smell. It can even be swallowed without
any ill effects. It has more body than
any other Spindle or Machine Oil on the
market. Also the WEKA OIL.

WILL NOT MARK OR STAIN

the finest fabric, which is a distinct ad-
vantage, as often valuable garments are
practically ruined by oil stains. We have
no hesitation in recommending this Oil.
It is used throughout the largest Woollen
Mills in the Dominion, and is pronounced
by experts to be better than anything they
have previously used.

Also on sale—

DUSTOL,
STONE OIL,
RAZOR STROP OIL,
LARISSA LEMON CREAM,
Etc., etc.

Each of these preparations carries the
hall-mark of Perfection.

DUSTOL is a preparation for using on
dusters for furniture, etc.

RAZOR STROP OIL has been produced
with a special view to keeping a razor-
strop in perfect order, thus ensuring a
reliable and keen-edged razor.

STONE OIL.—The action of this Oil
on a stone is to remove the residue of
steel from the edge of the tool being
sharpened. It has been tested and pro-
nounced perfect.

LARISSA LEMON CREAM.—This
Cream is a protection for the skin under
all conditions of exposure to wind or
sun; it is also a valuable hand emollient,
and is specially recommended for soft-
ening the beard and ensuring an easy shave;
used after shaving it is very soothing to
tender skins.

Ask your Storekeeper for these prepara-
tions. Or write direct to

Children's Column.

MATER'S LETTER BOX.

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 one side of the paper only. Name,
age, and address, must be always given,
and correspondence directed to "Mater,"
care of Editor, "The Digger," Box 310,
Invercargill.

AN ORIGINAL STORY OF A SCHOOL GIRL.

(Sent in by Daisy Slade).

It was Thursday, and a crowd of eager
and excited girls were gathered in the Com-
mon Room of St. Winifred's school. The
next day was examination for the scholar-
ship, and of course, everybody was very
excited. Peggy Mainwaring was discussing
the matter with her chum, Violet Har-
graves. Peggy and Violet were among
those trying for the exam. Friday dawned
bright and sunny, and everyone was in the
best of spirits. They all trooped down
the examination room and took their seats,
and all through the examination you could
only hear the scratching of pens as each
girl answered the questions put before
her. At last the examination was over,
and the girls were dismissed. On Mon-
day they were to know the result, but
when Monday came Miss Paterson, the
head mistress, called Peggy up to her desk
and showed her some papers which proved
to be answers to the questions. Peggy
was greatly astonished, and denied hav-
ing seen them at all. Miss Paterson was
very kind and said, "I am sorry this
should have happened, because I have al-
ways found you truthful and honest, but
I shall have to keep you in your room,
and not allow any girl to see or speak to
you until this matter is cleared up." Poor
Peggy cried herself to sleep that night,
she did not know what to do, her mother
was depending upon her to win the scholar-
ship, and if she knew Peggy was dis-
graced, it would break her heart. Next
day Peggy was sitting at the study win-
dow, gazing out across the fields, she
heard voices below, and opening the win-
dow she saw Marcia Lambert, the sneak
and bully of the school, talking to her
chum, Nora Rendle. Then Peggy heard
Marcia say: "That was a very good idea
of mine putting those papers in Peggy
Mainwaring's desk. I think she is too high
and mighty, perhaps this disgrace will bring
Miss High and Mighty down a peg or
two. We shall be all right as long as
nobody finds out who put the paper
there." Poor Peggy shut the window
and sank into a chair with her face hidden
in her hands, so that was the one who
had so deliberately tried to disgrace her.
Presently there came a shuffle outside the
door, something was hastily pushed under-
neath, which proved to be a note from
Violet, and it ran thus:—

Dear Peggy,—

Have you heard the good news? If not,
I will tell you. As I was walking past
the laurel bushes, close to your window,
I heard voices and saw M. Lambert and N.
Rendle whispering together very suspi-
ciously, and I just caught the words, "That
was a good idea of mine putting those
papers in Peggy Mainwaring's desk." I
waited to hear no more, but came straight
in and wrote this note. I want to know
if you advise me to tell Miss Paterson?—
Your loving friend,

VIOLET.

Peggy was very pleased to find that she
was known by some one to be innocent.
Peggy knew what it was to be in disgrace,
and although Marcia Lambert was her
enemy, she did not have the heart to tell
the head-mistress.

Towards the evening there came a knock
at the door, and Miss Paterson came into
the room, looking very pleased, and she
held out her hands, saying, "Peggy, dear,
I am so glad to find you are innocent.
Violet has told me everything, and to-
morrow morning, after prayers, I shall
let the whole school know you are in-
nocent." Peggy was very glad, but she
wished Violet had not been so hasty, but
consulted her first, because she did not
want to get Marcia into trouble. When
the morning came Peggy was feeling very
uneasy, and after prayers Miss Paterson
called the girls to attention and said,
"Marcia Lambert, come forward; you have
been found guilty of trying to disgrace
Peggy Mainwaring; have you anything to
say?" Marcia looked very red and guilty,
but had nothing to say. "Very well, the
only thing I can do is to expel you." But
before Miss Paterson could continue speak-
ing Peggy stepped forward and said,
"Please excuse me, Miss Paterson, I beg
you not to expel Marcia. I freely forgive
her, so will the other girls if you ask
them." All the girls were willing to for-

give, so the matter ended, after Miss
Paterson had given Marcia a severe talk-
ing to. Peggy is now at college and getting
on very well indeed.

The End.

The Home.

BOTTLED TOMATOES.

Ingredients.—Two pints of boiling
water, a teaspoonful of salt, a teaspoon-
ful of vinegar, tomatoes.

Method.—Add the salt and vinegar to
the water. Bring to the boil. Place
the fruit in and cook till the skin breaks
(about five minutes). Place the fruit in
screw-topped bottles and pour the liquid
they were cooked in over them. Stand
the bottles in a basin and fill to over-
flowing. Fasten securely. Must be
airtight.

BISCUITS.

It pays to make your own biscuits now-
days. The following recipes are all tried
ones:—

ALMOND MACAROONS.

Ingredients.—A pound of flour, half a
pound of butter; half a pound of sugar,
an egg, a teaspoonful of baking powder,
a teaspoonful of essence of almonds.

Method.—Beat the butter and sugar to
a cream; add the egg, then the essence.
Sift the flour, having previously mixed
the powder through it. Roll about a tea-
spoonful of the mixture in the hands.
Place on paper and put half an almond
on top of each. Requires medium oven.
Will cook in about a quarter of an hour.

