

FUTURE

New Zealand's Progressive
Political and Cultural Journal

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This Journal has no political ties or affiliations whatever. It is being launched with the object of trying to satisfy what is felt to be an urgent need in New Zealand, a publication—other than a Party journal—for expressing opinions of a progressive nature on the vital issues of the day.

The contents of the June issue are:—Anglo-American-Soviet Relations; World War III, unless Rival Philosophies Reconciled. Have we Learned anything from This war. The Future World is Taking Shape (The Teheran, Yalta and San Francisco Conferences). Your Post-War Tax Bill. The Future Public Service. Educational opportunities in New Zealand. The State and The Family. Book and Music Reviews. Foreign Affairs and General news.

July issue's contents include:—Who do We Fight Next? "Internal Marketing"—Racket or Revolution? Can Private Enterprise guarantee full employment? The Ascendancy of the Slav Peoples. Changes in the Content of Education in New Zealand. National Development in New Zealand (a review of the O.N.D.). Future of Mountaineering in New Zealand. Expressions of English, American and New Zealand opinion on current affairs. Published monthly. Obtainable at all Booksellers. Price 1/-.

TULI-TULIP-TIME?

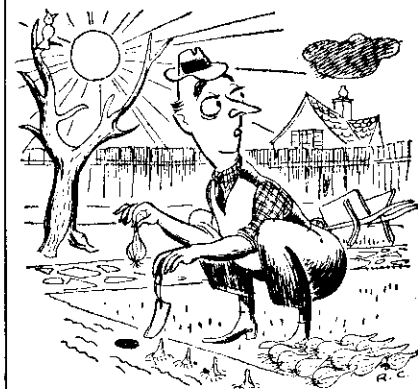
Another Theory and More Facts

NOT long before the shortest day, the winter solstice, midwinter week, or whatever you prefer to call it, someone in *The Listener* office dared to put forward another theory about the weather, comparable with the Wet Week-end theory that was examined in the light of facts and figures in these pages last March. Only this time it was put in the form of a prophecy. The weather was bitterly cold and wet at the time, and showed no sign of lifting

for days—it was in Wellington's near-record 11-day southerly. Nevertheless, our theorist promised that in the week of the shortest day there would be two fine sunny days, whatever the weather in the rest of the week was like.

A tulip expert from Christchurch, it appeared, had told him that a narcissus friend of the same locality had given him a tip on tulip planting—*Plant 'em in the week of the shortest day*. They would get a good start, for there were always two fine, even warm, days in that week, and just these two good days to start with would make all the difference later on.

The tulip man had followed the narcissus man's advice, and found it worked once or twice, though a small black cloud no bigger than a man's hand had given him one scare. He had passed it



"1944 was a near miss"

on to our own theory-ridden friend, who was likewise reckless enough to offer it as a workable scheme after a couple of years' confirmation. In due course we watched the weather during the week June 17-23. And in due course the weather broke. Then was the winter of our discontent made glorious summer—two fine sunny days interrupted an otherwise consistently bleak period of wintry weather, which, as we write, is once more in full swing. Obviously this called for investigation.

So we got in touch with the expert in the Meteorological Office in Wellington.

The table below shows the years in which (in Christchurch and Wellington) the week of the shortest day contained two consecutive fine days—a fine day being defined as a day with at least five hours of continuous sunshine. A blank represents a year in which the prediction was confounded.

WELLINGTON	CHRISTCHURCH
1928	—
1929	—
1930	1930
1931	—
1932	1932
—	1933
1934	—
1936	1936
1937	—
1938	—
—	—
1940	1940
—	1941
—	1942
1943	1943
—	—
1945	?????

All the years that are mentioned above had at least two fine days running, some

(continued on next page)

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