

the reply. 'Oh, by the way, would you mind lending me the eighteenpence?' The medico bent a stern gaze upon his unprofitable customer. 'Give me that prescription back,' he said. It was handed back, and a swift deletion made. 'There,' he said, returning it, 'you can get that made up for sixpence. The drug I crossed out was for nerves, but it seems to me that your nerves are pretty healthy.'

NOVEL METHOD OF ADVERTISING

It would be hard for anyone to improve on the following cute little dodge played in Moscow. The smartest trick advertiser might get a flash of inspiration from an incident described in the notebook of a recent globe-trotter. 'In Moscow,' he relates, 'I saw a little child crying pitifully one afternoon. He walked slowly along the pathway of one of the most crowded thoroughfares, and his howls soon brought a big crowd around him. 'What is the trouble, my child?' 'What is the matter, my dear?' were the anxious queries put by everyone who heard the row. The child waited until he thought he had a 'full house' and then turning so as to face the excited, anxious crowd, he shouted in a shrill childish treble: 'I am Boris Tronboski, and I am lost—or rather I am all right, but my home is lost. Oh, will some kind person take me to the splendid shop of my father, Ivan Tronboski, the champion clothier of the South-end, who has just got in his new stock of autumn overcoats, suits, neckties, hats, shirts, and umbrellas, which he will sell cheaper than anyone else in this city? Oh, take me home to that beautiful store, and if you don't see what you want ask for it.' Of course, everyone wanted to kick the youngster higher than the price of house rent in the city, but the dodge was so novel and good that most persons passed on with a laugh and left young Boris still lost.'

RESERVING HIMSELF

At a Highland gathering one Donald McLean was apparently insatiable in the number of prizes he desired to win, for his name appeared upon the list of entries for practically every event. The first event was the quarter mile, and Donald trailed in the last of eight contestants. In the next race his showing was not better. 'Donald, Donald!' cried a partisan, 'why do you no run faster?' 'Run faster!' sneered Donald, contemptuously. 'And me reservin' myself' for the bagpipe competition.'

IDENTIFIED

Harold, aged nine, came home the other day in such a state as to cause great perturbation in the household. 'Mercy!' exclaimed his mother, 'how on earth, Harold, did you manage to get your clothes so frightfully torn?' Harold assumed a virtuous air. 'Tryin' to keep a little boy from bein' licked,' he exclaimed. 'That was fine of you, Harold!' was the enthusiastic response of the parent. 'And who was the little boy?' 'Me.'

IT COUNTED WITH HER

Paderewski arrived in a small town in the Western States of America about noon one day, and decided to take a walk in the afternoon. While strolling along he heard a piano, and, following the sound, came to a house on which was a sign reading:

'Miss Jones. Piano lessons 25 cents an hour.'

Pausing to listen, he heard the young woman trying to play one of Chopin's nocturnes, and not succeeding very well.

Paderewski walked up to the house and knocked. Miss Jones came to the door, and recognised him at once. Delighted, she invited him in, and he sat down and played the nocturne as only Paderewski can, afterwards spending an hour in correcting her mistakes. Miss Jones thanked him, and he departed.

Some months afterward he returned to the town, and again took the same walk.

He soon came to the home of Miss Jones, and, looking at the sign, he read:

'Miss Jones. Piano lessons 1d. an hour. (Pupil of Paderewski.)'

FAMILY FUN

Ask a friend to write down any number of three figures, the last figure of which is less than the first. Get your friend to write beneath it the same figures reversed and subtract. Below this remainder let him write the remainder reversed in the same way. Then tell him to add the two remainders together. No matter what figures your friend chooses, if the above conditions are adhered to the result will be 1089. Note that every zero in a remainder must also be set down.

On the Land

In 1901 the Waikato exported only 90 boxes of butter, in 1904 the export had increased to 39,650 boxes, and three years later 84,400 boxes were sent out, while last year the factories produced 160,230 boxes for export.

Sterilising milk destroys all the germs and most of the spores in it. Pasteurising milks kills the germs, but not their spores, whilst chemical preservatives in milk, cream, etc., make it obnoxious for the growth of all kinds of micro-organisms.

When cream fails to ripen it may be due to some of the following causes:—The temperature too high or too low. In this case the species of bacteria whose optimum temperature is above or below that of the cream ripening organisms take charge of the cream. Putrefactive organisms work at a rather high temperature, while a low temperature induces the development of bacteria which produce bitter flavours. Chemicals such as boric acid in cream prevent its ripening.

