



**Main Street, Fairlie, looking West.**

old orchards. The most important side thoroughfare is School Road, which branches off by the Fairlie Hotel and takes its name from the district high school. On your right is the De Luxe Theatre (pictures three nights a week), an incongruously and deceptively modern-looking building with an open field on one side and a cottage on the other. The wooden erection over the entrance is an observation post for spotting aeroplanes. Over the road and a hundred yards farther on is the school, set well back among trees and with the date 1879 inscribed over the gates. Past the school seven State houses shock the eye even more severely than the De Luxe Theatre. Past the State houses again is Strathcona Park, the gift of a local landowner. Here are golf-links, tennis-courts, swimming-baths, and a bowling-green—a surprising crop of amenities for so small a town.

Now go back to the main street and turn right by the War Memorial. The pleasant and substantial red-brick building is the Fairlie Library, built in 1914 out of Carnegie funds. The library is an even bigger surprise than the amenities of School Road. Here, in addition to the best sellers, are Drucker's "Future of Industrial Man," E. H. Carr's "Conditions of Peace," J. M. Keynes on the theory of unemployment, illus-

trated books on modern art, a shelf of plays, and dozens of other books which a few years ago were available only in city libraries.

The chances are that you will find the librarian doing up books in sacking parcels, ready for distribution to remote parts of the Mackenzie country by the butcher, the baker, the grocer, or any one who happens to be taking a vehicle over Burke's Pass. The librarian's job is to know what her outlying subscribers have read and what they are likely to read; she is, in consequence, a sort of cultural dictator for the whole of the Mackenzie. The newspaper-room is well stocked, but little used. The librarian says this is because of the wireless, and recalls that in the last war there used to be queues at the newspaper files. To-day the newspaper-room is used mainly by



**Three nights a week.**