

# HOW'S YOUR BREATH TO-DAY?

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**H**OW is your breath to-day? Agreeable, you hope, but you do not know for sure. That's the insidious thing about halitosis (unpleasant breath). The victim never does know. Moreover, the risk is constantly present. Halitosis, records prove, affects everyone at some time or other. That is because it springs from conditions generally prevalent in the mouth . . . Tiny bits of fermenting food, a decaying tooth, a leaky filling, minor infections of the mouth, and excesses of eating and drinking . . . and remember, "even your best friend won't tell you."

Remember: "Even your best friend won't tell you."

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## Letters To The Editor

### BRITAIN and NEW ZEALAND

Sir,—As a "Homie" of seven years' standing in New Zealand I advise Mrs. J.M. (Rotorua) to take the first available boat back to England along with her husband who, within one week of landing here was disgusted not to get a Government appointment. Such sentiments as expressed in her letter would be harmful if taken seriously. Happily, there is no need.

We arrived in this country knowing no one, but have made many real friends and are very happy socially. We have never been made to feel that we were not welcome here, and as an illustration have spent every Christmas with the people from whom we bought our first farm, within a month of landing.

As for "the callous behaviour towards helpless animals," I admit that the handling of bobby calves hurts me and there is room for much improvement here. But, after seven years of close contact with a dairy herd of some one hundred cows, my husband and I have no complaints to make concerning the handling of stock by the several men we have from time to time employed.

JANE BURTON (Hamilton).

Sir,—I read with disgust the letter you printed from J.M. and I am rather surprised you should open your columns to such a discussion. By J.M.'s own showing she is a type we know: one of those who come out here, not with the idea of working and making their way in the world, but with the idea of getting an easy living. From her own remarks she and her husband have failed to do any good either in Canada, South Africa, or anywhere else. I should like to refute all she says about "anti-Home" feeling in any colony, most of all New Zealand. I am also a Homey, and although I realise I've spent more of my life in New Zealand than at Home I'll always be a "Homey," and I've had nothing but the best of good feeling and unflinching friendliness from the folk of New Zealand. I came out in 1912 straight from an office with the idea of making something of life. I found it paid: milking cows by hand for 25/- a week is never easy, but with the unflinching friendliness of the folk I met I liked it all. It was a good life and a grand country, and I enjoyed every minute of it. I went to the war and mixed with "the boys," Homeys and New Zealanders, and never had any experience of "anti-Home" feeling. We were all men together, and any grinning reference to "Homeys" was countered with the retort "Pig Islander," but all in the best of good feeling. Now I've farmed a Government section for quite a lump of my lifetime and always got on well with my neighbours, some of them definitely in the so-called "moneyed class," and I may say they all, rich and poor, helped me at a time when I had a bad knock. They would have done the same to anyone in the same circumstances. That old yarn about the cruelty of farmers to stock is, on the face of it, absurd: farmers are not such fools as to ill-treat the stock they get their living from: and no one believes they do. It doesn't pay, and farmers are no different from other folk. This

trying to stir up trouble sickens most of us.

Take it from me, this is a good country and the folk are fine. It almost lines up to the wonderful leaflets that brought me here! I don't pretend that New Zealand is paradise. There are lots of things I don't like. I don't like the Government. They took my butter money. I don't like the bloke on the benzine counter of the Post Office. I don't like the chap that "demands" my income tax! But I'm not likely to make a public moan about it.

FAIR PLAY (Ohaupo).

Sir,—It seems that J.M. takes a very narrow view of New Zealand's life and people. She must go about with a chip on her shoulder, to receive the treatment of which she complains. If one looks for trouble one can always find it.

There is a certain type of Englishman, fortunately in the minority, who regards himself as superior to the mere colonial. Perhaps there was condescension in her husband's manner when he applied for the Government vacancy. Though I admit that all officials are not above reproach, in any country the many should not be judged by the few. As for the "callous treatment of defenceless animals," I have lived in the country all my life, and been always a lover of animals, but have seen no evidence of abuse. Her fellow "Homie" may have witnessed some isolated case of cruelty, and jumped to the conclusion that all New Zealanders were brutes and sadists. Is there not a S.P.C.A. in England too?

The loyalty of New Zealanders of all classes to the Motherland has been proved beyond all question during the last six years, while our admiration for the British people, and our desire to help them to the uttermost, has drawn us closer than ever before.

I can only think that J.M. has been unfortunate in her contacts and manner of meeting the "ignorant and immature" people among whom she has lived in security for six years. Far from clearing up misunderstanding J.M.'s letter can only arouse a storm of resentment and antagonism, nor can such an attitude create goodwill anywhere. Evidently she has not made herself conversant with New Zealand's contribution to science, art, and literature, apart from its contribution of "blood and sweat and toil and tears" in the Empire's time of need, or she would not be so sweeping in her condemnation of the country in which she and her husband have had sanctuary, and a living.

LEITH TULLOCK (Te Karaka).

Sir,—J.M. mentions, among other things, that there is a strong "anti-Home" feeling in this country. Now what does she mean by that? New Zealanders of older generations have a habit of referring to England as "Home," but we of the younger generation refer to England as England; New Zealand is our home, and England is as foreign to us as the United States of America. If she means we are anti-British, she is wrong.

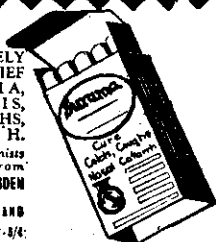
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