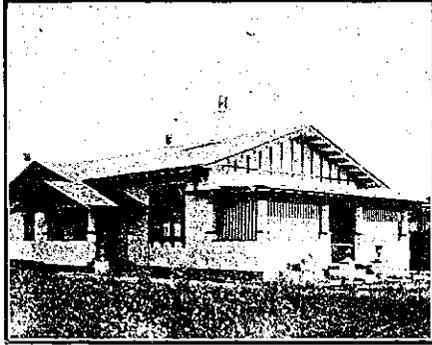


## "KONKA" for Permanence

Build your new Home and Garage with  
"KONKA"

Fire-proof  
Borer-proof  
Weather-proof



Less  
Insurance  
No Painting

"Konka" is a patented concrete sheet supplied in sections 3 ft. x 2 ft. 6 in. x 1/2 in. thick. It is easily sawn or nailed, and soon combines with the plaster coating into a thick, permanent, unbreakable, rough stucco exterior, producing a very attractive finish.

**OVER 1000 "KONKA" HOMES ERECTED**

Architects have chosen "Konka" for their own houses.  
The Government has also specified "Konka."

Write for full particulars to

**Hudson's Concrete Boiler Casing Company Ltd.**  
Sanford's Buildings, corner Customs and Albert Streets, Auckland.

Office 'Phones: 2752 A. and 1787.

Works: Remuera, 'Phone 1755 A

## Beauty

may be more than skin-deep, but the care of the skin goes a long way towards making beauty. . . . The right skin tonic and one which gets well into the skin cells, nourishes them, and makes the complexion glow with vivid health and beauty, is . . . .

**BEETHAM'S  
La-rola**

(As Pre-War)

It effectually removes all Roughness, Redness, Tan, Irritation, etc., and is delightfully Soothing and Refreshing at all times.

Manufactured by M. BEETHAM & SON

Cheltenham *Of all High-Class* England  
*Chemists & Stores*



## AUTHORS' TASTES and HOBBIES

HOW THEY MAY BE GATHERED FROM  
THEIR BOOKS

AS one who browses, in desultory fashion, among books the notion often strikes the mind that one's author knows more on a certain subject than he could have learnt as a spectator. Obviously, it interests him for its own sake.

George Eliot's mastery of music is revealed on many occasions in her works as clearly as is Anthony Trollope's partiality for hunting in his. Among living authors, who can doubt that Mr. Compton Mackenzie is both gardener and botanist? His pen actually drops posies of flowers: wild ones in this sumptuous bit from "Guy and Pauline":—

"Under hawthorns, past the golden fleur-de-lys, past the scented flags, past the early meadowsweet and the flowering rush, past comfrey and watermint, figwort, forget-me-not and blue cranesbill that shimmered in the sun like steely mail."

### Patron of Irises

And who must not adore that incomparable gardener, the Rector of Wychford, patron of incarnivales and of irises, and of water-lilies, too?—"To each floating cup, tawny or damasked white or deepest crimson, the Rector called their attention. Nymphs as they were to him, fountain divinities that one after the other he flattered with courteous praise."

Mr. Arnold Bennett might be a harassed housewife, such a fancy has he for labour-saving appliances. Even as long ago as "The Old Wives' Tale," Sophia insists on the instalment of an up-to-date cooking stove in the old home in Bursley. Alice, the heroine of "Buried Alive," is convinced that a gas cooker is essential to feminine content, and the immortal Denry of "The Card" "collected all kinds of dodges for doing without servants."

### Patent Door-step Cleaner

Remarked Denry's mother:—

"This is a funny doorstep." "It's of marble," said Denry. "What's that for?" asked his mother. "So much easier to keep clean," said Denry. "Well," said Mrs. Machin, "it's pretty dirty now, anyway." "Quite simple to clean," said Denry, bending down. "You just turn this tap at the side. You see it's arranged that it sends a flat jet along the step. Stand off for a second." He turned the tap, and the step was washed pure in a moment.

Then later:—

"Every wall, floor, ceiling and fixture could be washed, and all the furniture was enamelled and could be wiped with a cloth in a moment instead of having to be polished with three cloths and many odours in a day and a half. The bathroom was absolutely waterproof: you could spray it with a hose, and by means of a gas apparatus you could produce an endless supply of hot water independent of the general supply. The ladies lauded Mr. Wilbraham's wisdom in eschewing silver. Everything of the table service that could be of earthenware was of earthenware. The forks and spoons were electro-plate."

So intimate is Mr. Bennett's acquaintance with domestic needs.

Mr. Wells, in his stories, frequently introduces an athletic contest in which his hero, as likely as not, plays a humiliating part. For instance, concerning cricket in "The Passionate Friends":—

"Moreover, I had a shameful secret, that I did not really know where a ball ought to pitch. I wasn't clear about it and I did not dare to ask. Also until I was nearly thirteen I couldn't bowl overarm."

In "Mr. Britling Sees It Through," a game of hockey is played for the first time by the American visitor, Mr. Dreck, and tennis intrudes constantly into his love episodes. Isabel of "The New Machiavelli" wins the affection of its hero when playing tennis, and to quote once more from "The Passionate Friends," Lady Mary "had a low close serve I remember that seemed perfectly straightforward and simple, and was very difficult to return."



**Amberley House**  
Girls Collegiate School  
Amberley North Canterbury

*Beautiful situation near  
sea and hills.*

Principal: Miss D. M. King-Church  
B.A. (Hon.) London

Prospectus and full particulars  
may be obtained from the Principal  
or from the Secretary

A. McKELLAR, Esq.  
77 Hereford St. Christchurch

Become a Subscriber.  
Fill up a Form  
TO-DAY.

When Writing to Advertisers Please Mention the "Mirror."

Please pass this  
copy on to your  
friends.