

tamia," that Samuel Butler wrote the first version of *Erewhon*.

From the Waitaki north, almost all the Canterbury rivers are worth fishing. The big snow rivers where the volume varies violently don't carry such heavy stocks of trout as smaller rain or spring-fed rivers, but they provide salmon-fishing in late summer and autumn. The same rough rule applies to the lakes—the more stable the level (and the less snow-water and glacier "flour"), the more numerous the fish. In general, the smaller lakes (like Heron and Sumner) tend to be more favoured by anglers—perhaps because the access roads are rougher and the fishing to that extent restricted. An exception, of course, is Lake Ellesmere on the coast south of Banks Peninsula, which still maintains (with the Selwyn River) a high reputation for its brown trout.

From Christchurch one can head North to Hanmer or Kaikoura, west via Arthur's Pass to "The Coast," or East to Banks Peninsula.

In 1835, George Hempelman, a German whaling captain, visited Akaroa in the brig *Bee*, and later claimed that he had bought the peninsula from the Maoris. A year or two later a French gentleman named L'Anglois also claimed that he had purchased most of the peninsula. In the meantime, British sovereignty was proclaimed by Captain Hobson, and when the French emigrant ship *Comte de Paris* arrived in 1840, the English flag was flying. Anyone who visits the Peninsula in good Canterbury summer weather (especially at cherry time) will find it easy to understand why there was competition to possess it. At Akaroa there is a motor camp in beautiful bush surroundings, and another camp at Okains Bay. A drive around the peninsula gives some first-class views of the bays and the surrounding country.

Visitors who travel west to the Arthur Pass National Park may be confused by the different versions of the name: the settlement—Arthurs Pass; the pass itself—Arthur Pass, the railway ditto. The first version is often printed with an apostrophe, but it has been argued that though Sir Arthur Dudley Dobson discovered the Pass it still didn't belong to him. This and other weird rhetoric and argument have flourished; however, the traveller wanting a pass in undisputed possession of its possessive can still find content at Porters.

Near the Arthurs Pass township is the eastern portal of the five and a half odd mile long Otira—second longest railway tunnel in New Zealand. The tortuous highway over the mountains to Otira can be a trial even to very experienced drivers, but cars can be railed from Springfield through the tunnel to Otira.

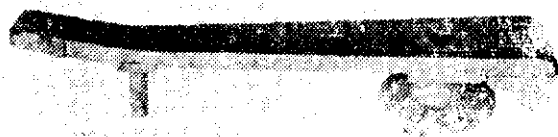
The rugged mountain scenery of this national park is a perfect setting for a camping or shooting holiday.

Heading back toward Christchurch one can turn off at Springfield and make for Amberley and the East Coast main road. This route will take in the pleasant farming country around the Ashley Downs, and the Waimakariri and Ashley gorges. One can also go through East Oxford to link with Rangiora, and carry North-east to Waikuku and the beach.

The road to Kaikoura passes through greatly differing country. The rural areas, especially around Domett, Cheviot and Parnassus, have a sun-soaked idyllic

character that contrasts strongly with the rugged coast scenes around Goose Bay further on. This last named bay, along with other spots on this coast, are popular sea-fishing resorts. Motunau has a fine beach and camp, so has Gore Bay in from Cheviot, while further on, at Hundalee there is a first-class scenic reserve.

Cheviot, strictly speaking, is in Nelson Province, so too is Hanmer Springs; but for the purposes of this trip and for convenient touring they can be considered to be in North Canterbury. We began this week with a splash in Caroline Bay, we leave the traveller lying indolently in the springs at Hanmer spa. Hot water to lie in—mountains to look at—what more could a man want?



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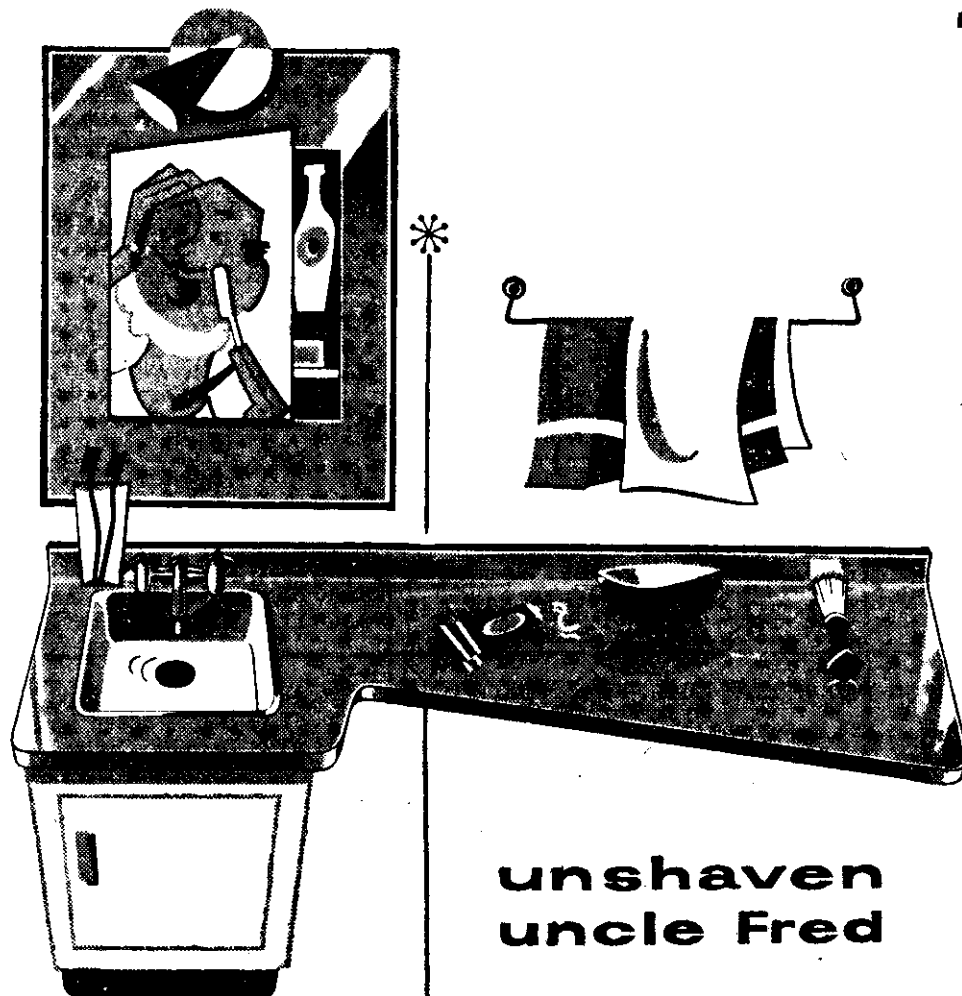
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