ALMOND FINGERS.

Ingredients.—Quarter of a pound of
butter, two tablespoonfuls of sugar, two
tablespoonfuls of milk, yolk of an egg, a
teaspoonful of essence of almonds, a tea-
spoonful of baking powder, pinch of salt;
one and a half cupfuls of flour.

Method.—Mix in the same way as al-
mond macaroons. Beat the white of the
egg and thicken with icing sugar. Mix
some chopped almonds through it and
after shaping the mixture into fingers
spread the icing on the top. Cook in a
slow oven for fifteen minutes.

ALMOND FINGERS (No. 2).

Ingredients. Half a pound of butter,
quarter of a pound of sugar, a pound of
flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder,
half a teaspoonful of cold water, two eggs.

Method.—Beat the butter and sugar to
a cream, add the yolks of the eggs, then
the flour and powder. Mix with the
water. Roll out thin and cover with
icing made of the two whites and half
a pound of castor sugar. Scatter some
chopped almonds over the icing.

AN ECONOMICAL BISCUIT.

The following is an economical and
very nice biscuit:—

Ingredients.—Two pints of flour, an
ounce of butter, three heaped teaspoon-
fuls of baking powder, a teaspoonful of
salt, sweet milk or water.

Method.—Mix the powder through the
flour. Rub in the butter. Make a soft
dough with sweet milk or water. Work
as little as possible. Rub bits of the mix-
ture into shape in the palms of hands.
Bake in a rather quick oven.

RICE BISCUITS.

Ingredients.—Two eggs, quarter of a
pound of butter, half a pound of ground
rice, half a pound of flour, three-quarters
of a cupful of sugar, little essence, a tea-
spoonful of baking powder.

Method.—Beat the butter and sugar to
a cream. Whip up the eggs and add;
mix the ground rice, flour and rising.
Work all together. Drop in the essence
when creaming the butter. Roll out and
cut into shape. Bake ten to fifteen min-
utes in a moderate oven.

COCOANUT BISCUITS.

Ingredients.—An egg, two tablespoon-
ful of butter, six heaped tablespoonfuls
of flour, three level tablespoonfuls of desic-
cated cocoanut, two level tablespoonfuls
of sugar, vanilla essence, a teaspoonful of
cream of tartar, half a teaspoonful of
soda.

Method.—Mix into a stiff paste. Shape
in small pieces. Sprinkle with coarse
sugar and bake in a quick oven.

PICK-ME-UP.

Wash four newly-laid eggs, and place
them, shells and all (whole) in a basin.
Cover and leave standing for four or five
days; then take off the scum and whisk
them up together. Add a bottle of the
best Jamaica rum with a quarter-pound
sugar. Shake all well together, and
take a tablespoonful night and morning.
This is a good nerve tonic, and the re-
sults well proved, being over a hun-
dred years old.

BARLOW'S Jubilee Store,

NEVER SAY DIE, BUT ALWAYS TRY

BARLOW'S JUBILEE TEA.

Owing to the rise in Butter you will find it cheaper to use Pure Jama
I have a full range in glass and tins in 1, 2, 4, and 7. TRY IT.

Is the place to buy your GROCERIES—where you get the best value for
cash. Established nearly a quarter of a century; still going strong. Send
your orders by post or 'phone, and you will receive them promptly for cash
on delivery. Pay cash and save booking charges.

DEE STREET, INVERCARGILL.

ADVERTISERS!

We guarantee the "Digger" to penetrate the whole of Southland, Lake
District, South Otago, and to a lesser degree, a few places beyond this
sphere, including as far north as Auckland. The destiny of the "Digger"
as an effective and efficient advertising medium is assured.

We can tell you of a number who can testify to our claim and we are
always ready to discuss advertising with firms who are desirous of reaching
the purchasing public.

Remember ONE advertisement in the "Digger" covers the whole field.

We guarantee to have the largest circulation of any weekly, south of
Dunedin, and the largest circulation outside of the leading morning and
evening papers.

Failure to change your advertisement is failure to get effective service,
and no fault of the "Digger."

ONLY A CROSS OF FLOWERS.

(By "Lest We Forget.")

"What is the band playing so brightly
for?"

"Oh, don't you know, there is a contin-
gent going away to-day, and you should
have been at the theatre last night and
heard the speeches. They were grand!
They make one feel so patriotic."

How often those remarks were heard
in those dreadful days now past, and the
contingents, how splendid they looked in
their glorious young manhood, full of
strength and vigour, proud because of their
their. They were going to do their share
in the cause of righteousness and freedom.
It mattered not to them that they were
going to face unknown dangers; but why
of that—youth and strength they had.
One wonders what their thoughts for the
future had been. A writer once said:
"The thoughts of youth are long, long
long thoughts." Well they went, and
those who stopped at home, how eagerly
they scanned the papers for doings of
those brave lads overseas, and every now
and then the cables told the names of
those who had died. Some said he was
a school mate, a shop mate, factory mate,
an office mate and so on. So many knew
him and spoke of his goodness. One heard
the people talk and one thought what a
splendid example for the young who were
to follow.

For years it went on, and the fighting
ceased. No more contingents were re-
quired. Then the contingents began to re-
turn, but oh, the gaps in the ranks, and
the broken, weary ones—but all with a
smile. They had done the work they went
to do, truly and well, and what mattered
youth's shattered ambitions.

And now the years are passing and
every now and then comes the anniversary
of those battles where New Zealand's
sons made her name for ever famous in
history. Do we remember them and
observe them as we ought?

Mr Massey said: "The children must
be taught to honour the anniversaries,
and revere the memory of New Zealand's
noble dead." Do we find it so? No!
In Parliamentary reports, we read of
wringling and divisions over soldiers' pen-
sions, land for soldiers, hospital treat-
ment, etc.

Schools have their rolls of honour, and
we in Invercargill have our South African
Troopers' Memorial, and some day—let
us hope—a wave of patriotism will stir
the hearts of the people of Invercargill,
then they will think of those graves on
Gallipoli, France and Flanders, lonely and
far away from home and loved ones, and
then we will have our memorial for our noble
dead, and the school children will be told
about the anniversaries and they will bring
wreaths of flowers and shrubs that by

INVERCARGILL MILK SUPPLY.

Phone 55c. 53 Yarrow street.

MILK MILK MILK
and and and

CREAM! CREAM! CREAM!