Speaking, the other day, at the New Plymouth show, the Hon. D. Buddo said that as regards the primary products of the Dominion, they had had a record year in the matter of exports of produce from this country, and there was more to follow. As yet, the surface of much of the best land had only been scratched. The farmer of the future would have to go in for more intense farming, and the working of restricted areas should give better results.

Mr. E. J. Shelton, in charge of the pig-raising department of the Hawkesbury College, advises that the Tamworth boar and Berkshire sow is the best cross for the production of bacon and ham. The Tamworth being a lengthy, lean type, introduces these qualities into the more fatty Berkshire, resulting in an evenly-streaked bacon, which commands a ready sale. This cross, owing to its not producing super-abundant fat, is also specially well adapted to the Australian climatic conditions.

Speaking to a *Dominion* representative the other day about the grass grub, a Wairarapa farmer mentioned what he said was a common remedy for the pest. Many farmers who had had experience with bush land had encountered the grub, he said, and their most effective means of dealing with it was to put as many cattle as the section would hold. The trouble needed to be taken in hand early—as soon as it made an appearance. It was no use putting on light cattle—the heaviest were required. The effect of this treatment was wonderful; the cattle simply crushed the grub out of existence. Referring to the present ravages of the pest in the South Island he said that the farmers there, in many cases, had not got the cattle just now to put on the land.

At the Burnside stock sale last week 168 head of fat cattle were yarded. Prices on account of the small attendance of butchers were a shade easier, competition being dull. Quotations: Best bullocks, £11 to £11 15s; extra, to £13 5s; medium, £9 to £10; inferior, £7 15s to £8 15s; best cows and heifers, £8 to £9; extra, to £12 10s; medium, £6 10s to £7 5s; inferior, £5 5s to £5 15s. There was a large yarding (nearly 4000) of fat sheep of fair quality. Prices, owing to the freezing buyers' operations, were a shade firmer. Quotations: Best wethers, 19s to 21s; extra, 22s to 24s; medium, 16s to 17s; inferior, 12s 6d to 15s; best ewes, 15s to 16s; extra, to 18s; medium, 12s 6d to 13s 6d; inferior, 9s 11d. The yarding of fat lambs totalled about 2000. Prices were much the same as previous week. Quotations: Best lambs, 13s to 14s; extra, to 16s; medium, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; inferior, 10s to 11s. There was not a large yarding of young pigs, but the number forward was in excess of requirements, and sales were hard to effect. Fat pigs (except for a few pens of extra choice porkers and baconers) were also easier.

At Addington last week there were moderate entries of stock on account of wet weather, and the attendance was not up to the usual average. Store sheep sold at about late rates. All lambs fit to freeze sold readily, and at an advance in prices, and prime fat sheep sold at the previous week's rates. Fat pigs and good dairy cows sold well. There were 3755 fat lambs penned, and they were mostly of inferior quality. There was a keen demand for all that would freeze, and prices were firmer. There were 3199 taken for export at 8s 3d to 17s 6d, and a few extra to 18s 6d. There was a moderate yarding of sheep, ewes forming the larger part. The demand was not very keen, and the sale was slow compared with the previous week, prices, if anything, being a shade weaker for all but prime quality. The range of prices was: Prime wethers, 17s to 21s 3d; medium, 14s 6d to 16d 6d; light, 13s 6d to 14s; prime ewes, 14s 6d to 19s 3d; extra, to 20s 6d; medium, 11s to 14s; and aged and light, 6s 6d to 10s 6d; merino wethers, 10s to 13s 2d. The yarding of fat cattle totalled 353 of fair average quality, and included some prime lines of steers. The sale was somewhat irregular, and prices on the whole rather easier than the previous week. Steers made £11 12s 6d to £11 17s 6d, and extra to £17 for show bullocks, heifers £5 7s 6d to £10 17s 6d, and cows £4 10s to £8, extra to £10 2s 6d. A small entry of pigs met with a good sale. Choppers sold up to 80s, large baconers 47s 6d to 55s, and lighter 37s to 45s (equal to 4d to 4½d per lb), large porkers 29s to 34s, smaller 22s to 26s (equal to 4½d per lb).