

'When the horse is looking all right sell him to someone.'

WORSE THAN PESSIMISM

Andrew Carnegie, at a dinner in Washington, deplored the world's excessive armaments.

'All these billions wasted on battleships,' he said, 'are declared to do good in providing work, in creating prosperity. That is a shallow and false optimism. That, in fact, reminds me of the man who said, when his wages were cut down:

"Well, there is one comfort. When I'm laid up sick I won't lose as much money as I used to do."

THE JOYS OF AN EDITOR

'The editor is one of the happiest men in the world,' wrote a Sydney schoolboy in his essay on newspapers. 'He can go to the circus in the afternoon and evening without paying a penny, also to inquests and hangings. He has free tickets to the theatre, and gets wedding-cake sent to him, and sometimes gets licked, but not often. While other folks have to go to bed early, the editor can sit up every night, and see all that is going on.'

SOMETHING TO BE THANKFUL FOR

Lord Decies was talking about American cab fares. 'They seem to be intended only for the rich,' he said. 'I was amused by a cabby who, after a drive that would have cost a shilling in London, said: "You're an Englishman, sir, and so I'll only charge you two dollars." He made me think of a lawyer, who, having won a case involving a hundred pounds sterling, kept eighty pounds for his fee, and said, as he handed over the balance of twenty pounds to his client: "I am your friend, sir. I can't charge you my full fee. I knew your father." "Thank goodness," said the client warmly, "that you didn't know my grandfather."

SAVING HIS LIFE

A story is told of an Englishman who had occasion for a doctor while staying in Peking.

'Sing Loo, greatest doctor,' said his servant; 'he savee my lifee once.'

'Really?' queried the Englishman.

'Yes; me tellible awful,' was the reply; 'me callee in another doctor. He givee me medicine; me velly, velly bad. Me callee in another doctor. He come and give me more medicine, make me velly, velly badder. Me callee in Sing Loo. He no come. He savee my lifee.'

FAMILY FUN

The Remainder.—A very pleasing way to arrive at an arithmetical sum, without the use of either slate or pencil, is to ask a person to think of a figure, then to double it, then add a certain figure to it, now halve the whole sum, and finally to subtract from that the figure first thought of. You are then to tell the thinker the remainder. The key to this lock of figures is that half of whatever sum you request to be added during the working of the sum is the remainder. Any amount may be added, but the operation is simplified by giving only even numbers, as they will divide without fractions.

Never hurry, never worry,

Don't get in a rage;

Try to keep you temper always,

Says a good old sage.

If you get a cold and shiver,

Don't take doctor's pills—

Run at once, and get—'tis precious—

Woods' Peppermint Cure for chills.

On the Land

The number of dairy factories in the Dominion at present is 415, besides which there are about 450 skimming stations. The average price paid out by the factories for butter-fat 10 years ago was a little over 8d per lb at the butter factories, whereas the average price paid out for butter-fat last year would be about 10½d and 1s respectively.

Probably never before at the Burnside weekly sales has there been such a small yarding of cattle, such a large proportion of animals of inferior quality, and such extraordinarily high prices (says the *Otago Daily Times*, writing of last week's sale). The yarding comprised only 80 head, which may be accepted as an indication that the supplies of fat cattle in this part of the country at the present time are exceedingly limited. Prices of cattle ranged up to £15 5s per head, and so poor was the quality that buyers were paying as high as 40s per 100lb. There was a general advance over the previous week's rates of equal to £2 10s per head, and in some instances equal to £3 and over per head. In respect of both quality and prices, the conditions prevailing were probably unprecedented. There was a good yarding of 3850 sheep, and while values opened weaker than was the case the previous week, they firmed as the sale progressed. Wethers sold at prices ranging up to 25s 9d and 26s 9d per head. Ewes were about 1s per head dearer. There was a reduced yarding of about 1100 lambs, but late rates were maintained.

Speaking at the Dunedin Winter Show last week, the Hon. T. Mackenzie said that were selection and improvement in herds carried out we could without increasing the number of cows now in use, increase the output of our country by 33½ per cent., or, in round figures, by £1,250,000, annually. We had been, with the means at our disposal, endeavoring to improve the milking quality of our herds. Within the last two years the department had established a herd of Holsteins at the Weraroa Experimental Farm. The record of their output was a justification for the step that had been taken in connection with the matter, and it had been found that some of our cows did as well as the finest in Denmark. One of them had already reached up to the standard of 16,000lb weight of milk per annum. He was pleased to be able to say that this herd, which would enable him to supply sires of a high type to settlers, was in itself a source of considerable profit to the department.

At Addington last week there were moderate entries of stock. Some extra prime lines of fat sheep and cattle offered, and they made exceptionally good prices. Beef generally sold at about the previous week's prices. Good young store ewes maintained their values, but hoggets showed a decline. The fat lambs offered were of inferior and ordinary quality, and made only moderate prices. There were only a few new season's lambs penned, and they sold well. Fat sheep of all classes were in good demand. Store cattle were dull of sale, and dairy cows were not selling as well as of late. Fat pigs were in demand, and stores met with a dragging sale. There was a yarding of 327 head of fat cattle. The average quality of the yarding was the highest seen at the yard for several years. There was a good all-round demand, and late values were fully maintained. Steers made £7 10s to £11 10s, extra to £20, heifers £6 to £10, extra to £14. There were only a few hundred fat lambs penned, and they were mostly of medium quality. Better sorts made 14s 6d to 18s 3d; extra, to 22s 6d. There was a moderate yarding of fat sheep, and the range of quality was very wide, running from inferior wethers and ewes to specially prime show wethers. The range of prices was: Extra prime wethers to 33s, prime 20s to 26s, extra prime ewes to 29s 9d, prime 17s 6d to 23s 6d. All classes of pigs were in good demand. Choppers realised 75s to £6, large baconers 52s 6d to 60s, lighter 43s to 48s (equal to 4½d to 4¾d per lb); large porkers 30s to 38s, smaller 23s to 27s (equal to 4½d to 5d per lb).