From the finest pastures in Southland.

Clean, pure, sweet, wholesome, and
tastefully pasturised.

A BOON FOR BABIES

Our Motto: "Purity."

MILK MILK MILK
and and and

CREAM! CREAM! CREAM!

Invercargill Milk Supply,

53 YARROW STREET.

their meanings, speak of love and ever-
lasting gratitude to those who by their
deaths have given expression to the words
of Him who said: "Greater love hath no
man than that he laid down his life for
another." Their cross was suffering and
death. Let us remember them—ever-
and in gratitude to them, help their com-
rades, who have returned, in every pos-
sible way—and the ways are many and
varied. Let us never forget their names
was the wall that kept us safe at home.

A DANGEROUS GIRL.

(By C. Hampton Thorp, in "N.Z. at
the Front").

On the day I first met her my cheeks
fairly burned.
She was then quite a stranger to me;
But I'd heard of her powers where men
were concerned—
What a dangerous girl she could be!

Though the darling won't own it, she
twice saved my life
When the Huns came on us with a
run;
She can talk at nine hundred a minute
in strife;
She is rapid—my old Lewis gun!

IS NO BETTER VALUE THAN
THE
"KING" SEPARATOR.
RUNNING, DURABLE, CLEAN
SKIMMING.
"VIKING" does the work properly
ically. It is simple, efficient, and
thorough separation. Has a
capacity than any other machine of
its kind.
A LOGICAL CHOICE IS A
"VIKING."

- A—15 gals. per hour, £9 10s.
- B—27 gals. per hour, £14 10s.
- C—50 gals. per hour, £25 10s.

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

ERCARGILL, GORE, WINTON.
Sole Agents for Southland.

o-American Candy Shop

AYSON'S

popular Confectionery and Soft
s Shop. Watch the crowds who
is on Saturdays.

satisfaction our goods have given is
results for which we've striven.

TRY US.

D. A. MOFFETT

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GARDEN NOTES.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN.

After sowing seed beds, cover with something, such as old matting or sacks split up. This assists in retaining the moisture, and thereby encourages the germination of the seeds; but these coverings must be removed as soon as the seeds are through, and afterwards, if rain does not come, they must be kept going with mulching.

Plant out celery as required in trenches 1ft wide and 1ft deep, with the bottom well manured and deeply dug. Give a good soaking of water after planting. Then, if dry weather continues, place some sticks across the trench and shade them. Thin out spring-grown onions, and if short manure can be procured they will be greatly benefited by a mulching or dressing between the rows. Thin also carrots and turnips. Sow for succession peas, beans, and spinach, and the main sowing of beetroot should be got in on the first favourable opportunity. Plant out vegetable marrows as advised a week or so back.

TOMATOES.

Tomatoes under glass will require attention by way of pinching out the young side shoots. They should be kept removed as they appear. Stake and tie them before they get sufficiently long to fall over. If they are allowed to do this they grow crooked in a few hours, then it is a difficult job to get them straight. Early planted ones should be in full flower and the young fruit appearing. To keep them setting freely give the bunches of bloom a shake to distribute the pollen.

FERNS.

Under glass, ferns must be shaded, or the fronds will lose that beautiful dark tint of green which is so much appreciated; but this must not be over done, or they become a cabbage-green, which is as distasteful as the other extreme. Young specimens must not suffer for want of pot room. It does not take long to make specimens if one makes a start with robust, healthy plants. The worst plants to grow are those obtained by splitting up old specimens; in fact, these old specimens that get too large and unwieldy for any useful purpose should be thrown away. If increased numbers are required, it is better to divide from young, healthy plants than from old ones. The best results, however, are derived from the sowing of fern spores. If one has only the patience to wait for them, fern spores will grow in almost any kind of soil, or even without a particle of soil. I have collected hundreds from brick walls; but where sufficient heat and moisture can be procured spores of many hardy and half-hardy ferns may be sown in boxes, placed away under the stage in a cool, damp and rather dark or shaded position. The materials should be of a rather lumpy and open nature, such as burnt or charred soil, a little leaf mould, some burnt clay or broken brick, mixed up and pressed down in shallow boxes. Do not make it fine, but press it down, lumps and all together, and water well. Then scatter the spores over the surface. Place a square of glass over them, and put the box away in a cool, and at the same time warm and moist, position, as advised above.

A good material for potting most ferns in consists of equal parts of old turfy loam, peat, leaf mould, and sand; but for maidenhair do not use the peat. Another great point in the well-being of ferns is to give plenty of good drainage—quite one-third of the pot should consist of crocks. Keep the plants well watered and the house in a moist, humid condition, as ferns do not like winds blowing through them, nor do they like cold draughts.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

The season of bedding out is upon us again. To my mind, the first week in November is the best and safest time to do this work. A word or two as to the best material for an effective display—not elaborate, but a simple, useful, and inexpensive display within reach of the majority of my readers—will be appropriate. It may be that there are certain flower gardens with numerous small beds and walks between them. It is a difficult matter to deal satisfactorily with such gardens. The demand generally in such cases is that each bed shall be independent of its neighbours, and under such circumstances it is not easy to blend colours. Nor can such gardens be planted with herbaceous plants satisfactorily, for they never look at home in small formal beds.

Fill any vacant spaces in the herbaceous borders for the summer with those things that seem most in touch with their permanent inmates. Put a few tall things at the back, such as cactus dahlias, the

bright yellow single helianthus, and even summer flowering chrysanthemums; or, there is already an abundance of flowering plants in the background, the summer introductions may consist of such things as cannas, wigandias, etc. Bare spots in the front may be filled with carnations, calceolarias, pelargoniums, and pansies. As to annual beddings—such things as stocks, asters, marigolds, phlox drummondii, etc.—they do better by themselves than when mixed with a better class of bedding material, such as geraniums, calceolarias, verbenas, ivy-leaved geraniums, and lobelias, for the reason that many of the annuals are only a short time in flower, and their going off quickly disorganises the bed and destroys the general effect.

MOTORING NOTES.

OIL RESERVOIR AS GREASE CUP.

The car owner who is handy with tools may find it profitable to replace a number of the grease cups which lubricate important parts of the mechanism, by an oil reservoir with leads running to these various parts, such for instance, as the thrust bearing or throwout collar of the clutch. This oiler should be constructed much like a mechanical oiler with controls for each lead.

LUBRICATION ERRORS.

