

# WOMEN AND MEN TOO

Use...

## LEMON GLISCO

FOR SUNBURN

ONLY 1/7 A JAR

CHEMISTS and STORES, or  
POST FREE from the

Manufacturers: COOK & ROSS LTD., 175  
Colombo Street, Christchurch.

USE GLISCO for chapped hands, face, arms  
and neck, freckles, and as a powder base

## BOOKS for every home

HEAVEN'S MORNING BREAKS. A  
book of comfort for those who mourn.  
Send it to friends. 1/4, post paid.

A LITTLE BOOK OF INWARD  
PEACE. Meditations and Prayers.  
Many people keep it beside them  
always. 4d, post paid.

MY BOOK OF PRAYER AND  
MAORILAND HYMNS. For every  
home where there are children. A  
beautifully produced booklet. 1/1, post  
paid. The three booklets sent post free  
for 2/6 postal note or stamps.

ISABEL REED BIBLE STORY  
BOOK. Said to be the best book of  
its kind. A large book of 129 Bible  
stories, profusely illustrated in line  
and colour, with children's prayers,  
hymns and Bible games  
and puzzles.  
20/-, post paid.

The Alfred and  
Isabel and Marion  
Reed Trust,  
P.O. Box 330,  
DUNEDIN.



**BIG Comfort from  
a Little Tin!**

INSTANT RELIEF  
PAINLESSLY REMOVES CORN  
CURES WARTS TOO!

**CARNATION  
CORN CAPS**

FROM ALL CHEMISTS AND STORES

SOLE DISTRIBUTORS: 21-23 ALBERT STREET, AUCKLAND

# WELLINGTON STOLE HIS HAT

But He Liked Our Ice-Cream

I THINK it was Barrie who  
said that the first time he saw  
Lord Rosebery he flung a  
clod at him. I did not fling a clod  
at Geoffrey Browne, but the day I  
met him Wellington stole his hat.  
I had invited him to walk along the  
street with me, and as we rounded a  
normally safe corner his hat went away  
at about 30 miles an hour—over inter-  
sections and round corners; and then to  
my astonishment I saw him keeping  
pace with it. I had never seen anyone  
run so fast in a city street, but when  
I mentioned the matter to someone who  
knew him, I discovered that running  
was a "family failing." A brother had  
been an Olympic champion, and Geoff-  
rey a university champion (I think of  
Europe as well as of the British Isles).  
The second time I met him he was  
hatless. "Not taking any risks to-day?"  
I remarked.

"I have taken them, and lost."

\* \* \*

HOWEVER, he knew the situation be-  
fore he came to Wellington. They  
don't know as much about us in England  
as we should like, but they know Wellin-  
gton's reputation for wind, and in foggy  
weather almost envy us. But it was not  
to see reeds (or houses) shaken by the  
wind that they came here. They came  
to talk to our farmers, and for almost  
no other purpose at all.

"We certainly did not come to study  
your farming methods," Mr. Browne  
insisted. "How you farm interests us,  
but it is where your farmers stand in  
relation to other people that we really  
want to know."

"Politically?"

"No, socially rather. We came to ask  
your farmers to join us in a co-opera-  
tive campaign — to relate their prob-  
lems to ours and ours to theirs, and  
accept the view that our joint task is  
to feed the people."

"Which you think involves planning?"

"Planning and co-operation. If we  
don't agree to that we shall see un-  
regulated exporting in a few years, and  
the old madness of dumping."

"Are the farmers of England  
alarmed?"

"Well, alarmed is a word that I would  
sooner avoid. Let us say disturbed."

"What disturbs you is the thought  
that the British farmer, who has made  
heroic efforts to increase his output  
during the war, will have to face con-  
ditions after the war with which he  
may not be able to cope?"

"Again I think your language a little  
strong. Our farmers are not easily  
crushed. If they were, they would not  
have been able to do what they have  
done since 1939. But it would be cor-  
rect to say that the post-war prospects  
give them great anxiety, and that their  
troubles, if they come, will be shared by  
New Zealand."

"So your immediate purpose is  
what?"

"To get farmers in New Zealand and  
Australia and Canada and South Africa  
to take a world view. Our farmers are  
beginning to do that, and we are  
anxious that yours should, too."

