

finally a generous number of rather small lumps of coal on the top. Laid like this a fire burns at once, and lights up brightly in a very short time.

THOSE of you who are interested in music will be glad to know that the almost forgotten opera "Idomeneo," by Mozart, is being revised by Richard Strauss and will be performed in the Vienna Opera House during the next season.

ONLY a few days now before Christmas, and we suppose that most of our readers are trying to find suitable gifts for their friends. May I make a suggestion? To-day I had some plants and several packets of seeds given to me and I am sure there is nothing I could appreciate better. I am trusting they will live year after year to remind me of the donor and the thought.

ELECTRICITY has become the workman's friend, for so easy have become the working conditions that the present generation has improved in health and happiness a thousandfold. A farm servant was asked how he liked making cake with an electric egg-beater, and he replied: "It is splendid! I can do in a few minutes what used to take some hours of hard work, and now I have all that time longer to attend to my other jobs." He added that he hoped he would never have to work on any farm again where electricity was not used.

WHEN onion flavouring is wanted, cut the onion into slices and sprinkle with sugar, and then leave for a short time. The sugar causes the juice to flow freely, and this juice is useful for flavouring salads.

AT the race meeting in England the prominent colour to be seen on those who are the leaders of fashion is red in all hues. Brick-colour, cherry, scarlet, strawberry, tweed costumes of a red mixture, gladioli red, cerise, and Bergundy.

IF milk curdles when boiling, add to it a small piece of washing soda (about the size of a pea) and stir while the milk is still on the fire. It will then lose all its curdliness, and be quite fit to use.

—ALISON.

**SORE THROAT?**

**Pulmonas**

**PASTILLES**

**QUICKLY RELIEVE**

1/6 a tin all chemists



## Prize Poem Competition

THE prize of half a guinea for the current competition is awarded to U.C. for her poem, entitled "From a Train," which will find many admirers by reason of skilful versification and poetic handling of the passing show by a traveller possessed of ability to record evanescent beauty as it flies. "Oh Mack" sends two attractive poems, "Fairies' Christmas," though a pretty, rippling number, is unsuitable for our pages, but we hope room will be found for "Another Chance."

"Thur" skilfully manages her immense theme of the mosaic of humanity, and arrestingly conveys her conception of life's evolution.

"John Storm": Though not prize-winners, each of your three poems, in its metier, is charming. "Bethlehem" is published this week.

"Marion": We do not like the split infinitive, though your lines are appealing, but the sentiment is a trifle cloying.

"New Zealand Cities," with utmost impartiality, bestows honour where honour is due. Of Wellington we are told

Dunedin

*"Claims the University  
Where students learn Anatomy."*

In Christchurch, fair city,

*"The willow trees  
Do fringe the Avon's banks and please  
Me more than Halls and Structures fine."*

All indisputable, no doubt, but nothing but the truth does not always make poetry.

"Flotsam": Cheer up! The lady may relent.

"Long John" sends the lay of a larrikin, and a good one, too.

H.R.T.: Your verses do not quite scan, but are arresting in their poignant impression of human loss, and we hope some time to publish them.

### From a Train

*Suddenly, after wastes of wild  
Grey and sullen brown,  
We came upon a quiet field  
Where the sheep lay down—  
Snow-white sheep on a wet, dark field,  
With a still tree beyond,  
And the fat bodies of four ducks  
Ruffling a golden pond.*

*All suddenly, out of the hushed  
Thick darknesses of night,  
A carillon of bells we heard  
In a gleaming flight,  
Shaking their rhythm down the sky.  
In a bright cloud of sound,  
Like the soft beat of breasting doves  
Over the muffled ground.*

*And suddenly all else was gone  
Save Beauty aching on and on.*

—U.C.



## Anti-noise Campaign

Commenced in Europe

IN some big cities on the Continent the authorities are becoming very particular about noise and untidiness in their streets. In one or two cases the laws are now so strict that people can be arrested for throwing a cigar-end on the pavement. In Berlin it is proposed to set up an anti-noise investigation department in the big towns, and a new science is coming into being for the measurement of noise in thoroughfares. In Budapest, back-firing of motor-cycles is prohibited. Workmen building houses are not allowed to shout to each other on the scaffolding, even the noise of beating carpets must not be heard. (What a field for salesmen with vacuum cleaners!) Laws also forbid the continuous sounding of motor horns, suburban train whistles, and tramcar bells. Music lessons must be given in sound-proof rooms, and with the windows shut, and itinerant musicians are extinct. The use of wireless loudspeakers are only tolerated until 10 o'clock. This is indeed a modern Utopia.

## Electrified Dairies

A DAIRY farm owned and operated by Mr. Mathias Turner, at Madison, Ohio, has electrical equipment throughout. This includes electric light, electric motor for vacuum milking, a motor-driven water pump, electric clippers, electric bottle and utensil washer, electric strainer-cloth and towel washer. There is also an electric hot-water system, electric heat for sterilising holding tank, and the buildings are all heated electrically during the cold winter months.

A special steriliser is used to dry and sterilise the cooling tank from which milk is bottled. Mr. Turner is most satisfied with his electrical equipment, and believes that every large dairy farmer will follow suit, as soon as they realise the advantage of dry heat and automatic control.

One special point that would appeal to a woman is that the utensils when taken from the oven sterilisers are as bright as though they had been polished.

## Character Colours

DR. HOOKER and many others are very engrossed in the radiation of colours from the human body. These radiations they say vary according to the character. There are good and bad colours, just as there are good and bad bumps. The purple ray indicates a noble character—while the dark grey indicates mental or physical depression. Dark green is a bad colour.

## ARE YOU A 100% MAN?

You are not even a 50 per cent. man if you are slave to the smoking habit. We can help you quit it quickly. Home Welfare Pty., A.M.P. Buildings, 36 R. Hunter Street, Wellington.