There are four very common lubrication errors responsible for many troubles. The statement that "oil is a good thing, you can't have too much of it," is a mistake. Oil should be kept at the proper level—no higher. Over-filling causes, excessive carbon, gummed valve stems, and sooty spark-plugs. Another erroneous belief is that a heavy oil will offset the hindrance of a badly worn engine. As a matter of fact, heavier oil is no substitute for worn parts. Worn engines need overhauling, and nothing else. The cleaning of the engine crank-case with kerosene is a third mistake. The better plan is to drain the crank case when the engine is hot. This will carry off the sediment before it settles. Then flush out with a quart of fresh oil and refill to the correct level. The fourth error may be summed up in the statement, "My oil seems to work all right." The motorist cannot, however, watch from day to day the inside of an engine, hence he is in no position to know accurately the effects of different oils. While many oils may seem to work alright, only one of these oils may be giving him scientific lubrication.

AN EASY STARTING DEVICE.

Rather an unusual form of starting gear has been introduced recently on the Richardson light car, a small machine which is equipped with a two-cylinder air-cooled V engine. On this engine an exhaust lifter similar to that used on a motor-cycle engine is fitted, the method of starting in such cases being to rotate the engine as fast as possible with the exhaust valves lifted; and then, when the necessary speed has been attained, to drop the exhaust valve lifter; when the inertia of the flywheel causes the crankshaft to rotate several times over compression at a fairly high rate of speed. A peculiarity, however, of the starting system is the introduction of a geared up starting handle. The spindle of the handle itself is connected to a train of gear wheels arranged similarly to the back gear of a lathe. To the last gear wheel of the train the starting shaft is attached, the result being that the rotation of the starting handle causes the shaft to turn at a higher speed. With this device, when the exhaust valves are lifted, the engine can be spun at a high speed without overmuch exertion, and when the exhaust valves are dropped the engine is able to start at once.

A NEW PETROL SUBSTITUTE.

From the lowly and sticky molasses is being produced "motor alcohol"—a substitute for petrol. Discovered by J. P. Foster, chemist of one of the big sugar plantations on the Island of Maui, Hawaii, production within the next three months will be sufficient to furnish fuel for all cars on the islands should a benzine shortage occur. According to the first reports of the new fuel brought to San Francisco, "motor alcohol" gives more power, greater mileage, easier starting and more freedom from carbon than benzine. It can be used without an adjustment of the carburettor. The new fuel is performing in automobile, marine, stationary, truck and tractor engines. In a 36-hour test made with a 75-horse-power tractor the consumption of "motor alcohol" was four gallons an hour compared to four and a-half gallons of benzine in the same engine on the same work. Examination of the cylinders showed most of the old carbon deposit removed and the remainder so soft it could be removed with the fingers.

SCIENCE NOTES.

RUBBER FOR ROADS.

Various experiments are being made in the preservation of road surfaces, now subjected to so great a strain by petrol-driven vehicles, and rubber is now being substituted for wood blocks or stone sets. Hitherto the device has been employed only to deaden sound near the hospitals and hotels. Now the Southwark Borough Council are applying it to resist the ravages of traffic. The average cost of re-making a wood road has risen to £3 a square yard, which is partly due to the necessity of deepening foundations. Six inches was formerly a sufficient depth of concrete; twice the depth is now required, and in repairing Oxford street concrete foundations of 18in have been laid down. Many London streets are "up" at the present time.

AVIATOR AND THE INVENTOR.

Writing of inventions, the Scientific American is inclined to believe that there is no field that offers more opportunity to the inventor than aviation. The science is really still in its infancy. Apart from actual constructional devices, there are so many obvious defects in the aeroplane that require remedies. Chief among them is the necessity for a braking device to give the machine only a few feet of run upon landing. Tail skids galore have been produced, but none can claim to be really effective. Brakes on the wheels have been tried, usually with the results of smashing the nose of the machine. An alterable chord on the wings has not proved altogether successful, and the alterable pitch of the propeller is not popular. The helicopter may come in time, but it is a long way from perfection.

THE PRODUCTIVE SUMP TREE.

The sump tree, five or six million tons of whose fruit are gathered annually in Senegal, is a valuable source of oil, sugar, and alcohol. The fruit consists of an oleaginous spindle-shaped kernel enclosed in a hard fibrous shell and surrounded by sweet pulp containing a very high percentage of sugar and enclosed in a tough skin. The kernel contains 41.80 per cent. of fats and 25.32 per cent. of nitrogenous substances. However, the shell is so difficult to crack that only the pulp can be at present considered useful for industrial exploitation. This pulp contains sufficient fermentable material to hold from 9.7 to 10.8 cm. of sugar per 100gr. of fruit. The composition of the fruit is as follows:—Sweet pulp, 42.9 per cent.; shell, 48.2 per cent.; oil bearing kernel, 8.8 per cent. The sweet pulp contains 40.3 per cent. sugar.

BELGIAN GLASS INDUSTRY.

The Belgian window and plate glass industries have about regained their pre-war position. Particular difficulty has been experienced in obtaining sodium carbonate and sodium sulphate. Compared with the metallurgical and textile industries the Belgian glass manufacturers have not suffered any great damage to their plants and machinery. The eighteen window glass factories remain practically intact, being dispoiled, however, of their belting and copper work. Of the eight plate glass plants none was seriously damaged except the American-owned mill at Courcelles which was completely destroyed. The window glass industry has been less affected by labour shortage than the plate glass plants owing to the fact that in making window glass, hand-blowing methods are used in Belgium. Glass blowers are highly skilled workers and consequently do not find it as easy to shift to other lines of employment as do the mechanical workers in plate glass. Formerly Belgian window glass manufacturers were able to compete with mechanically equipped plants in the United States and elsewhere by reason of the great efficiency and comparatively low wages of the Belgian workers. Now, however, it is an open question as to whether or not Belgian window glass factories will be able to retain their present markets when the demand for their product is reduced to normal. It does not seem probable, however, that the Belgian market for plate glass will be affected.

The successful carrying out of the work in the specified time depends on the organising capacity and driving power of the executive. The period specified is calculated on the assumption that the authority to start is given in the autumn of the year. This will allow the detail plans to be made while the preliminary work is being done, and enable stores, material, and construction plant to be obtained ready for rushing the work in the following summer.

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FIRST REVIEW OF THE PROCEEDINGS

— OF —

The Southland Electric Power Board

For the Period from

JANUARY 15th to OCTOBER 31st, 1920.

