



PUBLIC TASTE AND PRIVATE OPINION

Miss Bulley's judgment (Korero No. 6) is open to correction. An ornament need not necessarily be an integral part of the structure. For example, note the diving figure on the prow of a Maori war canoe. In this case a sense of mass need only balance when judged with the surroundings of the room. No chests of drawers are placed on a special stand and judged without a suitable background. There is only one place for the handles and key-holes—the most convenient for the user of the article. The fact that the mass is closer to the floor makes cleaning harder. The lower rail or bar is in the correct place for lightness and strength. The chest on the left is better because there is no attempt made at over-ornamentation.

Neither teapot is a "thing of beauty." The bottom is the better designed article. The wine-glass on the right is to be preferred because, even if the stem is thick, the curves blend better with the general design.

On the whole the article is timely, but the writer has overlooked two main points in modern life: (1) a general desire for simplicity in all art; (2) art for art's sake must combine some measure of usefulness.

Cpl. J. Bethell

LAND-DEVELOPMENT

Many years ago a politician coined the slogan: "Go North, young man." He was referring to North Auckland or,

as it is preferred—and I think wisely—by people there, "Northland," a constituency which he represented in the New Zealand House of Representatives.

For many years Northland has suffered from the stigma of being poor in the quality of its land and roads. In comparison with the length of its occupation, the birthplace of British settlement in New Zealand, it has not made the progress it deserves, and it is to be hoped that the thousands of young New-Zealanders who have served a term there in the Army and Air Force will have realized some of its still latent possibilities, especially those of them who desire to take up farming as a livelihood.

At once it will be said there is no land there worth farming, and in any case it is too hard to get at. This is but to repeat a popular and fallacious cry. Northland offers many valuable opportunities and a pleasing reward to those who will but look at it through practical eyes. Incidentally, as I have inferred already, it has been neglected, to a large extent, so long that there are many such opportunities still waiting. All that is required is a progressive policy of land development and settlement to meet the situation and open the way to the fellow of initiative and enterprise to get places as a farmer.

My purpose in writing this is not to "sell" the Northland, but, as one who has spent some time in land-development in several parts of the North Island and who is now reaching more mature years, if not wisdom, to draw attention to what is possible and worth-while to the young