

### ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN.

A country minister was driving a spirited horse through a village when he overtook the local doctor and offered him a lift.

Ten minutes later the horse bolted, upset the carriage, and spilled both men. The doctor rose to his feet and felt himself over to see whether he was injured. Then he turned angrily towards the clergyman.

"What do you mean by inviting me to ride behind such an animal?"

"Well," replied the minister, mildly, "it was lucky that this time there were no bones broken. But I always like to have a doctor with me when I drive that horse."



### NOTHING SERIOUS.

The day after his first—and last—boxing match a sad and disappointed man hobbled off to see a doctor. His head was bandaged, his arm was in a sling, his face was a mass of court plaster, and he had borrowed a crutch.

"Hurt yourself?" asked the doctor.

The patient grunted. Of course he'd hurt himself!

"Feel any pain?"

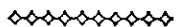
Feel any pain! The patient gave a second disgusted grunt. He couldn't feel anything else.

"Looks as though you've had an accident."

"Oh, no," replied the patient, finding his voice at last. "Not at all."

"Then, perhaps," suggested the doctor, "you've been indulging in some rough sport?"

"That's it," said the patient; "I've been blowing bubbles."



### WHY SHE WAS THERE.

Having married a wife with money, a farmer was annoyed by the way in which she constantly reminded him of the fact. Did he make any improvement, or buy any stock, he was always told, "Aye, but if it hadna been for my siller it wouldna hae been there!"

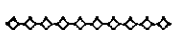
He had gone to Aberdeen market one day, and returned with a fine mare, which he was parading when his wife came on the scene.

"Weel, isn't that a braw beast?" he asked, proudly.

"Aye," she replied, "but if it hadna been for my siller it wouldna hae been there."

Exasperated beyond endurance, he turned and cried, angrily:

"My woman, gin it hadna been for yer siller ye wouldna hae been there yersel'."



### SMILE-RAISERS.

He was a head master and his name was Key. He was trying to interest his boys in manners and customs abroad.

Talking of Spain, he said: "Now, in Spain, when a man attains to eminence he is not called 'sir,' but is given the title 'don.' If I went there, for example, I should be styled 'Don Key.'"

And he wondered why they laughed.



"Johnny," said the teacher, "if coal is selling at £2 a ton, and you pay the dealer £10, how many tons will he bring you?" "A little over three tons, ma'am," said Johnny, promptly. "Why, Johnny, that's not right," said the teacher. "No, ma'am, I know it ain't right," said Johnny, "but they all do it."



Tommy repeatedly arrived late at school. One day the headmaster said to him: "Next time you are late I'd like you to bring an excuse from your father."

"I don't want to bring an excuse from father," said the boy.

"Why not?"

"He's no good at them. Mother always finds him out."

### PILES

Can be instantly relieved and quickly cured by the use of **BAXTER'S PILE OINTMENT**. This excellent remedy has been a boon to hundreds of sufferers all over New Zealand. Sent post free on receipt of 2/6 in stamps or postal notes by **WALTER BAXTER :: CHEMIST, TIMARU.**

## SCIENCE SIFTINGS

By "VOLT"

### Curious Color Changes.

The possibility of a man's eyes changing their color as a result of mental shock or physical ill-treatment has been discussed by surgeons. "It is common knowledge," stated one medical man, "that great physical hardships may suddenly turn the hair white. The loss of color follows on certain chemical changes, due to disturbances of nutrition, taking place in the tiny particles of coloring matter which gave the hair its tint." All babies have blue eyes when they are born. In some infants pigment granules begin to develop in the iris immediately after birth. Thus they become black or brown eyed. In others no such pigment formation takes place, and the eyes remain their original color throughout life.

### Stick and Stamp Machine.

An ingenious time-saver has just been brought out by the United States Post Office. In a single operation it seals letters, stamps them, postmarks them, and counts them. The envelopes are fed at high speed on to an endless rubbed band which conveys them first under a little device which slightly raises the flap and moistens the gum, and next to a roller which fastens the flaps down.

Finally they pass through a tiny printing press, which stamps "Postage Paid" on each and postmarks it.

The stamping appliance is rather like a cross between a dating stamp and a cyclometer. It is set by the Post Office to print any number of stamps that have been paid for in advance, as is frequently done by commercial houses when posting circulars in large numbers.

As each letter is dealt with the cyclometer ticks up one, and when the full number is reached the machine automatically "downs tools." It will not work again until a further payment is made.

Then the Post Office official opens it with a special key and sets it once more to print as many stamps as have been paid for.

### Perils of the Electric Light.

"Mankind is being blinded by modern electric light," declared Mr. A. E. Bawtree, electrochemist and physicist, in a lecture before the Royal Photographic Society (England).

Mr. Bawtree seeks to bring the modern world back to candlelight, and thus restore its sight.

"An appalling amount of eye trouble exists," he added. "This vast outbreak has synchronised with the introduction of modern artificial lighting. Let us go back to the open flame and recover healthy eyesight. It will be well worth the inconvenience. Blindness and bad sight are the worst inconveniences humanity can suffer."

"Fifty per cent. of middle-class men, 20 per cent. of middle-class women, and a large number of children wear spectacles. Out of doors many of them have to use dark glasses. Glasses may be becoming, but, like crutches, they betoken disease or deformity."

"There are four reasons for all this eye trouble. The first is that electric light is too intense. Mankind through all the ages till 1890 used the open flame. The open flame, however it was produced, never exceeded an intensity of two candle-power per square inch of flame. The feeblest form of electric lamp is at least 80 times more intense."

"The next cause of trouble is the dangerous and invisible ultra-violet rays. No bowls or shades absorb these rays. White walls and ceilings reflect them. In nature the rays are absorbed from the sunlight by trees and flowers, which do not reflect them. But the electrician floods our rooms and streets with this eye poison."

"A third source of eye trouble is the strain imposed on the eyes when a person suddenly comes out of the darkness into a blaze of light, or suddenly turns on a switch."

"The fourth danger in electric lighting is the alternating current which is frequently used. This causes 'induced currents' in the nervous system and produces fatigue."

"The ideal solution would be to go back to candles. Man must take a bold step."