The proclamation of the Governor-General constituting "The Southland Electric Power District" was Gazetted on November 19, 1919, and by such proclamation the date of the election of twelve members to represent the different portions of the district was fixed for Saturday, 20th December, 1919. The result of such election was the return of the following gentlemen to sit as "The Southland Electric Power Board":—Hon. A. F. Hawke, and Messrs R. A. Anderson, E. Bowmar, T. A. Buckingham, L. Cody, H. Fowler, T. Fraser, W. Hinchey, W. Norman, R. A. Rodger, A. W. Rodger, and F. Young.

—First Meeting of Board.—

The first meeting of the Board was held on the 15th of January, 1920, at which meeting Mr A. W. Rodger was appointed chairman; Mr C. Campbell, being appointed clerk and treasurer (pro tem), and the National Bank N.Z., Ltd., the Board's bankers for the time being. The report of the Southland electrification committee, together with a statement of the expenditure amounting to £3460 7s 4d, was laid before the Board, and it was decided that the report be received and adopted and that the above-named sum be taken over by the Board as a liability. The sum mentioned included the survey fees and all other preliminary expenses incidental to the investigation of the hydro-electric possibilities of Southland, the enactment of the needful legislation and the formation of the district as well as a general canvass for support to the scheme.

—Adoption of Schemes.—

The Board decided to visit the site of the Lake Monowai scheme in company with Mr L. Birks, the chief electrical engineer of the N.Z. Government, and Mr F. C. Hay, who had acted as consulting engineer to the electrification committee, and this visit was made on the 23rd and 24th and 25th of January, 1920. The result of such visit was that the Board decided to adopt the No. 2 Monowai scheme as recommended by Mr F. C. Hay. This was done at a Board meeting on February 5th, 1920, and at the same meeting it was resolved that a poll of the ratepayers be taken immediately for authority to borrow the sum of £1,500,000 for the following purposes:—£400,000 for generation and transmission of electric power at and from the Monowai river to three sub-stations; £800,000 for the erection of say 2000 miles of distribution lines; £300,000 for future extensions, assistance to consumers and trading, etc. This poll was taken on the 27th of March, 1920, the result being that 6516 votes were cast in favour of the proposal and only 415 against.

—Transport.—

The Board having in view the necessity for adopting the most efficient and economical means of transportation of the large quantities of materials and plant from the railway terminus at Tuatapere to the Monowai headworks, instructed Mr Hay to arrange for a representative of Messrs Hatrick and Co., experts in navigating the Wanganui river, to accompany him with the object of investigating the possibilities of navigating the Waiau river for transport purposes. The report received from Mr Hay and Captain Allen, the navigation expert, while indicating that the navigation of the Waiau river is quite a feasible proposition, also made it clear that the Board would not be justified in adopting this method of transportation in carrying out the Monowai scheme. The further investigations of the engineers have proved conclusively that, for the steady work required between Tuatapere and Monowai, traction engines present, from every point of view, the best means of haulage, while for the varying requirements in connection with the distribution of poles and other materials throughout the district to be served by the Board, motor lorries are to be preferred. These recommendations have been approved and adopted by the Board.

—Access to Works.—

Direct access by road to the Monowai head works from the railway terminus is of paramount importance, and it is also essential that such road should be kept in the best possible repair in order that there should be no delay or inconvenience in transporting the necessary materials and plant, and the Board there-

fore decided to make a proposal to the Wallace County Council that it should for the period of construction of the works, control the Tuatapere-Sunnyside road, put it in thorough repair and keep it in such good repair, thereafter handing it back to the Council. The question as to the respective responsibilities of the Government, the Council and the Board to be determined later. This the County Council agreed to and the road from Tuatapere to the Waiau river at Sunnyside is now completely gravelled and in thorough order. The access across the Waiau river and beyond to the head headworks—a distance of over four miles—will be met by means of suspension bridge and a new road, and both works are now well in hand.

—Method and Time of Construction, Load Estimates, etc.—

On February 11th, 1920, Messrs Hay and Vickerman, at the request of the Board, submitted a full report on the method to be adopted in carrying out the work of construction and the approximate time that would be required for completion of the whole scheme. The time was set down by Messrs Hay and Vickerman at three years. This estimate was corroborated by Mr L. Birks, the chief electrical engineer of the Dominion. On the 24th of February, 1920, and F. C. Hay was appointed consulting engineer pending the taking the loan poll and permanent engineering appointments being made, and in order to ascertain, as accurately as possible, the actual mileage of distribution lines required to cover the whole of the area proposed to be reticulated and the approximate load or demand for power existing within such area, it was decided to have a rapid survey made by six engineers, in motor cars, assisted by men thoroughly acquainted with the respective areas within which these engineers were to operate. The result of this survey showed that the total mileage was 1660 and the possible revenue from the consumers, £195,000 per annum.

—Board's Permanent Officer.—

On March 30th, 1920, the appointment of Mr C. Campbell as clerk and treasurer of the Board at a salary of £500 per annum was confirmed.

—Survey and Design of Headworks.—

On the same day an offer was made by Messrs Hay and Vickerman, in response to enquiries from the Board, to carry out the survey and design of the engineering work up to the turbine half-couplings, including plans, specifications, estimates, etc., at a fee of 2½ per cent. on the estimated cost. This was accepted by the Board.

—The Agreement.—

Messrs Hay and Vickerman, having been most highly recommended to the Board, they were requested to and did on April 27th, 1920, lay before the Board the terms and conditions upon which they were prepared to undertake the work required by the Board: (a) in connection with the survey and design of the whole scheme including generating works and the transmission and reticulation of the power throughout the whole of the district to be supplied by the Board; (b) the control and supervision of the actual construction of the works and distribution lines. Details of the arrangement were fully discussed and considered in committee, and with the engineers, an agreement entered into—which was not, however, finally executed until the 17th of July last—in which the following are the main provisions:—