"It is not a question of marketing  
only?"

"Marketing is very important. Pro-  
duction, of course, comes first, but it is  
distribution that makes production effec-  
tive. However, we are not thinking only  
of prices and surpluses. We are think-  
ing of health and standards of living."

"You really mean that?"

"We do—even though you laugh when  
we say it. We see society as a unit, and  
don't believe that one section can prosper  
long at the expense of other sec-  
tions."

"What does that mean?"

"That the farmer can't sell if others  
can't buy, and that others can't buy  
unless they are employed and prosper-  
ous."

"Are you talking nationally or inter-  
nationally?"

"Both. We want the world's food to  
reach the world's people. If it doesn't,  
it is useless talking about world pros-  
perity or world peace."

"The world's a big place."

"It is. So we have a big programme.  
But we are not asking for impossible  
things."

"What precisely do you ask?"

"First that your farmers should see  
production in its world aspect, second  
that they should join us in London in  
October to discuss common problems,  
third, that they should press, with us,  
and with all other producing countries,  
for representation by primary producers  
on the Permanent Food and Agricul-  
ture Commission."

"Well, that doesn't sound over-ambi-  
tious."

"No. Getting together is just com-  
monsense. What would you think of a  
farmer who would not combine with his  
neighbours to divert a flood or beat out  
a grass-fire?"

\* \* \*

WE spent so long discussing the things  
his party wanted to do in New  
Zealand that I had no time to ask Mr.  
Browne the things I wanted to know  
about Britain. Rather there was no time  
to get answers in detail.

I did fire off some of my questions.

What did land cost there? Was it  
really true that three-sheep-to-the-acre  
farms could be bought for £10 to £15  
an acre? Would the idle lands brought  
into cultivation during the war revert  
after the war to grass again? Was there  
a farm-labour problem in Britain, and  
an accommodation problem? Were land-  
girls used extensively? Did artists and  
authors and other romantic people still  
buy farms or farm-houses? Had the  
scrap-the-plough campaign of America  
reached Great Britain? Did farm-  
labourers even become farm-owners?  
Did farmers as farmers ever get into  
Parliament?

There was no time to discuss such  
questions, but Mr. Browne answered  
some of them as I asked them.

### Answers in Brief

Land in Britain was cheaper than in  
New Zealand, or rather land in New  
Zealand seemed fabulously dear. Much  
of the land now in cultivation in Britain



GEOFFREY BROWNE

would return to grass—partly because  
it is as difficult as it seemed to be in  
New Zealand to get farm labour, and  
retain it. Land-girls are used very ex-  
tensively—especially for work with  
stock. Yes, there were still many farmer-  
artists and farmer-authors in Britain,  
some of them—Henry Williamson, for  
example, and A. G. Street—earning as  
much by writing about land as by cul-  
tivating it. He had heard of the Ameri-  
can Faulkner and his anti-plough, but  
not of any British followers. Farm  
labourers did become farmers in Britain  
now and again, as message boys in the  
city became millionaires; but it was ex-  
tremely rare. No farmer was in the  
House of Commons as a farmer. There  
was no such thing as a farm vote, or a  
farmers' party, or an attempt to form  
one. Farmers worked with all parties,  
and realised that their prosperity was  
bound up with the prosperity of the  
whole community.

I asked two more questions. Was  
there any significance in the fact that  
two out of the three English delegates  
came from Essex?

"None whatever. It just happened  
that two very good men from Essex  
were available—one an expert in  
arable farming, and the other in horti-  
culture."

Was there any in the fact that the  
leader of the party was only 36, the  
economist only 37, the horticulturist  
only 40?

"Well, that perhaps does mean some-  
thing—though it might not be wise to  
say what. I would sooner say what I  
think of your ice-creams. I mean I would  
if I were a poet. They are an inspira-  
tion."

### Swimming Championships

THE National swimming champion-  
ships for women and junior and  
intermediate championships for men will  
be held on January 27, 29 and 30 at the  
Riddiford Baths, Lower Hutt, and the  
results will be announced by the main  
National stations at the 11.0 p.m. link-  
up, with commentaries on selected  
events on the last two nights from 2YC.  
The National life-saving championships,  
to be held shortly at Dunedin, will also  
be covered by the National stations.