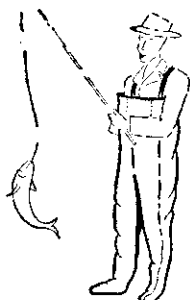


FISHING?

Use Uniplast
safety waders!

* Built-in
inflatable
pocket.

£4/4/-
a pair



Designed for your safety, Uniplast waders are made of heavy gauge c-o-n-d-i-t-i-o-n-e-d plastic, in standard sizes, 32", 34" and 36" leg.

If your dealer hasn't got them, write to us!

Send stamped addressed envelope for FREE SAMPLE of wader plastic.

UNIPLAST
BOX 734, HAMILTON.

*N.Z. Patent Appl. 116261. The same waders without inflatable safety pocket cost £3/17/6.

Over 250,000
TECHNOS TITAN
watches
sold in New Zealand

THEY MUST
BE GOOD!



TT4

SHEPHERD'S CALENDAR

Questions & Answers

by "SUNDOWNER"

A TALKS Officer sends me this note: "Your words-per-minute problem isn't really a difficult one. A man talking to a large audience in the open air is much, much slower than a man in the studio at a microphone. Also, you have to allow for pauses for the audience to cheer or hiss. . . With Lloyd George

there is another possibility: if he was speaking in Welsh, as he may well have been, some of his words would run to ten syllables or more."

I can't deny any of that, but I can still be surprised to know that Lloyd George was a slower speaker than Winston Churchill, and that both were very much slower than I am myself. The only method by which I could reduce my output to 78 words a minute would be to spell out every word of more than four letters in case it was not caught properly. If I waited for the applause the waits might be so long that the audience would think I had finished and walk out. But I am told that 100 words a minute is the official broadcasting count for open-air speakers, or any

address to a big audience, and that even in a studio, with a script and no visible audience, the safe rate is only 120 to 140. These, of course, are average figures. There are broadcasters, my correspondent tells me, who "can make 160 perfectly clear and unhurried," and people who, in ordinary conversation, "can touch 200 and more without appearing to gabble." But the tongue and lips cannot deliver words nearly as fast as the mind can deliver the thoughts of which the words are the expression. It is one of our physical limitations for which we ought to be deeply grateful.

* * *

A READER of 92 who sends me interesting letters once or twice a year says that he has recorded the arrival of the cuckoo in his neighbourhood for more than 40 years, and found that the dates are within "a week or so" of one another throughout

OCTOBER 21 this long period.

I wish I had his good ears. So far this spring I have not heard the call once, and last year I went through the whole summer without hearing it, though it was heard clearly enough by others. I am beginning to suspect that the high note is above my remaining range, and that long before I am 92 I will be deaf to much noisier birds. Fortunately there are still magpies and roosters, and I have had a singing in one ear for 50 years that is half-way between a kettle—when kettles still sang—and a mad cicada. When the blackbirds and thrushes fail me, as well as larks and starlings, I will get someone to hit me as hard on the right ear as the blow that settled my left, and then, like the lady with rings on her fingers and bells on her toes, I may have music wherever I go. In the meantime I have the privilege of not answering awkward questions.

* * *

BECAUSE I am neither a breeder nor a researcher, a veterinary surgeon, a delegation, a committee, a society, a worker for friendship or hostility to any race or nation. I did not meet the Russian farming mission that raced through Canterbury last week. The loss is theirs. I had something to tell them and ask them, and my questions and their answers would have had about equal importance.

OCTOBER 24

thing to tell them and ask them, and my questions and their answers would have had about equal importance.

First I wanted to tell them about Mary's little lamb, which they are not likely so far to have encountered. Though it still survives in Britain, I saw none in America in seven months, and only one in Australia in four months, and that one was black with coal dust in a backyard in Brisbane. It is only in New Zealand that this animal is found on every second farm, and maintains its characteristics without any assistance from stud books and breed societies. Even on my 32 acres I could, with a little warning—for prayer, and words with the dog, and straining some wires, and reinforcing some gates—even on this small holding I could have produced twelve vigorous specimens, eleven white and one black, and all guaranteed to resist absorption



FASHION-FAVOURED

FASHION WISE

ultra sheer nonrun
hosiery of quality

Elegantly sheer — durable because they're
nonrun! 'Lanolised', for extra softness
and comfort.

11/9
Per Pair



Ask for Bonds Sy-metra Lanolised Nylons by name

CARESSE	75 Gauge Sheerest of Sheer nylons	13/11
VISION	51 Gauge 30 Denier Service Sheers	10/6
ILLUSION	60 Gauge 15 Denier Plain or Black Seam	11/6

Remember! Pure Silk Service Sheers

Bonds **"ROMANCE"** 14/11 per pair

BONDS HOSIERY MILLS (N.Z.) LTD.

Bonds Sy-metra
hosiery is guaranteed
perfect when purchased
IMPORTANT! We make your
correct foot size in your own leg
length, which is "Short", "Average" or "Long".

S14.6L