1.—As remuneration for the first portion of the work, namely, the survey and design, a payment shall be made equal to 2 per cent of the estimated cost of the work. This to cover and include the survey and design of the generating works up to the turbine half-couplings previously entrusted to Messrs Hay and Vickerman for a fee of 2½ per cent. of the estimated cost. For the second portion of the work, namely, the control and supervision of the construction, the engineers shall be paid a sum equal to three per cent. of the estimated cost. In effect, therefore, Messrs Hay and Vickerman receive a fee in the aggregate amounting to five per cent. of the estimated cost of the scheme, such estimated cost not to include their own fee. The engineers, for such fee, provide all the engineers

both civil and electrical, and all labour in connection with the survey and design, and supply to the Board all plans, drawing, specifications, and estimates, of quantities and costs; and in connection with the construction they will provide, at their own expense, all surveyors, resident and assistant civil and electrical engineers and draughtsmen, chainmen, and others down to but not including inspectors, and are wholly responsible for the speed, cost, and proper construction of the work. It is also provided that, after the design is completed, one of the partners of Messrs Hay and Vickerman will give his whole time to the Board's work. The time stipulated in the agreement for the construction of the work is 3 years, but should such construction be delayed for reasons and causes beyond the control of the engineers—beyond 3½ years, it is provided that the engineers will be entitled to additional remuneration, which, failing agreement between the parties, is to be settled by arbitration. If for any reason the Board should decide to cease work provision is made for the payment to the engineers of 3 per cent. on the actual work done only. Progress payments will be made to the engineers in respect of their remuneration up to and not exceeding seventy-five per cent. of the actual work done from time to time.

2.—It is provided in the agreement that the design, including the plans and specifications of the scheme, shall be submitted to and approved by Mr Terry, until lately chief electrical engineer of the Dominion.

3.—The engineers are entrusted with the management and superintendence of the whole of the construction work on the lines and principles laid down by the Board and in accordance with the Government regulations. They have full charge of the construction department and will institute such costing systems, staff organisation, transport systems, store-keeping and time-keeping methods as may from time to time be found necessary or required by the Board.

4.—The engineers will call for and advise the Board on all tenders for the supply of plant, materials and stores, and will report periodically on the progress of the works, giving detailed statements setting out the actual cost of the work done together with the estimated cost of the same work.

5.—The engineers are required to so carry out the construction work as to ensure that the whole of the area to be reticulated will receive the energy simultaneously, provided that the Board may at any time require any part or parts of the area to be reticulated before the others.

6.—The engineers shall engage and control the whole of the construction staff subject to the approval of the Board, and under this clause the Board has decided to fix the salaries and wages to be paid by the engineers, leaving the selection and appointment of the men to the engineers with the special instruction that whenever possible appointments should be made from local applicants.

—Sawmill.—

On April 27th, 1920, the engineers were authorised to purchase the needful plant for the erection of a sawmill at Diggers' Hill, approximately six miles from the headworks. The transportation of the plant across the Waiau river involved the erection of a punt. The securing of a lease from the Crown of a sawmill area was also necessary. All of these matters have been attended to, while the timber required for bridges, culverts, temporary and permanent buildings, etc., will be cut at Diggers' Hill, the main output of the mill will be for the staves for the pipe line to convey the water from the weir on the Monowai river to the penstocks at the power house on the Waiau river. The sawmill has been in working order and cutting timber for some two months, and the formation of the tramway from the sawmill to a point on the main access road, about four miles from the headworks, is well in hand.

—Consumers' Installations.—

The Board has resolved that as soon as supplies of the necessary materials have been arranged for, contracts will be entered into with consumers for their installations, the Board advancing the money until the power is made available, when the consumers will have three alternatives: (1) to pay the whole cost of such installation; (2) to pay such cost by instalments, or (3) to pay rent for the use of such installation. Consumers may, of course, make arrangements apart from the Board, but subject to the Board's approval, for the installation of their electrical service, but in such cases the Board will not lend monetary assistance.

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—Local Authority Supply.—

The policy of the Board is to encourage existing local authorities within the Electric Power District to increase existing electrical plant or install temporary generating machinery with the object of encouraging consumers within their boundaries to link up immediately, so that when Monowai power becomes available the greatest possible demand will be forthcoming from each and all of these sources. With this object in view the Board may find it advisable to erect the lines between two or more towns in one of which generating plant already exists, and between the controlling authorities of which an agreement is entered into for the supply and demand of the power. The lines thus erected will serve the purpose of the local authorities pending the completion of the Monowai scheme, but will be, in reality, part and parcel of the Board's scheme as a whole. It is also the desire of the Board to assist the local authorities to obtain their supplies for reticulation purposes in every way possible.

—The Work Ahead: The Board's Policy.—

At the meeting of the Board held on 6th July, 1920, the Chairman submitted the following statement for consideration:

"The time has now arrived when the Board should fully consider the work ahead. First, that which may be required of the Board by the engineers in connection with the work of construction placed in their charge, and second, most important work that must be carried out independently of the engineers, but which must synchronise and dovetail into the construction work so that the whole may be completed simultaneously.

"The principal duties of the Board so far as construction work is concerned will be the provision of materials, plant, and machinery required by the engineers, the consideration of their progress reports, payment of accounts, and general supervision. Very considerable expenditure will be involved and deliveries of materials and machinery will be required expeditiously and according to timetable.

"As to the work of the Board apart from construction, but during the period prior to its completion, this may be summed up in the one word 'Revenue.' It involves, however, great organisation and expenditure of money, time, and thought. The Board has approved the principle of financing the consumers in respect of their installations until the power is available, and this decision will undoubtedly have a considerable bearing on the increased revenue forthcoming before the scheme is completed.

"It must be appreciated by the Board, however, that it is quite useless—in fact impossible—to attempt to further canvass for consumers and enter into contracts for wiring the houses and the supply of appliances until the Board has itself entered into contracts for the wholesale supply of all these requirements. The members of the Board need only think for one moment to realise the magnitude of all this undertaking:—Wire, conduit, plugs, switches, lamps (of all descriptions), heaters, cookers, irons, motors, etc., etc., and these for thousands of different consumers will be needed. It is assumed in this statement that the Board is itself going to carry out the work of installation and the supply of goods, and this is one of the questions that require immediate decision.

"A further essential preliminary to a canvass being entered upon and contracts being entered into in respect of installation is the ratification by the Board of the undertakings with consumers entered into by the Southland Electrification Committee.

"The magnitude of the requirements of the Board suggests that it should consider whether it will deal through accredited agents of the manufacturers or get into direct touch with them. If the latter is decided upon, how is it to be carried out, and this does not only apply to the immediately preceding paragraph, but also to the machinery, poles, wire, insulators, etc., required by the engineers.

"The character of the work of the Board is purely commercial, and the whole undertaking may be likened to a large commercial company controlled by a board of directors. Every such undertaking has necessarily a managing director or manager to conduct the business, and the Board should now decide whether

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similar arrangements should not be made in connection with the scheme in hand.

