



N.P.S. photograph

Farmers' wives have to spring into action at short notice

with you and Elsie. Here are two extracts from old Canterbury witnesses to support my remark:

(a) From *Reminiscences of J. J. Buchanan* (1851): "Mr. Hill drove the first wheeled vehicle in Christchurch—it was an ordinary cart drawn by a strong heifer in harness."

(b) From *Reminiscences of J. J. Thompson* (Christchurch): "Archdeacon Mathias used to convey his family to picnics and places of entertainment in a light cart drawn by a little yellow cow with a short tail, and it was astonishing the speed at which she travelled."

What this correspondent means to convey, I think, is that I must go on with my plan of converting Andy to harmlessness and use. At present he is as the Lord made him, and the day cannot be very far ahead when there will be no room for both of us in the same pad-

dock. But if his mother is "whoa", deaf can I be sure that he will not be? I have seen bullocks (and cows, too) in harness, and even saddled and ridden; but they were in most cases not well fed. Andy has not had an empty belly since the first gallon of Elsie's milk distended it, and I am not going to starve him to keep him meek. At present he works off his surplus energy on a clay bank or in sham fights with his big sister. He is not yet four months old. But all I have taught him in fourteen weeks is to lead and be tethered. If he is to learn to pull and to carry, to steer, stop, and stand as I tell him, we will both have to do a little more than exchange looks of admiration.

(To be continued)

BACKSTAGE AND ONSTAGE

WHEN the curtain falls the audience goes home to comfort, but the producer sits back for a pleasant session with worries about the performance just over and the ones to come. These worries are as legion as the extras in a

Hollywood epic. A few of them enter into the radio talk series, *Amateurs and Greasepaint*, by Cecily Tabor Gregory, well known as a musical comedy producer in many centres in the Dominion. Mrs. Gregory will be heard during *Women's Hour* on Thursday, March 6, and for the five weeks following, from 2ZB, 3ZB, and 4ZB, 2ZA and 1XH. Her wide experience as a producer of amateur theatrical performances makes Mrs. Gregory eminently qualified to pass on helpful hints to those interested in dramatics, but her six talks are also enlivened by accounts of backstage and onstage incidents that have occurred during her long years with musical-comedy shows.



CECILY TABOR GREGORY

N.Z. LISTENER, FEBRUARY 29, 1952.

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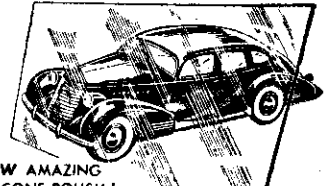
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