"The questions to come before the Board are these:—

1. Are the contracts entered into by the Electrification Committee for the supply of power to consumers to be taken over and ratified by the Board?

2. Is it the Board's intention to carry out a further canvass for consumers?

3. Is the Board going to carry out the work of wiring the buildings, installing and supplying the appliances, etc., as required by consumers?

4. Is the Board going to get into direct touch with manufacturers for the supply of its requirements?

5. If so, is this to be done by mail, cable, or personal representation on behalf of the Board.

6. Is a General Manager or Manager to be appointed?

7. If so, what steps are to be taken to get this done immediately?

8. What duties does the Board expect to devolve upon its Chairman?

Having considered the above statement the following resolutions were passed by the Board—

(1) Consumers' Contracts.—That the contracts entered into with consumers by the Southland Electrification Committee, Mr A. W. Rodger being the second party to the agreement and acting as trustee, shall be taken over and ratified by the Board as and when it is found practicable to do so.

(2) Consumers' Further Canvass.—That a further canvass for possible consumers be undertaken when the Board is in a position to give definite quotations for installing and equipping dwellings, etc., in anticipation of the power becoming available.

(3) Consumers' Installations.—That in order to further encourage consumers to wire their buildings in readiness to receive the power supply from Monowai, as per the resolution of the Board of 27th April, 1920, the Board will undertake to carry out the actual work of wiring and equipping the buildings in all cases where it is requested to do so by the consumers. Further, that the Board will undertake to provide at the cheapest possible rate, electrical appliances for the use of consumers within the district.

(3a) Consumers' Installations.—Security against advances by Board. That the Board's solicitors be requested, should they deem it practicable, to include in the suggested amendments to the Electric Power Boards' Act, a clause providing for the security of a Board against any advances that may be made to consumers within an Electric Power District in respect of wiring buildings, erection of private pole lines, and the supply of equipment, etc., by the Board.

(4) Appliances and Machinery.—Contracts therefore. That with the object of entering into contracts for the supply to the Board of the necessary machinery, plant, materials and appliances for the carrying out of the scheme, including the consumers' requirements; the Board get into direct touch with the manufacturers.

(5) Chairman's Visit Abroad.—That with a view to enabling the Board to get into direct touch with the manufacturers, the Chairman to proceed, at the earliest possible date, to England and such other countries as may be found expedient to carry out the Board's wishes in this direction.

Mr A. W. Rodger agreed to proceed abroad as desired by the Board, which will bear the actual out-of-pocket expenses involved. Mr W. Hinchey was appointed to act as chairman during the absence of Mr Rodger. (6) Chairman's Duties: That the duties devolving upon Mr A. W. Rodger as chairman, shall be equivalent to those of the Managing Director of a commercial company, it being the desire of the Board that Mr Rodger should be, and shall act as if he had been appointed Chairman and Managing Director had such appointment been possible under the Electric Power Boards Act. (7) Remuneration of Chairman: That in the event of sub-section 1 of section 20 of the Electric Power Boards Act being amended as drafted by the solicitors, it be a recommendation to the Minister of Public Works that the remuneration of the chairman shall be £1000 per annum.

—Finance.—

It has not been found possible to complete on satisfactory terms the tentative arrangements entered into by Sir Joseph Ward in London prior to the formation of the District and the election of the Board. Arrangements of a satisfactory nature have been made for temporary finance enabling the Board to proceed with the work without interruption or delay.

—Bluff Depot (Shipments).—

Large quantities of material and plant, including many thousands of poles, required by the Board, will be landed at Bluff and such poles will necessarily be dealt with there; that is to say, they

will require to be cut to the required lengths, slotted and bored, tarred at the butts and numbered prior to dispatch to the railway sidings whence they will be distributed by motor lorry to their allotted position on the road lines.

—Tenders.—

Tenders have been invited, to be in the hands of the Board by the 18th of January, 1921, for the supply of the generating plant, including the turbines, generators and switch gear, and for transformers.

A schedule accompanying the report shows that the amount of the contracts entered into to date is £143,832 17s 3d, and that the estimate had been £154,851 6s 8d.

—Local Authority Supply.—

The policy of the Board is to encourage existing local authorities within the Electric Power Board to increase existing electrical plant or instal temporary generating machinery with the object of encouraging consumers within their boundaries to link up immediately, so that when Monowai power becomes available the greatest possible demand will be forthcoming from each and all of these sources. With this object in view the Board may find it advisable to erect the lines between two or more towns in one of which generating plant already exists, and between the controlling authorities of which an agreement is entered into for the supply and demand of the power. The lines thus erected will serve the purpose of the local authorities pending the completion of the Monowai scheme but will be, in reality, part and parcel of the Board's scheme as a whole. It is also the desire of the Board to assist the local authorities to obtain their supplies for reticulation purposes in every way possible.

—The Board's Bankers and Solicitors.—

The appointment of the National Bank of New Zealand, Ltd., as the Board's bankers has been confirmed, and Messrs Macalister Bros. have been appointed solicitors to the Board.

—Public Offices.—

After much deliberation and after having inspected many proposals submitted to the Board for consideration, the property owned by the Palace Estate Company, comprising three-quarters of an acre in Dee street, upon which, amongst others, the building known as the Carrier's Arms Hotel stands, was purchased at a cost of £10,600. The needful alterations to the hotel buildings (all of which are on a quarter-acre section) are now being carried out, the estimated cost of the alterations being under £2000. When these alterations have been completed sufficient office, showroom, garage and storage accommodation of a convenient character will be available to serve the Board for the next few years by which time the scheme will be completed and the future requirements of the Board in these respects will be ascertained. The intention of the Board is then to erect new buildings to meet these requirements. These will be erected on the remaining half-acre section extending between Dee and Leven streets. The Board will then dispose of the buildings, including the quarter-acre section at present being renovated. Meanwhile the capital charges, rates, etc., less the rents receivable from the buildings on the half-acre section at present available for lease, leave the Board with but a reasonable rent for its own accommodation.

—Remuneration of the Board.—

Provision is made in the Electric Power Boards Act exactly similar to that contained in the Local Railways Act of 1914 (upon which the Electric Power Boards Act was based) whereby the members of the Board may be paid such remuneration for their services as may from time to time be fixed by regulation duly gazetted. Under this clause the Board decided to recommend to the Minister of Public Works that the members be paid £1 1s each member for each meeting, and this has met with the Minister's approval.

—Customs Duty.—

Representatives have been made to the Minister of Public Works that, in view of the fact that the Power Board, in constructing the generating works at Monowai, is actually carrying out duties that have devolved upon the Government in other parts of the Dominion, should be placed in exactly the same position as the Public Works Department in so far as the importation of machinery and other dutiable material is concerned, that is to say, that the Board's requirements should be allowed to come into the country duty free.

—Telephonic Communication with Headworks.—

Having regard to the urgent necessity for telephonic communication between the office in Invercargill and the different depots up to the headworks, namely, Tuatapere, Sunnyside, the sawmill, and Monowai, arrangements have been made with the Post and Telegraph Department

whereby a special service will be provided from Tuatapere on the existing poles of the Department so far as they are serviceable, with the provision that when the transmission line from Monowai to Waikiki has been erected the material at present being used and provided by the Board will be transferred to the Board's transmission line.

REPORT BY ENGINEERS.

NOTES OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.

Messrs F. C. Hay and H. Vickerman, engineers to the Southland Power Board, have reported on design and construction as follows:—

The work to be done is the construction of an 8000-h.p. generating station (Monowai No. 2), erection of main transmission and sub-stations and the secondary transmission and feeder system—the latter assumed to entail 2000 miles of pole lines.

Every portion of the work has to be correctly designed in detail according to the following principles:—

- (1) Reliability.
- (2) Economy.
- (3) Future expansion.
- (4) Utilisation natural resources.
- (5) Speedy construction.
- (6) Government standard and inter-connection with national schemes.

1.—Reliability demands that any structures, works, or machines liable to break down must be so designed that the renewals can be effected without stopping the station, and the remaining plant, structures or works in operation must safely carry a big percentage of overload temporarily varying from 25 to 100 per cent. The question of steam standby and relay station to be considered under this head.

2.—Economy: Economy of yearly cost, which requires that the sum of fixed charges, maintenance, renewal, and operation expenses per year must be the least possible, is the true criterion of economy and governs design, except inasmuch as it is influenced by the following consideration: When a revenue-producing system is being built it is good business to give economy of first cost and speed of construction due weight in the design, so that the interest burden is not too heavy, and so that revenue can be got at earliest date.

3.—Future Expansion: Design must be tested as to whether it is the best fitted for future expansion and for full development of the power resources, and the fact borne in mind that works and machinery should be standardised, so that the full development is not a collection of different designs and ideas, but the expression of the best ideas in the simplest form.

4.—Utilisation Natural Resources: The design should use the labour and material on the spot if it is suitable, to get speedy construction and to have the money raised in the district spent there.

5.—Speed of Construction: There is a certain speed of construction which is the most economical, and this speed helps to fix the programme of works. The fastest rate of construction is found by taking what is obviously the biggest part of the work and seeing how quick it can be done economically; then test all other parts by it and organise to have them done to finish at the same time as the longest job. This is influenced by factors such as weather, labour, materials, plant, etc., and does not permit at the present time of exact calculation—but the principle is to keep down the interest on construction bill as much as possible. It is clear that if the job took four years to complete, it would be bad business to buy £100,000 of machinery in the first year to lie idle for three years, unless, of course, the market were rising.

6.—Government Standard and Inter-connection with National Scheme: It is essential that all details of design and construction are up to the Government's standard, and that the electrical system as a whole will fit in with any Government proposal for reticulation of the South Island.

It is clear that the successful design of the scheme is the work of the civil and electrical engineers working together in perfect harmony.

Construction.—The biggest job is the 2000 miles of pole line for the country reticulation, and the speed of construction of this work will be governed by the rate of delivery of poles. To get quick deliveries we are of the opinion that poles should be purchased in Australia at all possible depots there, and that the Power Board should charter or purchase sufficient tonnage to bring the poles to the Bluff at an average rate of 750 poles per week. Three 500-ton steamers of 9ft draft specially built for timber carriage and coastal work would be the most satisfactory craft. Such craft are now running on the Australian coast. Given the ships there is no doubt that the whole of the poles and cross-arms required for Southland would be delivered at the Bluff within two years.

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SHORT STORIES.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE.

I'd rather be a Could Be
If I could not be an Are;
For a Could Be is a Maybe,
With a chance of touching par.
I'd rather be a Has Been
Than a Might Have Been by far;
For a Might Have Been has never been,
But a Has was once an Are.

—Stanford Chaparral.

NEEDLESS.

"Can your little baby brother talk yet?"
a kindly neighbour inquired of a small lad.

"No, he can't talk, and there ain't no reason why he should talk," was the disgusted reply. "What does he want to talk for, when all he has to do is yell a while to get everything in the house that's worth having?"

Foreman: 'Ere, do you know 'Opkins carries twice as much as you at a time?
Workman: Yus. I've told 'im abaht it, but 'e will do it.

NOT HER IDEA OF HEAVEN.

The conversation around the long dinner table ended, as do most conversations nowadays, with the subject of spiritualism. The guests and the members of the family gave their opinions as to whether or not the dead could communicate with the living, but it remained for "Sweet Sixteen" to present the only original thought on the subject.

"It's hard enough now for me to keep up my correspondence," she said. "When I die I want a rest."

AS USUAL.

"Oh, Mr Mark, please buy a ticket to our entertainment! It is for a most worthy cause, I assure you."

"Certainly, Mrs Clatter! And what is that cause?"

"Paying the expenses of the entertainment we gave last week for a worthy cause."

A POPULAR AUTHOR.

"It took me nearly ten years to learn that I couldn't write stories."

"I suppose you gave it up then?"

"No, no. By that time I had a reputation established and didn't have to."

NOT SO FUNNY.

Mrs Perkins and Mrs Johnson had met on the street and were discussing the frailties of their mutual friends when Mrs Johnson's little daughter, who was interestedly regarding Mrs Perkins' new spring chapeau, suddenly burst out:

"Mother, I—"

"Hush, darling," said the mother.

"Mother—"

"Will you be quiet!",

"Mother, Mrs Perkins' hat doesn't make me laugh!"

A SPORTING PARSON.

Mistress: I see the new curate has called. What is he like, Smithers?

Butler (who had noticed that the curate was dressed for golf): He had the appearance, my lady, of being out of 'oly orders for the day.

IN NEW YORK.

"Did the captain do anything to clean up the precinct?"

"Some say he got sixty thousand in a month."

There are people who, instead of listening to what is being said to them, are listening already to what they are going to say.

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